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

Present
Directors: Jennifer Baker (JB), Arthur Cross (AC), Morag Ferguson (MF), Memory McDonald (MM), Michelle MacGregor (MMac), Noelle Odling (NO).

Committee Members: Bob Hay (BH, Minute Secretary), Pauline Dowling (PD)

Apologies Douglas Breingan (DB), Ailsa Clarke (AiC), David Clarke (DC), Clare Haworth (CH), Anne Livingstone (JL), Julie Livingstone (JL), Mike Robertson (MJR).

1. Approval of the Minutes of 13 Septembere 2024.
Proposed JB, Seconded MMac, approved unanimously

2. Matters arising from 10 May.
Visit of Glencoe Museum. JB would organise a Zoom meeting in November.
Placemaking in Museums (MGS). Online event 5 December. BH would circulate details to the Board when they arrived from MGS.
Skills Matrix. MF reviewed the present form of the matrix, and asked Directors to submit completed forms to her using low (L), Medium (M) and High (H) markings. The final version would be used in support of the Accreditation submission in February.

3. Treasurer's Report (NO). NO to edit, please.
Current Balance £17,034.99
Unrestricted £6,710.72
Restricted (all post-ex) £10,324.27

Stuart Ross was asked (*via* PD) to advise on the practicability/costs of contactless donations to the museum

NO was implementing the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme for CELM, covering donations back to 2023.

In support of Laura Major's (University of Strathclyde) application to the ESRC for funding for the Water display in 2025, NO would formulate costs by 28 October, including the daily cost of the Museum Room, and the purchase of a new office laptop computer.

4. Property Report (MM).
Work this month has included: reorganising the general container, including the purchase of new shelving; and a review of the 2013 Crime Prevention Survey, including the installation

of a CCTV system (already purchased), the locking of property, and a new keyholder list. It was noted, for Accreditation, that arrangements should reflect the security status of the island.

5. Taic.
Nothing to report.

6. Curator Report.
Accreditation. BH was reviewing the targets in the 2022-2026 Forward Plan and would report to the November Board meeting. He noted that the Board had recommended seeking support for a new banner board, featuring Distilling on Lismore. He would explore the possibility of sponsorship for the costs.

BH reported that Gemma Cruickshanks of NMS had advised that, as long as CELM was accredited, it might be possible to receive loans of artefacts from Lismore archaeology *before the completion of the Treasure Trove process,* subject to demonstrating satisfactory security.

7. Education and Outreach.
AiC had requested that the Board decide on what would be needed under this heading in the coming years. It was agreed that a first step should be to develop a handling objects box, using items closely related to the island (but not accessioned items). The Clarkes were asked to report on Education and Outreach to the next meeting.

8. CELM Website.
PD requested that the Website feature more strongly on the agenda of each Board meeting. She reported the difficulty she had experienced in reporting events at INM because participants did not provide relevant copy (text and images – e.g. the recent MacDougall Clan and Argyll Archive visits). She was planning a new website feature "Part Events".

The Board discussed the provision of IT support of the website and asked PD to recommend a suitable replacement consultant, with the additional benefit of fostering Gaelic. The aspiration of the Board was to have part of the contents in Gaelic. Board members were asked to consider how the island Gaelic-speaking community could help in this development.

Next Meeting. 22 November 2.30 at INM.