

Rutland SACRE

**Tuesday 3 February 2015 at
RCC Offices in the Council Chambers at
2.30 pm – 4.30 pm**

Present:

Mr Nick Wainwright – RCC;
Mr Andreas Menzies – Roman Catholic;
Miss Gale Waller – RCC (Chair);
Mrs Eileen Ray – Methodist;
Mrs Rebecca Grey – Co-opted Primary Head Teacher;
David Sharpe – Association of Teachers and Lecturers;

Apologies:

Kim Garcia – RCC ;
Megan Davies – Primary School Representative;
Kevan Fryett – British Humanist Representative.

Non Attendance:

Michael Kee – Peterborough Diocesan;
Mrs S McGrath – NASWT;
Mrs S Reseigh – Secondary Representative;

In Attendance: Margaret Broughton – Team Leader
Learning and Skills Service

Clerk:

Jane Hall

1. Opening Prayer

An opening prayer was given by Andreas Menzies.

2. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everybody to the meeting.
Apologies as above.

The Chair reported the following:

- That she felt that there was the need to look at the timings of the meetings and move them from 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm.
- That she would like to have the major pieces of work undertaken by Sub-Groups which would be more of a Steering Group.
- That with regards to the Agreed Syllabus which would need to be done ready for 2016 she proposed that the Rutland SACRE worked with the NCC/Diocesan as they had previously done and for the members to bring some thoughts on this to the next meeting.
- Confirmation was given that quoracy of meetings would depend on whether there was a member present from each of the four groups.
- That the meeting was not quorate as there was no representative from the Diocese.
- That she had emailed the Director of People in Rutland and the Portfolio Holder to discuss meetings to support SACRE.

- The Peterborough Diocese reported that they did not fill their vacancies on the Rutland SACRE as they did not know that their members had resigned.
- The Chair informed the members that having attended the National Conference on two occasions it was important to be able to access school improvement service in Rutland so that SACRE receives professional support that other SACREs receive.

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 18 November 2014. These minutes could not be approved as the meeting was not quorate.

The Chair informed the members that she had asked the Clerk to amend the name of Frances Deliquau under Item 5 and similarly under Item 7 the names of Frances Wilce.

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 Review of SACRE Constitution: To be covered at next SACRE meeting.

4.2 Minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 26 June 2014: The Chair reported that she was going to write to the Head Teacher of St Mary and St John to ask her to come and talk at this meeting about their SIAMS report. However as this was such a long time ago the Chair felt that this would now be out of date and that the next time a school had a SIAMS report they would invite the Head Teacher along to a SACRE meeting.

4.3 National and Local RE Update: “Voice of the Child”: The Chair reported that this did go to the Scrutiny Panel and there was a discussion about it. Citizenship in Rutland: This was on hold until after the May elections.

4.4 SACRE Membership: In terms of the proposed website Margaret Broughton reported that it was difficult to get information on to the website. Discussion took place on this. The Chair reported that she would contact the Portfolio Holder for IT and explain why access to this was raised at the meeting and ask her what the process was.

Action: Chair

Time and Day of meetings: It has been agreed that SACRE meetings would start at 4.30 pm and would be held on Tuesdays.

4.5 The 2013-2014 SACRE Annual Report: The Chair reported that Kim Garcia had undertaken to compile an on line survey about SACRE to Rutland schools. A meeting will be arranged to discuss the draft.

4.6 Eileen Ray reported that the SACRE Report could not go to the Scrutiny Panel in April 2015 until it had been agreed by the members of SACRE which needed to be before the middle of March 2015.

4.7 With regards to the new Agreed Syllabus the Chair would like it to go through the Scrutiny process before it went to Council so that the panel had time to look at it properly.

4.8 The Chair reported that she would like the next SACRE meeting to take place in March 2015. It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 4.30 pm. As the Clerk could not do this meeting a substitute clerk would be found. The Venue would be confirmed, however, Andrea Menzies would check whether St. Joseph's Church could hold the meeting. The Chair reported that the priorities for the meeting would be as follows:

- To agree previous minutes that had not been agreed as the meetings had not been quorate.
- Annual Report
- SACRE Development Plan

Items 5, 6 & 7 on the Agenda had been discussed above.

8. National & Local Updates

National Update:

The Chair circulated copies of the BBC News Story dated 31 January 2015 for information. This had come about as a result of the National Association of Teachers RE Conference where the Chair was asking about RE Teaching. The Chair reported that she had expected them to be critical on the lack of support for RE and there was interesting data particularly with the lack of qualifications for the people teaching RE. The Chair also felt that the information with regards to the

qualifications of teachers would be worthwhile preambles to reports that SACRE wrote.

The Chair circulated copies of the Ofsted Report entitled “Religious Education: realising the potential”. The Chair reported that there was a Summary of the Report and highlighted a few of things that came out of the Report as follows:

- The impact that the Baccalaureate had had on RE.
- There was the need to include RE as part of teaching and collective worship.
- There was a lack of subject knowledge of people teaching the subject.
- There was a limited range of teaching strategies that had been employed.
- There were insufficient opportunities for pupils to reflect and work independently not only in RE but also in other subjects.
- Assessment was also highlighted.

The Chair suggested that the members went through the Report and came up with recommendations for Rutland. Rutland was committed to providing an Annual Conference for schools and there was no reason why SACRE did not promote teaching and learning. The Chair stressed the importance of having teachers involved with this.

Margaret Broughton suggested that there was the need to have a Working Group which would have an impact on the Quality of Teaching. David Sharpe reported that he was doing this with a school in

Lambeth in April and would be looking at Assessment in RE at KS3/4. He also reported the following:

- The Government were now on the nineteenth draft of the subject content for Religious Studies which was looking to go forward at GCSE and at A level.
- All schools for GCSE would have to teach two world faiths and the content would be very strictly divided.
- Assessment was going to be put to the awarding authority but would only account for 20% of the total marks on knowledge.

David Sharpe reported that the challenge for teachers would be great and that it would be a good idea for Teachers to look at the Fair Access by Design document which looked at how to set examination papers and to look at the latest GSCE draft which looked at what the Government were expecting which was not just around evaluation but more about analysis of religion. Discussion took place on this.

Local Update

The Chair circulated copies of the Religious Studies Data for Rutland at KS4 for July 2014. The members looked through this. The following comments were made:

- Not many children took the full course
- It was worrying for SACRE that not more schools were entering students for the short course and

pressure needed to be put on schools to put this back on the timetable.

Eileen Ray left the meeting at 3.45 pm.

Congratulations were given by the members to Catmose College for sustaining a good group of pupils and for sharing good practice.

Discussion took place on:

- What action was being taken following the retirement of existing Head Teachers and
- The fact that Foundation Governors were not necessarily practising the religion.

9. The SACRE Development Plan 2014 Onwards

The Chair reported that she had looked on the Internet and had found an Action Plan from Hampshire and circulated this to the members and asked them whether they liked the format of this. If they did she proposed that the Rutland SACRE adopted this and circulated a draft Action Plan for Rutland called Draft 1 using the format.

The question was asked as to what were the prospects of the SACRE getting enough funding to put the actions in place. The Chair reported that there was some money available through the Learning Support Services which would cover some of the actions and there was money for the clerking.

The Chair suggested that when the SACRE meets in March the Action Plan is put on the Agenda and for members to come with some ideas and then look at what the cost might be which could then be taken forward to the Scrutiny meeting.

10. Letter from Lord Nash (previously circulated)

It was agreed by the members that the Chair should circulate the letter from Lord Nash to all the schools with a link to the Ofsted “Raising Standards” document – “Religious Education: realising the potential”.

Action: Chair

11. Any other business

None

12. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 17 March 2015 at 4.30 pm – Venue to be confirmed

The meeting ended at 4.20 pm

Signed:.....

Dated: