

CLAN MACLEAN HERITAGE TRUST

MINUTES OF THE 17th MEETING

Held at 5 North Charlotte St, Edinburgh at 3.00pm
on the 17th March 2003

Attendees: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch.
Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern.
Lt. Col. Donald MacLean.
Mrs Fiona Maclean of Ardgour.
Dr. James MacLean. Treasurer.
Malcolm F MacLean. Secretary.

1. Apologies: Received from Marigold Maclean, Australia.

2. Minutes of the 16th Meeting: Accepted by all present.

3. Chief's Trustee Appointment The Chief requested that this item be held pending. There was again discussion that Prof. Ephraim might accept an invitation to become a co-opted trustee. Allan to action.

4. Finances:

a. Current Position

James reported that the current balance on account was £2040 + £450 due to be received less a sum for anticipated expenses.

b. Value Added Tax

Allan stressed the need to be careful when paying VAT, once paid it is not recoverable. He went on to say that C & E had confirmed that no VAT is payable on the Inverkeithing panels, thus £249.38 had been saved. However with the copies of the Maclean Charter C & E had ruled that VAT of £55.13 was due, and this charge had now been paid.

c. Duart Gathering Wedding

James reported that despite a carefully worded letter to Conally suggesting a figure of £100, nothing has ever been received. Allan was tasked with writing to Donald (London) so that an e/mail request can be made.

d. Special Party at the 2002 Gathering

The cheque sent to Mary had been returned, as a gift towards our funds.

5. Books and Archive.

a. Archives and Papers

Allan said that all the above will be transferred to the National Archives and Tobermory as soon as indexing is completed.

6. Loans and Deposits

a. Kaid Sir Harry Maclean Relics

Allan said the arrangements had been made at the New Club, Princes Street for a small reception comprising of Friends of the CMHT, Trustees and others at the meeting, plus some locally based Macleans to attend. The introduction and welcome would be given by Allan, who would give a thumbnail sketch on the Macleans of Drimnin. Locker Madden will be expected to give a reply to the introduction and then present the Kaid artefacts to the Chief. Fiona and Mac have been asked to co-ordinate the placement of the artefacts on loan to the Tobermory Museum. All those present took home with them a colour photocopy of the "Spy" cartoon of the Kaid as a memento of the occasion. It is anticipated that the Spy cartoon photocopy will be made available to all current Friends in due course.

b. Gaelic Bible

Allan is currently awaiting a valuation of the above from Donald MacCormick, bookseller.

7. Genealogy:

No further progress.

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8. Friends of CMHT:

a. Friends Administration

Mac reported that the Friends Christmas card with English/Gaelic greetings plus subscription reminders and Annual Report was sent to 92 existing Friends world-wide.

b. 2002 Benefit

Mac stated that the limited edition digital photograph of the 1493 Charter had so far been sent to 95 Friends. From the remainder 1 was to go to the Tobermory Museum and 1 to Marigold in Australia. Mac felt the remainder would be gone in the next few days. The tubed package included a transcription, made by Allan, plus a short history of the charter.

b. Application Form on Website

The 2003 Application Form and Credit Card arrangements were now in place. Allan went on to say that the report from the Battleaxe would now be made available to the Friends web-site. Action Allen.

c. Current uptake

The number joining or rejoining so far for 2003 stands at 42 at meeting date. (now 50)

9. Report in Battleaxe:

Allan has prepared a report for the next Battleaxe, with a picture of the Keil stone.

10. Current Projects:

a. Piping Bursary

Donald asked the meeting to reconsider the decision to award the Piping Bursary bi-annually. It had been agreed at the previous meeting that the next one takes place during 2004. Donald wondered if the Trust could afford to support the Piping Bursary every two years, based on Donald's estimated budget costs of roughly £1000 each time. The meeting agreed with the suggestion made that the next Bursary be in 2005, with another taking place in 2007 to coincide with the 2007 Gathering. Donald went on to say that there was still some confusion as to where the £700 donation which help finance the first Bursary had come from. Efforts were being made to discover the source so that a report and letter of thanks could be sent.

b. Piping Book

Donald said that a list of 90 tunes had so far been supplied via Jeannie Campbell of the Piping College at a cost of some £80. Donald anticipated that the final total of tunes would reach some 50+ with the book being ready in 2007.

c. Lighting at Kiels

Allan reported that Ian Thornber has not yet responded with the cost of the lighting. Allan however understood that Historic Scotland are going to undertake some work on the building, and suggested that this might allow us to perhaps to engage a local electrician to do the job.

d. Dr John Angus McLean, Australia

This project is currently going ahead with the Hospital.

11. Future Projects

a. 100years of service in the Post Office in South Australia.

Ken Maclean's report sent by Marigold was made available to the Trustees some days prior to the meeting. After some discussion it was decided by the Trustees that a letter be sent from Allan conveying warm recognition to the McLean Family of Hynam, South Australia.

b. Piping College Room.

Donald reported back on the Piping College idea of having a room named after the Clan at a cost of £1500. Following some discussion it was felt that perhaps the Clan Association might be in a better financial position to take this idea forward. The Trustees decide to decline making any donation to the Piping Room. Donald to put it forward to the Clan Association.

c. Roof of Boreray Mausoleum

From the notes supplied by Marigold it appears that wire net mesh had been placed over the enclosure to keep out the birds, but the RSPB would not do it again. Fiona had visited the site and showed photographs to the Trustees that she had taken on the day. Allan was asked to write to John Love (RSPB) so that the Clan be kept aware of the state of this site.

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d. Lt Hector Lachlan Stewart Maclean VC

No news to report, but the project is to go ahead. Allan to speak to Ronald Maclean this evening.

e. Benjamin Franklin McLean, Kansas

Donald understood that this man was the founder of Princeton, and a very wealthy Banker. But to-date no further news was forth coming.

The rest of the list at present stands at [but not in this order of priority]:

1. Cairn at Lichlee, Isle of Mull
2. Cairn at Knockmartin, Isle of Mull
3. Memorial at Glenlivet
4. Inscription at Breacachadh Castle, Coll
5. Memorial to Hector Maclean, Ballygrant, Islay
6. Monumental Brass, Iona
7. Erray House, Tobermory

12. A.O.B.

a. Sir Lachlan Maclean's gravesite at Kilchoman

Allan reported that the church, which is unsafe and unsightly, is to be demolished. Should he write to the authorities expressing an interest on behalf of the Trust. Agreed.

b. Pennycross Papers

Allan explained that these papers had been inherited by Mary Mclean, widow of Brigadier Alistair Mclean of Pennycross. It appears that half of these papers had been loaned to Nicholas Maclean-Bristol at some point in the past. Allan suggested that he should write to Janet Grant and explain that the papers could be transferred to the Heritage Trust for safe keeping.

13. Date and Venue for next meeting

Wednesday September 10th 2003 at 12.30pm, to be held at the **Western Club, Glasgow.**

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