

SUSS-EX CLUB
Minutes¹ of the 15th Steering Group meeting
Friday 23 April 2010 at 5pm
DARO Meeting Room, Bramber House

0. Who will take the Minutes¹

Arnold Goldman (**AG**) agreed to take the Minutes¹.

1. Members present

Gordon Conway (chair), Bob Benewick, Jackie Fuller, Charles Goldie, Arnold Goldman, Steve Pavey, Adrian Peasgood, Jennifer Platt and David Smith.

Apologies for Absence were received from Sue Bullock, Mike Tribe and Ken Wheeler. Yvette Ashby sent a letter of resignation. (See item 7.)

2. Minutes of the 14th meeting held on 15 January 2010

The Minutes were accepted as a correct record.

3. Matters arising not elsewhere specified

The room charge “waiver” (McGowan event) had been part of the original Suss-Ex arrangement with the University. SP, CG and JF had now met the Registrar over the “confirmation and possible extension” of the arrangement. SP had subsequently written to him to confirm the result of the conversation, and the Registrar has replied that it can “continue on [the original] basis”, including room hire waiver. (SP has the correspondence.) **SP** will convey the Steering Group’s agreement and thank him. SP had noted other matters, such as lists of names of those leaving, which had not yet been confirmed and which – though they would not be taken up with him immediately – will not be forgotten.

4. Future programme (see Agenda)

The summer campus walk date is to be fixed (**KW** – and inform **JP** (see item 10)). The de la Warr Pavilion visit will be 2 June (**SB**).

The Theatre Royal possibilities listed will be offered with the exception of Macbeth (which is on too soon) (**JP**).

JP will investigate advertising a Chichester Festival Theatre visit, especially to the return of ENRON and include this in publicity.

It was considered that enough was on tap for the time being.

5. Talks convening

The chairman glossed the agenda heading as implying, “If you want more talks, get a new convenor”. After discussion, **JF** will join **SP** to arrange an Autumn Term talk which Mary Kaldor will be invited to give, and consideration will be given to following it with a dinner. John Barrow and Harry Kroto will be sounded out for Spring/Summer Term talks on the same basis (**DS** will lead, with help from **CG** if required). The chairman noted that it might again be possible to approach Paul Nurse.

6. Reports on recent events

Reports were made on the visits to Present Laughter, Carousel (in Lewes) and The Seagull. Numbers were sometimes low, but the evenings were enjoyed. The Geoff Mead walk was cancelled (again). [It was noted that about 40 would be present for GS’s talk after the meeting, with about 30 staying for the buffet dinner.]

7. Membership

CG reported that access to information on current membership had improved. He circulated a list of “confirmed [new] joiners”, “likely joiners” and “special invitations”. Some corrections were offered to the addresses to be provided to the University, and **CG** will take note of these.

¹ The initials of those who will take action(s) are in **bold** face: specifically, **AG, SP, KW, JP, SB, JF, DS, CG**.

GC will write to Yvette Ashby thanking her for her contribution to Suss-Ex. **SB** is asked if she can suggest a new member of the Group. **SP** will approach Pauline (Grant) Thorne. **GC** will recall the name of the IDS administrator who might also be a possibility.

8. Financial Report

The Group received JF's financial report with thanks, noting that the true balance is £256 and appreciating the need for the surveillance which JF provided. (Report filed with these minutes.)

9. Policy on coverage in newsletter of activities by other bodies

After a full discussion – members expressing themselves on all sides of the question – it was agreed that **Newsletter editors** could use their judgement in providing news of Suss-Ex members, which could include activities in which they were currently taking part. News of members should take priority, but short details of events would not be excluded. We will try this, see how it works and return to the matter in due course if problems arise.

10. Next Newsletter: editor; publication date

JP will edit the next Newsletter, aiming for the end of the first week in May.

11. AOB

CG described contact with a similar organisation at QMC and would explore for the Group whether a joint event might be arranged (**CG**).

12. Date of next meeting

The next Steering Group meeting was agreed for Friday 2 July at 5pm.