



**Draft Minutes of the 57th Meeting of
The Trustees of the Clan Maclean Heritage Trust
held at 3pm on 16th March 2021**

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

Present: Canon Allan Maclean of Dochgarroch (Chairman), Sir Lachlan Maclean, Fiona Maclean of Ardgour, Vera MacLean, Hector McLean, Anne Maclean of Dochgarroch, , Peter Maclean Docherty, Mark Myers (part), Alan McLean, Ian Maclean, and William Douglas (Secretary).

1. Welcome

Allan opened the meeting and welcome everyone on screen.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Brigadier John Macfarlane.

3. Minutes of the 56th Meeting

The minutes of the 56th meeting were approved, proposed by Fiona, seconded by Vera.

4. Matters arising from the 56th Meeting

- a. The Kaid. The Trustees felt that the recognition of Kaid Maclean should remain as a current project. William informed the Trustees that he would be the subject of an item in the Virtual Clan Gathering.
- b. Facebook. Following a question from Sir Lachlan, Ian said that he did not have the technical skills to contribute to maintaining the Trust's Facebook page, and so had withdrawn from that.

5. Reports

- a. Chairman.
 - i. Allan said that he had received agreement from all Trustees, except Peter, in time for his annual report to be forwarded to the Independent Examiner (IE), and onwards to OSCR to meet the year-end deadline.

He noted that the IE requires more time than we have been giving him if he is to provide the service in the future. The Secretary was instructed to write to thank him.

ii. The Kaid's paperwork is now with him, in Edinburgh, having been sourced by Ian from the family. The Trustees agreed that, once the documents have been indexed, which include correspondence from later generations, they should be placed in the Heritage Trust Archives in Mull Museum, with a letter notifying him of our intentions being written to family member, Rupert Bruce.

b. Secretary.

- i. William referred Trustees to his pre-meeting briefing note. He stated that we currently have 43 paid up Friends and 5 honorary members. He was unable to visit Mull last year to work on the Archives, but hopes to be able to do so in 2021.
- ii. The Trust is making a significant contribution to the Virtual Clan Gathering providing items on history and heritage.

6. Trust Organisation

a. Trustees. All Trustees whose terms of office were due to end have agreed to extend til the International Gathering in 2023, although Hector has still to have his appointment ratified by the Clan Maclean Association. This may result in many retiring at the same time, with a consequence for continuity. The Trustees are asked to give consideration to new Trustees who might be appointed before then.

b. Office bearers. It was noted that there is no change to the present situation. The Chairman reminded Trustees that his position was a temporary arrangement.

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'.

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

a. Year to date accounts as at 31 January 2021 were circulated with the Treasurer's report.

b. Current position. As at 10th March 2020,

Current account	£ 12,874.74
Deposit account	£ 13,797.82
Paypal	£ 819.85
Total	£ 25,492.41

- c. The Projects Budget was circulated before the meeting. There were no points arising.

8. Friends of CMHT

a. Friends update. The Secretary reported that we currently have 28 family (29 in March 2020), 16 individual (12) and 5 Honorary Friends.

b. A review of membership fees will be held in September 2021

c. Corporate Membership. Hector reported on his research into the introduction of corporate membership of the Heritage Trust, stating that he had approached two companies named Maclean/McLean who had indicated that they knew little, or nothing, about the clan. A discussion ensued reviewing various aspects relating to costs and benefits, and noting conflicting or partnership interests with other Clan Maclean organisations, and their requirements for corporate support. Anne suggested that we need someone to take the wider needs of the clan forward. Hector was asked to draw up a strategy for us to look at by the end of April.

d. Newsletter. William was thanked for producing the newsletter last year. He said that he would like to produce another in April/May to use as a promotion for the Virtual Clan Gathering, being held in June. It was agreed that this should be a paper edition, posted to Friends.

9. 25th Anniversary Record of Achievement (100)

The Trustees considered the proposal to record the achievements of the Heritage Trust over the past 25 years. The Chairman outlined the progress made by Ian against the background of the concept of a 'booklet' which would be an illustrated record of the projects completed, which could be distributed free or a more 'weighty' book which would need to fit more closely with the Trust's constitutional aims and objectives. He felt that the project had 'grown arms and legs' from the original proposal and wished to know the Trustee's views on how we should proceed. He explained that William was Ian's mentor, and that he and Fiona were assisting with the editorial of the content.

The Chairman explained that two publishing options had been considered, White & Maclean, publishers of Death or Victory, and Lulu, a self-publisher platform. He noted the price differences, outlined in the pre-meeting briefing paper, and welcomed Ian and Doug Maclean's offer to manage the process should Lulu be adopted as the method for publishing.

Ian responded by saying that he felt that a book would meet the needs for Friends, and to attract further Friends to join the Trust. The book would cover 33 major projects, and be aimed at people who were not academic and not historians. He explained that he hoped a book would be good for people who do not know the background history and heritage of the clan, but feel that they should, particularly those not as closely connected to the clan as those actively involved in Scotland. He had not approached the project as a 'give-away', but as a book that would be for sale.

The Chairman then asked the Trustees for their views.

Fiona said that she found the articles produced so far to be 'very interesting', referring to it as a 'magnum opum', and felt Ian had a good understanding of clansfolk worldwide. She thought it is a worthwhile project that we should support.

Vera asked if it could be produced as a CD-ROM, displaying the one produced about 20 years ago. This was not supported as it was felt that there would be insufficient demand.

Alan saw the book as a way to attract membership, and suggested additional sections, including a clan map, lists of Chiefs, coats of arms and details of 'prominent Macleans'.

Peter remarked on Ian's energy and zeal.

Sir Lachlan stated his disappointment that it now seemed unlikely that a booklet would be produced, and would go along with the views of the other Trustees. However, he wondered why a project such as Cradley warranted as much space as Inverkeithing or Drimnin, as examples. He is keen that the section on Duart should be re-written so as to be less personal. He wished to see piping given more emphasis as this is important to the Trust. Sir Lachlan did not see this as a book he would think as selling well in the Duart Gift Shop as it was unlikely visitors would want to take it home and because of high postage costs; he supported using Lulu from which direct purchases can be made.

Anne wondered if there were three separate projects emerging from the discussions, referring to a suggestion of a Maclean encyclopaedia. She said that it was important to celebrate our achievements, and the articles are good to read. She would like pre-Trust activities to be included, but suggested that 'marginal' projects should be reviewed. She suggested that what is needed is a 'modern east to read history'.

Hector recognised that a 'power of work' had been done and proposed a series of booklets, recognising the extra work involved. He supported either solution.

William stated that it seemed to him that we have no-one coming forward to provide a booklet, but we do have the beginnings of a book, and he proposed that is how we should proceed, using the kind offers of Ian and Doug to publish the book using Lulu.

Fiona reminded Trustees that White & Maclean had provided editorial services, and asked how we might achieve that using Lulu.

In the concluding discussion, the Chairman, noted that Ian needs help with content about the Heritage Trust's Gaelic projects, as well as piping and singing. Recognising his and Ian's different approach to history, he suggested the 'I' and 'me' comments should be confined to the Preface.

Decision – 'Go forward'. The Trustees decided to support the book, using Lulu as the print and sales solution. Ian was asked to find an editor, for which the fee would be met by the Trust.

10. Current Projects

- a. Piping bursary (32) There was no report, but it was noted the Bursary was unlikely to be completed in 2021..
- b. Inverkeithing memorial (48a) Allan reported that he is seeking the original artwork for the display so that it can be reprinted.
- c. Lichlee (21) Sir Lachlan reported that work continues to have a 'stronger and better' plaque to commemorate events at Lichlee.
- d. Kilnave Church (98) Fiona reported there is no progress in obtaining slate of the right quality for the plaque, which will come from India. Allan reminded Trustees that this is the church in which Macleans were burnt to death following the Battle of Traigh Gruineart.

- e. Rankine College of Piping (18) Sir Lachlan has spoken with Richard Compton Maclean of Torloisk about our plans to commemorate the role of the Rankins' in Maclean pipe music, and hopes to be able to meet him this summer if Lock Down is lifted. It remains the heritage Trust project for the International gathering, in 2023.
- f. Genealogy/Heraldry (99) William reported he has made no progress this winter, though it is hoped to have something for the Virtual Clan Gathering..
- g. Duart panels (92) Sir Lachlan reported that there would now be just one history panel which would cost £500. It will be ready in April or May.
- h. Blacks Harbour (105). Ian reported that the project is making satisfactory progress..
- i. Àird a' Mhòrain burial ground, North Uist (103) Peter provided possibly wording for the proposed plaque which was discussed by the Trustees. It was agreed to provide £360 from the trust towards this project.
- j. Fort Dewart. It was noted that accreditation for the project involved more than just the Heritage Trust, so "Clan Maclean" with the battleaxe crest includes all those involved. He will email a copy of the plaque to Trustees.
- k. Mull piping. This item was carried forward.

11. Projects under consideration

No new projects were put forward for consideration, but Kaid Maclean remains on the list should an opportunity arise to commemorate him. Alan stated that the King's Counsellor is aware of the project, but that it needs royal recognition. The placing of a plaque on the Kaid's palace is a possibility.

12. Virtual Clan Gathering, 22nd – 26th June 2021

- a. Anne reported that the Virtual Clan Gathering had identified 65 items which would be spread across the 'Days' – 'History', International' Gathering' and others – of the online event. She commented that some of the material is of very high quality, and much has been donated to us by the people of Mull.. A consequence is that it seems inappropriate to make a charge for watching/taking part in the Gathering.
- b. William explained that the Heritage Trust is contributing in many ways with Trustees obtaining and contributing material. As an example, he mentioned that Fiona is reading one of her stories, John is preparing stories in English and Gaelic, and he has put together od clan quiz.

A recognised Scottish Charity, No. SC024481

The event will be publicised through clan newsletters, social media and press releases to Scottish journals in the coming weeks.

12. AOCB

a. A suggestion that a meeting should be held in about three months' time did not meet with approval from all Trustees, so was set aside.

b. Next meeting. The 58th meeting of Clan Maclean Heritage Trust will be held online on Tuesday 21st September at 3pm (UK time).