

Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Minute of Board Meeting
St Kilda Boardroom, Great Glen House, Inverness
Wednesday 6/12/17 13:00 – 16:30

Members

Allan MacDonald (Chair)	(AMD)
Allan Cambell	(AC)
Donald MacLeod (by telephone)	(DML)
Donald MacSween	(DMS)
Fiona Dunn	(FD)
Jennifer Gilmour	(JG)
Jim Whannel	(JW)
Johann Smith	(JS)
Joy Dunlop	(JD)
Mary Ann Kennedy	(MAK)

Attending:

Shona MacLennan (Ceannard)	(SML)
David Boag	(DB)
Mona Wilson	(MW)
Douglas Ansdell (Sponsor Division)	(DA)
Carol Johnson (Minute)	

Presentation on the Tobar an Dualchais Project by Margaret MacDonald

The Board welcomed Margaret to the meeting to give information on the project. Afterwards Members had the opportunity to ask further questions about the project, its aspirations for the future and possible new areas for expansion such as a National Sound Archive in conjunction with National Libraries Scotland. She recognised that valuable contribution from volunteers and enthusiasts and that investment in technology has taken the project to a different level of accessibility, allowing the project to retain key expertise through flexible and remote working for staff.

Chair thanked her for taking the time to engage with the Board and for the important and interesting work Tobar an Dualchais brings to the public.

1 OPENING ITEMS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and recorded apologies from Mary MacInnes.

a) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were recorded as follows:

AC - An Comunn Gàidhealach

JW - Research Project - University of Edinburgh

DMS – Storlann

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b) Minutes were approved subject to an adjustment noted to the text of Minute on P4-P5.

MATTERS ARISING

c) Action updates:

- DB has had a response from An Lòchran regarding An Lèanag and a further meeting with Gaelic Groups currently using it will be arranged shortly to discuss future use shortly.
- It was recommended to invite Soillse to speak to the Board and Scottish Government at the next meeting regarding the current research that's to be published later this year in order to better understand their findings and any recommendations for initiatives that may be considered useful.

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUP PROGRESS SINCE LAST MEETING:

- d) **Audit Committee** – JS is keeping an eye on audit recommendations.
- Education Committee** – JW updated Members. Early Years Strategy is currently being updated. Discussion took place on the current Scottish Government Education Review and the Board's response to the associated public consultation. MW to circulate associated papers to all Members for information.
- BOR** – Chair AMD gave an update on the actions from this working group including scoping possibility of moving to 3-year funding agreements with main funded organisations and major projects, service level agreements for Gaelic Language Plans with public bodies.
- BOE** – JD updated Members on actions. Further to a meeting with MAK Josh Dixon of Royal Conservatoire of Scotland has agreed to meet with the Ceannard.
- BOA** – DMS gave Members an update on how communications are to be improved.

2 EDUCATION

a) SCHEME OF SPECIFIC GRANTS FOR EDUCATION & CAPITAL PROJECTS

DA explained the process of dealing with Gaelic Education Grant issues, which was established in 1986. Although Local Authorities are encouraged to cover Gaelic within general education budgets, this fund allows for expansions and gives capital assistance to new initiatives. Members asked if information regarding funding bids could be shared with the Board and HIE to help achieve a joint approach to supporting Gaelic education initiatives. Reinstating the joint approach to evaluation of bids for Specific Grant between SG, Education Scotland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig was strongly recommended as it would ensure that successful applications are fully supported once funding has been allocated.

Chair thanked DA for compiling the information. It was helpful to understand the various funding options that is available from SG directly,

b) STATUTORY GUIDANCE FOR GAELIC EDUCATION

MW spoke to the paper. Amendments were noted for Point 2 in the Gaelic version. She informed Members that the GLAN toolkit is being improved ahead of distribution to Local Authorities.

3 GAELIC DEVELOPMENT

a) GAELIC LANGUAGE PLANS

PT1 East Renfrewshire Council (ERC)

DB explained the modifications to the Gaelic Language Plan. Members approved the plan on the understanding that the foreword could be improved to be more positive toward Gaelic.

3 b) HIGH LEVEL AIMS

DB presented the paper to Members. Recommendations by the Gaelic Usage Committee had been communicated back to the organisations and the Members are asked to consider these amended and improved versions. Members asked that the wording in these HLA's, issued to Public bodies whilst preparing their statutory GLPs, be strengthened by changing "we would like" to "we have agreed" or the "The Board recommends".

PT1 UHI

Members agreed to the high-level aims.

PT2 South Lanarkshire Council (2nd iteration)

Members agreed to the high-level aims.

PT3 HIAL (2nd iteration)

Members agreed to the high-level aims.

PT4 VisitScotland (3rd iteration)

Members agreed to the high-level aims

3 c) RESEARCH PROJECT: PR17-01 RESEARCH INTO FACILITATING CONVERSATION BETWEEN LEARNERS AND FLUENT SPEAKERS

DB presented the paper, which had been considered by the Gaelic Usage Committee.

After further discussion Members agreed to refer the research brief back to be strengthened in order to ensure equally represented views from both Gaelic learners and native speakers. Clarity also sought as to whether this project is driven by Wilson MacLeod through Edinburgh University or independently. To be considered after amendments at the March Board meeting.

It was also agreed that findings from the Soillse CNES research may assist in outlining a possible new research project brief, the findings of which would be useful along with PR17-01.

4 AOCB

With no additional business presented Chair thanked everyone for their time and contribution and brought the meeting to a close at 17.35.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig
Minute of Board Meeting
St Kilda Boardroom, Great Glen House, Inverness
Thursday 07/12/10/17 09:30 – 12:30

Members

Allan MacDonald (Chair)	(AMD)	Attending:	
Allan Campbell	(AC)	Shona MacLennan (Ceannard)	(SML)
Donald MacSween	(DMS)	David Boag	(DB)
Fiona Dunn	(FD)	Mona Wilson	(MW)
Jim Whannel	(JW)	Ailig Graham (Budget papers)	(AG)
Johann Smith	(JS)	Carol Johnson (Minute)	
Joy Dunlop	(JD)		
Mary Ann Kennedy	(MAK)		

OPENING ITEMS

Apologies were recorded for Mary MacInnes, Jennifer Gilmour, Donald MacLeod and Douglas Ansdell.

5 FINANCE

a) FINANCE REPORT TO 31/10/2017

Ceannard spoke to the Finance Report presented. Underspends are being closely monitored and any in Running Cost budgets will be transferred to Development Costs should they continue, as permitted by SG. Senior Management Team are monitoring these on a monthly basis. Through their monitoring additional project applications are being presented at this meeting, to utilise identified underspends.

b) BUDGETS FOR 2018-19-2021-21

AG spoke to the paper, based on assumptions on Spending Review findings due shortly from Scottish Government. Running cost implications related to staff salaries was discussed, with BnG aligning their terms for staff SG pay policy. Noted that the Pay Remit will now run from 1st April annually, in line with core business funding.

6 GRANTS

Members considered the recommendations as per DB's paper on grant applications from the main funded Gaelic organisations and projects, where they had been invited to scope out additional development projects for which funding could be considered. The exercise had been considered very useful and seen as fresh method of approaching their funding requirements in the future.

Members approved the recommendations for grant funding as presented.

7 NATIONAL GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN (2017-22)

SML gave Members an update on the progress with the NGLP. Legal Department at Scottish Government (SG) have made recommendations which will be actioned. Approval is anticipated early in the New Year, once fully reviewed by SG. Members noted the recommendation to move the Implementation Plan and Corporate Plan to become appendices rather than part of the actual document itself. This would however allow for case studies etc to be updated more frequently than the life of the full NGLP itself and was seen as a positive recommendation.

8 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

a) RISK MANAGEMENT - STRATEGIC RISK REGISTER

Updates to the register were discussed briefly. Members will be considering the issue of Risk Management more fully at their meeting in June, taking into account considerations for the new NGLP.

9 OPPORTUNITIES

ISLANDS BILL

Members discussed the response submitted to the Islands Bill public consultation.

10 AOCB

Possible BnG Gaelic Language Plan

11 Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution.