

Online Extraordinary General Meeting 2020 17 November 2020, 10am on Zoom

Members and guests present (totalling 67, representing 48 SACREs)

Detailed on spreadsheet register

Welcome and introductions

Lesley Prior (Exec Asst) welcomed delegates, thanking SACRE members for coming together for the first time for an EGM, and for the first time online!

The planned NASACRE AGM in May 2020 didn't take place, but there are hopes it will be possible to convene the same conference a year on - 24 May 2021.

Lesley spoke of how, in the midst of lockdown, **Paul Smalley** stepped down as Chair of NASACRE, having finished his term of office in May 2020; his successor, Robert Morgan, resigned as Chair a fortnight later for personal reasons. So then Linda Rudge, the new Vice-Chair, leapfrogged to become Acting Chair of NASACRE with immediate effect!

Lesley introduced Linda Rudge and gave a little background to Linda's work. Linda invited those Executive members present to introduce themselves and their roles within NASACRE and within their local SACREs.

1. **Acting Chair's address – Linda Rudge:**

A Worldview or a Commitment? NASACRE and the politics of change

Comments/questions were submitted/collated in the Chat facility; the address will be posted online later.

In his absence, Linda thanked Paul Smalley for all his work with NASACRE. In her PowerPoint presentation, Linda outlined her experience - paralleling the 27 years NASACRE has existed - showcasing the importance and relevance of NASACRE within the RE world. Linda went on to commend how the SACREs have been working in the difficult circumstances thrown at them in 2020.

SACREs have offered virtual hands of friendship to others in a multitude of ways, to keep the RE conversation going. She mentioned how the Exec is involved in representing all SACREs within other organisations, and is committed to *listening*, though NASACRE can be a driving force, an umbrella organisation bringing SACREs together within a very diverse community.

Linda asked the meeting: **What does your SACRE want to change?**

And, further: **How can we speak for all our constituents?**

Linda outlined the current priorities and lines of work/research that NASACRE is tackling. She reminded delegates that we bring our human experiences and diversity with us when we walk into every SACRE meeting. Linda outlined her personal NASACRE wish-list and invited members' views.

Her PowerPoint will be uploaded to the NASACRE website, along with the Minutes and Chat feed with delegates' ideas for consideration at the next Executive meeting on 9 December.

BUSINESS MEETING

2. Apologies: Charles Clarke (Patron), Paul Smalley (Exec Asst), Emily Norman (Exec), Nessa Nedd, Cllr. Barry Anderson (Leeds SACRE), Maureen Barnes (Hampshire SACRE)

3. Executive Committee appointments:

Sue Holmes (Secretary) introduced the appointments for 2020:

- Linda Rudge (Acting Chair) was confirmed as Chair 2020-2022
- There were no nominations for Vice Chair, so that position will be readvertised next year
- There were 2 nominations for three vacancies on the Executive, so those were elected unopposed; they are Elizabeth Jenkerson, who was nominated by Portsmouth for another term of office and a new member, Sukaina Manji (Peterborough SACRE)
- Sukaina introduced herself and her role

4. Adoption of the draft Minutes for AGM 2019: The draft Minutes for 2019 were accepted as an accurate record of the AGM held on 22 May 2018 in Manchester. Sheila Gewolb (Cumbria) proposed and Lindsay Thorne (Worcestershire) seconded their adoption; all were in favour. There were no matters arising.

5. Treasurer's Financial Statement:

Michael Metcalf (MM) introduced himself and presented a financial statement to update the 2019-20 report posted on the website in the Spring. Chair's and Secretary's reports had also been previously uploaded.

The NASACRE accounts show adequate reserves, and the income stream balances expenditure at the moment. The number of paid-up member SACREs is steady.

MM talked about the future of the Treasurer's role which, amazingly, he has fulfilled since the association began; he informed the meeting that there is pleasingly, a person who has volunteered and is willing to shadow the role, with a view to being ready to accept a handover in the future.

6. AOB: There was no other business notified.

Closing remarks

Linda Rudge drew the business to a close, thanking everyone for joining the virtual meeting on an historic occasion. She especially thanked those Executive members who had taken responsibility for organising an online meeting, Claire Clinton for hosting and also, behind the scenes, Marie Cooper, NASACRE Administrator.

She said that it's our members who make things happen and that we hope that NASACRE will go from strength to strength, whatever the future may bring.

There was a comfort break before the second part of the proceedings began.

Westhill Award presentations

MM introduced the Awards and expressed thanks to Westhill for their long and continued sponsorship. He invited SACREs to apply for the next round of awards by March 2021; details are on the NASACRE website. The focus for new projects is always on work with pupils, rather than with teacher training.

Award-winning SACREs, Cumbria and Lambeth, made presentations about their recent projects. Delegates offered their observations in the Chat box. The presentations were recorded for future use by the SACREs concerned and for promotion of the Awards; they may be posted on the members' area of the NASACRE website. Recordings can be accessed here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/SUyn07oGCx4AjbH2cdGp1Ubo7OVxY6CTph1sWu1hj-QtJ9lTHZ9EweJ-nr4darl2.Or8xSokNw8NZA5_c **Passcode: c55x@x1V**

- **Cumbria – Buried Treasure** (Sacred Texts) by Karen O'Donoghue and Jane Yates

Themes showcased the relevance of sacred texts at different levels, both for the individual - "Faith texts are personal" - and for society. The conceptually-based approach had an unintended outcome, in that it has now been written up as a unit of work for the enquiry-based Cumbria syllabus and as a useful tool for the study of religions and worldviews. These are available on the Cumbria website. They are leading into a new project – an ongoing safeguarded platform for RE visitors (likely to be Culham-funded).

<https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lis/sacre.asp>

PowerPoint available

- **Lambeth - Developing the use of Faith Trails** (Visiting Places of Worship) by Jo Backus, Denise Chaplin, Sarah Thorley and Brett Langsdale.

Each Streatham faith trail visits 4 places of worship. There is a suite of materials on the Lambeth Schools Partnership webpages, with faith trails for different aspects of the RE curriculum. The pages are linked to the Lambeth enquiry-led agreed syllabus, which was recently completed. Units of work and the Lambeth 'toolkit' were demonstrated; they are now encouraging teachers to develop their own Faith Trails. The many documents available include sections for Parents, Carers and Faith Hosts, together with feedback forms. There are other sections which address questions such as:

How might a visit to the contribute to the aims of agreed syllabus?

Streatham Faith Trails: <https://lambethschoolspartnership.uk/Page/18626>

The meeting closed at 12:15.