

**SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP**  
**Minutes<sup>1</sup> of the 19th meeting**  
**Friday 6 May 2011 at 5pm**  
**DARO Meeting Room, Bramber House**

[Some discussion has been repositioned to accord with the Agenda order. AG]

**0. Minute taking**

Arnold Goldman (**AG**) volunteered to take the Minutes<sup>1</sup>.

**1. Members present**

Gordon Conway (chair), Jackie Fuller, Charles Goldie, Arnold Goldman, Steve Pavey, Adrian Peasgood, Jennifer Platt, David Smith and Ken Wheeler.

**2. Apologies for Absence** were received from Bob Benewick and Sue Bullock.

**3. Minutes of the 18th meeting held on 28 January 2011**

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record.

**4. Matters arising not elsewhere mentioned:** none.

**5. Recent events**

John Barrow's talk and dinner following, the visit to *Yes, Prime Minister* at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, and the visit to St Paul's Cathedral were reviewed. The Barrow event required a last minute, successful, trawl for members. The need to make personal approaches was agreed. The theatre visit went well according to the usual plan. The St Paul's visit was "triumphant" and "wonderful", well looked after by Roger Walkinton, and not least because the members remained for the concert and had prime seats. 35 had attended and there was a waiting list. London-based former administrators attended. (And see Future programme, Agendum 7.6 below.)

**6. Financial report**

JF presented a financial report which showed a healthy position. The balance at end April 2011 was £306.09, a deposit of £200 having already been made to the Conference Office against the Kroto event (see Future programme, Agendum 7.1 below). The Barrow event had a surplus of £149.11. (Copy filed with these minutes.)

**7. Future programme**

7.1 The talk by Sir Harold Kroto on 17 June has already been agreed. DS had received a one-page preview, which will be used in the next Newsletter (Agendum 11 below). All the usual arrangements are in hand.

7.2 The 50th Birthday Panel of staff and students on 10 September 2011 was in train, though the sub-group has had difficulty arranging a meeting with its speakers. Communication with the University administrators for the event has had to be improved – e.g., it's our contribution to the celebrations in an event for all alumni, current and past faculty and staff, not only for Suss-Ex members. Bookings can apparently be made, though this had not been mentioned to us earlier. A title was suggested, "Sussex Through the Ages", a sub-title, "an encounter with former faculty and students" and a descriptor, "[Three] former faculty members and their students will discuss the Sussex experience since the 1960s": all were remitted to the sub-group for polishing. JP was in touch with the administrator.

7.3 An expansion of the obituary work done by CG for the website (obituaries since 1996) as another contribution to the 50th Birthday's celebration. It would attempt to get back before 1996. The result might be a leaflet, whether a listing with links to the expanded webpages or including text if funds were made available; or it could be a memory stick including all available text. Additional information could be solicited even in the September version. **CG** and **DS** will pursue this item.

7.4 Next potential Theatre Royal, Brighton, visits: Michael Frayn's *Alarms and*

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<sup>1</sup> The initials of those who will take action(s) are in **bold** font.

- Excursions*, the first week of August 2011, and the National Theatre's *The Pitmen Painters* at the end of that month. **JP** will organise a visits or visits in the usual way.
- 7.5 Baroness Andrews of Southover (Kay Andrews) will speak on 11 November 2011, on the work of English Heritage, of which she is chairman. **JF** will continue to liaise with her.
- 7.6 The success of the St Paul's visit provided food for thought about comparable and London-based events. Ideas mentioned included a visit (possibly also behind the scenes) to the Globe Theatre, which can be approached by boat. The advantage of a contact to give a special tour was noted.
- 7.7 **SB** had offered to organise the next Christmas Party. Her offer was accepted with enthusiasm.
- 7.8 Other potential speakers/guides (with Suss-Ex contact) continue to include Paul Nurse (**GC**), Nigel Llewellyn (**SP**), Helen Wallace (**BB**), and Tom Blundell (**KW**). It was suggested that the "Sussex connection" be widened from former faculty and such candidates as Kenneth Baker and Colin Mackenzie (the Charleston Trust) were mentioned.
- 7.9 **SP**, who raised the idea, was encouraged to explore further the idea of a tour of the new Brighton & Hove Albion AmEx stadium in 2012, when things "had settled down".
- 8. Emeritus titles**  
**CG** reviewed the position (various papers by CG and DS refer). He had today met Professor Mark Hindmarsh, Head of Physics. MH and Professor Erik Burman, Head of Mathematics, had Suss-Ex papers by CG and DS and were intending to raise the matter further, whether at Senate or previously. The Group reviewed the situation. **GC** will draft and circulate a letter intended to be sent to the Vice-Chancellor.
- 9. Suss-Ex Membership list and recruitment**  
 (See Minute of 6 May meeting, Agendum 7.) CG gave an interim report. He'd found the (accidental) removal of some 76 Suss-Ex "flags" from the DARO database; he suspected that some flagged names were spurious: alumni not former faculty/staff. The agreed automatic enrolment of new retirees onto the list had not yet been implemented. (There'd be an easy opt-out.) DARO will get back to us. (Its dataset is separate from HR's.) **CG** will give an update at the next meeting.
- 10. Article on Suss-Ex in Bulletin**  
 It was agreed no longer to hold back waiting for resolution of the Membership recruitment issue (Agendum 9 above). **SP** will omit that and write up what we've been doing and are planning to do, making our contribution to the Sussex community.
- 11. Next Newsletter: editor; publication date**  
**DS** will edit the next Newsletter, attempting to issue it in about ten days' time. **JP** will provide the list of publications which she holds. A version of the Kroto preview will be included.
- 12. AOB**  
 There was discussion of what new members might be attracted to the Steering Group, especially from technicians, computing and the humanities.
- 13. Date of next meeting**  
 The next Steering Group meeting was agreed for 4.30pm on Friday 17 June, before Sir Harold's talk (Agendum 7.1 above).

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recent minutes (and succeeding agenda)	Recent Newsletter editors
April 2010      Arnold Goldman	May 2010      Jennifer Platt
Nov 2010      Charles Goldie	Nov 2010      Adrian Peasgood
Jan 2011      Adrian Peasgood	Feb 2011      Jennifer Platt/Charles Goldie
May 2011      Arnold Goldman (minutes only)	May 2011      David Smith