

Kovnotyansow / Minutes

Meeting Title: Dalva an Yeth Kernewek / Cornish Language Forum
Date: 15 mis Hedra 2016 / 15 October 2016
Time: 10.00-13.00
Location: 2N:03, Lys Kernow, Truro / 2N:03, County Hall, Truro
Chaired by: Merv Davey (Bardh Meur / Grand Bard)

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**Gwrians
/Action**

1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks

The Grand Bard, Merv Davey (MD) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He noted that with upcoming local government elections in 2017, the Cornish language may be in a difficult situation over the next 18 months. This forum meeting would go towards preparing the community for this eventuality.

2 Minutes of last meeting

- There was a comment that some points in the draft minutes were not explained clearly enough, including:
 - The Minutes did not accurately reflect the anger and frustration expressed by the community concerning Cornwall Council (CC) performance.
 - The forum voted that CC would produce documents prior to the meeting.
 - Documents would be published one month prior to this meeting.
 - Details of the education contract with Golden Tree would be made available by Will Coleman.
 - The communications and marketing in the Golden Tree contract only related to education.

Otherwise, the minutes dated 23 April 2016 were agreed as an accurate representation. The matters arising would be discussed during the course of the meeting.

3 2016/7 Cornish language programme overview – CC

- Mark Trevethan (MT) gave a presentation about the language office's work since the last forum meeting.
 - The main focus had been finding a solution to the government's funding decision. Cllr German confirmed CC would be funding part of the programme, but this meant the project start dates were delayed.
 - Papers including the strategy, operational plan and CC language plan were now available on the Cornish language office's website (<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/cornishlanguage>) alternatively search for 'Cornish language' on the CC website homepage.
 - The bilingual MAGA website (<http://www.magakernow.org.uk>) had been transferred to the CC's main website. The old MAGA website will stay online until the end of 2016. Everyone was asked to feedback any issues or missing content on the new website.
 - All the delivery arrangements from the 2015 review are now in place.
- A handout titled 'Overview of the Cornish language programme 2016/17' was provided at the meeting.
 - Slides shown at the meeting would be uploaded early next week.
 - The 5 year objectives were described as overall targets for the language that all organisations could work together to achieve.

ACTION: Upload the documents and slides shown at the Language Forum.

MT

4 Language use – social innovation

a) Porkellis project

- Pol Hodge (PH) gave a report on the work of the Porkellis project.
 - Porkellis was a completely different language hub model compared to the one proposed by Golden Tree.
 - Work had already started in Halwin primary school to deliver weekly Cornish classes. This was earlier than planned in the programme; a term of classes had already been provided to the school.
 - Thanks were given to both Esther Johns and Dee Harris for their help in the school and developing the resources and

- to The Star Inn for their support.
- Further work included an education pack and additional community involvement.
- Will any of the resources produced by this project be made available for use in any school?
 - This work has generated resources suitable for both school teachers and community educators.
- There was anecdotal evidence of the project's success including:
 - A family that heard about the work were planning to move schools so their child can learn Cornish.
 - Awareness of the work had reached the Wendron parish council.
- How are testimonial pieces like these being captured?
 - There was a plan for teachers and parents to provide feedback on the project.
- What is the general attitude from teachers towards the language?
 - Teachers were generally positive about the language along with the students learning. The teaching assistants have also been helpful producing resources and in the classes.

b) Lowender Peran

- Jowdy Davey (JD) gave some background on Lowender Peran and explained the projects which would work towards normalising the Cornish language at the 2016 festival.
 - Lowender Peran is part of the FEAST festivals network; there was an upcoming networking meeting, providing an ideal opportunity to share experience.
- Will this project produce resources that can be used by other festivals?
 - The finished Kensa Keskan video would provide recordings for other choirs to learn from.
 - Jowdy will be attending the upcoming Feast festivals network meeting to discuss disseminating Cornish language resources.

c) Cornish Quest – Cornish language festival Feb/Mar 17 (Big Lottery Funded)

- Jane Howells (JH) discussed the work of Cornish Quest and their plans for a Cornish language festival in 2017.
 - Successfully bid for £10,000 of Big Lottery Funding, it will

- run in the Acorn theatre in Penzance for all nine days of the project.
- Discussions were already underway with the Penzance St Piran committee and Golden Tree to discuss the way forward.
- Contributors were asked to come forward with any suggestions on how to develop the festival. Display material would also be useful and there is an allowance available to prepare printed resources.
- What are the social media links for this project?
 - There will be dedicated Facebook and Twitter pages.
- Could you discuss your experience of the fund?
 - This grant comes from the 'Celebrate fund', there was only a short form to complete and Cornish Quest may have had an advantage in being an early applicant.

5 Language use – media and technology

a) Radyo an Gernewegva (RanG)

- Matthew Clarke delivered the first part of his talk in Cornish.
 - He is looking for people to help him produce Cornish language content for the online service; this would also bring new voices to the programme. Jerry Jefferies and Ash Taylor were already signed up, but still searching for another person in west Cornwall. These people will act as reporters in different parts in Cornwall, if someone wants to record a piece for the programme they can get it recorded locally; lessening the workload for MC. Jenefer Lowe had also been working with RanG as a part of this.
 - A survey was sent out asking the public about their usage of RanG, along with more general questions about usage and language. 67 responses had been received at the time of the meeting, but the survey would be left open for more responses.
 - During the 2016 Skians conference, a talk discussed the need for daily media updates; this was not currently possible, but it would serve as a future target.
- Is RanG planning to continue providing a simplified version of the regular radio programme?
 - Three editions of this have now gone out. Feedback would be useful to hear how useful it is especially for Cornish classes that can use it as a resource.

6 Acquisition

a) Learning and Communication – Golden Tree

- Will Coleman (WC) gave an update on the Golden Tree overall work and the learning and communication contract. The full presentation from Golden Tree would be made available after the meeting.

ACTION: Upload the Golden Tree presentation and operational plan.

WC

- There were targets in place regarding Golden Tree's use of the Cornish language.
- Golden Tree will take on the creation of an online Cornish language portal, helping people to navigate aspects of the language.
- A new fleet of buses will be launched in the New Year, with each one having a Cornish name.

Groundwork

- Pol Hodge has been appointed as the Cornish Learning Lead and Golden Tree are contacting lead language groups to discuss the programme over the next few weeks.
- Golden Tree are reviewing existing teaching resources and identifying gaps in provision.
 - More Tales from Porth is much more advanced than the first books, so GT are looking at bridging this by producing Porth 1½ so that it forms a more coherent package for schools. GT are also finding that the books are suitable for a wider age range, especially with younger children, than intended.
 - GT will be developing an app and are looking at the Learn Gaelic website (<http://learngaelic.net/>) as a template. The look and content would be developed to suit Cornish but at this stage feedback was invited on the existing course on Learn Gaelic.
- Golden Tree would collaborate with the Porkellis project, which has funding available for a trip to another country with a minority language. This could be a trip to Scotland with part of the journey discussing this course.

Delivery

- Golden Tree's projects over summer 2016 included Kernewek and raised the profile of the language:

- 149,600 people at the Man Engine events heard the Haka Balweyth (Cornish Mining Chant). The five looping clips, produced by Brett Harvey, shown inside the Trailblazer bus have received more than 17,000 views on Vimeo.
- Ash Taylor provided an update on his work as a youth ambassador on the Tosta project.
 - Tosta was part of the Donostia / San Sebastián 2016 European Capital of Culture. It was a 'pop-up' festival visiting destinations around the region; it included a band with a Cornish singer. Cornish was well represented on this project, especially regarding the films produced around Falmouth. A sample of this was shown at the meeting. All acts were introduced bilingually while in Cornwall, whereas introductions in Ireland were only English. The evaluation report was still being prepared.
- A weekly/biweekly lesson will run live on Facebook for engagement and then be uploaded for future use.
- What is happening with the Say Something in Cornish course?
 - Pol Hodge and Mike Tresidder were working on this course. It was now an entirely new system, with phrase fragments being fed into a computer programme.

Clusters

- Golden Tree will be identifying a cluster in Year 1 as part of an eventual network of 3 clusters across Cornwall.

Public relations

- Katherine George has been appointed as the social media manager appointed under the Learning and Communications contract. Katherine is a resource for all and will be developing positive online messaging.
 - Anyone needing help or advice on social media was welcome to contact Katherine.
- It is important that Cornish is spelled correctly in messaging. Can there be a system for providing feedback?
 - An email inbox would be created specifically for feedback from the community to avoid the need for online discussions about spelling.

b) Ros Dyski

- Ros Dyski was established to provide support for Cornish language teachers, where many have not been trained as teachers.

- The next teachers' day is the 29 October 2016; please let Maureen Pierce know if you are attending for the catering.
- If you would like to join Ros Dyski, visit the website (<http://www.teachcornish.com>) and send an email with your details.
- Will there be an updated class survey?
 - The language office will discuss the class survey with Ros Dyski.

7 Corpus

a) Akademi Kernewek – establishment of the Akademi, work programme, partnership with Exeter University, dictionary

- Jori Ansell, chair of Akademi Kernewek provided an update on their work.
 - The Akademi was expected to register as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) very soon. This would feature a two-tier structure, including a board of trustees including Cllr Julian German, Cornwall Council; Dr Garry Tregidga, Exeter University and two more to be confirmed. The second tier would be the Akademi itself with around ten members.
 - There have been five Akademi management meetings since the forum and the other panels are holding their own meetings.
 - The signage panel has provided 1,769 bilingual road signs over the past five years.
 - The Akademi has purchased the TshwaneLex dictionary software.
 - A member of the research panel is compiling a full bibliography of Cornish language research.
 - The first list of words from terminology is now available on the Akademi website for public consultation.
 - The full report of the Akademi Kernewek will be uploaded on the Forum section of the Council website.

b) Gonis Treylya (Translation Service)

- Work was going well with close to 500 translations completed so far this year.
 - There was a need for new, younger translators as Jori Ansell and Rod Lyon would like to retire in the coming years. If you are interested in joining the service, please contact the language office.

8 Status

a) Cornwall Council Cornish Language Plan update

- Cornwall Council was continuing to lobby on the funding issue.
 - Ian Naysmith is now the officer responsible at DCLG (Department for Communities and Local Government) for the Cornish language.
 - The online petition for Cornish language funding is open until 21 October 2016; a response from the Government should be sent within 70 days of the petition reaching 10,000 signatures.
- John Pollard, Leader of the Council had written to the Council of Europe, updating them the lack of government support.
- In the past, the government has looked to MAGA to draft the European charter report; will the language office still provide this?
 - The Foreign Office has contacted Cornwall Council asking for a contact, this will be the language lead, Mark Trevethan.
 - The council was expecting to receive a questionnaire as sent to the other languages under the charter; community input will be requested before an official response.

b) Operational Plan update

- A full update on the Operational Plan has been uploaded to the Cornish Language office website as part of the forum papers.
- Pydar House in Truro is still being refurbished and bilingual signage is being installed as part of the project.
- Parish councils will be approached for examples of Cornish used as a local council level with a view to publicising good practice.
- The WJEC (Welsh Joint Education Committee) has confirmed its willingness to develop a Cornish language qualification. The first batch of entrants is expected in spring 2017.
- The first language planning & policy panel is booked in November 2016. The panel includes Rob Dunbar, University of Edinburgh; Meirion Prys Jones, Wales and Julie Matthews, Isle of Man.

9 Priorities for 2017/8 and key performance indicators – CC

- The aims from 2016/7 will continue into next year. The same calls will also go out for the social innovation and media and technology funds, this will allow a full year for delivery.
- Akademi Kernewek will finalise their 2017/18 work place in the autumn and Golden Tree have agreed year 2 outputs as part of their contract.
- Now that we have a bilingual template on the CC website, the language office will start to look at how to use the language elsewhere on the website. The Cornish language lead will work to raise awareness of Cornish in more departments and develop projects to use Cornish e.g. in transport and Kresen Kernow.
- What is happening with Kan rag Kernow 2017?
 - The 2017 event is going ahead and is being coordinated by Jenefer Lowe and Tanya Britton. It will take place on Friday 20 January 2017 in the Penventon Hotel, Redruth.
- What happened to this year's Speak Cornish Week?
 - It was well received in previous years, Golden Tree would be happy to organise this again.
- What is happening with the HLF (Heritage Lottery Fund) project Dasserghi Kernewek (Reviving Cornish)?
 - It is still in the programme, but the adjusted targets still need to be signed off by HLF.

10 Portfolio Holder for Economy and Culture

- Cllr Julian German explained that funding is still a key issue. CC continues to fund the language at a higher level; this will provide stability over the next 18 months.
 - Advocacy work has been done with funding bodies, such as the Arts Council to increase the awareness of Cornish.
 - Please bid for the language office grants opening for 2017.
 - While reminding central government of their responsibilities, alternative funding streams need to be identified.
 - Over the next 18 months, evidence will need to be gathered for other funders, demonstrating social benefits from the CC funding.
- Has there been any support from the Cornish MPs?
 - George Eustace and Sarah Newton have both expressed support for the Cornish language.

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- Mark Trevethan, along with ten others met with George Eustace.
- Thanks were passed on to John Pollard and to the council for their continued support for the language.
- The BBC recently renewed its charter, with named minority languages, whereas Cornish was missing from this list.
 - Formal representation had been made to have Cornish included in this list.
- Further thought was needed for future forum meetings.
 - The autumn meeting was meant for discussing the next year; it should look at and plan for the next year, whereas the spring meeting should be reviewing work done over the past year. It could be worthwhile moving the yearly meetings to May and another, later in autumn to plan the year ahead. Some people also felt more time was needed for discussion. The Cornish language lead agreed to look at moving the meetings to May/November.

ACTION: Investigate alternative options for future forum meetings including a larger venue.

MT

- Simultaneous translation was required for future meetings. The equipment was available, but could not find anyone able to provide the service.
- Thanks were given to Mark Trevethan and to all of the people that gave presentations during the day.

11 Chair's closing remarks

Meeting closed.