

SUSS-EX CLUB STEERING GROUP

Notes of the 37th meeting

Friday 15th January 2016 at 5.15pm in Pevensey 3 5C1

1. **Minutes**
Steve Pavey (**SP**) was appointed to take the Minutes. Agreed Action Points for members are in **bold**
2. **Members present**
Arnold Goldman (**AMG**) (chair), Sue Bullock (**SB**), Colin Finn (**CF**), Jackie Fuller (**JKF**), Jennifer Platt (**JP**), Adrian Peasgood (**AP**), Steve Pavey (**SP**), David Smith (**DS**).
3. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Gordon Conway, Charles Goldie and Paul Tofts.
4. **Minutes of the 36th meeting held on Friday 9 October 2015.**
The Minutes were agreed.
5. **Matters arising not mentioned elsewhere:** Tim Metham's death in August was noted and an obit is being prepared. Curiously, Human Resources have no record of his ever having worked at Sussex!
6. **Finances:**
 - a) **JKF** circulated a financial statement, which showed the financial performance of Suss-Ex events from 1 August 2015 – 31 December 2015 (5 months) (further copies available direct from **JKF**). We covered our costs Thanks to Jackie for keeping us in the black!
 - b) Also discussed were practical problems ... and some difficulties with evening and weekend events; whether we might explore trying IDS as an event venue again.
7. **Future Programme**
 - a) Double-bill afternoon on medical aspects of retirement (JP) 23rd March. We discussed room possibilities, two speakers (inc. Prof Sube Banerjee from the Medical School who is Professor of Dementia), format of talk, tea interval etc. We agreed that there is some risk in offering a more 'serious' subject, but we should try it out. The proposed room (maybe the old EURO common room?) will be booked from 2 - 4.30pm.

There was also discussion about costs and the Chartwell refreshment service. **AGREED** that we will bear a £200 cost (less donations collected on the day)
 - b) Theatre visits. Nothing really obvious coming up. **AP** mentioned forthcoming productions at New Venture Theatre (Arthur Miller) in mid-May and Brighton Little Theatre. Theatre Royal is showing 'The Father', with Kenneth Cranham, at the end of April. This won the 2014 Moliere award for best play.
 - c) **SP** to approach Dr Alexandra Loske to see if she could offer an expert tour of the current exhibition on 'Exotic Creatures' in the Royal Pavilion that she is curating. (*Subsequently agreed and a visit organised*).
 - d) *After the meeting SP suggested that he also circulate details of a forthcoming performance of Lysistrata in the theatre of Roedean School. This was done and promoted in the Newsletter.*
 - e) **SP** agreed to pursue a possible early visit to (and ride on!) the new British Airways Brighton i360. This is due to open in mid-July this year and should be a fascinating

event if we can combine it with an on-site expert talk on the project. There is a café/restaurant at the venue so we can easily organise refreshments etc.

8. Reports:

a) Nick Tucker talk. A very good event. Nick was an easy speaker to listen to. 22 people for the meal and 11 for just the lecture. There was some criticism ... over provision (or non-provision) for those with special dietary arrangements. We agreed it was essential to keep an eye on this for the future. Apart from this the event was convivial with plenty of mixing and chatting.

b) XMAS party. 140 people in total including 55 from Suss-Ex. New room in Bramber House was OK with ability to sit down big plus. Downside of the layout is, perhaps, a lack of opportunity to mix. Where were the mince pies?! Suggested that Gordon drop a note of thanks to Alan Spencer (University Finance Director) for subsidising the event, which was a joint event with USPAS (the University's local pension scheme). The food: perhaps a little heavy on bread and pastries as compared with salad and fresh produce.

c) BREMF opera. This worked very well with a pre-event meal at a Greek restaurant (Arkipelagos)

d) Other. **AG** to do a note of Nick's talk for the newsletter; **CF** to do a note on the Xmas party. Geoff Lockwood writing something for John Mangold's obituary.

9. The Cambridge Society of Sussex (possible collaboration)

Could we maybe piggyback on their events, and vice-versa? The society is aimed at Cambridge graduates who live in Sussex.

10. **Meeting with the Registrar: CMG and SP** will try and arrange the annual update meeting with John Duffy on behalf of Suss-Ex.

11. **Newsletter: DS** will edit and arrange circulation for second week of February.

12. **Any Other Business** – none.

13. **Date of next meeting**
Maybe after the medical meeting on 23rd March?