

Minutes of the Cross-Party Group on Faith meeting

**Faith in Education: Thoughts on the new curriculum in Wales  
and Annual General Meeting**

Tuesday 30 June 2020 from 14.00 – 15.00 via Zoom

**Present:**

1. Alyson Godfrey
2. Ameira Bahadur-Kutkut
3. Angela Hill
4. Angela Keller (Speaker)
5. Carol Wardman, Church in Wales
6. Christine Abbas, Baha'i community
7. Colin Harris
8. Curtis Shea, Office of Darren Millar MS
9. Darren Millar MS, Chair
10. Dave Brownnutt
11. David Emery MBE, The Salvation Army
12. Gethin Rhys, Cytûn
13. Jenny Rathbone MS
14. Jim Stewart (Note-taker)
15. Jonah MacGill
16. June Osborne (Speaker)
17. Katie McColgan, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
18. Mavis Harris
19. Peredur Owen Griffiths, Cytûn
20. Philip Lord
21. Rheinallt Thomas, Free Church Council of Wales
22. Russell George MS
23. Samina Khan
24. Sian Rees, Evangelical Alliance Wales
25. Suzy Davies MS
26. Vici Pici

**Apologies:**

1. Ainsley Griffiths, Church in Wales
2. Alan Lansdown
3. Andrew Misell, Alcohol Concern Cymru
4. Barrie Philips
5. Colin Heyman, Reformed Synagogue
6. Llyr Gruffydd AS

## Minutes:

1. Darren Millar MS opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
2. An AGM was held in which the following officers were re-elected:
  - a. Darren Millar AM was unanimously re-elected as Chair, having been nominated by Suzy Davies MS and seconded by Jenny Rathbone MS
  - b. No Vice-Chair was elected as this role had been held for many years by Mohammed Asghar, who passed away recently
  - c. Jim Stewart was unanimously re-elected as Secretary, having been nominated by Russell George MS.
3. Darren introduced the Rt Revd Bishop June Osbourne, the Bishop of Llandaff in the Church in Wales who then spoke on her views on the Welsh Government's consultation on the future of religion, ethics and values education from a Church in Wales perspective.
4. Darren introduced Angela Keller from the Catholic Education Service who reflected on the Welsh Government consultation document from a Catholic perspective.
5. Darren then chaired a discussion time in which a wide range of views on the Welsh Government consultation were expressed by the stakeholders present. The following actions were agreed upon by the Group:
  - A. To write to the Welsh Government Minister for Education:
    - Expressing concern about the impact that the Coronavirus pandemic has had on people's ability to get together to be able to reflect and respond to the consultation and to ask for an extension to the consultation to enable more responses to be submitted.
    - Expressing concern about the Welsh Government's proposals to enable parents to exclude their child from RE and to have a separate agreed syllabus provided for them, a view held by some members of the Cross-Party Group on Faith.
    - Asking for clarity on what the Welsh Government's proposals are in relation to the composition of SACREs and the new groups and how these groups will interact with the SACREs in each local area.
6. Darren thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting.