



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
MERTHYR TUDFUL  
MERTHYR TYDFIL  
County Borough Council

## MINUTES OF MEETING

# SACRE MEETING

**THURSDAY, 14TH JUNE, 2018**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: E Galsworthy (Chair)  
D Hughes (Vice-Chair)

Councillors: L Davies and I Thomas

**Professional Associations:**

A Jones, S Bernard Henderson, L McCarthy and L Draper

**Faith Communities:**

D O'Keefe, A Pitt and Rev. M Prevet

**Officers:**

S Bowen (Inclusion and Wellbeing Manager) and P Webber  
(Consultant for Merthyr SACRE)

K Vokes (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
65	Welcome and apologies for absence	Apologies for absence received from Helen Price, Mark Carrington and Ann Star.
66	Declaration of Interest	No declarations of interest were made.
67	Minutes of the last meeting	It was noted that Andy Pitt had sent his apologies for the meeting on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018 and could this be duly amended on the attendance list for this meeting.  Subject to the above amendment, it was <b>RESOLVED that:</b>  The minutes of the meeting held on the 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2018 be accepted.
68	SACRE Membership	Discussion ensued in relation to the current membership of Merthyr SACRE and the contents were noted.

		<p>Paula Webber referred to the letter received from Welsh Government on whether persons who hold non-religious beliefs (such as Humanists) should be permitted full membership on Group A in light of the Human Rights Act 1988.</p> <p>She advised members that guidance received outlines that the appointment of persons to SACRE is a matter for local authorities in discussion with SACRE's but, taking legal advice into consideration, Welsh Government is of the opinion that representatives from non-religious belief systems may be appointed to Group A (religious denomination) of a SACRE to ensure that SACREs fully reflect the beliefs of the communities that they are representing and to comply with current legislation.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The current SACRE membership at Merthyr be noted.</li> <li>• Clarification be sought on the number of faith denomination representatives on this Committee and that Paula Webber make enquiries on whether there is a Constitution in place for the Merthyr SACRE Committee to confirm this number.</li> <li>• Paula Webber to seek further guidance on this.</li> </ul>
69	To receive from Members items and suggestions for SACRE News Bulletin	<p>Paula Webber referred to the Spring SACRE Bulletin attached to the agenda and advised members that items are now required for the Summer edition.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:</b></p> <p>Members contact Karen Vokes before the end of term if they wish to place an article in the Summer News Bulletin.</p>
70	Curriculum development update	<p><b><u>Humanities AoLE Proposals</u></b></p> <p>Paula gave an update to members and the Committee discussed in detail the latest proposals in the progression frameworks from the Humanities AoLE Group.</p> <p>Following discussion it was RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members return any additional comments to Karen Vokes by no later than Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 at the latest in order that they can be included into the response to Welsh Government by the 1<sup>st</sup> July.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Estyn Update and Estyn Thematic Review</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber advised members that the Estyn document, namely Religious Education at Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3, had been published in the last few days which outlines standards in religious education and participation and engagement in learning.</p>

		<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen Vokes e-mail the link for members to view the document.</li> <li>• Paula Webber to provide an update to the next meeting.</li> </ul>
71	Monitoring Collective Worship and RE	<p><b><u>School Inspection Reports</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber referred to the School Inspection Reports in respect of Trelewis Primary School and Heolgerrig Community School and led Committee through the outcomes of the inspections.</p> <p><b><u>Self Evaluation</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber referred to the consideration of a self evaluation form being sent out to Schools that have recently had a successful inspection with Estyn. This could assist SACREs to consider and recommend ways in which the Local Authority might best continue to support Schools in these areas.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>Letters be sent out to Schools congratulating them on their recent inspection together with a self evaluation form for completion.</p> <p><b><u>GCSE Examination Data</u></b></p> <p>The GCSE Examination Data, which was circulated at the meeting, was discussed and noted.</p> <p><b><u>KS3 Data</u></b></p> <p>KS3 Data, which was circulated at the meeting, was discussed and noted.</p>
72	WASACRE	<p><b><u>WASACRE Meeting at Swansea on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018</u></b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting were noted by members.</p> <p><b><u>Nominations for WASACRE Executive Committee</u></b></p> <p>It was brought to members' attention that at the last meeting Paula Webber was nominated by this Committee to join the WASACRE Executive Committee. Paula Webber however advised that she withdrew the nomination as she will retain a position on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past Secretary should she decide to discontinue her role as Secretary.</p> <p><b><u>Nominations for the Executive Committee</u></b> - Paula Webber advised there is one nomination for one position on the WASACRE Executive Committee. The Committee took a vote and agreed to support the nomination, namely Kathy</p>

		<p>Riddick. It was also agreed that Paula Webber would contact WASACRE requesting that any future pen pictures to be considered by the Committee should contain more detail about the individual.</p> <p><b><u>WASACRE Constitution</u></b></p> <p>The Committee discussed the changes to the WASACRE Constitution as outlined in the agenda.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The amendments, as outlined in the Constitution, be agreed by the Committee</p> <p><b><u>WASACRE Survey withdrawal from RE</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber advised members of the original survey in relation to the withdrawal from RE which should have been sent to all Schools. Following discussion it was RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paula Webber contact Gill Vaisey for a copy of the original survey.</li> <li>• Karen Vokes send out survey to all Schools.</li> <li>• Deadline date for completion be agreed with Gill Vaisey.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>The Commission on RE (England) and its relevance to Wales representation</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber referred to the discussion paper attached to the agenda which outlines how the Interim Report of the Commission on Religious Education in England is relevant to Wales. She advised that a full report will be published in September and will update members when this report becomes available.</p> <p><b><u>Date of future WASACRE meetings</u></b></p> <p>Paula Webber advised that the Summer meeting of WASACRE will be held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July in Anglesey. RESOLVED that Paula Webber and Mark Prevett will be attending this meeting.</p> <p>She also advised that the Autumn meeting has not yet been confirmed and will liaise with members when further details are available.</p>
73	To receive a copy of Diversity of Religion and Belief: A guidance and resource pack for primary schools in England and Wales and Executive Summary	<p>Paula Webber gave an update to members on the Diversity of Religion and Belief guidance and resource pack for primary schools in England and Wales.</p> <p>She advised members that this document has already been e-mailed to all Schools.</p>

74	To confirm the date of the Autumn SACRE meeting	<u>Date of next meeting</u> Tuesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2018 at 3.45 pm - Conference Room 1 at the Civic Centre.
75	Any other business deemed urgent by the Chair	The Chair advised that there was no business deemed urgent.