Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at INM, 23 February 2024

Present
Directors: Jennifer Baker (JB), Morag Ferguson (MF), Clare Haworth (CH), Memory McDonald (MM), Noelle Odling (NO), Mike Robertson (MJR).

Committee Member: Bob Hay (BH, Minute Secretary)

Apologies
Douglas Breingan, Ailsa Clarke (AiC), David Clarke (DC), Arthur Cross (AC), Anne Livingstone (AL), Pauline Dowling (PD).

1. Approval of the Minutes of 12 January 2024.
Proposed JB, Seconded MJR, approved unanimously

2. Matters arising from 12 January.
Stiles (PD,CH) and CELM Website (PD). Carried forward to the next meeting.
MacDougall Clan Gathering visits to Lismore. MJR would accompany the visitors on both days. BH would provide an information pack for delegates.

3. Treasurer's Report (NO).
Current Balance £28,633.81
Unrestricted £20,967.20
Restricted (all post-ex) £7,666.61

BH would clarify on JustGiving income since 1 January, and how/when GiftAid donations would be reclaimed.
The balance for Taproot £1,747.06 in the current financial year.
The donation of £500 for the post-ex work had been acknowledged by JB.

4. Property Report (MM).
Thanks to:
The Livingstone Family. The very generous donation from the Livingstone family will be used at their request for the curation and display of the huge collection of photographs in the archive.
Duncan & Freda Drysdale who, at short notice, delivered (and returned) the Barista Coffee Machine for service at Crieff. No additional work was required.
Arthur Cross (AC) for removing the redundant freezer from the back of the centre.
Sarah Jones for shop maintenance.
Laura Gloag for her painstaking recataloguing of the Library collection.

There are still 5 vehicle tyres at the back of the Centre for delivery to the recycling centre at Oban (3 tyres accepted per visit). Directors/members were encouraged to help.

The Board approved purchase of:
2 further cabinets for the Library (approx. £500 + VAT)
8 folding chairs (approx. £500 + VAT)
Proposed MM, Seconded JB, Accepted unanimously.

The Centre would re-open for the 2024 season on Saturday 30 March. There would be a Volunteers' Refresher Day about a week before, date to be fixed.

5. Taic Report.
The renewed contract for the café was being negotiated.
AL requested that the contributions at Duncan Livingstone's funeral be spent on **********

6. Curator Report (BH).
Press Release.
The Board approved the production of a Press Release by BH on the new archaeological findings by mid-March to help in encouraging potential donors for the post-ex work. The contents of the release would be approved before issue by JB, Clare Ellis and Gemma Cruickshanks (NMS)
Proposed JB, Seconded CH, accepted unanimously.

7. Display 2024. Celebration of 30 Years of CELM.
JB would work with MF on the IT needed for the display.
JB would advise BH & MF on the objects & documents required for the display.

8. The Future of CELM: Developing a Vision.
After discussion, it was agreed to initiate a ***major*** review of the future of CELM, starting with a preliminary meeting (before the next Board meeting) of those directors willing to take an active part in a continuing working group. Action JB as Facilitator.

9. Scheduled Monument Condition Monitoring (MJR)
MJR would check the insurance position, and contact Chris Barrowman about the next HES visit to assess Achinduin Castle. The Board would consider the need for a DANGER warning notice.

10. AOCB.
Original Capital Grants for the Building of INM. MM and NO, with assistance to access the INM loft, would check the terms of the grants.

Date of the Next Meeting: 22 March at 2.30.