

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 51st Steering Group meeting
Friday 17th January 2020 at 5.15 pm
Room 5C11, Pevensey III

1. Chair

AMG took the chair.

2. Present

Rossana Dowsett (**RD**), Jackie Fuller (**JKF**), Colin Finn (**CBPF**), Charles Goldie (**CMG**), Arnold Goldman (**AMG**), Steve Pavey (**SPCP**), Adrian Peasgood (**ANP**), David Smith (**JDS**), Paul Tofts (**PST**) and Helen Walker (**HJW**).

Apologies for absence were received from Gordon Conway (**GRC**).

3. Minutes of the 50th Meeting, of 11nd October 2019

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

SPCP reported that a member was interested in joining the Group and, although not free for this meeting, would be happy to be invited to our next.

5. Finance

JKF reported an unaltered credit balance, subject to plus and minus from the Christmas Party.

6. Recent events

(a) Christmas Party

Again a great success. There were 43 Suss-Ex members and around 100 USPAS pensioners; thus our numbers are slowly increasing, but not so much as to create any danger of overfilling the room. Points improved since last year were that there were more seats in the welcome-drink room, and there was much less left-over food. Also, left-overs are now made use of, via an anaerobic digester.

The arrangement by which food for those with dietary requirements is protected from being eaten by others worked well for the first course, less so for the dessert.

Points for next year are that the reserved table for those making speeches should be towards the middle of the room rather than at one end, and that thought should be given to ways to make the move from the welcome room to the food room more orderly and less of a scrum.

Unceasing effort by Tracy Llewellyn to make the event a success was much appreciated by the Group, and **CMG** would write to thank her. **SPCP** will be in touch with her for a de-briefing session.

7. Future events, planned and possible

(a) Royal Pavilion

Provisional plan is for an event around the end of February starting at 1030 with a talk by Dr Loske in the Red Drawing Room, followed by her leading a tour and finishing around 1330 after (optional) lunch in the tea-room. The event will be limited to 20 persons, to ensure that participants can hear the guide and see the exhibits satisfactorily. The only charge for participants will be entry to the Royal Pavilion.

continued ...

(b) *Meeting on campus on a medical topic*

JDS will aim to run this on Tuesday 31st March at 1430, planning for a talk of around 45 minutes followed by a further 45 minutes for questions and discussion, all then adjourning to purchase tea in a campus café. The speaker charges no fee. **JDS** will agree a title and abstract with the speaker. Participants will be asked to register in advance; the event will be free but with a retiring collection of a suggested £5 for the Sussex Fund.

8. Possible future events

(a) *Tour of work in progress on Brighton's Corn Exchange*

HJW will investigate further.

(b) *Shoreham harbour tour by boat*

SPCP will enquire if a group booking is possible for one of the July tours, liaising with **HJW** over combining the tour with a talk on the regeneration of Shoreham Port. Tours are free, lasting 45 minutes (all in all, 1 hour), and depart in all weathers as they stay in the harbour.

(c) *A further medical talk*

CBPF's contact Chris Davidson, a cardiac specialist, could give us a talk in a year's time.

(d) *Winery visit*

Our successful visit to Ridgeview was in August 2014. **CBPF** will investigate where we might offer a wine tour, to Ridgeview again or to another winery such as Rathfinny.

(e) *Fishbourne*

The Interpretation Centre at the Roman Palace is under constant improvement and is worth a repeat visit by anyone. The site is in walking distance of Fishbourne Railway Station on the West Coastway line. **RD** will follow up a possible Suss-Ex visit.

9. Chair of Suss-Ex

We agreed with **GRC's** wish to become our *Patron*. **CMG** will communicate the Group's heartfelt thanks to him for his near 14 years' service, since Suss-Ex's launch. We appointed **PST** as Chair, for one year in the first instance. We agreed to think about ways to involve former VCs, members of Suss-Ex, in its activities.

10. Membership of Suss-Ex

(a) *Members who give no e-mail address*

Agreed that in our next Newsletter we should ask such members, possibly providing a tear-off slip for the purpose, either to give us an e-mail address or confirm that they still need our Newsletters as paper copies.

(b) *Removals from our list as a consequence of opting out of receiving marketing e-mails*

Agreed to return to this when DARO has a replacement in post for our former contact person Sarah Brown.

11. Newsletter

ANP will aim to publish the next issue at the end of January or in early February. It was suggested that it might be helpful to give the number of members of Suss-Ex.

12. Other business

(a) *Facebook*

RD explained that we would aim to use the platform as an addition to our web presence, to reach out to and attract new members. She will invite us to join the Facebook Group she has set up, and gauge our reactions.

continued ...

13. Next meeting

Friday 3rd April, 1715. **CMG** will seek to book the usual room.