

SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP
Minutes of the 20th Meeting
in the DARO meeting room
at 4.30 p.m. on Friday 17th June, 2010

- [1] **Present** Sue Bullock, Gordon Conway (chairman), Jackie Fuller, Charles Goldie, Steve Pavey, Jennifer Platt, David Smith, & Ken Wheeler (who agreed to take the minutes).
- [2] **Apologies for absence** were received from Bob Benewick & Arnold Goldman.
- [3] **The Minutes of the 19th Meeting** (8th May 2011) were approved.
- [4] **Matters arising from the minutes** are dealt with below.
- [5] **Financial report** JF said there was no change to the report she presented at the last meeting.
- [6] **Future programme**
- (a) **Harry Kroto's talk (17th June)**. JF reported that although enough people were attending to ensure costs would be covered, this had required a lot of effort. She also noted that most of the audience would be scientists. This led to a general discussion about such events that is summarised under (f) below.
- (b) **UoS 50th anniversary** [i] JP said that the organisation of "*Sussex through the ages*" (10th September) was in hand, with Stuart Laing, Carol Kedward & David Streeter having agreed to be the faculty members involved. A room had yet to be allocated for the event, but more than fifty people had already signed up for it. [ii] CG was collecting *obituaries* for the proposed dossier: DS said three people were writing new ones for it. There was discussion about announcing the availability of the list at the anniversary meeting, and the need to provide links to the Suss-Ex website
- (c) **Kay Andrews' talk: "English Heritage: making the past work for the future" (11th November)**. JF said the plans for this event were in hand. Since GC would be absent, JP & CG agreed they would chair the meeting jointly. It was suggested that the next Suss-Ex newsletter should contain a note encouraging people to attend the talk, and emphasise how good the previous one had been.
- (d) **Theatre visits (August & next December/January)** Although the special offer for next December/January was booked up, JP was exasperated because, despite all her efforts, one more person was still required to make a group booking (minimum 10) for Michael Frayn's 'Alarms & Excursions' in the first week of August. GC agreed to advertise this later that evening, to the audience at Harry Kroto's talk.
- (e) **Christmas party** SB confirmed that she was happy to organise the party again this year, assuming other members of the group would provide their usual help. The event posed no financial problem.
- (f) **Points raised during the discussion of (a) above**. Should there be a general review of what the steering group is doing? For whom does the steering group organise events? At present, at least 40 people need to sign up for a talk followed by a meal to ensure financial balance. This number has sometimes been attained not only with lots of effort, but also by opening the event to current members of the university. Should the group be doing this? Perhaps it's good to be providing a link between Suss-Ex current members of

the university? They had always been pleasant social occasions. Is there a need for an annual “big event”, such as the House of Lords dinner and the visit to St. Paul’s cathedral? Could such events centre around lunch or tea time instead of the evening? As decided previously, it would be good to get views from the general Suss-Ex membership. It was decided to consider the situation after the Kay Andrews’ talk in November.

[7] Emeritus titles

GC had received no reply to his letter to the administration on this subject. The proposed changes, limiting emeritus titles to professors, are already written in the draft constitution. Concern about this had been raised, under AOB, at a committee meeting the previous Monday because of papers submitted by Physics and CG & DS. Prof. Hindmarsh (Physics & Astronomy) was to raise the matter in senate.

[8] Membership list CG said no real progress had been made with this problem; the Alumni & Development Office apparently was understaffed and all his efforts were getting nowhere. Alternative possibilities, including the steering group’s making its own list were discussed.

[9] Proposed article in the ‘Bulletin’ SP promised it would be ready by the following Friday.

[10] Next News Letter CG agreed to produce this sometime in September, remembering the proposal made in [6](c) above.

[11] AOB None

[12] The next meeting of the Group The 11th November 2011, at 5 p.m., before Kay Andrew’s talk.

The meeting finished at about 6 p.m.

KPW

Previous minutes

<i>April 2010</i>	<i>Arnold Goldman</i>
<i>July 2010</i>	<i>Ken Wheeler</i>
<i>November 2010</i>	<i>Charles Goldie</i>
<i>January 2011</i>	<i>Adrian Peasgood</i>
<i>May 2011</i>	<i>Arnold Goldman</i>

Previous newsletters:

<i>May 2010</i>	<i>Jennifer Platt</i>
<i>September 2010</i>	<i>David Smith</i>
<i>November 2010</i>	<i>Adrian Peasgood</i>
<i>February 2011</i>	<i>JP/CG</i>
<i>May 2011</i>	<i>David Smith</i>