

Nottingham City SACRE 2017/18 @NottinghamSACRE

Tuesday 29 November 2017 (MINUTES)



SACRE is the 'Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education'. Since 1944 every Local Authority is required by law to have a SACRE. Its role was further strengthened in the Education Reform Act of 1988 and most recently in 1996.

The responsibilities of SACRE are:

- to provide advice to the Local Authority (LA) on all aspects of its provision for RE in its schools (this does not include Voluntary Aided Schools)
- to decide whether the LA's Agreed Syllabus for RE needs to be reviewed and if so, to ensure that this is completed.
- to provide advice to the LA on Collective Worship in its schools (this does not include Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled Schools).
- to consider any requests from Headteachers to hold Collective Worship that is not of a broadly Christian character.
- to advise on matters relating to training for teachers in RE and Collective Worship.
- to publish an Annual Report of its work

Attendance – see attached list

Cllr David Mellen (Chair)

Heidi Shewell-Cooper; LA Officer (Minutes)

Caroline Mackeith

Hafiz M. Munttazir

Bishop James Stapleton

Caroline White

Cllr Ifediora

Raj Kalsi

David Wand

Indriyasha & Krishna Dasi

John Heard

Pete Rogers

Clive Foster

Apologies; Martin Bennett, Cllr Webster, Jane Lewis, Yasmin Khaliq, Ralph Surman, Chris Richards, Eddy Walton

Item	Discussion
1.	Welcome, apologies and introductions Cllr Mellen started the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking Clive Foster for the hospitality of Pilgrim Church in hosting the meeting. He introduced SACRE explaining its role as a statutory body with a constitution of its own, comprising different groupings of people as per the statutory members. He also made it clear that it is a public forum, open to all, everyone is welcome. He recapped the last meeting and explained why minutes were not available. Introductions were made and apologies given. (If you sent apologies and these have been missed, please let Heidi Shewell-Cooper know to amend)
2.	'Social justice, the common good and community cohesion'; Pilgrim Holiness Church & Nottingham Citizens Clive is a senior minister at Pilgrim Church, which has been based in the Meadows for 50 years, initially under the leadership of Canon Christian Weaver, JP. It is a majority black church of 100+ members. Values important to the congregation include; - Recognising the importance of good education and on-going study - Being a good neighbour, and demonstrating that 'neighbourliness' in the wider community. Consequently, the Church are involved in a number of initiatives. Rev Jesse Jackson has visited twice with a social justice agenda; it was inspiring to hear his story and links with Dr Martin Luther King. As a Church

they have organised events to bring the city together, one focusing on Nelson Mandela. There is a social 'arm' of the Church, actively serving the elderly and young people, their involvement with Nottingham Citizens, as a member organisation is a natural extension of that commitment.

Pete Rogers introduced himself and his role as a Senior Organiser for Nottingham Citizens. He shared two stories;

- Powerlessness

This was a personal story, Pete's granny; she spent 6 months in care home in Luton, she had dementia. The family noticed some injuries and these couldn't be accounted for. They linked with other families but nothing came of trying to raise concerns, it didn't feel right and they felt powerless.

- Living Wage Campaign;

Action based on University of Nottingham campus through Citizens. They are part of a broad campaign trying to encourage real living wage decisions. Met a chap called Christian, he had never been involved in campaigning before but got involved and has done two day training. The public action on campus aimed to to engage new VC and took place in the University courtyard. Christian handed over a letter which had been signed. It invited the VC to 'come and work on shift with us and see our conditions together'. Two days later they found out that a new pay proposal had been suggested. Christian experienced change by taking action and being involved in a campaign. Citizens is about bringing civil society organisations and training community organisations to bring change – faith groups, schools, charities, voluntary sector working together. They have a number of campaigns focused on social justice. They exist to strengthen civil organisations and others

Pilgrims journey with Nottingham Citizens started in 2013. It was attractive to be part of a larger group. A challenge – different faiths, different organisations but The Church felt it could contribute and develop through leadership development. Early campaigns resonated e.g. PCC work BME communities – they brought to the fore some issues they experienced as a black majority church and policing. By working together, it had more impact to bring issues to the attention of the Police & Crime Commissioner. (PCC). Being involved in focus groups with decision-makers, they had access and direct contact. This campaign led to 2 new posts in Police and City, it led to real change. Training and l'ship development has been beneficial to the wider work of the Church too.

Schools; There are 3 member schools in City (Radford Primary, Djanogly and Emmanuel) and Maun Valley has 10 schools. At Radford academy the Head teacher wanted her school to have culture that enabled everyone to have a positive contribution in their community and Nottingham Citizens linked the school into community decision-makers. Bilal helped 10 year olds to undertake a listening campaign and they looked at safety in their local park. They worked on new input/designs and both Paddy Tipping & Lilian Greenwood met with them.

Other Citizens work is on-going.

Hate Crime; New posts in the City and the profile of misogyny has been raised. The team have picked up on hate crime post-Brexit. There has recently been a large Hate Crime survey in schools as there was a need to hear the voice of young people. This is in the early stages of this and looking to bring schools together and share the data.

37 Member institutions 100,000 members in city, Citizens needs to keep building. Maybe some intuitions present at SCARE might be interested in joining? Pete answered questions;

- How do you join? Can individuals join? Institutions only.
- How are you funded? The members fund the organisation through 'dues'. They remain independent of central / local government funding, in order to challenge.
- Whats the membership breakdown? 40% Church 3 x Muslim 1x Synagogue. Pete mentioned the 'Islam and participation in public life' strand of work.
- A member arsie'd the tension between Spiritual values; social justice and patriarcy and asked 'Has religion got any contribution to the aims of Nottingham Citizens? 50% are faith based, this can be a barrier to some. Pete encouraged all to seek to break down barriers by working together and

	<p>uniting around something important. It gives integrity to faith and work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can individuals be involved in support of campaigns and advocate? Although Citizens works through partner organisations, individuals who want to play their part and are not part of a Member Organisation can access the website, information /newsletters. Heidi will include details in minutes. <p>Cllr Mellen commented that Councillors have been impressed by the public forums generated by Nottingham Citizens.</p> <p>Pete Rogers, Community Organiser, Nottingham Citizens Citizens UK 07530946300 @NottinghamCitz facebook.com/NottinghamCitz Newsletter sign-up: eepurl.com/c8lz6r.</p> <p>Pete would welcome any 1-1 meetings with anyone interested in further involvement. Please contact him directly.</p>
3.	<p>Action planning 2017/18</p> <p>SACRE aims to meet twice a year, once in a place of worship and once in school. A joint RE syllabus was agreed with Notts County Council 2014/15.</p> <p>Heidi is keen to set up a simple web page for SACRE and talked about a twilight session for teachers in the Spring term, 19 March 2018 4-6pm, with Fiona Moss (RE Today) It would also be good to use the twitter account @SACRE_Nottingham</p> <p>It would be helpful to get feedback from RE subject leaders about what would be helpful. There was discussion about how best to title what SACRE does and perhaps include an emphasis on philosophy and ethics.</p>
4.	<p>Commission on RE; http://www.commissiononre.org.uk/consultation-interim-report/ The deadline for responses to this commission is 4 December 2017</p> <p>David introduced this consultation documents. The following points were made;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction and summary gives a positive view of RE to a school and its community life, There is a pressing need for all to understand faith generally and the range of world faiths and faith positions more specifically. • The first 12 pages give a good summary for the compelling vision for RE. How can we disseminate this more widely? Communicate with governors and school leaders? • There is a national entitlement for RE; This is a very strong message, a minimum of 12 hours for RE on ITT • The document highlights the role of SACRE as an important one. There is a level of resource (currently not available re funding) needed to deliver the vision for SACRE given the current climate. • Cllr Mellen feels there should be one national syllabus, though there are a range of views about this debate. • The place of RE, community cohesion and dialogue is more and more important the more globalised we become. <p>Members were encouraged to make individual responses and use any other networks to respond. It was anticipated that young people from the Sikh Forum would have opportunity to discuss it.</p>
5.	<p>Inter-faith week 12-19 November 2017</p> <p>https://www.interfaithweek.org/ This has taken place recently and colleagues were aware of events that did take place in the city.</p>
6.	<p>Membership update</p> <p>Heidi has asked all those on the current SACRE list to complete an admin form, which confirms any category they feel applies to them. It would appear that;</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Baptist association; Cllr Mellen is progressing this link • Catholic – this has now been filled • There are 4 places for Church of England Clergy • It was suggested there could be Baha’i representation • Teachers; It would be good to increase the numbers of teachers in attendance • Jewish representation; Heidi to contact Rabbi Tanya about this and potentially hosting the meeting, autumn 2018.
7.	<p>7.Close & next meeting</p> <p>Future agenda items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was some discussion about whether SACRE needs to publish an annual report. This has not been done as yet, and it was agreed to add this to a future agenda. • Are there any schools in the city that have applied for determination? Deferred to the next agenda. <p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there a document that sets out the needs of different groups of children so that school staff are pastorally aware of their spiritual and cultural needs? The addendum to the joint syllabus may cover this. • Hinduism Education Services can provide resources, CPD and INSET for children and staff. If details are sent to Heidi, they can be passed on through the weekly newsletter to schools. http://hinduismeducationservices.co.uk <p>NEXT MEETING; Thursday 14 June 2018; Bluecoat Academy, Aspley Campus 4.30-6pm, refreshments available from 4pm.http://www.bluecoataspley.co.uk/</p>