



**Cyfarfod Pwyllgor Gwaith Cymdeithas CYSAGau Cymru/
Wales Association of SACREs Executive Committee meeting**

**Dydd Mercher, 4 Chwefror 2016, Llanerch Inn,
Llandrindod / Wednesday, 4 February 2016, Llanerch Inn,
Llandrindod Wells**

Minutes

1. Croeso / *Welcome*

In the absence of Phil Lord, the immediate past Chair, Tania ap Sion chaired the meeting.

2. Ymddiheuriadau / *Apologies*

Ernie Galsworthy, Phil Lord, Bethan James, John Mitson

3. Cofnodion cyfarfod y Pwyllgor Gwaith diwethaf (30/09/2015) / *Minutes of the last Executive meeting (30/09/2015)*

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Action- LJ will number the pages of the report for ease of reference

4. Materion yn codi / *Matters arising*

Item 9. Rudi Lockhart has accepted the association's invitation to attend the Next Executive meeting in May 2016. Follow up who has contact with Owain ap Dafydd

Action- LJ to confirm the correct date of the Executive meeting in May with Phil Lord who will ensure Rudi is informed.

5. Cofnodion cyfarfod CCYSAGauC, 25 Tachwedd 2015 / *Minutes of the WASACRE meeting, 25 November 2015*

LJ confirmed that the minutes had been circulated in English only to all SACREs and that they are now ready to be sent for translation. In light of the unexpected and deeply sad news about Denize Morris passing away so suddenly, members agreed that in future any sudden news should be related via email straight away to the whole Executive committee to ensure that everyone is kept abreast of important information of this kind.

Action- LJ will send Vicky the attendance sheet for the November meeting in time for her early SACRE meetings. LJ will attach the attendance sheet to the minutes and send them for translation. Once the translation is complete the full bilingual minutes will be sent to all SACREs, the NAPfRE group and Executive committee before the main meeting in March. LJ will ensure that the Welsh Government up-date on the Curriculum Review which was read out at the main meeting will be included as an appendix to the minutes, as well as the presentation made by Yr 9 pupils from Ebbw Fawr Learning Community Secondary Phase.

6. *Aelodaeth i Bwyllgor Gwaith Cymdeithas CCYSAGauC / Membership to the WASACRE Executive Committee*

Following a discussion and consultation of the constitution members agreed that following Ruth Davies' recent resignation, Gwynedd SACRE will be asked to nominate another SACRE member to stand in her place and attend meetings until the next AGM in June 2016. In which case there are now three vacancies on the executive committee with both Mary Parry and Tim Rowlands' terms of office coming to an end in June 2016.



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LJ will send out a letter to all SACREs requesting their nominations as soon as possible and will explain within the letter that any SACRE member being nominated for the Executive committee will be expected to be able to attend meetings regularly and be fully committed to the role. A copy of the current list of Executive members will be attached.

7. *Manylebau TGAU diwygiedig ar gyfer Astudiaethau Crefyddol / Revised GCSE Specifications for Religious Studies*

Members heard that it is very likely that implementation of the new GCSE Religious Studies specification will be deferred until September 2017 and accepted this as a positive step for the majority of schools in Wales, whilst acknowledging the difficulties it will pose for those 30 schools who currently use examination boards other than WJEC. Tania thanked Mary Parry and Bethan James for their work in lobbying WJEC and Qualification Wales to this end.

Mary Parry raised the point that despite the deferment there are still issues with the new specification for RS which affect optional RE and the position of statutory RE. One suggestion was for WASACRE to ask for a different, stand-alone specification for a short course RE.

Actions- LJ will request an urgent meeting with Gareth Pierce, Chief executive of WJEC and Mr Blaker, Chief Executive of Qualifications Wales to discuss the implications of having only one specification and the impact this will have on statutory RE. To be actioned before the end of February. The meeting should include Andrew Pearce and Lynda Maddock also.

LJ to ask Bethan to put this on the next NAPFRE meeting agenda.

8. *Materion Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government matters*

- *Cyfarfod Llywodraeth Cymru/ Welsh Government contact meeting*

LJ confirmed that there was nothing at this time to report and members agreed that a meeting with Welsh Government Colleagues was overdue and should be arranged for as soon as possible in order for WASACRE to keep abreast of recent developments. For example, the publication of the new Foundation Phase document, an up-date on the current status of the curriculum review, including Pioneer Schools and where they are up to and its review of current legislation including Locally Agreed Syllabi for Religious Education.

Gill Vaisey enquired about a meeting being arranged with Welsh Government Colleagues, WASACRE representatives and appropriate academics following the recent Collective Worship conference. LJ confirmed that this had been an action from the previous minutes that had not yet been completed.

Action-LJ will contact David Sargent to arrange a meeting between Welsh Government and WASACRE regarding the Foundation Phase document, the current status of the curriculum review, and its review of current legislation. LJ will also arrange a meeting with the appropriate personnel regarding the collective worship conference.

- *Adolygiad o Adroddiadau Blynyddol CYSAG /Review of SACRE Annual Reports*
WASACRE have supported Welsh Government in retrieving the missing Annual reports in order for colleagues to complete the Review. This process is nearly complete.
- *Matters arising from the Stakeholder meeting 3rd December*
On account of Phil's absence no information was shared



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It was suggested that Phil shares the 'What is RE?' document recently produced by NAPfRE at the next Stakeholders meeting in March. Members agreed that it is crucial to know which of the Pioneer schools is responsible for developing RE and that members should be asking their own local authority colleagues for information as well as WASACRE officially requesting the information from Welsh Government.

Action- LJ to put a list of questions together based on above notes and send it out to the Exec for feedback before giving it to Phil, who will take them to the stakeholders meeting in March

Action- LJ to ask David Sargent for more information about pioneer schools, who is doing what, and what the process is. LJ also to ask John Davies

9. EFTRE up-date- Phil Lord

No up-date

10. Cyngor AG Cymru a Lloegr / *RE Council for England and Wales*

- Review of the legal and wider policy framework for RE in England

WASACRE notes that it has received the following information. The REC is setting up a commission to respond to the documents in Item 11, below. The Board will appoint commissioners and the commission will be independent from the REC. The commission will start 'mid 2016' and the report will be published 'mid 2018' (2 year process). Members agreed that it is important for the WASACRE representatives, Gill and Phil, to keep a watching brief on this and respond on behalf of WASACRE as and if appropriate for Wales.

Action- WASACRE representatives will complete the online survey before 11 April 2016. LJ will ask David Sargent whether the legislation on Education (statutory nature of RE) in England affects Wales if it is changed. Edward Evans will ask the First Minister for Wales also.

11. Adroddiadau Diweddar ar Addysg Grefyddol ac Addoli ar y Cyd / *Recent Reports on Religious Education and Collective Worship*

- Living with Difference, a report of The Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life
- RE For REal, Teaching and Learning About Religion and Belief, by Adam Dinham and Martha Shaw

WASACRE notes that it has received these two documents. Gill confirmed that the RE for REal document will be addressed at the AREIAC conference in July 2016.

12. Bagloriaeth Cymru / *Welsh Bacculaureate*

Libby confirmed that there has been a good response to the recent survey and that we will have an initial analysis of the results at the next executive meeting.



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13. Gwefan CCYSAGauC /WASACRE Website

It was confirmed that Gill and Tania are the WASACRE representatives for REC. Members were reminded of the password for the Executive page on the website. LJ asked members to notify her of any changes they want done to the website.

Action- LJ will ask Margaret to amend the REC information for accuracy.

14. Gohebiaeth / Correspondence

LJ noted that WASACRE is a source of reference for teachers via the website and national surveys etc.

15. Agenda ar gyfer cyfarfod y Gymdeithas (Pembrokeshire), 8 Mawrth 2016 / *Agenda for the Association meeting (Pembrokeshire), 8 March 2016.*

The agenda was drafted in the meeting and will be passed to Phil for checking before it is sent out to the Executive committee. Carmarthen will be the venue of the NAPfRE meeting.

Action- LJ will investigate trains and the possibility of moving the meeting time to 11am. LJ will notify the Executive with an up-date before a decision is made and will amend the booking with the Pembrokeshire SACRE Clerk as needed for both days.

16. U.F.A. / A.O.B

MP asked if holding WASACRE meetings on a Friday could be considered, as it may as it may make it easier for teachers to attend.

Members agreed that the Prevent initiative needs to be kept in mind currently.

Gill drew member's attention to the Estyn Supplementary guidance for collective worship 2013.

Action- Gill will write to Estyn to tell them that the information under FAQ for the requirement to provide Collective Worship for 6th formers is inaccurate.

17. Dyddiad cyfarfod nesaf y Pwyllgor Gwaith / *Date of the next Executive meeting:*

Summer- 10/5/2016 City URC, Cardiff

Autumn- 29/9/2016 Llanerch Inn Llandrindod, Wells