



**Minutes of the 40th Meeting of
The Trustees of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust
held at 12 noon on 25th September 2013
at the Western Club, Glasgow**

Present: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch (Acting Chairman), Nigel Alington, Fiona Maclean of Ardgour, James Beaton and William Douglas (Secretary)

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 40th meeting of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust.

2. Apologies: Sir Lachlan Maclean of Duart and Morvern, Sandra McLean, Ian MacLean, Noel Robinson and Alan McLean.

3. Minutes of the 39th Meeting

- a. The minutes were agreed subject to the correction of some minor typing errors.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a. Pipe Major Donaldson has received his inscribed Quaich.
- b. Allan is still working on the collection of Clan Maclean Association minutes prior to passing to the archives in the Mull Museum.
- c. Other points are noted on the Action Points list.

5. Trust Organisation

- a. Trustees. There is one CMA vacancy to appoint. Following a discussion, Allan said he would ask CMA to appoint a trustee at their meeting later that day.
- b. Office bearers. William informed the trustees that he would be retiring after he has served 5 years as Secretary (March 2015). It was noted that the committee still needs a Treasurer.
- c. Trust representatives. Nigel drew the attention of the Trustees to the fact that there are five Associations (Clan Gillean, Pacific North-West and the three Australian Associations) in which the Trust is not represented by a Trustee. Moreover, Macleans have been identified in more than 50 countries, whereas only six countries have Associations. Given the need to attract new Friends and the difficulty that the Trust itself has in finding new Friends, Nigel proposed that the Presidents of the above five Associations should be asked to appoint Trust Representatives. In due course Representatives could also be considered in other countries. Their role would include getting new Friends, generating income through, for example, book sales and identifying Maclean interests in their countries. Representatives would have to be Friends, in order to have credibility. Following discussion, during which Ian's reservations and Nigel's response thereto were considered, the foregoing proposal was approved. It was agreed that Nigel would prepare a role description to be agreed at a future meeting.

The secretary would be the nominated point of contact.

6. Finance

- a. Nigel presented the Treasurer's report. The Trust has £8,008.28 total cash. The balance of the Duart gates appeal to come to the Trust is expected to be about £4,500. Nigel warned that revenue is likely to drop as a result of falling book sales. It is not clear if the Piping Centre has paid for the pipe music books.
- b. The 2012/13 accounts were approved. Dr James has declined to be our independent examiner; Nigel will ask Liz Hendley. The Chairman's report has to be written.
- c. Trading. Sales of Death or Victory and the map continue. The pipe music book is not selling. This is seen as a 10 year project, but the book should be promoted to pipe bands. James will provide a list of email addresses to Nigel.
- d. As we are able to process credit card transactions through our Paypal account, we do not need to use CMA's Sreamline account for this purpose. William explained how he uses Paypal to process membership transactions. Secretary's note: Subsequent discussion has led to changes in the process to ensure compliance with data protection rules.
- e. Nigel gave details of a recent fraudulent attempt to remove funds from our bank account. Secretary's note: The bank has since cancelled the standing order set up, refunded the £5 paid out and given us a further £100 "for the upset and frustration caused".
- f. Nigel was thanked for continuing to act as Treasurer

7. Friends of CMHT

- a. The Secretary reported that there are:
 1. 30 paid up Family members
 2. 20 Individuals, and
 3. 5 Honorary members.Some of these joined in response to events in America and Canada Work still needs to be done to identify email addresses.
- b. A discussion on Gift Aid and the cost of disbursing the benefit was held over to the next meeting.

8. Current Projects

- a. Piping Bursary.
 1. Jamie Maclean is negotiating his next set of lessons. It was agreed that he should be required to take all his lessons before our financial year end. We have not yet been billed by the Piping College for the one lesson taken. Allan is now lead trustee for this project. The budget is £500 for tuition and £350 for accommodation (if required).
 2. A request from Robert Beck for £1,500 for a grant to buy bagpipes for piping tuition on Tiree was rejected. Allan will respond.
- b. Lady Maclean Award. Bun Sgoil an Ath Leathainn (Broadfoot Primary School, Skye) are this year's winners. Fiona will obtain a photograph.

9. Projects under consideration

a. Commemorating the Macleans of Boreray. Peter Maclean Docherty's interest in commemorating the Macleans of Boreray with a cairn and plaques was noted. The Trustees are happy for him to proceed, but no offer of funds will be made meantime. It was noted that a portrait of John Maclean of Boreray had recently sold at auction and is now hanging in Drimnin House.

b. Hector Maclean's cross at Ballygrant – The Ballygrant Monument. It was noted that there is a storyboard in the carpark. The railings are reported to be beyond repair. Fiona will, again, write to the Glasgow Islay Association, who own the site, and Allan to Aonghus MacKechnie in an attempt to find a way forward.

c. Genealogy. Following a brief discussion on the Trust's responsibilities to Clan Maclean genealogy, it was decided that this needs full scoping.

d. Homecoming 2014. It was agreed that CMHT should be represented at the Bannockburn 700 commemorations, 28-30th June 2014, alongside CMA. A table has been booked by CMA at a cost of £300. Other events, at which CMHT support may be required, include:

- Tobermory Games, 24th July, and Duart Castle, 25th or 26th July,
 - Arisaig Games, 30th July (Fiona)
 - Inverness Games, 19th July (Allan)
 - Highland Homecoming March & Ceilidh, Inverness, 12th Sep (Allan)
- e. Dr Hector Maclean, and his daughter. James suggested that funds may be available from the Royal College of Surgeons. He will write up a case for support.
- f. Rankin College of Piping. Ian and James supported this project, possibly for 2017.
- g. The Beaton Cairn. The Trustees discussed the possibility of shifting the cross to a safe place, perhaps Duart, as recommended by the conservation expert from Iona and (b) improving access by restoring a path to the cairn. Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross believes that some contribution should be forthcoming from the Pennyghael Estate and that this should be pursued. In a written submission, Lochy has suggested that, as the grass has grown up again, he should write to Mary Jean Devon to arrange for the Council to cut it twice a year.
- h. General Sir George, and his father John Maclean of Kingussie. It was agreed to consider this project for 2015 (Anniversary of the Battle of Sherrifmuir), though the recent death of his descendant, John Maclean of Westfield, may mean that this is not an appropriate moment to commemorate this family. .

- i. Battle of Glenlivet Nigel has discussed this with his Monro cousins, who live nearby, but no project has been identified.
- j. Battle of the Haughs of Cromdale. It was noted that this was a Maclean battle that does not appear on the Maclean map. No project has been identified.
- k. Lochaline Stones. Iain Thornber has suggested that these should be lit. Allan will keep in touch.
- l. Ardgour Crannog. Fiona recommended that investigating the site was not a clan project. It is shelved.
- m. Killean Graveyard. The wall has collapsed. It was suggested that the mediaeval stones be moved to Duart. Or the wall be rebuilt. This was suggested as a possible project for young Macleans.
- n. Eilean Amalaig. No progress has been made, but it is to be retained as a possible project.
- o. Aviemore Allan also mentioned that the rallying point of the Macleans at Aviemore before the Battle of Killiecrankie had now been identified and perhaps should be marked.

10. Completed projects

- a. Fort Dewart and Hon. Angus Maclean. Ian and Sandra were thanked for bringing these projects to fruition, and the Chief for attending. Allan and Fiona will work together to write up articles for the Oban Times and the West Highland Free Press.

11. AOCB

- a. Mull Museum. A box of books has been received, kindly donated by Judge Sandra McLean. This led to a discussion on what was appropriate to be held in the Trust archives in Mull Museum, where space is at a premium. It was noted that some of these books duplicate those already held. Books by Macleans are not included unless they are about Macleans, or their lands. The secretary will identify if a formal agreement with the Mull Museum exists.
- b. The President's House, also known as the John Maclean House, or simply the Maclean House, in Princeton, Mercer County, New Jersey, United States was noted as a place of interest.
- c. The intention to build a new Park and Ride and traffic interchange at Pitreavie was noted. Allan will investigate the impact on the cairn commemorating the Battle of Inverkeithing and possible burial ground.
- d. Nigel informed the trustees that he has started a database of Maclean manuscripts.
- e. Nigel handed to the secretary copies of the coats of arms of Macleans of Sweden for placing in the archives in the Mull Museum.
- f. The next meeting of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust will be held on 9th November 2013 at 2pm in the Glynhill Hotel, Renfrew.