

CLAN MACLEAN HERITAGE TRUST

MINUTES OF THE 23rd MEETING Held at the Western Club, Glasgow at 12.00 Noon on the 20th September 2006

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

1. Apologies: Apologies for none attendance received from Sir Lachlan, Ian MacLean Nova Scotia, (e/mail comments submitted), Marigold Maclean, (e/mail comments submitted), and Prof. Ephraim McLean. Atlanta.

2. Minutes of the 22nd Meeting: Accepted by all present.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes:

4. Finances:

a. Current Position

The Treasurer at the meeting gave a book value £6,840. James also mentioned that the bill of £464 for the Maclean Kilties project had been paid, together with a sum of £322 to Australia for the Dr John Angus McLean plaque costs. A reminder was given by Allan that £1,000 of this sum should be set aside for Moy Castle, Lochbuie. Donald also mentioned that the Piping Book project currently underway may require sums of £3,500 - £5,000, dependant on the timing of grants currently being pursued.

b. Proposal from Donald H.

Briefly this proposal puts forward the idea of using the Maclean website as a link to the Amazon website with the Heritage Trust earning a commission for every sale made. Allan said that further clarity was needed on the proposal being put forward and was currently working with Doug McLean, St John, New Brunswick and would therefore report back to the next meeting on progress.

5. Secretary's Comments.

a. OSCR

Mac had received from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, (OSCR) a recent publication "Guidance for Charity Trustees", which was designed to promote good practice in the running of Scottish Charities. To accord with the guidance published by the OSCR: Mac felt that the CMHT should formulate a CMHT Trustee's Induction Pack. It should contain the following;

The OSCR publication Guidance for Charity Trustees.

CMHT Guidelines.

Trustee Investment Act 1961

Breach of Trust.

Powers and Duties of Trustees.

Current year ending Financial Report.

Chairman's Letter of Invitation to prospective Trustee/Acceptance Slip duly signed. This letter will need to include reference to The Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2006, noting clear reasons for disqualification. Action: Mac to compile Induction Pack for meeting to approve.

b. Attention to the new pricing arrangements by the Post Office based on size and shape should be borne in mind when considering future Friends Benefit packages.

c. Mac stated that the current uptake of Friends subscriptions had now risen to 45; this included honorary members and those who had chosen to pay by standing order.

6. Manuscripts and Archive.

a. Kaid Sir Harry Maclean.

Allan opened by thanking Marigold for the article on the Kaid published in the 'Clan Maclean & Battleaxe'. A recent visit to the Museum by Allan resulted in him pointing out that the display should be credited to the CMHT and not as exhibited the CMA.

b. Documents.

Allan reported that during his Museum visit he was surprised to find older documents in boxes at the top of the stairs. Allan agreed to write to the Museum and insist that the more precious documents be correctly stored on library shelving.

c. Graphic Illustration.

After consulting with Trustees by e/mail, Allan had gone ahead and purchased the illustrated page from The Graphic of August 31 1912, titled 'The Meet of the Macleans in Mull'. At a cost of £31 this might be a useful Friends Benefit for 2011/12.

7. Library.

a. Monitoring Library additions.

Mac to ensure that all items intended for the Clan Maclean Library be clearly marked as such. Mac to arrange through Donald that a similar statement be sent to CMIA secretaries, to ensure that CMIA magazines are correctly submitted to the Clan Library in Tobermory. Donald to supply e/mail addresses where they exist.

Allan noted that the Maclean Library did not have a copy of Nicholas Maclean-Bristol's 'Murder under Trust'. It was agreed that a copy would be purchased at a cost of £14.99, and also a thesis on Maclean Sinclair; cost about £18. Ian Maclean has given the Library a transcript copy of Maclean Sinclair's corrections to 'Clan Gillean'.

8. Promotion of the CMHT:

a. Display Panels in Tower Room, Duart.

Allan reported to the meeting that the final cost for the panel was £390.69, the previous quote of £750 was in fact given for both panels and not a quote for each. Eastern Photo, in Musselburgh, have been very generous in their pricing of this project. Sir Lachlan has written a letter of thanks to the Trustees for the display panel which brings up to date the recent history of the Clan.

b. General

i. Website

The new 'Friends' part of the website, together with the new Application Form for Friends, is now in place. Allan's concern was the time taken to achieve updates to the web and again raised the question of maintaining our own 'Heritage' site. If this was to happen then it would very much depend on who would become our webmaster. Marigold questioned whether we have anyone to take over such a responsibility and achieve regular updates, if not, we are no better off.

ii. Banner for Tents.

Ian asked if it was possible to see a picture of the display, and wanted to know how big the proposed banner was going to be. He felt the cost of the banner at £100 was a little expensive. Although the concept of a banner was popular with the trustees any decision will be postponed until June 2007.

iii. Leaflets for Tents.

Marcus to be reminded, once again, about his agreement to set up the leaflet detail for the tents. We now have available all the requirements for the leaflet, with only a reduction in the wording required.

9. International Gathering, June 2007.

a. Stall in Aros Hall, Tobermory.

Allan said that the work of the trust will be on display at the 2007 Gathering on the Tuesday at the Reception Point and on the Saturday at Duart. He suggested that perhaps 3 panels, and the cream of the Kilties Display in Nova Scotia could be used at both locations. Based on previous experience the Tuesday will be extremely busy and volunteers to man the stall will be most welcomed.

b. Boat Trip to Drimnin.

This trip will probably take place on Wednesday 20th June, by invitation, restricted in numbers to 12 people. Allan & Mac to action

c. Trip to Inchkenneth.

This trip will take place on Thursday 21st June, again with very restricted numbers [20]. Action Allan & Mac.

d. Unveiling the memorial at Torloisk

It was agreed that the unveiling would be open to all those who wish to attend, but invitations would only go to Friends.

e. Tea at Torloisk House.

Ian in his submission, together with other Trustees agreed that that the tea event would be exclusive to 'Friends'.

f. Possible Stall at Duart on Saturday 23rd June

This will now take place [see 9a. above] use will be made of material from the Kilties Display, but will of course incur some cost. Ian suggested that after the Gathering, the display material could be given to Duart and added to the already existing collection. If not, then the material might find a home in the Maclean Library in Tobermory.

10. Chairmanship of the Trustees.

Allan agreed to stay on in the role for another year, then to report at the 2007 Gathering as the out-going chairman. At the July Meeting of the CMA Council, Allan was re-appointed a Trustee, from July 2005-2010. Allan to write to Marigold on behalf of the trustees, thanking her for her contribution, support, and welcomed activity in the CMHT over the past 5 years, and invites her to become an 'Honorary Friend of CMHT'.

Fiona was asked to accept being co-opted for another 5 years 2006 - 2011, Proposed by Allan, seconded by Donald.

CMA to nominate a further trustee, Brian Maclean, Western Australia, was the recommendation from the CMHT. Others to be approached for co-option are James Beaton, Admiral Neil Rankin, and Nigel Alington.

11. Completed Projects.

b. Dr John Angus McLean, Australia. (£322)

Many thanks to Marigold for completing this project.

c. Maclean Kilties, Canada (£480)

Ian's e/mail submission outlined how the unveiling of the plaque was achieved at the New Brunswick Highland Games on the 28th July. Ian was delighted that Allan was able to make the journey and with Kevin McNamee, grandson of Kilties piper John McNamee, unveil the plaque. Fellow Trustee Eph also made the journey to be present at the ceremony. Ian will be invited to the permanent placing of the plaque, and no doubt provide will provide the meeting with a full report and 'photos when the event takes place. Ian has kindly given a copy of the collar badge to each trustee.

12. Current Projects.

a. Moy Castle, Lochbuie. (2007: £1000)

Allan reported that we were asked to contribute our £1000 towards Moy Castle work, but until the major part of the work is undertaken, or receipted bills are sighted, no contribution will be made. The trusts intended donation of £1000 will probably now be required in 2007.

b. Map of Clan Lands and Castles. (2006/7)

Allan and Ian had met with the map publisher whilst Allan was in Nova Scotia. It is going to be difficult to include the detail of the castles and lands around Mull and Morvern, and fit it into the context of Scotland as a whole. It was felt that the maps should go on sale on Tuesday at the Aros Hall, it will be the day for selling any Clan goods, with an unveiling of perhaps the larger map at the Gathering on Saturday. The cost for the CMIA large copy [24"x 36"] needs to be established; could they also be 'cold sealed'? In general it was thought to be a good idea to present these to CMIA. Some concern at the figure of 500 maps being sold at the Gathering was expressed at the meeting. The selling of maps in CMIA clan tents was left for Ian to decide, covering costs and profits.

c. Piping Book. (2007: £3500)

Donald reported that the project is on line. The estimate of £3500 was 50% of the cost with the remainder being cover by grants. A payment to Ian McInnes for the foreword to the publication will need to be made.

d. Piping Bursary. (2007: £1100)

Donald reported that there had been no responses to the February advert; it will be re advertised in the Piping Times in November 2006.

e. General Allan Maclean, Torloisk. (2007)

Allan and Lachlan had visited Rick Compton Maclean at Torloisk to discuss the placing of this memorial. The site at Kilninian Church and Churchyard about a mile and a half from west of Torloisk was felt to be the best choice by the trustees. Allan went on to say that the St Mary's Workshop in Edinburgh, who train apprentice stone masons would be happy to prepare and make a cairn for us, as a special project, and then erect it on Mull. Cartage and accommodation would have to be paid on Mull, together with the costs of levelling of the site and concreting of the base.

Nicholas MacLean Bristol has agreed to write a paper about the General.

f. CD version of Senachie's History (2007)

This should be ready, with index, for 2007.

13. Projects under consideration.

a. Tombstone at Killean.

Allan, along with Iain Thornber and Lachlan had visited the site to see the medieval and later stones. Two medieval stones are of interest to CMHT because being in that place at that date they must be Maclean stones. It might be possible to arrange for conservation of these stones, and then house them under cover.

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

Allan said that this is dependant on the CD of Senachie being completed.

c. Memorial to Hector Maclean, Ballygrant, Islay.

We have already indicated to them that the trust will give some sort of financial help.

d. Maclaine of Lochbuie Mausoleum at Laggan, Lochbuie.

Information is that the roof and small repairs have now been completed.

e. Brass Foot, Iona Abbey.

No news on this subject

f. The Bard's stone at Glenbard.

Allan explained that Maclean-Sinclair's grandfather was the famous Bard, John Maclean, buried at Glenbard in Nova Scotia. The lettering on the stone was disappearing; Ian was asked to investigate costs with regards to cleaning up/maintaining the lettering. Ian in his notes said that he will speak to John Sinclair who is probably ascertaining the costs of doing the work.

g. Hon. Angus Maclean. Premier of Prince Edward Island.

Donald asked for this to be included as a 'serious runner'. Ian in his notes felt that we should consult with the family on P.E.I. before going any further. Allan to write to Cailean MacLean, Isle of Skye, [Sorley's nephew] and therefore a cousin of Angus to gauge his opinion.

14. Database of Ideas and possible future projects.

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

1. Lichlee, Isle of Mull - Possibly an inscription on boulder, rather than building a cairn.

2. Knockmartin, Isle of Mull. This was the rallying place for Macleans on the west side of Mull.

3. Memorial at Glenlivet, Battle at which Sir Lachlan Mor took a leading part, see Nicholas Maclean-Bristol, Murder under Trust, p187-94. Date, October 1594 and we missed the 400th anniversary.

4. Inscription at Breacachadh Castle, Coll

Replacement of the inscribed stone recording the amity between the Macleans of Coll and the MacGillories [Camerons] of Strone, Lochaber. The original wording is known.

5. Benjamin Franklin McLean, Kansas.

This was a project suggested to Col Donald by a lady in USA who had attended the last Clan Congress in 2002. Donald to action.

6. Kilbrannan, Rankin College of Piping.

This was the Rankin College of Piping.

7. Dr. Hector Maclean of Gruline. Possible commemoration, but project postponed. (see past Minutes for additional information).

8. Neil McLean, the Railway Builder in Nevada.

In 2003 Duncan, Nevada, began to investigate Neil McLean, and was in touch with his grandson Neil, in Southern California. No further word received.

9. Birlinns, and the Maclean Waterways.

After reading Ian's notes and with some discussion by the meeting it was thought that some detailed research was need in this area of Maclean history; very little appears to be written about Maclean use of these vessels in the Western Isles. Allan thought that the compilation of a pamphlet, with illustrations, would be useful in the long term and perhaps Ian could prepare an article for the 2007 Souvenir – or for the Magazine.

10. 'McLean Law' enactment in USA Law. Fiona had prepared a paper on this subject. After discussion, she was asked to contact Judge Claude Hickes for his views.

11. Alexander Maclean Sinclair.

It was agreed that rather than a plaque we should instigate a commemorative lecture in his memory. Ian to consider the possibility of setting this in motion, at no cost to the CMHT.

12. Possible Maclean History. This would involve an initial cost of £850 to £1000. Fiona wondered in the light of general interest in the CD, if it would be popular enough. It was generally thought to be worth finding out more details.

13. Stones at Kilcronan Church. Dr James raised the question about the neglect of the stones at Kilcronan including the one traditionally associated with Sir Lachlan.

15. Friends of CMHT:

a. Current uptake

Mac reported that the current uptake had reached 45 in total so far for 2006. The current take up of the Standing Order initiative still stood at 10.

b. 2006 Benefit.

It was agreed to issue a reproduction of the Sandby sketch of Duart, that appeared on the cover of Jo Currie's book, and has appeared in an early copy of the Clan Maclean Magazine about 1975.

16. Dates and Venues for next meetings.

14th March 2007

Time: 12.00 Midday,

Venue: The Western Club, Glasgow.

18th June 2007

Time Evening, Tobermory, Isle of Mull

Venue: To be Arranged.

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