

## **Coinneamh Comann nam Pàrant (Nàiseanta)**

**Disathairne 11 An t-Ògmhios**

**12md**

**Coinneamh Zoom**

### **An làthair**

Magaidh Wentworth (Comann nam Pàrant)  
Innes MacQueen (Comann nam Pàrant)  
Fiona Stephens (Vice-Chair, Edinburgh))  
Isobel Taylor (Dunoon)  
Will Clem (Nairn)  
Sarah Thomas (Stirling)  
Marsaili Dow (Treasurer)  
Joanne McHale (Education Manager, Bòrd na Gàidhlig)  
Kirsteen Murray (Comann nam Pàrant)  
Gill Steele (Secretary, Aberfeldy)  
Evelyn Coull MacLeod (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar)  
Wilma Laird (Edinburgh)

#### **1. Leisgeulan / Apologies**

Helen MacKinnon & Lewis Laing

#### **2. Geàrr-chunntas na Coinneimh 17 Màirt 2022 / Minutes of Meeting 17 March 2022**

Minutes approved by Committe

#### **3. Gnothaichean ag èiridh nach eil air a' Chlàr-chùisean / Matters Arising not on agenda;**

No matters arising

#### **4. Fios as ùr bho Chomann nam Pàrant / Update from Comann Nam Pàrant**

Statutory guidance. Renfrewshire have appointed a principal teacher. 5 pupils due to start in Aug, Paisley. We will do some promotion.

Welcoming comments for the languages act. To do list to lodge comments as recommend by Claire Cullen.

## 5. Fios as ùr bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig / Update from Bòrd na Gàidhlig

### Teacher numbers

23 NQT's starting in August years (5 of those are secondary, 18 Primary.) Slightly reduced on previous years however the number of NQTs in English Medium has also reduced.

### Newly Qualified Teachers Conference

NQT conference will take place next week for both Primary and Secondary Probationers.

Input from various organisations – SMO, Education Scotland, Primary & Secondary teachers

### New provision

- Applecross
- Renfrewshire

### Other consultations

- Plana Gàidhlig Comhairle Baile Ghlaschu:  
<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=29268>

### Local Authorities

Highland Council – Nairn have been in touch to discuss transport to Secondary provision and teacher provision.

3-18 campus – Inverness. Still on agenda and hoping to do a feasibility

South Lanarkshire Council issues regarding secondary transport.

Argyll & Bute Council – Early Years has restarted in Oban which will hopefully have a positive impact on numbers within GME

Stirling – As Jim advised we have written to Stirling awaiting a response.

### Dèan Diofar Tràth-bhliadhnaichean

Early Years promotional campaign will be run similar to what was done for teachers to attract more early year's workers.

### Scottish Learning Festival

Bòrd na Gàidhlig are working with Education Scotland and are proposing 3 sessions at the Scottish Learning Festival:

- Focus on L3 and on the various ways this can be developed in line with commitments within Gaelic Language plans
- Developing Pupils' Language: Teaching Language Through Subjects. Looking at strategies to help develop pupils language skills.

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5 Mitchell Lane, Inverness | IV2 3HQ Tel: 01463 234138 | Fax: 01463 237470 | Mobile: 07771834481

- Launch of Deàn Diofar Campaign

### **Resources Review**

Research into resources in GME – where are the gaps etc. Influence future work.

### **Funding**

Early Years funding currently – deadline 21st July

Gaelic Education Grants – open now.

## **6. Cùisean aig Ìre Ionadail / Issue at Local level:**

Fiona Stephens: Edinburgh, local election has meant little movement on dedicated secondary. Considering a short-term working group to continue looking at a standalone secondary school. A new depute head for Gaelic has been appointed at James Gillespie's which is welcomed.

Will Clem (Nairn): Community events are ongoing to take Gaelic out with the classroom. Shinty using Gaelic in the coaching etc.

Communication continues back-and-forth between Highland Council regarding issues in Nairn. MSP was assisting although with a new SNP local council it has now gone to local councillors. Issues include, language assistants to support the level of Gaelic in the classrooms. Number of teachers is inconsistent and unclear what provision will be after August with one teacher going on Mat. Leave. A student teacher in the school has been very welcome. Parents are keen to know how Highland Council are they spending the covid recovery fund.

Transport issue with one family who expected transport to IRA. Highland Council say that they will not provide it due to Nairn already have Gaelic language provision. Joanne updated that they are looking to provide geography in the Nairn and should be looking now to develop provision within Nairn. Magaidh informed committee it was a long battle to get Gaelic provision in Nairn Academy. This should be made clear to parents from the primary school that this is the only option and council will not provide transport to IRA.

Isabel Taylor (Nairn): Well done to the Grammar school on receiving the Gaelic Award at the Education Awards. Teacher crisis in the primary school, however. 1 teacher is retiring, another is going on Mat leave and principal Gaelic teacher is currently acting Head Teacher. Some parents not enrolling their children into P1 now due to teacher shortage. Local authority have known that the teachers were retiring and going on Mat leave, why is their posts not advertised?

Evelyn Coull MacLeod (Comhairle nan Eilean Siar) : New post established and gone through HR: 'Gaelic Language Acquisition Practitioner'. Apprentice delivered through Sabhal mòr. Piolet but hopeful that this will continue and that other LA will use this model. Evelyn to send further information to Innes about these posts.

Evelyn thanked the work that CnP officers are doing. Early years coordinator appointed within the council.

Gill Steele (Aberfeldy): The Gaelic budget has been doubled from the Local Authority and a 2<sup>nd</sup> full time secondary teacher is being recruited for Aberfeldy, which is very welcomed. Numbers doing Gaelic Learners are very strong also within the Secondary School. 4 pupils coming into P1 which is a direct response from the creation of nursery provision, which is very encouraging.

Sarah Thomas (Stirling): New full time Gaelic teacher appointed who will be starting in August. Hopeful of a probationer also. Very welcomed with P6/7 class been without a Gaelic teacher since Christmas. Patchy provision between supply and Secondary teacher.

Now Gaelic playground art, a small step but makes Gaelic more visible round the school. The local CnP group all had a stall advertising GME at a Jubilee event.

#### **7. Treasurer's report:**

Submitted to the group beforehand. Balance as of 06/06/22 is £2660.52

#### **8. GIBSE / AOCB**

No other business

**MEETING CLOSED**