**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE`**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday 26th April 2022**

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

**Present:** Peter Maguire (Chairman), Kevin Harrison (Secretary), Dani Maguire, Helen Pollard, Kieran Downey, Marshall Lawson, Steve Futers, Mick Grant.

1. **Apologies:** Dave Copeland, Dave Farrell, Frank Thompson, George McKitterick,

Keith Simpson, Malcolm Langley, Sean Rooks.

1. **Minutes of the last meetings** - The minutes of the last management committee meeting held on Monday 28th March 2022, previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record.
2. **Matters Arising;**

* **Defibs** - Kevin informed the meeting that he had priced the cost of the Batteries (£232.80 inc. V.A.T) and Pads (46.80 inc. V.A.T.) for the Defibs. He will circulate this to all clubs to encourage them to ensure that their Defibs are available for use should they be needed. He has contacted John Topping at Durham FA to see if the County had any info and was awaiting a reply. Any club not wishing to replace or renew batteries / pads will be asked to return the Defibs back to the league and they will be given to clubs who want them.

1. **Correspondence**;

* **Friday Nights - Durham City AFC.**

Email from Chris Tanner, Chairman of Durham City AFC, trying to promote ‘Friday Night Football’ at New Ferens Park, for the Wearside League to tap into the concept of ‘after work pint and some footy’ concept.

* **Darlington Town - Fine imposed for failing to play fixture at Ford Quarry on Tuesday 28/9/2022.**

Email from Darlington Town requesting a refund of the £150 fine back or reduce their league fees for next season. Failing this the Club would consider going to Durham FA. The management committee declined their request.

1. **Polton AFC - failing to field a team against Ryhope CW U23s in the Subsidiary Cup on Saturday 9/4/2022.**

Email received from Haris Rafiq (club Secretary) informing that they did not have a team to fulfil the fixture. Kevin informed the meeting that under the Cup competition rules any club failing to fulfil a fixture automatically forfeits the points to the opposition. Ryhope CW U23s are awarded the points for this game.

1. **Annfield Plain - failing to field a team against Darlington Town on Saturday 2/4/2022.**

Marshall Lawson (Club Secretary) addressed the meeting informing of the circumstances within the club over recent weeks that have led to a lack of players being available for games. The management committee deliberated at length and decided that FA and League rule 20.E.1 be applied resulting in the Club being fined **£150,** as per the Fine Tariff applicable to the Rule, and the game to be rearranged (7/5/2022).

1. **Annfield Plain - failing to field a team against FC Hartlepool on Wednesday 20/4/2022.**

Marshall reiterated the circumstances. The decision of the management committee was that, again, FA and league Rule 20.E.1 be applied. On this occasion the committee decided that the points (3) be awarded to FC Hartlepool, and **NO Fine** be levied against Annfield Plain.

1. **Wheatley Hill WMC v Wearmouth CW - match abandoned 16/4/2022.**

Email from referee Lewis Dixon reporting on the circumstances, which have been reported to Durham FA, which led to him abandoning the game at 81 minutes due to the aggressive attitude towards him from Wheatley Hill WMC player Warren French, after being sin binned then sent off with the score at 5-0 to Wearmouth CW.

1. **Brian Hammond - (Wheatley Hill WMC) - resigning the club from the league with immediate effect following the fixture on 16/4/2022.**

Following a telephone call to League secretary Kevin Harrison, an email received from Brian Hammond, Club Secretary and league management committee member confirming the resignation of both he and the team from the league with immediate effect. He apologised and stated that he is finished with the team after 40 years as he can no longer control the players. The management committee accepted the club’s resignation and agreed that FA and league Rule 11B be applied. The club to be fined **£250**, as per the Fine Tariff applicable to that Rule. Kevin thanked Brian for his time with the league and his service on the management committee.

1. **Spennymoor Town - required payment of referee for fixture on 16/4/2022.**

Email from referee Paul Lauder to Steve Futers informing that he had not received his fee. He was told by a club representative that ‘the Secretary had gone home, get your payment through the league.’ Club Secretary Liam Lowe, who was not at the game and not aware of this, apologised and contacted Paul for his bank details to make an immediate payment and to apologise to him. The league has received confirmation that payment has been received.

1. **Ferryhill Athletic - failing to field a team away to Hylton CW on Saturday 16/4/2022.**

Email from Fraser Reynolds (Club secretary) explaining that 5 regular first teamers were on a Stag weekend and leading up to the game, 4 players and the manager went down with Covid. The management committee deliberated and decided that FA and League Rule be applied resulting in the club being fined **£50**, as per the Fine Tariff applicable to that rule, and the game to be rearranged.

1. **Team Sheet Darlington FC v Chester-Le-Street FC - 23/4/2022.**

Email from Jeff King, Secretary Chester-Le-Street FC, informing of an administration error by Darlington Town in relation to their team sheet. A player named as a substitute on the team sheet presented to Chester-Le-Street actually started the game with Chester-Le-Street not being notified prior to the game. On investigation by the league, Kevin informed Jeff that he had received correspondence from the referee that he was notified of the change 10 minutes before kick-off, so there is no question of anything untoward in regards ineligible players. The decision of the management committee was that no further action be taken.

1. **Cup Final Update.**

Kevin informed the committee of the confirmed dates, finalists, and venues for the following Cup Finals relating to 2nd and 3rd Division clubs;

Clem Smith Bowl - Tues 10/5/2022 - Billingham Town Res. v Belmont Utd @ Ford Quarry - 7.30.

3rd Div. Chall. Cup - Sat 14/5/2022 - Billingham Town Res. v H/pool Youth @ Billingham - 2.00.

2nd Div. Chall. Cup - Tues 17/5/2022 - South Moor v Wearmouth CW @ South Moor - 6.30.

1. **SCOR 2022/23.**

Kevin informed the meeting that the FA have issued their **S**tandard **C**ode **O**f **R**ules for the forthcoming season 2022/23 to give leagues an early opportunity to review and update their own League Rules. He will circulate a copy to all of the management committee and will incorporate these into our own rules when the nominated members meet in mid-May to discuss our own rule changes.

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

* **League Applications.**

Kevin updated the committee on applications / enquiries received to date, informing that he has replied to 14 teams at the moment, of which it is hoped that approx. 12 will be firmed up. The league will still advertise via its social media.

* **Promotion.**

The meeting was informed that promotion from the League’s 1st Division to the Northern League was still not decided yet. A decision on what vacancies there will be within the 2nd Division of the Northern league is not known at the moment as proposals / decisions by the FA are yet to be made. Promotion / Relegation involving 2nd and 3rd Division clubs will be dependent on the number of clubs confirming their continuation for next season and the number of new applications.

* **Fines and Fees.**

League Treasurer Sean reported that all fines levied at the last meeting have been paid. West Auckland Tunns still owe £30 league fees.

* **A.G.M.**

Peter informed the meeting that he was looking for a venue that can accommodate approx. 100+ to hold the league’s AGM on Sunday 19th June 2022. All appropriate venues will be considered.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.51pm.