

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

Geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh

Minute of meeting

Disathairne 17 Samhain 2012 aig 10m aig Oifis Chomunn na Gàidhlig, 5

Caolshràid Mhìcheil, Inbhir Nis

Saturday 17th November 2012 at 10am in Comunn na Gàidhlig, 5 Mitchell's

Lane, Inverness

An làthair

Present

Dawn Morgan (DM)

Bob McGowan (BM)

Marsaili Dow (MD)

Iona McTaggart (IM)

Gill Steele(GS)

Magaidh Wentworth (MW)

Inbhir Nis

Dùn Èideann agus Lodainn

Ionmhasair

Na-h-Eileanan Iar

Obar Pheallaidh

Oifigear Phàrant

1. Leisgeulan

Apologies

Margaret Ford (MF)

Donna Young (DY)

Daibhidh Sutherland (DS)

Acharacle

Dùn Òmhain

Meadhan Alba

2. Geàrr-chunntas na coinneimh, 8 Sultain 2012

Minute of meeting, 8th September 2012

The minute of the meeting on 8th September was approved.

Proposed: Marsaili Dow

Seconded: Bob McGowan

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

Matters arising not on agenda / Action Points

From §7 National Guidelines on GME – DM asked if there would be consultation with bodies such as Comann nam Pàrant prior to publication.

Action: MW to follow this up, initially with Màiri MacMillan at BnaG

4. Cumhnant Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Bòrd na Gàidhlig contract

MW gave an update on the Comann nam Pàrant contract with BnaG for 2012-13. She has met with Bòrd staff to discuss progress with the current contract and look ahead to next year. It is understood that funding for the Gaelic organisations will remain at the current level for 2013-14.

5. Sgeama Comhairleachaidh Phàrant

Parental Advisory Scheme

MW gave an update on the scheme and advisors continue to actively promote Gaelic medium education. Coinneach, who was on a graduate placement with Comann nam Pàrant and involved in maintaining the database for the scheme has now left so MW will be keeping a record of the activities with support from CnaG admin staff. There was a training day in Skye in November with 5 parents attending along with the Bòrd na Gàidhlig pre-school officer and the Iomairt Gàidhlig officer.

This year 4 areas where there is capacity in the schools to grow numbers with current staffing levels are to be targeted for a more focussed marketing campaign. Led by BnaG these campaigns will be supported by the PAS and MW has attended meetings with BnaG and council representatives in Oban, Bishopbriggs, Aberdeen and Fort William. MW said that the meetings had been mainly positive with all areas hopeful that more publicity could attract more children to Gaelic education. It was encouraging to hear that the PAS scheme was having an impact.

6. Tràth Bhliadhnaichean

Early Years

This is now the second year that CnP has received a grant from the Children, Young People and Families Unified Voluntary Sector Fund to support the Gaelic medium pre-school sector. The grant last year of £83,696 was distributed to Gaelic early years groups by Bòrd na Gàidhlig, who have responsibility for the sector, on behalf of CnP between January and March of this year and following our last meeting MW had e-mailed documentation to the committee detailing how the grant was distributed between groups. In the current financial year the Parental Officer, MW will assess applications for funding from the pre-school groups with the Education Officer from BnaG.

So far for the financial year 2012-13 £66,259.33 has been paid to CnP with the final instalment of £17,436.67 due in January. The fund is to directly support the pre-school groups. CnP has received two invoices from BnaG. One in September for £12,836.39. This listed what funding had been distributed to the individual groups and it was agreed that this could be paid but that we should ask BnaG for a more detailed breakdown of how the groups were using the funding. The second invoice is for £48,506.00 and there was some uncertainty as to the distribution of this funding so it was decided to defer payment of this invoice until MW had met with BnaG to discuss the applications. The sum asked for is also greater than CnP has received so far in grant so we would require a revised invoice if paying before we receive the final instalment in January.

Action: MW to raise these points with meeting on 3rd December with BnaG Education Officer.

7. Cuairt-litir

Newsletter

The Autumn newsletter was almost ready for publication and a draft shown to the committee. It was agreed that it should be distributed as widely as possible.

Action: MW to progress.

8. Aithisg Ionmhasair

Treasurer's Report

MD gave an update on committee accounts. The committee had received a form from the bank which we were required to complete with details of signatories and this was done.

9. Taisbeanadh

Presentation

Morna Butcher, Teacher Recruitment Officer at BnaG gave an overview of the work she is involved in and the courses now available for teacher training.

GISBE / AOCB

Aberfeldy

There are difficulties with growing Gaelic medium education in this area as Perth & Kinross do not provide transport. The local CnP will initially raise this with their Director of Education. DM will give GS information that she has on transport.

Edinburgh Gaelic School

The renovations on Bonnington are progressing well, parents are pleased with the building and school should be ready for opening next August. The P6 pupils had been asked for a name and 'Bun-sgoil Taobh na Pairce' had been chosen. The next step will be the appointment of the Headteacher and advertisement is imminent. Pre-school numbers continue to grow.

Glasgow Southside School

DS has been attending meetings regarding the proposed second Gaelic school for Glasgow.

Inverness

Despite recent problems with recruitment of a Headteacher the school is flourishing and after Christmas there will be 90 in nursery. There is a need for a second school although currently this is not a priority. There will shortly be a new build school for Inverness Royal Academy and in a few years numbers coming through may justify a Gaelic secondary. CnP Inbhir Nis have been mainly occupied with the Headteacher situation and are very concerned that Highland Council may now appoint a non-Gaelic speaking teacher to a permanent post. CnP felt that the post had not been properly advertised and wanted HC to consider appointing a Gaelic speaker who may need support with managerial skills.

An ath choinneamh / Next meeting

9th March in Glasgow

18th May AGM 2013