

CLAN MACLEAN HERITAGE TRUST

MINUTES OF THE 25th MEETING Held at the Western Club, Glasgow at 12.00 Noon on the 14th March 2007

Attendees: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch. [Chairman]
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: Apologies for non attendance received from Ian MacLean Nova Scotia, (e/mail comments submitted), Brian McLean, Australia (e/mail comments submitted), Nigel Alington, (e/mail comments submitted), James Beaton, Robin Maclean of Ardgour, and Prof. Ephraim McLean. Atlanta.

2. Minutes of the 24th Meeting: Accepted by all present; but will trustees amend the heading of the minutes to read, "24th Meeting", not "25th", as printed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes: Item 14.9 Birlinns and the Maclean Waterways. Ian was now in the process of writing an article for the Souvenir Magazine on the subject.

4. Finances:

a. Review of last 5 years:

Allan and James had worked together to produce a consolidated Income and Expenditure Account over the last 5 years showing a surplus of £2,132.

b. Current Position

The Treasurer at the meeting gave the cash position at 12/03/07 as £6,432. Inflow during the period was £1,922 with outflow being £2,873. Major expenditure was £1,000 towards Moy Castle stabilisation with £480 for Canada and £322 for Australia. Income from Friends including donations this year will probably be in the region of £1,800.

c. OSCR requirements:

Allan pointed out that the accounts to March 2006 had been submitted to the OSCR (Charity Regulator) without being signed off (approved) by an external examiner in accordance with OSCR regulations. This action resulted in a severe warning to the CMHT that failure to abide by OSCR regulations in future would jeopardise our charity status.

Steps have now been taken to avert the same situation arising in future; James has recently arranged for a Mr Donald McPherson, who is well qualified, to approve the trusts yearly accounts before submission to the OSCR. Allan to write to him.

5. Secretary's Comments.

a. Friends Benefit Posting

Mac explained that the 2006 benefit to Friends meant inserting 6 pieces of paper into each envelope with some 60 envelopes being posted. Under the new postal pricing arrangements in the UK it transpired that each package was 1 gram short of incurring 3 times the postal cost. Mac also questioned the ethics of the trust agreeing to the book publication flyer being sent to Friends in the benefit mail, it could have resulted in a higher postal cost with zero gain to the CMHT.

6. Manuscripts and Archive.

a. Further Maclean of Pennycross Papers:

Allan spoke about the American lady who had further Maclean of Pennycross Papers for sale. The question put to the meeting was whether the Trust should make an offer or the Isle of Mull Museum. It was decided

that the Trust would make an offer when more details of the quality, and quantity of the papers became available. Mac was asked to write to the lady concerned, and if satisfied with the reply, make an offer not exceeding £100. Ian in his submission felt that the Trust, within its financial limits, should purchase Maclean historical documents when they became available.

7. Library.

a. Additions.

Allan said that he had purchased and reviewed for the next Battleaxe the new biography of Alexander Maclean Sinclair. A further copy of this biography had been ordered for the Library which it is hoped Ian will bring with him to Mull.

In addition the two books by Nicholas Maclean-Bristol, "Murder under Trust", and the new Maclean history "From Clan to Regiment", had been ordered for the Maclean library. With the purchase of the latter book the CMHT will now be shown on the printed list of book subscribers.

Lachlan asked the meeting should we not become more pro-active in this area and look for forthcoming books and publications that centre on Maclean interests. Mac was asked, as Secretary, to undertake this task and report back to the next meeting.

8. Promotion of the CMHT:

a. General.

i. Website.

Allan reported that at last the website has details of the CMHT, he queried whether or not any update should now wait until after the gathering. Donald replied that the requirement must be for a constant update of any new information to Alistair White the webmaster, Mac to action. In answer to Nigel's point expressed in his submission with regard to CMHT website access, everyone present who had visited the CMHT web pages felt that access was easy via the main site.

ii. Leaflets for Tents.

Marcus was working on the leaflet and gave assurances that it would be available, on time, for the Gathering.

9. International Gathering, June 2007.

a. Stall in Aros Hall, Tobermory.

Fiona was going to reproduce some of the "Kilties", display from Canada to go on the CMHT stall. Ian asked in his note whether the Kilties display could go on to be displayed at Duart after the gathering. Lachlan in reply felt that he needed to see the display for himself before making any decision on its display within the Castle.

Mac reported that he had now found copies of nearly all the yearly "benefits" to the Friends. Only the 1492 Charter was unavailable. Allan said that he would provide a copy, and bring a copy of the Spy cartoon of the Kaid, if needed. Allan is going to arrange for a Perspex sheet to cover the table, similar to the last time. Mac and his wife were happy to serve on the stall during Tuesday, but the meeting wished that trustees should help too. Mac to draw up a rota for trustees offering assistance between 11 and 4.00pm on the day.

b. Stall at Duart on Saturday 23rd June

Allan pointed out that the stall will need to be re-erected at Duart on the Saturday. The trustees insisted that Mac draw up a rota for the trustees to give assistance between 11 and 4 on the Saturday.

With regard to the Clan maps that might be purchased on Mull a point raised by Ian was the cost and supply of cardboard tubes to take an 18" x 24" map. Lachlan has undertaken to arrange for a minimum quantity of tubes to be made available.

ci. Boat Trip to Drimnin.

Allan after some discussion with Donald during the meeting arrived at a figure of 10 people now listed to go on this trip with the transport arrangements to be finalised by Allan. Allan to write to Mr Lewis of Drimnin House now that a final figure had been settled.

cii. Trip to Inch Kenneth. (Invitation of Clare Barlow)

Ian queried whether this trip had been cancelled, it has not, and so far Donald reported that 20 people were listed to go by boat.

d. Report to Clan Congress.

Allan said that his planned report would take no more than 5 minutes before handing over to his successor.

e. Torloisk.

Allan stated that so far 62 Friends have indicated attending the unveiling at Torloisk, with 21 perhaps coming too. Invitation to the tea is limited but Allan suggested we should invite people from the Mull Community this might include Fiona Graham, the Church Minister (Rev. Nelson), and perhaps a representative of the Mull Museum.

Transport will be need to be checked when people register at the Aros hall on the Tuesday. Donald has arranged a minibus.

10. Chairmanship and Trustees.

a. New Trustees.

Allan was delighted that Nigel Alington, Brian McLean and James Beaton had accepted the invitation to become trustees. However no reply had been received from Admiral Neil Rankin, North Berwick; perhaps the mailing address provided is in fact incorrect?

b. OSCR requirements.

Mac has completed a draft “induction pack”, which he feels will be in accord with OSCR procedures, this package he will submit to Allan for review before putting it forward for discussion to the meeting. Mac commented that the CMHT has some way to go before it can be said that the trust has achieved, “best or good practice”, against the OSCR Guidance for Charity Trustees. He feels that time needs to be set aside at a future meeting to consider the impact that OSCR might have on the trust; especially with regard to the induction pack responsibilities, OSCR Scottish Charity Accounts, and the Rolling Review Proposals of the regulator.

11. Completed Projects.

a. Moy Castle, Lochbuie. (£1000)

Allan reported that James Corbett, the owner, had sent copies of the receipts for work completed and the trust had forwarded our contribution as promised. James offered trustees the chance to see the work that had now been done, however the meeting felt that such a visit would be better taken when all the work was completed. Allan intends to include some of the interesting stabilisation work in his next set of articles on Maclean Castles in the Maclean Magazine.

b. Map of Clan Lands and Castles.

Ian in his update proposed that the maps would be sold at both Aros Hall and Duart, planned selling price was £10 with half going to the trust. Subsequent to the gathering, and following Allan’s letter to Association Presidents, the remainder of maps are to be sold for \$20 (or the equivalent) with \$10 to the mapping company, \$6 to the association concerned, and \$4 to the trust. It was agreed that the large size edition of the map should be unveiled at Duart during the Gathering.

12. Current Projects.

a. Piping Book. (2007: £3500)

Donald confirmed that the Piping Book would not be ready in time for the Gathering, he felt a further 12 months would see completion. Basically the delay was due to the Piping College raising the question of copyright, on some, but not all of the tunes. The history element of the publication had been drafted, but after vetting, had proved to be too long so will now be slightly shorter and appear as an appendix rather than an introduction.

b. Piping Bursary. (2007: £1100)

Donald reported that only two applicants had come forward, Nicholas McLean from Kilmartin in Argyll. The candidate is very suitable and money has already been granted to him.

c. General Allan Maclean, Torloisk. (2007)

After a number of visits to Torloisk, Allan and Fiona have settled on a site at Kilninian Church within the graveyard near to the entrance. The site being within church grounds means that the proposed cairn does not require planning permission. Allan went on to say that the cairn would be built for free, by the St Mary’s Workshop in Edinburgh, overnight costs and travel will be borne by the trust. It was also agreed during the meeting that the wording would be cut directly into the stone. Timing for the unveiling by Rick Maclean would be at 3.00 pm. Brigadier Macfarlane to be asked to read a piece in Gaelic. Allan to arrange ceremonial. Donald to arrange a piper.

d. CD version of Senachie’s History (2007)

Allan said that now Edwin Maclean, Australia had transcribed A M Sinclair’s Clan Gillean a joint index

should be compiled.

e. The Bard's stone at Glenbard.

Ian had been in touch with John Sinclair, who is still very interested in restoring, (more cleaning) the tombstone. He had also suggested that it might be a good idea to have an English translation from the Gaelic for visitors. Ian to make the trust aware of any cost figures.

13. Projects under consideration.

a. Tombstone at Killean.

Allan is waiting for advice from the Stone Conservation centre as to whether they might conserve the stone, without SCC help the costs would be beyond our resources. The stone is still exposed.

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

Allan stated that it was now a much easier project but would still take time and perhaps be completed next winter.

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

Discuss this project with Ian in June.

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's, 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. (refer to 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. Supreme Judge McLean, enactment in USA Law. Fiona had prepared a paper on this subject. After discussion, she was asked to contact Sandy McLean.

10. 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.

11. Eilean Amalaig.

Ian was keen to see a more permanent recognition of our Clan sea power, perhaps at Eilean Amalaig if this was feasible.

15. Friends of CMHT:

a. Current uptake

Mac reported that the current uptake for 2007 had reached 64 (including 4 Honorary Friends). To-date there was only 7 non-payers outstanding who had contributed in the 2005 year, but not in 2006.

b. 2006 Benefit.

The reproduction of the Sandby Sketch of Duart has been well received by Friends, both Mac and the Chairman had received letters of appreciation for the trusts efforts.

16. A.O.B.

i. Donald will discuss with Alistair White (Webmaster) the suggestion by Nigel that current MacLean's who achieve pre-eminent positions or deserve their achievements to be recognised by the clan via an entry on the web site.

ii. Allan had discovered that Clan Chatten had paid the sum of £340 to have a paving stone engraved at the Culloden site. Allan to follow up for the Clan Maclean.

17. Dates and Venues for next meetings.

18th June 2007 (Informal Meeting)

Tobermory, Isle of Mull

Venue: Western Isle Hotel. 7.00 pm, Dinner at 8.00pm, (Spouses included).

19th September 2007

Time: 12.00 Midday,

Venue: The Western Club, Glasgow.

Ref. 0713worda