

SUSS-EX CLUB
Steering Group Meeting 38
Friday 15th April 2016, at 1715 hrs in Pevensey III, 5C11

NOTES

Present: Colin Finn (CF), Jackie Fuller (JF), Charles Goldie (CG), Arnold Goldman (AG)
Steve Pavey (SP), Adrian Peasgood (AP), Jennifer Platt (JP), David Smith (DS), Paul Tofts (PT)

1. AG agreed to chair the meeting in Gordon Conway's (GC's) absence. AP agreed to take the Minutes and to be responsible for the next Agenda.

2. Apologies: Sue Bullock, Gordon Conway.

3. Minutes of the 37th meeting were approved.

4. Matters arising:

Tim Metham's obituary has been completed.

CG reported that he added a (lightly redacted) version of Suss-Ex Minutes to the website; it was *agreed* that no reference to the committee was needed in respect of such activity.

5. JF circulated a summary of the accounts, noting a balance of over £900, available to support the future programme. SP pointed out that the 'Exotic Creatures' event was not included, as it had been managed independently by him.

6. (Agenda 5 bis). Recent events

22 February. 'Exotic Creatures' exhibition in the Royal Pavilion. About 15 present. Excellent speaker in Alexandra Loske.

5 March. 'Lysistrata' at Roedean School. Attendance not certain, as arrangements were made by those attending, not by an organiser, but thought to be about a dozen, responding to a note in our Newsletter. Noted there had been no 'value added' by the (rather exiguous) association with Suss-Ex, and that events which we promote in any way should normally provide some added value.

23 March. Dementia talks in Arts building. About 40 attended, including several couples. One excellent speaker, one adequate. Noted that booking rooms under School control proved easier than booking rooms controlled centrally. Also, that, while provision of the tea break felt appropriate, indeed clearly popular, in any similar future event we needed to be sure that serving could be done quickly. The voluntary donations contributed towards the cost of the event.

7. (Agenda 6). Future programme: probables

Confirmed earlier decisions not to offer anything during the May festivals.

June / August: theatre visits. Theatre Royal. **JP** noted for June 'HMS Pinafore', and for August plays by Coward (Present Laughter) and Pinter (No Man's Land). Agreed to offer all, with the usual option of a linked meal.

July: Sewers. **CF** offered to try to arrange a summer visit, preferably for July (liaising with SP to avoid any clash with Pavilion tunnel visit (see below).

[5 October. Cambridge Society of Sussex meeting with Richard Jolly. See item 9 below]

11 November: Bremf. **JP** would offer 'Guts and glory!'; the event would include a picnic.

8. (Agenda 7) Future programme: possibles

British Airways i360 – ride with talk and refreshments. **SP** to pursue.

'Serious' talk. The success of the 'Dementia' afternoon encouraged ideas for something similar. But would 'similar' imply something on another disease? Should it be a report on current research in BSMS? Or, a survey of the field more widely? Something with a positive feel was thought to be desirable. Possible speaker mentioned: Lesley Fallowfield. Debbie Hatfield at Brighton University might have some suggestions: she manages a prostate cancer support group. **PT** to investigate possibilities, liaising with **JP**.

Royal Pavilion tunnel (and associated basement). Welcomed **SP**'s offer to arrange a visit to be led by Alexandra Loske or a colleague, and followed by tea. Numbers would be strictly limited, and, depending on the date agreed, some places could be filled by people already alerted to the idea when attending the 'Exotic Creatures' meeting, although **AG** felt that all Suss-Ex members should have an equal opportunity. On dates, **SP** to liaise with **CF** re the possible 'sewer' visit.

9 (Agenda 8) **CG** reminded the group of his email of 14 March reporting an offer from the Cambridge Society of Sussex to invite Suss-Ex members to its meeting at UOS on 5 October at which Richard Jolly would speak on the UN; a meal would be part of the programme. **CG** confirmed that there was no interest in a continuing formal relationship with Suss-Ex. **PT** would contact the Oxford equivalent and promote Suss-Ex with them.

10 (Agenda 9) **PT**'s email to Stephen Shute after the lunch for emeritus professors was lauded; its concentration on what Suss-Ex could do for the University, rather than the reverse, was deliberate. It would be important to exploit any opportunities to follow it up.

11 (Agenda 10) **DS** would produce a Newsletter after 23 May so that **JP** could know in time about take up of the suggested visit to 'HMS Pinafore' in late June.

12 (Agenda 11) **CG** reported that the Suss-Ex mailing list now included about 300 members with email and about 60 without. Only regular notification of all staff retirements would ensure a substantial increase in those numbers; meanwhile, he would contact all those on the emeritus list.

13 (Agenda 12) Date of next meeting: **AP** would canvass availability on Fridays in September, and circulate the eventual choice in due course.

14 There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1835.

anp (rev. ag)