



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at INM, 30 September 2021

Present

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

Taic Director: Anne Livingstone (AL)

Committee Member: Bob Hay (BH Minute Secretary)

Pauline Dowling (PD) for Website item.

Apologies: Douglas Breingan (DB), Arthur Cross (AC)

1. CELM Website

PD explained that the website would now be managed by a trio (PD, JB and Jane Hough). More content was planned. The Board expressed their gratitude to Jane for taking on this responsibility, and to PD for all her work over the years.

2. Minutes of the Meeting 26 August 2021

Approval proposed by MM, Seconded MJR. Accepted unanimously.

2. Matters Arising

Electric Charging Point. Carried forward (Action CH)

Scanner for Archive. After taking advice JB had concluded that the existing equipment was adequate for her purposes. She would investigate the need for a stand for camera work.

Card-Based Donations. Arrangements were in hand to set up QR code posters for Paypal giving, in the Centre.

3. AGM

Arrangements were now in place for the meeting. MJR would act as minute secretary. BH would circulate a Curator Report in advance.

4. Treasurer's Report

Current balance £18032

Restricted £10594

Unrestricted £7438

NO reported that the Centre shop was doing particularly well at present.

There were no problems for now with the D-Energy supplier.

NO had submitted an excellent final report for the MGS Resilience Grant. The Board expressed its particular thanks to all the volunteers who had contributed their time and skills, particularly to the roof work, the cladding of the storage container, and the acoustic damping in the museum room.

5. Property Report

After considering the present risks and options, the Board decided to carry out a complete refurbishment of the balcony and its supporting structure, in time for opening in April 2022.

Proposed MM, Seconded JB. Accepted unanimously.

MM was asked to obtain two estimates for the work.

The Board proposed to use The Hugh MacPherson bequest for 2021/22 to fund the work, subject to consultation with Sara MacPherson (Action NO).

JB and MM would investigate possible shelter structures for the balcony and report to the next meeting.

MM reported on recent water testing, which showed a very marginal failure on water colour for the first time. This may have resulted from the prolonged dry weather. She would discuss the matter with the Argyll and Bute technical officer. There were no problems with the biological and chemical status of the supply.

6. Taic Report

Current balance £18299

7. Curator Report

A full report on the year would be presented at the AGM.

8. The Archaeological Dig

Regular reports had been posted on the CELM website.

BH agreed to talk to Donnie MacCormick about the possibility of fencing Trench 11, which had not been refilled.

9. AOCB

A reception to thank desk volunteers, organised by Laura Gloag, would take place at 4pm on Friday 23 October in the café.

The Centre would be closed on 22 October because of the predicted power cut.

Argyll & Bute Museums Forum. JB would represent CELM at the Zoom meeting on Thursday 7 October at 11am.

The Board agreed that, in future, responsibility for Saturday Night talks would fall to individuals who would secure speakers, make arrangements, and organise accommodation, where necessary. NO agreed to provide the November talk.

The Centre would host a book launch for Jennifer Baker's Trampoline trilogy on 11 or 12 October. Details to follow.

The first plans were being made for the 2022 Taproot Festival, dates 15-18 or 22-25 September. Further details to follow (Action JB).

In view of the recent interest in illicit stills by the National Trust, MJR raised the possibility of featuring Lismore's stills. He would bring ideas to the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: 4 November at 15.30 pm.