**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Sunday 9th August 2020**

**Held via Zoom Video Conference at 1.30pm.**

**Present:** Peter Maguire (Chairman), Kevin Harrison (Secretary), Frank Thompson,

Gordon Mason, Helen Pollard, Ian Stewart, Joe Partridge, Keith Simpson,

Kevin Gibson, Malcolm Langley, Emma Collins, Mick Grant.

**Apologies:** Dani Maguire-Myers, Kieran Downey.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 1.30pm, which was called to discuss the implications of the

decision by the FA to not allow spectators at games.

A number of Club’s representatives on the committee expressed their concern that the situation without paying spectators would be financially crippling to some clubs as takings on match days pays for expenses of officials etc. Following lengthy discussion it was decided that the league secretary will contact all clubs asking if they are happy to start games in September as previously intended but without supporters, and put forward the following proposals for their view before any decision is made;-

* Wait until we can have spectators (could be soon or never).
* Clubs who are happy to play in the meantime games could possibly be scheduled, those that choose not to would need to catch up more than likely on 4G pitches.
* If we were to have a later start than September then the league would need to hire another slot of midweek bookings for 4G pitches in Sunderland whereby 1st Division clubs would be required to fulfil some games as their home and away venue. (2nd Division clubs are already scheduled to do this). The league pays the cost of hire, but the ‘home’ club pays the match officials as normal.

If we cannot restart until November or later then more imaginative ideas will need to be discussed.

If clubs felt they could not continue at all, they would be allowed to miss the season but be admitted back next season in their current division.

Peter reported that the County FA have just informed the league that the referees fees for the coming season is £30 all in (including expenses). 2nd Division clubs will not be appointed assistants so this will be the total costs.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 1.55pm.