Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at INM, 26 August 2021

Present
Directors: Jennifer Baker (JB), Arthur Cross (AC), Memory McDonald (MM), Noelle Odling (NO) Mike Robertson (MJR).

Taic Director: Anne Livingstone (AL)

Committee Member: Bob Hay (BH Minute Secretary)

Apologies: Douglas Breingan (DB).

1. Minutes of the Meeting 1 July 2021
Approval proposed by JB, Seconded MM. Accepted unanimously.

2. Matters Arising
Electric Charging Point. Carried forward (Action CH)
Volunteer Agreements. MJR would examine the existing agreement and suggest any action that might be necessary.
iPads. Problems continued with the second iPad owing to the weak WiFi signal. JB would look into mounting stills.
Scanner for Archive. JB to investigate possibilities.
Argyllshire Gathering. It had been decided to decline the invitation this year. JB had been in contact with the organisers to explain.

3. AGM
The AGM (attendance in person if the present Covid status continued) would now be held on 9 October. JB explained the actions she had taken to enlist new directors.

4. Treasurer's Report
Current balance £15620
Restricted £8404
Unrestricted £7216

NO provided the Board with a detailed account of present resources, in comparison with 2019, confirming a sound financial position.
In view of declining donations in cash, MJR would advise on possible card-based approaches, for the next meeting.
BH reported that the CrowdFunding campaign had been successful, exceeding the target of £2,500. The MacDougall McCallum Foundation had already matched this amount. Margaret Carasik had been thanked for the Foundation's generosity.

5. Property Report
The main issue under discussion was the state of, and future for, the Centre balcony. The issues were:

1. The need, for the safety of staff and visitors, to repair the supporting woodwork which was showing serious signs of wood decay.
2. The need to provide (temporary or permanent) all-weather shelter for the balcony, in view of the loss of dining area in wet and/or windy weather.
3. The need, in view of the enhanced reputation of the café and increases in customer numbers, to provide a permanent all-weather dining area on the balcony.

It was noted that neither 2 nor 3 could proceed without 1 being completed. It was agreed that the repair must be completed before the Centre re-opened in April 2022. MM would report on this work at the next meeting.

It was also recognised that it was unlikely that either 2 or 3 could be achieved before April 2022, owing to planning and financial issues. It was noted that any increase in customer numbers would exacerbate the limitations of the present kitchen and storage.

MJR would resume contact with the architect Alasdair MacMillan about possible solutions. JB asked all Board members to bring ideas to the next meeting and, if possible, e-mail links to the Board *before* the meeting.
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MM reported that the ground source heating system would be serviced in the coming weeks. Correction of the malfunctioning of the system may require extension of the underground piping.

6. Taic Report
Current balance £15673
The Board expressed its appreciation of the work of Sarah and Dan over the summer period, dealing with the relentless demand of visitors to the island.

7. Curator Report
Carried over to the next meeting

8. The Archaeological Dig

Shortage of time precluded discussion of The Dig. BH would circulate information to the Board as the project progressed.

9. AOCB

The Board agreed a budget of £30 for Library supplies (Action Laura Gloag)

Date of Next Meeting: 30 September at 3.30 *Note the changed time*

Lismore Gaelic Heritage Centre - Visitor Numbers for 2021		
Month	Visitor numbers	Remarks
April	133 (6 days)	Opened on 26th April
May	1467	
June	1681	
July	1857 (21 days)	Closed 14th to 23rd July – covid
August		
September		
October		
Total visitors		