

# **WALSALL STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Thursday 11 November 2004 at 5.30 pm**

**at the Salvation Army Citadel, Green Lane, Walsall**

## **Present**

Mrs B. E. Sharrock (Chairman)  
Mrs J. Furlong (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Ault  
Councillor Phillips  
Councillor Rochelle  
Mrs M. Gibbons  
Major Finch  
Mrs L. Edwards

## **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance were submitted on behalf of Councillor Bentley, Councillor Yasin, Reverend P. Lister, Mr. K. Myatt, Father M. Leadbeater, Reverend R. Mason, Mrs J. Langford, Pastor B. Powell, Mr. Mahmood Sacha, Mr. K. B. Patel, Imam Saeed-Ur-Rahman, Mrs L. Hassell and Mrs J. Boden.

In view of the meeting being inquorate, members waited 15 minutes prior to discussion on the items on the agenda.

## **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2004, were submitted:-

(see annexed)

The members present were of the view that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 July 2004, were a correct record.

## **Late Items to be Introduced by the Chairman**

The meeting noted that there were no late items for introduction by the Chairman.

## **Local Government (Access to Information) Act, 1985**

The Committee noted that there were no items for consideration in private session.

### **Presentation Re: CAL – AAJ Education Forum**

Mr. Ahmed of Education Walsall, EMAG Team referred to the need to address cultural and spiritual needs of the Muslim community and encouraged schools and the community to work in partnership. CAL – AAJ meant “tomorrow – today”.

There were a number of needs that had remained unmet and unaddressed and schools were now trying to address those needs in a vacuum and a strategic forum consisting of SACRE and mosques had been established to forge the group into a coherent body. The objective of the group was set out on page 1 of the paper circulated:-

(see annexed

The document set out the achievement and aims of the group and identified a need to establish ways that SACRE and CAL – AAJ could work together.

It was **AGREED** that the presentation be deferred to the next meeting.

### **Production of a Faith Directory**

The report of the Head of Democratic Services was submitted:-

(see annexed)

SACRE was advised that the information could be published on the Walsall Grid for Learning and members advised that the web site kept by Richard Jordan would be regularly updated and could provide assistance with interfaiths.

Members were advised that the production of a faith directory was one of the objectives of the Strategy Sub-Group.

### **Collective Worship**

Papers prepared by Ms. J. Boden were submitted:-

(see annexed)

### **Vice-Chairman in the Chair**

Mrs Furlong confirmed that SACRE was responsible for collective worship in schools as well as the agreed syllabus for religious education, she felt that SACRE could consider the following issues in the future:-

- Collective worship;
- Assemblies;
- Whether policies should be introduced;

SACRE was advised that Ofsted inspections included collective worship and would look for good practice i.e quality against quantity. Some secondary schools encouraged pupils to deliver “thought for the day” in tutor group collective worship.

It was **AGREED** that this matter would be considered at the next meeting.

### **Termination of Meeting**

The meeting terminated at 6.55 pm

Chairman:.....

Date:.....