

AGENDA

STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Kent Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education will be held in the Darent Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Tuesday, 13th March, 2012 at 9.30 am

NB Group pre-meetings at 9.15am in the meeting room

Refreshments will be available from 9.15am

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

(During these items the meeting is likely to be open to the public)

1. Membership (Pages 1 - 4)
 - (i) Vote for Election of Chair – Nominees – Mrs T Martin & Mr S Manion
 - (ii) To note the resignation of Fr Gus Kinnane – RC Rep on Group 1
2. Apologies for Absence/Substitutes
3. Declarations of Interests
4. Minutes (Pages 5 - 12)
 - (i) Minutes - 9 November 2011
 - (ii) Minutes of the Final Conference to produce and recommend the Agreed Syllabus for RE – 9 November 2011
 - (iii) Matters Arising
5. Development Plan
6. Budget Issues including payments to Academies (Pages 13 - 14)
7. Overview of National and Local Developments
 - (i) Update – Mr Foster
 - (ii) NASACRE AGM - 23 May 2012, London
 - (iii) St.Gabriel's weekend for RE Teachers–29&30 Sept 2012,Wokefield Park, Reading
8. NASACRE - AGM Wednesday 23 May 2012 London (Pages 15 - 16)
Election of Officers:- Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Committee (4 vacancies)
9. Meeting Dates
 - (i) SACRE

Wed 27 June 2012 – Salvation Army Hall, Union Street, Maidstone
Wed 21 November 2012 – County Hall
 - (ii) Briefing Dates

Tues 8 May 2012 –The Study, Oakwood House

Mon 15 Oct 2012 –The Study, Oakwood House

4th Annual Lecture

Twilight - light refreshments 6pm on Wed 9 May 2012, Medway Room, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone - Mr Michael Poole (sponsored by the Montgomery Trust) - Issues in Science and Religion with Special reference to Christianity

10. Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent

11. Member Presentation - Mrs N Younosi - Haj

EXEMPT ITEMS

(At the time of preparing the agenda there were no exempt items. During any such items which may arise the meeting is likely NOT to be open to the public)

Carol Wade

Clerk to SACRE

Business Strategy and Support

Sessions House

Maidstone

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Please note that any background documents referred to in the accompanying papers maybe inspected by arrangement with the officer responsible for preparing the relevant report.

Nominee for SACRE Chair – Tricia Martin

I confirm that Susan Shaw asked my permission to nominate me as Chair of SACRE and that I am willing to accept this nomination. I have been seconded by Karen Burke.

I am passionate about RE and collective worship and the role of SACRE. I have chaired Devon, Torbay and Plymouth SACREs in the past and served for 6 years on the NASACRE executive. My experience of SACREs is therefore varied and broad. I chaired Devon SACRE through the pilot Ofsted of SACREs and we achieved 'outstanding'. I have a B.Phil (Ed) Hons in Religious Education and an MA in Jewish –Christian relations. I have worked as an RE Advisor/Education Officer/ Assistant Diocesan Director of Education for a number of years in the dioceses of Exeter and Canterbury. My teaching experience covers 5-18 year olds and I have held the post of Senior Lecturer at the University College of St Mark & St John, Plymouth. I am Ofsted and SIAS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools) trained. My present position takes me into schools frequently. At present I am supporting schools in Kent Challenge and understand the pressures they are under. I regularly run INSET sessions for teachers and governors.

Kent is a large Local Authority with a corresponding number of schools. It has been well served in the past by experienced Chairs. Both Religious Education and Collective Worship are in a position of uncertainty. Our children and teachers deserve the best support we can give. Together, we CAN make a difference to the quality of RE and CW in Kent schools. We need to be proactive in this uncertain educational climate and take a lead. I would like to offer my breadth of experience, my knowledge and my passion to the position of Chair of Kent SACRE.

If elected, I would like to assure members of SACRE of my commitment to this post.

God Bless,

Tricia

Tricia Martin
Assistant Director of Education (School Improvement)
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Nomination for SACRE Chair:

Nominated by Mr M Northey
Seconded by Mr G Gibbens

Steve Manion

Stephen is the elected member for Dover North, a rural division with 12 parishes. He makes it a point to see each parish regularly so as to understand their concerns. He is also an Authorised Lay Minister in the Sandwich Deanery. He regularly leads and preaches in the Benefice of Upper Deal and has also led services in Sandwich and Kingsdown.

Stephen also serves the community by being a school Governor at Northbourne CEP school and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Aylesham. He believes that religious education is the cornerstone of effective education particularly with so much strife in the world today.

He wants to build strong links with all faith groups and help them take their rightful place in the local community.

Stephen is a consultant in operations management. He has worked both in the United Kingdom as well as Australia. He writes and runs training courses in Resource Management. He is a fellow of the American Production and Inventory Management Society and of the Institute of Operations Management in the UK. He has also qualifications in management and agricultural science. He is also Business Manager for his wife's medical practice in Deal. Stephen also serves on his local Parish Council. He is married with four children. He is keen to help his children to be active members in the local community too.

Being a County Councillor with a strong and lively faith has helped me to use my position for the good of the community and I believe that SACRE can benefit from this too.

Over my 3 years on SACRE I believe I have been able to mobilise resources to prevent SACRE being side-lined. Strong representation can only be for the benefit of SSACRE and the children we serve.

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STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (KENT)

MINUTES of a SACRE meeting held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 9 November 2011.

PRESENT: Mrs N Younosi (Acting Chair), Mr G K Gibbens, Ms K Burke, Rabbi C Cohen, Mrs V Corbyn, Mrs P Fairchild, Mrs J Grant, Mrs J Hoyle (substitute for Mrs R Walters), Miss T Kelvie, Miss S Malone, Mrs T Martin, Mr M Papadopoulos, Mr S Platnauer, Miss E Pope, Miss S Shaw, Mrs V Thornewell, Mr R Tyson, Mr N Utton, Miss J A Webb, Mrs J Wigg, Mr S C Manion and Mr M J Northey

IN ATTENDANCE: Allan Foster (Consultant), Tracy Palmer (Business Support Officer), John Truman (Kent Challenge Lead Adviser (Swale)) and Carol Wade (Democratic Services Officer)

UNRESTRICTED ITEMS

18. Membership

- (i) to note the resignation of Mr J Viner (Chair) Group 2 C of E (Rochester), Mr G Singh-Gill Group 1 (Sikhism), Mrs J Thompson Group 2 C of E (Rochester) and Ms S Kendall-Seatter, Group 2 C of E (Canterbury)
- (ii) to note the appointment of Mrs J Wigg, Group 1 (Salvation Army), Miss R Walters and Mrs H Jones Group 2 C of E (Rochester)
- (iii) to note the transfer of Mrs VE Corbyn, Group 2 C of E from Canterbury to Rochester Diocese and Miss S Shaw to Canterbury Diocese from Co-opted
- (iv) the appointment of Mrs V E Corbyn as Convenor for Group 2 following the resignation of Ms Kendall-Seatter

Mr John Viner

Members wished to record a huge vote of thanks for John's outstanding commitment in his role of SACRE Chair since his appointment in 2008. Mr Foster specifically paid tribute to his invaluable steer and insight through education. A number of members had contacted John to express their individual thanks and regret at his departure. Members signed a card sending best wishes and thanks.

Nomination for new Chair

Members were invited to let the Clerk have nominations by email or post by 31 December 2011. If necessary a vote would be taken at the March 2012 SACRE and nomination put forward to the County Council Cabinet member for approval.

Fr Gus

Miss Malone reported Fr Gus was convalescing after serious surgery and would update the clerk on his progress.

19. Minutes of 8 June 2011 and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising

Minute 6(1) Early Day Motion

Mrs J Grant advised that Mrs H Grant MP Maidstone and Weald had given her support.

Minute 12 Overview of National and Local Developments –AST's

Ms Burke had received an email confirming that funding for AST's had been extended for a further year to 2013.

20. Development Plan: Version 7:2

(1) Mrs Martin advised that at the last development plan Steering group meeting it had been agreed that since the QCDA method no longer existed it was time to restructure the Plan and start afresh, the focus to be evidencing actions.

(2) Mrs Younosi asked members to pass any lengthy comments to the Clerk.

(3) Members voiced concern about the negativity surrounding monitoring and compliance of RE in schools. Mr Foster agreed to raise with Mrs Rogers (Head of Standards and School Improvement) on SACRE's behalf, ways to ensure compliance with the law in the deliverance of RE in all schools.

(It was noted that under Advice to schools, the CE Dioceses and CCCU had offered training to church and community schools, and despite glossy brochures and invitations to attend, there had been no take up by LA Schools).

(4) Mr Foster would forcibly follow his previous requests with Mrs Rogers to link these courses to kenttrustweb.

21. Budget Issues

Mrs Palmer had nothing to report.

22. Westhill Awards

(1) It was reported the results of the 2010/11 awards had been published on the NASACRE website. No Kent school projects had been successful.

(2) Miss Kelvie was disappointed that despite spending a lot of time on her bid, she had received no acknowledgement whatsoever.

23. Annual Report

Mr Foster presented the Draft Annual report which was approved by members. The final version would be forwarded to NASACRE, presented to the KCC Overview and Scrutiny Committee and published on the SACRE web pages www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/ask8/ask8.

Appendix 2-Membership of SACRE

Mr Foster advised efforts were ongoing in trying to fill vacant positions. It was suggested holding the June 2012 meeting at the Gurdwara, Gravesend might open dialogue with the Sikh community.

24. Kent Youth SACRE

Following an inspirational presentation by the Newham Youth SACRE at the NASACRE AGM, Kent SACRE felt it would like to engage young people in its work and members agreed to write this into the development Plan.

25. Overview of National and Local Developments

Update re-Structures and Development –Mr J Truman- Kent Challenge Lead Adviser (Substitute for Mrs S Rogers)

(1) Mr Truman gave a visual presentation entitled Kent Challenge-making Improvement happen. He explained there was a Ministerial thrust to improving standards in schools and if standards were not met there would be forceful moves towards imposing Academy status.

(2) The church group commented it had investigated the legal position regarding the Sec. of State imposing Academy status on church schools, and it clearly remained a contentious issue.

(3) Mr Truman explained the purpose of Kent Challenge was to challenge and support schools to demonstrate and accelerate their capacity to achieve and sustain attainment and progress above the national floor standards and medians.

(4) Statistics of underperformance were highlighted and Members viewed a slide emphasising the numbers of Kent schools in category 1 to 4 indicating vulnerable/below floor standard schools.

(5) He commented the LA was careful how/if it published the information-as it was paramount to protect the reputation of the schools and the effect on the local community.

(6) The method of achieving its Kent challenge aims was by developing and implementing a leadership strategy for Kent leaders at all levels and increasing the potential of partners such as NCSL, CCU and development of internal EduKent and external partners.

(7) He concluded by saying that if schools did not make the expected progress the following actions would be considered ; - serve warning Notice, Interim Executive Board, changes to leadership structure, federation or amalgamation or conversion to Academy.

(8) Members noted Mr Patrick Conrad was the interim Education service manager for EduKent, responsible for the training arm within KCC.

(9) It was suggested Mr Patrick Leeson, new Corporate Director –ELS be invited to attend SACRE and advise members about the emerging EduKent.

(10) It was agreed the clerk would circulate copies of the slides with the next Agenda.

EBacc

Mr Foster reported that the Early Day Motion had fallen and RE was not included in the English Bacc. SACRE needed to continue its battle.

London and SE Regional SACRE's -13 October 2011.

Mr Foster had attended the meeting which had the theme, Fulfilling responsibilities for RE and CW in Uncertain times. It had commenced with a tour of the London Sivan Kovil temple. Mr Foster would pass on Kent SACRE's details in the hope of enlisting a Hindu representative for the faith group vacancy. Mr John Keast (Chair REC) spoke about the need for a strategic plan for the future of RE and engaging national bodies in trying to raise the profile of RE. Mr Bruce Gill (Chair NASACRE) had closed the meeting with the Topic of Onwards and Upwards. Clerk to circulate notes with next Agenda.

Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA)

The body had been set up by the Dept. for Education to monitor Academies and ensure they operated in accordance with their funding agreement. Mr Foster advised members that the YPLA would look into complaints about the non-compliance of the provision of RE in Academies if they were made aware.

26. Dates of Future SACRE Meetings

SACRE

Tues.13 March 2012 –Darent, County Hall
w/comm. 11 June 2012 – Gravesend Gurdwara?

4th Annual Lecture

8 or 9 May 2012 – Speaker and Venue tbc (Mr Michael Poole – Montgomery Trust – issues in Science & Religion with Special Reference to Christianity.

Briefing/Steering Group

Mon.13 February 2012 - **amended to Tues 7 Feb 2012**

Tues 8 May 2012

Mon.15 October 2012

Venue-The Study, Oakwood House

It was agreed all four Group Convenors be invited to attend future Chair's briefing/steering group meetings and members noted the change of date in February 2012.

27. Member Presentation - Mr N Utton - Creatively Interpreting the Kent Agreed Syllabus

(1) Mr Utton, Headteacher of Bromstone primary school, Broadstairs both informed and entertained members with his visual presentation about how Bromstone had developed its teaching methodology from Hampshire's "Living Difference". In essence RE was taught for three weeks a year, one week each two terms with a focus on a different aspect of the Kent Agreed Syllabus. He emphasised the children loved RE weeks and enjoyed the activities involving visits, speakers and discussion. He quoted from his positive Ofsted report (March 2011) and enthusiastically urged SACRE to consider the concept in its next re-write of the Agreed syllabus.

(2) The Clerk agreed to circulate the presentation with the next Agenda and Mrs Younosi thanked Mr Utton for his inspirational talk.

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STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (KENT)

CONFERENCE TO REVIEW AND RECOMMENDED THE AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

MINUTES of a SACRE meeting held in the Council Chamber, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone on Wednesday, 9 November 2011.

PRESENT: Mrs N Younosi (Acting Chair), Mr G K Gibbens, Ms K Burke, Rabbi C Cohen, Mrs V Corbyn, Mrs P Fairchild, Mrs J Grant, Mrs J Hoyle (Substitute for Mrs R Walters), Miss T Kelvie, Miss S Malone, Mrs T Martin, Mr M Papadopoulos, Mr S Platnauer, Miss E Pope, Miss S Shaw, Mrs V Thornewell, Mr R Tyson, Mr N Utton, Miss J A Webb, Mrs J Wigg, Mr S C Manion and Mr M J Northey

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28. Membership

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- (iii) to note the transfer of Mrs VE Corbyn, Group 2 C of E from Canterbury to Rochester Diocese and Miss S Shaw to Canterbury Diocese from Co-opted
- (iv) the appointment of Mrs V E Corbyn as Convenor for Group 2 following the resignation of Ms Kendall-Seatter

John Viner

Members wished to record their thanks for John's invaluable role in Chairing the Conference and Working party meetings with great expertise and professionalism. He had steered the group to enable the production and completion of an invaluable resource in the teaching and promotion of RE in Kent schools.

29. Minutes of 8 June 2011 and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2011 were approved as a true record and signed by the chair. There were no matters arising.

30. Conference Working Party - Final Draft

REact! A creative vision for Religious Education -The Kent Agreed Syllabus for RE 2012

9 NOVEMBER 2011

Mr Foster presented the final draft which was unanimously endorsed for adoption by the Authority. Mrs Younosi thanked Mr Foster on behalf of SACRE for his massive effort and the result he had achieved in producing the Syllabus. Mr Foster in turn expressed his gratitude to members of the working party for their invaluable contributions. Mr Foster intended to publish the Syllabus early 2012 and make it a web based resource, available at http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/ask8/ask8_secondary_re_syllabus.cfm#agreed_syllabus. The whole Agreed syllabus would be circulated to SACRE members on CD Rom.

A succinct summary would also be circulated to all schools highlighting the main changes from the previous version.

It was noted that the conference had completed its work and would now be disbanded.

SACRE BRIEFING NOTE

Subject: Payments to Academies

By: Sue Rogers
 Head of Standards and School Improvement
 Education, Learning and Skills

Date: January 2012

For information SACRE members should be aware that for any school taking on academy status the following will apply:

We have been instructed by our finance director that we are unable to continue to reimburse schools which have taken on academy status for supply costs incurred as a result of staff attendance at SACRE and all related meetings during school time. Members from academies will be able to continue to claim any mileage costs incurred.

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Wednesday 23rd May
10 for 10.30am-3.30pm

Friends' House, 173 Euston Road, London

Keynote Speakers

BOB JACKSON

Professor of Religious Education, University of Warwick

RU 4 EC RE?

*'Research and European Policy Making on Religious Education:
Taking account of young people's views in developing the subject'*
and

LAT BLAYLOCK

'SACRE + Teachers of RE = Good Learning'

Delegate fee: £75 per head

*Payable either by cheque, made out to NASACRE
to accompany the delegate form(s), or by invoice after the AGM*

Please send completed forms to: Yvonne Cameron, c/o Religious Education Council,
Voluntary Sector Centres, 76, Shoe Lane, London, EC4A 3JB; Telephone: 020 7842 8515
Email: admin@nasacre.org.uk

Closing date WEDNESDAY 25th APRIL 2012

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