



**Wales Association of SACREs AGM meeting,
Virtual via Zoom
19th June 2023
12.00p.m. – 12.35p.m.**

Attendance

<p>Ynys Môn / Anglesey Owen Davies (OD)</p>	<p>Sir Ddinbych / Denbighshire Phil Lord (PL) James Brown (JB)</p>	<p>Powys John Mitson (JM) John Meredith (JME)</p>	<p>Minutes (from recording) Jo Nicholls (JNI)</p>
<p>Blaenau Gwent Chris Abbas (CA) Hayley Jones (EAS)</p>	<p>Sir y Fflint / Flintshire Vicky Barlow (VB) Lyn Oakes (LO)</p>	<p>Rhondda Cynon Taf Matthew Maidment (MM) Donna Graves (DG)</p>	
<p>Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr / Bridgend Alice Parry (AP) Donna Graves (DG)</p>	<p>Gwynedd Paul Rowlinson (PR) Eurfryn Davies (ER)</p>	<p>Abertawe / Swansea Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p>	
<p>Caerffili/ Caerphilly Marina Chacon-Dawson (MCD) Hayley Jones (EAS)</p>	<p>Merthyr Tudful / Merthyr Tydfil Donna Graves (DG)</p>	<p>Torfaen Hayley Jones (HJ)</p>	
<p>Caerdydd / Cardiff Donna Graves (DG)</p>	<p>Sir Fynwy / Monmouthshire Louise Brown (LB) Hayley Jones (HJ)</p>	<p>Bro Morgannwg / Vale of Glamorgan Kathy Riddick (KR) Donna Graves (DG)</p>	
<p>Sir Gaerfyrddin / Carmarthenshire Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p>	<p>Castell-nedd Port Talbot / Neath and Port Talbot Rachel Samuel (RS) Nia Jenkins (NJ)</p>	<p>Wrecsam / Wrexham Tania ap Siôn (TaS) Libby Jones (LJ)</p>	
<p>Ceredigion Keith Evans Mary Davies</p>	<p>Casnewydd / Newport Huw Stephens (HS) Hayley Jones (HJ)</p>	<p>NAPfRE Paula Webber (PW)</p>	
<p>Conwy Phil Lord (PL) Collette Owen (CO) Ellie Chard (EC)</p>	<p>Sir Benfro / Pembrokeshire Jennifer Harding-Richards (JHR)</p>		

Minutes of the meeting

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Microsoft TEAMS on 29 June 2022

TaS welcome everyone to the AGM. RS proposed to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting held on 29th June 2022 and HS seconded.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. WASACRE Report for 2022-23

TaS presented the WASACRE report for 2022-2023 and reported the following:

It was another very busy year for WASACRE with the Curriculum for Wales rolling out in September, preparing for the agreed syllabi for RVE and the Qualification Wales (QW) consultations.

This year the association has met three times once each term. The Autumn meeting was hosted by Blaenau Gwent SACRE through Teams. The Spring meeting was hosted by Pembrokeshire SACRE through Zoom and this Summer meeting is hosted by Denbighshire via Zoom. WASACRE is very grateful for the continued support of SACREs and SACs with their hosting of these meetings.

The Executive Committee also met each term via Teams or Zoom. The Committee had a full agenda throughout the year which included the following items and activities:

- ⇒ Continued to consider the Curriculum for Wales and respond to developments relating directly to RVE and RE within the Curriculum for Wales.
- ⇒ Continued to give advice to support the Advisors, SACREs and SACs in relation to their locally agreed syllabi and working arrangements for SACREs and SACs.
- ⇒ WASACRE representatives from the Executive Committee with a representative from NAPfRE have met with Welsh Government (WG) colleagues as part of WASACRE's established regular cycle of meetings with WG.

These meetings have given us the opportunity to raise local issues that are of importance to SACREs and SACs.

WASACRE was requested by Welsh Government to conduct an informal desk-based review of the agreed syllabi for RVE. A team of WASACRE specialists undertook the task on behalf of the Executive Committee and the report was submitted on time to Welsh Government on 27th March 2023.

This report is part of a wider supportive approach being taken by the Welsh Government during the early stages of curriculum roll out. It also offers a valuable opportunity to share practice across Wales within the contexts of both local determination and collaboration across Wales.

The first batch of Professional Learning (PL) module from the major national professional learning partnership between Welsh Government and WASACRE was published in March 2023. The resources comprised of five playlists for headteachers, the secondary sector, primary, early years and ALN.

Work continues on the second and third batches of modules. This initiative came about through WASACRE realising the needs for baseline national PL. WASACRE developed a robust proposal for consideration by WG colleagues.

All resources have been rigorously quality assured by WG before publication on the WG Hwb.

⇒ Representatives from WASACRE Executive Committee met with various organisations both within and outside Wales on a number of occasions through the year, often with a NAPfRE representative present as well.

Within Wales this includes an Estyn meeting and also a meeting with those working on the community focused school's guidance and the relevance of SACs within it.

Other meetings included those with Regional RE hubs and the RE Council for England and Wales. Questions were raised about relationships between WASACRE and the organisations and the potential impacts on the curriculum rollout for RVE. In addition, there was a meeting with NASACRE representatives to explore future connections.

⇒ Representatives from WASACRE attended the NASACRE 30-year celebration and AGM.

⇒ WASACRE has continued to provide a forum for support and guidance for national consultations affecting RVE and Religious Studies in Wales. This year the two Qualification Wales consultations related to the GCSE Religious Studies qualification, and the full qualification offer. In the spring term WASACRE subscribed to a Zoom account to enable simultaneous translation in meetings. After exploring several options WASACRE is pleased to be in a position to renew its commitment to bilingual meetings.

⇒ Preparatory discussions have commenced for a major WASACRE conference for RVE in partnership with NAPfRE.

⇒ WASACRE has provided funding for one teacher to attend the EFTRE conference in Rome in August 2023.

The accounts 2022 -2023 were presented at the summer AGM 2022:

⇒ A Statement of Accounts and a report explained the information that was presented. All SACREs and SACs had paid their subscriptions for the year, and it was noted that the financial position remained in a healthy condition. The level of funds was able to fund all of WASACRE's activities.

⇒ Income exceeded expenditure by £7722.90

In the summer AGM 2022, three new members were elected for the period 2022-2025, Vicky Barlow, Flintshire, Matthew Maidment, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Louise Brown, Monmouthshire. Edward Evans was elected as Vice Chair. Tania ap Sion took the position as Chair and RS moved to the position of immediate past chair.

- ⇒ At the Summer AGM the proposed changes to the WASACRE constitution were approved.
- ⇒ There have been presentations throughout the year from WASACRE and NAPfRE members. At the Autumn Meeting hosted by Blaenau Gwent, Rachel Samuel and Paula Webber presented on the Qualification Wales consultation. In the Spring meeting hosted by Pembrokeshire we received a national PL presentation by Libby Jones and in the summer meeting we have just received a presentation from Leah Crimes on emerging practice from a faith school's perspective.

TaS thanked all member SACREs and SACs for their commitment to the Association and their support. She also thanked the Executive Committee members for their continued hard work, without whom the activities of WASACRE would not be possible.

TaS confirmed that post meeting, this report would be translated into Welsh and made available bilingually for onward distribution to SACREs / SACs.

4. Treasurer's report

JM, WASACRE's Treasurer, presented the 2022-2023 report.

Balance at start of year was £45,502.79 and at the end of year £54,472.23.

WASACRE is in a healthy position, financially. WASACRE has built up a reserve to be able to hold a substantial conference without a charge for attendees.

- ⇒ Total receipts = £13,630.66
Main source of income is from annual subscriptions. A payment from WG of £4,250 from Welsh Government for work undertaken by WASACRE on the review of the agreed syllabi. This payment arrived on 31st March and the expenditure for this work will be in the following financial year 2023-2024 year.
- ⇒ For 2022-2023 there were n=3 subscription payments from the previous year that were late and n=16 subscription payments for the current year. The remaining payments have been made but will be included in the next years accounts.
All SACREs have paid their membership for 2022-2023.
- ⇒ Total expenditure - there has been an underspend of £8969.44. This is artificially high due to the Welsh Government payment. Taking into consideration this work an appropriate figure would be an underspend of £4719.44.
- ⇒ Main expenditure is the cost of holding the meetings including translation, production of minutes and coordinating secretary's honorarium.

HS proposed to adopt the statement of accounts and PW seconded.

JM raised the proposal to the Executive Committee that due to the financial difficulties experienced by LAs it would be appropriate not to raise the subscription for the 2023/24. JM's recommendation was supported by Executive Committee.

RS proposed and EC seconded the proposal that the WASACRE subscription fee is to be retained at £495 for 2023/2024

JM ran through the proposed regular expenses, these do not change year on year.

RS proposed and HS seconded. The regular expenses were agreed.

TaS confirmed that post meeting, this report will be translated into Welsh and made available bilingually for onward distribution to SACREs and SACs.

TaS thanked JM for his dedicated work in the Treasurer's role.

5. WASACRE Financial Planning (2023- 2024)

WASACRE Executive Officers have met to discuss financial planning for 2023 and 2024. Meetings have been held to establish and predict future running costs and the funds available for the substantial investment in the WASACRE conference. The funds held by the Association are available to provide real benefit for the member SACREs and SACs, and only through their collective contributions and support can this be enabled.

6. Election of members to the Executive

TaS reported that three nominations were received for the two available places. TaS thanked everyone who put their names forward this year. WASACRE's Assistant Secretary LJ was responsible for organising the online voting.

LJ reported that there was a 64% participation rate in the election. LJ was pleased to announce that Jenny Downes (Denbighshire SACRE) and the joint nomination of Marged Williams and Tyler Saunders (TS) representing the Vale of Glamorgan were successful and have been appointed to the Executive Committee.

TaS welcomed these new Executive Officers and looks forward to them joining the Executive meetings.

MW and TS were not present at the meeting.

ACTION: Send an invite to the three new Executive Committees for the next Executive meeting on 4th October.

7. AOB pertinent to an AGM

None

8. Date of next meeting

It is to be hosted by Wrexham; the date is to be confirmed.

TaS thanked Denbighshire SACRE and SAC for hosting the Association's summer meeting and AGM. TaS also thanked all the attendees to the meeting and the translator for her excellent work.

Meeting closed at 12.35 p.m.

DRAFT