

**Bath and North East Somerset  
Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education**

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**Minutes for the meeting held at The Newton Annex Bath Spa University  
Wednesday, 7 October 2009  
7.15 – 9.00 pm**

**Present:**

**Christian Denominations and other Religions Committee**

Jane O'Hara	Baha'i
Anne Bancroft	Buddhist
Mike Wilkinson	Free Churches

**Church of England Committee**

Kevin Tingay  
Tony Bradley  
Sue Rodford

**Teachers' Committee**

Dave Campbell	Somervale School (Chair)
Mary Dadley	NUT
Margaret West	ATL
Neil Baker	NASUWT
Ann Hatton	Moorlands Jnr

**Local Authority Committee**

**Co-opted members**

Denise Cush	Bath Spa University
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**In attendance**

Fred Ward	Clerk
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**Member of the public**

Ann Arun White

**1. Welcome and apologies**

Apologies were received from David Williams and Sylvia Such.

**2. Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 2 June 2009 were approved.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. SACRE Developments**

a) Resource Centre

Neil Baker reported that the resources had been used by PGCE students in training but had had little interest from schools.

**ACTION**

- Neil Baker agreed to take samples of the resources to the forthcoming primary course.

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- The clerk to liaise with Neil Baker and Yvonne Aburrow about the possibility of organising a session on the use of resources, focussing on Paganism, for teachers in the Saltford/Keynsham area in the New Year.

b) Website

Tony Bradley reported that he was working on converting the short pupil films to Flash Player so they could be accessed from the website. He also expressed anxiety about the lack of news items and reported that he was unable to give the time to run this but was willing to continue to manage the site. Members expressed their appreciation for his efforts. Jane O'Hara said that she hoped the new Bath Interfaith Development Officer, when appointed, would make use of the website.

**ACTION**

Tony Bradley would report at the next meeting on the data showing how often the site was visited.

c) Training and development

Dave Campbell circulated his newsletter and reported that the forthcoming primary course (9 Nov 2009) had attracted 18 teachers but the secondary (10 Nov 2009) had only four. Members felt that although small this represented a significant proportion of the local authority's secondary schools.

**ACTION**

The secondary course is to proceed.

Denise Cush informed the meeting that work on the revision of the locally agreed syllabus was likely to begin in the near future.

Full examination results were not yet available from the local authority but indications were that they had risen.

**5. Qualifications and Curriculum Development Agency Conference**

Kevin Tingay reported that the conference was very effectively run and that the organisers ensured that all comments were recorded and passed to the DFES. However, there was no likelihood of a quick response on new guidance about RE and assemblies.

**6. V1th Form Conference**

Teacher members said that the conference held in early July was very well received. Denise Cush thanked those members who gave their time freely to run workshops. Altogether 650 students attended over the three days and 68 workshops were run. It was generally agreed that SACRE should consider supporting the event next year and that workshops should be more participative.

**ACTION**

The clerk was asked to look at the SACRE budget to identify possible savings and changes in priorities to enable a grant of £2000 to be made to support a conference in July 2010.

**7 & 8. SACRE Development Plan and Finance**

As noted above, the development plan will need to be revised for the next meeting.

**9. National developments**

Denise Cush reported on discussions: about the balance between local and national priorities affecting guidance on the locally agreed syllabus; on resilience (how can RE help people from becoming extremists?); and on developments to put Continuing Professional Development (training) opportunities in an electronic form.

**10. Any other business**

- Jane O'Hara asked members for their help in publicising the forthcoming job opportunity (Faiths in Action funded) for an Interfaith Development Officer, especially within the university.
- Jane O'Hara also circulated the paper she presented at the Interfaith Network and NASACRE Seminar on 12 June; 'Local Interfaith Organisations and SACRES: working together for understanding and community cohesion'.

**11. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be from 7.15 to 9 pm on 19 January 2010 at Bath Spa University.  
**ACTION**

Denise Cush agreed to book the room and order refreshments.