

SUSS-EX CLUB

Steering Group Meeting no. 5

Minutes - Friday 20 April 2007

Development & Alumni Relations Office, Bramber House

Present:

Sir Gordon Conway (<i>Chairman</i>)	Charles Goldie
Bob Benewick	Willie Lamont
David Betts	Valerie Cromwell
Adrian Peasgood	Steve Pavey
Jackie Fuller	Jennifer Platt

In attendance:

Roger Walkinton (DARO)

Apologies for absence:

Mike English	Christine Glasson
Ken Wheeler	Mike Land (<i>who has stepped down</i>)

1. **Approval of minutes of 26 January 2007 meeting**

Approved – with matters arising covered below.

- 1.1 Mike Land was thanked for his contribution and it was agreed that various members of the steering group would approach a number of others, academic and non-academic to see if they would be prepared to join the group and attend the next meeting. The group wished to achieve a better balance between academic and non-academic representation.
- 1.2 Roger Walkinton was also thanked for his help since launch, and the group wished him well as Deputy Director of the Foundation at St Paul's Cathedral (which might also be the focus for a future Suss-Ex visit). He confirmed that his successor (interviews on 25 May, Roger's final day) would, like him, be expected to be the US link with the Suss-Ex Club.

2. **Club structure and administration:**

There was much discussion on the sub-committee report kindly and clearly prepared by Jackie Fuller (JF), Steve Pavey (SP) and Adrian Peasgood (AP).

The principal purposes of the Suss-Ex Club were agreed to be (a) social (b) representing collectively issues of relevance to members and (c) general support for the US. It is as much for staff who have left to go elsewhere as for those who have retired

It was agreed:

Steve Pavey would consult the US to see whether, if the Suss-Ex Club were constituted with a formal structure with democratically-elected Secretary and

Treasurer, with the US continuing to offer administrative help by DARO (staff time and help with mailing activity), and Suss-Ex for its part agreeing to help the US in terms of support, might the US make an annual grant of funds to defray core costs such as room hire. SP will report back to AP and JF initially.

The sub-committee will then outline options to the Steering Group which would then be put to the active Suss-Ex membership to consider for the future proposed structure of the Club, clearly laying out the advantages and disadvantages of the options.

3. **Activities updates:**

- Simon Fanshawe talk; any other ideas in pipeline (Bob Benewick)

Attendance of 21 was agreed to be somewhat disappointing; future events should be advertised additionally in the Bulletin; the next talk might be more informal, in the autumn term

- David Streeter walk Sunday 13 May (Ken Wheeler) – now 19 so far
- Wakehurst visit Wed 27 June (David Betts) – now 10 so far
- House of Lords dinner Monday 29 October (Jackie Fuller)

Jackie described the proposed event which will be on Monday 29 October at 7 for 7.30, hosted by Baroness Margaret Sharp, with a welcome by Sir Gordon Conway and after-dinner speaker Baroness Shirley Williams. Tickets £65 all-inclusive. It will be promoted (along with the Wakehurst event) in early May by letter and by email (and on the US events website, in the Bulletin to current staff, numbers permitting.) RSVP by Roger's last day 25 May to assess if there are enough takers, and further discussion at the next meeting on 29 June.

4. **Database:**

Michael Jamieson (English/ENGAM) and Mike English (Engineering) had both volunteered to help compile further names and addresses: these would be pursued.

5. **Items for next Newsletter:**

Principally to promote the House of Lords and Wakehurst events, to go out early May

6. **AOB**

Friday 29 June 2007 at 5pm in DARO meeting room, Bramber House

(Valerie Cromwell has presented her apologies that she cannot attend)