



MERTHYR TYDFIL
County Borough Council
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol
MERTHYR TUDFUL

MINUTES OF MEETING

SACRE MEETING

THURSDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor E Galsworthy (In the Chair)

Councillor K Moran

Professional Associations:

A Jones, S Bernard Henderson, L McCarthy, H Price, J Jones,
M Carrington and L Draper

Faith Communities:

A Star

LA Representatives:

S Bowen and V Thomas

K Vokes (Democratic Services Officer)

ITEM NO.	AGENDA MATTER	DECISION
1158	Apologies for absence	Apologies for absence received from Councillor Gareth Lewis, Katy Thomas, Garth Tasker and Mark Prevett.
1159	Declaration of Interests	No declarations of interest were made.
1160	Presentation on RE at Twynyrodyn Community School	Justine Jones made a presentation to members in relation to the teaching of religious education at the School, and outlined the following in detail: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Religious Education lessons within the School's Nursery, the Foundation Phase, Reception, Year 1 and onwards.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aims of the School. • Collective Worship Timetable at the School. • Rights and Values of the Children • Bible Club <p>The Chair thanked Justine Jones for her very informative presentation.</p> <p>Vicky Thomas requested that Justine Jones sends an electronic copy of the presentation so that she can include it as an article for RE news on the use of thinking skills in RE.</p>
1161	Minutes of Previous Meetings	<p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2015 were submitted and approved.</p>
1162	Matters Arising	<p>Vicky Thomas advised that the only matter arising from the minutes is an update on membership and she will discuss this with members under the item on the agenda.</p>
1163	Membership Update	<p>Discussion ensued in relation to the current position of the SACRE membership for the forthcoming year, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katy Thomas has taken up the membership of the Association of College Managers. • Andrew Pitt has confirmed that he will be joining the SACRE membership as an Evangelical Church Member with effect from the next meeting. • Garth Tasker has resigned as a Roman Catholic Church representative as he is unable to commit to SACRE due to ongoing commitments. <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that Karen Vokes will write to the Archdiocese of Cardiff seeking support for the vacancy for a Roman Catholic representative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicky Thomas referred to the vacancies on the UCAC and SHA, and advised that Dorothy Haines and Jane Allman have previously sent out correspondence to encourage teachers to take up these vacancies but have received no response to date.
1164	Analysis of Examination Results 2015	<p>Vicky Thomas referred members to the attainment at GCSE and A/AS levels of Merthyr Tydfil pupils in Religious Studies and Religious Education for 2015, and took members through the results in detail compared to 2013 and 2014.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SACRE note the examination results for 2015.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The findings be circulated to Secondary Schools in the Authority.
1165	Revised Criteria for GCSE and GCE Specifications: Update	<p>Vicky Thomas referred members to the revised criteria for GCSE and GCE Specifications, and outlined the up to date position with regard to the process, timetable and issues. She advised that the GCSE specification has been deferred until September 2017 and the A/AS specification will keep to the original timetable of September 2016. Discussion ensued about the implications of the deferment for Schools.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SACRE note the contents of the report. Vicky Thomas will update Members when further information is available.
1166	National Curriculum Review and Assessment: Update	<p>Vicky Thomas took members through the review of assessment and the National Curriculum in Wales and updated members in detail on developments, in particular the involvement of pioneer schools and stakeholders to take this forward. The Committee also discussed the timeline for the review of the curriculum and its implementation in 2021.</p> <p>RESOLVED that:</p> <p>SACRE notes the contents of the report.</p>
1167	Holocaust Memorial Day: Feedback	<p>Vicky Thomas outlined the events that had taken place throughout the Borough for the Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January which marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.</p> <p>She referred members to the Event on the 23rd February 2016 at the Red House where a kindertransport survivor will give his testimony.</p>
1168	WASACRE Issues:	<p><u>Feedback from WASACRE meeting at Blaenau Gwent</u> - Vicky Thomas updated Members on the WASACRE meeting on the 25th November 2015.</p> <p>She referred to the survey for the new Welsh Baccalaureate and RE and advised that the results will be reported back to the next WASACRE meeting.</p> <p><u>Nominations to the WASACRE Executive</u> - Vicky Thomas advised that Merthyr SACRE is unable to nominate anyone as Councillor Ernie Galsworthy is already a member of the WASACRE Executive.</p> <p><u>Representation at Spring Meeting at Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire</u> - Vicky Thomas and Councillor Ernie Galsworthy will be attending the Spring Meeting of WASACRE on 8th March 2016.</p>

		<u>Representation at Summer Meeting at Denbighshire (23rd June 2016)</u> - Attendees to be confirmed at the next meeting.
1169	Correspondence	The date of the next SACRE meeting will be Tuesday, 7 th June 2016 at 4.00 pm in Conference Room 2 at the Civic Centre.
1170	Any other business as deemed urgent by the Chairman	No business was deemed urgent by the Chair.