

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)** held on **TUESDAY, 9TH MAY, 2023** at 5.30 pm in Committee Room 2, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

MEMBERS PRESENT

Panel A Christian and Other Denominations

Ann Boater (Quaker)
Lynndy Levin (Jewish)
Sophie Fegan (Roman Catholic)

Panel B The Church of England

Mary Thorne
Stephanie Ellner

Panel C Teachers

None

Panel D Camden Local Authority

Julian Fulbrook
Jenny Mulholland

ALSO PRESENT

Claire Clinton	Professional Advisor
Owen Rees	Camden Learning
Vinothan Sangarapillai	Committee Services

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Broadcast of meeting

The Chair made the following announcement: 'In addition to the rights by law that the public and press have to record this meeting, I would like to remind

everyone that this meeting is being broadcast live by the Council to the Internet and can be viewed on our website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts are archived and can be made available upon request.

If you have asked to address the meeting, you are deemed to be consenting to having your contributions recorded and broadcast, including video when switched on, and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.’

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Abdul Quadir, Cllr Sylvia McNamara, Cllr Izzy Lenga, Cllr Jenny Headlam-Wells, Felicity Djerehe, Rev Damien Mason, Rev Natasha Beckles, and Sarah Richardson. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Jenny Mulholland.

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2023.

The Vice-Chair, Ann Boater, asked that the minute on the Determination application include mention that SACRE members would like to know what governors and parents thought of the application.

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2023 be agreed, subject to the addition above.

5. CAMDEN SACRE GUIDANCE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP (FOR INFORMATION)

The collective worship guidance that had gone out to schools was noted.

6. NASACRE BRIEFING

Consideration was given to the NASACRE briefing.

Claire Clinton, the Professional Advisor to SACRE, said that the NASACRE conference would be on 22nd May at Fishmonger’s Hall. It was coming up to the 30th anniversary of the foundation of NASACRE.

Owen Rees, the Head of Governor Services and Company Secretary for Camden Learning, said that one of the teacher representatives (Sarah Richardson) had indicated an interest in attending. The Chair, Mary Thorne, said she was not able to attend on 22 May due to other commitments, but would recommend it to others.

Ms Clinton said that there would be awards for the longest-serving member of a SACRE and to those who had made the biggest contribution to RE in their local area. Members agreed to nominate Lesley Prior to the latter category.

Ms Clinton explained that there would be a range of workshops being held by NASACRE. She would be presenting one with the British Library on sacred texts. A list of workshops would be circulated to SACRE members and there was a request to let the clerk know if members were interested in attending any.

ACTION: Professional Advisor & Clerk

RESOLVED –

THAT the briefing and the comments above be noted.

7. CENSUS 2021 - INFORMATION ABOUT RELIGION IN CAMDEN

Consideration was given to the statistics regarding religion in Camden from the 2021 census.

It was noted that there were more people identifying as “non-religious” compared to the previous (2011) census, and many religious communities had reduced in size.

Members voiced the view that, in addition to educating children about the principal religions of the area, RE should give pupils the opportunity to learn about religious beliefs that they would not normally come across.

Members commented that it was useful to children to learn about the Judeo-Christian background of many British national traditions – as could be seen from the coronation ceremony.

Claire Clinton said that there had been some interesting surveys of what people who said they had “no religion” or “religion not stated” believed. Some people may not have said they believed in God, but believed in supernatural phenomena such as angels.

RESOLVED –

THAT the statistics and the comments above be noted.

8. DETERMINATIONS

Consideration was given to a Determination application from Edith Neville School.

Although there had not been the chance to visit the school, Claire Clinton had had a phone conversation with the Headteacher.

The school was about 90% Muslim, and the Head was keen to take an approach to collective worship which was inclusive of those pupils' religious traditions and avoided children being withdrawn from collective worship. They had also invited parents to observe an assembly one week.

Ms Clinton said that the school tried to involve the school council in some assemblies, and that they had mixed-age group assemblies on Tuesdays. This was particularly helpful for some children who were not fluent in English.

Members agreed to grant the Determination.

RESOLVED –

THAT a Determination be granted to Edith Neville School.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Claire Clinton informed the meeting of the launch of RE Hubs, which aimed to be a one-stop website to help RE teachers. It was going live on 1st June.

She would circulate the PowerPoint presentation on the Hubs to SACRE members.

ACTION: Professional Advisor and Clerk

10. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of future SACRE meetings are:

- Thursday, 19th October 2023
- Thursday, 22nd February 2024
- Thursday, 9th May 2024

The meeting ended at 6.45pm

CHAIR

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) - Tuesday, 9th May, 2023

Contact Officer: Vinothan Sangarapillai
Telephone No: 020 7974 4071
E-Mail: vinothan.sangarapillai@camden.gov.uk

MINUTES END