**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday 12th November 2019**

**Held at Farringdon Youth & Community Centre, Allendale Road, Farringdon, Sunderland.**

**Present:** Peter Maguire (Chairman), Kevin Harrison (Secretary), Frank Thompson, Brian Hammond, Dave Copeland, George McKitterick, Gordon Mason, Helen Pollard,

Ian Stewart, Joe Partridge, Kevin Gibson, Kevin McKitterick, Kieran Downey,

Malcolm Langley, Marshall Lawson, Phil Tye, Sean Rooks, Doug Keys, Emma Collins, Mick Grant.

**Apologies:** Dani Maguire-Myers, Matthew Malton, Keith Simpson.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.20 following the conclusion of a prior disciplinary meeting.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** - The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2019, previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record with no matters arising.
2. **Correspondence;**

* **Referee Report - Boldon CA v West Auckland Tunns - 14/9/2019. -** Referee Matthew Davison reported to the league that in the 2nd half the home captain informed him that one of the people in the away dugout was drinking alcohol. He went over to remove the person from the bench and instructed him to remove the alcohol as it wasn’t allowed outside the bar. He brought it to the attention of the home secretary at the end of the game.
* **Referee Report - Durham City Reserves v Wheatley Hill - 21/9/2019.** - Referee Nathan Sherratt reported to the league that there had been an incident of racial abuse involving two identified players, one from each side. The incident has been reported to the county to deal.
* **Racial comments - Horden CW v Darlington Town FC - 14/9/2019.** - Text received from Graeme Wetherell, secretary of Horden Community Welfare FC informing that during their game against Darlington Town on 14th September their goalkeeper was subject to racial comments from someone wearing a Darlington tracksuit. The FA have been informed and a case has been opened.
* **Referee Report - Silksworth CW v Horden CW - 2/10/2019.** - Referee Geoff Mann reported that after 4 minutes into the game there was a major floodlight failure which resulted in more than half of the lights going out. An electrician had been called and on arrival was unable to fix the problem requiring the Electricity Board to be called out which could be a few hours at least. He then took the decision to abandon the game.
* **Boldon CA v West Auckland Tunns - 9/10/2019.** - Letter and photograph of the damage caused from Kevin Gibson, Boldon CA secretary, reporting that the away team dressing room has been damaged by the away team player who had been sent off. He brought it to the attention of referee Richard Rowe who would be including it in his match report. The matter is being dealt with by Durham County FA.
* **Referee Report - Horden CW v Annfield Plain - 12/10/2019** - Report received from referee Leonard Thurlow stating that in and around the 86th minute of the game a can of lager was thrown into the field of play aimed at the away team technical area. Horden Secretary, Graeme Wetherall, acknowledged that they witnessed the incident and are investigating who threw the can and the parish are viewing CCTV to see if it was caught on camera. If found the culprit will be banned. The club apologised to Annfield Plain and the referee after the game.
* **Referee Report - Durham United v FC Hartlepool - 30/10/2019.** - Report received from referee John Brown on the floodlights which were, in his opinion, of an unacceptable standard which needs to be resolved soon. A number of the bulbs were not working, and it made the light very poor and hard to work with. The away team questioned the game going ahead.
* **October Respect Documents - Matthew Malton.** - League administrator Matthew provided a report on Dissent Cautions/Sin-Bins over the previous three season and current season and is working on a document to properly analyse how effective the sin-bins have been. The report provided showed a steady decrease in numbers and he will continue to monitor dissent.
* **Step 7 to 6 Promotion Procedure - Matt Edkins (FA).** - Documentation required to be completed by clubs wishing to apply for promotion from Step 7 to Step 6 for next season (already circulated by Kevin to all league clubs). The deadline for application is 31st December 2019 and the league must be copied in on any application. The Football Association will manage the whole promotion process. Any queries contact Kevin and he will assist.

1. **TC Plastics FC - failing to field a team against Norton & Stockton Ancients - 21/9/2019.** - Email received by Steven Futures (2nd Division Fixture Secretary) on Thursday 19th September 2019 from Gavin Potts, secretary TC Plastics, informing that they have had a personal issue within the team, and they are unable to play their fixture on Saturday 21st September 2019. Steven replied informing them that if they are unable to field a team they will be charged with an unplayed game and it will be passed to the management committee to deal. A further email to him from Steve without reply. Mick emailed him regarding the situation inviting him to this meeting or submit a letter in mitigation to the committee for deliberation, again without reply. As no one from the club attended the meeting and no letter received, the club were dealt with in their absence. The decision of the management committee was that the club is fined £50.00 as per the league Fine Tariff for Rule 20(E)(i). Payment required within 14 days of notification.
2. **League Applications. -** Kevin informed the meeting that he received enquiries to join the league from 4 different people, plus 1 from a team to be called Sunderland Ryhope CW Reserves. All are tentative at the moment.
3. **Washington AFC Reserves - Late Fine payment.** - League Treasurer, Sean Rooks, informed the meeting that Washington AFC Reserves had still not paid the outstanding fine of £250 levied on the team at the management meeting held on 10th September 2019, for folding from the league with immediate effect on 20th August 2019. Also, still to be returned are the 4 match balls and barrier kit provided by the league. Mick contacted them on two further occasions before requesting a payment and return of the equipment by 6th November. As this had not happened, it was proposed and agreed by the management committee that the league notify Durham FA and request that the club be suspended from all football until the outstanding fine is paid and equipment returned. Kieran Downey agreed to call at Washington AFC the following day to try and resolve the situation.

1. **Leagues meeting with the County FA.** - Kevin informed the meeting that both he and Frank Thompson attended a meeting at the county offices where leagues were informed that the Football Association were looking for all leagues to adopt their registration programme on the Whole Game System by season 2020/2021. The county would like all local leagues to implement it as soon as possible.
2. **Referees Pool meeting - feedback.** - Kevin reported back on the North East Referees & Assistants Pool management committee meeting where serious concerns were raised regarding the availability of Level 4 referees in their Pool to cover games both in the Northern league 2nd Division and the Wearside League. With the coming changes and the introduction of a new Step 4 league, lengthy discussion took place and ideas for helping the issues around availability were conveyed to the Referees Department at the Football Association for consideration.
3. **Charter Standard.** - Phil reported that a Charter Standard meeting at the County was cancelled due to insufficient numbers attending.

He informed the meeting that all clubs had now forwarded a copy of their Medical Emergency Action Plan to the league to comply with the FA’s Charter Standard requirements for both club and league.

1. **A.O.B.**

* **Norton & Stockton Ancients.** - Kevin read out an email from Paul Cracknell, Norton & Stockton Ancients First Team Secretary, expressing his concern regarding the cancelling of two of their games due to both of their opponents, Jarrow FC Reserves and Sunderland TC Plastics, failing to field a team even though they both have more than enough registered players. In it Paul asked if the points would be awarded to them. Kevin copied the relevant league rule regarding failure to fulfil a fixture which lists the options available to the management committee and advised that it will be their decision as to the outcome.
* **Frac Packs.** - Ian Stewart asked if there was any update on the Frac Packs. Kevin reported that he was still awaiting the FA’s decision regarding the League’s Charter Standard Funding application.
* **Sponsor** - Peter reported that the league is still looking for a sponsor and asked if anyone knew of any interested parties, to let him know.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.