

Kovnotyansow / Minutes

Meeting Title: Dalva an Yeth Kernewek / Cornish Language Forum

Date: 9 mis Me 2020 / 9 May 2020

Time: 10:30am–11:30pm

Location: Zoom conference

Chaired by: Elizabeth Carne

Minutes

Action

1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks

Grand Bard, Elizabeth Carne, welcomed everyone to the Cornish Language Forum.

2 Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the Forum meeting dated 9 November 2019 were read and agreed.

3 Cornish Language Programme 2019/20 – end of year report

The full end of year report is available to download from the Cornish Language Office (CLO) website:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/the-cornish-language/cornish-language/cornish-language-office/cornish-language-strategy-and-plans/>

4 Cornish Language Programme 2020/21

Mark Trevethan (MT) provided a presentation on the 2020/21 Cornish Language Programme; this document is available in the meeting reports on the Cornish Language Forum page:

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/the-cornish-language/cornish-language/cornish-language-office/cornish-language-forum/>

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a Status

- Significant progress had already been made on the Cornwall Council (CC) Cornish Language Plan, which runs from 2019–2022:
 - Brand guidelines were now in effect, including advice on how to use the Cornish Language on signage and stationery. There was a suggestion the guidelines could be extended to include the Council's arms-length companies.
 - As part of digital language development, the CLO collaborated with the Council's Heritage and Public Health teams to develop a Cornish language version of the St Austell Heritage Trail app.

Question: Will it be possible to develop the St Austell Town app in other Cornish towns?

- The St Austell app is a trial version and a wider rollout would be considered depending on the success.
- Funding was received from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) on 4 November; they have been assured the programme is still on-track, despite the lockdown.
- The Cornish Language Office is developing a new language learning app – IndyLan. This project is Erasmus+ funded and involves 6 minority languages. Cornish was asked to be a part of the project to test impact on a critically endangered language. The test version will be launched in Spring 2021 and the full launch will be in September 2021.
 - Vocab content developed for the app will be added to the online dictionary, including new terms and audio recordings.
 - Cornwall will be the official launch country for the app in September 2021.
- The Ordinalia performances have been postponed to 2021. Two performances are being council-funded for St Just and Kneehigh Theatre.
 - It was noted the Bodmin Manuscripts may also be loaned to Kresen Kernow in the spring.
 - The actual performances will be performed in English, but there is an intention to produce elements in Cornish, and Rosweyth will be supporting the theatres with

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workshops to develop actors' confidence in performing in Kernewek.

- The 2020 FylmK short film competition was running for a third year, with an entry deadline of 29 May 2020.
 - The 2018 winner, Yn Mor, is now available to watch online on the Tyskennow Kernow website, along with many other Cornish films: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/tk>
 - The 2019 winner, An Tarow, has been officially selected for the 2020 Carmarthen Bay Film Festival.
- Attendees were encouraged to help with the promotion of further media production in Cornwall including:
 - Visit the website about 'A Case for Cornish Public Service Media'. This includes the Public Service Media summary report and research study, along with a petition for Cornish Public Service media. <https://www.bosena.co.uk/tk>
 - Letters of support were requested from the language groups – or any other groups or organisations, to help make the case for local media specific to each group.
 - Contribute good quality subtitled content to the learning section of the website.

ACTION: MT to share a sample letter of support for the public service media for people to send to MPs.

MT

b Corpus

- Akademi Kernewek (AK) was formally registered as a Community Interest Organisation (CIO) in December 2019. There had also been several updates to the services provided by the Akademi during this time.
 - The online dictionary is fully functional, with new terms able to be uploaded on the database following an Akademi approval process.
 - The place-name website went live in April 2020, providing the most up to date source for Cornish language place-names.
 - A corpus search was being development in partnership with Bangor University, allowing users to search the back catalogue of Cornish translations to find examples of use.

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Questions

- Is it possible to view the place-name elements in the website?
 - The existing data for elements is incomplete and will require additional work in the future to add this information to all of the entries.
- Can place-names be included in the online dictionary?
 - The intention was to have these systems separate, but only requiring a single click to switch between the websites. It may be possible to include key Cornish towns in the dictionary, but country names have come through in the IndyLan project and there will be a discussion on how to present this information.
- Is it possible to have a spellchecker?
 - This is not currently in development for Cornish, but this could be considered as a future project building on the work with Bangor University.

c Teaching and Learning

- Due to Covid-19 restrictions, in particular school closures, Golden Tree have not been able to take forward their work programme and have furloughed their staff.
 - At the end of 2019/20, Golden Tree had already raised concerns about the cluster model and the high level of churn. The 2020/21 work programme would look at how to work more closely with truly committed schools to set good practice.
 - Magi Ann 2 is due to be launched after the lockdown.
 - Online resources have been produced to support teaching WJEC Entry level so that teachers new to Cornish could still deliver the course. These will be published after lockdown.
- Movyans Skolyow Meythrin was still planning to launch the Camborne preschool; groups were encouraged to get in contact if they are able to help.

d Use — social and community grants by Cornwall Council

- Kensa Broadhurst summarised the work of Kist Kov (memory box), a project to catalogue Cornish language archives from throughout the 20th Century.
 - Before the lockdown, project sessions were being held at Kresen Kernow. There were more than 700 items still

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needing to be digitised, including orders of services, christenings, letters and magazines.

- Video footage is available of a Cornish wedding on the BFI player, and Denzil Monk had been working to get permission for use of the sound recordings to go alongside the video footage.
- Lowender Peran would be focusing more on community-based projects in 2020/21, including mentoring for young performers. Tremough had asked for the Wassail project to return.

5 Rosweyth — Cornish Language Voluntary Groups**a General feedback**

- A portion of MHCLG funding went to the Rosweyth to support various social events, including a Dydh Tregedna at Illogan Community Centre in February 2020 run successfully by Agan Tavas. Pennseythen 2020 had had to be cancelled due to lockdown. There had been much preparation to allow a move of venue and trial different formats, and much of the planning will be rolled forward to next year.

b Speak Cornish Week 2020

- There was an intention to proceed with Speak Cornish Week later in 2020 as it could still proceed online.

c Other events/activities

- The intention to run a regular Cornish language service at Gunwen chapel had been disrupted. Organisers were encouraged to contact the CLO if it restarts after the lockdown.
- Penwith Landscape Partnership had been making use of Cornish on their social media channels.
- Peninsula Radio – a new community radio station has started broadcasting featuring a lot of elements in Cornish.

d Redruth Library — Cornwall Heritage Trust

The Trust was developing a proposal for a new cultural centre in Redruth. This would accommodate a range of cultural organisations and provide joint venue and meeting space. Further details of the project would be announced later in the year.

6 Issues affecting the Cornish language community arising from lockdown and social distancing not covered above

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- Is there a management chart explaining all of the Cornish language organisations?

ACTION: MT to share a diagram of how the groups work together in regard to the Cornish Language Office.

MT

- What is the latest news on the Cornish census question?
 - MT confirmed that the Census legislation was being pushed through Parliament without a Cornish tick-box – either for identity or for language. There will be a space for self-completion but no drop down option showing Cornish as an option.
- Can we ask officially for a Cornish language version?
 - The language groups can make representations to the Office of National Statistics about this.
- What is still running during the lockdown?
 - The Cornish Language Office will provide information about online Yeth an Werins if organisers notify the office.
 - Some teachers had discussed the possibility of running online starter courses via Zoom.

7 Closing remarks

Meeting ended.

Next Forum meeting date

Saturday 7 November 2020 (venue TBC)