

Comann nam Pàrant (Dùn Èideann is Lodainn)

Minutes

11 October 2021

Present:

Harriet Baker
Saidhbhín Bhreatnach
Rosalind Heron
Orla Hobson
Padraic Kinsella
Wilma Laird
Barbie Lyon
Johnnie MacLeod
Sharon May

Apologies:

Saidhbhín Bhreatnach
Kevin Leetion
Natasha Lee Walsh
Seamus Spencer
Fiona Stephen

1. Fàilte agus cur an aithne / welcome and apologies

- Sharon May welcomed the committee.

2. Nòtaichean / minutes of last meeting

- Thanks to Saidhbhín and Harriet for minutes from last meeting.

3. Naidheachd / Update

a) Letter to Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills:

- No response to this letter or from the Council

b) Aberdeen GME consultation: response sent last week, thank you to Brian Thunder for his contribution in helping to draft this. Final version can be viewed here:

<https://cnpduneideannblog.files.wordpress.com/2021/10/response-to-aberdeen-consultation-october-2021.pdf>

c) Visit to Darroch, 29 September 2021:

- Sharon visited JGHS to discuss how JGHS go about using Darroch in August 2022
- Sharon emailed to introduce Donald MacDonald, Donna MacIver and Laura Stewart to Natasha Lee Walsh and Seamus Spencer (PC Chairs, Taobh na Pàirce) who have responded to set up a date for the meeting
- Sharon meeting Donna Wednesday 13 October to discuss staffing – what CNP can do to help / support this
- See Proposal for JGHS secondary subgroup below
- **ACTION:** Harriet to send round email re Darroch points that have been discussed and group can work out next steps.
- **Questions for Donna MacIver:** additional support for learning for GME students – how robust this is (requires a lot of resource even in EME but what support is there for GME pupils who have additional needs), ask re transition (quality of Gaelic at P6

and P7 level and what impact of Covid-19 lockdown has been), if these students are to then go to a setting like Darroch what is the plan for them. Transition has worked well in the past but need to query how it will work now, with staffing pressures, Covid-19 restrictions etc, and how to support the transition at TnP

4. Planaichean / Next steps

a. Information for new families – Update from Harriet.

- Set a deadline: end of 27 October for final amends to text for the GME in Edinburgh booklet. Design and final amends to follow this.
- Guide to Statutory Consultation booklet – hold off and instead start from a more distilled version via Classlist and other channels and build up parents becoming more informed. This will be followed by a short guide / explainer on statutory consultation – early years, primary, secondary and what it means for each age.
- **ACTION:** Harriet to draft the above

b. Plan for campaign/writing to Councillors/MSPs etc:

- Discussed at last meeting writing directly to Councillors / MPS – re SNP candidates
- Kevin / Padraic / Saidhbhín: no update as yet
- Note: May 22 is local elections

c. GIG 2 November 2021

- CNP to create list of questions to raise at this to be added to Council agenda

d. City Vision: Padraic Kinsella introduced an overview of the City Plan 2030 with respect to Education and GME:

- Increased focus on developing on brownfield sites (rather than greenfield sites) and within city boundaries– conscious move to develop within the city
- Council raises funds for education infrastructure via developer contributions where development is likely to generate more demand for school places.
- The Council does not have a model for pupil generation rate specific to GME.
- Paper drafted to allow CNPDE to query the rationale for this and draw attention to other elements of the plan which we feel are of interest to the development of GME.
- It was surprising to see – for example - a new primary and nursery option being proposed at Jane Street, demonstrating that the Council has land adjacent to Taobh na Pàirce which has never entered discussions for a GME high school.
 - 20 min neighbourhoods / placemaking etc – an increasingly interdisciplinary approach is being taken by the Council with community in mind, this should equally apply to GME communities.
- Public presentation period – this might offer the opportunity for CNPDE to make these points.
- It was also noted that the GDO was meant to provide a holistic position rather than just in the cultural sector (libraries etc). It is not having the impact across the different areas of the Council – the corporate role of GDO has not been realised. Joined up thinking much more prevalent at Glasgow City Council with Gaelic.
- **ACTION:** Padraic to lead on this, refresh / finish what has already been drafted – asking Council to consider GME in the same way as other schools as it is part of the estate.

5. Dàilean agus planaichean / AGM and parent meeting plans

a. Date: 17 November 7pm via Zoom

- Committee members and recruitment of others/what we need

- We need to see what we're wanting to undertake, how feasible this is and how we can look at our own experience and knowledge within the group.
- Whether current roles (Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer) wish to remain in post, nominate self for roles, any specific areas would like to support.
- Also seek a network of people we can draw on. CNP needs different experiences and viewpoints, as well as voice and energy.
- Need someone to audit CNP accounts. **ACTION:** Orla to follow up
- Planning for the next year and list of priorities for the next year – themes and subgroups etc – comms and engagement, day to day, stat consultation work and research, City Vision etc, secondary group, increased Gaelic speakers for press/media– this needs to be available by Monday 25 October at the very latest

ii. Notice to be out 21 days before AGM

b. Meeting of parents beforehand (before AGM)

- **Purpose of meeting:** what do we want people to know and how do we answer questions, suggestion it is informal, purpose is to share knowledge and build community. **ACTION:** Harriet to ask Saidhbhín re this. It is about the role and remit of CNP
- **Content of meeting (see powerpoint)** – Needs to be decided by time Agenda for AGM goes out .

6. Comann nam Pàrant Nàiseanta: (update provided by Fiona via email)

- CnP Nàiseanta meeting with key stakeholders is scheduled for 17 November 2021. Prof Ken Muir coming to talk at this. It is significant that he has chosen to do this and CnP Nàiseanta is delighted. If the CNPDE committee could think about anything they want raised, please let Fiona know. Fiona will contact JGHS and TnP for input from staff also for this.
- National meeting scheduled for early December. No agenda yet but Fiona will update when it is available.
- Thanks from the national team for support with the Aberdeen consultation, contributing to areas outwith our own local areas is appreciated and it is useful to make Aberdeen Council aware that others outwith the area are responding to the consultation and taking note of the decision-making.

7. Airgeadas / Finance (need auditing):

- add CNP funding to agenda at the next meeting

8. Gnothach sam bith eile / AOB

- Education, Children and Families Committee: next one is 12 October 2021. Deputations must relate to an agenda point. Next one is set up to have received response from Scot Gov (7 December). Can CNP contact Alison Dickie and ask for heads up prior to December meeting.

9. Ceann-latha na h-ath choinneimh / Date of the next meeting

- Planning pre AGM public meeting – Thursday 4 November 2021
- Next committee meeting – Tuesday 30 November 2021