

SACRE

**Meeting held on 10th November 2010
at Radha Krishna Temple, 5 Cedars Road, Stratford, London. E15 4NE**

Present: Councillor Quintin Peppiatt (Chair)
Councillors Ayesha Chowdhury, Lakmini Shah,
Ted Sparrowhawk, Alec Kellaway, Franky Kempster,
Keith Carter, Rob Fox, Ellen Kemp, Kelvin Woolmer,
Tom Booker, Rahaman Mohammed, Prem Nath Fing, Steve
Wilson, Yael Callaghan, Aisha Sheikh, Paul McCarthy,
Carmel Widdowson, Chetna Gandhi, Helen Yearnshire and
Carol Chittock

Also Present: Caroline Stone and Jo Sell

Apologies: Claire Clinton, Jane Freeman, Manala Makure, Leilee Shirani
and Matilda Maxwell

The meeting commenced at 6.00 p.m. and closed at 7.40 p.m.

1. Management of Business

The meeting commenced following a tour of Radha Krishna Temple. Prem Nath Fing, SACRE Hindu representative, gave a detailed history of Radha Krishna Temple and Hindu Worship at the temple. Prem Nath Fing informed SACRE members that Radha Krishna Temple was the oldest temple in East London dating back to 1968.

The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and agreed the order of business. The Chair also informed SACRE that Claire Clinton, RE Advisor, was off sick at present. SACRE wished her a speedy recovery as she was greatly missed.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2010 were agreed as a correct record, subject to a correction under item 6 that should stated that Agreed Syllabus (AS) launch would be held in March 2011.

Matters Arising:

Item 6- Agreed Syllabus Launch

Caroline Stone informed SACRE that the launch date had been agreed for the 24th March 2011, 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm and a venue would be confirmed shortly.

Decision

SACRE noted the date for the AS Launch.

3. Student SACRE Report

Franky Kempster, Chair of student SACRE, gave a presentation on the work of student SACRE. Franky informed SACRE that student SACRE was made up of members from 15 schools, with pupils ranging from years 7-11. She highlighted the upcoming work of student SACRE following the successful bid for £5000 grant from NASACRE. Franky stated that the students had commissioned a professional artist to help them create sculptures for every school in Newham. The sculptures would focus on the sense of belonging in Newham.

Decision

SACRE thanked Franky for the update on Student SACRE

4. Advisors report

Caroline Stone presented a report which detailed Claire Clinton, the RE Advisor, activities

Caroline informed SACRE that the systematic monitoring and review of RE and Acts of Collective Worship have been ratified by all the Primary Partnership Board and the Newham Association of Secondary Head teachers and would be implemented from the next term.

Caroline highlighted the training that Claire had already undertaken and the dates planned to train schools before the AS launch on the 24th March 2011.

The Place of Worship (POW) week had won a £1000 bid from NATRE for "Celebrate RE" month to run the POW week. This would run from 28th Feb 2011 – 4th March 2011 and the POW celebration event taking place on the 25th May 2011. 4:30 – 6:00 pm at Credon Centre.

Caroline stated that majority of the schools did not need to renew their determinations and only Stratford and Plashet were due to review in summer 2011 and spring 2013 respectively.

Caroline went on to highlight the Ofsted Report on Transforming RE. Carline stated that Newham schools scored above the national average in all the primary and secondary schools that were inspected.

Ellen Kemp highlighted the fact that only one training day had been allocated for "monitoring RE" and Councillor Kellaway, having attended, felt that a twilight session should be planned for all school governors.

Decision

SACRE agreed

1. to note the report;
2. for Caroline Stone to look into a twilight session for all governors at their regular meeting; and
3. Caroline Stone to ascertain the role of SIPs in VA schools in agreeing the school evaluation for CW and the teaching of RE.

5. Newham Interfaith Sexual Health (NewISH) Forum update

Jo Sell from NewISH gave a presentation on the work of NewISH and the proposed website that is being designed. Jo stated that she was working with young people, professionals and faith leaders in Newham to create a website on sexual health and relationships for young people of faith. Young people had stated that there was a gap in the provision at school for young people of faith. The NewISH team had consulted young people as to what they wanted on the website. Jo stated that NewISH was aiming to launch the website on the 31st March 2010 at Stratford Circus.

Jo asked SACRE to help be the solution and for faith leaders to take part in the consultation. Jo stated that it was important for young people of faith to be supported and as such faith leaders should be actively involved in guiding young people. SACRE members were invited to the next NewISH forum on the 8th December.

Following a question from members about the message that NewISH was sending out to young people, Jo stated that NewISH was designed to support young people to wait until marriage and when married to help with issues such as family planning.

Members also wanted to know if NewISH informed young people of the law in regards to underage relationships. Jo stated that the website would not only promote and support young people who wished to wait until marriage; it would also inform young people about the legal requirements and where to get help.

Decision

SACRE thanked Jo Sell for her presentation.

6. SACRE priorities for SACRE 10-11

Caroline outlined the current Local Authority (LA) economic position and how this would affect the priorities for SACRE. Caroline informed SACRE that the LA had to make a 30% spending reduction, this equated to 40 million by March 2011 and a further 40 million by March 2012. SACRE was informed that the LA main priority was to ensure that combined services did not suffer and as such future commissioning would be based on need. This had meant that the LA was no longer in a position to employ a RE Advisor

on a permanent contract.

At present the RE Advisors post was income funded but unless the schools directly commissioned the service, the LA would not be able to fund the post. This was the case for all subject advisors.

Members queried how schools would deliver the standard of RE that is currently in place across the schools. Caroline stated that most schools would use advanced teacher and if specialist advice was needed they would be able to commission the specialist service directly from the RE Advisor.

Members were very concerned about the loss of the RE Advisor and the impact this would have on SACRE's ability to deliver the current quality of service. Various members voiced their concerns and the impact of losing the RE Advisor and how the various groups would be affected.

Members were informed that the LA would only be commissioning services that were a statutory requirement. The new commissioning role would go out to school. Ellen Kemp stated that she would raise the issue, as Chair of governors in Newham, and ensure that governors, who signed off budgets, were aware of the strength of feeling, the level of concerns and their legal responsibilities.

Franky informed SACRE that without the RE Advisor's legwork and her work to facilitate student SACRE, young people would not have a say. She was concerned what would happen to projects such as student SACRE and junior SACRE that had succeeded because of the work of the RE Advisor.

The Chair asked for Caroline to look at the current priorities and determine which were statutory and which would have to be delivered through other services.

Decision

SACRE agreed for Caroline to look at the current priorities and determine which were statutory and which could be delivered through other services and report back at the next meeting.

7. Draft Annual report

Caroline Stone presented the draft SACRE Annual Report 2009-10. The Chair asked for the report to use the Newham Schools Census Data for an accurate reflection of the current population's ethnicity.

Decision

SACRE agreed

- 1. the Annual Report; and**

2. to use the school census.

8. Retention of teachers in Newham - a way forward for SACRE

Caroline stated that Newham would continue to recruit and train teacher to be better equipped to teach RE in Newham Schools, however it was important to note the economic constraints.

Decision

SACRE noted the presentation

9. NASACRE 4th London & SE SACRE's Conference feedback

Steve Wilson gave feedback on the recent NASACRE London & SE Conference. Steve stated that other SACRE were impressed by the work that Newham was doing with the junior and student SACRE. It was noted that their success was driven by the work of the RE advisor to build a pupil led SACRE.

Decision

SACRE thanked Steve for his feedback.

10. Items for Information

SACRE noted the Publications

11. Date of next meeting

Due to the upcoming White Paper on the education framework, SACRE agreed to hold a meeting on the 3rd February 2011, if required at Eastham Town Hall, to discuss the implication of the new bill.

The next scheduled meeting is for 10 March 2011 at a school