

**Bòrd na Gàidhlig**  
**Minutes of Board Meeting**  
**Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula**  
**05/06/2018 11.00 – 16.30**

**Members**

Allan MacDonald (Chairman)	(AMD)
Allan Campbell	(AC)
Donald MacLeod	(DML)
Donald MacSween	(DMS)
Fiona Dunn	(FD)
Jennifer Gilmour	(JG)
Jim Whannel	(JW)
Johan Smith	(JS)
Joy Dunlop	(JD)
Mary MacInnes	(MMI)
Mary Ann Kennedy	(MAK)

**Attending:**

Shona MacLennan (Ceannard)	(SML)
David Boag	(DB)
Mona Wilson ( <i>Items 1-3 only</i> )	(MW)
John Morrison	(JM)
Douglas Ansdell (Sponsor Division SG)	(DA)
Carol Johnson (Minutes)	

**1.0 PRELIMINARIES**

**1.1 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair gave a warm welcome to the Members and to John Morrison and Douglas Ansdell to the meeting in Uist.

There were no apologies to record.

**1.2 Declaration of Interests**

The following declarations of interest were made with regard to matters appearing on the agenda.

AC, DML & JD - An Comunn Gàidhealach  
MMI – Ceòlas  
DML – CNES  
JS – Gaelic Books Council  
DMS – Stòrlann

**1.3 Minutes of Meetings 7&8/3/2018 and 8/5/2018**

The Minutes were approved.

**1.4 Matters Arising**

Actions updates:

It was confirmed that the grant awards team will distribute award information to Members on all funding quarterly.

**1.5 There were no additional matters to be raised under AOCB**

**1.6 CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair updated Members on developments since the last meeting. The debate in Parliament had been a success and had offered the opportunity to raise the profile of the language and brief the MSPs present on Gaelic matters.

**Actions:**

- SML and DB should take the opportunity to highlight issues linked to Gaelic, through the Bòrd's response to the consultation on the Islands Bill which is going through Parliament at present.

## 1.8 CEANNARD'S REPORT

The Ceannard informed members of progress with various matters since the last Board Meeting.

### Actions:

- Social Media Strategy is to be developed, to provide guidance to Members and staff on how best to use social media in a way that ensures individuals and the organisation are protected.
- SML to distribute the response that she sent to the Human Rights Commission to Members for their information.
- SML and MM to circulate the agenda for meetings of the Cross-Party Group to Members for their information.

## 1.9 Communications in the Future by John Morrison, Morrison Media Strategies

JM gave a presentation to Members on the opportunities and challenges which the Board should consider, with recommendations for the strategy to be prepared on the use of and working with social media. AMD thanked him for the information and advice that he had given the Board at an important time and noted that further discussions were required with regard to marketing.

## 2.0 GAELIC DEVELOPMENT

### 2.1 Gaelic Language Plans

- PT1 Highland Council – approved.
- PT2 Scottish Parliament – approved.
- PT3 Historic Environment Scotland – approved.

### Actions:

- SML, DB and AMD to meet with Highland Council, to see if Gaelic can be strengthened within the Council area, and to support the new working group that the Council has announced which will prepare a new Gaelic Strategy for the Council.
- When 50 statutory plans have been approved, DB and MM should prepare a news release to mark that milestone.

### 2.2 New Plans

Following a discussion, it was agreed to proceed as follows:

### Actions:

- DB and the plans team to arrange for a formal request to be sent to Strathclyde Passenger Transport to prepare a Gaelic Language Plan.
- DB to invite MG ALBA and the BBC to prepare voluntary Gaelic Language Plans.
- AMK to update the Gaelic Policy instead of preparing a Gaelic Language Plan.

## 3.0 FUNDING

### 3.1 The following funding applications were approved:

PT1	Theatre Gu Leòr – approved (Budget 103051)	£48,595
PT2	GLAIF Recommendations 18-19: Highland Council 0-3 Strategic Partnership (18/19 – 80% (£42,000) and 19/20 – 20% (£10,500) Budget 102021)	£52,500

### Action:

- Organisations receiving funding should be advised on how they can strengthen their advertising and promotion and that they should show clearly that Bòrd na Gàidhlig has supported their project.

***MW left the meeting***

## **4.0 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### **4.1 Corporate Plan 2018-23**

The Plan was approved, and JS will forward spelling corrections to SML.

The Chair thanked all those involved in the preparation of the Corporate and Operational Plans.

#### **Actions:**

- Following the corrections, SML should submit the Corporate Plan 2018-23 to the Minister for final approval.
- Following Ministerial approval, the Plan should be published on the Bòrd's website, and a copy should be sent to every organisation which has a Gaelic Language Plan.
- The Plan should be circulated among the Main Gaelic Organisations in advance of the meeting at the end of June.

### **4.2 Operational Plan 2018-19**

The Operational Plan for 2018-19 was approved, with the recommendation that the text for secondary education should be strengthened in next year's plan 2019-20, to show that we aim to increase pupil numbers.

#### **Action:**

- SML to make an amendment with regard to pupil numbers for the Operational Plan for 2019-20.

### **4.3 Gaelic Plans Panel Membership and Terms of Reference**

The recommendations for membership of the Gaelic Plans Panel drawn from the Use of Gaelic Committee and Learning Committee were approved as follows:

Chair of the Use of Gaelic Committee, MMI, and MAK

Chair of the Learning Committee, JW, and JG for a year and then JD thereafter.

A review of how this is working should be made within 3-4 months. The Chair, AMD, confirmed that people with specialist knowledge can be invited to join meetings as and when required.

#### **Action:**

- DB to review how membership of the Panel is working in September.

The Chair recorded the Bòrd's appreciation for the extremely valuable work that MW had done for the organisation over the last two years as Director of Gaelic Education, as she had informed the Bòrd that she will be leaving her post to take up a new role with UHI.

With that, the formal proceedings of the meeting came to a close at 16.45.

**Bòrd na Gàidhlig**  
**Minutes of Board Meeting**  
**Dark Island Hotel, Benbecula**  
**06/06/2018 09.00 – 12.00**

**Members**

Allan MacDonald (Chairman) (AMD)  
Allan Campbell (AC)  
Donald MacLeod (DML)  
Donald MacSween (DMS)  
Fiona Dunn (FD)  
Jennifer Gilmour (JG)  
Jim Whannel (JW)  
Johan Smith (JS)  
Joy Dunlop (JD)  
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**Attending:**

Shona MacLennan (Ceannard) (SML)  
David Boag (DB)  
John Morrison (JM)  
Douglas Ansdell (Sponsor Division SG) (DA)  
Carol Johnston (Minutes)  
Iain Campbell, Soillse (IC)  
Conchúr O Gilligan, Soillse (COG)  
Theona Morrison (TM)

**5.1 PRESENTATION FROM SOILLSE – THE STATE OF GAELIC**

**The Chair welcomed Iain Campbell and Conchúr O Gilligan from Soillse to the meeting.**

Their community research, which had taken three years to draw together, looked in detail at the situation in Scalpay, Grimsay and Eriskay. Local initiatives were discussed, and questions raised regarding the various issues that may arise from the findings, when the research is scheduled for release later in 2018. They confirmed that they would work closely with the Bòrd on any issues which may arise from the research, and on how the research is to be publicised.

The Board thanked Soillse for attending and sharing information with the Board, and for their work on the research project.

**Actions:**

- DB and the Soillse team will together try to manage matters surrounding the publication of the research findings, in order to keep the Board informed and to deal with questions that may arise from the findings.
- A dedicated Working Group will be established to consider the information from the research, and Soillse will be invited to another meeting following the publication of the research findings to look at initiatives and consider ways in which communities can be further empowered.

**5.2 PRESENTATION FROM THEONA MORRISON**

The Chair, AMD, welcomed Theona Morrison to the meeting who works with a youth initiative in Uist. Following an interesting presentation by Theona, Members had the opportunity to ask questions about projects and initiatives in the area.

AMD thanked her for the presentation and the interesting and encouraging information which demonstrated the strength of Gaelic growth in Uist.

## **7.0 NATIONAL GAELIC LANGUAGE PLAN 2018-23**

### **Review of Gaelic**

The Ceannard, SML, gave a summary of the preparatory work that was ongoing for the meeting with the Minister and public bodies in August in Perthshire. Local Authorities and public bodies have confirmed that they will be present.

It is hoped that between 3-5 specific initiatives will be launched as a result of the meeting, which will involve partnership working to make progress in various sectors linked to Gaelic and targeting areas for growth. The Government team is going to issue guidance beforehand to those attending so that they are prepared to contribute to the initiatives.

## **7.0 FINANCE**

### **7.1 Draft of the Annual Report and Finance Report to 31/03/2018**

Members considered the draft Annual Report which had been compiled with support from James Munro. The audit team from Deloitte had confirmed verbally to the Ceannard that the audit had gone well.

#### **Action:**

- Recommendations for amendments should be sent to SML before 15/06 and recommendations from Members of the Audit Committee to be submitted before Wednesday 13/06.

## **8.0 DRAFT MINUTES OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

### **For Information**

Draft Minutes from the most recent meetings:

PT1 Learning Committee

PT2 Use of Gaelic Committee

PT3 Governance Working Group

The Board noted the information from the meetings.

## **9.0 AOCB**

There were no other matters to record.

## **10.0 DATE OF NEXT BOARD MEETING**

12&13/09/2018 - Glasgow

The Chair thanked the Members and the officers and staff for the work they do in preparing the papers and information for Board Meetings and remarked that it had been most useful to have the opportunity to meet with the community and young people of Uist, and he brought the meeting to a close at 11.45am.