

STÒRLANN BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015

MINUTE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2.30 p.m., Tuesday, 29 September, 2015
Skye Room, MacDonald Highland Hotel, Aviemore

Present:

William MacDonald (WM) – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar – Chairperson

Kenneth Murray (KM) – Highland Council – Vice Chair

Norma Martin (NM) – City of Edinburgh Council

Robert Dalzell (RD) – North Lanarkshire Council

Gillian Campbell-Thow – Glasgow City Council

Donald W Morrison (DWM) – Stòrlann

DJ MacRitchie (DJM) - Stòrlann (Note of Minute)

In Attendance

Douglas Ansdell (DA) – Scottish Government

Jonathan Ferrier (JF) – Scottish Government

Bruce Robertson (BR) – Bòrd na Gàidhlig

David Boag (DB) – Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Apologies

Anne Paterson, Argyll & Bute Council

Neil Smith, Stòrlann Nàiseanta na Gàidhlig

ITEM		ACTION
1	OPENING ITEMS	
1a	Welcome The Chairperson welcomed all present.	
1b	Present and Apologies As above	
1c	Declarations of Interest No notes of interest were presented.	
2	MINUTES	
2a	The minutes of the Stòrlann Board meeting held on Thursday 27 th August 2015 in Stornoway were approved.	
2b	Matters arising: Due to a focussed agenda, the CEO updated members that items 3a and 4b were being actioned.	
3	FINANCE BUSINESS	
3a	Stòrlann Annual Accounts – Breakdown of Travel Costs	

	<p>The CEO informed members that the accountant was currently carrying out the travel breakdown costs. This will feature as an annex within the next statement of accounts.</p> <p>Members highlighted that, even though with the slight increase in Board meeting costs, the opportunity to meet staff was very much appreciated and the Board were made very welcome.</p> <p>The accounts were approved.</p> <p>BR wished to inform the Stòrlann Board of his current understanding of the reduction on the grant income for Bòrd na Gàidhlig. The following discussion points were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bòrd na Gàidhlig not having the same funding level • Bòrd na Gàidhlig currently preparing financial planning scenarios • Stòrlann to scenario plan for funding reduction • Stòrlann reduction of funding, possibly, 15% over two years • Stòrlann – a very valued partner agency • The need for further collaborative initiatives between agencies <p>Members were appreciative of the open dialogue between Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Stòrlann and thanked BR and DB for the update.</p>	
<p>4</p> <p>4a</p>	<p>CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND STAFFING</p> <p>Stòrlann Organisational Review The CEO discussed the content of his report.</p> <p>Members agreed to include the Memorandum and Articles in the review. Members discussed the need of recording the tender process and informing those not successful.</p> <p>Members agreed the following brief, timeframe and bidders;</p> <p>1. Why are we doing this?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the passage of the Education (Scotland) Bill, we have the opportunity to ensure that Stòrlann’s work is properly supported, resourced, delivered and is fit for purpose to deliver 3-18 Gaelic Education resources across all educational phases. • The urgent requirement to, in accordance with our funding agreement with Scottish Government, create a new Annual Resource Production Plan from 2016-17; incorporating a strategic, collaborative and outcomes focussed process, to deliver Gaelic Education Resources from Early Years to Secondary level. <p>2. What do we want?</p> <p>An organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That is confirmed in terms of legislation as being the appropriate delivery agent of 3-18 Gàidhlig/Gaelic Education resources; including Gaelic4parents, support services and other areas in the wider context • That has appropriate governance structures and organisational policies in place; • That is singularly focussed on producing Gàidhlig/Gaelic 3-18 learning and teaching resources for Local Authority teaching staff; • Whose work is directly linked with Local Authority, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Education Scotland, SQA and Scottish Government priorities; • Whose management structure and workforce deployment and configuration meets the flexibility of demand of the resource programme; <p>3. Who do we want you (the consultants) to talk to/engage with?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stòrlann staff • Board Members, Local Authorities, Education Scotland, SQA, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, Scottish Government, parents, young people and classroom 	

	<p>teachers. - What/Where is Stòrlann's place in 2015 Scottish Education?</p> <p>4. Price – a reserve price of £█K - for presenting Draft and Final Reports</p> <p>5. Timeframe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four companies are to receive brief from Stòrlann • Companies are to submit bid by 30th October 2015 • 14th November 2015 – bid and company is to be agreed by Stòrlann Board • Draft report of review is to be received by 29th January 2016 • Report to be discussed by Stòrlann Board at Atlantic Quay, Glasgow on 18th February 2016 <p>6. Potential Bidders:</p> <p>█</p> <p>7. Communicate Information shared with staff, funders and partners</p>	CEO
<p>5</p> <p>5a</p> <p>5b</p> <p>5c</p>	<p>PROJECTS AND CONTRACTS</p> <p>Resources Schedule 2015-16 The CEO updated members on the resource schedule. Members requested that within the document quarterly changes be highlighted, new resources annually distributed be included and the balance of unallocated funding made clear for the next Board meeting.</p> <p>Stòrlann Advisory Panels Members discussed the paper and the following discussion points were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Scotland's Senior Education Officer recommended for overarching panel • A specific learner's panel to be created • Bòrd na Gàidhlig keen to assist; currently creating, alongside Glasgow Uni, an Adult Learning and Implementation strategy which will be completed Mar/Apr 2016 • SQA to be involved in initial meeting • Primary panel extended to include pre-school sector – pre-school possibly included in ScotGov manifesto which would include resource funding • Panels to meet before February 2016 Board meeting <p>An t-Alltan 2015 The CEO updated members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 160 delegates were attending over the two day conference • Minister for Science and Scotland's Languages; Dr Alasdair Allan was opening the conference and launching Go! Gaelic • Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Chairperson, Allan MacDonald was providing a short address on Wednesday evening's dinner and launching Ciste Ulaidh na h-Alba • Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Alltan Beag was attended by around 40 delegates 	<p>CEO</p> <p>CEO</p>
<p>6</p> <p>6a</p>	<p>COMMUNICATIONS AND PR</p> <p>Alltan, Go Gaelic, Gaelic4parents The CEO updated members on the key resource focus at the forthcoming Mod in Oban and the coverage received in the Scotsman newspaper and the BBC coverage the two day Alltan conference received.</p>	

7	<p>AOCB</p> <p>The CEO explained to members the tabled spending review request requested by the Scottish Government. Scenarios of standstill, 10% and 20% funding cuts had been forwarded. Members discussed the various rationales.</p>	
8	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Two Board meeting dates were agreed; Thursday 10th December – Glasgow, STUC building, Woodlands Rd. Thursday 18th February – Glasgow, Atlantic Quay, Scottish Government</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked all in attendance and the meeting closed.</p>	