

Kovnotyansow / Minutes

Meeting Title: Dalva an Yeth Kernewek / Cornish Language Forum
Date: 3 mis Metheven 2017 / 3 June 2017
Time: 10.00-13.00
Location: Trelawny, Lys Kernow, Truru / Trelawny, County Hall, Truro
Chaired by: Merv Davey (Bardh Meur / Grand Bard)

Kovnotyansow / Minutes

**Gwrians
/Action**

1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks

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

The new Cornwall Council Cabinet has not yet been announced so the new portfolio holder could not attend the Forum.

2 Minutes of last meeting

- The minutes of the last meeting were read and agreed. Matters arising would be discussed during the meeting, with a chance to discuss remaining questions at the end of the meeting.

3 Report of 2016/17 programme

a. Overview of 2016/17 programme

- Mark Trevethan (MT) discussed the main points from the end of year report, noting that most of the meeting would be discussing the year to come.
 - The forum meeting was moved to June in an attempt to allow the portfolio member to attend the meeting, but the announcement was still pending.
 - The management structure within Cornwall Council (CC) had changed since the last forum meeting; MT explained all of the management structure above the language office was new in post, and that it would be part of his role to

ensure all levels of management are aware of the Cornish language programme. The new appointments are:

- John Betty – Economic Growth and Development strategic director;
 - Sandra Rothwell – Head of Service for Economic Growth and Development;
 - Emily Kent – Head of Economy, Skills and Culture (on secondment for Glenn Caplin);
- Julie Seyler (Culture Programme Manager) would be leaving the council at the end of July 2017.
- A delivery structure, created by Ken MacKinnon was shown to the forum; MT explained that he would revise this to make it easier to understand.
 - Concerns were raised that community interest groups (CIGs) appeared separate from the daily work in this structure, suggesting they do not play a role. This was also raised in regards to 'appendix a' in the 2017/18 operational plan, where CIGs are not referenced.

ACTION: MT to provide a revised version of the structure chart and include CIGs in appendix a of the 2017/18 operational plan.

**Mark
Trevethan**

- The translation service had taken on two new translators, Roger Courtenay and Rod Sheaff. The service was now also using translation memory software, which would eventually provide access to the full back-catalogue of completed translations. This has the potential for usage outside of the translation service.
 - After the website transition in January 2017, there was a noticeable drop in translation requests, but numbers had started to increase again in May 2017.
- Would it be possible to provide a public, read-only version of the translation memory?
 - The language office would look into the possibility of providing public access to the memory software. At the moment, this is being trialled with the translators and access limited to ensure all translations have been approved and not edited. Access to a machine translation system is a long term target for Cornish; Google translate requires one million phrases before they will introduce a language to their system.
- CC reapplied to the WJEC (Welsh Joint Education Committee) to proceed as an examination centre for the Cornish language.
 - There was some concern from the WJEC board about

- introducing Cornish, partly due to planned cuts to other languages from their examination programme.
- A minimum of ten entrants were promised at the 'entry' level, this was achieved in spring 2017 with over 30 entrants. Results are due in July 2017.
- Work rolling out the language plan within CC was ongoing, further work was required including collaboration with the communications team.
 - A draft design guide had been prepared, but needed further work for relevance in each department.
 - Pydar House (in Truro) now has bilingual signage throughout the building. All future Information Centres (formerly One-Stop Shops) should have Cornish on entrance signage as a minimum.

b. Project reports 2016/17

Lowender Peran

- Jowdy Davey (JD) gave a brief introduction to Lowender Peran, an annual festival held in Newquay. JD explained how the social activity funding allowed Cornish to feature as distinct elements at the 2016 event.
 - Kensa Kescan – held on the first night of the festival, it hosted Cornish community choirs singing in Cornish; there were around 150 people attending. The performances were uploaded later as a resource and include karaoke-style subtitles.
 - Postcard writing – around 300 postcards were distributed during the event, and a readership of approximately 1,000. The remaining postcard stock is now on sale at the Cornish shop in Falmouth.
 - HfC (Hall for Cornwall) Youth Dance collaborated with Gwenno to produce a contemporary Cornish dance, which incorporated the language.
- Lowender Peran report directly to the council, but it would be useful for the public to see an output and impact report, would it be possible to publish this?
 - The intention is to provide end of year reports publicly on the website for each funding recipient. A report template will also be provided to standardise the reported figures for the whole language programme.

Porkellis

- Pol Hodge (PH) reported on the Porkellis project, which started

in May 2016.

- The project started by providing a term of Cornish language lessons to Halwin school after a gap in MFL (Modern Foreign Language) coverage. Thanks were given to Loveday Jenkin for coordinating the early discussions. A Porth book went to each student and two SWF dictionaries went to the higher classes.
 - The project stressed the need to be as inclusive as possible. Events within the community included Yeth an Werins, bespoke teaching sessions, communal singing, a Christmas concert and a stall at Poldark mine. Images are available on the Kowethas website.
 - Resources include word searches, original art, a songbook, place-name sheets and the production of a Porkellis Furry song.
 - Thanks were given to all of the volunteers that helped with the project; PH noted that the work was provided by a group of highly skilled volunteers, which should be recorded.
- PH outlined some of the lessons learned during this project:
 - The geographical limits of the project were never set, leaving some ambiguity to the range of work required.
 - It was important to have local support; the work would not have been possible without Dee and Steve Harris' support in the Porkellis.
 - The project would not have been as successful without the school teaching; if this was based around a town cluster, 10-12 schools would have been in the area, allowing for more teaching opportunities.
 - Without an actively interested community to engage with, it is difficult to establish wider coverage; unless it is embedded in the community it will not have a legacy after the project ends.

Radyo an Gernewegva

- Matthew Clarke (MC) provided an update on the work of Radyo an Gernewegva (RanG).
 - 52 hours of Cornish was recorded during 2016/17, this includes a mix of speech and music.
 - Over the last year, 22 shorter 'towlennik' programmes have been produced. These are spoken at a slower pace to help learners.
 - Three recording machines are now out in the community, but another person is required to take the one in East Cornwall, lending it out as required.
 - A listener survey has been completed asking where listeners live, age of listeners, listener qualifications, how

- often do you listen and why do you listen.
- There are between 150–250 listeners every week, with further visits to the website, social media pages and three local FM radio stations in Cornwall. It isn't possible to gauge numbers of listeners to the radio stations.
- Finding out about the availability of new shows is sporadic, in the past new programmes were listed on various Facebook pages.
 - You can visit the *RanG* or *I pledge...* Facebook pages, but it is easiest to visit the website for new releases.

4 Cornish Language programme 2017/18

a. Programme for 2017/18

Operational Plan

- MT outlined the key points in the 2017/18 operational plan.
 - With the 2017/18 budget of £170k already in place, funded projects can start immediately.
 - There is an additional £37k specifically for the HLF project – Dasserghi Kernewek.
 - Over 30 entries were submitted to WJEC, results are expected in June 2017. There were some concerns about the amount of admin required, which would increase when level 1 and level 2 examinations are introduced, the higher being a GCSE equivalent. There would be discussions with the Kesva to ensure there is no doubling-up on work.
 - There would be more focus on social media work within the language office.
 - Additional funding sources need to be identified for developing the language, although there is a budget in place for 2017/18, this is not secure in the future.
- There was a discussion regarding the efficacy of the language policy and planning advisory panel.
 - The panel officially met with Cllr. German and Akademi Kernewek. The purpose of the panel was for the cabinet member to talk in a neutral space about language development.
 - There is a travel cost involved with these visits, and it was important to get more impact. MT will look at also organising a session for the CIGs.

ACTION: MT to organise a language advisory panel session with the CIGs.

**Mark
Trevethan**

- Central government has provided Cornwall Council with a grant of £50k for two years for Cornish culture. This is not an adequate amount for funding the language, and so it has been kept separate for Cornish national minority funding work.

Cornwall Council Language Plan

- CC is currently running a branding refresh, and MT is trying to get a Cornish language or at least bilingual logo introduced.
- Plans to develop an online training package for CC staff, with integration with the WJEC course.
- There will be an update of the developers' leaflet, to ensure all developers are aware of the language policy.
- Culture programme contracts in 2018 will include performance indicators for the language, encouraging them to consider how they can use the language.
- The language office has been approached to help with a number of external projects so far this year including:
 - Boardmasters have produced a Cornish language version of their website, with plans to promote Cornish at the festival.
 - Kelly's have produced an online advert featuring a voice-over by Dawn French.
 - A Breton Microsoft employee has produced a predictive text app, this was expected to launch shortly in all the Celtic languages.
- Work on the Dasserghi Kernewek project is ongoing, recent work included filming work on the project at the 2017 Pennseythen.
 - Another film is being commissioned in collaboration with Feast to present the project.
 - The Oral History work has not started yet, but is planned before Samantha leaves in July.
 - If anyone is aware of archives with the public, contact the office to log the material.
- With everything planned during 2015-25, what do we hope to accomplish by 2025?
 - If we had received the funding requested from central government, we could double the number of speakers. This is one of the main aspects of the plan and without funding it will take much longer to reach this target. There needs to be much more teaching and coverage to reach it.
- There were concerns raised whether the proposed operational

plan could be influenced at this stage.

- The operational plan starts with the new financial year on 1 April with the main points having been set out at the October 2016 Forum. The autumn meeting is the time to discuss priorities for the next year's plan.
 - It was argued that the last autumn meeting didn't give an opportunity for feedback, whereas the spring meeting should be scrutinising the previous year's achievements and failures within the programme.
 - The forum reporting method came directly from Iaith's recommendations, but if community feedback cannot be used effectively there would need to be a change to the format.
- It was proposed that MT liaise with An Rosweyth ahead of future meetings, allowing time to review and provide feedback to operational plans before they are presented to the forum.

ACTION: MT to meet the community language groups, through An Rosweyth, ahead of the autumn forum meeting, to allow An Rosweyth to prepare/offer feedback and more detailed discussion of priorities.

**Mark
Trevethan**

- There was a discussion on the efficacy of presentations at the forum.
 - Attendees found the presentations useful, but preferred for reports to be released in advance of the meeting.
 - Feedback received suggested that the public were interested in receiving an overview of the projects.

b. Projects for 2017/18

Looe Music Festival

- Tanya Britton would be using Cornish in their festival marketing and branding. The main part of the project is the Big Cornish Sing — a competition for singing groups (schools and adults) to sing a song in Cornish with the winners performing at the festival.
 - There will also be a film following the group's journey as they learn the song in Cornish.

Lowender Peran

- Funding for the 2017 Lowender Peran festival will continue on the back of the previous year's activities, and improve on them. The main ethos to normalise the language would remain an important part of the work.

- There will be work in partnership with the Institute of Cornish Studies (ICS) to archive the song collection.
- The filming for this year's festival will feature more promotional video in the lead-up, and will be shared on social media.
- Last year's beer tasting session, now a whisky tasting this year, has been moved to the Sunday evening.
- After receiving feedback last year about the lack of advertising for the language elements, specific sessions could be shared with An Rosweyth and Ros Dyski to share them more widely with an engaged audience.

Radyo an Gernewegva

- Work for RanG in 2017/18 would focus on making the service sustainable.
 - It will be developed further as a teaching resource, helping to improve spoken capacity.
 - Building volunteer input within the service, no contributor in East Cornwall is needed.
 - Planning funding/sponsorship strategy.
 - Development of Pellwolok an Gernewegva, with a commitment to produce a minimum of six programmes during 17/18.
 - A webmaster will be appointed to help maintain the RanG website.
- Further diversification of the video service, with the introduction of a YouTube channel. Speakers will be encouraged to produce a programme on any general interest subject, not specifically language learning.
 - The duration for these programmes are flexible, the duration could range from a few minutes to fifteen.
- There was a suggestion for current material to be more easily searchable or available.
 - All of the original files have been retained, but there is a distinct archiving job to create an index of all the available content.

Social Activity Project – Prag Na?

- The Prag Na? project aims to develop social opportunities and innovative ways for people to speak Cornish.
 - It will be aimed at both people already learning and introduce non-speakers to the language.
 - There will be a focus on developing a legacy that can continue with volunteer support.
 - Activity coordinators and leaders will be required to run

- the events; language experience is not essential, if required a language buddy can be brought in to support the language element.
- The workplan will be circulated on request, and will also be available from the Kowethas website.
- The website is now online at www.prag-na.org.uk.
- Is the aim to provide twenty activities unique events, or will there be some repetition?
 - This number is twenty times doing something, meaning an event could run multiple times depending on popularity and ease of organisation.
- What is the timescale to provide the generic template?
 - There will need to be some testing once projects start coming through from the coordinators, since different projects will require different lead-in times to prepare.

5 Learning and Communications – Golden Tree

Report of 2016/17

- Joe Lewis (JL), Schools and Young People's lead at Golden Tree provided a summary of the work during 2016/17.
 - The full Golden Tree report would be circulated after the meeting.

ACTION: Golden Tree to circulate the full report after the Forum meeting.

Golden Tree

- A pilot school cluster had been created, in Penzance with six schools providing Cornish language lessons based on the Tales from Porth books. These activities were delivered to the teachers directly by CPD (continuing professional development).
- There were a series of drop-in Cornish sessions in Penzance ranging from 25-50 people per night, to provide teachers, parents etc. in the cluster an introduction to Cornish. This led on to a Tregedna-style language weekend at the Union Hotel in Penzance, including both beginners and fluent speakers.
- Local artists worked with the schools and local businesses to create shop installations as part of a treasure hunt in Penzance. Around 50 families/200 people were involved.
- The new First bus fleet – The Tinner – has been branded with Cornish language, including on the internal livery. An online phrasebook at www.whatscornishfor.co.uk was also produced for people to hear the Cornish being pronounced while on the bus. Cornish is also planned for the Atlantic

Coaster buses in the future.

- What stage is Golden Tree at with the creation of the language portal?
 - This is in progress.
- There was an announcement of another Porth book, is this still going ahead?
 - A Tales from Porth 1 ½ is planned.
- Golden Tree was invited to attend the next Kesva Teacher's Day to discuss their workplan.

ACTION: Golden Tree to meet Ros Dyski in July and attend the next Teachers' day.

Golden Tree

- What are the 'teaching standards' to be developed in the second year of the work plan?
 - This means that Golden Tree's teaching standards will meet the same level as required in the national curriculum.
- What is happening with the Learn Gaelic course?
 - It was not possible to proceed with this due to the costs of working with the web developer (to adapt the cartoons) and the supporting software is out of date.
- Is the public relations strategy for all aspects of Cornish or just education?
 - The contract is specifically for communications with education, and how they approach social media etc. 'Communication' is in the sense of raising awareness and opportunities for learning.
- Historically there have been spelling mistakes on the Facebook page, has this been looked at?
 - Golden Tree has a process in place to use the Gonis Treylya to proofread material to be published to ensure a high standard. Golden Tree will correct any mistakes on social media, but ask that these are reported offline via email.

6 Corpus

Akademi Kernewek

- Nev Meek had decided to stand down a chair of the Signage

panel; this vacancy would need to be filled.

- Duncan McIntosh needed to start the dictionary panel, there was a meeting in a fortnight and additional work was still required.

7 Cornish culture and language

European Capital of Culture

- Cornwall Council has decided not to pursue the bid for European Capital of Culture.

Cornish Culture at Royal Cornwall Show 2018

- Dee Brotherton is leading plans to showcase Cornish culture at Royal Cornwall in 2018 and this will need to feature the language in an engaging way. A meeting was booked later in June 2017 to discuss further.

ACTION: MT to arrange a meeting to prepare ideas for the language element.

**Mark
Trevethan**

8 Closing remarks

- Speak Cornish Week 2017 would be running from Friday 23 June to Sunday 2 July. It is being coordinated by An Rosweyth.

9 Next forum meeting dates

- Saturday 11 November 2017
- Saturday 12 May 2018