**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday 14th January 2020**

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

**Present:** Peter Maguire (Chairman), Frank Thompson (Vice-chairman), Dave Copeland, Gordon Mason, Helen Pollard, Ian Stewart, Joe Partridge, Kevin McKitterick,

Kieran Downey, Marshall Lawson, Phil Tye, Sean Rooks (League Treasurer),

Mick Grant.

**Apologies:** Kevin Harrison (League Secretary), Dani Maguire-Myers, George McKitterick,

Kevin Gibson, Malcolm Langley, Matthew Malton, Emma Collins, Keith Simpson.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** - The minutes of the last management meeting held on Tuesday 12th November 2019 (7.20pm), previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record with no matters arising.
2. **Minutes of the Discipline meeting**  - The minutes of the Disciplinary meeting held on Tuesday 12th November 2019 (7.00pm), previously circulated, were also confirmed as a true record with no matters arising.
3. **Correspondence;**

* **Funding support request - Wolviston** - In the absence of Keith Simpson (Club Secretary), who was unable to attend the meeting, it was decided that the request be readdressed at a later date.
* **Changes to National League System/Refereeing Pyramid - Season 20/21** - Peter informed the meeting of the planned changes proposed by the FA to the allocation of Level 4, 5, and 6 Referees to the various league levels. He reported that Kevin Harrison, in his role as N.E. Pool Appointments Officer, would continue to allocate appropriate referees, where possible, to the Northern League Div 2, and Wearside League but would now include Northern League Div 1. Peter, Kevin and Frank will be attending a meeting with the FA on 31st January 2020 to discuss any problems / implications that need to be addressed which may affect current arrangements. Kevin is putting together a list of points to be put forward at the meeting.
* **LDP FA Grant** - Notification from the FA’s National Game Finance Committee that they had considered the league’s submission in relation to the NLS League Development Plan process and approved a grant of £6,500 broken down as; Administration Grant - £3,000, and Initiative Grant £3,500. Receipt of the Grant payment was confirmed by Sean (League Treasurer).
* **Step 7 to 6 Promotion Applications/ground grading inspections** - notification from Matt Edkins at the FA of all applications received prior to the 31st December 2019 application cut-off. The following 5 clubs from our league; Durham United FC, Gateshead Leam Rangers, Horden Community Welfare, Richmond Town, and Wolviston have submitted applications.

As part of the ground grading system initial inspections should be carried out as soon as possible with the club provided with a report by the Step 6 league detailing what needs to be addressed to achieve an H grade by March 31st.

Kevin Hewitt, secretary of the Northern League, advised that visits to Wolviston, Horden Community Welfare,and Gateshead Leam Rangers would take place on Friday 17th January 2020.

* **WGS - Player Registration -** Letter from Durham FA requesting the league to encourage clubs to obtain player’s email addresses to be entered into the system in conjunction with player registration and mandatory email which come into effect at the commencement of 2021/22 season. Peter informed the meeting that the league had provided the county with a list of all the players and they would update it with player FAN numbers.
* **League Development Plan meetings** **- Matt Edkins (FA)** - A copy of the LDP meeting schedule for all Step 5 to 7 Leagues was provided showing that the meeting with the Wearside League is scheduled for Friday 21st February 13:15 - 14:15 at the North Riding County FA Offices.

1. **TC Plastics FC - failing to field a team against Wheatley Hill WMC on 30/11/2019 then on 30/12/2019 advising of folding from the league with immediate effect** - Club Secretary Gavin Potts attended the meeting and explained that a lack of available players and others leaving was the reason for folding. The committee deliberated on the reasons for the club’s decision to fold and decided that league and FA Rule **11B** be applied whereby the club is fined **£250,** as per the applicable Fine Tariff, for folding with outstanding fixtures to be played. He was advised that all fines and charges are required to be paid within 14 days.
2. **Farringdon Detached FC - failing to field a team against Horden CW on 14/12/2019** - Club Secretary Ian Stewart informed the meeting that he was struggling to field a team due to several of the senior players working lots of overtime on a Saturday leading up to Xmas and also some with injuries. He contacted Horden to advise them in advance and to prevent them from ordering after match refreshments. The management committee deliberated and decided that the club be fined **£150,** as per the Fine Tariff applicable to League and FA Rule 20(E)(i), with the fine suspended until the end of the season. Should the club fail to field a team again between now and the end of the season, the above fine will be added to any future fine levied for the repeated offence.
3. **Hylton CW - failing to fulfil the fixture against Wynyard Village on 14/12/2019 -** The club was represented by Gary Foster and Jamie Owen with Gary informing the committee that the club did not receive confirmation of the game from the home club. Ian Peary, Hylton’s club secretary, tried to contact the home club on the Friday before the game. but to no avail. Hylton were aware of the fixture but had not informed the players whether the game was on or not and found themselves unable to field a team. Gary reported that many of the players were now working to get extra money in before Christmas and others had made alternative arrangements assuming the game was off. He apologised for the outcome and that the lack of information from Wynyard had left them unable to firm things up with their squad until too late.

The management committee deliberated and decided that league and FA Rule 20(E)(i) be applied resulting in the club being fined **£50** as per the applicable Fine Tariff.

On this occasion it was proposed and agreed that the fine be suspended until the end of the season. Should the club be responsible for failing to fulfil any fixture between now and the end of the season, the above fine will be added to any further fine levied.

1. **Wynyard Village FC - not confirming the game against Hylton CW on 14/12/2019** - With no one from the club in attendance, the issue was dealt with in the club’s absence.

Correspondence was received from club secretary Lewis Dixon apologising and informing that he normally waits for pitch venue confirmation from the school that the game is on which is usually late in the week as he doesn’t like messing teams about with late cancellations etc**.** Following a phone call with league secretary Kevin Harrison, he would in future make sure to announce on Tuesdays the full details regardless of the pitch venue confirmation. The management committee deliberated on the correspondence and their decision was that league rule be applied and the club be fined **£20**, as per the Fine Tariff relevant to League and FA Rule 20(C).

On this occasion it was proposed and agreed that the fine be suspended until the end of the season. Should the club be responsible for failing to notify their opponents of any future home fixture between now and the end of the season, the above fine will be added to any further fine levied.

1. **Jarrow FC Reserves - resigning from the league with immediate effect 13/12/2019** - Team secretary Noel Blackburn attended the meeting and updated the committee on the situation regarding the team following his previous league management meeting attendance. He reported that nothing had changed, and he would have to pull out of the league due to not having a team. Players have left him short in numbers and he has tried his hardest to keep them together, trying to get new players in but not enough response. He had contacted the parent club and Durham FA for assistance with players but to no avail which has left him with no other option than to fold. The committee deliberated on the reasons for the team’s decision to fold and decided that league and FA Rule **11B** be applied whereby the team is fined **£250,** as per the applicable Fine Tariff, for folding with outstanding fixtures to be played. The committee thanked him for attending and trying to keep the team going on his own throughout this and past seasons.
2. **Charter Standard -** Phil informed the meeting that he had received an email from Andy Brown, Club Development Officer at Durham CFA, regarding forthcoming Medical Emergency Action Planning Workshops being administered by the county and reported that he felt it would be of no extra benefit to our clubs as the clubs already have the approved process in place which complies with FA and League Charter Standard requirements.

Phil also reported that the Charter Standard Health Checks for clubs, required to be completed by 31st January 2020, had been completed and submitted by most of our league clubs. He was waiting for confirmation from the county as to whether Boldon CA, Hartlepool, Annfield Plain, Gateshead Leam Rangers and West Auckland Tunns had completed theirs.

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

* **New Teams** - Peter informed the meeting that a further two clubs had expressed an interest in joining the league and would be contacted at the end of April to see if they would be applying.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm.