

## SUSS-EX CLUB

### Steering Group Meeting no. 8

Minutes of the meeting held Friday 14 March 2008, at 1730hrs in  
Seminar Room 230, Bramber House

*Present:*

Yvette Ashby, Bob Benewick (RB), David Betts, Jackie Fuller (JF), Charles Goldie (CG) – acting Chairman, Willie Lamont, Adrian Peasgood – Minutes, Jennifer Platt (JP), David Smith, Mike Tribe.

*In attendance:*

Gillian Blake (GB)

| Agenda item |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Action |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1           | Gordon Conway, Mike English, Steve Pavey, Ken Wheeler.<br>(Resignations: Valerie Cromwell, Christine Glasson. Possible new member: Sue Bullock)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |        |
| 2           | Minutes of the meeting of 18 January were approved.<br>Arising: Gordon's membership invitation to Nancy Holmes to be sent by Gill, p.p.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | GB     |
| 3           | Gill reported orally on the Registrar's response. (References are to the Suss-Ex paper already copied to members.)<br>1a. <i>Room costs for four events a year, plus Christmas party</i> , will be raised by the providing building, but reimbursed by DARO. No time restrictions on this. All catering costs to be met by Suss-Ex. To be reviewed after a year.<br>1b. <i>Room and catering costs of business meetings</i> to continue be met by DARO.<br>2. <i>Administration/Clerical</i> . Up to 1.5 days per month (or equivalent over a period) staff time on tasks as listed to be provided by UoS; no individual yet identified. To be reviewed after a year.<br>3. The Registrar's suggested procedure for <i>Suss-Ex access, for mailing purposes, to names and addresses from the DARO database</i> involved using Excel as a 'bridge' to the mail system, Mulberry. Whether this would be straightforward in practice for Suss-Ex needed examining; Charles Goldie offered to contact Mark, and Gill would alert the latter to expect such contact.<br><i>Membership</i> . Of the c.400 leavers each year, many were on short contracts, most of whom would be unlikely to be interested in Suss-Ex membership; the Registrar suggested that 'default' membership should be offered only to those retiring, with others having an 'opt-in' opportunity. The group | CG, GB |

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|   | <p>welcomed this proposal.</p> <p><i>New database.</i> Suss-Ex could be involved in relevant design work on the proposed new database, but that would not be for at least 18 months.</p> <p>4. <i>Income and expenditure.</i> A report could be provided.</p> <p><i>Advance payments.</i> The group was told that the accounting system would not allow advance payments of the kind sought; the group asked Gill to ascertain whether this meant ‘no payments before related income’ or ‘payments not to exceed the Club’s credit balance with DARO’ – the latter would be workable for the group, given that it had, and intended to maintain, a suitable balance in its account.</p> <p><i>Other requests as listed.</i> All costs would continue to be borne by UoS. To be reviewed after a year.</p> <p>The group warmly thanked Gill for her assistance in developing its paper of requests, and for getting responses in time for the meeting.</p> | GB                          |
| 4 | <p><i>Talks.</i> Valerie Cromwell to be approached for late summer term, with next steering group meeting to be same day. Nigel Llewellyn to be asked for an autumn date.</p> <p><i>Walk.</i> Accepted David Streeter’s offer of a walk on 1 June (location tba).</p> <p><i>City College meal.</i> Preferred speaker: Michael Farthing; target date: October.</p> <p><i>Theatre.</i> Next Theatre Royal programme imminent; any suitable production(s) to be notified in Newsletter.</p> <p>The next steering group meeting to consider events for academic year 08/09.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | RB<br>KW<br>JF<br>JP<br>ALL |
| 5 | <p>Rather than a programme co-ordinator (no volunteer had come forward), each set of Minutes to contain the latest expected calendar of events, which would also appear on the website.</p> <p>Confirmed that, once an event and indicative date(s) had been approved for the programme, the convener could/should make all arrangements without reference back. Should a possibility emerge requiring action before the next steering group meeting, email consultation (+ other contact for those offline) would suffice.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                             |
| 6 | <p><i>Obituaries.</i> Noted the ‘In memoriam’ section of the Bulletin covered more ground than the group’s Newsletter, but was believed not be systematic or proactive. Jennifer’s data collection for the Newsletter was comprehensive for <i>Guardian</i> items; she would welcome information on obituaries seen elsewhere. Ideally the Newsletter would provide an archive</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | ALL                         |

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|   | for material from any source; a project covering the ‘founding fathers’ would be appropriate for the forthcoming 50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary. Charles would provide an index to existing Newsletter obituaries, and if possible relevant Bulletin items. | ??<br>CG |
| 7 | <i>Minutes.</i> Agreed that the task should rotate among members.<br><i>Newsletter items.</i> Next issue expected early April, before Gill’s maternity leave; contributors were identified for all items listed in Agenda.                                |          |
| 8 | <i>Next meeting.</i> Preferred: June 13 or 20 or 27, depending on availability of ‘Life after Sussex’ speaker for programme event the same day.                                                                                                           |          |

Target programme: bold type indicates confirmed, other items provisional.

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|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>June 1</b> | <b>David Streeter walk</b>                                                |
| <b>June 4</b> | <b>Chiddingly farm visit</b>                                              |
| June 13/20/27 | Valerie Cromwell ‘Life after Sussex’ talk;<br>next steering group meeting |
| Autumn        | Nigel Llewellyn ‘Life after Sussex’ talk                                  |
| October       | City College dinner, speaker Michael Farthing                             |
| TBA           | Theatre visit(s)                                                          |