



## Rutland County Council

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the RUTLAND SACRE (STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)** held via Zoom on Tuesday, 12th October, 2021 at 4.30 pm

### **PRESENT:**

<b>GROUP A – Representatives of faiths (other than Church of England) and world views</b>	
Andrew Hull	Humanists UK
Gurdev Singh	The Sikh Faith
Rhoda Gibson	The Baptist Church

<b>GROUP B – Church of England Representatives</b>	
Rev James McWhirter	Peterborough Diocese
Rev Peter Holmes	Peterborough Diocese

<b>GROUP C – Teacher Representatives</b>	
Megan Davis	National Association of Head Teachers

<b>GROUP D – Local Education Authority Representatives</b>	
Councillor R Powell	Rutland County Councillor

<b>Local Education Authority Officers</b>	
Amanda Fitton	SACRE/RE Advisor, Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Rutland County Council
Elizabeth Papworth	Education Development Lead, RCC
Stacey Potter	Assistant Business Support Manager
Tom Delaney	Governance Officer

### **APOLOGIES:**

Councillor L Stephenson	Rutland County Councillor
Andreas Menzies	The Roman Catholic Church
Sara Barrett	Rutland Deanery

## **1 A MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

The committee undertook a moment for reflection.

## 2 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor L Stephenson, Andreas Menzies and Sara Barrett.

## 3 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

Councillor R Powell opened the meeting and asked for nominations for the position of Chair. Councillor R Powell was nominated by Revd Dr Peter Holmes and seconded by Gurdev Singh. There being no other nominations, a vote was taken and a unanimous vote for Councillor R Powell was given.

Councillor R Powell took the Chair. Councillor L Stephenson, the current Vice-Chair had given apologies for the meeting. As there were no nominations for Vice-Chair it was proposed that the re-election of the Vice-Chair be deferred to the next SACRE meeting in January 2022. This was agreed by Members.

### RESOLVED

1. That Councillor R Powell be **APPOINTED** as Chair of SACRE for the forthcoming academic year.
2. That the re-election of Vice-Chair of SACRE be **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

## 4 RECORD OF MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2021 were considered and **AGREED** as a true record of the proceedings.

## 5 MATTERS ARISING

It was **AGREED** that matters arising from the minutes would be addressed during items later on in the agenda.

## 6 ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21

The draft annual report was introduced by the Chair. The report covered an seventeen month period and, as such, spanned the extent of the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated lockdowns.

During the discussion it was **AGREED** by the group that Item 6 – Agreed Syllabus would be amended as shown below:

*An action plan with timelines and budgets is being developed and this has been added to the development plan.*

The Chair attended a NASACRE online meeting regarding the annual report and a new framework template had been introduced from 1 September 2021. The Chair stated that it would be good practice for the 2021/22 annual report to be undertaken utilising the new template. The self-evaluation toolkit for SACRE groups had also been

mentioned at the meeting and the Chair suggested that this be included on the agenda for the January 2022 meeting for the group to undertake.

The Chair highlighted to the group the Worldviews training event that would be taking place online on 10 November 2021.

Revd James McWhirter had attended a NASACRE online meeting for new members of SACRE and a handbook had been produced for all members. The Chair requested that a standing agenda item be added to all future meetings headed, Meetings and Training attended by SACRE Members.

## **RESOLVED**

1. That the amendment be made to Item 6 of the report and finalised for publication as required. The report to be circulated to Chair of Childrens Scrutiny at Rutland County Council, published on the RCC website, sent to NASACRE and shared by SACRE members with their organisations.

## **7 SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-22**

The Council **CONSIDERED** the SACRE Development Plan for 2020-22 and no comments or issues were raised.

## **8 AGREED SYLLABUS FROM SEPTEMBER 2023**

Amanda Fitton, SACRE and Religious Education Advisor, provided a verbal update on the Agreed Syllabus from September 2023.

During the discussion the following points were noted:

- Amanda Fitton had created a questionnaire for schools regarding the current syllabus. It had been highlighted by the schools that they favoured the current syllabus as it allowed them to think and create a curriculum that suited their pupils but also that more guidance on how to build a curriculum was required.
- A discussion had taken place for a joint website to be created for Peterborough, Cambridgeshire and Rutland where resources could be shared which would be extremely useful for teachers.
- Amanda Fitton and Gurdev Singh would be meeting with Jonathan Lewis, Head of Education for Peterborough and Cambridgeshire to discuss funding requirements for teachers to be taken out of school to provide their knowledge and expertise.

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Andrew Hull, Representative of Humanists UK joined the meeting at 17:05pm having experienced technical issues.

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- Gurdev Singh explained that the funding requirements were not yet known, and a proposal would be shared at the next SACRE meeting in January 2022.

- An agreed syllabus conference would be created where the new syllabus would be discussed. The conference would report back to each SACRE meeting regarding progress and the terms of reference would be shared.

The following viewpoints were outlined by the group, and these would be taken forward to the Syllabus conference:

- That the Rutland SACRE would prefer an existing local syllabus to be adapted and evolved.
- That the Rutland would make the syllabus available free of charge dependent on funding requirements.
- That the Rutland SACRE would work in collaboration with Peterborough, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.
- That Gurdev Singh would represent the Rutland SACRE at the Agreed Syllabus Conference subject to no longer being required to represent Peterborough.

## **RESOLVED**

1. That the Rutland SACRE **APPROVE** the need for an agreed syllabus conference to be convened.
2. That Gurdev Singh be appointed as the Rutland SACRE's representative on the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

## **9 TRAINING AND NETWORK MEETINGS**

The next Network meeting would be taking place on 11 November 2022 via Zoom and Amanda Fitton would share the details with the group.

Elizabeth Papworth, Education Development Lead and Amanda Fitton were creating a programme for schools in Rutland regarding training on RE requirements for Ofsted visits.

## **10 MONITORING OF RE IN SCHOOLS**

Elizabeth Papworth explained that RE was now mentioned on all school websites which was agreed as a positive improvement.

## **11 OFSTED INSPECTION REPORTS**

There were no Ofsted Inspection Reports to discuss.

## **12 ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

It was **AGREED** that the next SACRE meeting in January 2022 be undertaken via Zoom.

## **13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The date of the next meeting was **NOTED** as Tuesday, 18 January 2022.

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**The Chair declared the meeting closed at 17:44pm.**

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