

**Minutes of the Oxfordshire SACRE Meeting
held at County Hall, Thursday 3rd November 2022 at 4:45 pm**

Present:

Committee A: World Faiths, Christian Denominations

Steve Beegoo
Sarah Montagu
Sheikh Ramzy
Sathaya Vadivale

Committee B: Church of England

Peter Foot
Elizabeth Pitkethly
Sue Scott

Committee C: Teacher representatives

Giles Beck
Nigel Fancourt
Rae Hancock
Christian McGuinness

Committee D: Local Authority

Councillor Bob Johnston

Co-opted Members

[None]

In attendance

Helen Batten (Clerk)
Bill Moore (Advisor to SACRE)
Jane Ratcliffe (Local Authority)

Apologies

Shahin Bekhradnia (Co-opted)
Arzhia Habibi (Co-opted)
Christine Price-Smith (B)
Councillor Nigel Simpson (D)

1 Introduction

- Quorum was confirmed.
- Apologies received were accepted.
- No substantive items of AOB had been notified.

2 Minutes of 7th June & matters arising

- Minutes were approved without amendment.
- Agreed actions were complete, or would be covered by the current agenda.

3 SACRE strategic planning

3.1 Identifying priorities/actions

Following discussion at the June SACRE, results of the self-evaluation exercise, and a proposed SACRE development plan had been circulated. SACRE agreed

the priority areas set out in the development plan. BM will run an Induction webinar for new members prior to the meeting next term, that will be open to all who wish to attend.

Action: BM will provide potential dates for induction.

3.2 Budget plan

BM tabled an amended budget plan 2022-23, with emerging priorities for 2023-24 in the light of the launch and training for the new Agreed Syllabus. This amended plan has been submitted to the LA for information. The importance of ensuring that the LA fully understands its statutory duties with regard to RE, and the SACRE activities that will be necessary to meet them, was noted. These aspects will be highlighted in the budget plan 2023-24.

In view of the short time available to meet LA budget deadlines, SACRE agreed to submit a budget plan 2023-24 based on the current proposal, with additional clarity around statutory responsibilities.

Action: BM/JR will progress the funding request as discussed.

Further consideration can then be given to identified areas that might be changed:

- Explore potential external fundraising to support the work of SACRE, if permitted. The best approach may be to prepare specific grant applications to support pieces of agreed work, eg, around community cohesion.
- Review current channels by which information is distributed to schools and teachers, and find the most effective method(s) of communication.
- More finance will be required in order to achieve anything meaningful in terms of monitoring in schools.

3.3 SACRE development plan

BM introduced the NASACRE guidance on the role of SACRE and members completed the exercise 'What makes a good SACRE member?'. Further guidance will be provided so that the next meeting can take this discussion forward.

Action: BM will circulate material to support discussion at March SACRE.

In response to a query, BM confirmed that he is looking at how some other SACREs operate, to determine whether any aspects can be used to improve Oxfordshire SACRE's current ways of working.

4. Monitoring RE in schools

Following the change of SACRE membership, further information about website monitoring will be provided, with a view to producing an online form for feedback.

Action: BM will circulate updated guidance on website monitoring.

5. Supporting schools to teach RE

BM reported that liaison with Oxfordshire Teaching Schools Alliance is ongoing. A future SACRE meeting has been considered as a good event to bring teachers together, but this may be better achieved through the syllabus launch activities.

6. SACRE annual report 2021-22

An update will be provided to the next meeting.

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7. Confirmation of SACRE constitution

The amended constitution, based on previous discussion, had been circulated. There were no further comments and SACRE agreed the constitution. The constitution will be provided to the LA with other documents for approval.

Appropriate guidance will be required to guide necessary actions when a term of office comes to an end.

8. AOB

- SR suggested that SACRE consider support for schools wishing to become 'schools of sanctuary' under the City of Sanctuary programme, which aims to build local movements of welcome for those seeking sanctuary in the UK. It was agreed that further information will be provided so that the next meeting can look in more detail at what being a school of sanctuary would entail.
Action: SR will provide further information about Schools of Sanctuary.
- SB drew attention to the recent useful Westminster Hall debate on RE, the link to which is: [Parliamentlive.tv - Westminster Hall](https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Programme.aspx?programmeId=WestminsterHall-2023-02-23)

9. Next meeting arrangements

- The next meeting of SACRE will take place on **Thursday 23rd February 2023**, time and venue to be confirmed.
- The third meeting will take place during the **week commencing 5th June**.

NF thanked everyone for their attendance and input and closed the meeting at 5:45 pm.