

**SUSS-EX CLUB**  
**Notes of the 57<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting**  
**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 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, David Smith and Helen Walker.

Noted that Adrian Peasgood, a founder member of the Steering Group, had resigned from it. **Charles** will write on the Group's behalf to thank him, and will draft a short note for the Newsletter to recognise his long and active service.

**2. Apologies for absence**

None.

**3. Minutes of the 56<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Approved.

**4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere**

None.

**5. Finance**

**Jackie** reported that after only two minor items of expenditure the credit balance was almost unchanged.

**6. Zoom talk by Francis Ratnieks on 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Sarah** reported very positive reactions. It was good to see faces from all over. With the speaker's agreement his talk was recorded and the recording was forwarded to those who enquired after it.

**Helen** commented that in future talks we should notify the audience if the talk is being recorded.

**7. Talk *How Do Surgeons Think?***

**David** reported that the speaker prefers a Zoom talk; as he has a busy schedule we are likely to need to postpone until September. Members reported that a hybrid (Zoom and in-person) talk can work; David will explore possibilities for September, with help from **Sara** on arrangements in the University. DARO's help with arrangements is not to be expected.

DARO's sponsorship of Suss-Ex is important in protecting us from University room-hire and associated charges. The hybrid event should thus incur little or no cost to Suss-Ex and be free to those attending. It will be good to use a room with a nearby tea-bar, to which those who wish to can adjourn afterwards for informal discussion.

**8. Future events**

**Jackie** was thanked for her comprehensive and detailed list of all the events that there are records of Suss-Ex ever putting on.

- **Colin** reported that he had provisionally booked Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 12.30 pm for a Suss-Ex group visit to Ridgeview with the option for participants to stay on for a light lunch in the new café. The cost is £20 per person, lunch extra, and numbers are limited to 20. We adopted Colin's proposal with enthusiasm and the forthcoming Newsletter will include details and booking arrangements as a lead item.

*continued ...*

- **Ross** reported that Fishbourne hope when Covid restrictions ease to run group tours, 7 days a week, at a cost of £70 on top of the £8.60 per person entrance charge. Numbers need to be between 15 and 30. There is a shop and a café. Ross will enquire if they include or can include an introductory talk on the history of the Roman Palace and its discovery in the last century, as otherwise it is not clear that the tour will give enough added value.
- **Ross** will organise our summer picnic on campus, with optional blackberrying, for Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August, just before the Late Summer Bank Holiday.
- Boating at or from Shoreham Port: **Steve** reported that this looked good for 2022, when there will be a more comprehensive programme, with more choice, and a new visitor centre cum café.
- **David** will enquire about a possible Lewes walk in the autumn, such as are run by the Lewes History Society.
- **Charles** reported a member's offer of a Zoom talk on social psychologist Henri Tajfel. Agreed that the topic would unfortunately be considered by the members too 'niche' to be likely to gain an audience.

## 9. Newsletter

The draft new format, by the subgroup made up of **Ross** (in the lead) plus **Jackie**, **Charles** and **Sara**, met with approval: "much better layout", "modern format at last", though there was still a danger of too much text, and the obituaries still take up quite a bit of space. The current issue however does need to clear a slight build-up of obituaries, caused by the length of time since the last newsletter and by some earlier deaths coming to notice. Most of the space taken up by the proposed obituary format is taken up by the inclusion of thumbnail photos, and it was agreed to retain those.

**Steve** will look for a better social photo to go at the head of the Newsletter. **Ross** will ask the University for a Suss-Ex e-mail address. **Charles** expressed concerns over type size and type font but these were not supported.

The subgroup will continue, aiming to finalise the current draft by 12<sup>th</sup> June and bring it out in liaison with DARO. It will go out as a PDF attachment but the body of the cover e-mail will have details of the Ridgeview visit with relevant links to enable and encourage members to book.

## 10. Membership

### (a) Mailing list

**Charles** had contacted recent recruits to our Facebook Group to invite them also to join the mailing list; however none had done so.

### (b) Facebook Group

**Jackie** reported that the Group now has 114 members.

## 11. Other business

**Charles** suggested that we consider the idea of a Suss-Ex Book Group.

## 13. Next meeting

Provisionally fixed for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 at 4.30 pm (not 5 pm). Agreed that we should again meet via Zoom; **Charles** will set it up.