

JAG | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 11/06/2019

Facilitator

Lesley Stagg

Apologies: Winston Le Brun, Ralph Nicholls, Claire Follen



Jèrriais

1. Jèrriais Language / Business Plan

BS 30mins

2. Promotion Update, inc. Jersey Sings, Gruffalo,

Festival of Words, Fête Nouormande, Black Butter,

Conversation groups etc.

BS / GJ 20mins

3. Geraint to update on the work he's doing at JH

GJ 10mins

4. Jèrriais Teaching Service update, inc. Academy,

adult learning, Eisteddfod, engagement issues with schools etc. MS / AC 20mins

5. Fête du Jèrriais feedback

BS / CLM 15mins

6. Ogier Event, 'politics' and other matters

JLM 20mins

7. Update on Service Level Agreement

JC 15mins

1. BS shared the recent work that he has done on the Language/Business Plan. Questions/issues arising: Who should write the foreword and introduction? Does J have status as an official language for Jersey? Recommended to 'tighten up' on the vision statement; ideas to BS please. Follow-up with ministers to focus on the present and future. Possibility of a private member's bill.
2. Gruffalo will be distributed to all Reception class children. Discussion about where to hold the launch; suggestions Library or Town Hall or Zoo. J learners will be participating in Jersey Sings. There will be a Poetry Slam whereby poems must include at least one word of J. St Ouen and the museum J conversation groups are well-attended. The St Martin group is small but going well. All groups need some enabling.

3. GJ informed us of the Fête Nouormande 2020 dates 7-14 June. He is now contactable by phone. GJ has finished the Memory Box translations, is working on grammar and a draft language plan for Jersey Heritage. He is available to support other organisations. Recently he has been doing bachîn ringing and teaching staff at the museum some basic J. He is launching a Saturday monthly café meet up followed by dancing and singing; he wants to build up the singing group.
4. J is much more successful in schools where heads are supportive. We now need to continue the work to increase the support of teachers and schools. Some schools are not providing proper accommodation for the J teachers. The suggestion was made to put packs into JH sites. There is a varied calendar of events that appeal to different societal sectors e.g. Fête du Jèrriais for families, Eisteddfod participation for learners (which may move from St Ouen's after this year for larger premises) et cetera. Letters are out to recruit pupils for next year. There is a move towards on-line registration. Teachers are developing homework books and considering a Heritage Passport. JCG, VCJ, LRS, LesQ and HV schools all have small lesson groups. The schools need encouragement to properly and promptly inform parents. These learners are keen and want to take part in the Eisteddfod and carry on with next year's learning. Adult Ed is going very well with 30 adult learners (including States Members) across seven classes. The different levels are rewarded with certificates of achievement. The Academy meets monthly, with nine native speakers attending regularly and new entries are being created for the dictionary under thematic heading.
ACTION: LS to speak with some school heads about classroom provision

5. There was 100% improvement in attendance at the 2019 Fête du Jèrriais. The Occupation Tapestry Museum worked very well for the niche concert. 247 people attended the Hougue Bie family day. It is thought that various Parish halls may have under-used games and the JAG would wish these to be collated and stored through JH. The date of the Fête is still under debate (school holidays are tough for the teachers but excellent for JH).
ACTION: GJ and JC re Games and BS and JC re Dates
6. Ogier are happy to be involved and will offer limited sponsorship. No dates yet but timing suggested is 17:15 for apéros at 18:00 and then followed by Heritage, NT and Mari Jones presentations. It would be good to have someone prominent to endorse the subject.
ACTION: JLM
Update: Advocate and French Consul Christopher Schofield spoke very strongly at the VCJ Awards evening as a Jèrriais supporter citing wider reasons for studying the language. He could be an excellent local person of note to endorse our work.

7. The SLA with JH will be produced as soon as possible.
ACTION: JC

Other business:

Need to consider the economic benefits to the island of the Jèrriais language. Look at precedents for Scotland, can we extrapolate for Jersey? Need to use treasury friendly format.

ACTION: GJ, JC and CK