

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

### Geàrr-chunntas na Coinneimh / *Minute of meeting*

Disathairne 11 Màirt 2017 aig 10m  
Premier Inn, George Square, Glasgow

#### An làthair / *Present*

Bob McGowan (BM)	Chair
Marsaili Dow (MD)	Ionmhasair
Magaidh Wentworth (MW)	Oifigear Phàrant
Diorbhail Wentworth (DW)	Oifigear Leasachaidh
Eleanor Wood (EW)	Oifigear Leasachaidh
Claire Wilding (CW)	An t-Òban
Fiona Heatlie (FH)	Glaschu
Fiona Stephen (FS)	Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn
Kathleen NicLeòid (KN)	Na-h-Eileanan Iar
Sorcha O' Carrol (SO)	Inbhir Narann
Becky Davidson (BD)	Inbhir Narann

#### 1. Leisgeulan / *Apologies*

Iona MacTaggart	Na-h-Eileanan Iar
Kerry Jardine	Obar Dheathain
Helen Mackinnon	Glaschu
Chrissie Valluri	Peairt
Gill Steele	Obar Pheallaidh

#### 2. Geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh 26 Samhain 2016

##### *Minute of meeting 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016*

The minute of the meeting was approved.

Proposed: Marsaili Dow

Seconded: Claire Wilding

#### 3. Gnothaichean ag èirigh nach eil air a' chlàr-chùisean

##### *Matters arising not on agenda*

##### 3.1. Bòrd na Gàidhlig

- Shona NicIllinnein and Mona Wilson (BNG) had been invited to attend this meeting but both were unable to attend on this occasion and have submitted apologies.
- Representatives of CnP(N) met with The CEO and Chair of BnaG on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. There was a wide ranging discussion on the respective roles of the organisations and encouragement from BnaG representatives to respond to the draft third Gaelic National Plan to make our views known.

**Action** – Chair (BM) to follow up on this meeting via email.

##### 3.2 Consultations

- MW thanks everyone for responding to the numerous recent consultations.

#### **4. Achd an Fhoghlaim (iarrtasan airson FTG)**

##### ***Education Act (requests for GMPE)***

**4.1** The first request for comment from CnP at the stage of full assessment has been received from a local authority (Argyle and Bute). CnP has no legal obligation to respond, but members agreed that it will be good practice to respond to all such notifications for comment on parental requests for GMPE.

**4.2** DW has produced a draft response form for this process which was distributed to members for approval.

**4.4** CnP officers are supporting a parental request in East Renfrewshire and it is hoped that this will be submitted by the end of March. The lead parent in this instance will be requesting provision for 2018. At this time there are only 3 names of children for this year group and there is a concern that the request will not go to full assessment, despite over 40 names in total from families covering several different year groups. Therefore, it is hoped that there will be at least 5 names for 2018 before the request is submitted.

##### **4.5 Requests made by individual parents**

- Some concern was expressed at the meeting about possible situations where one parent may submit a request, not realising that the responsibility lies with them, not the local authority concerned, to identify other families in their area who wish GMPE. If this happened, there is a possibility that it could create a situation where the local authority would be under no obligation to consider any further requests for a period of two years.
- It was noted that the lead parent in charge of the request from East Renfrewshire is a paid parental advisor.
- Clear guidance on the process needs to be readily available to parents on all relevant websites.
- Members agreed that decisions that due to tight timescales; a period of up to 4 weeks to respond once notified by a local authority, their responses to assessment would be agreed via e-mail.

**Action:** CnP to respond to Argyll & Bute regarding request for GMPE in Bunessan

#### **5. Stiùireadh Nàiseanta**

##### ***National Guidance***

- The committee expressed disappointment at the lack of changes to the draft Statutory Guidance, despite the high number of responses received by BnaG to the consultation.
- MW attended BnaG training day for local authorities on implementation of the Guidance. The session was very informative but the number of local authorities represented was disappointing, although they had all been invited.

#### **6. Tidsearan ann am FTG**

##### ***Teacher supply in GME***

- There is concern about the situation with the GM teaching courses at Strathclyde as it was reported that they have had no interviews for the Gaelic teaching course this year.
- Although the university has said it does intend to run the Gaelic course, there was some concern that there are no Gaelic speaking staff on the teaching course at either Strathclyde or Aberdeen universities as of 2017 and this raises questions as to the level of Gaelic input for student teachers.

**Action:** MW follow up to BnaG meeting to include questions on teacher training and discuss how CnP can support potential teachers and/or influence universities.

**Action:** FS to find dates of Heads of Schools of Education meetings and explore the possibility to raise this issue at their next meeting.

**Action:** Responses to consultation on national Gaelic plan to include reference to more investment in staff recruitment.

## **7. Co-chomhairle air an treas Plana Nàiseanta**

### ***Consultation on the third National Plan for Gaelic***

- This was discussed and the general feeling of members was that the draft plan is not comprehensive enough.
- There will be a response from CnP as an organisation as well as the opportunity for individuals to respond

**Action:** Respond to draft third National Plan for Gaelic.

## **8. Maoineachadh Tràth Bhliadhnaichean**

### ***Early Years Funding***

- MD provided an update on the situation regarding payments of the fund and MW reported on progress in implementing the plan of work for the fund.

## **9. Prògram obrach làitheil agus cuisean ag èirigh**

### ***Current programme of work and current issues***

#### **9.1 Other funding**

- Funding for Parental Engagement Officer (DW/EW) post will end in June 2017 and at this stage it is not clear if this funding will be renewed.
- The situation is the same for Thig a Chluich funding in the Western Isles.

#### **9.2. Nairn**

- Parents are not making much progress with their request for secondary provision at Nairn Academy
- Highland Council currently offer transport to Inverness Royal Academy but due to numerous valid reasons most pupils decline this option
- E-sgoil has been suggested as an interim measure, but parents feel that e-sgoil is not a substitute for teachers and are concerned that it would be a permanent solution.

#### **9.3. Kilmarnock**

- MD reported good news from Kilmarnock. School currently has a full complement of teachers and the atmosphere is very positive
- School will celebrate 20 years of GME this year
- The plans for a new school comprising sgoil-àraich, bun-sgoil and àrd-sgoil in one building are progressing and it should open by April 2018.

#### **9.4. Glasgow**

- FH noted as a positive that Glasgow City Council admitted all applicants to GME this year although there is some concern about what is perceived as a lack of forward planning on behalf of the council in terms of sustainability of GME for future years.
- A third GM school is currently under consideration

## **10. Cuairt-litir / Làrach-lìn**

### ***Newsletter / Website***

- The next newsletter is due to be published by the end of March.

## **11. Aithisg Ionmhasair**

### ***Treasurer's Report***

- The accounts are currently being examined by the accountant and at this time there is nothing untoward to report. Members acknowledged update from MD on accounts at present.

## **12. GISBE/AOCB**

### **12.1. Glasgow Science Festival**

- CnP Glasgow is looking at running a Science Festival for their pupils and would like to open this up to other schools, both to take part in and to offer any resources they have available.
- There is not a date set for this, but there is a meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> with Fiona Dunn to talk about possible funding options and dates.

### **12.2. National Museum of Scotland**

- The NMS has produced a draft of their second Gaelic language plan which is now out for consultation.
- BM will draft a response from CnP Nàiseanta, but individual responses are also welcomed. The deadline for responses is 10/04.

### **12.3. Argyle**

- Argyll & Bute are holding an online community vote on how to spend funding that they were awarded by Scottish Government to strengthen and grow Gaelic in their area. CW invited anyone with an Argyle postcode to vote for the feasibility study for the GM school in the area and will circulate the link.

### **12.4. Next meeting**

- The date for the next meeting was set for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May. This will be the AGM and will be held in Glasgow.
- BM has indicated that he would be willing to continue as co-chair for this coming year to introduce someone else to the role prior to his stepping down in 2018.