**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday 13th November 2018**

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

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

Gordon Mason, Kevin Gibson, Kevin Oliver, Marshall Lawson, Paul Charnock,

Sean Rooks (Treasurer), Emma Collins, Brian Sinclair, George McKitterick,

Kevin McKitterick, Ian Stewart, Joe Partridge, Mick Grant.

**Apologies:** Dave Copeland, Dani Maguire-Myers, Kieran Downey, Malcolm Langley,

Matthew Malton, Doug Keys, Brian Lisle, Keith Simpson.

1. **Minutes of the last meetings.** - The minutes of the management meeting held on Tuesday 11th September 2018, Disciplinary meetings on 11th September and 9th October 2018, all previously - circulated, were confirmed as a true record. Mick reported that there was a typing error in the minutes of the disciplinary meeting minutes of the 9th October which has since been corrected.

In relation to the disciplinary meeting held on 9th October involving Durham City Reserves, despite rumours that the club would possibly fold being expelled, League Secretary Kevin Harrison expressed his concern and worries for the future of the club. The previous manager and secretary had stepped down and new people had been put in place.

1. **Correspondence;**

* **Ground Grading Document.** - Kevin informed the meeting that he has received the Ground Grading Documents from Matt Edkins at the FA. for season 2019/20.
* **New Ferens Park.** - Kevin contacted Durham Soccerena to advise them that their 3G / 4G football pitches at New Ferens Park did not appear on the FA’s Registered List of Approved Football grounds. They did not realise and have since forwarded the pitch test, which was carried out and passed in July, to Chris Hutchins at Durham FA who in turn notified the FA’s Facilities Data Base section and the ground is now listed.
* **Parking Charges at New Ferens Park**. - correspondence from Chris Murray (Hartlepool FC) informing the league that in a recent game at New Ferens Park all the players, management and committee were charged £2 per car to park. He was aware that this was something that the landowner had introduced to cash in on the Russell Foster parents but thought that it wasn’t right to charge visiting teams and that a certain amount of spaces should be provided. Peter updated the meeting reporting that there was nothing that could be done and that there was talk that the price could be increased to £3.00.
* **Durham FA.** - letter from John Topping (Durham FA) to all leagues informing that the County FA had received correspondence from clubs that showed that some leagues are fining clubs for on field misconduct offences. He referred to ‘Powers of Management’ FA rule 4A, which states that ‘The management committee shall have power to **deal only** **with matters within** **the Competition and** **not for any matters of misconduct** **that are under the jurisdiction of The FA or Affiliated Association.’**
* **Step 7 to 6 Application Process**. - Kevin informed the committee that he had received the necessary documentation from the FA for the Step 7 to 6 Promotion Application process and circulated it to all clubs. He reminded all clubs interested that the deadline is 31st December 2018 and that the league must be copied in on any application. To date no club have informed him of any such application.
* **All England Inter League.** - Keith Simpson (Wolviston FC) emailed asking for an update on where we are at regarding the Inter League match expressing that their Manager and Coach are still very interested in representing the Wearside League even if it means having to select from more than one team. Kevin reported that he had received interest from 4 clubs; Wolviston FC, Sunderland West End, Richmond Town FC and Hartlepool FC. He is waiting for applications to come out from the FA and once received the league will call a meeting to see where we go from there.
* **Jarrow Reserves.** - Kevin received correspondence from Noel Blackburn (Club Secretary) informing of problems with their home pitch at Hedworthfield CA. It was agreed that the - club could play their remaining games away from home in order to get around the issues and informed Steve Futures.

1. **Hylton Sports Club**. - Email from Gary Foster (Club Secretary) informing the league that the club are struggling to field a team for their forthcoming cup fixture and subsequent league games. At the moment he is struggling to keep the club afloat but doesn’t foresee it dropping out of the league. Kev advised him that all games that fail to go ahead are referred to the management committee. It was too short notice for the do anything for the cup game (20th October) but asked would it help if the league suspended any future fixtures while the club got more players on board. It was agreed that following the cup match their next fixture would be Saturday 2nd November 2018. Gary thanked Kevin and the league for their help.
2. **F.A. League Development Meeting.** - Kevin reported that he recently met with representatives of the FA to discuss the league’s Development Plan and initiatives for the future. With the Wearside league now linked with the Development Division, the opportunity is now there to apply for funding for initiatives such as First Aid Kits etc. for all teams, as well as Defibrillators for those Development clubs that meet the appropriate ground criteria. Following discussion, it was agreed that the league would place an order for defibs for those applicable clubs at a cost of £318 each. The club to pay £100 each and the league to pay the difference of £218 each.
3. **Development Division next season.** - Kevin reported that he had received some tentative enquiries from clubs regarding joining the development division but would prefer to join the Wearside League. Peter informed the meeting that there will be an advertising campaign via social media and the league’s Twitter and website for any clubs interested in applying. Possibly expanding to under 18’s. He felt that the name ‘Development’ could possibly be putting off some clubs and suggested discussing a possible rename prior to the next AGM in an effort to generate interest.
4. **League Sponsor.** - Mick read out an email he had received from Terry Richardson, League sponsor, informing that the company has decided not to continue with their sponsorship after the end of this season. The decision had not been taken lightly and wasn’t for financial reasons. He thought it better to let us know in good time to find another sponsor for the beginning of the 2019/20 season. Efforts to find a replacement would commence as soon as possible.
5. **Charter Standard.** - In the absence of Phi Tye, it was decided to leave this item until the next meeting. Mick to contact Phil for an update on the Charter Standard status of the new clubs and feed back at the next meeting.
6. **A.O.B.**

* **Horden CW** - Kevin Gibson (Harton & Westoe) asked if anything had happened regarding the racial abuse of the assistant referee by a Horden CW spectator at their game on 15/8/18. Kevin (League Secretary) reported that the club had been fined £150. He was aware if any action had been taken against the spectator.
* **Corner Flags** - Kevin Oliver (Boldon CA) enquired about replacement corner flags. Peter advised that they were on order and was awaiting a delivery date.

Ian Stewart (Farringdon Detached FC) asked about corner flags on Silksworth’s 3G pitches. Simon Wardle, Active Sunderland Development Officer, to deal.

* **December Fixtures -** Kevin Harrison (League Secretary) informed the meeting that he will be unavailable from 7th to 22nd December. Fixtures would be put out and some clubs could be finishing the season early. Hebburn Town Res. who are in all three cups and could be possibly playing cup games midweek, and West End both share grounds with Northern League teams.
* **Promotion / Relegation -** Peter informed the meeting that a decision on promotion and relegation may not be made until nearer the AGM. The NLC (National Leagues Committee) were still considering lateral movement of clubs and until they make a final decision the league is unable to commit.
* **Development Division** - Peter suggested, as a way of helping some of the Development clubs towards meeting the ground criteria, the league would purchase ‘Post & Rope’ for those clubs that don’t have any form of supporter barriers. It was agreed the he would order a minimum of 5 sets costing approximately £50 each.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.06pm.

Signed ………………………………………………………………. (Chairman).