Minutes of the CELM Board held at Ionad Naomh Moluag

24 September 2026

Present:

Morag Ferguson (MF), Michelle MacGregor (MMG), Noelle Odling (NO), Mary MacDougall (MMD), Anne Livingstone (AL), Clare Haworth (CH), Douglas Breingan (DB), Memory McDonald (MM)

Apologies:

Sarah Armitage (SA), Pauline Dowling (PD), Julie Livingstone (JL)

ACTION

1. Approval of the Minutes of Meeting 27th August 2026.
Proposed Morag Ferguson, Seconded Mary MacDougall.

2. Matters Arising
CH raised the matter of the use of the Library Room for Community Trust Meetings. The Community Trust has agreed to use the community hall wherever possible. Island charitable groups may use the Library Room for meetings for a donation. Others that use the Library Room for meetings will be charged a fee plus VAT.
Ehive subscription has been renewed.
Landmark Press payment was actioned by **MF**.
The Microsoft Licence for 3 users has been paid and user licences activated by **MF/NO**.
MF now using a ***lismoremuseum.com*** email domain for CELM business. If anyone on the Board would like a ***lismoremuseum.com*** email address this can be provided through **MF**.
MF has set up a Sharepoint Site via Microsoft Office 365 for Governance Documents so that all Board members can view policy documents and other information easily.
MMD to speak to Pauline regarding information she has on Anne Campbell about her time in Singapore during the war for possible blog post. **MMD**
Sebastian Tombs has updated his survey for visitors regarding the Futures Development following recent comments he received from Board members.

3. Treasurers Report (NO)

Restricted	£14,636.00
Unrestricted	£18,190.32
TOTAL	£32,836.32

The BT broadband contact is coming to an end in October. **AL** has some of the original contract information. **NO & AL** to organise a new contract for broadband.

NO to speak to **MM** regarding use of email and to gradually change the contact email information to the ***lismoremuseum.com*** address. **NO & AL**
The Board would like to thank Noelle for assisting **MF** with financial information for accreditation documentation.

4. Property Report
Accommodation has been arranged for the wood worm treatment specialists visiting from 9-10 November. The thatcher (Neil) will be up to undertake work but not before the woodworm treatment. The thatch currently inside the Cottage needs to be stored outside upright under a sheltered area of the Heritage Centre. **DB** to coordinate any help he needs to get objects and furniture moved for the woodworm treatment. **DB** Neil is a native Gaelic speaker and **DB** suggested it would be useful to get some Gaelic words relating to thatching for future information/display.
CELM wishes to thank Ruairdh Livingstone for pressure washing the slabs outside the Heritage Centre.

5. TAIC
TAIC reported that the heritage books in the shop have achieved a profit of over £1.4K

6. Curator Report
DB to be named as Curator for the Heritage Centre with a team of Curators responsible for the following areas:
MF - Objects
Jennifer Baker - Images and documents
DB - Cottage

7. Website
Nothing to Report. The Board would like to thank Pauline for the recent dual language posts.

8. Futures Update
Sebastian is currently looking at the costs associated with upgrading various aspects of the building such as heating. The project may require CELM to take on bridging loans to balance the gap between invoices in and payments received from funders. The gap may be bridged by using Scottish Investments Limited which is currently being explored.
MF to discuss with Peggy a possible visit to a museum on Skye which has had good reviews. **MF**
The Museum Room will need a brief written for the requirements for equipment, display cabinets, storage, lighting, etc. **DB** will be involved in providing information for the brief.
The CELM Board thanks Sebastian for all his work to date.

9. Accreditation
MF outlined the issues with the Accreditation paperwork submitted in January 2025. Alice Veness is our contact for the reaccreditation process at Museum Galleries Scotland (MGS). Questions were raised by MGS following their recent review of the submission for reaccreditation on security, documentation and policies. All Board members were emailed copies of the updated plans and policies required for the accreditation for review. Each of the areas requiring further information were discussed amongst the CELM Board as follows:

Five Year Forward Plan - The Board previously approved this plan at a Board meeting on the 16 December 2024. The Board went through the document which has been updated reviewing the aims, objectives and the resource plan to assess whether they were still our priorities. The Board agreed unanimously to formally approve and adopt the updated plan subject to some minor corrections.

Access and Audience, Policies and Plans – The Board had a robust discussion about the importance of good practice with respect to Access and Audience. Sebastian, Jennifer and **MF** had noted strengths and weaknesses and identified gaps in the policy. The Board approved the updated policy.

Collections Development Policy – **MF** explained to the Board the issues with the previous policy and the changes that had been made which included legal paragraphs. There was a wider discussion about the collections and future aspirations. The Board unanimously agreed to the changes and approved the policy.

Documentation Procedural Manual – This document contains the documentation policy and aims for the Lismore Museum Collection. This policy has not changed but the Board agreed that there was no evidence in previous Minutes of Meeting formally approving the policy. The Board agreed unanimously to approve this policy document.

Care and Conservation Policy and Plan - This document has not changed but the Board agreed there was also no evidence in previous Minutes of Meeting of the policy being approved formally. The Board reviewed the content and agreed to approve the policy and plan.

MF in response to the discussion, proposed that a new mission statement might be appropriate in the future but consultation with the community and other interested parties would be undertaken before any changes. **MF**

MF to speak to the National Library of Scotland about the digitising of media which they undertake free of charge but retain a copy. Clarity on copyright would be required. There was a renewed commitment by the Board to changing the program of displays in the Museum Room annually as in previous years.

10. AOCB

AL noted that 2027 marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of the Heritage Centre. The Board agreed that the occasion should be celebrated in March 2027. **AL** to look at previous list of invitees and start preparations for marking the event. The new large screen in the Museum Room could be used for a slide show presentation of events over the years. **AL**

DB would like to hold sessions looking at and discussing documents in the archive with groups of volunteers or those interested on the Board.

Eileen Tisdall of Stirling University from the Centre for the Sciences of Place and Memory has contacted CELM as she would like to do a TAPROOT event to discuss the findings of the research undertaken on the island around Balnagown Loch. **JB**

Tom will be assisting CELM with some of the Treasurer tasks over the next few months.

The CELM Board would like to express their thanks to our Chair for all the time and work she has undertaken recently for the Accreditation submission.

Date of next Meeting Monday 12th October 2016 @ 11.30am in Library Room.