



**Minutes of the 55th Meeting of
The Trustees of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust
held at 12 noon on 11th March 2020
at the Western Club, Glasgow**

Present: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch (Chairman), Fiona Maclean of Ardgour, Vera MacLean, Hector McLean, Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, Peter Maclean Docherty and William Douglas (Secretary).

1. Welcome

Allan opened the meeting and welcomed Peter and Anne to the Board of Trustees.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Sir Lachlan Maclean, Ian Maclean, Alan McLean, Brigadier John MacFarlane and Mark Myers.

3. Minutes of the 54th Meeting

The minutes of the 54th meeting were approved. Proposed by Fiona, seconded by Hector.

1. Matters arising from the 54th Meeting

Matters arising from the minutes were discussed during the meeting, and are covered in the entries below.

5. Trust Organisation

a. Trustees.

(1) Anne joins the Trustees ex-officio in her capacity as President of the Clan Maclean Association. The Secretary will provide her with a welcome pack.

(2) Vera, whose term expired last year, was co-opted as a Trustee for a further 5-year period.

(3) Whilst we have sufficient Trustees per temp, additional members were identified for the future. (Secretary's note: Names are not recorded in the minutes for data protection purposes.)

b. Office bearers.

(1) William stated that now he has assistance with the accounts, he was happy to continue as both Secretary and Treasurer.

(2) Trust representatives. It was noted that Dr. Leslie H. McLean wished to step down as Trust Representative for Clan Gillean USA. It was felt that with Mark Myers in the US as a Trustee, no replacement was required. A suggestion at the 54th meeting that a London Representative should be found was felt no longer required as Peter is based in England. It was noted that we have no representative in New Zealand. Peter undertook to investigate if someone could be found. The Secretary will provide Peter with details of the purpose of the representatives.

c. Trust deed. The Secretary outlined the reason why the Trust was preparing a revised constitution. The Trustees reviewed the latest version supplied by our solicitors, Turcan Connell, and Allan and William were asked to continue the process, including a proposal by Ian relating to 'authorised' expenses for Trustees..

d. 25th Anniversary Dinner The Trustees discussed the Chief's kind invitation for Trustees past and present, and their partners, to celebrate the Trust's achievements in 2021. It was proposed that the event be held in the Spring of 2021. The Secretary will circulate a list of former and current Trustees and Liaise with the Chief.

6. Finance

a. Current position. The Secretary referred the Trustees to his Treasurer's report. Our financial position as at 8th March 2020 is as follows:

Cash at bank	£ 1,352.29
32-Day Notice deposit	£13,775.57
Fixed Term deposit	£10,000.00
PayPal balance	£ 1,202.27
Total	£ 26,330.13

b. The Secretary presented 11 month accounts for FY 2019-2020.

The year in summary:

Income: £6,175

Expenditure: £7,585

Deficit £1,410

The accounts were accepted by the Trustees. The Treasurer stated that the proposed projects' expenditure exceeded our current account balance, and that it will be necessary to draw down from the reserves. He will also move funds from the Paypal account to the current account before the year end.

c. Allan agreed to seek someone who could be our Independent Examiner for the accounts.

7. Friends of CMHT

a. Friends update. The Secretary reported that we currently have 29 family (36 in September 2019), 12 individual (15) and 5 honorary Friends.

b. A newsletter was sent to Friends in December. A discussion followed on keeping Friends in touch between newsletters to maintain numbers. The Secretary is to send extra copies to Allan and Hector, for promotional use. Allan will draft a letter to be sent by email to all those who have dropped out since 2017.

c. The Secretary recommended that we should review subscription prices at our next meeting. He made the point that those who join for the Gathering in 2021 expect their membership to be valid in 2022 and suggested the price should reflect that.

d. CMHT material is to be available on the tables at the clan tent at the Tobermory Games.

e. Corporate Membership. Hector undertook to do a feasibility study as to how the Trust might benefit from a corporate membership scheme.

8. Current Projects

a. Piping projects (89 & 95) The Secretary reported that support to the Argyll Piping Trust had now come to an end, and outlined how our donations had been used.

- b. Piping bursary (32) Brigadier John reported by email that all arrangements have now been made for the piping bursary. Angus Maclean, of Kilmartin, will attend the National Piping Centre in the week beginning 2nd August for the 2020 Maclean Piping Bursary which is running in under budget of £1200 at £940. An expression of thanks was made to John for bringing this together.
- c. Inverkeithing memorial (48a) A copy needs to be made of the Ferry Toll sign. Anne suggested that the firm, Leach, might be suitable to make the replacement.
- d. 25th anniversary booklet (100) The Trustees noted Ian's progress with the publication. A discussion followed about which format, print or electronic, would be most suitable, and of its potential as a sellable item. The Trustees felt that we needed to be clear about how the finished publication might look before making a decision. Allan will follow up with Ian.
- e. Kilnave Church (98) Fiona reported that the plaque would cost £408. The Trustees agreed the wording at a quoted cost of £408 and that it should be installed next Spring. Fiona will confirm the position after a visit to Islay this summer.
- g. Duart panels (92) Sir Lachlan has informed us that there may be additional history panels at Duart, and if this is the case, then he may ask for further funding, for which funds have already be set aside in the budget.
- h. Rankine College of Piping (18) Sir Lachlan reported that he hopes to meet Richard Compton in April with a view to placing a memorial at or near Kilbrannon, which will be the Trust's project for 2022 at the International Gathering. A decision was not made as to whether a rock or a cairn with a plaque would be most appropriate.
- i. The Kaid (42) – 2020 anniversary. The Trustees noted that the event considered for February in Morocco to commemorate the Kaid did not take place. Alan was thanked for arranging the laying of a wreath on the Kaid's tomb. An alternative event for the autumn, in Scotland, was proposed to which Association members would also be invited. Allan proposed a reception and talk at the New Club, Edinburgh.
- j. Genealogy/Heraldry (99) William informed the Trustees that he had made an initial contact with the former Snawden Herald, Elizabeth Rhodes, but had otherwise made no progress with the concept of an illustrated family tree displaying the Maclean descent and associated heraldry. It was suggested

that the Campbell display at Inveraray could be a good format. William said that he would investigate.

k. Website development (39) The Secretary will update the website with details of the new Trustees, etc. Concerns expressed about lack of current material were noted. William and Anne will discuss what should be added.

9. Projects under consideration

.b. Àird a' Mhòrain burial ground, North Uist (103) Peter outlined the situation at the burial ground. It was noted that the grass needed cutting. It was agreed that this was not an expense that the Trust should bear and instead 'the sheep be put in'. Peter was asked to continue the project and obtain a price to stabilise the walls. Trustees were reminded that we have a policy of 'not doing things with graves'.

c. Dr. Sorley Maclean (104) A proposal to commemorate the life of Sorley Maclean and his contribution to Gaelic poetry was discussed. An earlier proposal was discussed and it was noted that the family had not approved of a suggestion that there should be a physical memorial. It was noted that there already exists a bust in Duart. The possibility of there being a poetry competition named for him was made. William will progress this.

d. Blacks Harbour. The Trustees discussed Ian's proposal that the Trust should commemorate Neil and Allan McLean, founders of Blacks Harbour in New Brunswick. Ian was asked to provide further details and a price of what is being proposed for the next meeting.

e. Killeen Graveyard (59) Allan reported that it is hoped a meeting can be arranged with John Raven, of Historic Environment Scotland.

10. 2022 International Gathering

It was agreed that Wednesday 22nd June would be 'Heritage Day'. The focus would be an event, possibly an unveiling, to commemorate the Rankine contribution to piping (See above) and a Friends reception, possibly at Torloisk. It was suggested that exhibitions in the morning in Tobermory be set up, and an evening history talk be given. Costs associated with this, and where the money comes from, will have to be addressed.

11. AOCB

a. Trading – The Trustees accepted a proposal that the sale of Death or Victory should be handled by the Maclean of Duart Gift Shop in place of the current arrangements which involves both William and Fiona in the process. This was agreed if a satisfactory arrangement can be made with Duart Castle Partnership. It was noted that this may result in a slight loss of income if sales remain flat, but has the possibility of growth if sales expand.

b. Grants – Hector offered to investigate how the Trust might benefit from Visit Scotland grants promoting tourism.

c. The Trustees noted the success of brothers Ewan, James and Lachlan Maclean with their record breaking row across the Atlantic in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge, and of another boat of McLeans in the same event. (Secretary's note: Anna and Cameron McLean, the world's first brother and sister team to ever row an ocean.)

d. Marjorie's colouring book – The Trustees took note of concerns expressed that the colouring book made available at the 2012 International Gathering, and at subsequent events, and on the website, was designed as a fundraising tool, and so should not be given away at no charge. William said he would make arrangements to have it deleted from the website, and all noted it was only to be given away. A suggestion was made that it could be provided in the children's pack at the next Gathering, by arrangement with Marjorie. The Secretary will respond to Marjorie.

e. Boreray (53) - Peter informed the Trustees of his plan to affix a Gaelic caption to one of the plaques on Boreray.

f. Allan mentioned issues around the use of the battleaxe crest following a ruling by the Lyon Clerk, but said that this should make no difference to the Trust's use of it.

g. Eminent Macleans – The Trustees noted Alan's proposal regarding 'The Roll of Honour'. It was felt that the current arrangements were sufficient and that all Trustees were able to contribute to the list of eminent Macleans. It was noted that at an earlier meeting, no

agreement was reached as to what constituted someone who was 'eminent'. It was also noted that the register consists of those honourable and dishonourable.

g. Fort Dewart (9) The Trustees noted that Macleans at Fort Dewart may be included in the US National Register of Historic Places. The Trustees agreed to support this if there was a financial implication.

i. Next meeting. The 56th meeting of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust will at 12 noon on Wednesday 23rd September 2020.