



Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at
INM, 9 April 2025

Present

Directors: Jennifer Baker (JB), Douglas Breingan (DB), David Clarke (DC), Morag Ferguson (MF), Clare Haworth (CH), Michelle MacGregor (MMac), Memory McDonald (MM), Noelle Odling (NO).

Taic

Sarah Jones (SJ).

Minute Secretary

Bob Hay (BH).

Apologies

Ailsa Clarke (Aic), Pauline Dowling (PD), Anne Livingstone (AL), Julie Livingstone (JL), Mike Robertson (MJR).

1. Approval of the Minutes of 13 March 2025

Proposed JB, Seconded MM. Accepted unanimously.

2. Matters arising from 16 December.

Water Display. JB reported that one double-sided board was ready for the museum room; a further display of the Baligrundle 1 house, with text, was being completed; and one cabinet would be used to accommodate relevant documents.

Computers. MF would contact Matrix to enquire about the archive laptop.

CELM Futures. JB and MF had visited CP Architects to discuss development of the sketches produced by Mike Hyatt and MM. CP architects agreed to produce a “Blocking Plan” for the alterations/expansion, with a deadline for completion in time for the end April application for funding by MGS. It was agreed unanimously (Proposed MM, seconded NO) to proceed, at a cost of around £1,000 for 2 day’s work.

Post-excavation Day Conference.

The Board confirmed its support for the conference, with a provisional date of 9 May 2026. BH would start to investigate funding, and would communicate with the archaeologists about publishing the conference proceedings.

The Cottage.

It was agreed that the time was right for a review of the role and focus of the cottage and its contents. DC, DB and MMac would meet to discuss the future of the cottage and to start implementing the necessary changes, without the need for further discussion by the full Board. MM would review security issues.

Engagement, Handling Objects, Easter.

DC would provide PD with details for the CELM website.

3. Treasurer's Report (NO).

Current Balance £25,530.77

Unrestricted £21,089.56

Restricted (all post-ex) £4,441.21

It was agreed to produce a large banner encouraging donations for events at INM.

4. Property Report (MM).

The side fence wind break of the Rock Whitebeam enclosure had been removed because it was unnecessary, and the calves had been chewing on it.

The ground source heat pump and all refrigeration had been serviced; all seemed well but the report was awaited.

The metal work on the balcony tables had been wire brushed and painted. A new end has been manufactured by Sean. Two other ends were in a poor condition but should last the season and would be replaced then.

Two bicycle stands had been purchased, and they would be installed when the ground anchors arrived.

A replacement blender was required for the café, costing approx. £150.

The Board thanked MM for her continuing tireless work in maintaining the building.

5. Taic Report (AL).

SJ reported that the shop was now fully stocked for the 2025 season. Thanks from the Board to SJ, Catherine Davies and Lesley Hamilton for all their work.

6. Curator Report (BH).

Heritage Duties.

The Board noted that there was a need to find volunteers to undertake the following duties before the end of 2025: Archivist (Board Member); Board Minute Secretary; Accreditation Manager; dealing with Heritage Enquiries; Curator of the Graveslabs Shelter. DB agreed to take over responsibility for environmental monitoring of the museum room, archive room, and museum shipping container.

7. Website.

Copy from PD in her words:

There will effectively be a new website when Helen and I have finished. One that serves Ionad Naomh Moluag well, is easy to navigate and for anyone to manage. That is the aim. Work in progress:

1. Decide on the main menu items – and any sub or sub sub items (well on)
2. Assign all posts and pages their appropriate destination. Only those who know the content can do this.

3. Continue to create all posts from pre 2012 when the website was started. Using the digital archive on my computer, I am slowly creating new posts from 1992 -2012. This history has, up until now, been missing or rather been with me. (2007-2025 done) Sometimes I can get 3 or 4 done per day, sometimes it's quicker. It could be months rather than weeks.

I am now very clear about what is required and prepared to do it. I am so lucky to have Helen (Crossan) covering the things my brain has no time to learn (even if capable). Her expertise is invaluable as is my archive.

8. AGM.

Provisional date 14 June

9. AOCB.

- NO reported that CELM had switched energy suppliers from SSE to EDF
- Board members were encouraged to attend the Church Futures meeting at Lismore Parish Church. 7pm 10 April
- The former Lismore Kirk Session was proposing to dispose of its historic communion tokens. DB would discuss marketing with AL.
- Date for diaries: 31 May 6pm. Launch of *Monks and Bishops. The Isle of Lismore 560-1560* at Waterstone's in Oban.

Date of Next Meeting 14 May at 2.30 pm