

COALA MEETING: STRATHCLYDE UNIVERSITY: FRIDAY, 14/08/2015

Chair: Janey Mauchline

Present: See attached list, 19 local authorities present

Minutes: David Kerr

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

- a. Correct record. Proposed: Janice Neilson, Renfrewshire, seconded: Lynne Crossan, South Ayrshire
- b. No matters arising.

2. Welcome to newcomers:

Janey extended a particular welcome to all newcomers; in Madeleine Beveridge and Antonella Sorace (Bilingualism Matters); Graham Turner (Heriot-Watt University for BSL); Moyra Hood (Angus); Sue Langlands (Scottish Government); Madeleine McGirk (SEET); Petra McLay (new SCILT Depute); Amanda Lyons (new SCILT PDO); Richard Easton (University of Edinburgh); Do Coyle (University of Aberdeen); Angela Noble (North Ayrshire).

3. Formal farewells and thanks for all they have contributed to COALA:

Janey Mauchline (retiring, after chairing the group for a number of years), Janice Neilson (going to be Government Attainment Advisor and Catherine MacLennan (Western Isles – retiring).

4. Supporting the 1+2 Agenda:

5. Cultural Organisations:

- a. *Goethe-Institut (Lilo Börgmann)*: Overview of GI activities (handout); available to promote German language learning. Website has Events Calendar; Information on Resources; Resources/free downloads; Professional Development Opportunities; Scholarships for residential courses soon available; upskilling courses for Primary Teachers; Language & Cultural events for pupils; *Deutsche Tage* for S5/6; promotion of German in primary schools; German Language Ambassadors; German Language Adventure continuing. New for this year is *Fit in Deutsch 1*; has been trialled at Carrick Academy. Encouragement to sign up for GI Newsletter.
- b. *British Council (Iona Peddie)*: Number of FLAs has increased 108 → 133 this year; a lot of authorities are re-engaging with this. Support available on 'How to Get the Best Out of your FLA' – training day on 11/09/2015. Erasmus + (Key Action 1): list of successful applicants coming to Mandy; most were Primary Schools. More guidance on what makes for a successful application coming. British Council will have a stall at the forthcoming SLF. Next deadline for funding applications is early Spring, 2016. Note: e-twinning can also be used for Gaelic. Learners International: new joint venture website with Education Scotland showcases best practice, so please submit experiences to this; Brit Council will be contacting FLAs direct. Easiest way to find site is to Google 'Learners International'.
- c. *Alliance Française (Nathalie Korkmaz)*: Located in Park Circus, Glasgow; same building as Goethe Institut. Work with schools, pupils, teachers: everything on Website: <http://afglasgow.org.uk/>
- d. *Institut Français (Thomas Chaurin)*: Based in Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh: Free French resources for P1 on www.culturethèque.com; Franco-Scottish links: joint statement of intent between Scotland and France, October, 2013: aim was to link every Scottish LA with one in France: East Lothian with Caen, East Dunbartonshire

with Rennes, Dumfries & Galloway with Nancy-Metz. There will be a French Pavilion at SLF, and French Académie reps will be attending on 23/09; hope is that partner Authorities will host their French counterparts on 24/09. There will also be a three day course for 1+2 Development Officers at the Inst. Fr. On 13, 14 & 15/10/2015.

- e. *Scotland-Russia Forum (Jenny Carr)*: Voluntary Organisation with few resources; task is to raise profile of Russia throughout Scotland; some difficulty here in view of SQA dropping Russian as an examinable subject. Forum offers taster programmes and is happy to be invited to provide these. Fiondoutaboutrussia.co.uk, offering cultural information and activities is in course of development; has just run a successful competition. Stall planned for Languages Exhibition in Glasgow, March, 2016.
- f. *Le Français en Ecosse (Richard Tallaron)*: Offers immersion courses under Erasmus + banner; 150 teachers from all over Scotland took part in either Salignac or Malaga this July; GTC recognition available for this. Richard will come and publicise courses if required; will help set up work shadowing with partner Académies; offers PLL training to Authorities. New PLL course available online from November.
- g. *Radio Lingua (Mark Pentleton)*: Commercial organisation, but also provides free language lessons. Not much uptake in Scotland so far. French, German, Spanish available; also new 'Coffee Break To Go' language service in Italian – designed, as are the others, for anyone to access during their coffee break. Can be accessed free via the website <https://radiolingua.com/>. Free material also available via Radio Lingua Facebook page. A number of Authorities already use High Five French; happy to come and promote this, if wished. High Five Spanish coming in Spring, 2016.
- h. *Scottish European Education Trust (SEET) (Sophie Buxton and Madeleine McGirk)*: details coming round in September, of Our Europe S3-S6 filmmaking competition. Workshops on storyboarding offered initially; workshops in filmmaking later on.
- i. *Bilingualism Matters (Madeleine Beveridge and Antonella Sorace)*: Have carried out, in partnership with Edinburgh University, studies on effects of bilingualism on brain and cognitive processes. There are 14 branches of BM in Europe, from Norway to Greece, and 2 in the US. Not aiming at perfect knowledge of two languages; just reasonably regular use of them. Studying effects on elderly as well. This includes bilingualism for whatever reason – immigration etc. Links with Speech Therapy; a lot of public/private partnerships, including Scottish Government. BM runs projects to encourage study of languages, including BSL. Important for families, education, healthcare & businesses.
- j. *British Sign Language (Graham Turner)*: BSL is working in partnership with BM (above) and Heriot-Watt. H-W offers opportunities for BSL + interpreting + translation etc., so is exciting time to be in it. Scotland is at the forefront of shifting legislation to get BSL promoted, as opposed to just being tolerated. 1+2 gives the opportunity to get BSL into schools. One day workshops available on what needs to be in place to get BSL into schools. Particularly appropriate for Development Officers: let BSL know if interested.

That concluded the input from Cultural Organisations and other colleagues. JM proposed formal thanks.

6. *Gillian Campbell-Thow*: progress on 1+2 in Glasgow:

- 27 MLAs (French, Spanish, German, Urdu and Italian);

- Running PLL training in French, Spanish, German, Urdu and Italian.
- Running master-class training in French, Spanish, Italian, Urdu and Arabic.
- Working with Linguanut, High Five French and Articulate Languages for training and IT support
- Two advanced Higher hubs running to support Advanced Higher French/Spanish
- A significant push on Arabic and Urdu and that is reflected in the composition of the team
- Team is made up of the following: 1 x FTE French; 1 x FTE French/Gaelic learners; 0.5 German; 0.5 Urdu; 0.4 Italian; 0.2 Spanish; 0.2 Arabic; 0.2 ASN
- A few LCs who have changed language so lots of support for Italian and German.
- 0.2 of a DO for ASN with particular focus on Autism Education and Girfec (Getting it right for every child)
- Working with all of our primaries to make sure they have their L2 properly embedded before we consider L3.
- Also making headway now with all of our secondaries to make sure they have 2 languages in BGE.
[Sonia Coughlin, East Ayrshire, will do LA update next meeting]

7. *SCILT update: (Fhiona Fisher):*

- New staff members, including particular emphasis on German.
- CLPL Menu just published; reminders about this in the e-bulletin. Trying to tailor provision more; so registration process has been altered, and includes a 'Burning Question' field.
- CISS have been in China with First Minister. There will be 21 new primary Confucius classrooms; all in authorities which already have secondary ones.
- Emphasis for 1+2 Langs is on deepening, rather than broadening.
- A lot of cross-sectoral work with Higher Education is coming; also Mother Tongue, Other Tongue competition.
- Train the Trainers ran again in July; currently being evaluated. 40% of delegates this time didn't yet know how they would be deployed by their authorities; it would be helpful if authorities could determine this beforehand, so delegates on future courses could get the full benefit.
- Please encourage primary teachers to sign up for the e-bulletin.
- Strathclyde University (not SCILT) is about to offer French and Spanish training for primary teachers; small fee will be payable.
- Colleagues in Tianjin (recent chemical factory explosion) all reported as safe.

8. *Scottish Government (Sue Langlands):* Thanks, on behalf of the Government, for everyone's efforts in implementing 1+2. First Minister very focussed on education; particularly attainment. Important to communicate the message that Languages for All is not 'niche'; Govt keen to achieve attitudinal change in the country as a whole, emphasising the societal, employment and cognitive benefits. Major FM speech coming on Tuesday; other Ministerial ones to follow. MFL results good this year across the country. Last year's 1+2 Implementation budget was £7.2m. This year's figure will be announced shortly. Not known what it will be, yet, but likely to be the same, or slightly smaller. We are nearing the halfway mark of 1+2; need to ensure it is wanted and valued by other sectors and that employers, Higher Education etc make this clear to schools. There is Government effort going into this at the moment.

9. *Education Scotland (Shona Hugh, Louise Glen):* First Level Es & Os published March, 2015. Achievable by P4 for most; earlier by some. Handy appendix on Website shows how to use

them (examples of 'I can...' statements). Quoad writing, the idea is to experiment: some will be ready to try this in P1; others won't be ready till P4. Let them have a go if they want, but don't make them. Remember the e-books: *Les Aventures d'Angus*; First Level Learning Journey; All About Me. ES has been looking at promoting MFL in the Senior Phase and published material on Schools/Depts that are doing it well. Complements existing video material. Forthcoming Events: SLF (23&24/09); SALT (07/11); engagement with LAs; revised Principles & Practice document Guidance on progression from First to Second Level about June, 2016. Case Studies for 1+2 in a Secondary context; for L3 in a Primary context. Working with Glasgow University on a French course, using Astérix; and on L3 Polish, using Copernicus.

10. *Proposed Future Dates: **Friday, 06/11/2015; Friday, 29/01/2016 and Friday, 03/06/2016; Venues TBA.***

11. *Appointment of new Chair: 4 Nominations; only two of whom were willing to stand; Robert Dalzell & Ann Robertson. Voting closes 21/08; will be independently counted and Mandy R-C will send out the result on 24/08. Ballot box and papers available today; votes can be submitted on paper or by email (to Mandy) any time up to 21/08.*

- Tribute from Mandy to Janey's time as Chair; a hard act to follow; she will be missed.
- Tribute from Robert and Gillian C-T to Janey, the longest serving QIO in the West (apologies to the estate of the late Benny Hill)
- Janey's response to above.

12. ***Meeting Closed.***