

**MINUTES OF THE RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY WORKING PARTY
HELD ON**

5 February 2020

Times Not Specified

PRESENT

Committee Members

Councillor Lanie Shears (Chair)

Councillor Jodi Dunne

Nishall Garala

Martin Harris

Ai Woon Paramasivan

Irit Shillor

Officers

Hannah Criddle, Governance Support Officer

Simon Hill, Head of Governance

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Shona Johnson.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Agreed.

3. **IDEAS FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS EQUALITY - REPORT AND ACTION PLAN**

The Working Party discussed the report and action plan and agreed the following.

- i) Question and answer panel streamed via social media

Nishall Garala would take the lead on this. Martin Harris and Irit Shillor would assist.

- ii) Inter-faith event

Irit advised that during Inter-faith week in November the synagogue hosts events which members of local communities already attend. It was agreed that the Council could assist with publicising any events such as this. Irit, Martin and Neela Hibbert would take the lead on this.

iii) Walking float at Harlow Carnival

The Working Party advised they cannot commit to this yet until a date for the carnival had been confirmed. It was agreed that the carnival date would be circulated to the Working Party once it had been decided.

iv) Joint school visits

Martin would take the lead on this with assistance from Irit, Nishall and Neela. Nishall suggested that the talks could take place during Crucial Crew week which most schools in Harlow attend. Martin was happy to meet with the Youth and Citizenship Manager to discuss the best option.

v) Religious date calendar

It was agreed that the draft calendar would be circulated to the Working Party for their comments.

vi) Any other business

The list of email addresses for the members of the Working Party would be circulated so the Working Party could keep in contact.

Simon Hill advised that community events could be publicised in Harlow Times. A direct contact for the Communications Team and the lead times for information to be submitted for publication in Harlow Times would be sent to the Working Party.

4. **RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET**

It was agreed that the report with recommendations would be circulated to the Working Party before Cabinet on 27 February 2020.