



Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors of Comann Eachdraidh Lios Mòr held at INM 14 May 2026

Present

Jennifer Baker (JB), Morag Ferguson (MF), Michelle MacGregor (MMG), Noelle Odling (NO), Memory MacDonald (MM), Douglas Breignan online (DB), Anne Livingstone (AL), Mary MacDougall (MMD), Sebastian Tombs (ST)

Apologies

Clare Haworth (CL), Mike Robertson (MR), Dave Clarke (DC), Ailsa Clarke (AC), Pauline Dowling (PD), Sarah Armitage (SA), Julie Livingstone (JL)

1. Approval of minutes of 23rd April 2026

Proposed MF, Seconded MM

2. Matters arising

No matters arising

3. Treasurers report (NO)

Restricted £15,027.33

Unrestricted £21,698.68

Total £36,726.01

Margaret Miller is keen to cover the cost of the publication of the findings/research from the archaeological digs.

4. Property (MM, DB)

DB reported that the thatch in the Cottage is to be removed and stored by MF. The lead work around the chimney needs to be repaired (Davy Carpenter to be asked about this). CELM would need to provide scaffolding. Richardson and Starling have quoted £400 + VAT (includes travel) for a woodworm survey of the Cottage. DB to ask for a quote for survey and treatment on the same day if possible. Other elements could be added to the quote i.e. wet rot on wood cladding.

Anita Livingstone has requested that if any visitors would like to see the Staff at her home could the desk volunteers please call ahead to see if she is available rather than send visitors to her home without notice.

Some outdoor paintwork has been completed around the decking and windows. Davy Carpenter is working on getting new cills in. The paintwork on the emergency lights needs to be addressed. The Board thanks Memory for all her hard work organising maintenance and undertaking paintwork at the heritage centre.

5. TAIC (AL)

AL reported that everything is going well. MF is to send a note of the TAIC finances and balance to AL.

6. Curator report (MF)

The Finds from the archaeological dig are to remain in the Museum for a month. MF reported that CELM would need to wait up to 2 years before claiming for treasure trove. MF to see whether enlarged photos of the archaeological Finds on display are available that could be used in the museum. The paperwork for loan of the Appin Head (only renewed to October and seems to have a crack which might make it difficult to move) and Viking Gold has been completed with Sharon Webb from Kilmartin Museum. The Breckenbridge family who owned the Appin Head would like it displayed in a local museum. MF confirmed that if we loan an object from another museum, we must have it on display during the duration of the loan.

Ehive has been updated. CELM is expecting the arrival of a new laptop for the archive room. The data from the sensors monitoring for humidity need to be checked on the computer.

Archaeology - DB to contact Glasgow University to find out what is in the 6-8 boxes that they hold with Lismore marked on them. DB suggested that the finds from the Broch should be available for treasure trove. The skeletons in the container are awaiting DNA analysis which could cost between £5-10K. Dr Noble may be able to undertake the DNA analysis. The MacDougall McCallum Foundation may be approached regarding funding of the DNA analysis. The skeletons are to be reinterred after the analysis. DB to speak to Argyll and Bute Council about the process of reinterment.

DB reported that some stones in the graveyard need to be removed to protect them as they are vulnerable to damage during grass cutting. Permission will be required from Argyll and Bute Council to remove the stones.

7. Website

Photos and information on the latest events are to be sent to Pauline to be put on the website.

8. Futures update (SB, JB, MF)

SB has had online conversations with Emily Chandler (Grants Manager) regarding procedural matters and financial reporting. SB discussed Helmsdale as an exemplar of a similar project arts and heritage centre, although they had a bigger budget. DB interested in the archives and support available for training. The next small grant application is in October. SB will be liaising with the National Lottery and Postcode Lottery. The National Lottery would welcome a full application and have given detailed feedback. SB to meet with David

Rance from the Glencoe Museum. SB is developing a brief for architects and looking at practices with sustainable and innovative approaches. SB to contact Jenni Minto to give her an overview of what is happening on the island. Dr Noble would be able to provide evidence of the importance of the archaeological Finds to support applications for funding and the need for an expanded display area for objects.

9. Taproot

Taproot needs some more music events for 2026/27 season, ideas welcome.

10. Board

MF distributed a copy of the skills matrix for Board members to update. Inclusion and Environmental Climate Agenda to be added in as new columns.

11. ACOB and date of next meeting

Margaret MacKichan is winding up her collection of photos that she has taken on Lismore and has sent some to MMD.

Next meeting of CELM Board – Monday 22nd June at 11.30am in the Library Room

AGM - TBC