MOORFIELDS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING –
14th AUGUST 2008

PRESENT: Chairman: MR. PETER WATSON - Honorary President

Mr. Bill Aylward - Committee Member
Miss Wendy Franks - Executive Secretary
Mr. Richard Keeler - Hospital Archivist
Mr. Stephen King - Treasurer
Mr. Peter Leaver - Hon. Comm. Member
Mr. John Lee - Hon. Comm. Member
Miss Ann McIntyre - Committee Member
Mr. John Pelly - ex officio Member

1. APOLOGIES
Apologies were received from the following committee members:- Mr. A. Atkinson, Mr. D. Ehrlich, Mr. T. ffytche, Miss M. Leigh, and Mr. P. Sullivan.

2. WELCOME - New Committee Members
The Chairman welcomed Mr. John Pelly Chief Executive of the Moorfields Eye Hospital Foundation Trust. Mr. Pelly attended the meeting as an ex officio MAA Member and was introduced to other members of the Committee.

3. MINUTES OF THE AGM
Minutes of the AGM held on Friday 25th January 2008 at the Scientific Meeting (Institute of Child Health) were approved as a correct record.

4. MATTERS ARISING
i. Future of the Annual Research Medal
On his retirement from medical practice from the Hospital, Mr. Peter Leaver had donated a sum of money to provide a pecuniary component to the award of the Research Medal and the Committee was advised that the capital sum would be exhausted after the 2009 award. The Research Medal itself is funded by monies donated by Mr. Arthur Steele.

Miss Wendy Franks agreed to contact Graham Oxenham to enquire if there was any balance left in the account.
It was agreed that the Alumni Association should offer to take over the funding of the medal and there was some discussion about whether a sum of money should still be given with it.

Mr. John Lee felt that the kudos of the medal was sufficient.

Miss Ann McIntyre recommended that life membership of the Alumni Association should be offered with the medal.

No agreement was reached and a decision was made for this item to be carried forward for further discussion at the AGM in January 2009.

ii. **Links between the Alumni Scientific Meeting and the MAA Association**

Links between the Alumni Scientific Meeting and the MAA Association were discussed and Mr. John Lee agreed that there was some confusion in people's minds as to whether both organisations were indeed one. It was felt that the link should be cemented and that the best way forward would be to invite the organiser of the Alumni Scientific Meeting, Miss Michèle Beaconsfield, to join the Committee.

The Chairman agreed to write to Miss Beaconsfield with a formal invitation to become an ex officio member of the committee.

iii. **Alumni Events**

(a) The Chairman reported that there had been a disappointing response to his invitation to a Summer Reunion to take place after the Cambridge Symposium.

He stated that if more applications were not received within the next two weeks the event would have to be cancelled.

Members expressed the view that it would be a great shame as Mr. Watson had spent a lot of time planning the event.

(b) Mr. Stephen King’s organ recital last year had been a great success and he had already agreed to perform again on the 5th of September, if the event went ahead.
Eye Ball
Miss Franks advised the Committee that she regretted she was not able to host a table at the Eye Ball this year, as she was unable to attend in person.

She reported that there was poor attendance by Alumni at the Ball last year.

Agreement was reached to give Alumni notice of the Eye Ball via e-mail and if sufficient responses were received from the membership, a table would be booked.

5. MAA TIE MARKETING
Miss Ann McIntyre presented the final designs for the MAA tie. This was much admired and approved by the Committee.

It was agreed that an initial batch of 100 should be ordered and once they were received MAA Members would be informed by e-mail. It was thought that the ties would be popular Christmas presents. They would also be sold at the Alumni Meeting in January. A price of £20 for the cellophane wrapped ties and £22.50 for ties gift box packed, plus postage and packing where necessary, was agreed.

6. UPDATE ON ARTEFACTS
Mr. Richard Keeler and Mr. Peter Leaver reported that they were making very good progress with cataloguing the artefacts and that Mr. Philip Luthert, Director of the Institute of Ophthalmology had been helpful with their work. The Institute is providing safe storage for the artefacts until a permanent home could be found for them at the Hospital.

7. INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT
Mr. Stephen King presented the Statement of Accounts and was pleased to advise members that funds remain in surplus to an amount of £19,001.37.

8. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HOSPITAL
Mr. John Pelly outlined the problems the hospital was encountering at present in offering a museum/exhibition space to us. There was still no clear way forward but there had been problems with the Richard Desmond Eye Centre planning and part of that hospital will need to be closed and some services moved to the City Road site temporarily to enable remedial work to be accomplished.
There were also plans to redevelop the basement area and ground floor. Whilst these developments were taking place there would be severe pressure on space and the Boardroom is unlikely to become available as a meetings room for the foreseeable future.

Prior to the meeting Mr. Pelly had sent Miss Franks a letter, which stated that Moorfields was to become a part of Europe’s largest academic health science partnership – UCL partners, and a formal announcement had already been made after approval from the Moorfields’ Trust Board. Copies of the letter were distributed to the Committee for their information.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
   There was no other business to discuss and the Chairman closed the meeting.

10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting will be the AGM and this will take place on the 30th of January 2009, during the course of the Alumni Scientific Meeting, at the Institute of Child Health.