**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE`**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday 17th February 2022**

**Held via Zoom Video Conference at 7.00pm.**

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

Dave Copeland, George McKitterick, Helen Pollard, Joe Partridge, Keith Simpson, Kevin McKitterick, Kevin Oliver, Kieran Downey, Matthew Malton, Sean Rooks,

Mick Grant.

Chris Connell - Annfield Plain.

**Apologies:** Dani Maguire-Myers, Dave Farrell, Malcolm Langley, Marshall Lawson, Steve Futers.

1. **Minutes of the last meetings** - The minutes of the last management committee meeting held on Thursday 13th January 2022, previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record with no matters arising.
2. **Correspondence;**
* **Ferryhill Athletic - game off away to Durham Corinthians Reserves 4/2/2022.**

Email from Fraser Reynolds (Ferryhill Athletic.) requesting to claim the game. Helen Pollard (Durham Corinthians Reserves) had received late notification on the previous day of the game of 2 positive cases of Covid and a further 3 with Covid symptoms on the day of the game. Efforts had been unsuccessful in trying to find replacements in time for the game leaving them with no choice but to call it off. Helen contacted League Secretary Kevin to advise and the referee and opponents. The decision of the management committee and based on the League’s Covid Procedure Rules adopted by all clubs, is that the game be postponed due to Covid and rearranged at a later date.

* **Nike Kit / Equipment Awards to the League from the FA.**

Email from Kitlocker - FA Accredited Kit Store, informing that the League has been rewarded with Nike Footballs and the opportunity to redeem kit or equipment from the FA’s Kit Store with a voucher to the value of **£110.**

1. **Durham United - playing Luke Curry against Wolviston in the Alan Hood Cup on 5/2/2022.**

Matt Stevenson, secretary of Durham United contacted League Secretary Kev to advise that the club had played Luke Curry in the above game. Matt was contacted by the new Coach, Gary Innes, who has taken over the role of completing match returns, the following day (Sunday 6th) asking why the player did not appear on the player list of the Wearside League team. On investigation into the WGS by the club, he was registered with the Club’s Youth Section and U/23s. Matt informed that the player was now registered to the Senior team. Keith Simpson (Wolviston) informed the meeting that Durham United conducted themselves impeccably before, during and after the game and proposed that no action be taken against the club, which was seconded. The management committee approved the proposal.

1. **Annfield Plain v Windscale 29/1/2022– late notification by Annfield Plain of game off.**

Geoff Turrell (Windscale) contacted League Secretary Kevin registering the club’s disappointment at the manner in which the postponement of the above game was handled by Annfield Plain and his detailed account of the events was read to the management committee at which Chris Connell,(Annfield Plain) was in attendance, and confirmed. The result of the delay in the decision had meant that, as the Bus had left the garage and had commenced the journey, the club will now be serviced with an invoice for £290. Geoff asked if there was any process that the club can follow with the league for any reimbursement of these costs.

After lengthy discussion, it was proposed and agreed that the league will donate, as an unprecedented one off, £100 towards the costs incurred for the Bus hire for the above game. Added to that the league will also donate a Voucher from the FA for £110, through Nike, which was recently awarded to the League. Details of which will be forwarded to Stephen Fawcett, club Secretary.

1. **Hylton CW - failing to field a team against South Moor in the 2nd Div. Challenge Cup 5/2/2022.**

Gary Foster (Chairman) Hylton CW informed the league that following an emergency meeting on 3rd February the club is unable to field a team for the fixture against South Moor in the Challenge Cup and were trying everything possible to make sure they can get a team together to complete their fixtures. The decision made by the management committee was that, under FA and League Rule 20.E1 the club is fined **£50** as per the Fine Tariff applicable to the rule and excluded from the Cup competition. The committee decided that on this occasion the **£50 fine will not be applied.**

1. **Wolviston v Darlington Town - 12/2/2022.**

Correspondence relating to a comment made on Darlington Town FC Twitter page regarding the referee, together with the match report provided by the referee informing on the conduct of the players and officials of Darlington Town, both during, and after the game, which have all been reported to Durham County FA, were read out to the committee. The league will await the outcome of any investigation by the County FA before considering what or if any action can/will be taken.

1. **Covid.**

League Secretary Kevin Harrison addressed the meeting informing that should the government fully relax all Covid measures on 24th February, as is rumoured, he would be looking to propose that the league cancel all Covid rules. The management committee was unanimous in agreeing to the proposal.

1. **Cup Finals.**

**1st Division** - Kevin informed the meeting that the Monkwearmouth Charity Cup will be contested by Chester-Le Street and FC Hartlepool on Easter Monday 18th April 2022 with a Kick-off time to be confirmed. The Alan Hood Charity Cup is at Semi-final stage, with both scheduled to be played on 12th March 2022. Once the outcome is known a decision will then be made on the date and venue for the final.

**2nd & 3rd Division** - Kevin reported that he had spoken with Steve Futers, 2nd and 3rd Division Fixture secretary who advised that nearly all of the two divisions clubs had completed their league fixtures and all that remained were cup competitions. In an effort to prevent clubs from losing players, they contacted all 20 clubs from the 2 divisions regarding introducing a further subsidiary cup competition and 13 clubs said yes. The new competition would comprise 1 group of 7 and 1 group of 6, with teams in the group playing each other once, then progressing to semi-final then final.

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

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.38pm.