



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 FEBRUARY 2019

### Members

**Group A:** Patricia Alder, Dr Bernard Arambepola, Nick Chanda, *Andrew Gaudion*, Muhammad Ibrahim, *Rabbi Yuval Keren*, Rabbi Emanuel Levy, Marina Robb, Jill Saxton, *Ruth Serner*, *Navaratnam Shanmuganathan*, *Rubbina Umar* vacancy x 5

**Group B:** *Margaret Coleman*, *The Revd. Ian Crofts*, The Revd. Gordon Giles, Stephen Miller, *Sally Moore*, The Revd. Tina Kelsey

**Group C:** *Naomi Franks*, Sabah Raza (Chair), Lucia Silva-Clark, vacancy x 5

**Group D:** Cllr Ergin Erbil, *Cllr James Hockney*, *Cllr Michael Rye OBE*, Clara Seery, *Cllr Mahtab Uddin*  
*Italics denotes absence*

### Also Attending

Hannah Croton – Merryhills Primary School RE Lead - Observer

Paraskevi Koumi – the Faith and Beliefs Forum (item 6 only)

Anna Sallnow – RE Consultant

Clara Seery – Assistant Director Education

Pauline Swain – SACRE Administrator

Marianne Page - Minute Clerk

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Group A – Rabbi Yuval Keren

Group B – The Revd. Ian Crofts, Sally Moore

Group D – Councillors James Hockney and Michael Rye

### 2. MEMBERSHIP AND WELCOME

The Chair explained that the term of office of Ruth Serner, Group A, had expired. However, she would be approached to ascertain whether she would be willing to be a nominated representative again. The appointments of Nick Chanda and Marina Robb to Group A and The Reverend Tina Kelsey to Group B were reported. Members present and the observer were welcomed, and introductions were made.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2018

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The following issues arose through consideration of the Minutes:

(a) Minute 6 (iii) - Review of the Constitution – item on this agenda

(b) Minute 7 (i) – the SACRE Annual Report had been finalised, circulated and submitted to NASACRE and the DfE.

(c) Minute 8 – SACRE Development Plan – item on this agenda

- (d) Minute 9 – Review of Commission on RE Report ‘Religion and Worldviews’– item on this agenda
- (e) Minute 14 – cover for the Enfield Agreed Syllabus. Members were invited to submit photographs of children, whose permission had been received, to showcase outstanding RE. The intention was to move away from the present use of religious symbols on the cover of the Agreed Syllabus.
- (f) Minute 15 – Enfield Youth Parliament – this representation was being worked on and would be achieved in time.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

Improving standards in religious education and collective worship

### **5. FEEDBACK FROM HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENT**

Rabbi Levy presented a review of the Holocaust Memorial Event. The theme had been ‘Torn from Home’ which was of relevance over centuries with many injustices continuing through to the present day. He described the format of the event with speakers and music and the Chair, who had attended, agreed that the event was thought-provoking and moving. Thanks, were expressed to the London Borough of Enfield for hosting the event which had been much appreciated.

### **6. FAITH AND BELIEF FORUM**

Paraskevi Koumi of the Faith and Belief Forum was welcomed to the meeting. She gave a short presentation of the work done by the Faith and Belief Forum.

Working in schools, the community and work places, the group was set up 20 years ago and had evolved to include all faiths and none. The aim was for young people to get to know each other through practised faith. The Forum is based in Camden and had already worked in Enfield with St Monica’s and Wolfson Hillel Primary schools.

School linking was their longest running programme. Partners included all different faith schools. The programme involved going through methodology with teachers to appreciate diversity in each group. Three ‘link days’ were offered in this programme in the academic year with the intention of deepening knowledge and understanding. Sessions were provided free and Paraskevi Koumi invited applications from those present.

School workshops were currently under development. Packages were available which could be designed to meet the needs of a particular school for example ‘Who am I?’ or ‘Encountering Faiths and Beliefs’. The aim was to engage with people and navigate differences and offer opportunities for collaboration. An online resource hub was also under development which would enable teachers to access information from anywhere in the country.

In response to questions, Paraskevi explained that Youth Centres and charities could collaborate and should get in touch. There was a mix of restricted and unrestricted funding with some being from the government and some from donations. In certain cases where external facilitators were needed to widen the faith groups schools might be charged £100 for workshops which could cover up to 30 children. Travel expenses to workshops could be payable as appropriate. However, the link days were offered free. The Forum worked with both primary and secondary sectors.

The contact email was [paraskevi@faithbeliefforum.org](mailto:paraskevi@faithbeliefforum.org). Paraskevi invited people to contact her and it was hoped there would be mutual benefit. She was thanked for her attendance and she left the meeting.

## 7. NOMINATION OF A CHAIRPERSON FOR EACH GROUP

Following discussions within each group the following nominations for Group Chairperson were agreed:

Group A	Marina Robb
Group B	The Revnd. Dr Gordon Giles
Group C	Lucia Silva-Clark
Group D	Deferred until there were more representatives from Group D present.

**ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**

## 8. REVIEW/ AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

**RECEIVED** the Constitution of the Enfield Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education, dated June 2013, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was appropriate to review the Constitution so it could reflect the changing nature of faiths and beliefs within the Borough. Clara Seery explained that any changes would need to be shared with the Local Authority and processed by the Legal Department to comply with statutory requirements.

Groups were invited to consider the following amendments to the Constitution:

- Group A – representatives of the Evangelical and Free Churches to be combined with Pentecostal Church
- Group A – Salvation Army and Baptist representations to be removed as there had never been any attendance from either group
- Group A – addition of a Sikhism representative
- Group A - addition of an Alevi representative (at present were only on a co-opted basis, one named representative would be sought from them)
- Group C – representation to be amended to 2 or 3 Primary, Secondary and Special School Senior representatives rather than specifying Headteacher status

Following discussion within each Group on the Constitution and the amendments it was

**RESOLVED** that

- (a) A representative from the Alevi Community to be added to Group A (one named representative to be sought)

**ACTION: CLLR ERGIN ERBIL**

- (b) A Representative from the Sikh community to be added to Group A. An approach to be made to the Sikh community as it was noted that there used to be a named representative, but no one had attended for a long time

**ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**

- (c) No other changes be made to the Constitution relating to the faith communities listed under Group A

- (d) A direct invitation be made to the Salvation Army, by Marina Robb, and the local Baptist Church by Revnd. Gordon Giles, with a view to securing a nominated representative who would be able to attend the meetings.

**ACTION: MARINA ROBB/ THE REVND. GORDON GILES**

- (e) Membership for Headteachers on Group C to be amended to include one Primary Headteacher, Deputy or Assistant Head and one Secondary Headteacher, Deputy or Assistant Head on Group C. Remove Special Head.  
**ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**
- (f) Clara Seery to invite Headteacher / Deputy or Assistant Headteacher representation for Group C at the next termly Headteachers' Conference  
**ACTION: CLARA SEERY**
- (g) Group C to increase membership of teachers to three primary teachers and three secondary teachers (with different union representation where possible)
- (h) The SACRE Administrator write to communities who had not attended 3 or more consecutive meetings reminding them to nominate another representative if the current one was unable to attend.  
**ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**
- (i) Noted that if a member from a Non-Religious Worldview (NRWV) expressed an interest in joining SACRE, they would be co-opted.
- (j) School Governors, particularly Governors with responsibility for RE, could be invited to attend as observers;  
**ACTION: ALL GROUPS**
- (k) members were keen that representatives not be decreased in number; the emphasis was on named individuals who would attend and to keep vacancies open on that basis.
- (l) these minor changes be presented to the Legal Department for amendment through the appropriate channel.  
**ACTION: CLARA SEERY**
- (m) no changes were required to the Terms of Reference which had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- (n) the Teacher Association membership section should be amended to change from NUT to NEU  
**ACTION: SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**

**9. COMMISSION ON RE REPORT 'RELIGION AND WORLDVIEWS: THE WAY FORWARD – A NATIONAL PLAN FOR RE'**

**RECEIVED** the Executive Summary Religion and Worldviews; the Way Forward, September 2018 a copy of which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Anna Sallnow presented this item to consider the meeting's view on the recommendations. It was SACRE's opportunity to feedback to the Commission on RE (CoRE).

In discussion Members agreed they did not wish the title to exclude any pupils and thought there was a risk of this. They also did not wish to lose the character of the faith element and the integrity of the subject Religious Education. RE was not to be confused with philosophy or citizenship, neither of which addressed the national entitlement to RE. Members were reminded that the RE syllabus was locally agreed so this SACRE could recommend a syllabus as an appropriate reflection of the local dimension of Enfield's faith communities.

Members did not wish to lose the dynamism of RE and wanted it to remain inclusive with safeguards. Were the recommendations to be implemented there would no longer be any

need for the Agreed Syllabus Conference (ASC) as a National Syllabus would be implemented. The meeting was not in favour of supporting a recommendation abolishing the ASC and Anna Sallnow said other SACREs had said the same as they wished to retain the Church of England perspective. Equally the recommendations indicated a dilution of all religious group representation. Members noted that recommendation 10 on the 'Right to Withdrawal' would need legislation if it were to be implemented as RE was an entitlement. Pupils needed to understand how others live and to respect their voice. Following discussion, it was

**RESOLVED** that

(a) 'Religion and Beliefs' was the more appropriate wording in place of 'Religion and Worldviews'. This was to be fed back by Anna Sallnow to CoRE.

**ACTION: ANNA SALLNOW**

(b) The Revd. Dr Gordon Giles prepare a paragraph statement explaining the views for Anna to include in the submitted response from the SACRE.

**ACTION: THE REVND. Dr GORDON GILES**

## **10. REVIEW OF SACRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**RECEIVED** the SACRE Development Plan 2017- 18 a copy of which was circulated in advance of the meeting.

Members needed to assess whether this was developed, established or advanced in order to form the new Development Plan. The decision needed to be made by a collective quorate meeting. The decision had to be during March or April.

**RESOLVED** that an additional meeting date, on a Tuesday, be canvassed with each Group sending at least one representative to ensure quoracy.

**ACTION: CHAIR and SACRE ADMINISTRATOR**

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Improving SACRE's effectiveness

## **11. SACRE ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018**

**RECEIVED** the Enfield SACRE Annual Report 2017 – 2018 a copy of which was circulated prior to the meeting.

This had been submitted in good time and members were pleased with the document.

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- (a) members' attention was drawn to 'truetube' which was a good resource for RE with LGBT being a theme this week.
- (b) Following the meeting tonight there was a play being presented at the Millfield Theatre. The Mayor had invited SACRE to take part in the theme 'Together we are Enfield'. The Chair and Gordon Giles had been part of a video which would be shown, demonstrating the inclusive nature of RE in the Borough. It was possible this could be a way of recruiting new SACRE members.
- (c) Cllr Ergin Erbil invited members to attend Full Council in the Council Chamber tomorrow evening when the meeting would be preceded by an Alevi prayer.

13. **SACRE MEETING DATES**

**NOTED** the dates for the 2018-2019 calendar of meetings with a start time of 5.30pm as follows:

Summer Term – Tuesday 25 June 2019

Autumn Term – Tuesday 19 November 2019

**CLOSE OF MEETING**