

Shire of Adora – Meeting

Tuesday 1st April – 7:00pm

Meeting commenced: 7:05pm

Attendance: Maelgwn, Gwenhwyfar, Ælfred, Micha, Brian, Anders, Hrodebert, and Drystan (arrived 8:08pm)

Apologies: Phalkon, Aodhán, Jochen

Chairperson: Maelgwn (Warwick)

Minute-taker: Gwenhwyfar (Renee)

Item #1 – Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Acceptance of March meeting minutes:

Motion to accept previous minutes from the 4th March 2025.

Moved by: Ælfred

Seconded by: Hrodebert

Motion passed.

Item #2 – Ratifying Decisions Since Previous Meeting:

To secure the venue for Flametree Ball, Maelgwn submitted an application form, plus arranged for a bond of \$500 and hall hire fee of \$300 to be paid to Russell Vale Community Hall, with the agreement of Jochen, Hrodebert, Gwenhwyfar and Anders via the Facebook group chat on 26th March. These payments have been processed.

Item #3 – Events and Activities:

Midrealms Meet-ups

Gwenhwyfar reports that the two meet-ups in March had 9, then 5 adults respectively. The next meet-up is tomorrow evening (April 2nd).

Micha's Rapier Training & Archery Day (March 29)

Unfortunately, this event got rained out. The archery had to be cancelled, and no one came for the Rapier Training. Another possible date could be 24th May, or else in June or July.

Micha officially proposed another training day at his house on 24th May. Risk assessment will be the same as the previous one. Seeks approval from seneschal. Maelgwn gives approval. Hrodebert agrees to help with the archery for that day; unless Anders would like to do so (to be confirmed).

Rowany Festival (April 16 – 22)

Maelgwn reports that we now have a campsite coordinator, Phalkon (mundanely known as Maverick). Phalkon requests that each person/couple camping in Adora bring a bag or box of firewood to burn in the new brazier. Please also let him know if you will be there on set-up Sunday.

The official call for heavy champion for the Fire Tourney has gone out. Please let Maelgwn know if you wish to volunteer for this. Otherwise, a champion may be assigned to us.

Micha urges attendees to make the effort to plan your timetable for the event, as there are lots of things happening, and many of them coincide.

Maelgwn reports that the new fire brazier is now functional. Not exactly finished, but in working order. His next step is to clean off surface rust and give it a coat of heat-resistant paint to protect the surfaces.

Micha questioned whether the paint could burn off at high temperatures and cause fumes. Maelgwn says the paint is resistant to approximately 500°C. Whilst it is true that campfire temperatures can sometimes exceed 1000°C, it is likely that any burning residues from the paint coating will be either completely eviscerated, or else be blown away with the rest of the smoke.

Gwenhwyfar advises that it is generally best to avoid directly inhaling campfire smoke regardless, as even pure wood smoke is technically a category 1 carcinogen, along with many other common substances like engine exhaust, wood dust, or alcoholic beverages! Maelgwn will reassess the coatings on the fire brazier after it has been used at Festival.

Flame Tree Ball (June 14)

Maelgwn is stewarding the event, with help from others. It will now be a royal event, as Jochen has recently become Crown Prince of Lochac. Maelgwn asks Brian to liaise with musicians to let them know that June 14th has been locked in with the venue. Ælfred mentioned the date to those at a Rowany dance practice last Thursday.

Maelgwn wants to run a heavy combat tournament, and even a rapier tournament, if the numbers allow. Generally, the tournaments and dance practice will need to overlap. We have the hall from 8am. Brian says afternoon is preferable for dance practise, as holding it in the morning would not be well-attended.

Prince Jochen is no longer going to be working in the kitchen. Now Baroness Alys Dietsch will be in charge of the kitchen. Maelgwn has complete faith in her ability. Maelgwn asked Brian to send him his recommendations for the menu to pass along to Alys. Brian added some previous menus to the Flametree Ball folder. He volunteers to make Digby's Excellent Small Cakes.

Gwenhwyfar requested access to previous Flametree Ball reports and proposals to use in preparing a budget for this year's event. Brian said he will place them in the current folder, which he did immediately.

Maelgwn reminds everyone to make award recommendations, now that a current Adoran will soon be royalty, and attending our next Adoran event.

Gwenhwyfar noted that Hrodebert created a new dropbox folder for the event. Her original folder should be deleted for all those with access. All Flametree documents will now be placed into the "Flame Tree 2025" folder created by Hrodebert.

Adoran Walking Event

Anders expects to work on this event after Festival, once the weather has cooled off. He will put it to a vote to decide on a good date and location, and take it from there.

Sussex Viking Festival (June 7)

Æthelfled is the point of contact for this event. Numbers may be limited. Let her know if you are interested. The SCA insurance documents have been given to the organisers.

Item #4 – Action Items from Previous Meeting:

#1. Organise the next Archery Day: continue inquiries in anticipation of further discussion. (Anders and Hrodebert)

RESOLVED. At present, impromptu archery is happening at Midrealms Meet-ups. Hrodebert will also will help with Micha's archery events. This saves us on venue hire costs.

#2. Purchase of materials and construction of Adoran Combat Arrows: clarify SCA rules regarding shaft materials. (Anders and Jochen)

ONGOING. The wood is still doing his head in, reports Anders. He hopes to talk to people at Festival to find out what is going on.

#3. Organise Adoran Walking Event: finalise approval of event proposal. (Anders)

CARRY FORWARD. Discussed above. Progress this after Festival.

#4. Training day at Micha's place: update risk assessment and advertise via email. (Micha)

DONE. Event is concluded. Discussed above. Postponed to a new date in May.

#5. Purchase new storage tubs and moisture-absorbing sachets for shire fabric gear. (Gwenhwyfar)

IN PROGRESS. Three new storage tubs for candles were purchased and loaded up with the Shire candles. They are still heavy, but much easier to lift and carry than the former tub. The candles are also now better protected stored in a single layer instead of tossed in a pile and possibly getting damaged. Bunnings did not have the moisture-absorbing sachets – she will keep looking for these.

#6. Create event bid for Flame Tree Ball. (Maelgwn and Gwenhwyfar)

IN PROGRESS. All that remains is working on the budget, as discussed above. At least now the date is set and can be advertised as a "save the date", with details to come.

#7. Repeat the call-out for a campsite coordinator and Fire Tourney champion. (Maelgwn)
IN PROGRESS. We now have a campsite coordinator but not yet a champion. This will be finalised very soon considering how close we are to Festival.

#8. Finish off new banner poles. (Jochen)
IN PROGRESS. Jochen is absent from meeting. We assume this is a work in progress.

#9. Ensure Raven Fyre forge is paid for the new portable holes. (Maelgwn)
DONE. Yes, \$940 (incl. GST) was paid to Raven Fyre Forge. He will provide a receipt.

#10. Arrange a discussion about Shire Gear. (Gwenhwyfar)
DONE. The discussion was very fruitful, and many of the decisions have since been actioned. Gwenhwyfar plans to host another meeting at some time to continue to work through agenda items we did not have time for at the first discussion.

#11. Coordinate officer succession for Chirurgeon and A&S Minister. (Micha and Ælfred)
IN PROGRESS. Micha notes that for Shire Chirurgeon you do not need to have a First Aid certificate, as it is just a coordination role. Maelgwn says he will help with the process. Ælfred says there is one lady who is interested in A&S Minister but is unsure. He offered her the role of deputy for 6 months, and Jochen suggested the opposite, i.e. being a deputy to her for 6 months. This is also still in progress. His warrant is current until the end of April.

#12. Change 2024 meeting minutes to be in reverse chronological order. (Ælfred)
DONE! Maelgwn is grateful and appreciative.

Item #5 – Officers' Reports:

Seneschal (Acting) - Maelgwn

Now that Jochen is the Crown Prince of Lochac, it is definite that he will not be stepping back into the role. After Festival, Maelgwn will start the process to call for a new Seneschal. Being seneschal is not too hard; there is some paperwork and a quarterly report. Please speak to Maelgwn about it. There are lots of people willing to help, if you do step up.

Maelgwn has been talking to people about Cold War. If you wish to be part of running Cold War, please let him know. There is also the option of collaborating with other groups. Maelgwn will be talking to the Seneschals of Okewaite and Dismal Fogs at Festival about the possibility of a collaboration.

Reeve - Hrodebert

All payments are up-to-date so far. The Kingdom has returned some gold to us (GST). We have received \$2,403.11. The Kingdom has been keeping it for years, now they are passing it back to the branches! Our current balance is now \$15,345.12.

Heavy Combat Marshal - Aodhán

Aodhan is not present, but reports via Maelgwn that all is well.

Arts & Sciences Minister - Ælfred

Ælfred has been working on an A&S Competition for Flametree Ball. The theme will most likely be something do to with gardening. He is yet to work out the practicalities of how that theme will work. It will probably be an “on the night” competition, as opposed to bringing something in that was prepared beforehand.

Webwright - Ælfred

Minor updates were made to the Shire Minutes page, to make the formatting consistent.

Some alterations were made to the Shire History page, based on a discussion about when exactly the Shire factually began. We discovered that the petition scroll has a nonsensical date on it of A.S.18 (circa 1984)! Maelgwn suggested we could possibly ask Alessandra, who will be at Festival, as she was around at the beginning of the Shire.

Brian provided some related information regarding Shire history – that April 2008 is when we finally met all the requirements of becoming a Shire, by registering heraldry. The new Shire was then announced at Flametree Ball on 24th May 2008. Brian will send Gwenhwyfar two copies of Vox Adora from before and after we became a Shire, for reference.

Looking at the “About the Shire” history page on the website, Gwenhwyfar noted that we may need to update the list of seneschals there, and possibly reverse the order to make it more logical to read. Presently the “current seneschal” is easily glanced over.

Rapier Marshal – Micha

Nothing to report. Rapier training was cancelled.

Chirurgion - Micha

No casualties.

Captain of Archers - Anders

Anders has been trying to source wood for arrows. He has bought a rabbit-shaped target, which he is trialling. He may try to possibly make a mould of it to replicate the rabbit! We have been doing archery on and off at Wandandian. He will bring his gear to the hall tomorrow for both shooting and arrow-making.

Historian - Anders

In very exciting news, Anders has purchased the Shire history book, which has been personalised by being engraved with “Shire of Adora”. It looks very authentic, with aged pages, to which he can add special photos. He has a receipt to send through to the Reeve. He is waiting for the book to be delivered.

Quartermaster - Gwenhwyfar

Gwenhwyfar has continued to update the asset register and equipment spreadsheet, and has also spent time re-organising and re-packing the shire gear into our plastic tubs.

Following the discussion on 20th March, some damaged items have been taken out, and other items cleaned and photographed ready to offer to other branches – namely, 8 x large white ceramic bowls, 6 x glass pillar candle holders, 7 x assorted ceramic jugs, and various black plastic utensils.

Gwenhwyfar hopes to have another discussion at some time to cover further points we did not cover last time, including possible purchases and loaner garb.

Gwenhwyfar has been working on a way to track the movements of equipment for the Shire, using a Google Form she created. It could possibly be linked via a QR code provided in the shire gear boxes, or a link placed on our website. The idea is to be able to very quickly and easily enter the date, what was moved, and where it was moved to. The Google Form will be able to log the entries in a spreadsheet accessible by the Quartermaster and the Reeve. Gwenhwyfar believes it will work in theory, but the biggest obstacle will be whether people remember to do it!

Item #6 – General Business

Gwenhwyfar did some research on the possibility of having a local-level token of recognition within Adora. The Laws of Lochac, on page 21 states:

“VI.11 Other Awards

VI.11.i Baronial Awards

The Landed Baronages of each Barony have the right to establish non-armigerous orders and awards to be recognized solely within the borders of their Barony.

VI.11.ii Local Recognition

Groups that are not baronies may give local recognition without consultation with the Crown. These are not awards and carry no precedence.”

Therefore, according to Lochac Law we are free to introduce an Adoran token, to take whatever form we wish. Something for everyone to think about.

Date for next meeting: Tuesday 6th May at 7:00pm on Adoran Discord Channel

Meeting closed: 8:33pm

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:

Action Item	Person(s) Responsible	Due Date
1. Purchase of materials and construction of Adoran Combat Arrows: clarify SCA rules regarding shaft materials	Anders and Jochen	Next meeting
2. Organise Adoran Walking Event: finalise approval of event proposal	Anders and Maelgwn	When ready
3. Purchase moisture-absorbing sachets for shire fabric gear	Gwenhwyfar	When able
4. Finish event bid for Flame Tree Ball, including budget. Plus advertise a "save the date" for June 14 th in the meantime.	Maelgwn & Gwenhwyfar	Next meeting
5. Find a Fire Tourney champion	Maelgwn	ASAP
6. Finish off new banner poles	Jochen	Before Festival
7. Coordinate officer succession for Chirurgeon and A&S Minister	Maelgwn, Micha, Ælfred	When required
8. Edit "About the Shire" history webpage seneschal's list	Ælfred (webwright)	When able
9. Rowany Festival – those attending please contact Phalkon if you have not yet done so.	Festival attendees	ASAP
10. Commence process to find new Shire Seneschal	Maelgwn	After Festival
11. Offer retired shire gear to other branches	Gwenhwyfar	Before Festival