

Minutes of a Meeting of the **STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION IN CEREDIGION** held Hybrid/Chamber
Wednesday, 05 July 2023

PRESENT:

Representing Ceredigion County Council: Councillors Keith Evans,
and John Roberts

Representing Teacher Association: Miss Joyce Howells (NASUWT) (Chair)

Religious Denominations: Mrs Anna Uruska- – The Catholic Church,
Rev Dr John Tudno Williams- Presbyterian Church of Wales, Rev Aled Davies
The Presbyterian Church of Wales

Co-opted Members: Mr Lyndon Lloyd MBE

Representing Primary Sector: Mrs Non Jones McEvoy

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

(1:30pm- 3:10pm)

1 Prayers

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

It was reported that this would be the last meeting for Rev Aled Davies as he
would be leaving the area; as he has been appointed as a Reverend for The
Presbyterian Church of Wales in London. All present thanked him for his
work and wished him well for the future.

2 Apologies

Councillor Ifan Davies, Keith Henson, Ceris Jones together with Mrs Alwen
Roberts, Prof Densil Morgan, Rev Mark Ansell and
Professor Catrin Williams apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

**3 To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 March 2023 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 31 March 2023.

Matters arising

None.

4 Welcome new members

An update was provided on the membership of the committee to include the Representatives from the Religious Denomination, Local Authority and Co-opted Members. It was also reported that Ms Medi James had withdrawn her interest in becoming a Member of the Committee due to changes in her circumstances, therefore a further letter would be sent to the Quakers requesting a new member to attend on their behalf.

A letter would also be written to The Presbyterian Church of Wales requesting a new Member to represent them on SACRE. It was suggested that Rev Guto Gwynfor could be an option.

5 **Correspondence**

A letter had been received from Mr Colin Partridge outlining his background as requested. It was agreed to invite him to the next meeting of the committee.

6 **Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mrs Laurie Hughes, Wellbeing Advisory Teacher to provide information on the recent changes to Sex Education and the introduction of RSE in Curriculum for Wales(CfW). This was to ensure that as a Local Authority (LA) they had suitable RSE policy that could be adopted and adapted by schools to support them in embedding the new curriculum and provide support, information, consistency and clarity. She presented the following information in her power point presentation:-

- Background
- What is RESE?
- Policy Content
- Current Situation
- Support to Schools

Following discussion on the content of the presentation, it was AGREED to note the information provided and that a balanced approach and cooperation between children, parents, and the extent community was required on this issue.

7 **Update regarding numbers studying Religious Education**

Consideration was given to the numbers studying Religious Education. Member of the opinion that the figures were positive, and it was agreed that this data could be used to evaluate the position in relation to the number studying the subject in future years.

8 **E-sgol presentation**

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr Llifon Ellis, Strategic Head of e-ysgol to make a presentation on E-sgol. Members thanked him for an informative presentation.

9 **WASACRE**

An update on the recent WASACRE meeting was provided by the Corporate Manager – School Improvement School Services. It was agreed to note the current position.

10 Request for items/Forward Work Programme

- To request information from Professor Catrin Williams on the resources on offer by universities to assist with the new curriculum
- An update by Miss Nia Jones on Aberaeron Year 9 pupils' trip to Poland
- Pupils address the committee on their experience of studying RE
- Update on Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE)

Mr Lyndon Lloyd MBE stated that Ceredigion had the highest number of children in poverty. It was reported that Mr Gareth Lewis, Deprivation and Rural Challenges Co-ordinator was responsible for this work in the authority and to contact him direct with his concerns.

11 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 09 November 2023 at 930am.

Confirmed at the Meeting of the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education in Ceredigion (SACRE) held on 09 November 2023

Chairman: _____

Date: _____