

Minutes of a Meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN CEREDIGION** held via conferencing on  
**Friday, 12 February 2021**

**PRESENT:**

Representing Ceredigion County Council: Councillors Keith Evans, Lyndon Lloyd MBE, Dai Mason and Lynford Thomas

Representing Teacher Association: Miss Joyce Howells (NASUWT) (Chair), Mrs Alwen Roberts (UCAC)

Religious Denominations: Prof Densil Morgan, Baptist Union of Wales, Rev Aled Jones, The Union of Welsh Independents, Prof John Tudno Williams, The Presbyterian Church of Wales

Co-opted Members: Dr Catrin Williams

Representing Primary Sector: Mr Eirwyn Griffiths

Also in attendance: Mrs Mary Davies, Corporate Manager – School Improvement School Services, Ms Nia Jones, Corporate Manager – Democratic Services and Mrs Dana Jones, Democratic Services and Standards Officer

(1:00pm-2:25pm)

**1. Prayers**

The Meeting commenced with Rev Aled Jones leading the Committee in prayer.

**2. Apologies**

Rev Mark Ansell apologised for his inability to attend the meeting.

The Chair reported that a letter had been received from Mrs Mary Parry stating that due to her family commitments with childcare and voluntary work, she had to step down from the committee. Members wished Mrs Parry well in the future.

**3. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2019 and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes**

It was AGREED to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council held on 18 October 2019.

**4. Matters Arising**

Minute 6 (b) Membership of the Committee- Confirmation regarding the attendance of Anna Uruska as the Catholic representative would be clarified following the meeting due to confusion regarding her attendance and email address by the Clerk. She would discuss this further with Alwen Roberts who had originally discussed her membership on the committee by Ms Uruska.

**5. To consider the following matters:**

### **(a) Local and national updates- Mary Davies**

The Corporate Manager – School Improvement School Services provided Members with a presentation on Adolygiad o gyfrifoldebau a diweddariad

- Cyfrifoldebau Lleol
- Rol eang CYSAG
- Dyletswyddau CYSAG
- Rolau a chyfrifoldebau
- Datblygiadau Cenedlaethol
- Addysg Grefyddol a'r Cwricwlwm Newydd i Gymru
- Fframwaith Addysg Grefyddol
- Adroddiad Blynyddol

Consideration was given in detail to the draft Annual Report 2019-20 as presented. Following discussion it was AGREED :-

- (i) to amend the incorrect titles of several Members presented in the report as discussed;
- (ii) that Rev Wyn Thomas or Rev Melda Grantham representing the Unitarians be invited to join the committee as a co-opted Member;
- (iii) that Mr Talat Chaudhri be invited as a co-opted Member to represent the Muslim faith; and
- (iv) that the report be amended with the corrections in (i) and circulated to Members on email for further consideration and feedback, to be returned to the Corporate Manager – School Improvement within a week of that email

### **(b) Attracting pupils to study Religious Education to GCSE and A Level**

A presentation on attracting pupils to study Religious Education to GCSE and A Level was outlined to Members.

It was AGREED to note the content and the inspiring way to encourage pupils to study the subject. An update was also provided on the position regarding GCSE and A Level results for the forthcoming summer results.

Concerns were also raised by Members regarding the mental health of pupils during this difficult time. It was reported that all schools had strong procedures in place to address this issue, all pupils were contacted regularly and a counselling service was also available.

## **6. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting in the Summer would be arranged following the meeting. It was noted that an ordinary meeting of the SACRE would be arranged together with a meeting to discuss only the new Ceredigion Agreed Syllabus.

## **7. Any Other Business**

Clarification was sought regarding the RE resources available as Ceredigion County Council following Cabinet decision to withdraw from the ERW collaboration. It was reported that it had been agreed following scrutiny that obtaining these resources from a different source was more financially viable than through ERW.