

CLAN MACLEAN HERITAGE TRUST

MINUTES OF THE 21st MEETING

Held at The Western Club, Glasgow at 1.00pm
on the 9th March 2005

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

1. Apologies: Received from Marigold Maclean. Australia, and Ian MacLean. Nova Scotia.

2. Minutes of the 20th Meeting: Accepted by all present.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

a. Correspondence with the RSPB at Traigh Ghruinneart

A photograph of the completed boardwalk across the ditch to the Cairn had been made available via the Web to all the Trustees. There was high praise for the work that had been achieved by the RSPB. Mac explained that he had already written a letter of thanks to Islay. Mac again reiterated that the project had been completed at no cost to the Trust, volunteer resources being used.

b. Copies of the Trust Deed.

Mac confirmed that Copies of the Deed of Trust together with papers on the Power and Duties of Trustees, Breach of Trust and the Trustee Investment Act 1961 had be posted with the Minutes to the recently appointed Trustees.

4. Finances:

a. Current Position

The Treasurer at the meeting gave the balance on account at February as £6,000+. James felt that if the balance on account reached £7,000 then he would consider moving £5,000 to an interest bearing short term bond. Mac asked that a list of those Friends paying by Standing Order be provided by James to avoid future subscription reminders being sent out.

5. Books and Archive.

a. Maclean and MacLaine papers.

Allan said that as agreed at the last meeting most of these papers are going to the Mull Museum. The 1625 MS needs conservation work which is to be carried out for nil cost by the National Archives of Scotland.

b. Acid Free boxes.

Allan reported that agreement had been reached with Jean Whittaker on acid-free boxes. She is going to purchase the boxes and archival packets, CMHT will pay for the boxes. They will be separate from the Museum boxes and only used for dedicated Clan Material that is received.

c. Kaid Sir Harry Maclean's pistol.

Sir Lachlan reported that he had obtained the relevant certificate to show pistol could not be used. Allan had read the excellent article about the Kaid in the December Scots Magazine. His reply, as Chairman of the CMHT, was printed in the February 2005 issue.

6. Library.

a. Monitoring Library additions.

Mac made reference to the letter from Jean Whittaker dated 25th October 2004 where a promise was made to supply a list of Maclean material held in the library at Tobermory. Mac will continue to progress this matter so that an annual update of new additions to the Maclean library and archive can be achieved. Jean Whittaker also reminded the CMHT that she could not herself ensure that all Clan Association magazines were received by the Museum. Marcus was asked to place a comment into the Battle-axe that copies of CMIA magazines be marked for the Clan Maclean Library and sent to Jean for indexing and storage.

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7. Genealogy:

Allan stated that he had a useful correspondence with Alastair White, and hoped to get something more accurate for the website.

8. Promotion of the CMHT:

a. General

i. Allan commented on the problem he, and others, had experienced when using the Maclean website and negotiating through it to the Friends section. He had spoken to Donald H. the web controller with the result that a separate sub-section will be created for the Friends.

ii. Allan said that previous thinking on having a leaflet in colour with text and pictures was deemed to be unduly expensive. However with the right software this was not the case, and a leaflet could be produced, following Eph's suggestion last time, that could be down-loaded locally by Maclean event organisers. Marcus was asked to produce a prototype promotional leaflet for review, Lachlan stressed the need for it to be eye-catching and suggested that the Halifax hatchment would make an excellent front cover. Mac had put forward two possible ideas for a flyer that could be handed out at Gatherings, the double sided version, suitable amended might be a way of providing a quick temporary fix whilst waiting for the full promotional version.

b. Boards in the Tower Room, Duart

Boards in the Tower Room date from the centenary in 1992, and are now very dated. Lachlan has agreed for the boards to be replaced. One board for CMA; the other for CMHT: Allan will produce designs for both which need to be ready for 2006 season.

9. Friends of CMHT:

a. Current uptake

Mac reported that the current uptake had reached 37 in total so far for 2005. The current take up of the Standing Order initiative currently known by Mac was 10.

b. Application Form on the Website

The current 2005 subscription form is on the web-site although difficult to find.

c. 2004 Benefit.

Allan reported that the special edition, of the heraldic hatchment of Major General Francis MacLean from Halifax, NS, together with a scholarly report on the heraldry and life work of Francis had been well received. Ian (N.S.) was thanked for his help on this project.

10. Current Projects.

a. Piping Book. (2006)

Donald said that he and Allan had an excellent meeting with Hugh Cheqie of the National Museum of Scotland. Who had made various suggestions. Donald explained that there was some 250+ tunes, to be reviewed, with 100 tunes going into the piping book with a print run of 1000 copies. He had spoken to Ian MacInnes about writing an erudite introductory chapter of between 2000/3000 words, discussions were still ongoing. He felt that there was the possibility of financial aid forthcoming from the Lottery Awards for All programme, and he had made contact with a Sarah Smith for further discussion. Mention was also made of the 2007 Highland Year of Culture fund as a possible source of funding. James again said the offer of producing a leather bound presentation copy of the piping book at a cost of £100 approx., was still available. The costing was probably £5,000 plus £1,000 for the chapter: i.e. £6,000 in all for which £3,000 was being asked for grant. Note all this money should be recouped from sales - and a profit made.

b. Moy Castle, Lochbuie.

Allan had written to Jim Corbett, the owner of the Lochbuie estate, with our £1000 grant offer and had received a very appreciate reply. Jim Corbett had his application for Lottery Funding approved, but was still waiting to hear from Historic Scotland.

c. General Allan Maclean, Torloisk. (2007)

Allan had written to Richard Compton Maclean of Torloisk, suggesting that it might be an idea to commemorate Brigadier General Allan Maclean, Torloisk [1725-1797]. He approved the idea, but had no strong view on the siting of the plaque. After some discussion it was felt that the plaque should be placed on the Pier rather than the roadside. This will all tie in with a visit by Friends to the house and tea on Friday 22nd June 2007. Current Fiends will come first for this visit and because of

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numbers a waiting list will have to be prepared. The cost of the plaque at this stage is estimated at some £300.

Allan is to ask Nicholas if he would prepare the paper work on the General for this project.

d. Dr John Angus McLean, Australia. (2005?)

No further information at this stage, the plaque will be paid by the CMHT, at an estimated cost of £300. once cost approval is given.

e. Dr Hector Maclean of Gruline.

Allan had written to James Beaton, the College Librarian, of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons about Dr Hector and his house in Glasgow. This was the Gorbals. James Beaton however suggested that the Trust might consider restoring eight books by medical Macleans dating from the 18th and 19th century. These restored items would then be marked "restored by the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust". at a cost of some £800, together with a plaque within the College to Dr Hector. After some discussion, the decision at the meeting, was to consider this project at some later date, when perhaps the restoration of one book, or plaque, and its siting would be examined

f. Piping Bursary. (2007)

Donald reporting on the piping bursary to be held to coincide with the 2007 gathering said that £1000 was estimated for tuition and associated costs. With further costs being incurred for advertising the scheme at the end of 2005 into 2006.

g. Lighting at Kiels. (No Date)

No further forward on this project with no contact from Iain Thornber. Allan suggested that he write to the Minister at Kiel to try and speed things along.

11. Projects under consideration.

a. Tombstone at Killean.

A magnificent Maclean gravestone has been discovered and Allan had heard from Iain Thornber that in fact there is a stone fence, with metal uprights fixed on the top, what appears to be missing is the wire through these uprights. Lachlan and Allan are to view the site and report back to the meeting on what can be done.

b. Memorial to Hector Maclean, Ballygrant, Islay.

Fiona had managed to obtain excellent photographs of the high cross and tombstone of this great oral linguist. From appearances it looks like the lettering needs to be cleaned and the railing round the monument painting. Fiona said that we clearly need to establish ownership of the site, perhaps John Dewar who took the photographs. Checks need to be made to discover any existing family and contact made with the local Islay Community Council. [Glasgow - Islay Association erected the monument and are in the process of raising funds themselves for this purpose.]

c. Edition of Dr Hector Maclean's Genealogy. (2007)

Allan reported that he had not advanced much further on this project but had decided on the way ahead which was to copy the printed pages of Senachie's History onto disk which he had now done. Then to alter the text back to the version of Dr Hector which is the chosen "master text".

d. Brass Foot, Iona Abbey. (2005?)

No reply yet from Ian Fisher to Allan's letter. [Subsequently Ian told Allan that things looked well for this project.]

e. Database of Ideas and possible future projects.

Allan had received no further suggestions for this. The list at present stands at [but not in this order of priority]:

1. Cairn at Lichlee, Isle of Mull - Possibly an inscription on boulder.
2. Cairn at Knockmartin, Isle of Mull, rallying place for Macleans on the west side of Mull.
3. Memorial at Glenlivet, Battle at which Sir Lachlan Mor took a leading part.
4. Inscription at Breacachadh Castle, Coll
5. Benjamin Franklin McLean, Kansas.
6. John [Iain] Maclean of Bard of Coll.
7. Hon. Angus Maclean, WW2 hero and Premier of Prince Edward Island.
- Allan to write to Ian in Canada to ask that he prepares a case for consideration with regards to the Hon. Angus Maclean. The person needs to be "significant" but not necessarily the greatest.
8. Kilbrannan, Rankin College of Piping.

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Memorandum of ideas for future "benefits" for Friends:

- a. 1560 Lochbuie Charter. [which the Trust owns]
- b. Wooden Spurtals from Duart old wood beam.
- c. Lead medallion from Duart lead.
- d. Clansman in Highland Dress [not Maclean version]
- e. Vanity Fair cartoon of Sir Fitzroy Donald Maclean in full Highland Dress
- f. 17th c grant of Nova Scotia Baronetcy as 'Maclean of Morveren'
- g. Maclean of Ardgour's description about the clearances, in English & Gaelic.

12. Date and Venue for next meeting

21st September 2005.

Time: 12.00 Midday, Venue: The Western Club, Glasgow.

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