

**MINUTES OF STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MEETING -
WEDNESDAY, 27 JANUARY 2016**

Present:

Councillors

Blackburn Jackson Kirkland

In Attendance:

Tim Cox, Helen Sage and Jo Snape, Blackburn Church of England Diocese, Church of England Group

Paul Harrison, Bispham Endowed Church of England Primary School

Tammy Hackney, NUT, Staff and Teacher Associations Group

Iman Ashraq Patel, Islam Representative

Dave Brennand, Brokerage and Professional Development Adviser, Blackpool Council

Lennox Beattie, Executive and Regulatory Manager, Blackpool Council

1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

The Committee considered making an appointment of a Chairman of the SACRE. It noted that the future of the SACRE was an item later on the agenda, it therefore agreed to appoint a Chairman for this meeting only.

Resolved:

That Councillor Jackson be appointed Chairman for the meeting.

2 APPOINTMENT OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Committee considered the appointment of a Vice-Chairman. It considered that given the item on the future of the SACRE later on the agenda, that it would be wise to defer further consideration of this until further consideration had been given to this issue.

Resolved:

To agree not to appoint a Vice-Chairman at this meeting.

3 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman lead introductions from Board members and relevant officers.

Apologies were received from Councillors Cross and Mrs Henderson MBE, and from Dr Vasudev, Hindu Community representative.

4 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 13 FEBRUARY 2014

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The Committee considered the minutes of the last meeting held on the 13 February 2014.

Resolved:

That the minutes of the last meeting held on the 13 February 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

5 PRESENTATION ON THE WORK OF THE RE NETWORK AND SUPPORT OFFERED TO SCHOOLS

The Committee received a presentation from Dave Brennand on the work of the RE Network and other support offered to schools. Mr Brennand explained that it had been anticipated that the presentation would be given by Rebecca Binns from Highfield Humanities College as a lead member of the RE support network.

The RE Network included representatives of 13 primary schools, 3 secondary schools and 2 special schools across Blackpool and met termly with an aim of consistent resources and assessment for religious education.

It was suggested that it would be beneficial for the RE Network to be involved in the forthcoming review of the agreed syllabus.

Resolved:

To note the presentation.

6 PRESENTATION ON THE PREVENT AGENDA

The Committee received a presentation on the Prevent agenda against radicalisation. Mr Brennand outlined the urgency of the agenda and reminded members that it was a key part of safeguarding.

Councillor Blackburn explained that he had an important role as part of the Local Government Association's Safer Stronger Communities thread. He highlighted his view that there was good and bad practice within schools and that it was essential that this duty was managed properly. He reminded members that this duty applied to all forms of extremism including white supremacist and anti-immigrant views.

Resolved:

To note the presentation on the Prevent agenda.

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7 BLACKPOOL SACRE ANNUAL REPORT

The Committee considered the draft annual report. It agreed that the format of the report was correct and that this would provide a good way of promoting the work of the SACRE.

Resolved:

1. To agree the format of the annual report.
2. To ask the clerk to complete the annual report in advance of the next meeting.

8 NASACRE CONFERENCE 2016

The Committee considered the NASACRE national conference which was taking place on the 17th May 2016 in Westminster.

It agreed that it would be beneficial to send a representative.

Resolved:

1. To note the date of the NASACRE conference.
2. To agree that Helen Sage be the SACRE's representative at the NASACRE conference.

9 FUTURE OF THE SACRE

The SACRE held a discussion on its future, the Committee considered the possibility of a merger with the Lancashire SACRE.

The Committee considered that it would be beneficial if possible to continue with having a standalone Committee for Blackpool but also that further joint working

The SACRE agreed also to consider further whether the most suitable agreed syllabus continued to be the Lancashire syllabus and to ensure local faith groups were involved in the selection of the syllabus.

Resolved:

1. To agree to continue with a Blackpool SACRE in the interim period.
2. To further investigate the possibility of a merger with Lancashire SACRE.

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Chairman

(The meeting ended at 6.20pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:

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