

**SUSS-EX CLUB**  
**Notes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023, online**

**1. Welcome**

Steve Pavey chaired the virtual meeting, hosted by Charles Goldie using Suss-Ex's Zoom subscription. Also present were Ross Dowsett, Colin Finn, Jackie Fuller and Helen Walker.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Sara Hinchliffe, Tony Moore and Paul Tofts.

**3. Minutes of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, of 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

Approved.

**4. Matters arising not covered elsewhere**

None

**5. Finance**

**Jackie** reported that the credit balance remained at the same level after credits and debits in connection with the Christmas Party.

**6. Recent events**

- **Ross** and **Steve** hosted a drop-in Social on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November at the *Lord Nelson* pub, Trafalgar Street, Brighton. A successful event despite short notice, as 15–16 people came and went, including three, who had not been to a previous event, who later came to the Christmas Party. There was space for the Suss-Ex party away from the main pub. The timing, 3–6 pm, would better have been 4–7 pm.
- The *Christmas Party*, held jointly with USPAS in the Bramber House conference suite on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, was a complete success. Thanks to **Steve** for getting the University's subsidy restored, to **Ross** for circulating the invitations, and to **Ross** and **Steve** for organising on the day and beforehand. Liaison with **Diz** of Sussex Food was excellent, resulting in care over crucial details (seats in the drinks room for those who needed them, provision for those with special dietary needs, ...). The short speeches made a good sequence: **Paul** for Suss-Ex, Chris Cook (Chair of USPAS trustees) for USPAS, Pro-VC Kelly Coate for the University, our Patron **Sir Gordon Conway**. This is arguably our flagship event, important in reminding the University of our existence.

**7. Future events**

- Agreed, to maintain momentum, to aim to mount one event before the summer, one of
  - a talk (plus meal?),
  - a film at the *Depôt* in Lewes, followed by coffee and cake there,
  - a pub social.

**Steve** will propose which. An invitation can go out via the mailing list and the Facebook page, without needing to be part of a Newsletter.
- Agreed that for early summer our intention is to offer a tour of one of
  - Fishbourne Roman Palace (**Ross**),
  - Shoreham Harbour, Rampion Windfarm, *The Port Kitchen* café (**Steve**),
  - Lewes Railway Land Nature Reserve (**Steve**).

*continued ...*

## **8. Questionnaire to members**

We discussed **Jackie's** draft and she will circulate a second draft including **Ross's** suggested addition and the various comments. **Jackie, Helen** and **Ross** will agree in what form the final version should be circulated and responded to, consulting DARO who will send it out. Alternatives suggested were (a) SurveyMonkey, (b) a Word document which a recipient can edit and return as an e-mail attachment, or print and fill in by hand, returning by post or by scanning and attaching to an e-mail, (c) an e-mail, to be replied to with gaps filled in.

## **9. Newsletter**

Postponed for later consideration. Any event we put on can be advertised to members by a circular to the mailing list plus a Facebook announcement.

## **10. Membership**

### *(a) Steering Group*

**Charles**, who was thanked by the Group for his work for it, is willing if the Group wishes it to continue with (i) agendas, minutes and hosting meetings, and (ii) obituaries, but would like by October to relinquish (iii) being mailing list membership contact person and (iv) the website.

For (iii) the duties are minimal: welcoming new members in, and passing their applications on to DARO. The contact signs a confidentiality agreement with DARO, allowing access to members' address details.

For (iv) a volunteer is needed who will update the code, currently Hypertext Markup Language as originally defined in 1993, and maintain it.

### *(b) Mailing list*

Nothing to report.

### *(c) Facebook*

Currently 137 members.

## **11. Other business**

**Charles** has been offered a newsletter article by a former student, who asks to receive our Newsletter. Agreed that he is welcome to join our Facebook Group (and his article will be welcome). **Steve** raised the possibility that we might admit 'Friends of Sussex University' (in some sense) into Suss-Ex.

## **12. Next meeting**

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023 at 4.30 pm via Zoom; **Charles** will set it up.