Torbay SACRE Minutes

# 19th February 2018

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| **Agenda Item** | **Comments** | **Action** |
| **1** | **Welcome and apologies for absence**  It was acknowledged that this meeting was quorate.  Attendees:  **Chair: Mrs. Corrine Guntrip (NATRE)**  **Advisor: Mr. Ed Pawson**  Group A - Carly Watson (Pentecostal)  Yousif Al-Nassar (Muslim)      Group B - Mr Phillip Mantell (Church of England)  Rev Angela Sumner (Church of England)  Mrs Charlotte Caluori (Church of England)    Group C - Mrs Heather Savini (NATFHE)  Mrs. Corrine Guntrip (NATRE)    Group D - Cllr Ms. Di Stubley  Cllr Mr Julien Parrott (UKIP)  Debbie Horn (Local Authority)  **Apologies**  Group A - Rev Peter Killick  Mrs Sylvia Kennedy  Mr Bill Becher    Group B - Rev. Ian Blyde    Group C - Mrs. Claire Entwistle (NATRE)  Mr Andrew Strachan (ATL/NUT)  Group D - Cllr Mrs Jackie Stockman  Cllr Ms. Jane Barnby |  |
| **2** | **Minutes of previous meeting**  Julien reiterated the importance of SACRE and the role of the councillors in attending SACRE not just to make the meeting quorate. | **Magenta to update November minutes and resend** |
| **3** | **Items requiring urgent attention**  Nothing was bought to the Chairs attention |  |
| **4** | **Torbay SACRE membership updates – election of the Vice Chair**  Corrine will not be at the next meeting due to being on maternity leave. Heather announced that this would be her last SACRE meeting after 30 years. Heather said that both she and Devon and Torbay have been blessed because of SACRE. Heather highlighted the worthy history of SACRE and passed on her thanks to all members. Charlotte highlighted that Heather has been feeding into RE in the bay for over 40 years. Peter Killick is also stepping down and sends his thanks to everyone.  Each house should have a Chair, each house taking it in turns to Chair. Everyone met within their houses to elect a Chair. Group A chose to pass, group B Charlotte will Chair if no other jobs/time is involved and it is purely chairing the meeting. Group C Corrine said that Andrew would not want to Chair.  Everyone agreed for Charlotte to Chair the next meeting, and if Charlotte was unavailable, Phillip agreed to Chair.  For the Councillors, Di would be the point of contact and will be assisted by Julien.  Julien left the meeting at 2pm.  Ed discussed the vacancies SACRE have and showed research by Linda Woodhead which identified group of people called NONE’s of which 60% of 18-24 year olds are identified as, this means they have no religious affiliation. 41% are atheist, 22% agnostic, 17% theist, 25% spiritual practice, 11% spiritual, 0% see religious leaders as guides, they are suspicious of external authorities and joining institutions, SACRE breaks down grouping into structured groups. The children we are teaching have much more complex spiritual identities. When thinking about membership we need to look at a broader constituency. Ed has been approached by the pagan federation to become a Coopted member of SACRE. Maia Miller There is no seat for pagans, but with the religious landscape being diverse, could they be a Coopted member? Ed suggested looking for members who have a constructive informed voice. Ed to invite Maia to next meeting as a visitor to discuss and then we vote through our houses.  Charlotte said that SACRE needs more representation and commitment from people within the houses as we have always struggled with group A for membership.  Penny- Sikh representative from Totnes has expressed an interest in joining  Mark Frank Jewish representative possible member but he is away a lot.  Religious Education Council meet on Wednesday (Ed is on the council) and the National Secular Society have asked to join- probably accept their application. | **Mr Pawson** |
| **5**  **6** | **Torbay SACRE budget update**  Debbie apologised for not distributing the papers before the meeting.  Budget was £8200 this year, 2 expenses £1250 in August for David Hampshire and the writing of the annual report and £5960 in November for the contract with Babcock for the year (for Ed). Leaves £990 underspend this year, needs to be used by end of March, cannot be rolled forward. Members can claim expenses and supply. Debbie will send claim form out with the minutes.  Money can be used for a number of things- Bill Becher would like to attend the SACRE conference but has no transport. Cost is £80, Ed is going from Exeter, if Bill can get to Exeter, Ed can take him to the conference. No one else put their name forward for the conference.  Ed to liaise with Bill re attendance at SACRE conference.  **Learn/Teach/Lead Religious Education (LTLRE)**  Torbay learn, teach, lead- each hub has a primary and secondary rep, base in schools so teachers can access easily. Learn, Teach, Lead have requested funding from SACRE. Hub leader training expenses- 2 days each hub leader per year. We have been asked to contribute £900. As Corrine has sought support from LAP, they will cover half, so SACRE funding £450 per year.  Everyone agreed to fund half the cost this year for it to be reviewed next year. Communicate back to schools what SACRE are doing. Can Learn, Teach, Lead go out with the SACRE badge on?  Fiona Moss at RE Today emailed Corrine to see if SACRE want to purchase resources for next year with the under spend? Taking out the £450 for the hub leaves approximately £465 (minus Bills costs).Yousef said that the mosque are willing to pay for books needed for schools if they are needed.  Charlotte put in a request for resources covering Judaism as this is now part of the GCSE.  Ed and Corrine agreed to look at what money was left in the budget and if there were any resources that could be purchased from RE today with the remainder of this. | **Mr Pawson**  **Mrs Guntrip and Mr Pawson** |
| **7** | **Interfaith Focus**  Conference in Exeter 12th-18th November. Start a proactive approach towards interfaith week in Torbay possibly working with the Torbay Interfaith forum. At next meeting focus on creating activity for interfaith week. Bill is involved with Torbay Interfaith Forum.  Exeter are having a schools conference on Friday 9th November, focussing on death and dying working with Exeter hospice.  Set up a working party to organise events for Interfaith week. Debbie is happy to be part of the working party. Ed to talk to Bill re Interfaith week. | **Mr Pawson** |
| **8** | **Reviewing SACRE Documentation**  Torbay syllabus is the same as Devon, published in 2014, needs to be reviewed every 5 years so 2019 is the year to review syllabus. The previous syllabus was reviewed in 2007. SACRE’s duty to review the syllabus.  SACRE appoints agreed syllabus committee (asc) that reviews the syllabus. Historically, Devon, Torbay and Plymouth produce a syllabus in line with each other. Hoping to do the same again. ASC would be set up which draws in people from all 4 houses across the 3 authorities. Will require funding as it will mean either writing new material or buying new material.  Last document was very thin due to various reasons, it was produced to be in line with National curriculum documents and with some subsidiary guidance. Current curriculum no longer fit for purpose as hasn’t been updated since 2007. Ed handed out some syllabus material for everyone to look at.  It was discussed that some schools don’t need to follow the syllabus. Options are to write a similar document to 2014 and find a way to support, or work with other authorities to produce a new syllabus. Angela and Charlotte said that it is important to provide teachers with as much quality material as possible so that they are confident in delivering the syllabus.  RE Today syllabus would be expensive, it can be tailored and schools can opt to buy additional materials.  Ed will contact Plymouth and Devon re writing joint syllabus. Add agreed syllabus to the June agenda. | **Mr Pawson** |
| **9** | **National Developments**  Ed showed a short clip regarding the benefits of RE in schools and showed a letter from Nick Gibb the schools minister to Gill Tewkesbury re schools not meeting the required time for delivering RE in schools. Nick Gibb’s letter said that perhaps RE was being delivered in other subjects such as critical thinking and citizenship, quote from the letter; ‘these schools therefore maybe meeting the requirement’. It was discussed that RE should be delivered in RE not any other subjects, the line ‘maybe meeting’ needs looking into because that means that some schools may not be meeting the legal requirement. |  |
| **10** | **Monitoring RE in schools**  Ed distributed a challenge for members. SACRE need to be more effective at challenging schools about delivering RE. Members are to search school websites for RE to see what is included in the syllabus and how much RE is taught, if it is a single lesson etc. Avoid CofE schools and Roman Catholic schools as these are inspected every 3-5 years.  Members to report back to Ed on findings.  Debbie to send list of schools to Corrine and type of school | **All**  **Mrs Horn** |
| **11** | **Launch of RE definitions**  Ed showed a new app/website for RE teachers. Gives you the translation of the word and the pronunciation. Ed to put the link in the next newsletter. | **Mr Pawson** |
| **12** | **Holocaust Memorial Day 2018**  Ed showed pictures from the event. There were no schools from Torbay this year. There was a primary school choir for the opening event. 600 people attended the event at the cathedral, some from Torbay. Bill Becher attended. There has been excellent feedback from the event. |  |
| **13** | **ICE Request**  Corrine received email from Nick at ICE Torbay asking SACRE to endorse ICE Torbay or provide a statement supporting what they do to help with marketing. It was decided SACRE do not know enough about what ICE do and it is not appropriate to endorse any one organisation. Perhaps a member of staff who has had experience of working with ICE could write a statement but not under SACRE. At the last meeting that ICE were guests, we did not ask them about their view on same sex relationships and didn’t ask them enough about detail behind what they do.  Corrine to formulate a response and send to Ed before replying to Nick | **Mrs Guntrip** |
|  | **Next meeting is Wednesday 13th June 09.30-12.30 in the Meadfoot room, Town hall** |  |