



BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

PRESIDENT: MR B. WATSON

HON GENERAL SECRETARY: MR G. B. SNELSON

TELEPHONE 01234-317597

MINUTES: MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY 2ND MAY 2024

AT CRANFIELD PAVILION STARTING AT 7 p.m.

MEMBERS: BT Watson [President], P Francis [Chair, Registration and Media Secretary], M Baxter, B Hallybone [Assistant Referee Secretary], R Horswell [Referee Secretary], K Redman, GB Snelson [General and Fixture Secretary].

CLUB REPRESENTATIVES: D Gauntlett [Shefford Town & Campton FC], K Poulton [Elstow Abbey FC], P Smailes [Biggleswade FC]. **LIFE VICE-PRESIDENT:** R Simmonds.

APOLOGIES: A Young [Treasurer], PJ Onion [Life Vice-President]

A. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- ❖ The Club Representatives declared an interest in any matter concerning their Club.

1. PREVIOUS MEETING

- ❖ The minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on 4th April 2024 were signed as a true record.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- ❖ **ALL PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED:**
 - ▶ From **AFC OAKLEY**: Pitch barrier grant – no response from the Club. A request to be sent to the Club for an urgent update on any progress.
 - ▶ Review of the current sponsorship arrangements with the League. **SportsForm** confirm their continuing support, which is greatly appreciated. Contact **HyPro** to find out their intentions regarding the ball sponsorship.
 - ▶ Original Premier Division Championship Cup. Recovery from Bedford Borough still to be arranged. Letter to be agreed and sent to the Mayor's Office.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

- ❖ **The Football Association:** All items covered elsewhere in the minutes.
- ❖ **Bedfordshire FA:** All items covered elsewhere in the minutes.

4. FINANCE

- ❖ **REVIEW OF PAYMENTS DUE.**
 - ▶ The policy of not demanding payment within 14 days of notification of the decision in the minutes, followed by the formal invoice, will continue for the time being. However, Clubs failing to pay in accordance with the terms detailed in the request-for-payment invoice will be liable to Rule 6[J] being applied in full.
 - **RULE 6[J]** Subject to a Club's right of appeal in accordance with Rule 7 below, all fines and charges must be paid within 14 days of the date of notification of the decision. Any Club failing to do so will be fined in accordance with the Fines Tariff. Further failure to pay the fine including the additional fine within a further 14 days will result in fixtures being withdrawn until such time as the outstanding fines are paid.
- ❖ The Treasurer to provide update on the league finances prior Club affiliation for next season.

5. TROPHIES & MEMENTOES

- ❖ All trophies available for presentations. Medals and plaques to be completed once league divisions are finalised.

6. TRANSFERS

Serge Kadji.	Atletic FC to Bedford Albion
Ben Peachey.	Wootton Blue Cross to GS Athletic.
Adam Woodley.	Flitwick Town to Wootton Blue Cross .
Adeyemi Abodunrin.	GS Athletic to Clifton.
Joe Ackroyd.	Sharnbrook to Renhold.
Paolo Grasso.	Sharnbrook to Renhold.
Harry Copley.	Kempston United to Elstow Abbey.

7. ALTERATIONS TO HANDBOOK

- ❖ None.

8. REFEREE SECRETARY REPORT & REFEREEING MATTERS

- ❖ Pitch at Stockwood Park Athletics Stadium has been reported as damaged by athletics field events. An inspection required prior to next season.
- ❖ A referee report regarding a BCFL Club awaits Beds FA action prior to a Committee decision regarding any further league action.

9. FIXTURE REPORT

- ❖ **ABANDONED MATCHES:**

20/4/2024	2-0Div2S	Caddington (BCFL)	v Sporting Carpathians – AWAITING BEDS FA DECISION
20/4/2024	3-0Div3	Caldecote 'A'	v Harlington Juniors Reserves – SEE ITEM 10 BELOW
- ❖ **UNPLAYED/INCOMPLETED MATCHES:**
 - ▶ Saturday 6th April 2024: FC Haynes v Stopsley United. **FC Haynes** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Stopsley United**, score 0-0
 - ▶ Saturday 13th April 2024. GS Athletic v Caldecote 'A' . **GS Athletic** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Caldecote 'A'**, score 0-0

- ▶ Saturday 13th April 2024. LU Donz v Flitwick Town Reserves. **Flitwick Town Reserves** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **LU Donz**, score 0-0
- ▶ Wednesday 24th April 2024. New Bradwell St Peter Development v FC Haynes . **FC Haynes** unable to raise a side [2nd occurrence].
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 2 penalty match points.
 - Points [3] awarded to **New Bradwell St Peter Development**, score 0-0
- ▶ Saturday 27th April 2024. Henlow v Bedford Albion. **Henlow** unable to raise a side [2nd occurrence]
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Bedford Albion**, score 0-0
- ▶ Saturday 27th April 2024. Totternhoe Reserves v Bedford SA. **Bedford SA** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Totternhoe Reserves**, score 0-0
- ▶ Saturday 27th April 2024. Lea Sports PSG v New Bradwell St Peter Development. **New Bradwell St Peter Development** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Lea Sports PSG**, score 0-0
- ▶ Saturday 27th April 2024. Clifton Reserves v Elstow Abbey Reserves. **Elstow Abbey Reserves** unable to raise a side.
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 1 penalty match point.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Clifton Reserves**, score 0-0
- ▶ Monday 29th April 2024. Henlow v Wootton Blue Cross. **Henlow** unable to raise a side [3rd occurrence].
 - Fined as per rule and deducted 3 penalty match points.
 - Points [3] awarded to **Wootton Blue Cross**, score 0-0

10. REGISTRATIONS, RESULTS, PRESS & MEDIA SECRETARY REPORT

Charge Notices

- ❖ **Lidlington United Sports Club Colts** : In breach of league rule 18M that in their game against Ampthill Town Colts on Saturday 30th March 2024 they played one Kieran Endacott who at the time of the fixture was serving a Beds FA suspension. (Match won 4-2)
 - Charge found proved.
 - Fine levied by Beds FA. **Lidlington United Sports Club Colts** deducted one [1] penalty match point.
 - Match points [3] awarded to **Ampthill Town Colts**, score 0-0
- ❖ **Renhold United**: In breach of league rule 18M that in their game against Cranfield United Reserves on Wednesday 10th April 2024 they played both Joe Ackroyd and Paolo Grasso who at the time of the game were not registered members of their club having not completed their transfers from Sharnbrook FC. (Match lost 3-2)
 - Charge found proved.
 - **Renhold United** fined as per rule and deducted two [2] penalty match points.
 - **Result to stand.**
- ❖ **Harlington Juniors Reserves** : In breach of league rules 18M/21C that in their game against Caldecote 'A' on Saturday 20th April 2024 (abandoned on 88 minutes due to a serious injury of their goalkeeper), they named on their team sheet and played Thomas Gibbons who is not a registered member of Harlington Juniors for season 2023-24. Post match **Harlington Juniors Reserves** then deliberately made a false loading of their Full Time result sheet by not informing the league immediately of their actions.
 - ▶ Pre the charge notice on Saturday evening having loaded only 10 starters the club were then sent an email requesting they added their 11th starter. They undertook this post charge notice by adding Dean Johnson as the 11th starter, this player not appearing on their team sheet exchanged prior to kick off with Caldecote 'A' and the match day referee. To comply with FA rules/ league rules a second charge was issued.
 - ▶ Also in the same game they named on their team sheet Jack Leek who took no part in the game, his place being taken in the game by Jack Child who is not a registered member of Harlington Juniors for season 2023-24 then post match they then deliberately made a false loading of their Full Time result by including Jack Leek on that result sheet.
 - All charges found proved.
 - **Harlington Juniors Reserves** fined as per rule [£150] and deducted five [5] penalty points.
 - **Match points [3] awarded to Caldecote 'A'**, score 0-0.

Report Notices

- ❖ Clubs in breach of League Rule 21B in failing to submit a correct SMS Text result by the required deadline
 - ▶ Saturday 6th April 2024:
 - **GS Athletic. Queens Park Crescents Development. Stotfold Junior. Turvey. Westoning Recreation.**
 - ▶ Wednesday 10th April 2024:
 - **Caldecote Reserves. FC Polonia (Luton) Westoning Recreation.**
 - ▶ Saturday 13th April 2024:
 - **Catsbrook Wanderers. FC Polonia (Luton) Lea Sports PSG. Westoning Recreation.**
 - ▶ Wednesday 17th April 2024:
 - **AFC Kempston Town Hammers. Buffs FC. Harlington Junior Reserves. Sandy FC**
 - ▶ Saturday 20th April 2024:
 - **Elstow Abbey. FC Polonia(Luton) Henlow.. Queens Park Crescents Development**
 - ▶ Wednesday 24th April 2024:
 - **The 61 FC Luton Reserves**
 - ▶ Saturday 27th April 2024:
 - **AFC Oakley Development. Caldecote Reserves. Harlington Juniors.**
 - **All above teams fined/warned as per rule.**
- ❖ Clubs in breach of League rule 21C in failing to load their Full Time Result sheet by the required deadline.
 - ▶ Wednesday 3rd April 2024:
 - **LU Donz. Wilstead**
 - ▶ Saturday 6th April 2024:
 - **Dunstable Wanderers. Leighton Woodside Athletic. Riseley Sports**

- ▶ Wednesday 10th April 2024:
 - Caldecote Reserves. FC Polonia (Luton)
- ▶ Saturday 13th April 2024:
 - Blunham. Shefford Town & Campton U23
- ▶ Wednesday 17th April 2024:
 - Buffs FC
- ▶ Saturday 20th April 2024:
 - AFC Oakley. Catsbrook Wanderers. Elstow Abbey Reserves. Sporting Carpathians. Westoning Recreation.
- ▶ Thursday 25th April 2024:
 - AFC Bedford United
 - All above teams fined/warned as per rule.

❖ Clubs in breach of league rule 21C in failing to load onto their Full Time result sheet details of the red/yellow cards issued to their players.

- ▶ Saturday 6th April 2024:
 - Queens Park Crescents Development. Renhold. Sharnbrook Reserves. Shefford Town & Campton Reserves. Wilstead.
- ▶ Wednesday 10th April 2024:
 - Caldecote Reserves. LU Donz.
- ▶ Saturday 13th April 2024:
 - Bedford Albion. Stotfold Junior.
- ▶ Wednesday 17th April 2024:
 - LU Donz.
- ▶ Saturday 20th April 2024:
 - Elstow Abbey
 - All above teams fined/warned as per rule.

11. NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM including FACILITIES

❖ Nothing new to report. *See also ANY OTHER BUSINESS*

12. REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

❖ Nothing new to report

13. ENGLAND FOOTBALL ACCREDITED LEAGUE

❖ Non-accredited clubs continuing into season 2023-2024 will not be eligible for support [financial or goods] from the League until accredited.



14. RESPECT and COUNTY FA DISCIPLINE [Bedfordshire Clubs]

- ❖ 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 financial penalties. Get your players to understand the seriousness of being cautioned or sent off for dissent.**
- ▶ For reaching stage R6 [6 cautions/E3 misconduct] **Bedfordshire FA warning.** The warning requires payment of a **Discipline Administration fee of £15:**
- ▶ For reaching stage R10 [10 cautions/E3 misconduct]: The **heavy automatic financial penalties** are applied from this level, which are especially heavy for NLS Feeder League teams [Premier Division].

15. SAFEGUARDING

- ❖ For the 2024/25 season, there will be mandatory changes to the safeguarding affiliation requirements for Open-Age Football.
 - ▶ The Club Welfare Officer (Adult Teams) and **all** team officials (excluding the Team Secretary) will now be required to undertake the **Player Welfare in Open-Age Football Course** in order to affiliate.
 - ▶ This is a FREE, 45-minute eLearning course covering general welfare concerns which are relevant across the whole Open-Age game as well as more specific safeguarding considerations, including those related to U18s within the Open-Age football.
 - ▶ This course has been created to empower those working in Open-Age Football and enhance understanding, so that together we can continue to support those involved and create positive environments.

16. SUMMARY OF FINES and COSTS for MAY 2024

A FULL AND DETAILED LIST OF ALL FINES LEVIED AT THIS MEETING HAS BEEN REPORTED TO THE LEAGUE TREASURER, WHO WILL RAISE INVOICES WITH PAYMENT DETAILS.

17. APPLICATIONS & WITHDRAWALS

- ❖ **APPLICATIONS: GREEN END ROVERS, plus additional team from WOOTTON BLUE CROSS.**
- ❖ **WITHDRAWALS: LIDLINGTON UNITED SPORTS CLUB COLTS for next season. Club has completed season 2023-2024.**

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ❖ **FACILITY GRANTS** for member clubs will be considered, particularly for improvements to pitch barriers and changing facilities to meet Premier Division standards. Apply by email to The General Secretary.
- ❖ **LEAGUE AGM**
 - ▶ 2024 on **WEDNESDAY 12th JUNE at 7pm** [earlier because of hall availability]
 - ▶ 2025 on **WEDNESDAY 18th JUNE at 7pm** [booked]
- ❖ There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.28 p.m.
- ❖ G. B. Snelson, General Secretary

<https://twitter.com/bedscountylge>



Signed.....
P Francis, Chair
##2024

MENTAL AWARENESS CAMPAIGN www.friendsmusttalk.co.uk

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