

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
SACRE / SAC COMMITTEE
23 NOVEMBER 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the SACRE Committee of Flintshire County Council held virtually on the 23 November 2023

IN ATTENDANCE:

Elected Members:

Cllr Dave Mackie (DM); Cllr A Parkhurst (AP); Cllr Mared Eastwood (ME);
Cllr Marion Bateman (MB); Cllr Adele Davies-Cooke (AD)

Church in Wales Representatives (St Asaph Diocese):

Jennie Downes (JD); Marina Parsons (MP)

Presbyterian Church of Wales representatives:

Rev Huw Powell Davies (HD); Ann Smith (AS)

Roman Catholic Representative:

John Morgan, Headteacher St. Anthony's RC Primary school

Primary schools' representative:

Amira Mattar (Westwood CP School);

Primary Heads' representative:

Anna Stephens (AS), St John the Baptist VA School:

Secondary schools' representative:

Lyn Oakes, Alun High School

Education Representatives:

Vicky Barlow (VB), Senior Manager School Improvement; Jane Borthwick (JB) Senior Learning Adviser.

Also, in attendance:

Kim Brookes (KB), Senior Manager, Education & Youth (Clerk); Karen Jones, Democratic Services Clerk; KJ confirmed meeting was being recorded.

Clerk welcomed colleagues to the meeting. It was confirmed that the numbers present meant the meeting was quorate.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR 2023-24

Clerk asked Members to elect a Chair for the Committee. Cllr Dave Mackie (DM) nominated and accepted as Chair for the year.

2. **APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2023-24**

Chair thanked Members for the nomination and asked for nomination as Vice Chair to the Committee. Marina Parsons (MP) nominated and accepted as Vice Chair for the year.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr Paul Cunningham; Cllr Debbie Owen; Cllr Roz Mansell; Catherine McCormack; Wendy White; Robert Hughes; Julian Lewis

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – CODE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONDUCT**

None declared but noting those Elected members who are school governors.

5. **MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD 7 JUNE 2023**

Agreed: minutes accepted as a true record.

6. **WASACRE MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2023:**

VB reminded members that we may provide four attendees to each termly meeting of the WASACRE. Meetings are on-line which enable good representation. National professional learning resources are available on Hwb with further resources on cross curricular themes coming online by end of term; Useful playlist available for governors in ensuring RVE and collective worship are met.

VB reminded members of the standing request for future ideas and resources that would be useful, and Heads Feds have been asked for ideas also.

JD advised that the RVE Annual Conference is to be held in Wrexham on the 13 June 2024 and will be a mix of on-line and in-person seminars. Minister for Education invited to attend.

Chair noted the dynamic work that WASACRE provides.

Action: VB to share details of Annual Conference and booking arrangements.

7. **DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT FOR SACRE 2022 - 2023**

VB reminded members of duty of this Committee to produce an annual report based on national guidance and template. Updated guidance is due but subject to Committee approval, final draft needs to be submitted to translation.

In response to Cllr AP, VB advised that schools must have processes in place in response to requests to withdraw from RVE. No complaints have been received by SACRE. WASACRE have provided advice to authorities on dealing with any such requests from parents.

HP thanked VB for producing the report. **Approved:** annual report 22/23

8. **ANALYSIS OF ESTYN INSPECTION REPORTS**

VB was pleased to note the positive comments referred to in the detailed report attached. No schools had received any recommendations of RVE or collective worship during this Estyn inspection cycle. Cllr ME pleased to note the report and thanked VB. VB asked the Committee to acknowledge the support provided to schools by Jane Borthwick, Senior Primary Learning Adviser.

9. **WJEC CONSULTATION ON RELIGIOUS STUDIES GCSE PROPOSALS**

VB drew the Committee's attention to the WJEC's current consultation on GCSE proposals at

<https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/qualifications-in-development/qualified-for-the-future-wjecis-ready-to-deliver/consultation>.

LO confirmed secondary schools were contributing.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

VB advised members that a request had been received from a member of school staff requesting to join the SACRE.

Clerk advised that the existing terms of reference do provide for 'co-opted members' to assist SACRE in the performance of its functions, with the Committee determining the terms of reference for any such appointments. Clerk advised that a future meeting of the SACRE an agenda item be considered on the appointment of co-opted members, how many, for what 'purpose', how long they are co-opted for and whether they have voting rights. Once the Committee have approved the criteria, they could then have a vote on applications.

Action: to agenda consideration of co-opted committee members.

11. FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings will be held at 4pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 7 February 2024

Wednesday 5 June 2024

Chair thanked Committee members and Officers for their attendance. Meeting ended 16.58pm