

Comann nam Pàrant (Nàiseanta) (CnP(N))

Geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh *Minute of meeting*

Disathairne 16 Màrt 2013 aig 10m aig Oifis An Lèanag, Glaschu

Saturday 16th March 2013 at 10am An Leanag, Glasgow

An làthair *Present*

Dawn Morgan (DM)	Inbhir Nis
Bob McGowan (BM)	Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn
Marsaili Dow (MD)	Ionmhasair
Gill Steele(GS)	Obar Pheallaidh
Donna Young (DY)	Dùn Òmhain
Daibhidh Sutherland (DS)	Meadhan Alba
Magaidh Wentworth (MW)	Oifigear Phàrant

1. Leisgeulan *Apologies*

Iona McTaggart (IM)	Na-h-Eileanan Iar
Fiona Byrne	Lochabar

2. Geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh, 17 Samhain 2013 *Minute of meeting, 17th November 2013*

The minute of the meeting on 17th November was approved.

Proposed: Marsaili Dow
Seconded: Bob McGowan

3. Gnòthaichean ag èirigh nach eil air a' chlàr-chùisean *Matters arising not on agenda / Action Points*

From §3 National Guidelines on GME – MW spoke to Màiri MacMillan BnaG who advised contacting Education Scotland. MW is to meet with Joan Esson from Education Scotland to discuss.

4. Tràth Bhliadhnaichean /Early Years

MW gave an update on the funding from the Unified Voluntary Sector Fund which has now closed and Comann nan Pàrant have received the last instalment for 2012-13. We are awaiting a final invoice and information from BnaG prior to paying out the funding.

5. Cumhnant Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus Maoinachadh eadar-theachd tràth /Bòrd na Gàidhlig contract and Third Sector Early Intervention Fund

The Comann nam Pàrant contract with Bòrd na Gàidhlig is mainly unchanged from previous years with the Parental Advisory Scheme remaining a priority. There is less support for the school diaries and schools have been asked by us

to pay 50% of the costs of the diaries this year

The 'Third Sector Early Intervention Fund' which replaces the 'Unified Voluntary Sector Fund' is a new £20 million programme being run by Big Fund (the non-Lottery arm of the Big Lottery Fund), for the Scottish Government. The funding will support third sector organisations to deliver national outcomes relating to children and young people, and the families and communities that support them. Following discussions with BnaG Comann nam Pàrant have applied for funding that would allow us to extend the work of the Parental Advisory Scheme. Responses are expected before the end of March.

6. Sgeama Comhairleachaidh Phàrant ***Parental Advisory Scheme***

MW provided an update on the scheme. So far this year there have been training sessions in Airdrie, Aberfeldy and Stornoway. There was one planning meeting with advisors in the Glasgow area. MW attended an in-service day for teaching staff in Highland council area to talk about the scheme.

7. Cuairt-litir ***Newsletter***

MW is currently looking for contributions for the Spring edition.

8. Aithisg Ionmhasair ***Treasurer's Report***

MD gave an update on committee accounts. Committee funds are lower than they have been recently and MD will contact MW requesting funding for the next financial year.

9. GISBE / AOCB

Comann nam Pàrant / Parent councils

BM said that the question as to the difference between Comann nam Pàrant groups and Parent Councils in dedicated Gaelic schools has arisen in Edinburgh with the new school about to open parents are asking what the division is and in practical terms how do groups operate. DS said that in Glasgow the Parent Council is deals with Sgoil Gàidhlig Ghlaschu, Comann nam Pàrant all GME provision in the city, Head-teacher is member of PC but not CnP, PC do fundraising for the school, CnP are involved in discussions regarding the new school as are the PC and there is some overlap. DM said that the situation was similar in Inverness and that the PC constitution states that they will work with CnP. CnP is more involved with pre-school and secondary but there can be issues where there is overlap. CnP is more independent than the PC which is important. CnP can be more political, outward looking and concerned with national issues.

Edinburgh Gaelic School

Parents are delighted that Anne MacPhail who is currently at Tollcross has been appointed as Head-teacher of the new school. Decisions have also been taken regarding wrap-around care and school uniform. There is to be a business manager appointed as well as other teaching and ancillary staff.

East Ayrshire Gaelic Language Plan

There is now a healthy pre-school group in East Ayrshire but numbers in Onthank have fallen to 29 and there is no CnP group this year due to disagreements between parents. The children in Onthank are having a number of different teachers and are not always in a Gaelic medium environment. The draft Gaelic Language Plan makes no reference to GME and there is also a very

negative response on the plant on the Onthank School website which is supposedly from the Parent Council but is under the 'Gaelic Dept.' heading on the website.

Action: Letter from CnP(N) to Director of Education expressing concerns on the situation – MW

Ministerial Summit on Gaelic Education

A note from this summit was circulated to the committee and discussed.

Sheena MacLean, Comunn na Gàidhlig

Sheena is no longer in her post at the CnaG office in Glasgow and the committee decide that we should send a card and tokens to her in appreciation of the support that she has shown to CnP over many years

Action: MD to organise

Area Updates:

Glasgow (DS) - The projected intake for this coming year is the highest ever. The new Southside school should be ready for an intake in 2015. This is a shared campus but mealtimes and break times will be staggered. There is no accommodation available for nursery. There will be a consultation later in the year on the catchment areas for the two schools.

Dunoon (DY) – A new teacher has been appointed, the Homework club is running again and the pre-school group is going well.

Aberfeldy (GS) – Three applicants are to be interviewed following the advertisement of the post as permanent. There is currently no nursery provision and this will need to be addressed.

An ath choinneamh / Next meeting

19th May AGM 2013 in Glasgow