



BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

PRESIDENT: MR B. WATSON

HON GENERAL SECRETARY: MR G. B. SNELSON

TELEPHONE 01234-317597

MINUTES: MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 7TH APRIL 2022

AT ELSTOW PLAYING FIELD PAVILION STARTING AT 7pm

MEMBERS: Messrs BT Watson [President], P Francis [Chair, Registration and Media Secretary], B Hallybone [Assistant Referee Secretary], G Sales, GB Snelson [General and Fixture Secretary], A Young [Treasurer].

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES: R Simmonds [Elstow Abbey FC, Vice -Chair & League Charter Standard Coordinator], D Gauntlett [Shefford Town & Campton FC], P Smailes [Biggleswade FC]

APOLOGIES: Messrs M Baxter, R Horswell [Referee Secretary], K Redman, P Onion [Life Vice-President],

1. PREVIOUS MEETING

- ❖ The minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2022 were agreed for signature as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- ▶ Div.3: **Brache Phoenix v Wootton Blue Cross** – matter resolved. Result of match at the time of abandonment to stand.
- ▶ **Sporting Carpathians** claim for reimbursement of pitch fee v Atletico Europa [£88] – Club to provide evidence of payment and any refund, if applicable. Payment evidence provided.
- ▶ **Player Sam Evans [Wilstead]** – no further action.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- ❖ Various items of correspondence were received by the General Secretary. All those requiring action or for information are recorded elsewhere in these minutes. These included various minutes and notices from The FA and Bedfordshire FA. Again, those requiring action by, or special information to, the League are covered elsewhere in these minutes. Otherwise correspondence is available on request to the General Secretary.
- ❖ **The Football Association:** Nothing to report
- ❖ **Bedfordshire FA:**
 - League Support & Delivery Plan – League Accreditation. See item 13 below.
 - Referee Club Marks – request for figures.
 - Referee Award Evening – to be supported by the League.
 - **FC Haynes** In breach of league rule 18M in that in their game on Saturday 27th November 2021 against Brache Phoenix (won 11-0) they played Ross Airson who at the time was under a Bedfordshire FA suspension.
 - ▶ Charge of playing and ineligible player [second occurrence]: PROVED [see minutes of December 2021]. **Original decision taken by Management Committee to stand.**
- ❖ **Luton Borough Council** – park pitch end of season extensions. Noted.

4. FINANCE

- ❖ **INVOICE UPDATE**
 - ▶ **2022.02A-2: Payments were due 7th March 2022.**
 - The following Clubs did not pay by the due date: **Atletico Europa** [£20], **Bedford Santos** [£15], **Catsbrook Wanderers** [£15], **Newman United** [£80], **Queens Park Crescents** [£30], **Stevington** [£10].
 - **ALL PAYMENTS DUE TRANSFERRED TO INVOICE 2022.05A**
 - ▶ **2022.02D:** All fines relating to those imposed December 2021 and January 2022 **PAID**. Points deductions levied against **Atletico Europa, Harlington Juniors [both teams]** and **Square FC**.

5. TROPHIES & MEMENTOES

- ❖ Order for 2022. Roland Simmonds to liaise with SportsForm. Order placed; invoice received.

6. TRANSFERS

- Joe Burdett. Biggleswade FC Reserves to FC Haynes.
- Edubatey Mikael. Biggleswade United U23's to Crawley Green Reserves.
- Callum Jack. Biggleswade U23's to Shefford Town & Campton.
- Richard Mead. FC Polinia (Luton) to 61FC Luton Reserves.
- Jason Penman. 61 FC Luton Reserves to Stopsley United
- Benjamin Sheehan. Shefford Town & Campton to Blunham
- Connor Waite. 61 FC Luton Reserves to Stopsley United.
- Marko Tobdzic. Elstow Abbey to Stevington.
- Thomas Higley. Lea Sports PSG to Totternoe Reserves.
- ▶ Notes: Transfer of Harvey Eagle from Elstow Abbey to Kempston Rovers [BCFL] pending decision. Club informed by email Friday 25th March 2022.
 - **Registration of Harvey Eagle suspended for the remainder of season 2021-2022**

7. ALTERATIONS TO HANDBOOK

- ❖ None

8. REFEREE SECRETARY REPORT & REFEREEING MATTERS

- ❖ 100% coverage of recent matches
- ❖ The Committee approved the selection of the match officials for the League Cup Finals.
- ❖ It was reported that showers in the away team dressing room at **Marston Shelton Rovers** have not been working. Action on Club to rectify as soon as possible.

- ❖ **ALL CLUBS ARE REMINDED THAT REFEREE MARKS OF SIXTY [60] OR LESS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REPORT TO THE REFEREE SECRETARY. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO REPORTS COMPLETED ON WHOLE GAME [WGS]**

9. FIXTURE REPORT

- ❖ Free dates have previously been agreed: **Totternhoe Reserves** [16th April], **CS Rovers** [16th April].
- ❖ **Check on unplayed matches other than due to the weather:**
 - ▶ Saturday 12th March 2022: Division Four : Bedford Santos v **Elstow Abbey Reserves**.
 - Elstow Abbey reserves unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Bedford Santos**, score 0-0. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Saturday 12th March 2022: Division One: Cranfield United Reserves v **Pitstone & Ivinghoe Reserves**.
 - Pitstone & Ivinghoe Reserves unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Cranfield United Reserves**, score 0-0. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Saturday 12th March 2022: Division Five : Clifton Reserves v **Woodside Adult**.
 - Woodside Adult unable to raise a side. Match points [3] awarded to **Clifton Reserves**, score 0-0.
 - Woodside Adult fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-01**
 - ▶ Saturday 19th March 2022: Flitwick Town Reserves v **Pitstone & Ivinghoe Reserves**.
 - Pitstone & Ivinghoe Res unable to raise a side. Match points [3] awarded to **Flitwick Town Res**, score 0-0.
 - Pitstone & Ivinghoe Res fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-02**
 - ▶ Saturday 19th March 2022. Blunham v **Bedford Santos**.
 - Bedford Santos unable to raise a side. Match points [3] awarded to **Blunham**, score 0-0.
 - Bedford Santos fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-03**
 - ▶ Saturday 26th March 2022. Centenary Cup. Barton Rovers Reserves v Flitwick Town Reserves.
 - Barton Rovers Reserves unable to raise a side. **Flitwick Town Reserves** awarded the tie.
 - **Barton Rovers Reserves** fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-04**
 - ▶ Saturday 26th March 2022. Division Two. Bedford SA v **Soccerlise**.
 - Soccerlise unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Bedford SA**, score 0-0. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Saturday 26th March 2022. Division Three. Sporting Carpathians v **CS Rovers**.
 - CS Rovers unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Sporting Carpathians**, score 0-0. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Saturday 26th March 2022. Division Four. **Bedford Santos** v Square FC.
 - Bedford Santos unable to raise a side. Match points [3] awarded to **Square FC**, score 0-0.
 - Bedford Santos fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-05**
 - ▶ Saturday 26th March 2022. Watson Shield. **Sandy Reserves** v Elstow Abbey Reserves.
 - Sandy Reserves unable to raise a side. **Elstow Abbey Reserves** awarded the tie.
 - Explanation accepted. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Saturday 2nd April 2022. Pitstone & Ivinghoe Reserves v **Wilstead**.
 - Wilstead unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Pitstone & Ivinghoe Reserves**, score 0-0. No fine levied
 - ▶ Saturday 2nd April 2022. Division Five. **Sandy Reserves** v Sporting Carpathians Reserves.
 - Sandy Reserves unable to raise a side. Explanation accepted – match points [3] awarded to **Sporting Carpathians Reserves**, score 0-0. No fine levied.
 - ▶ Wednesday 6th April 2022. Division Four. **Bedford Santos** v Kempston Rovers [BCFL].
 - Bedford Santos unable to raise a side. Match points [3] awarded to **Kempston Rovers [BCFL]**, score 0-0.
 - Bedford Santos fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-06**
- ❖ **CUP FINALS UPDATE:**
 - **BRITANNIA CUP FINAL:** Monday 2 May KO 3pm at **STOTFOLD FC**
 - **SHEFFORD TOWN & CAMPTON RES v BIGGLESWADE FC RES**
 - **Admission £5 adults: £2 concessions.**
 - **JUBILEE CUP FINAL:** Wednesday 4 May 2022 KO 7.30pm at **KEMPSTON ROVERS FC**
 - **RENHOLD v BEDFORD SA**
 - **Admission £3 adults: £1 concessions.**
 - **CENTENARY CUP FINAL:** Friday 6 May 2022 KO 7.30pm at **SHEFFORD SPORTS CLUB**
 - **LEA SPORTS PSG v CRANFIELD UTD RES**
 - **Admission £4 adults: £1 concessions.**
 - **WATSON SHIELD FINAL:** Saturday 7 May KO 3pm at **CRANFIELD UNITED FC**
 - **SPORTING CARPATHIANS v FC POLONIA [LUTON]**
 - **Admission £3 adults: £1 concessions.**

- ❖ **ALL CLUBS ARE REMINDED THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 20[E][iii], IT IS MANDATORY TO SWITCH A FIXTURE TO AN OPPONENTS, OR NEUTRAL, GROUND AFTER THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY IN ANY SEASON WHEN THE HOME PITCH IS UNPLAYABLE DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER.**

10. REGISTRATIONS, RESULTS, PRESS & MEDIA SECRETARY REPORT

- ❖ **Registrations Season 2021-22:** Midday Saturday 2nd April 2022: **3205**
- ▶ **CHARGE NOTICES:**
- ❖ Issued by email on Sunday 6th March 2022
- ▶ **Blunham:** In breach of league rules 18M/21C in that in their game played on Saturday 5th March 2022 against Shefford Town & Campton A (lost 4-1) they played one Benjamin Sheehan who does not appear on their exchanged teamsheet with the match day referee and their opposition prior to kick off and post match does not appear on their uploaded Full Time result sheets.
 - No reply received.
 - Charge of deliberately falsifying online match notification **PROVED**. Match result to stand.
 - Blunham fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-07**
- ❖ Issued by email on Friday 4th March 2022
- ▶ **AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves:** In breach of league rule 18M/21C in that in their game played on Saturday 26th February 2022 against AFC Bedford United (won 3-1) they played one Raynard Robinson (in the number 10 shirt) against AFC Bedford United who does not appear on their exchanged team sheet with the match day referee and AFC Bedford United prior to kick off and post match he does not appear on their uploaded Full Time result sheet. Information supplied to the league with photos by AFC Bedford United.
 - Reply received by email on Sunday 6th March accepting charge with explanation for consideration.
 - Explanation accepted – no deliberate falsification.

- AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College Reserves deducted points won in match [3] plus one [1] additional penalty point, and fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-08**
- Match points [3] awarded to **AFC Bedford United**, score 0-0.
- ▶ **REPORT NOTICES:**
- ❖ Breach of league rule 21B for failing to report the result of their game by the deadline of 5.30pm.
- ▶ Saturday March 5th 2022. **CS Rovers** Saturday March 12th 2022. **FC Haynes** Saturday March 19th 2022. **Stevington, Woodside Adult** Saturday March 26th 2022. **AFC Bedford United, Shefford Town & Campton 'A'** Saturday 2nd April 2022. **Wootton Blue Cross**
 - All proved. All fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-09 to -15**
- ❖ Breach of league rule 21C for failing to load onto Full Time their result sheet of the deadline of the following Tuesday Midnight for their games played on:
 - ▶ Saturday 26th February 2022. **Sharnbrook Reserves** Saturday 5th March 2022. **Bedford Santos, Shefford Town & Campton U23** (mitigation considered) **Sporting Carpathians** (mitigation considered) Saturday 12th March 2022. **AFC Oakley** Saturday 19th March 2022. **Revivalists, Sharnbrook, Wootton Blue Cross**. Tuesday 22nd March (by deadline of midnight Friday 25th March 2022) **Sharnbrook, St Josephs (Sat)** Saturday 26th March 2022. **Brache Phoenix** (mitigation considered), **Elstow Abbey, Lea Sports PSG Reserves, Sharnbrook**.
 - All proved. All fined as per rule. **See item 15 below, reference 2022.04-16 to -29**
- ▶ **OTHER MATTERS.**
- ❖ **Full Time registration system.** Interesting to note it allowed without any warnings the registration of Muhammed Akib Ahmed under new fan number 68014652 by 61 FC Luton Reserves who is the same person as Mohammed Ahmed registered already under fan number 60873759 with Queens Park Crescents. Having played five times for Queens Park Crescents it would have caused us a dilemma if his birth name really is Muhammed Akib Ahmed.
- ❖ **Collection of Debts** (due to computer malfunction no individual details available)
 - St Johns (Luton) : Debt down to £19.10
 - Sundon Park Rangers : Debt down to £137.90
 - Tunisian Community: Debt down to £146.00

11. NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM including FACILITIES

- ❖ Update available at ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- ❖ League has ordered 128 Hy-Pro footballs £915.20 for distribution at the AGM.

12. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

- ❖ Nothing to report.

13. ENGLAND FOOTBALL ACCREDITED LEAGUE

- ❖ **Roland Simmonds** updated the Committee on the latest situation regards Accredited Clubs.
- ❖ **General Secretary** has had an initial meeting with Beds FA [Marc di Carlo] regards the League Support and Delivery Plan [formerly League Business Development Plan.].
- ▶ **LEAGUE ACCREDITATION CRITERIA: LEAGUE VISION:** to be agreed, with amendments if necessary, at May meeting.
 - *It is a real challenge to maintain the status quo in this day and age. The decline of 11v11 football in certain parts of the country is alarming. The Bedfordshire County Football League will continue to keep the costs to Clubs at an affordable level whilst maintaining a healthy bank balance. The League will continue to work with the local youth leagues, encouraging teams to progress from youth to adult through invitations to play in one of the League Cups. The League shall continue to provide adult men's 11-a-side Saturday football at Senior, Intermediate and Junior County level, irrespective of race, religion, or any other reason, within the County of Bedfordshire and the immediate surrounding County areas. The League shall encourage females to become involved with the competition at Management Committee and Club level, as well as registering to referee on the League. Clubs playing in the League shall play at grounds with good facilities, and shall be encouraged to progress through the National League System.*
- ❖ Awarded Kit Locker Voucher for £110 – the League has until the 30th April to redeem the voucher at: www.EnglandFootball.com/AccreditedKitStore. Roland Simmonds/Dan Gauntlett to purchase.



14. RESPECT and COUNTY FA DISCIPLINE

- ❖ Please be aware that Respect Sanctions [C2 Cautions for showing dissent by word or action and S6 Sending off for using offensive, insulting or abusive language] **carry very heavy automatic penalties. Get your players to understand the seriousness of being cautioned or sent off for dissent. ADDITIONS THIS MONTH.**
- ▶ The following team has reached stage R6 [6 cautions/E3 misconduct] and has received a warning from Bedfordshire FA. The warning requires payment of a Discipline Administration fee of £15.
PREMIER DIVISION: AFC Kempston Town & Bedford College, Stevington
OTHER DIVISIONS: FC Polonia [Luton], Wootton Blue Cross Reserves, Potton United Reserves, Atletico Europa, Renhold, Wootton Blue Cross.
- ▶ For reaching stage R10 [10 cautions/E3 misconduct] **Bedfordshire FA Fine, plus £15 admin fee, as follows:**
PREMIER DIVISION: £75
OTHER DIVISIONS: £50
- ▶ For reaching stage R15 [15 cautions/E3 misconduct] **Bedfordshire FA Fine, plus £15 admin fee, as follows:**
PREMIER DIVISION: £150
OTHER DIVISIONS: £100

15. CURRENT FINES

- ❖ **Fines 2022.03-01 TO -31 inclusive are detailed in the various sections above.**

ALL OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS TO LEAGUE, INCLUDING FINES/COSTS FROM THE MARCH AND APRIL MINUTES, WILL BE LISTED IN INVOICE No. 2022.05A, TO BE PUBLISHED BY SUNDAY 8th MAY 2022 WITH THE MAY 2022 MINUTES. THE DEADLINE FOR ALL PAYMENTS WILL BE TUESDAY 31st MAY 2022.

16. APPLICATIONS & WITHDRAWALS

- ❖ **NEW APPLICATIONS:** Bedford Albion, Kempston Athletic and Stotfold Juniors.
- ❖ **Additional application forms sent out.**
- ❖ **WITHDRAWALS:** **Soccerlise FC** – at the conclusion of fixtures.

17. LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT PLAN REVIEW

- ❖ In future, this item to be included under item 13 above,

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ▶ Special General Meeting - THURSDAY 24th MARCH 2022: Minutes published with these minutes.
- ❖ The Committee has introduced a new referee award in memory of Dennis Martin, former League Referee Secretary. Dennis's family have donated the trophy.
- ❖ Over the coming months the Committee will discuss introducing a new award/competitions following the generous approach of the family of Paul Souter, who wish to denote a trophy in his memory.
- ❖ There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.
- ❖ G. B. Snelson, General Secretary

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