

BOROUGH OF POOLE
STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)

21 MARCH 2016

The Meeting commenced at 4pm and concluded at 5:10pm.

Present:

Group A:

Lynda Ford-Horne – Judaism (Chair for the meeting)

Bharati Joshi – Hinduism

Susan Kouchek-Zudah – Baha'i Faith

Group B:

Rev'd Michael Camp – Church of England

Group C:

Chris Farrow – St Edwards RC CE School

Group D:

Councillor Wilson

Co-opted Member:

Karen Preston - Humanist

Also in attendance:

Sue Langdon – Senior Advisor School Improvement

Louise Smith – Democratic Support Officer

Angela Muir

Members of public in attendance: 0

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Lynda Ford-Horne be Chair for the Meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Walton and Howell and Melanie Bright, Dave Rees and Renate Diallo.

3. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meetings held on 23 November 2015 and 8 March 2016, having been previously circulated, be confirmed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

The Chair advised that she had been in contact with Bournemouth Mosque to inform them that Poole SACRE only required one named and consistent representative from the Muslim community and advised that this was being progressed.

6. AGREED SYLLABUS UPDATES AND DECISIONS

The Council considered the Report which had been voted on by Bournemouth SACRE, the Report previously considered at its meeting of 8 March 2016 and an email received from Karen Preston, Humanist Representative, dated 8 March 2016.

The Chair advised that Poole SACRE did not have to make the same decision as Bournemouth with regard to what religions/worldviews should be offered at what stage of education.

The Council discussed the Reports and comments were made including:

- There was some discussion about whether a non religious view should be included at a Primary Phase and whether it should be a 'requirement' at any stage
- The Council considered the reasons why the non religious view should be the Humanist approach as opposed to others
- It was felt important to make the study of Islam and Judaism a requirement as it reflected the demographics of the local community with regards to the Jewish community and Islam in order to promote a greater understanding of the religion in light of current affairs
- A Teacher Representative felt that the non-religious view should not be a requirement as it would give teachers less opportunity to use curriculum time to teach different religious views

It was Moved and Seconded:

that in consideration of the Decisions set out in the Report dated 8 March 2016 to progress with Option 2, with the following changes:

- i) That the following be deleted from the Decision:

“Strengthen the recommendation to include a non-religious world view at Primary phase”

- ii) that the following be amended in the Decision:

Under point 5 – remove “required” and insert “recommended”.

RESOLVED that the Poole Locally Agreed Syllabus should:

- **Keep Christianity in every year group**
- **Add Buddhism to the list of religions to be selected from in Primary phase, thereby not needing it to be compulsory at KS3**
- **Make Islam and Judaism a ‘required’ religion during both Primary phase and at KS3**
- **Make Humanism a ‘recommended’ study as a non-religious worldview at Primary and Secondary phases.**

Voting: For – Unanimous (Group A, B, C and D)

7. MEMBERSHIP

Karen Preston, Humanist Representative, advised the Council that she would be stepping down from SACRE and that the next meeting would be her last. She advised that she was aware of another Humanist who would represent their worldview on SACRE and that she would email her contact details to the Clerk.

Angela Muir advised that as she was now retired, she could no longer be part of Group C (Teacher Representative) but asked if she could become a Co-opted Member?

RESOLVED that Angela Muir become a Co-opted Member of Poole SACRE.

Voting: For – Unanimous

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Council noted the joint SACRE was scheduled to take place at 4:15pm on Monday 18th April 2016, Royal Hants Room, Bournemouth Town Hall and that it was imperative that Poole SACRE was quorate for this meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair advised that the Joint SACRE Conference would be held on Friday 17th June 2016, venue to be confirmed. Further details would be sent out at a later date.

CHAIRMAN