

SUSS-EX CLUB
Notes of the 55th Steering Group meeting
Friday 18th December 2020 at 5 pm, online

1. Welcome

Paul Tofts chaired the virtual meeting, hosted on Zoom by Ross Dowsett. Also present were Colin Finn, Jackie Fuller, Charles Goldie, Arnold Goldman, Sara Hinchliffe, Steve Pavey, Adrian Peasgood, David Smith and Helen Walker.

2. Apologies for absence

None.

3. Minutes of the 54rd Meeting, of 30th October 2020

Approved.

4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere

Steve undertook to draft a paragraph for the next Newsletter on what might be substituted for the Suss-Ex/USPAS Christmas Party that the pandemic had this year prevented.

5. Finance

Jackie reported the credit balance, recalling that it had built up from small surpluses on paid-for events. Agreed that the aim in future should be to limit the balance to one (normal) year's turnover, when that could be determined.

6. Our cancelled quiz

Organiser **Ross** was not clear why there were not enough takers to allow the event to go ahead, though it was perhaps that early December tends to be busy with other pre-Christmas events, and members may themselves have been busy with preparations for an unprecedented Christmas. She had gained useful experience and was willing to make another attempt at hosting an online quiz. Members noted that breakout groups of 4–6 people, randomly chosen, make for interesting and enjoyable social interaction. Heartfelt thanks to Ross, assisted by Jackie and Paul, for all the work put in.

7. Future events

(a) Zoom talk by Dr Alexandra Loske, with discussion

We plumped for Thursday 28th January at 7 pm, with topic *The Moon in Science and Art*. **Steve** to chair the online session, with **Ross** as Zoom host. Agreed that the Zoom link could be given out in our Newsletter as well as to our Facebook Group.

(b) Bees

Sara to look at our hosting this event in the spring. We discussed timing, with some preference for a 5 pm or 6 pm start. This was left in Sara's hands, for negotiation with the speaker(s).

(c) A medical or medico-social talk

David reported that his speaker continued to be tied up with extra work in the NHS. He will reopen the matter when appropriate.

(d) Further possibilities

Agreed to discuss those we have in mind, including the renewed possibility of a Quiz, at our next meeting.

continued ...

8. Membership

(a) Mailing list

Charles will contact recent recruits to our Facebook Group to invite them also to join the mailing list.

(b) Facebook Group

Jackie reported that the Group now has 98 members. Agreed that the Group is a good place to publicise new books and other ventures by members, where of general interest.

9. Christmas Greeting for our Facebook Group

Ross captured our Zoom screen in order to introduce us to the Facebook Group members.

10. Next Newsletter

Copy should reach **Adrian** in time to publicise the January talk.

11. Other business

Charles noted with regret the death of Mike Land FRS, a former member of the Steering Group.

12. Next meeting

Provisionally fixed for Friday 5th March 2021 at 5 pm; **Charles** to set up the Zoom meeting.