

# Notice of Meeting

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## **Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education**

**Tuesday, 27th June, 2017 at 6.30 pm**  
in Committee Room 2 Council Offices  
Market Street Newbury

For further information about this Agenda, or to inspect any background documents referred to in Part I reports, please contact Jo Watt, Appeals Officer on (01635) 519458  
e-mail: [jo.watt@westberks.gov.uk](mailto:jo.watt@westberks.gov.uk)



**Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education to be held on Tuesday, 27 June 2017 (continued)**

**To: Group A - Other Faith Members:**

Mrs Lucy Gallagher (Catholic) and Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

**Group B – Faith Members:**

Revd Mary Harwood (C of E), Mrs Maria Pratico (C of E) and Mr Robin Sharples (C of E)

**Group C – Teaching Association Members:**

Mr Bernard Eggleton (NASUWT) and Ms Clare Nolan (NASUWT)

**Group D – WBC Councillors:**

Councillor Pamela Bale (WBC), Councillor Billy Drummond (WBC), Councillor Sheila Ellison (WBC) and Councillor Carol Jackson-Doerge (WBC)

**LA Advisors:**

Ms Alison Harris (Independent Consultant) and Keith Harvey (Head Teacher)

**Guests:**

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# Agenda

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1 <b>Apologies</b>	
2 <b>Minutes</b> To sign and approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of SACRE held on 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2017.	5 - 10
3 <b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b>	
4 <b>Update on membership</b>	
5 <b>Update on the Discovery Scheme of work</b>	
6 <b>Agreed Syllabus Conference</b> Alison Harris to provide an update on the Agreed Syllabus Conference and to explain the actions required from the West Berkshire SACRE.	11 - 18
7 <b>Any Other Business</b>	



**Agenda - Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education to be held on Tuesday, 27  
June 2017 (continued)**

For the Committee to give consideration to:

- The Pan Berkshire SACRE Hub Annual Religious Education Conference on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Winnersh.
- The Pan Berkshire SACRE Hub Agreed Syllabus Review, Faith, Religion and Belief Group Consultation Event on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Wokingham Borough Council.
- The 'Places of Worship Directory 2017' and how to ensure the information is disseminated to West Berkshire schools.
- Networks

**8 Date of Next Meeting**

Andy Day  
Head of Strategic Support



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## **WEST BERKSHIRE STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2017**

**VENUE: ST NICOLAS CHURCH OF ENGLAND JUNIOR SCHOOL, LINK ROAD,  
NEWBURY RG14 7LU**

#### **Present:**

##### **Group A – Other Faith Members**

Revd David Taylor (Thatcham Baptist Church)

##### **Group B – Faith Members**

Revd Mary Harwood (C of E) and Mr Robin Sharples (C of E)

##### **Group C – Teaching Association Members**

Mr Bernard Eggleton (NASUWT)

##### **Group D – WBC Councillors**

Councillor Pamela Bale (WBC) and Councillor Billy Drummond (WBC)

**Also Present:** Ms Alison Harris (Independent Consultant), Keith Harvey (Head Teacher) and Jo Watt (Appeals Officer)

**Apologies for inability to attend the meeting:** Councillor Sheila Ellison (WBC), Mrs Lucy Gallagher (Catholic), Councillor Carol Jackson-Doerge (WBC), Mr David McKay (Buddhist), Clare Nolan (NASUWT) and Mrs Maria Pratico (C of E)

#### **18 Minutes**

It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were a true reflection of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

#### **19 Matters arising from the Minutes**

The Committee noted that the GCSE results had not been attached to the minutes of the last meeting. Jo Watt said she would circulate the results as soon as possible. *Post meeting note – Jo Watt circulated the GCSE results on 1.3.17.*

The Committee asked that the agenda and minutes of the West Berkshire SACRE meeting be available on the Council website as it was a statutory meeting and should be accessible by the public. Any confidential discussions could be dealt with under Part II and would not be published.

With regard to the Hindu and Muslim representatives, Keith Harvey said that he had spoken to the parents who had expressed an interest and had asked them to provide a letter of recommendation from their relevant organisation. The letters had not yet been provided. Keith suggested that the parents in question could be invited to the next West Berkshire SACRE meeting to get an idea of how the committee worked and allay any possible fears regarding workload. **Action – Keith Harvey to contact the parents concerned and invite them to the next meeting.**

The change to the SACRE constitution was discussed under 'Update on membership'.

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 28 FEBRUARY 2017 - MINUTES

Alison Harris gave an update on support work with teachers. Alison reported that she had spoken to Sharon Goddard in the Council's Education department regarding the date of the next network meeting. It was hoped that this would be held before the Autumn SACRE meeting in for potential new committee members to be sought.

Alison Harris also provided the following updates:

- The Hub conference was held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017
- Anne Andrews from the Oxford Diocese was providing the support for training new SACRE members.
- The 'Crossing the Bridges' project now has 21 places of worship for schools to visit. The teacher trip on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017 which aimed to train both the teachers and hosts had proved very popular and was over subscribed. A power point pack of information would be created.
- It was noted that if a faith did not have 'a place of worship' then they could be invited to visit a school to speak about their faith.
- Alison Harris said she would ask Catherine Jinkerson to contact David Taylor to explain more about the Crossing the Bridges initiative. In the meantime, further information could be found at:  
[www.Discoveryschemeofwork/crossingthebridges](http://www.Discoveryschemeofwork/crossingthebridges)

### 20 Elect new Chair and Vice-Chair

The Committee was asked for nominations for the Chairman of the West Berkshire SACRE to hold office until the first meeting of the new academic year (November 2017).

Jo Watt requested nominations for Chairman.

Councillor Pamela Bale proposed The Revd Mary Harwood. Councillor Billy Drummond seconded the proposal. The Revd Mary Harwood was elected Chairman until the first meeting of the new academic year.

*The Revd Mary Harwood in the Chair.*

The Revd Mary Harwood asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. The Revd Mary Harwood nominated Bernard Eggleton. Robin Sharples seconded the proposal. Bernard Eggleton was elected Vice-Chair until the first meeting of the new academic year.

### 21 Update on membership

The Committee noted that Sue Plackett (C of E representative) had resigned from the Committee. The Committee thanked Sue for her involvement and wished her well for the future. Robin Sharples said that he would contact the Area Dean with the view to finding a replacement for Sue Plackett. Councillor Billy Drummond said that he knew someone who might be interested in joining the Committee as a C of E representative and he would investigate this further. **Action – Robin Sharples and Councillor Billy Drummond to investigate possible C of E representatives to replace Sue Plackett.**

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 28 FEBRUARY 2017 - MINUTES

With regard to the appointment of Union representatives (Group C – Associations representing teachers), the Committee agreed to amend their constitution to read:

‘Up to 7 Education Union representatives from the following Unions, with no more than 3 from any one union:

NUT, NAS/UWT, ATL, PAT, NAHT, SHA’

Following this change to the constitution, the Committee asked that Clare Nolan from Little Heath School be asked if she would like to formally join the committee. **Action: Jo Watt to amend the SACRE constitution, invite Clare Nolan to join the Committee and then officially appoint her through the Council’s Individual Decision process.** *Post meeting note – Clare Nolan has agreed to join West Berkshire SACRE and Jo Watt will arrange the appointment by Individual Decision.*

Alison Harris said that she would also raise union representatives at the next network meeting to see if she could find any interested people. The committee noted that Anne Andrews would be providing support for induction training to new SACRE members under the hub initiative and it was agreed that this was a very positive development.

The Committee noted that David McKay (Buddhist representative) had not attended a committee meeting for some time. The Committee noted that under Section 2 (Term of Office) of the West Berkshire SACRE constitution, it was stated that ‘any member who fails to attend three consecutive ordinary meetings of the SACRE other than for a reason approved by the SACRE shall cease to be a member’. **Action: Jo Watt to write to David McKay regarding his membership.**

### 22 Annual Report - progress and timescales

The Committee agreed that to give Alison Harris sufficient time in her new role as advisor to the West Berkshire SACRE and therefore in a position to write the Annual Report, it should be presented to West Berkshire Council in May 2018.

### 23 Locally Agreed Syllabus Review

It was noted that the Locally Agreed Syllabus was due to be reviewed by the Hub and this pan Berkshire arrangement had been very successful in 2012 when the last review had taken place. Alison Harris explained that the Hub would be the steering group for the Agreed Syllabus Conference.

The committee noted that the review was very much a two way process with each unitary authority SACRE being involved from the beginning of the process. Mary Harwood explained that she would be involved in the early meetings through the Hub Chair’s group and then she would delegate to Alison Harris to find local teachers to review the document. It was noted that each SACRE did have a veto if they did not agree with any proposed changes but Mary Harwood said it was highly unlikely that it would be needed due to the close involvement of each SACRE in the review.

Alison Harris said that in her experience, (citing the example of Bournemouth and Poole), it was possible to make small amendments at the unitary authority level, if the committee wished to make something more explicit for example.

## STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 28 FEBRUARY 2017 - MINUTES

It was noted that the agreed syllabus would be reviewed in time for implementation in September 2018.

### 24 Budget proposals

Keith Harvey updated the committee on the current budget situation following discussions with Sharon Goddard at West Berkshire Council. The Committee noted that £1,030 remained from the 2016/2017 budget and this had been allocated as follows:

- £500 for the preparation and attendance of Alison Harris at the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 meeting.
- £750 to St Nicolas Church of England Junior School for Keith Harvey's time spent advising SACRE. The committee noted that this amount would be less going forward.
- £250 to the company who hosted and maintained the 'RE Trails' resource website. The Committee asked whether this resource could be copied and put on the Hub website. Robin Sharples offered to help with the maintenance of this resource if necessary. **Action – Keith Harvey to investigate the possibility of the 'RE trails' resource being copied to the Hub website.**

The Committee noted that the budget for 2017/2018 was £4,120, broken down as follows:

- £250 for the RE co-ordinators meeting and £100 for the venue.
- £500 for Alison Harris to write the Annual Report including the impact statement.
- £1,500 for Alison Harris to attend and prepare for the three West Berkshire SACRE meetings.
- £1,700 for the Hub.
- £140 for attendance at the SACRE conference.

Mary Harwood thanked Keith Harvey for his work on the budget.

### 25 Autumn 2017 meeting date

The committee noted that the Autumn meeting would take place as follows:

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 4.00 pm at St Nicolas Church of England Junior School .**

It was noted that the committee would need to nominate a new Chairman at this meeting.

### 26 Any Other Business

Alison Harris said that Anne Andrews had sent out details of the 'Understanding Christianity' conference. 'Understanding Christianity' was essentially a resource to help church schools as two thirds of their RE teaching had to be based on Christianity. It was noted that church schools could now buy the resource for £30 but they had to attend the training first.

Non church schools could buy the resource but they would have to pay the full price.

The committee noted that the Oxford Diocese Board of Education Conference would take place on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017. SACRE members were welcome to attend.

**STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - 28 FEBRUARY 2017 -  
MINUTES**

Alison Harris said that she would bring the new 'Discovery' module to the next meeting.  
**Action – Jo Watt to add new 'Discovery' module to the agenda for the next meeting.**

Councillor Pamela Bale reminded the committee that Governors were going to be asked to help find out what currently happened in schools regarding visits to places of worship. The committee asked Alison Harris to write something outlining the 'Crossing the Bridges' project for the Governor newsletters and consider including information in the Governor Training Programme. **Action – Jo Watt to contact Michelle Blain in Governor Support regarding these issues.**

**27 Date of Next Meeting**

The committee noted that the next meeting would take place as follows:

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 6.30 pm in Committee Room 2 at West Berkshire Council, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD.

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# Agenda Item 6

## Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub

25<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End

Meeting Notes and follow up actions for the 6 SACREs

**ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION POINTS FOR SACRES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW**

**SACRE ADVISERS WILL DISCUSS WITH CHAIRS AND SUPPORT**

### Agenda

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

Unfortunately, whilst apologies were sent, only 2 of the 6 SACREs (Reading and RBWM) were represented.

The Hub has been established to facilitate joint working and communication across the whole of Berkshire, and this can only be effective if all 6 SACREs are represented at EVERY meeting. This will be even more important through this coming academic year as we review the agreed syllabus. The Hub is the means by which each SACRE has a voice in the process.

A lot of work goes into preparing for the Hub meetings to enable decisions to be taken forward.

The next meeting is Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Wokingham Borough Council Offices, Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN (Parking in The Paddocks Car Park)

**PLEASE ENSURE SEVERAL SACRE MEMBERS HAVE THIS IN THEIR DIARIES NOW TO GIVE BACK-UP TO THE CHAIRS SO WE ARE ASSURED OF FULL REPRESENTATION!**

The Hub won't work otherwise.

#### 2. Apologies

Thank you for apologies received.

#### 3. Notes from previous meeting and actions taken

- SACRE member training

(Induction/refresher session 1, 25 April)

At the January meeting members requested induction training for new SACRE members, and the opportunity for such training to be offered to all SACRE members, as many may wish to have a refresher training session.

This was acted on straight away and the first session was held immediately after the Hub meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April at Shute End.

15 people attended from across the SACREs. Anne Andrews led an excellent session introducing the roles and responsibilities of the SACRE and SACRE members.

Session 2 is planned for immediately after the Hub meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September, at Shute End, 5.45-7pm

A reminder will be sent nearer the time but please keep the date.

- Crossing the Bridges forms format made more user-friendly  
This was done straight after the meeting and facilitated more places of worship sending in their forms to be included in the Directory.
- Second evening conference requested  
Organised for September 28<sup>th</sup> 2017, (Holiday Inn, Winnersh, 6.30-9pm)  
Celebration of Crossing the Bridges Project and Agreed Syllabus review  
Invitations will be sent later but please keep the date

#### 4. Crossing the Bridges Project update

- Directory  
There are still some entries for the Directory straggling in and we now have over 40 places of worship included, 20+ of which have participated in the 'Hosts' training'  
(List attached)  
The Directory will be made web-friendly and some graphic design added, ready for dissemination to all schools across Berkshire by the end of the Summer Term, as per the project plan.  
**PLEASE CONSIDER HOW YOUR SACRE WILL DISSEMINATE AND LET JL KNOW**  
A big thank you to Catherine Jinkerson, Wokingham SACRE, for her hard work in collating the Directory.
- On location day (8<sup>th</sup> March) (Report)  
The attached report gives details of the day, enjoyed by 30 teachers. Powerpoint presentations on each of the 4 places of worship have been made and are to be disseminated to schools before the end of the Summer term, and also made available through SACRE websites.
- Teaching resources produced
- Westhill Award website ([www.westhillendowment.org](http://www.westhillendowment.org))  
'Projects that spark'/ multi-faith projects  
The reports relating to our work on Crossing the Bridges have been posted on the website above and Westhill kept informed of progress. Tristram Jenkins, our Westhill mentor accompanied the teachers on March 8<sup>th</sup> and was very impressed. His follow-up email is attached.
- Further funding £200  
Thanks to Westhill/NASACRE for a further £200 funding to enable us to run a second trip to the same places of worship, offered (ONLY) to the 15 teachers on the waiting list for the March 8<sup>th</sup> trip.  
In order to run this second trip for £200 Jo Fageant has offered to lead the day for no fee, and Jan Lever has offered to do all the organisation and administration for no fee.  
This second trip will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017

- Dissemination (web pages and networks)  
Dissemination of the Crossing the Bridges Directory, teaching resources etc will be ongoing through network meetings and SACRE communication channels/websites etc

## 5. Agreed syllabus review

- Funding  
All 6 SACREs have agreed to each contribute £1700 in the financial year April 2018-March 2018 to fund the syllabus review. Wokingham Borough Council will invoice each SACRE and administer the budget.  
(the same amount as contributed last year for the Crossing the Bridges Project)
- Process and time-frame (handout attached)  
Please consider this at the Summer round of SACRE meetings so everyone is up to speed with the process and keeps the date reserved as relevant
- Initial consultations  
Questionnaires: schools/SACREs  
The simple online questionnaire is due to be sent to schools immediately after the May half-term with feedback to Jan Lever by 21<sup>st</sup> July, and collation of this to be sent to SACREs by end of August.  
**SACRES TO CONSIDER THE QUESTIONNAIRE AT SUMMER TERM MEETING AND OFFER INITIAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TO JL BY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY BY EMAIL**

## 6. Easthampstead Park Resource Centre

Initial enquiries as to possibility of all SACRE areas being allowed access to the RE resource centre at Easthampstead Park have been positive and when the resources have been computerised onto a database, further conversations can be had to take this forward.

## 7. AOB

8. **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017** (with induction/refresher Session 2 following), Shute End, Wokingham  
5.45-7pm

Please save the date and RSVP when reminder sent nearer the time

## 9. Dates for future SACRE Hub meetings:

**January 2018: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 2018 VENUE TBA (probably Shute End)**

**April 2018: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> 2018 VENUE TBA )probably Shute End)**

### PLEASE NOTE

It may be necessary for SACREs to hold an extra ASC meeting in May 2018 in order to agree/ratify the revised agreed syllabus in time for a July 2018 launch.

**Please consider this and reserve a date at your SACRE meetings.**

**Jan Lever (Hub manager on behalf of Berkshire SACREs)**  
**01202 377193 jan@janlevergroup.com**

## **Pan-Berkshire Religious Education agreed syllabus review 2017-18**

### **Consultation**

The 6 SACREs (Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education) across Berkshire are fulfilling their legal duty to review the agreed syllabus for RE this year.

**Thank you for participating. We value your input.**

Please return your feedback by email to Jan Lever [jan@janlevergroup.com](mailto:jan@janlevergroup.com)

or through the electronic survey tool

**by 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017 latest**

**Name (optional)**

**School/ organisation or SACRE**

**Postal address**

**Email**

**Role in school /organisation**

**Secondary or Primary**

1. Aspects of the current agreed syllabus I would like to remain the same are:

2. Aspects of the agreed syllabus I would like to see revised are:

(please give your reasons for requesting this change and your suggestions as to how you would like it to be)

3. You are welcome to offer any other thoughts and comments you would like to be considered as part of the agreed syllabus review

4. I would like to volunteer to be part of the teacher consultation group.

Please add your initials here.....

Leave blank if you do not want to be part of the teacher consultation group.

(This will mean we contact you by email once a term from June 2017 to April 2018 for your comments on the revisions to the syllabus as we go along. No meetings are required)

5. I would like to participate in the faith/belief group representative consultation day.

This will be held at Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End, RG40 1BN  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 10am-3pm (you do not have to be present for the entire day)

People representing faith and belief groups on the 6 Berkshire SACREs are invited to attend to review together the syllabus content relevant to their religion/belief system.

Please initial here if you plan on attending.....

Leave blank if you cannot attend.

Thank you for your participation

Jan Lever

Pan-Berkshire SACRE Hub manager (on behalf of the 6 SACREs) and agreed syllabus review manager.

[jan@janlevergroup.com](mailto:jan@janlevergroup.com) 01202 377193

01202 377193



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