



**Minutes of the 56th Meeting of
The Trustees of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust
held at 1pm on 23rd September 2020**

The meeting was a 'virtual meeting', held on the Zoom digital platform

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

1. Welcome

Allan opened the meeting and welcome everyone on screen.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Sir Lachlan Maclean, Alan McLean and Ian Maclean.

3. Minutes of the 55th Meeting

The minutes of the 55th meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising from the 54th Meeting

- a. The Kaid. The Trustees felt that although the anniversary had passed, it would be good to keep the projects on the agenda for an opportunity in the future.
- b. Newsletter. The Secretary stated that the next newsletter is due this winter. It was agreed to provide a printed copy for those who have current subscriptions, and to offer one to those whose subscriptions have lapsed as an encouragement to renew.

4. International Gathering.

- a. Anne, President of CMA, was asked to outline plans for the International Gathering as these would impact on items on the agenda. She explained that the implications of the world health pandemic arising from Covid 19 put the holding of a large event on the Isle of Mull

in doubt and the Gathering Committee is proposing a postponement to 2023. The Trustees endorsed this decision. Secretary's note: The postponement has since been agreed.

- b. The possibility of holding a virtual gathering in the interim was discussed and several ideas were suggested which the Secretary will take to a steering group meeting.
- c. The Chairman thanked Anne for her briefing.

5. Trust Organisation

- a. Trustees. Several Trustees' tenures were timed to end in 2022, coinciding with the International Gathering. Those present agreed to extend to 2023.
- b. Office bearers. It was noted that there is no change to the present situation.
- c. Trust deed. Allan and William reported that no progress has been made towards modernising the constitution since the previous meeting during the 'Lock down'. An invoice has been received from the solicitors, about which we have asked for a detailed breakdown.
- d. 25th Anniversary Dinner. The Trustees thanked the Chief for his kind invitation but felt that it would not be appropriate to proceed during the pandemic restrictions.

6. Finance The Secretary referred the Trustees to his Treasurer's report.

- a. Current position. As at 10th September 2020,

Income:	£1,927
Expenditure:	£ 347
Surplus	£1,580
Current account	£ 12,472.94
Deposit account	£ 13,793.09
Paypal	£ 187.08
Total	£ 26,453.11

- b. The Treasurer presented the draft accounts for FY 2019-2020.

The year in summary:

Income:	£6,533
Expenditure:	<u>£7,812</u>
Surplus	(£1,279)

The accounts were agreed by the Trustees. Proposed: Mark Myers,
Seconded: Anne Maclean

c. Allan agreed to ask Robin Angus if he would be our Independent Examiner for the accounts.

7. Friends of CMHT

a. Friends update. The Secretary reported that we currently have 31 family (36 in September 2019), 11 individual (15) and 5 honorary Friends.

b. The review of membership fees was postponed til September 2021

c. Anne asked if a history project for Friends only might be considered. The Secretary agreed to add this to our projects list for consideration at a later date.

e. Corporate Membership. Hector reported on his research into the introduction of corporate membership of the Heritage Trust. Alan, in a written submission, strongly endorsed this concept. Hector was asked to suggest possible charges and review other clans' schemes, and to put together a proposal by the end of November..

8. Current Projects

a. Piping bursary (32) Brigadier John reported under current pandemic restrictions, he had postponed the bursary programme for Angus Maclean, from Kilmartin, to next year.

c. Inverkeithing memorial (48a) Allan reported that he is seeking the original artwork for the display so that it can be reprinted.

d. 25th anniversary booklet (100) The Trustees acknowledged Ian's progress, and discussed the next steps. The Trustees agreed that the project should continue, and noted that Ian would require assistance as it is a significant undertaking. The view of the Trustees was that to make the publication of interest to a wider audience the scope could be widened to include details of the Friends 'benefits' and, perhaps, details of places named 'Maclean' and of

Maclean castles. A theme of 'History of Clan Maclean in 100 Objects' was suggested. The Chairman said he would follow up the discussion with Ian.

e. Kilnave Church (98) Fiona reported there is difficulty in obtaining slate of the right quality for the plaque. It was noted that black granite would be £50 – 60 more, but the Trustees felt that this would be out of keeping with the surroundings. Fiona will investigate further.

f. Duart panels (92) The Secretary reported that new history panels are being prepared for the castle, to be hung in the old kitchens. William stated that we have funds allocated in the projects budget.

g. Rankine College of Piping (18) Sir Lachlan reported the project is still on track, through progress is slow.

h. The Kaid (42) See Item 3a, above.

i. Genealogy/Heraldry (99) William reported he has made no progress this summer.

j. Website development (39) The website has been updated, but further work is still required.

k. Àird a' Mhòrain burial ground, North Uist (103) Peter asked for assistance with the proposed wording for the panels. Trustees are asked to review the panels and suggest changes to Peter by the end of October. Peter was asked to investigate whether dual language signs were required to comply with legislation.

l. Lichd Lee (21) Sir Lachlan reported that he will be coming up with one or two proposals for a new plaque to replace the current one which is no longer fit for purpose, but at the moment he has no cost.

m. Blacks Harbor (105). The Trustees discussed Ian's proposal to commemorate the Maclean brothers who founded the town and built the fishing industry in it. They agreed that this should proceed as a Trust project. £800 was allocated.

9. Projects under consideration

Further projects were not discussed at the meeting.

10. 2022 International Gathering

See Item 4a, above.

11. AOCB

a. Trading – The Secretary reported that sales have been slow during the past six months. The sale of Death or Victory is now being handled by the Duart Castle Gift Shop, with which a trading agreement is in place.

b. Facebook. In his report, the Secretary gave a situation report on the 'Reach' and 'Engagement' of our Facebook group. Noting that there was no obvious increase in membership or donations arising from the site, that Ian is resigning from his role as an administrator, and as no one came forward to get involved in maintaining it, it was proposed that we should investigate the benefit of merging with CMA's Facebook group.

c. Sale of medals at auction. Allan explained that when he heard that Napoleonic War medals awarded to Lieutenant General Allan Thomas Maclean, who was born in Pennycross, and related material, were to be sold at auction, he put together a bid for the Trust to a maximum of £16,000 [£1000 more than the top auctioneer's estimate] plus tax, made up of a contribution of £8,000 from the Trust and pledges from supporters. With commission and VAT the total cost on £16,000 would have been £19,840. We were unsuccessful – with our top bid being £15,500, and they sold for £16,000. It is understood that Nicolas Maclean of Pennycross is attempting to make contact with the purchaser to recover family documents. Subsequently, another set of medals belonging to four MacLaine brothers of Scallisdale, Mull, sold for in excess of £110,000. We did not bid.

12. Next meeting. A date for the 57th meeting was not set. It was noted that a 'virtual' meeting might be possible at any suitable point.

Secretary's note: A date has since been provisionally set for Tuesday 16th March 2021.

Addendum

Re item 11.g of the 55th meeting, Ian had reported to Allan that our share of the cost of the inclusion of Fort Dewart in US National Register of Historic Places will be about \$150.