

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 60th Steering Group meeting
Friday 14th January 2022 at 4.30 pm, online

1. Welcome

Ross Dowsett chaired the virtual meeting, hosted by Charles Goldie using Suss-Ex's Zoom subscription. Also present were Colin Finn, Jackie Fuller, Steve Pavey, Paul Tofts and Helen Walker. Arnold Goldman had e-mailed to resign. Charles will write to thank Arnold for all his years on the Steering Group, and also write to David Smith to check if he has resigned, having expressed his intention to do so.

2. Apologies for absence

Arnold Goldman, Sara Hinchliffe, David Smith.

3. Minutes of the 59th Meeting, of 29th October 2021

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

None.

5. Finance

Jackie reported the credit balance.

6. Recent events

(a) Talk How Do Surgeons Think? by surgeon Jan Nawrocki

About 10 attended in person with a further 28 or so on Zoom, the latter from far and wide. The speaker was happy with how it went. Although the camera and associated equipment in the room were not quite optimal, work beforehand by Ross and Sara ensured that all went well. Congratulations and thanks to them for making our first hybrid event a success.

(b) Drop-In Social

Organised and publicised by Ross and Sara, this was held at 7pm on Monday 6th December at *Station*, the pub next to Hove Railway Station. We had reserved tables. The ambiance was good. Agreed to repeat the event: **Ross** and **Steve** will reconnoitre pubs in Lewes. In advance publicity it would help to give advice on parking as well as on public transport. If we hold such an event in warmer months we should use a pub with a garden.

8. Possible future events

Remarks made at the meeting on possible timings are noted below. **Ross** will assemble these into a paper to be circulated. Events that could be mounted soon are (e) Drop-in Social, and (a) Online Quiz.

(a) Online quiz

A winter event that would bring in non-local members. The quiz planned for late 2020 had to be called off for lack of take-up, possibly contributed to by people thinking they had to assemble their own teams, whereas that will be done for them, as the advance publicity should make clear. **Ross** would need to update the content, which was designed for a pre-Christmas event.

(b) Wine tasting

Ross awaits a response from James Hirschfeld.

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(c) Lewes guided walk

Colin will discuss a summer walk with the leader Marcus Taylor of our fully booked October walk last year. The limit of 10 participants is needed on account of Lewes's narrow streets and in order to hear the speaker, but we could possibly book 11 on the assumption of at least one no-show. The payment arrangement last time, a £5 donation to the *Friends of Lewes*, was satisfactory.

(d) Tour of Palmeira Mansions, Hove

Jackie will ask her contact for a private tour in June.

(e) Drop-in Social

See 6(b) above. A variation would be a film at The Depôt in Lewes, followed by a meal there. **Ross** will look at what's on.

(f) Talk on Kindness

BBC coverage in late spring will generate much national publicity and the project's director Professor Robin Banerjee will in principle then be delighted to talk to us. **Ross** and **Steve** will maintain contact.

(g) New campus developments

Held over until our next meeting. **Sara** will ask Estates what they would like to do.

(h) Fishbourne Roman Palace

Consider for a summer visit, perhaps in May, led by **Ross**.

(i) The Dome building project

Helen reported that the Dome is not re-starting tours yet, if indeed it will at all, so we remove this from our list.

(j) Shoreham Harbour and Rampion Windfarm

Held over to the period June-September. **Steve** will monitor the re-launch of boat trips after Easter, following completion of the new visitor centre and café.

(k) Campus boundary walk

Ross and **Sara** to contact Martyn Stenning about a repeat of the boundary walk he led for us in September 2018, or an alternative route.

(l) Lewes Railway Land Wildlife Trust

Steve will monitor the re-opening of the Railway Land, and whether someone from the Trust will lead a tour.

(m) Historic Shoreham

Steve will monitor the re-opening of the Marlipins Museum, and possibilities for a guided walk.

(n) Talk by Kathleen Stock

Agreed that we would be happy for **Sara** to follow up her previous suggestion of a talk by Professor Stock. It would be online, with controlled access.

8. Membership benefits

Noted.

9. Newsletter

The subgroup led by **Ross**, with members **Jackie**, **Charles** and **Sara**, has started work on Newsletter 58. Charles reported that for a *Who Has Been Publishing?* article our member Daniel Snowman had sent details of his newly published autobiography *Just Passing Through: Interactions with the World 1938-2021*; he also offers us a talk.

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10. Membership

(a) Steering Group

Ross and **Steve** will contact two likely recruits.

(b) Mailing list

Charles reported that new members continue to trickle in, hearing about Suss-Ex on leaving Sussex University employment. We recruited three, possibly four, new members from the Drop-in Social.

(c) Facebook Group

No change reported..

13. Other business

(a)

Steve suggested Professor Julian Burke, a former Sussex Biology colleague, as a speaker. Steve will aim to recruit him to Suss-Ex.

(b)

Charles reported that the deletion of 20 recent obituaries of former staff from the online Bulletin 'archive', together with other articles, resulting in many broken links, has been met with concern by Dr Fiona Courage, Library Associate Director, and Dr Richard Wragg, Collections Manager, who are attempting to repair the damage and prevent a re-occurrence.

14. Next meeting

Friday 1st April 2022 at 4.30 pm via Zoom; **Charles** will set it up.