

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 41st Steering Group meeting
Friday 21st April 2017 at 5.15 pm
Room 5C11, Pevensey III

1. Chair, Minutes

Arnold Goldman agreed to chair the meeting.

The Group accepted Charles Goldie's offer to be responsible for Minutes and succeeding Agenda for this and subsequent meetings.

2. Present

Jackie Fuller (**JKF**), Charles Goldie (**CMG**), Arnold Goldman (**AMG**), Steve Pavey (**SPCP**), Adrian Peasgood (**ANP**), Jennifer Platt (**JP**) and David Smith (**JDS**).

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Bullock (**SDB**), Gordon Conway (**GRC**), Colin Finn (**CBPF**) and Paul Tofts (**PST**).

SDB had written to resign from the Group. Agreed that **CMG** would write to thank her on behalf of all.

3. Minutes of the 40th Meeting, of 6th January 2017

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

None.

5. Financial Report

JKF reported essentially no change from what had been reported to the previous meeting.

6. Recent events

6(a). Medical meeting: 'Strokes and their Prevention' (JP)

The two talks were generally well received and the speakers' lack of condescension was appreciated. It was agreed in principle to organise another medical afternoon next year. The format—drawing on University experts to talk on topics of interest to us—might be applicable to other themes, for example AI or Big Data.

6(b). Tour of Hollingdean Waste Facility (ANP)

An interesting and informative visit; **ANP** would draft an account for our Newsletter. A visit could be considered in (say) two years time to another Veolia site such as the Newhaven incinerator.

7. Possible future events

7(a). British Airways i360 (SPCP)

Aimed for September, probably late September, and late in the day (when it will be cheaper), associated with a fish-and-chip supper.

7(b). Royal Pavilion (SPCP)

Dr Alexandra Loske would lead a visit to either the Jane Austen exhibition or the Constable exhibition or to the Royal Pavilion Estate. We prefer the first, for July.

7(c). Pallant Gallery, Chichester (GRC)

Held over.

7(d). Nature Walk with David Streeter (CMG)

continued ...

Wednesday 24th May at 2 pm, to Castle Hill National Nature Reserve on the Downs between Woodingdean and Kingston. A sign-up notice will be in the next Newsletter. Free, but with numbers capped at 15.

7(e). *Backstage tour of Brighton Theatre Royal, or Glyndebourne* (**CBPF**)

Held over.

7(f). *What's going on on campus* (**GRC**)

Consider for next year.

7(g). *Towner Gallery, Eastbourne*

Consider for next year.

7(h). *Jerwood Gallery, Hastings* (**SPCP**)

Consider for next year.

7(i). *Tour of Veolia incinerator, Newhaven* (**ANP**)

See Minute 6(b)above.

7(j). *A meeting on campus on a medical topic* (**JP**)

Next spring. See Minute 6(a)above.

7(k). *Concert at Brighton Early Music Festival* (**JP**)

Agreed to offer a group visit, to the 'Name That Tune' picnic event on Friday 10th November, or another concert.

7(l). *Cambridge Society of Sussex 'Academic Talk'* (**CMG**)

Supper and a talk on J. M. W. Turner at Haywards Heath Golf Club on Wednesday 11th October. **CMG** to enquire if this might be opened to Suss-Ex members, as last year.

8. Relations with the University

8(a). *Emeritus Readership*

CMG had briefed a member of Senate to oppose a last-minute proposal to make award of the title of Emeritus Reader discretionary, exceptional, and only after long service, while leaving award of the title of Emeritus Professor automatic (on request by a retiree) as at present. It is understood that Senate voted the proposal down; the Minutes are awaited for the exact outcome.

8(b). *Possible meetings*

The Interim HR Director Sheila Gupta had been confirmed in post, so **SPCP** and **CMG** would seek a meeting with her on behalf of Suss-Ex. The post of Chief Operating Officer (polysyllabilisation of Registrar) was still being advertised. When the latter post is filled our aim should be to refresh our agreement with the University.

9. Protocol on circulating information to Suss-Ex (**JP**)

Agreed that our Newsletters could refer readers to other websites if they were of likely interest to our members.

10. Liaison with Oxford University Society of East Sussex (**OUSES**) (**PST**)

Held over. The remit appears to include Brighton & Hove. There is also a West Sussex Alumni Group: <https://www.alumni.ox.ac.uk/west-sussex>.

11. Membership

CMG reported that membership is stable, with occasional joinings. It is clear that some retirees, at least, are hearing about Suss-Ex from HR as they leave.

12. Any other business

None.

continued ...

13. Next Newsletter

JDS volunteered to assemble the issue, copy being needed by Wednesday 10th May.

14. Next meeting

Friday 6th October, 5.15 pm [after post-meeting polling]. **CMG** will aim to book 5C11 in Pevensey III as usual.