

**Bath and North East Somerset  
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education  
Minutes for the meeting held at The Newton Annex  
Bath Spa University  
Thursday, 19 June 2008  
7.00 – 9.00 pm**

**Present:**

**Christian Denominations and other Religions Committee**

Jane O'Hara	Bahá'í
Mike Wilkinson	Free Churches
Ann Banks	Free Churches

**Church of England Committee**

Kevin Tingay  
David Williams  
Mike Brownbill  
Sue Rodford

**Teachers' Committee**

Dave Campbell	Somervale School (Chair)
Mary Dadley	NUT
Ann Hatton	Moorlands Junior School
Chris Hammersley	Oldfield Park Juniors
Margaret West	ATL
Sylvia Such	NAHT

**Local Authority Committee**

**Co-opted members**

**In attendance**

Fred Ward	Clerk
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**1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were received from: Mukhtiar Singh Gill, Anne Bancroft, Neil Baker, Anne Hewitt and Denise Cush.

The following new members were welcomed: David Williams as the replacement for Mike Brownbill to represent the Bath and Wells Diocese; Sylvia Such as a replacement for Ruth Haines, NAHT; and Margaret West as a replacement for Jackie Williams, ATL.

**2. Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 7 February 2008 were postponed to the next meeting as there had been problems with the Clerk's email attachments.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. SACRE Developments**

- a) Resource Centre  
Members will receive a report at the next meeting.
- b) Website  
Initial interest has been expressed by an associate of Somerset SACRE who would be contacting the clerk in the near future. Members agreed in principle to subcontract the work previously undertaken by Jane O'Hara on a trial basis to this contact.  
ACTION  
The Clerk to pass on the contact's details to Jane O'Hara when known, so that she can brief him on the tasks to be undertaken.
- c) Training and development  
- The Chair circulated a newsletter of local and national developments and summarised a NATRE paper on the new Secondary curriculum. Members focused on three issues: the distribution of a free CD Rom "Christianity Unpacked"; the role of the Regional Subject Advisers; and the impact of the new Secondary curriculum on reducing the time for teaching RE.  
ACTION  
The Chair to check with Heads of RE about the effect the new curriculum was having in their schools and report back to SACRE.
- The one day training session for primary teachers and a similar one for secondary staff based on 'RE and community cohesion' will be held on 2 and 3 October 2008 at Salford Golf Course. Hopefully, this will be led by Lat Blaylock He offers consultancy to local authorities, and training and professional development to teachers of RE in schools. He taught for 11 years, most recently as Head of RE and Humanities at a large multi-ethnic 11-19 school in Leicester.  
ACTION  
The Clerk to ask Ashley Ayre, Strategic Director of Children's Services, if he would endorse this course, bearing in mind its relevance to the current national and local priorities.  
The Chair to confirm the availability of the speaker and the course programme and forward this to the Clerk for inclusion in a letter to all schools, hopefully endorsed by the Director. Two letters should be sent to schools, one in July and the other in September.

### **5. Feed back on Prof Keith Ward's lecture**

The event was well attended (over 70) but there were few students from state schools, although a reasonable number from local private schools. Some members felt this was because the event was on a weekend. It was agreed that future talks aimed at older students would be held in the school day.

#### **ACTION**

Members were asked to bring forward suggestions for speakers at the next SACRE meeting.

### **6. SACRE Development Plan**

The circulated draft was nearly £2000 over budget. This was because at the time the plan was being produced an accurate forecast of the budget was not possible – supply cover costs during February and March were not submitted before the end of the financial year and the local authority was considering cuts that in the end did not take place. Members discussed a range of options to reduce expenditure, focussing on the monitoring items.

## ACTION

The Clerk to make the necessary changes and circulate to members with the draft minutes for any comments.

The Chair will send the final copy to Sally Boulter, Head of School Improvement and Achievement as requested in her letter of 16 May 2007.

## 7. FCCBF Project final report

Jane O'Hara circulated the report and responded to questions. It was noted that the original bid underestimated the time and cost of supply cover and there was an overspend of £155.81. As a result, only two religions were covered. In order to tackle a further religion would cost in the region of £1500. Members thanked the working party involved for their hard work. In order that all schools in B&NES will have a copy of the resources, members agreed to allocate additional funding to cover the replication of the CDs, as well as meeting the overspend.

## ACTION

Chris Hammersley agreed to email members the internet link\*, and will prepare the CDs so they can be distributed via the Clerk.

\* <http://cid-834ac84c1bb9a295.skydrive.live.com/browse.aspx/SACRE%20Project>

Jane O'Hara also agreed to look at the NATRE-linked local curriculum project fund to see if a bid was worthwhile to cover the cost of producing resources for an additional religion.

## 8. Finance

An updated financial report was circulated showing that £1512.83 had already been spent, a further £955 was committed, leaving £8562.58 for development projects.

## 9. National developments

Although Denise Cush was not present, she subsequently reported that she had attended a Heads of 6<sup>th</sup> Forms meeting in the local authority and had agreed that Bath Spa University would organise a one day conference for all Year 12 students, possibly on 6, 7 and 8 July 2008 to contribute to the delivery of some of the statutory RE to this age group. It was hoped members of SACRE would be able to attend as well as publicising the event.

## Action

Clerk to circulate details to all members

## 10. Any other business

No matters were raised.

## 11. Next meeting

The next meeting is from 7 to 9 pm on 23 September 2008 at Bath Spa University.

## ACTION

Denise Cush to confirm the room is booked.