



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the RUTLAND SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)** held via Zoom on Tuesday, 21st June, 2022 at 4.30 pm

PRESENT:

GROUP A – Representatives of Faiths (other than Church of England) and World Views		
1.	Andrew Hull	Humanists UK
2.	Gurdev Singh	The Sikh Faith
3.	Shelia Gewolb	The Jewish Faith

GROUP B – Church of England Representatives		
4.	Daniel Alfieri	Peterborough Diocese
5.	Fiona Wilce	Peterborough Diocese

GROUP C – Teacher Representatives		
6.	Megan Davis	National Association of Head Teachers
7.	Cara Topping	National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers

GROUP D – Local Education Authority Representatives		
8.	Councillor R Powell (Chair)	Rutland County Councillor

Local Education Authority Officers		
9.	Gill Curtis	Head of Learning and Skills, RCC
10.	Amanda Fitton	SACRE/RE Advisor for Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Peterborough and Rutland.
11.	Jane Narey	Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE:

12.	Mary-Anne Marples	Representation to be confirmed
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APOLOGIES:

13.	Rhoda Gibson	The Baptist Church
14.	Bjoern Finke	The Roman Catholic Church
15.	Peter Holmes (Revd)	Rutland Deanery
16.	Lizzie Papworth	Education Development Lead, RCC

ABSENT:

17.	James McWhirter (Revd)	Rutland Deanery
18.	Councillor D Blanksby	Rutland County Councillor

1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Councillor Powell welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Revd Dr Peter Holmes, Elizabeth Papworth, Rhoda Gibson and Bjoern Finke.

2 RECORD OF MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 8th March 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

3 ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Ref:	Action	Allocated to:	ACTION
1	5	Stacey Potter to contact Laura Corcoran, SACRE Clerk for Peterborough City Council to share Rutland SACRE Members contact details for the purpose of attending the Agreed Syllabus Conference on 30 March 2022.	Stacey Potter	Completed
2	5	The SACRE Advisor confirmed that the conference meeting would be taking place via Microsoft Teams and would ensure that all Rutland SACRE Members had access to the Agreed Syllabus Conference reports and minutes.	Amanda Fitton	Completed
3	5	Revd Dr Peter Holmes, Church of England Representative stated that on the Statement of Entitlement there was a definition of the term Worldviews and advised that a discussion needed to take place as the definition was quite narrow and may require expanding. The SACRE Advisor stated that it would be beneficial for a small group to work together on defining the definition and would discuss this with the Peterborough SACRE Chair.	Amanda Fitton	Completed Andrew Hull stated he would like to be part of the group and it was agreed that Amanda would send Andrew full details.
4	5	Revd Dr Peter Holmes, Church of England Representative advised Members that a request had been made by the Chair of the Agreed Syllabus	Stacey Potter	Item on Agenda

		Conference in relation to the Rutland SACRE Constitution and the inclusion of a section detailing the Agreed Syllabus Conference, membership and financial contributions. Stacey Potter would share these with Members, and this would be discussed at the next SACRE Board meeting.		
5	6	The SACRE Adviser stated that it would be useful to invite schools to a future SACRE Board meeting.	Stacey Potter	Completed
6	7	Councillor R Powell stated that it would be useful to hear the views of pupils and suggested that schools share comments from pupils at a future SACRE meeting.	Stacey Potter	Completed
7	6	Councillor R Powell suggested that the Rutland SACRE needed to strengthen its relationships with academies and the independent sector.	All Members	Completed
8	6	The SACRE Adviser had tried to contact Aga Cahn, representative of the Jewish Faith but this had not proved successful. Stacey Potter to email Aga to advise that as no response had been received, could another representative be recommended to join the Rutland SACRE. Sheila Gewolb from the Board of Deputies of British Jews would be included within the email.	Stacey Potter	Completed
9	6	In response to a question from Bjoern Finke, representative of the Roman Catholic Faith asking if the Rutland SACRE had a representative from the Muslim Faith. The SACRE Adviser would contact the Chair of the Peterborough SACRE to see if they could recommend a representative.	Amanda Fitton	Representative found. Details to be confirmed from Amanda
10	6	The SACRE Adviser confirmed that Ministry of Defence schools had their own SACRE. The SACRE Adviser would	Amanda Fitton	Completed. Contact and invitation sent.

		contact the Chair to invite them to attend a future Rutland SACRE meeting to discuss how they met the needs of their children within their SACRE.		
11	8	The SACRE Adviser confirmed that the NASACRE annual conference would be taking place in Birmingham. Councillor R Powell asked if there was any designated funding available in the Rutland SACRE budget for Member training.	Stacey Potter	Completed. Lizzie confirmed that there was budget for 2 people to attend the NASACRE annual conference.

4 SACRE MEMBERSHIP

a) APPOINTMENT OF A NEW CHAIR

- Gurdev Singh was nominated as the Chair.
- There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) UNANIMOUSLY voted Gurdev Singh as the Chair of the Rutland SACRE.

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Councillor Powell formerly handed the meeting over to Gurdev Singh as the new Chair of the Rutland SACRE at 4.45 p.m.

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b) APPOINTMENT OF A VICE CHAIR

- Andrew Hull was nominated as the Vice Chair.
- There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) UNANIMOUSLY voted Andrew Hull as the Vice Chair of the Rutland SACRE.

c) APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

- It was noted that SACRE could only recommend members and that it was the role of the Local Authority to formerly appoint them.
- New members nominated were as follows:
 - Sheila Gewolb, representing the Jewish faith in Group A
 - Daniel Alfieri, representing the Peterborough diocese in Group B
 - Fiona Wilce, representing the Peterborough diocese in Group B
 - Cara Topping, representing the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers in Group C
 - Mary-Anne Marples, representation to be confirmed.

- It was agreed that the Rutland SACRE constitution required to be reviewed and updated.

ACTION: Lizzie Papworth & Amanda Fitton

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) UNANIMOUSLY recommended that the proposed new members be formerly appointed by the Local Authority as new members of the Rutland SACRE.

5 AGREED SYLLABUS CONFERENCE: UPDATE

An update was received from Amanda Fitton, SACRE/RE Advisor. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Slow progress was being made on the agreed syllabus and world views but a lot of work had been done.
- A meeting had been arranged for the 13th July 2022 in Papworth for further work to be done. Rutland SACRE had spaces and funding available for 2 primary and 2 secondary teachers to attend the meeting. Contact Amanda Fitton (amanda.fitton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) for full details.
- A CPD Conference would be arranged for June 2023. The keynote speakers would be Christine Counsell and Prof. Trevor Cooling. Christine was the Head of Ofsted between October 2006 and June 2011 and was now the Director of Education at Inspiration Trust. Trevor was the Project Director at the Religious Education Council of England and Wales.
- The Clerk confirmed that a link to the Agreed Syllabus Teams folder had been received from Laura Corcoran, Clerk to the Cambridgeshire SACRE for Rutland Governance to access. She also confirmed that the email details of Rutland SACRE members had been sent to Laura so that they would also receive the link to access documents regarding the agreed syllabus.
- It was agreed that Amanda would provide a summary of the current position regarding the agreed syllabus at the next meeting.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton

6 NASACRE SELF EVALUATION TOOLKIT

Section 2 of the NASACRE Self Evaluation Toolkit was reviewed. During the discussion, the following points were note:

- Sections 1 and 5 had been reviewed and any subsequent actions completed.
- SIAMs reports may provide additional information regarding RE in schools. SIAMs officer within Peterborough Diocese could collate an overview. Daniel to contact and arrange for September meeting.

ACTION: Daniel Alfieri

7 SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-22

The SACRE Development Plan was reviewed. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The current development plan required reviewing following the pandemic as it would not expire until September 2022.

- A new development plan for 2022-2023 would be required for the next academic year (September 2022 to August 2023).
- The 'Agreed Syllabus' would inform the new development plan as would the self-evaluation toolkit.
- It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting.

AGENDA

8 TRAINING ATTENDED BY SACRE MEMBERS

A written briefing was received from Amanda Fitton regarding the NASACRE Conference and AGM, which was held on the 23rd May 2022. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- 'Decolonising the RE Curriculum' was attended by Amanda Fitton, who reported that it was an interesting and informative training session.

Upcoming NASACRE Training Sessions:

- 29th June 2022, 7-8:30pm: So, you've joined your local SACRE...
Description: This session is a repeat of the September training and will help new SACRE members to understand their role, how SACRE works, its statutory responsibilities and how members make their contribution to this work. Free online session
- 14th July 2022, 7-8pm: Still Standing – REC report on the future of SACRES
Description: This session reruns the conference workshop on the new REC report Still Standing asking what SACREs need to consider and do from its findings. Free online session.

9 UPDATE ON NETWORK MEETINGS

A verbal update was received from Amanda Fitton, SACRE/RE Advisor. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Network meetings had been held virtually during the pandemic. Should this continue or should meetings go back to being held in person?
- English Martyrs CV Academy and Oakham CofE Primary were both offered as future venues.
- Network meetings were held at 1pm but was this time convenient? What time would be better?
- It was agreed that Amanda Fitton would draft an email to go out to Rutland schools asking for their preferences regarding the Network Meetings.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton

RESOLVED

That the Committee:

- a) AGREED that future network meetings should be a mixture of both virtual and in-person with in-person meetings held during British Summer Time and virtual meetings held during winter.
- b) AGREED that future network meetings should be held after school hours.

Shelia Gewolb left the meeting at 5.48 p.m.

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10 MONITORING OF RE IN SCHOOLS AND OFSTED INSPECTIONS REPORT

An update report was received from Lizzie Papworth, Education Development Lead and presented by Gill Curtis, Head of Learning and Skills. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Work with inspectors and providers was ongoing.
- A SIAMs inspection was held last week and details would be provided at the next meeting.

11 EDUCATION WHITE PAPER: UPDATE

A verbal update was received from Amanda Fitton, SACRE/RE Advisor. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- NASACRE were in conversation with the DfE regarding RE and the Education White Paper.
- It was agreed that Amanda would draft a response regarding the Education White Paper on behalf of SACRE.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton

- Individual members could comment separately to their respective MP.
- It was confirmed that the Local Authority had regular meetings with the DfE and would feedback the SACRE statement to the Advisor.

12 ANY URGENT BUSINESS

a) New RE Legislation in Wales

- Under the new curriculum, set to be rolled out in schools from September 2022, the lessons would be compulsory, regardless of parental objections. It was agreed that Amanda would circulate a briefing to members on the new no 'opt-out' for religious education in Wales.

ACTION: Amanda Fitton

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday, 6th September 2022 at 4.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham LE15 6HP.

The meeting would also be available to view via Zoom.

SUMMARY OF AGREE ACTIONS

No.	Ref:	Action	Allocated to:
1	4c	Rutland SACRE constitution to be reviewed and updated.	Lizzie Papworth & Amanda Fitton
2	5	Amanda to provide a summary of the current position regarding the agreed syllabus at the next meeting	Amanda Fitton

3	6	SIAMs reports may provide additional information regarding RE in schools. SIAMs officer within Peterborough Diocese could collate an overview. Daniel to contact and arrange for September meeting.	Daniel Alfieri
4	9	Network Meetings: virtual or in-person? During school hours or evenings? Amanda Fitton to draft an email to go out to Rutland schools asking for their preferences regarding the Network Meetings.	Amanda Fitton
5	11	Amanda to draft a response regarding the Education White Paper on behalf of SACRE	Amanda Fitton
6	12a	New RE Legislation in Wales Amanda to circulate a briefing to members on the new no 'opt-out' for religious education in Wales.	Amanda Fitton

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 6.02 pm.

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