**WEARSIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday 15thMarch 2023**

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

**Present:** Peter Maguire (Chairman), Kevin Harrison (Secretary), Helen Pollard,

Joe Partridge, Keith Simpson, Kieran Downey, Paul Bell, Mick Grant.

1. **Apologies** Dani Maguire, Dave Copeland, David Farrell, Frank Thompson,

George McKitterick, Ian Stewart, Malcolm Langley, Marshall Lawson,

Sean Rooks, Steve Futers.

1. **Minutes of the last Management meeting**.

The minutes of the last management committee meeting held on Tuesday 31st January 2023, previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record.

1. **Matters Arising.**

Keith Simpson asked if there was any decision made yet regarding holding “face to face” management committee meetings. Peter reported that the meeting venue that we used in the past was no longer available and realistically it would be more convenient to hold meetings via Zoom video conference to save on travel time for a number of members. Keith accepted the recommendation to continue as is.

1. **Minutes of the Discipline meeting.**

The minutes of the Discipline meeting held on Thursday 9th February 2023, also previously circulated, were confirmed as a true record.

1. **Matters Arising.**

There were no matters arising from those minutes.

1. **Correspondence;**

* **Malcolm Langley - League Referees Assessor / Observer - standing down.**

Email received from Malcolm informing of his decision to stand down from the management committee as of 8th March 2023. He reported that his current observing commitments on the Northern League, Northern Premier League and for Durham FA take up a lot of his time. He didn’t feel that his role as a “Assessor Advisor” is required on the committee now as there are enough of his refereeing colleagues on the committee to deal with any referee issues. He wished the league well for the future.

Peter and Kevin have both since thanked him for his time, contribution, and assistance to the league over the years.

1. **Richmond Town - Referee’s reports.**

Kevin Harrison informed the meeting that the referee for both games on Saturday 28th January and Saturday 4th February reported a late confirmation (Friday 27th), no discipline sheet, and no match ball for 28th January, and for the 4th February, no discipline sheet and no half time refreshments provided. He had contacted club secretary Jon Rutherford who replied that he had enquired with their management team and they reported that it was not at hand. It has since been found and he stressed that it shouldn’t happen again.

1. **South Moor AFC - failing to field a team at home to Annfield Plain on Saturday 25th February 2023.**

Connor Price, club secretary, attended the meeting explaining that due to injuries and also the majority of the squad travelling down to London for the FA Cup Final (Sunday), they were unable to field a team, so on 23rd February they requested a postponement of the game. Kevin reported that he had received requests, after the deadline, from 3 other teams which were declined. The decision of the management committee was that FA and League Rule 20.E.1. be applied resulting in the club being fined **£150.00**, as per the Fine Tariff relating to that rule, and the game to be rearranged on a later convenient date.

1. **Silksworth CW - unable to field a team away to Windscale on Saturday 18th March 2023.**

Jamie Cole, club secretary, contacted Kevin to apologise and report his embarrassment at having to inform that Silksworth CW are unable to field a team against Windscale on the 18th March. They have lost a number of reliable members this season and he had brought back Andy Stobbart as manager who, out of the blue, then packed in. When he put the text out to the players so that he could sort out the transport in advance for the Windscale game, most of the players responded informing him that they had already told the manager weeks ago that they were not available for the match which was never relayed to him. If it had been he would have contacted Kevin for a free week which he had done in the past. He reported that most will have seen that they are looking to appoint a management team so this should never happen again. Following lengthy discussion, the decision of the management committee was that league and FA Rule 20.E.1. be applied resulting in the club being fined **£150.00**, as per the Fine Tariff relating to that rule, and the game to be rearranged on a later convenient date.

1. **Roseberry Park - failing to field a team away to Hilda Park on Saturday 11th March 2023.**

Mick Grant reported that he received an email from Kris Teale, club team secretary, on 9th March, (two days prior to the game) informing that **“*Unfortunately we are not going to be able to play our game on Saturday away to Hilda Park due to not having a team available to play. We understand that a fine will be issued and we accept that*.** ***Moving forward can you please relay any emails regarding this or any other matter to Jane Richardson,*** (club secretary), ***as I will no longer be having anything to do with Roseberry Park FC due to personal reasons.”***

As no-one from the club was in attendance or had responded to league communication regarding the meeting, the charge of failing to field a team was dealt with in the club’s absence. The decision of the management committee was that league and FA Rule 20.E.1. be applied resulting in the club being fined **£50.00**, as per the Fine Tariff relating to that rule for a Second/Third division team, and the game to be rearranged on a later convenient date.

1. **Cup Finals.**

Kevin gave an update on the Cup competitions and discussions took place on the proposals for possible venues/dates for their finals. At the moment he was looking to play the following finals on;

**1st Division** **Cup Finals**

Alan Hood Trophy - Windscale v Darlington Town at Windscale - **Saturday 6th May**.

M/Wmouth Charity Cup - FC Hartlepool v Gateshead Leam Rangers at Gateshead Leam Rangers- **Monday 8th May**.

Shipowners Cup - Darlington T./Darlington RA v FC Hartlepool - **Saturday 13th May.**

**2nd Division Cup Finals.**

2nd Div. Challenge Cup-Bishop Auckland v Wynyard Village - **Monday 8th May.**

Washington Aged Peoples - Hartlepool Pool Youths v Billingham Town Reserves - **TBA.**

**3rd Division Cup Finals.**

3rd Div. Challenge Cup - Chester-Le-Street Res. v Wear Utd / Consett AFC - (**After 13th May**)

Clem Smith Bowl- Hetton Town v Wynyard Village/Consett AFC - **Monday 1st May.**

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

* **Changing Rooms.**

Helen Pollard (DURHAM CORINTHIANS) commented on the condition of changing facilities at some grounds which “left a lot to be desired.” She reported that at their game away to South Moor earlier this month there were no spectator toilet facilities available to both male and female. Kevin will write to Connor Price at South Moor reminding them that it was agreed at the ground inspection that as part of the ground requirement the school would be available for toilets, and the club to please ensure that these are available in future as any non- compliance could have implications on the club.

* **Cup Final on 6th May - (King’s coronation).**

Keith asked if the Alan Hood Cup final between Windscale and Darlington Town would still be going ahead on the day of the Kings coronation, 6th May. Kevin reported that no club has requested a free week on that date.

* **Sunderland RCA Reserves.**

Paul Bell, club secretary for the Reserves, thanked Peter, Kevin and the league management committee on behalf of the Reserve team and their parent club of Sunderland RCA, for all the help provided in rearranging Reserve team fixtures to help the whole club in their efforts to get back on track following their recent problems. He reported that the parent club have now withdrawn their letter of resignation to the Northern League and are looking to continue for the remainder of this season and re-establish themselves for next season.

* **Return of Trophies.**

Kevin reported that all of last season’s winning teams, and those who have trophies from prior to covid, needed to return them in a clean and presentable condition in time to be presented at the forthcoming finals. Peter to chase up.

* **Registration Deadline.**

Kevin informed the meeting that he would be sending a reminder to all clubs that ALL Registrations and Transfers must be completed **on the Whole Game System** by the deadline of midnight **31st March** and thatno registrations after this date will be accepted.

* **Theft at Shildon AFC Reserves.**

Stephen Fawcett (WINDSCALE) contacted League Secretary Kevin Harrison to report that at their game at Shildon on 4th February, a number of their players had cash taken from their changing rooms during the game held at King James Academy. The police were handed CCTV footage of an individual seen entering and leaving the changing rooms but however they have now closed the case as they cannot identify the person. He reported that he had since contacted Shildon to ask what they were doing in an effort to reimburse Windscale for the money taken (£200), which Windscale has reimbursed the players, but to no avail. He asked if the league could do anything. Kevin informed him that, as a league, there was not much that can be done to get a resolution to the matter but would seek the views of the management committee.

Keith Simpson (WOLVISTON) reported that when they played them there in their following home game on 18th February, they ensured that the changing rooms were locked.

League Chairman Peter Maguire requested that the league contact Shildon and ask if they have any insurance in place to cover this.

Being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.