

October Meeting of the Shire of Bordescros.

Date: 15/10/2017. Meeting started: 12:45 pm. 19 Snowdon St, Wodonga and via Skype

Present: Joy Walker (Chair); Tracey Sawyer (Minutes); Tamsin Walle-Semmler; Scott Murrowood; Scott Bulters; Kim Palmer. Via SKYPE: Helen South; Darryl South; James Willis; Julie Willis; Andrew Walker.

Apologies: Anastasia Jubb; Vicki Boyd; Debbie Sanders;

Previous minutes:

MOTION: September minutes be accepted as posted to Dropbox.
(See below)

Business Arising:

Julie requested the following amendments be made to September minutes:

- * A&S report: Julie was made an A&S deputy in May;
- * Other Business: when discussing the motion whether we want to begin the process of moving from Shire to Barony: change the first sentence about meeting the criteria for many years to include the exception that occurred three years ago when Julie became Reeve.

AMENDED MOTION: That September minutes be accepted with the amendments and posted to Dropbox.

MOVED: Tracey Sawyer

SECOND: Paul Willis

CARRIED

Correspondence In/Out:

1. Border Dimensions regarding insurance, site, etc. (Albury)
2. Albury Wodonga Sport Fishing Club – Receipt for last rent payment; no response to emails (Albury)
3. Bank Statement (Wagga): Note address still needs to be changed; Gunther to contact Tim Liersch again.

Reports:

SENESCHAL Joy Walker/Cairistiona inghean Raghnaill

1. This is a busy month for us, with Border Dimensions yesterday and Fusion in 2 weeks. Thank you to those who came along to help showcase our Shire. With 21 members turning up, it was amazing! The fighting was lots of fun, and there was a lot of A&S on display. We are already seeing a response from the event. There is potential for a 'Newcomers' in November, but it looks like there will be very few fighters available.
2. The Shire continues to be going well, with currently 33 members in total. This is 12 in the north, and 21 in the south. There are others who are playing regularly, but not yet made the step to financial membership, mainly in the south. We have one of the best membership increase rates in the Kingdom (7%) but this is mainly from returning members, rather than 'new blood'.
3. The idea of serious consideration towards becoming a Barony is heating up, and I have prepared a pros/cons list as requested at the last meeting, with some assistance from Gunther this was circulated with the Agenda. I have also extracted some information from the Lochac Handbook. There is a lot to

consider, but it all comes down to what do we want Bordescros to look like in the future, be it 1, 2 or 5 years time.

4. The draft submission has been prepared for November Crown 2018, using the Wodonga Racecourse as the venue, and keeping it simple. The catering will be focussed on the Feast, and there is no onsite accommodation. If anyone is interested in assisting, and being part of the stewarding crew, please let me know.
5. Gunther was provided with an Ambassadorial letter for his journey to Great Southern Gathering, and his journey report has raised some interesting opportunities, which I will let him elaborate on. (See Ambassador's Report, under Other Business.)
6. If anyone else is wayfaring to an event outside of our Shire, please let me know so that you can be appointed an ambassador, if you would like to be. It is purely ceremonial, and part of the theatre of the SCA, but is a nice touch. Wayfaring is a great way to see how other groups in the SCA go about doing things. In between what we do in Bordescros, and what happens at Rowany Festival, there is a whole world.
7. Speaking of world, many of you will have no doubt seen that the borders of Lochac have now been expanded to take in the Shire of Grand Cathay in China.
8. Thank you to Thomasina for printing off some flyers for Border Dimensions, and also to try and target people who are interested in music and dance. It is one area that we are currently lacking.
9. On the subject of group badges, the results so far, from 15 votes is:

		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	TOTAL
Design One		6	6	1			13
Design Two		7	3	3			13
Design Three				4	5		9
Design Four		1					1
Design Five		1	3	5			9
Design Six							?

10. Fusion Festival is next Saturday in Wagga, and I hope that we have lots of support for the display up there. James has organised a larger area for us, which should make it better.

DEPUTY SENESCHAL- Loch Corbie – Paul Willis/James Douglas

1. Things are happening as usual. Although some members away, training ran as normal. 4-5 turn up at each Tuesday training.
2. Paul Willis has not heard anything since his last contact with the Fusion Festival organisers, but that conversation advised set up is from 2 pm, we have 2 sites next to each other, one with a sunshade and one without, similar to last year's set-up. James will an armouring display, plus banners and an armoured dress-dummy. They will have all the required Constabulary paperwork there.
3. The Seneschal will send a copy of the flyer made up for Border Dimensions with up-to-date info on it, so that it can be adjusted to suit Wagga members. Also, can Albury send up more business cards, and the eric rope and portable holes. Pavilion not required, but extra banners would be nice. Lowry will put in a

trestle table and table cloths for set up behind-the-scenes for our personal use.
BYO chairs, water and sunscreen.

REEVE – Scott Bulters / Gunther Boese

1. Balance at the end of September/first of October was \$7,143.57, split as Wagga, \$2,648.09, Albury \$2,416.16 & BW \$2,079.32.
2. Julie has been removed as Deputy Reeve.
3. Documentation is needed for the shield bosses that were purchased, either an invoice or a receipt.
4. **MOTION:** That the Reeve's report in Dropbox be accepted.
MOVED: Paul Willis
SECOND: Scott Murrowood
CARRIED

MARSHAL – Scott Murrowood / Robert Campbell

1. September has been busy. The demo in Albury went well.
2. A training session was held the week following the demo, and two new fighters turned up who had been to the demo. They are very keen. Tamsin has the insurance funds from that fighter training and will bank them this week.
3. More work is needed on group armour to bring it up to specifications. The group helmets failed inspection, Duke Eirik is welding up new cages for them and they will be weld tested before use.
4. There has been pressure from Kingdom level to bring armour up to specs, especially the helmets. There is one month's grace to bring armour up to requirements and then no more training will be allowed if armour does not meet specified standards.
5. There was one injury this month to the Marshal's fingers. No injuries in Wagga.
6. A new form for Lists has been emailed out by the Kingdom Marshal, as now we need to provide evidence that all heavies have signed in to an event before they fight, including training.

HERALD – Tracey Sawyer / Lowry ferch Gwynwyn

1. Pleased to report that Kolgrima Hrafnisdottir has passed (name) with the notation that it is a very nice name construction.
2. I am in the process of conflict checking Grizelle McGray's name and device and struggling with the electronic drawing. It should be ready for Grizelle to sign off on it by the end of this week.
3. I am re-sending Eleanor Gardener's device, with the correct drawing, as it bounced with a slightly incorrect drawing which was my fault, but the correct drawing should be conflict free.
4. ffrwi ffride Wlffsdotter came up last Sunday and ran a workshop on using GIMP, Inkscape and Paint to do electronic drawing submissions. It was very useful and I have typed up my notes. ffrwi ffride is currently checking it and is adding screen grabs to explain the process. When ready we will be able to make that available to others in the Shire who want to learn how to do them.

ARTS & SCIENCES – Kim Palmer / Kolgrima Hrafnisdottir

Deputy Albury: Thomasina/Tamsin; Wagga: Mathilde/Julie

1. There were a lot of crafts on display at Border Dimensions. Thank you to all who brought and did things.

2. With so many prospective newcomers we will be having some basic garb lessons organised shortly.
3. A&S in Wagga:
 - a. Helen now has a spinning wheel and has started getting into spinning, and is doing well.
 - b. Balmoral TAFE has a course coming soon on how to set up a loom. Julie is going to that.
 - c. Flat-felled seams
 - d. WW Council and CSU Outreach program: the lecturer was a specialist in Islamic Arts, he did a class on tents and is now teaching Renaissance. James went to the second lecture which was very interesting, Wagga Choir and soloists. Dr Lee, one of the soloists talked to James as he wants to get involved in armoury etc now. (Dr Lee was at Border War 6 years ago, has resigned in Sydney and is now back teaching in Wagga; one of his Master's students is Mistress Bess from the SCA.)

CONSTABLE – Andrew Walker / Aelthwyn Maccuswell

1. Took data from Dropbox, from September 10th (last meeting) until today (15/10/17):
 - a. Wagga

i. Training (12/09)	5 members
ii. Training (19/09)	7 members
iii. Training (26/09)	4 members
 - b. Albury

i. A&S (10/09)	7 members
ii. Gathering (16/09)	16 members 3 non-members
iii. Training (14/10)	3 members 2 non-members
2. Border Dimensions Demo: 21 members took part. There was 1 injury to the Marshal's fingers (as previously advised).

LISTS – VACANT – (Acting: Gunther and Cairistiona)

1. Gunther travelled to Great Southern Gathering learnt about a digital program being trialled to make lists much easier. Krae Glas are in the process of tweaking it and will bring it to Border War for us to trial, if we want.
2. At Border Dimensions, Duke Eirik had the most wins, with Lady Sofija coming second, a full copy of the list will be sorted out and put onto Dropbox when available.

WEBMINISTER – Helen South / Sigrun of Bordescros

1. Helen's application has been ratified by Kingdom WebMinister. Congratulations.
2. Sigrun is hoping to get a handover from Kimberley Beattie. She intends to update the graphics (as they are still the one's Lowry set up about 15 years ago).
3. We need to expand our list of annual events to include regular events like Yule Feast, Border Dimensions, Fusion Festival and the rest.
4. Looking at other groups quite a few have out of date pages, so it will good to have ours up-to-date.
5. We need to prioritise the website, feed our social media pages back to the website, link any members blogs and YouTube videos, etcetera, so that when newly interested folk visit the site there is something for them to get excited about.

HOSPITALLER – Tamsin Walle / Thomasina Coke & CHATELAINE – Debbie Sanders / Eleanor Gardener

1. Border Dimensions was great with many members handing out flyers and business cards, and just explaining to the audience what was happening. Tamsin was impressed with the amount of engagement. The display was good, as people were actually doing stuff, there was plenty of variety in garb (without even checking with each other), there were candies for people to taste, hands-on activities, pageantry, getting the crowd to join in the cheering and booing, taunts and badinage between the fighters really got the crowd involved.

CHIRURGEON – VACANT

1. One injury, as previously reported.

YOUTH OFFICER – VACANT

1. If we can get a Youth Officer we can have our younger players engage in things like rapier (from 10 yrs old) as well archery, boffer and games.
2. Youth Officer will need a Working With Children's Check. If you get one as a volunteer they are cheaper than if you get it for work. Separate WWCCs are needed for NSW & Vic.
3. The YO will also need to liaise with WebMinister to put Youth activities up on the website.
4. Finally, last month the egg painting and hobby-horse racing was really popular with the younger members. They really do want to join in on the activities at events.

Seneschal: It is nice to have all officers on board and at the meeting, and reporting to Kingdom on time. Nico, the Kingdom Seneschal said if any group got all their reports in on time he would give them a Toblerone! We got a Toblerone to share!

GENERAL BUSINESS: (a) MOTIONS PROPOSED FOR DISCUSSION AT THIS MEETING:

MOTION 1: That a poll be put to the current Bordescros financial adult members as to what future direction they would like Bordescros to take with the following 3 options:

- i: Continue with no changes to structure; or
- ii: Proceed to Barony; or
- iii: Split into two shires.

Each member would make one selection.

DISCUSSION: On the issue of splitting into two shires, the email with this motion was forwarded to the Kingdom Seneschal who basically said, the Kingdom needs to know what people want, but the Kingdom and Society board will make the final decision as to what happens. His letter is attached as Appendix 1. So a poll will be set up and sent out to those who currently play within the Shire. By SCA Corpora and Lochac Laws that includes all who play, whether they are adults or children, are annual members, or pay the day event fee.

MOVED: Julie Willis

SECOND: Tracey Sawyer

CARRIED

MOTION 2: That minutes of meetings be emailed out to all attendees and to those who have submitted apologies, as not all attendees have access to Dropbox, within ~~seven~~ ten days.

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DISCUSSION: The minutes of the meetings are currently emailed out to all financial members of Bordescros as well as regular players because not all members have access to Dropbox. Real Life™ can get in the way, so extend it to ten days.

MOVED: Julie Willis
SECOND: Scott
CARRIED

MOTION 3: That a formal vote of thanks be made to Lee and Marieangela for all the support they have given to Loch Corbie and the Shire, and for the intensity they have brought to the fighting while they have been here with us.

MOVED: Paul Willis
SECOND: Tamsin Walle-Semmler
CARRIED

EVENTS:

Local events: Upcoming Events.

21 Oct	Fusion Festival – Wagga
4 Nov	Northern Gathering - Wagga
12 Nov	Shire Curia
18 Nov	Southern Gathering – Albury – “NewComers”
1-3 Dec	Fields of Gold (No Northern Gathering)
10 Dec	Shire Curia
16 Dec	Yule Feast (Christmas) Gathering – Albury rooms Propose that this be a special event, encouraging wayfarers and locals alike. Next meeting discuss theme and who would like to volunteer to steward it?
20 Jan 2018	Southern Gathering - Albury
3 Feb	Northern Gathering – Wagga
17 Feb	Packing for Border War - Casual dress & meal
23-25 Feb	Border War XX

Border War:

- 1) Gunther has been doing the bookings, we are up to 19 people booked and several have already paid. Which is a good start.
- 2) Tokens: tools have been purchased and the leather is available, so they will be done soon.
- 3) Des Howard has volunteered to organise Combat Archery for the Marshal, and can bring some children’s bows and arrows for loaning out.
- 4) Some A&S classes have been volunteered, Tamsin may run one on the subtlety she is making up for the event. To be discussed with Kim.
- 5) Report from Kitchen Steward is that everything is on track. No allergies recorded as yet.
- 6) Decorations are more or less organised and will soon be underway. It is urgent we start soon as if we Christmas and New Year out, there are only about three full months to go to the war.

November Crown Bid:

Although this is due on 26th October, a preliminary bid has been sent. We are waiting on information from the venue, we will need to discuss it further as it starts at \$1344 and has extras added on, such as \$500 for parking, etc. In the meantime, Seneschal will chase up Holbrook Hall and Culcairn Showground as venues, as they are both much cheaper.

OTHER BUSINESS

- 1) Ambassador's Report: Gunther Boese
Ambassador travelled to Ynys Fawr for Great Southern Gathering, he taught a class on heraldry (reprise of the one done at last Border War), was Marshal in Charge for rapier and heavy. Called up in court and thanked.
He also read the letter from the Shire to the Southern groups, which was a great success. He was able to spruik Border War 20, encouraging as many from the south as possible to join in fighting off the northerners.
He spoke to the Baron/ess of Kraes Glas and Innilgard, and both will be sending groups to BW. Ynys Fawr are hoping they can send some.
Krae Glas are hosting GSG next year and wondered if we would like to assist them in running it, with the possibility of us taking it on in 2019. They also suggested a joint Krae Glas/Bordescros annual event, maybe around Bright-Myrtleford for example. Can we discuss this possibility next meeting?
He also talked to the baronages present about what things need to be considered when becoming a barony and emailed a copy to BorderList. (See Appendix 2.)
- 2) Armour repairs needed to get group armour ready for newcomers, including arrow mesh and rivets. Yokel to follow up. **Also a reminder that some months ago we voted money be spent to make up two complete loaner rapier kits for Albury-Wodonga, similar to Wagga's loaner kit. This needs to happen sooner rather than later, as we want to get rapier happening down south.

Next meeting: Sunday 12 Nov 2017 at 12:30 pm via usual methods / at 19 Snowden St
Wodonga

Meeting ended: 2:30 pm

See next pages for Appendices:

APPENDIX 1

Letter from Kingdom Seneschal in response to Seneschal's email regarding new motions put to meeting.

----- Original message -----

From: Lochac Seneschal <seneschal@lochac.sca.org>
Date: 26/09/2017 11:00 PM (GMT+10:00)
To: 'scabordescros' <scabordescros@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Proposals for October meeting agenda items

Hi Cairistiona –

Believe it or not, I think it is a good thing to have the motion put. If the conversation is going on anyway, then it's better to get it out in the open. My only reservation is that the first two options read like 'stay one shire forever' versus 'go to barony now' – there isn't an obvious choice for someone who wants to go barony in six months or a year's time.

I will make the point that the decision to split into two shires won't rest with the group. If someone wants to form a new shire, they will need to put a submission to me that identifies who the proposed officers would be, and gives me reason to believe they would be able to run a stable and successful group. If they were people with a track record as past officers of Bordescros, that would carry some weight. If they were people who had not previously offered service to the existing shire, I would also take that into consideration in assessing their applications for the proposed new offices. I would also take into consideration whether or not the split threatened the viability of the group left behind – would the proposal leave me with two shires, each small enough that I thought them unlikely to survive? That call will sit with me and the Crown, and anyone who believes they can make the case should be free to try, but recognise that it is a difficult case to make.

If (for example) everyone in Wagga voted for the split and everyone in Albury voted against, that would also be something I would take into consideration. Balancing against those factors (all of which are reasons not to split) I would take into consideration whether forcing everyone to stay in one shire when some wanted to leave would introduce tensions that might ultimately kill the group anyway (or just mean a few disaffected people left), and whether or not splitting the group might actually help increase our membership in the long term (it could be a healthy form of mitosis).

Feel free to share my thinking with anyone you want to discuss this with, including Julie.

Cheers,
Nico

APPENDIX 2

This is an extract from the Lochac Kingdom Handbook, providing definitions and explanations as to the roles of Barons/Baronesses and Group Seneschal

It should be noted that while a Shire, there is much of the B&B role that comes within the role of the Seneschal.

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Barons and Baronesses

It is the responsibility of the Crown to appoint and remove Barons and Baronesses from each of the Baronies of Lochac, in accordance with Lochac Law and Corpora.

Appointment and Removal

Barons and Baronesses are appointed in accordance with Corpora (V) and Article IV section 6 of Kingdom Law.

A Baron and/or Baroness may be removed or suspended by the Crown.

A Baron and/or Baroness are automatically suspended from office while serving as King and/or Queen of Lochac.

A Baron and/or Baroness are automatically suspended from office should their memberships lapse. Should the Baron and Baroness be suspended from office, their duties are partially performed by a Vicar, with the following limitations:

- A vicar may not hold court.
- A vicar may not issue awards.
- A vicar may not wear the Baronial regalia, but will usually hold it in safe keeping.

Reporting

Barons and Baronesses report to the Crown, and not to the Kingdom or any other Seneschal. Their reports are delivered in writing, and may be accompanied by a brief verbal outline in Court. The reporting schedule for the Baronies of Lochac is contained in Lochac law. Internal reports on their activities to their group at group meetings are strongly encouraged

Duties of Baron and Baroness vs. those of the Seneschal

Seneschal

- Be the chief administrator of the group, and the chief representative of the Kingdom Seneschal within the group. The Seneschallate implements and interprets Kingdom Law.
- Send quarterly reports to the Kingdom Seneschal.
- Collect reports from the group officers.
- Handle Dispute Resolution procedure, second and subsequent stages and take whatever other appropriate actions are needed to build and maintain a healthy, inclusive administrative c (sic)
- Represent the Kingdom Seneschal as the chief mundane legal representative and administrative officer of the group.
- Make final determinations as to the group's calendar of events. Liaise with the Seneschals of nearby groups to avoid major clashes between large events.
- Attend Baronial council and actively participate in the discussions there. Ensure that meeting minutes are recorded (preferably by another person), including all decisions of the meeting. Implement those decisions as required. The Seneschal is responsible for running the Baronial meeting, and so may appoint someone else to minute and/or chair the meeting as required (the Seneschal should not attempt to both chair and minute the meeting).
- Record and publish (as required) any administrative details as to the status of the group -- office changeovers, decisions of the Baronial council, etc.

Baron and Baroness

- Be the chief representative of the Crown within the group. The Crown makes decisions about Kingdom Law.
- Hold Court, distribute awards and receive award recommendations.
- Determine at which events Court will be held, and liaise with the event stewards as to timing and requirements for Court. Direct the group herald as to the requirements for heraldry in Court.

- Attend and observe Baronial council meetings. If requested by the Seneschal, act as moderator for any discussions and/or chair the meeting.
- Represent the King and Queen as the primary authority of law in the land. Be responsible for upholding the law and the word of the Crown, including dealing with banishments, announcing Law changes and decisions of the Crown.
- Remain in contact with the King and Queen, to determine any requirements for Royal visits, etc. Direct the Seneschal regarding event and calendar requirements for Royal visits.
- Represent the group to the Kingdom. Appear as the Group's formal representative at Kingdom Court. Represent the wishes of the group to Their Majesties in relations to Kingdom Law, Kingdom decisions that affect the realm and the Barony (eg: Kingdom event bids, etc).
- Represent the group to the real world. Receive and approve any requests for demos, maintain good public relations, and be aware of events, arts council and similar activities, and other festivities that the group can participate in. Liaise with the Seneschal to determine whether these events fit into the group's calendar.
- Represent the Crown in the appointment of group officers. Liaise with the Kingdom officers to determine suitable and acceptable office holders for the Barony, and with the Seneschal at times when existing office holders appear to be troubled or failing in the performance of their duties.
- Work with the Seneschal and Baronial Council to develop and carry out an effective long term strategy for growing the Barony's numbers, activities, capabilities and enjoyment, and fostering the development of new or offshoot groups remote from the Barony's centre.
- Nurture and strengthen the Barony's culture and environment by example, and by recognising and rewarding the actions of others which have positive effects.

(See next page for table – side-by-side – view of this information.)

SENESCHAL	B & B
Chief Administrator	
Chief Representative of the Kingdom Seneschal	Chief Representative of the Crown
Implements and interprets Kingdom Law	Makes decisions about Kingdom Law.
Quarterly reports to the Kingdom Seneschal	Hold Court, distribute awards and receive award recommendations
Collect reports from the group officers	Barons and Baronesses report to the Crown, and not to the Kingdom or any other Seneschal.
Handle Dispute Resolution procedure, second and subsequent stages	Determine at which events Court will be held & liaise with the event stewards & direct the group herald at events
Attend Baronial council and actively participate in the discussions there.	Attend and observe Baronial council meetings
Chair/ running the Baronial meeting	Act as moderator for any discussions
Ensure that meeting minutes are recorded	
	Represent the King and Queen as the primary authority of law in the land.
	Represent the wishes of the group to Their Majesties in relations to Kingdom Law, Kingdom decisions that affect the realm and the Barony
Chief mundane legal representative	Represent the group to the real world.
Liaise with the Seneschals of nearby groups to avoid major clashes between large events.	Receive and approve any requests for demos, maintain good public relations, and be aware of events, arts council and similar activities, and other festivities that the group can participate in
Make final determinations as to the group's calendar of events	Liaise with the Seneschal to determine whether these events fit into the group's calendar.
Record and publish (as required) any administrative details	Represent the Crown in the appointment of group officers. Liaise with the Kingdom officers to determine suitable and acceptable office holders for the Barony, and with the Seneschal at times when existing office holders appear to be troubled or failing in the performance of their duties.
	Work with the Seneschal and Baronial Council to develop and carry out an effective long term strategy for growing the Barony's numbers, activities, capabilities and enjoyment, and fostering the development of new or offshoot groups remote from the Barony's centre
Green indicates similar or shared responsibilities while unshaded indicates different areas of responsibility.	Nurture and strengthen the Barony's culture and environment by example, and by recognising and rewarding the actions of others which have positive effects