MOORFIELDS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
14th July 2011

PRESENT:

Mr. Timothy ffytche - Hon. President – in the chair
Mr. David Boase - Committee Member
Mr. Declan Flanagan - ex officio
Miss Wendy Franks - Hon. Executive Secretary
Mr. Richard Keeler - Hospital Archivist
Mr. Stephen King - Treasurer
Miss Ann McIntyre - Committee Member
Mr. Paul Sullivan - ex officio
Prof. G. Woodward - Committee Member
Miss Kate Jeffreys - Communications, in attendance
Mrs. Brenda M. Aveyard - In attendance

1. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Chairman, Mr. Timothy ffytche welcomed Professor Geoffrey Woodward to his first meeting of the Committee.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from the following committee members:- Mr. G. W. Aylward, Miss M. Beaconsfield, Prof. D. Gartry, Mr. P.K. Leaver, Mr. P. McDonnell and Mr. J. Pelly

3. MINUTES OF AGM 28TH JANUARY 2011

Minutes of the MAA Annual General Meeting held on the 28th January 2011 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(a) The Lifetime Achievement Award
The award was discussed; it has been presented once only, Professor Alan Bird was the recipient.
Mr. David Boase was asked by the Chairman to consider a mechanism for selecting future recipients for the Lifetime Achievement Award and to find an Honours’ Board.

(b) Service Reports
Previous service reports have been received from Glaucoma, Refractive Surgery and Strabismus. It was decided that the next service should be vitreoretinal and Mr. Aylward would be approached to provide a report.

© Sir Edward Lewis Bursary
The Bursary is to be awarded to Miss Gill Adams and Mr. Frank Larkin to travel to Armenia.

(d) City Road Reunion
Plans were announced for the City Road Reunion for MAA Members who were consultants or in training at City Road before 1990. The Reunion will be held on Friday 28th of October 2011, it will be a lunchtime venue. A donation of £600 from the MAA funds towards the Reunion was unanimously agreed by the Committee. The Chairman hoped to be able to offer more significant discounts for Members attending MAA events.

(e) Insignia
Sales of the ties are still proceeding well and agreement was reached to order a further supply of bow ties.

Sales of the scarves had been unsuccessful and will be discontinued.

Wendy Franks and Ann McIntyre agreed to work together on designs for earrings and a brooch bearing the MAA logo.

5. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**
Mr. ffytche accepted with regret the resignation of the Treasurer, Mr. Stephen King who is stepping down after five years in the post.

During his time as Treasurer Mr. King helped to raise funds for the MAA with his organ recital at the Summer Reunion Event of September 2007. His role as Treasurer was very much appreciated and on behalf of the Committee he was presented with a gift of DVDs of Residents’ Revues that had been performed since 1986.
Mr. Peter McDonnell has agreed to take over the Treasurer’s post after the AGM in January 2012. His name will be put forward for election.

6. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

Mr. King reported that there was a healthy balance in the MAA account to help fund projects for this year.

The Committee agreed to a grant of £1,500 for the John Lee Fellowship Fund. The President will arrange for this to be sent to the Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

Money from the MAA accounts will also be used this year to pay for the Archive Room/Museum.

The use of Standing Order Mandates and Direct Debit forms for collection of membership fees was discussed and agreement reached to continue with the present system.

At this juncture Mrs. Brenda Aveyard took the opportunity to thank the Committee personally for her Christmas Bonus.

7. **ARCHIVIST’S REPORT**

Mr. Richard Keeler updated the Committee on the following projects:

He told the Committee that Mr. Peter Leaver had done a tremendous job cataloguing all the pamphlets and details of these are now available on a spreadsheet.

Work on the Archive Room and Museum is progressing well. The Archive Room will be fitted out at the end of August with storage cupboards and cabinets and will be used for archival and historical material.

The museum will consist of five units and one horizontal display cabinet.

Mr. Keeler brought to the meeting computer generated pictures of the units (provided by Mr. Alan Lacey, pictures attached). After his presentation a discussion ensued on how the units and display cabinet would be funded.

Desks and chairs will be available for members use when studying, which will provide a resource for both Moorfields and British Ophthalmology.
Plans to change the artefacts with different displays next year to celebrate the Olympic Games were also discussed.

Of note our current balance is £39,000, outgoings between now and December 2011 will be approximately £5,000. The Archive Room will cost £12,000 and the Moorfields Alumni Association agreed to pay the total sum.

The five units cost £6,000 each. The President suggested that the MAA pays for two units and we approach donors to sponsor three.

Wendy Franks agreed to ask the Moorfields Surgeons’ Association and with Prof. David Gartry would look for donors from other sources if the Surgeons’ Association were unable to contribute the full amount.

The Chairman felt that we should not contact people outside of Moorfields and Moorfields’ Alumni for donations so that ownership of the museum remained with the Moorfields Alumni Association.

The following ideas for gaining funding were discussed:

Professor Woodward suggested a way of raising money by producing Christmas Cards.

Stephen King agreed to approach the Special Trustees to enquire if they could help, either by sponsoring a cabinet or by helping to channel individual donations thereby attracting gift-aid.

Richard Keeler agreed to provide an electronic copy of the computer generated pictures of the cabinets to send to the Special Trustees.

Mr. Tim ffytche agreed to approach Professor Desmond Archer, one of the Trustees, to try and gain his support.

Mr. David Boase suggested an approach be made to the Wellcome Trust and Wendy Franks agreed to take this on board.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Keeler for the enormous amount of work and effort that he had put in to bring this project so far. Mr. Keeler responded by telling the Committee that the Hospital treasures had been in boxes since 1947 and it was time they were displayed.
Mr. Keeler also brought to the attention of the Committee the nursery rhyme tiles from High Holborn; these are now in storage on the ground floor at Moorfields. He suggested we donate them to Great Ormond Street Hospital even though it is unclear who has ownership but it was felt that the MAA could not claim them.

8. **MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Flanagan gave an overview of the current service provision, the increase in activity of the past ten years growth, as well as the anticipated future demand and capacity for the next ten to twenty years.

Moorfields is presently providing services on sites throughout London, there are clusters of sites in the north, including Bedford and Watford, in the south around St. George’s Hospital and in the East End, as well as two large satellites at Ealing and Northwick Park Hospitals.

St. George’s Hospital is now the largest satellite and becoming a second hub of Moorfields providing the full range of subspecialty ophthalmic services to the population of South London. We have recently opened four new satellite clinics of Moorfields at St. Georges. Similar satellites are being developed around the Bedford and Northwick Park Moorfields eye clinics.

A central London hub providing all the facilities for comprehensive ophthalmic services and multidisciplinary ophthalmic education, as well as basic science and translational ophthalmic research is essential for our future.

Potential sites are being identified for a new hospital building; the current building is extremely old and becoming increasingly difficult to modify to provide modern comprehensive ophthalmic facilities. A new Charity, “The Moorfields Eye Charity”, has been formed to help raise the £150m needed to build a new state-of-the-art facility in London by 2020.

9. **DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION’S REPORT**

Mr. Paul Sullivan advised the Committee that a very interesting time in education was presently being experienced; Professor Peter Shah had been appointed Director of Education for UCL Partners and is mainly involved in running MSc courses rather than organising day-to-day work.
UCL Partners is submitting a bid to run ophthalmic education for the whole of the North Thames, as the Deaneries are phased out.

Education funding is under threat; the Trust lost £600,000 from its budget this year and another £600,000 will be reduced next year.

The GMC survey revealed that Trainees on the whole are satisfied with their training at Moorfields but we lost points on intensity of Work and Feedback; a problem caused by overrunning of clinics and casualty work.

Simulation Field Training is being carried out to reconcile the need for training and service commitments within the confines of the 48 hour week of the European Working Time Directive. The PMetB Survey showed our training scheme to be particularly strong in clinical leadership training. Academia is another area of excellence; we have five Clinical Lecturers and another five will be appointed.

10. **SCIENTIFIC MEETING AND AGM**
The President expressed his concern that MAA Members were not attending the annual Alumni Meeting because of the cost involved for early morning travel and attendance fee. He had been informed that some members did not wish to sit through the whole of the morning’s scientific meeting but wished to attend the AGM then be allowed to stay in the lecture theatre for the remainder of the programme and watch the Residents’ Revue. Miss Beaconsfield, (unable to be present at the meeting) will be asked if a solution can be found to allow for afternoon attendances by MAA Members.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
(i) John Lee Memorial Scholarship Fund - MAA unanimously agreed to donate £1,500.

(ii) After five years in her role as Executive Secretary, Miss Wendy Franks is standing down at the end of the next AGM and agreed to remain on the MAA Committee as Deputy Archivist to assist Mr. Richard Keeler.

(iii) Mr. William (Bill) Aylward agreed too take over the role as Executive Secretary and a ballot will be held at the next AGM.

12. **DATES OF NEXT MAA MEETINGS**
AGM - Friday 27th January 2012, Institute of Child Health
Committee Meeting - Thursday 12th July 2012 – to be confirmed.

WAF/BMA: July 2011