



BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

ONLINE MEETING USING VIDEO TECHNOLOGY

MINUTES 12TH AUGUST 2020 STARTING AT 7PM

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

- In his opening remarks, the Chairman highlighted the difficulties encountered at the end of season 2019-2020 because of the Coronavirus global pandemic, the current difficulties with restrictions in place, and the ongoing problems in getting season 2020-2021 started.
- The Chairman went on to welcome the many new clubs and teams.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

- Proposed by Management Committee, seconded by Biggleswade United u23. Accepted without questions.

3. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING 2020

- Proposed by Management Committee, seconded by Houghton Athletic. Accepted without questions.

4. MATTERS ARISING from either meeting.

- There were no matters arising.

5. REPORT from INDEPENDENT EXAMINER [LEAGUE ACCOUNTS] and ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS

- Proposed by Houghton Athletic, seconded by AFC Oakley M&DH. Accepted without questions.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As agreed at the Special General Meeting held on 17th June 2020 with the following amendment:

- OFFICE of Referees Secretary REPLACE Mr B Hallybone with Mr R Horswell
- Assistant Referee Secretary REPLACE Mr R Horswell with Mr B Hallybone
- Changes accepted without questions.

7. ELECTION OF CLUB REPRESENTATIVES TO MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- Messrs D Gauntlett and R Simmonds: as agreed at the Special General Meeting held on 17th June 2020

8. ELECTION OF LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE ON BEDFORDSHIRE FA

- Mr D Gauntlett, as agreed at the Special General Meeting held on 17th June 2020

9. ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER [LEAGUE ACCOUNTS]

- The Chairman, who is the retiring Treasurer, proposed this appointment be left for the incoming Treasurer, Mr M Benson, and the Committee to consider at a later date. This was accepted without questions.

10. ALTERATION TO RULES

- As agreed at the Special General Meeting held on 17th June 2020

11. ADOPTION OF CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2020

- The report was adopted without questions.

12. LEAGUE CONSTITUTION SEASON 2020-2021

- The Management Committee's proposal that the Premier Division remain as last season at 16 teams, already confirmed by The FA, was accepted with reservations given the number of Saturdays available for the fixtures.
- The Management Committee's proposal that Division One be increased to 24 teams, because of the perceived strength of many teams, and then to split the 24 into two divisions of 12 teams. The general principle was accepted with a number of clubs giving their views on how the split should be made. No one solution was obvious, though a North/South split was not seen as the ideal by a small majority of clubs.
- Divisions Two, Three and Four were accepted as proposed with 14 teams in each division.



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13. ROLL CALL OF CLUBS IN ATTENDANCE

- Whilst a roll call indicated there were 45 clubs 'attending' the meeting, the actual figure may be slightly higher with a number of attendees giving no identification. The attendance was very good and clubs were thanked by the Chairman for making the time to join the meeting and to make contributions.

14. INFORMATION FOR SEASON 2020-2021

➤ **SEASON and FIXTURE DATES**

- Target date for commencement of fixtures: Saturday 3rd October 2020.
- Final Constitution to be agreed by the Management Committee and published before the end of August 2020.
- Fixtures to be available early September at the latest.

➤ **SEASON DATES**

- Dependent upon resolution of current restrictions

➤ **MANDATORY TRAINING FOR CLUB ASSISTANT REFEREES IN PREMIER DIVISION**

- The longer term intention is to appoint neutral assistant referees to all Premier Division matches. Currently this depends upon a significant increase in the number of referees available to the League, and a levelling out of, and a consistent approach to, the appointment of Assistant Referees to all Regional NLS Feeder Leagues.
- The training of Club Assistant Referee will be discussed with the County FA later this year as it is recognised that current restrictions would present arrangement and presentation difficult.

➤ **DISTRIBUTION ARRANGEMENTS** for footballs, first aid kits, scratch cards, and, where applicable, Rope Barriers and Team Shelters. This will include the Fair Play Awards from season 2019-2020.

- Post meeting: distributions to be made on Thursday 10th September 2020 from 8pm at Elstow Playing Field car park.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS RELEVANT TO THE A.G.M.

- There was no AOB to record.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.58pm.

GB Snelson, General and Fixture Secretary