



Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at
INM, 24 July 2023

Present

Directors: Jennifer Baker (JB), Ailsa Clarke (AiC), David Clarke (DC), Clare Haworth (CH part of the meeting), Noelle Odling (NO),
Mike Robertson (MJR), Memory McDonald (MM).

Taic: Anne Livingstone (AL).

Committee Member: Bob Hay (BH Minute Secretary).

Observer: Seonaid MacDonald

Apologies

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

1. Minutes of the Meeting 12 June 2023

Proposed by MJR, seconded JB. Accepted unanimously.

2. Matters arising from 12 June.

Study Visit to Inveraray. All arrangements for 6 visits to Inveraray on 29 July.

Guide to the Graveyard. The Board agreed to the mounting of a waterproof display holder on the existing Graveslabs shelter. Action BH.

Photographic Website. Carried forward to the next meeting in the absence of DB.

Taproot Festival. This year the Taproot festival will take place with various diverse events throughout the winter. A poster will come out in the next few weeks followed by a more detailed programme later. The events are scheduled for the first and third Sunday in each month from October to March (excluding December) in the Museum room.

Achinduin. MJR would consult Duncan Baird, Agrimony, for advice about the census return for Coilengallanach.

3. Treasurer's Report

Total funds £8121.22

Reserved £3,228.32

Unreserved £4892.90

NO was negotiating for a debit card for the use of Taic.

BH provided an update on the status of the funding of post-excavation analyses (attached to these minutes). Approximately £16,700 would be required to complete the work to be

carried out by the National Museum specialists. He was investigation sources. The Board approved restarting the CELM JustGiving page.

The Board again expressed its gratitude to NO for undertaking the complex work as treasurer.

4. Property Report

MM outlined current projects: Replacement of the balcony glass panel; double glazing for the office; toilet upgrade. MM would obtain an estimate of the cost of fencing materials needed to upgrade the CELM boundary. Duncan MacGregor had kindly agreed to pay for half of the cost.

5. Taic

AL had nothing to report at this time.

6. Curator Report

Review of Museum Display.

It was agreed to renew the Feedback/Evaluation forms (Action JB) & to consult the desk volunteers about customer responses. AiC and DC would review problems with the QR codes in the existing and future displays.

MacDougall/McCallum Scholars. BH had spent a very productive day on Lismore with this year's scholar, Helen Anderson. With a background in librarianship and genealogy, she was particularly interested in the CELM archives.

JB and DB would make the arrangements for the pair of scholars delayed by Covid who would visit in September. DB was planning to develop a theme involving Alexander Carmichael, the folklorist.

7. CELM Website

This issue now laid down

8. Church Futures Group

BH provided an update on the work of the group, which had moved on to commissioning a survey to examine the Feasibility of community ownership. It was expected that the survey would be financed by a grant from the Heritage Architectural Fund.

9. AOCB

There were no substantial outstanding issues.

Date of Next Meeting To be arranged

Review of Post-Excavation Analyses (using NMS/Ellis estimates)
July 2023

Preliminary review of artefacts by NMS £900 *Paid*

Soil/Sediment

Wet sieving and sorting. Clare Ellis £558 *Paid*
Charcoal identification. Aberdeen University £240
To be met by Aberdeen
Macroplant analyses. Susan Ramsay **£240**

Bone. Angela Boyle

Cleaning and preliminary analysis (human) £1000 *Paid*
Detailed human analysis **£3,400**
DNA analyses. Crick Institute up to £10,000
To be met by Crick Institute

Metal Working. NMS

Detailed work on moulds, crucibles, slag. **£6,000**
XRF analyses. **£1,500**
£3,000 committed by CELM

Metal Objects. NMS

Iron Identification etc **£1,200**
Iron X-radiography **£600**
Copper Alloy **£150**
Coins **£150**

Carved Objects. NMS

Bone and antler **£450**
Stone **£1,700**
Wood **£2,032**

Pottery. Hall

£500

Radiocarbon Dating (up to £7000)

Number to be decided. Support expected from Aberdeen and the Crick Institute.

Rough estimate of funds still required
£16,700

£14,000 + VAT =

This covers the basic work and does not include photography, illustration, management by NMS etc or radiocarbon dating.

Post-ex funds held by CELM are now exhausted. The suggested strategy now is to secure the necessary funding by asking for support for individual headings.
Approaches so far to the MacDougall Society USA; MacDougall/McCallum Foundation; The Hunter Trust. Considering restarting JustGiving.

Bob Hay. 21 July 2023.