

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 54th Steering Group meeting
Friday 30th October 2020 at 5 pm, hosted on Zoom

1. Welcome

CMG/RD hosted the meeting, chaired by **PST**, using our paid-for Zoom subscription. Present were Rossana Dowsett (**RD**), Jackie Fuller (**JKF**), Colin Finn (**CBPF**), Charles Goldie (**CMG**), Arnold Goldman (**AMG**), Sara Hinchliffe (**SJH**), Steve Pavey (**SPCP**), Adrian Peasgood (**ANP**), David Smith (**JDS**), Paul Tofts (**PST**) and Helen Walker (**HJW**). **PST** welcomed all.

2. Apologies for absence

None.

3. Minutes of the 53rd Meeting, of 4th September 2020

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

None.

5. Finance

JKF reported a credit balance unaltered save that the Zoom subscription had been paid.

6. Future events

(a) Christmas Party

The joint USPAS/Suss-Ex Christmas lunch is not possible this year. In substitution, the idea of a summer garden party has been floated, though no more than that. **SPCP** will draft a paragraph for our next Newsletter.

(b) Christmas Quiz

RD has prepared 6 rounds of 5 questions, Christmas and Sussex related, plus tie-break question(s). Zoom can handle up to 100 logins and participants can interact when in different rooms. A rolling Chat on the side of the screen will help make the event sociable. *QuizScore* software will collect the scores. **PST** as host will be quizmaster while **RD** as co-host will keep the show on the road. For a prize, a signed copy of the new book *Moon: Art, Science, Culture* by Alexandra Loske and Robert Massey is suggested as it's an impressive coffee-table hardback and may serve to advertise our forthcoming talk (see below). Provisionally agreed date Thursday 10th December, for one hour, starting 6 pm–7 pm, with a possible break in the middle. To prevent interlopers, informal pre-registration by e-mail will be required, and **RD** will decide when best to circulate the Zoom invitation/link to those pre-registered. **RD** will also mount a 'dry run' practice event for participants from this Steering Group.

(c) Zoom talk by Alexandra Loske, with discussion

Dr Loske agrees to speak. Provisional date Thursday 14th or Thursday 21st January at 7 pm, with topic either *Moon* mentioned above or the speaker's previous book *111 Places in Brighton & Lewes That You Shouldn't Miss*. **SPCP** and **HJW** will organise, advised by **JDS**.

(d) Further events

For spring 2021 we agreed to go for one or more of (in no particular order)

continued ...

- a talk, Zoom or live, on bees, taking advantage of our university's expertise (**SJH**);
- a medical or medico-social talk, Zoom or live (**JDS**);
- Fishbourne Roman Palace visit (**RD**);
- The Dome building project (**HJW**);
- by boat around Shoreham harbour and/or to Rampion windfarm (**SPCP**);
- Ridgeview vineyard & winery (**CBPF**).

7. Membership

(a) Leavers from university employ

Of 11 senior academics recently awarded an emeritus title, none have joined our mailing list. Having checked that they have not joined our Facebook group, **CMG** will invite them individually to join (both).

These of course are a small subset of those leaving Sussex University employ. Our flyer/sign-up form is being circulated to those retiring. **SJH** continues to seek which HR staff are relevant to our concerns, and is contacting all School administrators to ask them to publicise Suss-Ex to those leaving at Christmas.

(b) Facebook Group

The Group has 85 members. Members can and are encouraged to invite others to join. **RD** and **JKF** check eligibility, that requisite information has been provided and that good behaviour has been promised. The Group has been polled to find what members want of Suss-Ex, and it's intended to repeat that exercise from time to time.

8. Next Newsletter

Copy should reach **ANP** by 12th November, to cover both the Quiz and the January talk.

9. Other business

None

10. Next meeting

Friday 18th December, 5 pm, on Zoom; **CMG** to host it.