

**PORTSMOUTH STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE)**

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Wednesday 9 January 2013 at
5.00 pm in Conference Room A, Civic Offices, Portsmouth.

Present

Peter Davies, The Fellowship of Independent
Evangelical Churches (In the Chair)
Marilyn Leggett, The Salvation Army
Patrick Quirke, Secondary Teacher Representative
Beverley Millsom, Special School Representative
Maria Cole, Portsmouth City Council

In Attendance

Sue Ganter, Co-opted Representative
Sarah Long, Local Authority Representative
Teresa Deasy, Democratic Services

1 GCSE RE Conference

Sue Ganter was invited to attend this part of the meeting in order to advise on the possibility of staging a GCSE RE conference during this year.

Sue explained that last year the figure spent on the conference was in the region of £3,000. However, she believed that the conference costs could be kept to a minimum this year. She suggested that with the help of voluntary time given by SACRE members in providing workshop sessions, administrative support from the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service and the possibility of sponsorship it would be possible to keep costs down. She estimated a maximum figure of £2,500 for expenditure on the conference, to include her time involved in organising the conference and the running costs. She also mentioned the possibility of increasing the students' fee for the conference. However, SACRE members present felt that this was probably not an option. Sue counselled that it would be wise to estimate a figure

Beverley Millsom explained that there was a figure of around £500 following last year's conference which was held by Redwood Park School and there was also the possibility of reclaiming the VAT spent on organising last year's conference. Beverley agreed to investigate these matters.

The finance sub-committee members discussed the matter and the options available. They decided that the conference should go ahead this year but the decision regarding the conference should be reviewed each year. Members agreed to allocate a figure of £1,000 from the SACRE's budget for the funding of the conference. They agreed to seek sponsorship funding for the rest of the finance required for the conference. It was suggested that faith groups could be asked to contribute or to suggest likely funding sources. It was also agreed to approach the Culham Institute for funding.

RESOLVED (1) that £1,000 be allocated from the SACRE budget to fund the 2013 GCSE RE conference;

(2) Beverley Millsom to check on the amount held by Redwood Park School for the SACRE and on the possibility of reclaiming the VAT on the previous conference and to report to the committee members;

(3) the administrative support for the GCSE conference to be provided by the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service.

At this point Sue Ganter left the meeting.

2 Agreed Syllabus Review

Members discussed the fact that in, 2014 it would be necessary to conduct a review of the agreed syllabus. Therefore, funding would need to be made available to carry out the review.

It was reported that for the previous review most of the work was carried out by Georgina Mulhall in consultation with representatives from Hampshire SACRE and Southampton SACRE. Consultation was carried out with teachers from Portsmouth schools.

Patrick Quirke commented that it would be necessary to contact Patricia Hannam at Hampshire County Council to find out about the structure for reviewing the agreed syllabus.

RESOLVED Patrick Quirke to contact Patricia Hannam.

3 Terms of Reference of the Finance Sub-Committee

Sarah Long suggested that it would be useful to use a template terms of reference for a school governing body's finance sub-committee. This was agreed.

RESOLVED Sarah Long to send a copy of a governing body finance committee template to members of this sub-committee to look at and to adapt as appropriate.

4 Research on Teaching RE at Key Stages 3 to 5

Patrick Quirke reminded SACRE members of the research that he was carrying out. He commented that it was unlikely to present any cost to SACRE. However, he added that he might need a small amount of money from the SACRE at some stage.

5 Dates of Meetings

The sub-committee members agreed that meetings should take place half an hour before the three main SACRE meetings. Therefore, the next meeting would be held at 4.00 pm on Wednesday 13 March 2013 prior to the 4.30 pm main SACRE meeting.

The meeting concluded at 5.40 pm.

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