

**Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH)**

**Held at the Royal Society of Medicine**

**Friday 11 January 2008**

The President, Dr S Barton, was in the Chair.

The meeting commenced at 4.30pm. 111 members were present and the meeting was therefore quorate.

1. Apologies for absence had been received from Dr Chandramani of Walsall.
2. The minutes of the fourth AGM held on 12 January 2007 were accepted as an accurate record (proposed by Dr A Palfreeman, seconded by Dr M FitzGerald).
3. The 2006/07 annual report, including the accounts, which had been adopted by the BASHH Trustees in December 2007, was received by the membership.
4. The Honorary Treasurer, Dr J Clarke, made a brief statement highlighting some of the main features in the accounts. Following her statement, a number of members asked for points of clarification which were addressed by the Treasurer. The accounts were accepted (proposed by Dr M Waugh, seconded by Dr R Basu Roy).
5. Following the advice of the Honorary Treasurer, it was agreed that Farrington and Company would be re-engaged as auditors (proposed by Dr C Estcourt, seconded by Dr R Melville).
6. The membership subscriptions for 2008/09, as set by the Board, were presented to the membership. Rates for Fellows are to rise from £250 to £270 a year, and the rates for medical members are to rise from £190 to £200 a year. These were the first increases in subscriptions since BASHH was formed. Rates for all other grades are to remain unchanged.
7. The BASHH expenses policy as set by the Trustees on 2 March 2007, was presented to the membership.
8. The Chair of Trustees, Dr R Challenor, gave a short presentation in which she explained to the membership the reasons why the Trustees wanted to add an additional (sixth) Trustee, who was not medical. Following this presentation, discussion ensued during which various points were made from the floor. A vote was then taken on the necessary constitutional amendments (clauses 8, 8.5 and 13 – see appendix). The motion was carried with 111 votes for, *nem con* with no abstentions.

The General Secretary, Dr K Radcliffe then presented the case for amendments to clauses 58.12 and 67 to allow for separate representatives of nurses and health advisers to be appointed to both the Board and the Clinical Governance Committee. Following this the issue was put to a vote which was carried, with 110 votes for, one against with no abstentions.

9. Dr B Evans, Returning Officer, then announced the results of the following elections –  
To the Board: President – Dr I Ahmed-Jushuf; Vice-President – Dr K Radcliffe;  
General Secretary – Dr J Clarke; Treasurer – Dr R Patel; Chair, Clinical Governance Committee – Dr M Abbott; SAS Representative – Dr H Mullan; Fellows – Dr F Boag, Dr E Morgan and Prof J Ross; Chair, Education Committee – Dr K Rogstad; Doctors-in-training Representative – Dr K Coyne; Representative of Nurses and Health Advisers – Mr J Hardie.

Elections to the Clinical Governance Committee – Representative of Nurses and Health Advisers – Ms C Evans; SAS Representative – Dr J Lee.

Chair of Trustees – Dr R Challenor.

Following this, the President announced that the terms of office for the two Returning Officers, Drs B Evans and N Thin, were now completed. They were thanked for their contribution to the work of the Association and presented with a bottle of champagne each as a token of appreciation.

10. The President announced that there was a need to appoint two new Returning Officers for a four year term. The Board had discussed the matter, and after taking soundings had established that two senior Fellows, both of whom were past-Presidents of the MSSVD, were prepared for their names to go forward. These were Drs J Bingham and R Basu Roy. These two individuals were proposed by Drs F Boag and D Hawkins respectively, and seconded by Drs C O'Mahony and A Robinson respectively. No other candidates being proposed, Drs Bingham and Basu Roy were elected as the new BASHH Returning Officers.

11. The President then announced that the Board had awarded Honorary Life Fellowships to Dr A McMillan, formerly a consultant in Edinburgh, Chair of the SAC, Editor of the speciality journal and Assistant Secretary of the MSSVD. Also to Dr S Chandramani, formerly an Associate Specialist in Walsall and the founder of the BASHH NCCG Group.

The President also took this opportunity to announce prestigious awards received by two other Honorary Life Fellows – Dr L Drusin of Cornell Medical Centre in New York had received the James D Bruce Memorial Award from the American College of Physicians in recognition of his distinguished career in preventive medicine.

Dr M Waugh, formerly a consultant in Leeds and a past-President of the MSSVD, had recently been appointed an Honorary Member of the Romanian Dermatology Society, to add to his Honorary Memberships or Fellowships from societies in the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary.

12. The Chair of Trustees, Dr R Challenor, then made a brief statement pointing out that BASHH was a flourishing organisation in terms of its membership, finances and charitable activities.
  
13. The outgoing President Dr S Barton then introduced the incoming President Dr I Ahmed-Jushuf. Dr Ahmed-Jushuf then presented a vote of thanks to Dr Barton for the superb job he had done over the preceding two years as President, and for the magnificent example of leadership he had provided. Dr Barton was then presented with a pair of BASHH cufflinks and a BASHH past-President medal as a token of appreciation for his contribution.

The meeting was closed at 5.25pm.

## Appendix

### **Proposed amendments to the constitution of BASHH at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 11 January 2008**

Please refer to the current version of the BASHH constitution adapted on 12 January 2007 and available on the BASHH Website or from the BASHH Secretariat.

#### Clause 8

The current clause –

“The BASHH shall have five (5) Trustees to come into office or be appointed / elected as follows...”

The proposed new clause –

“The BASHH shall have six (6) Trustees to come into office or be appointed / elected as follows...”

#### Clause 8.5

A proposed new clause –

“One further Trustee, who does not need to be a Fellow or a Member of BASHH, will be appointed by a majority decision of the other five Trustees. This sixth Trustee to serve for two years, renewable for one further two-year term if agreed by a majority of the other Trustees.”

#### Clause 13

The current clause –

“Decisions regarding exercise of their powers shall require the approval of all five Trustees, excluding abstentions...”

The proposed new clause –

“Decisions regarding the exercise of their powers shall require consultation with all six Trustees, the final decision being made by a majority vote. In the eventuality of a tied vote, the Chair of the Trustees (the Independent Trustee) shall have the deciding or casting vote.”

Clause 58.12

The current clause –

“Representatives of each of the following to sit on the Board and the Clinical Governance Committee for a term of 2 years:

Staff and Associate Specialists

The same or different representatives of each group may sit on the Board and the Clinical Governance Committee.

Nurse / Health Advisers

Doctors-in-Training

Proposed change – “Nurse / Health Advisers” will be altered to make it clear that a different person will be appointed to represent each of these two groups separately.

The rest of the clause will not change.

Changes to clause 67

The current clause 67.5 “Representatives Nurses / Health Advisers (serving for 2 years)

Proposed change – clause 67.5 will read representative of Nurses (serving for 2 years)

New clause 67.6 will read “Representative of Health Advisers (serving for 2 years)”.

The rest of clause 67 to remain unchanged apart from appropriate renumbering of the current clauses 67.6 onwards.

**Dr Keith Radcliffe  
General Secretary  
19 November 2007**