

**SACRE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE NORTH LONDON BUSINESS PARK  
ON TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2014**

**MEMBERS**

<b>Committee A</b>	<b>Group Representative</b>
*Mr H and *Mrs Alaei/Mrs Vicky Golesaneh	Baha'i
Mr A Goonewardene	Buddhist
Vacancy	Free Churches
*Mrs Judith Smith	Free Churches
*Mrs Mary Karaolis (attending on behalf of Very Revd AC Damiano)	Greek Orthodox Church
*Mr Himangshu Bose	Hindu
Mr Rakhal Saha	Hindu
Mrs Neena Bedi	Hindu
Vacancy	Humanist
Mrs Amreena Husain-Ali (Vice Chairman)	Islam
Dr N Shah	Jain
Mr Arnold Levin	Jewish
Rabbi Mark Goldsmith	Jewish
Mr Surinder Singh Attariwala	Sikh
Mr S Chadha	Sikh
Mr C O'Halpin	Roman Catholic
Vacancy	Salvation Army Citadel
<b>Committee B</b>	Church of England
Mrs Jane Pavlou	London Diocese
*Revd Dr Gregory Platten	London Diocese
*Mrs Mel Adams	Diocese of St Albans
The Revd Tristan Chapman	Diocese of St Albans
<b>Committee C</b>	
Vacancy	ATL
*Mr Kevin McSharry (Chairman)	ASCL
Vacancy	NASUWT
Miss Amy Murtagh (Hendon School)	NUT
<b>Committee D</b>	
Cllr Alison Cornelius	
Cllr Claire Farrier	
*Cllr Brian Gordon	
*Cllr Sury Khatri	
Cllr Joan Scannell	
Cllr Mark Shooter	
Cllr Agnes Slocombe	

\* denotes member present

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Kevin McSharry

### IN ATTENDANCE

*Dr Anna Sallnow	LA, RE Consultant
*Mr Neil Marlow	LA, representing Director of Education and Skills, Children's Service
*Mrs Janet Robinson	Clerk to SACRE

#### 14/33 WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed members to the autumn term meeting. Apologies were given for the change of venue and members were thanked for attending the meeting at the North London Business Park. Thanks were conveyed to the Clerk for arranging an alternative venue at short notice.

#### 14/34 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Mrs Vicky Golesaneh; Mr Rakhal Saha; Mrs Amreena Husain-Ali; Rabbi Mark Goldsmith; Mrs Neena Bedi; Mr Con O'Halpin; Mrs Jane Pavlou; The Revd Tristan Chapman; Cllr Claire Farrier; Cllr Joan Scannell; Cllr Agnes Slocombe and Cllr Alison Cornelius.

#### 14/35 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST WITHIN THE CURRENT AGENDA

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest within the current agenda.

#### 14/36 MINUTES OF THE SACRE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2014, a copy of which had been distributed earlier, were checked for accuracy. They were confirmed and signed by the Chairman subject to the following amendments:

##### **Pgs 3/4: 14/22 Future training for SACRE members – suggestions**

Mr Himangshu Bose and Cllr Sury Khatri expressed an interest to learn more about SACRE. Dr Anna Sallnow reported that training for new SACRE members would take place in the 2015 spring term.

*Action: Dr Anna Sallnow and SACRE members*

##### **Pgs 5/6: 14/25 Reports**

Pg 5: Anna Sallnow – para 2:

A member enquired as to the meaning of the term 'cohesive schools, communities and societies'. An explanation was given stating that:

This is included in the Ofsted framework for schools. Schools have a role to play in the classroom and the community and to teach children how to live in

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the community. The Local Authority (LA) expects that all schools should follow this practice.

Pg 6: Mr Kevin McSharry – para 1:

Members were informed that, following the new cabinet structure, councillors represented the different services of the LA. It was **AGREED** unanimously that it would be beneficial if a SACRE representative were to be appointed a member of the Education Committee. The Chair was advised that he should write to Cllr Ruben Thompstone requesting that a SACRE representative should be appointed a member of the Education Committee.

*Action: Chairman*

**Pg 6:**

Amend '... Action: Neil Marlowe...' to read '...Action: Neil Marlow...'

**Pg 10: 14/29 Faith Presentations**

Dr Sallnow stated that she had not received any further information concerning the availability of the Quaker representative and she would investigate this.

*Action: Dr Anna Sallnow*

**14/37 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**14/38 PRESENTATION BY LOCAL AUTHORITY (LA) REPRESENTATIVE, NEIL MARLOW**

**The new curriculum – Primary Schools**

Mr Neil Marlow, Head of School Improvement and the LA SACRE representative for the Director of Education and Skills, provided a presentation concerning which explains the new curriculum. On this occasion, the presentation would focus on the curriculum for primary schools. A presentation explaining the new curriculum and secondary schools would be provided at the 2015 spring term SACRE meeting.

*Action: Mr Neil Marlow, Chairman, Dr Anna Sallnow and Clerk*

The presentation indicated that:

- RE does not form part of the national curriculum but it is a statutory requirement that RE should be taught in schools.

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A SACRE member enquired why RE was not taught as part of the national curriculum. Dr Sallnow replied that the 1944 Education Act stated that RE should be taught as a local subject. Each area had its own agreed syllabus. Barnet SACRE included representatives of all religions and denominations. Independent schools do not follow an Agreed Syllabus but have to teach religion. Jewish and Catholic faith schools would be required to include one quarter of their timetable to teach another religion.

A LA representative stated that the purpose of faith schools was to teach the children the values of that faith. He expressed concern that children would be taught preaching of racial hatred and violation. Dr Sallnow explained that RE was taught as a broad and balanced subject and helped children to prepare for the world they live in; taught them about different religions and cultures and ensured that they were religiously literate. Most Anglican schools teach approximately 60% of the Christian faith, in a non-threatening way. A SACRE representative explained that as from 2010, it was a statutory requirement that all faith schools had to take 50% of its children from other faith groups. Barnet SACRE included representatives of all religions and denominations.

Some representatives expressed concern that RE and sex education were linked together and stated that this went against the values of a school with a strong faith ethos. A SACRE representative explained that families had an option to withdraw their child from sex education and RE. A request was made that sex education and religion should be removed from the national curriculum.

Members expressed concern and stated that all students should be taught all religions.

- The teaching of RE should be broad and balanced. The new Ofsted framework focused on breadth and balance of the curriculum.
- Schools received additional funding for Pupil Premium (PP) children to support those in need of additional support. Schools should monitor how the funds were used and provide proof of evidence as to the progress these children made.
- Schools received additional funding for children entitled to Free School Meals (FSMs) at any time during the previous six years.
- All schools received Sports funding. This funding should be used to support schools in PE and sport. Some schools would use the funding to employ a specialist PE teacher; some would use the funding for a member of staff to take on these duties. Monitoring of the funding should be recorded and evidence provided of the children's progress and attainment. Information on how this sport funding is being used must be placed on school's websites. Ofsted monitor how this

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Government funding is being used by checking the school's websites.

- There was now a greater emphasis on computing and programming skills.
- Under the previous curriculum, level descriptors indicated each child's level. Level descriptors had been removed from the new curriculum and schools were expected to devise their own monitoring and tracking system.

Dr Sallnow expressed concern that each school's method of progress test should be standardized and fair.

- Schools should ensure that their website contained all statutory information required by Ofsted. This would be viewed prior to an Ofsted inspection.

Members were informed that they should contact the Clerk if they required a copy of the presentation. Members were given an opportunity to ask questions. There being no further questions, the Chairman thanked Mr Marlow for his presentation.

#### 14/39 **FUTURE TRAINING FOR SACRE MEMBERS – SUGGESTIONS**

Members were informed that they should inform Dr Sallnow of any future training suggestions and requirements.

*Action: SACRE members and Dr Anna Sallnow*

#### 14/40 **CORRESPONDENCE**

It was noted that no correspondence had been received.

#### 14/41 **REPORTS**

##### **Anna Sallnow**

Dr Sallnow reported that:

- A successful programme of training had been carried out with schools.
- It would be beneficial to have a Barnet SACRE page on the LA website.
- She would be attending a meeting to discuss the changes taking place with the LA provision for schools and would provide members with an update.

*Action: Dr Anna Sallnow and Clerk*

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**Mr Kevin Mcsharry**

Mr McSharry stated that he had nothing to report.

**14/42 DRAFT SACRE REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2013 - AUGUST 2014**

The draft SACRE Report – September 2013 – August 2014, a copy of which had been distributed earlier, was noted by the Members. Arising from the report:

**Stand Alone Academies**

It was noted that two typographical changes should be made. Dr Sallnow stated that she would update the report accordingly.

*Action: Dr Anna Sallnow*

**14/43 SACRE NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN TERM 2014**

The SACRE newsletter – autumn term 2014, a copy of which had been distributed earlier, was noted by the Members. Arising from the document:

Dr Sallnow reported that:

- The schools' results had not yet been published.
- Nationally, less short courses had been studied.
- More students were studying RE at A Level standard.
- Bursaries were being re-introduced for teachers training to be RE teachers.

**14/44 REVIEW OF SACRE MEMBERSHIP**

Dr Sallnow said that Barnet SACRE had good representation of faith groups. She enquired that if members do not attend three meetings, should they be disqualified as a member of SACRE. The general discussion stated that some members may not be able to attend SACRE meetings due to clash of meetings or illness. Members stated that if representatives could not attend, they should send a representative from that faith group. It was noted that the Islamic representative had not attended the meetings for some considerable time, which it was noted, was due to childcare issues. It was **AGREED** that if Members failed to attend three meetings per annum, the Chair would write to the Member(s) concerned and request that they should arrange to send a representative on their behalf.

*Action: Chairman*

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It was noted that vacancies remained outstanding for faith group representatives for the Muslim group and the Free Churches.

**14/45 DIRECTORY – PLACES OF WORSHIP**

The Places of Worship Directory, a copy of which had been distributed earlier, was noted by the Members. Members were reminded that they should inform the Clerk of any changes to be made to the information.

**14/46 FAITH PRESENTATION: QUAKERS – LED BY QUAKER REPRESENTATIVE**

It was noted that this item had been discussed earlier in the meeting under item 14/36 minutes of the SACRE meeting held on 17 June 2014 - Pg 10: 14/29 Faith Presentations.

**14/47 FUTURE FAITH PRESENTATIONS**

The future faith presentations were confirmed as:

2015 spring term: Judaism – led by Rabbi Mark Goldsmith  
2015 summer term: Jainism – led by Dr N Shah.

It was noted that Mr Marlow would provide a presentation at the 2015 spring term SACRE meeting, about the new curriculum for secondary schools.

*Action: Mr Neil Marlow and Clerk*

**14/48 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr Sallnow reported that she had met with Revd Bernd Koschland to discuss the 2015 Holocaust pack. She said that the pack would be sent out early in the 2015 spring term to all schools within the LA. The Chairman thanked Dr Sallnow and Revd Koschland for their work on this.

**14/49 DATES OF SACRE MEETINGS**

The following SACRE meeting dates were confirmed:

2015 spring term: Tuesday 10 March 2015, Hendon Town Hall at 5.30 pm  
2015 summer term: Tuesday 16 June 2015, Hendon Town Hall at 5.30 pm.

**14/50 CLOSE OF MEETING**

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting closed.

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