

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education on Wednesday
10th May 2017 at Holy Cross, Woodchurch**

Present:

Rachel Razbully (Chair)	Group C
Steven Baker	Group C
Di Clark	Group C
Francine Foster	Group B
Colleen Hibbard	Group C
Rev Ron Iveson	Group B
Jinny Lewtas	Group C
Ian McKenzie	Group B
Helen O'Brien	Group A

In attendance: Marion Landor, RE Advisor
Janet Sherlock, Clerk to Wirral SACRE

Guests:

Apologies Received:

Zoe Abernethy	Group A
Paul Barrett	Group A
Matt Fairhead	Group B
Councillor Wendy Clements	Group D

MRS RACHEL RAZBULLY IN THE CHAIR

Agenda Item 1	Welcome and Apologies for Absence	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Rachel Razbully welcomed members to the meeting and expressed grateful thanks to Holy Cross Church for a lovely welcome and to Mrs Rosemarie for an enjoyable and informative tour of the church. 	
Conclusions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance and apologies were received and accepted by the members. 	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline
Attendance records / membership	Janet Sherlock	Next meeting

Agenda Item 2	Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st February 2017	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes from the meeting had been circulated in advance. 	
Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true and accurate account by members present. Proposed by Ms Helen O'Brien, seconded by Mr Steven Baker. 	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline

Agenda Item 3	SACRE Action Plan 2017	
Discussion:	<p>Mrs M Landor explained that the current action plan had started in 2014 and nobody who was currently a member of Wirral SACRE had been involved with it. Mrs Landor added that she had reviewed it and was of the opinion that it needed to move on.</p> <p>Mrs Landor went on to explain the Action Plan (sent out with the minutes) – which it is intended will be active from September 2017 – until the end of 2018. The key focus of the 2017 – 18 Action Plan will be to carry out the Wirral Agreed Syllabus Review. Though as Mrs Landor explained, it is intended that issues from the previous Action Plan – which are still relevant – should be carried on forward into this Plan – such as for example – Youth SACRE.</p>	
Conclusion	The Action Plan will be reviewed twice during its implementation.	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline
	ML	March 2018, November 2018

Agenda Item 4	Wirral Agreed Syllabus Review	
Discussion:	<p>The key elements of the Action Plan Mrs Landor has put together relate to preparation for and review of the Wirral Agreed Syllabus for RE. The Action Plan is to begin by reviewing the current syllabus against the Curriculum Framework for Religious Education (2013) I and the House of Commons Paper of July 2016; the Action Plan is not intended to be exhaustive at this stage.</p> <p>Mrs Landor informed committee members that that the previous Review of the Wirral Agreed Syllabus for RE had started with a questionnaire to schools, the result of which was that the majority of schools wanted little change</p> <p>Mrs Landor had also reviewed some information received from Councillor Wendy Clements about the Somerset syllabus and had looked at several agreed syllabuses including Leicestershire, Lancashire and Warrington. Mrs Landor had reviewed ‘A Curriculum Framework for Religious Education in England 2013’ and asked the committee if they felt that this should be used as a guide.</p> <p>Committee members felt that it was important for teachers preparing lessons to be able to access useful material without having to search through many pages of detail first.</p> <p>Mrs Colleen Hibbard suggested looking at Target Tracker.</p> <p>Mrs Landor felt that the Leicestershire syllabus was a good place to start in terms of simplicity but that it would need to be adjusted to reflect the locality of the Wirral.</p> <p>Ms Francine Foster stated that she knew of two Wirral schools that were currently using a published scheme which could possibly be adapted. Mrs Hibbard and Ms Foster agreed to look at scheme lesson plans.</p> <p>Mrs Rachel Razbully advised that the syllabus review is normally split by religion and Mrs Landor noted that it is also split in to primary and secondary.</p> <p>Mrs Susan Talbot asked for a realistic estimate of costs, including timeframe and printing, so that funds could be allocated, still leaving some for the ongoing statutory duties of SACRE; the funding should include supply cover so that the work was done in school time.</p> <p>Mrs Landor suggested a meeting before the end of the school year to discuss the review in more detail.</p>	

	<p>Mrs Razbully suggested that, as humanism is covered at GCSE, there should be a section on this in the syllabus; there is currently no humanist representative on SACRE and perhaps there should be. There was some discussion as to whether this would be appropriate.</p> <p>Mrs Landor noted that primary schools cover one religion at a time but that at KS3 there should be a more thematic approach to show similarities as this may help to overcome prejudice. Mrs Razbully agreed that this would make the syllabus more contemporary as it would be dealing with current issues.</p> <p>Mr Steven Baker suggested that the project could be future-proofed by use of a website; he has some contacts and will investigate further. Committee members agreed that this would be useful. Mrs Talbot noted that this would be useful for Freedom of Information requests as there have been several recently.</p> <p>Mrs Landor advised that she would prepare the festivals calendar for September to December to go on the new website. Mrs Landor suggested that a questionnaire could go out in September 2017 and Ms Talbot advised that if the questions were agreed she could arrange for this to go out for the second week in September.</p> <p>Mrs Hibbard asked about the implementation date for the new syllabus and Mrs Landor suggested November 2018 to allow plenty of time for the work to take place.</p> <p>Ms Talbot asked whether more volunteers would be useful and the committee agreed that they would.</p> <p>Ms Foster suggested that perhaps someone could contact Lancashire or Warrington to gauge how far along they are with putting together their syllabus as there should be no need to repeat work already done.</p>	
Conclusion	Meeting to be arranged to discuss immediate planning and budget allocation (CH, FF, JL, RR and ML)	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline
	R Razbully to arrange	End of July 2017

Agenda Item 5	Updates and Feedback about Events	
Discussion:	<p>Mrs Hibbard asked whether the Holocaust Memorial had been filmed, as some sections would be useful for working with Year 6 pupils; she would be willing to edit any film that was available. Mrs Landor will follow this up.</p> <p>Mrs Landor suggested that perhaps Year 6 pupils could attend the Memorial if space was available and noted that there had been gaps in the seating so competition for places may not be a bad thing. Mrs Hibbard advised that one of the Year 6 books was 'The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas'. Mrs Landor suggested that secondary schools should have first refusal and Ms Talbot suggested a date to respond by; there was discussion about whom to contact in schools to arrange attendance. Mrs Landor noted that SACRE needed more councillors to attend and also more members from other religions.</p>	
Conclusion	Inclusion of Year 6 was proposed by Mrs Marion Landor and seconded by Mrs Rachel Razbully.	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline

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Agenda Item 6	Items of Correspondence	
Discussion:	<p>Mrs Landor reported that there had been a Freedom of Information request for previous SACRE minutes.</p> <p>Mrs Landor had written letters of thanks following the Holocaust Memorial.</p> <p>Mrs Landor had received an email from Alison Jones at the Floral Pavilion about possible dates for next year's Holocaust Memorial; these were Monday 29th January, Tuesday 30th January and Thursday 1st February; committee members decided against Monday as there would be less opportunity for reminders. Mrs Landor advised that she would send a letter asking for a Holocaust speaker by the end of the school year.</p>	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline

Agenda Item 7	Keynote Speaker Suggestions for Next Meeting	
Discussion:	<p>Reverend Iveson stated that the vicar of Christchurch in Bebington had links with the mosque in Tranmere, including an interfaith choir.</p> <p>Ms Talbot stated that she may be able to contact a Russian Orthodox priest.</p>	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline
Contact the mosque about the possibility of a visit or other involvement.	Mrs R Razbully	

Agenda Item 8	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
Discussion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Baker stated that he had primary and secondary resources from Remembering Srebrenica. He will send them to Mrs Landor to send out to schools. Mr Baker added that the charity were sending an NUT delegation to Bosnia and funding was available for adults interested in joining the trip. Mr Baker also advised that WBC will be formally recognising Srebrenica Memorial Day on 11th July. 	
Actions	Person Responsible	Deadline
None		

SPECIAL NOTES	The meeting finished at 6pm.	
DATES FOR THE NEXT MEETINGS	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th September 4-6pm at Wirral Grammar for Boys.	

Signed..... Ms R Razbully (Chair) Date.....