

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 50th Steering Group meeting
Friday 11th October 2019 at 5.15 pm
Room 5C11, Pevensey III

1. Chair

AMG took the chair.

2. Present

Jackie Fuller (**JKF**), Charles Goldie (**CMG**), Arnold Goldman (**AMG**), Steve Pavey (**SPCP**), Adrian Peasgood (**ANP**), David Smith (**JDS**), Paul Tofts (**PST**) and Helen Walker (**HJW**). We welcomed Ross (Rossana) Dowsett (**RD**) who joined us by invitation.

Apologies for absence were received from Gordon Conway (**GRC**) and Colin Finn (**CBPF**).

3. Minutes of the 49th Meeting, of 12nd July 2019

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

None.

5. Finance

JKF reported an unaltered credit balance. We resumed discussion of our financial arrangements. Agreed that we should keep our account with the University, not least because when hosting an event on campus we avoid VAT by running expenditure and receipts through University codes. However we also agreed in principle to initiate a *float*, informal at first, with the possibility of a formal (bank) account later. The float to start with the next event we independently organise (i.e. not the Christmas Party).

6. Recent events

(a) Harvey's Brewery

A very successful tour on Thursday 5th September, with the maximum number (25) attending. The Group recorded its thanks to **CBPF** for organising the event.

(b) Visit to the i360 viewing platform, talk by Professor Fred Gray, and meal

Also a very successful event, on Thursday 3rd October, despite uncertain weather and a last-minute change of timings caused by the i360 moving without warning to its winter schedule. The option for participants to attend some or all of the three components worked well; some 25 attended the talk and 20 the meal in the Regency Restaurant, filling our reserved table. The Group recorded its thanks to **SPCP** for organising the event.

7. Future events, planned and possible

(a) Christmas Party

As in recent years, on Wednesday 18th December we join USPAS for a buffet lunch in the University's Conference Centre. **SPCP** and **HJW**, consulting with **JKF** as necessary, are liaising with Tracey Llewellyn, USPAS administrator, who organises the event. As in previous years, **SPCP** and **HJW** will invite relevant senior University persons as our guests. **SPCP** and **HJW** will raise with Tracey what might be done with leftovers, to avoid them being thrown away. The charge to Suss-Ex members should be £8, as last year. At the event, Steering Group members should aim to spread themselves around and talk to Suss-Ex participants.

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(b) Royal Pavilion

SPCP will pursue the possibility of a February *Curator's Tour* by Dr Alexandra Loske, of the Royal Pavilion's loan of items from Buckingham Palace.

(c) A meeting on campus on a medical topic

Of the various possibilities we agreed that **JDS** will aim to discuss a possible Easter event with his surgeon contact. The format might be a 3pm talk, *How Do Surgeons Think?*, followed by tea followed by a question-and-answer session.

(d) Further possibilities

- A hard-hat tour, while work on the building continues, of Brighton's Corn Exchange (**HJW**).
- A Suss-Ex group to join one of the harbour tours by boat organised by the Shoreham Port Authority (**SPCP**).
- Agreed that successful events such as the Harvey's or i360 tours could be repeated, perhaps with variations (change of speaker), after say a two-year interval, as members would be likely come again.

8. Membership of Suss-Ex

CMG outlined certain problems with our membership list, Agreed to continue as we are for the time being.

Those who retire from the University's service are told about Suss-Ex. We agreed it would be good if that could be extended to all who leave the University's employ.

9. Participation in Suss-Ex events

- **RD** offered to set up and run a *Meetup Group* (a smart-phone 'app'), the cost of which at present is \$11.54 per month. A Meetup Group is location-specific and topic-specific and ours would invite its members to Suss-Ex events. It could be paid for by its members contributing £1 whenever they came to an event.
- An alternative is a closed *Facebook Group*, which is free, and has the same purpose, to advertise Suss-Ex events to members and encourage them to come. **RD**, with the assistance of **JKF**, agreed to set this up experimentally.
- Use of *Twitter*, using **AMG**'s expertise, to be considered later.

10. Newsletter

ANP will aim to publish the next issue in the penultimate week of November. **CMG** will draft a paragraph for the covering e-mail, to be first circulated to the Steering Group for improvement or approval, asking members of Suss-Ex what they would like to come to.

11. Any other business

- **RD** confirmed that she would join the Steering Group.

12. Next meeting

CMG to poll the Group over possible dates in January 2020.