**WEST KENT SUNDAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting

Held at High Brooms Working Men’s Club on Thursday 29th June 2017

League Officers present: Stuart Turner Chairman

Angela Barham General Secretary

Ian Scott Fixture Secretary

Management Members present: Peter Elwood, Geoff Mills and James Shaw

**1. Chairman**

Stuart Turner opened the meeting, the leagues 50th AGM, and welcomed everyone. Stuart stated that when the League started 50 years ago it had 13 teams and at its peak it had 96 teams but over more recent years it has gradually downsized until this coming season when sadly we will start with only 29 teams. He thanked all existing clubs for all their hard work in keeping their clubs going.

Stuart Turner introduced Michael Tapp, KCFA Director, who presented Ian Scott with the KCFA 40 year Meritorious Award. Ian had been involved with many clubs before joining the West Kent Sunday Football League Council as Registration Secretary in 1984, then to help out in 1986 he became Fixture Secretary, a post he has held for 31 years.

Stuart also mentioned that at the leagues presentation evening at Longmead both he and Reg Mackelden were presented with KCFA 50 year Awards. The leagues clubs also presented them both with an engraved watch to commemorate their 50 years with the West Kent Sunday Football League.

Stuart then went on to present all management committee members at the meeting with 50th Anniversary Season Special Awards. Management members who were not at the meeting will receive theirs at the pre seasons meeting in August.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Mike Noble (Minutes Secretary), Reg Mackelden (Treasurer), Andrew Newman (Referee Secretary) and Tony Vanns (Registration Secretary).

**3. Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd June 2016 were accepted as correct. Proposed by Brenchley FC, seconded by Cassidy’s Phoenix FC, and agreed by all present.

**4. Matters Arising**

No matters arising

**5. General Secretary**

Report has been sent to clubs.

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**6. Treasurer**

Stuart mentioned in Reg’s absence that the accounts were in excellent condition. We spent more on Trophies this year because of the special trophies for 50 years.

A proposition that the audited accounts should be accepted was put forward by Green Lane FC, seconded by Artois FC, accepted by all present.

**7. Auditor**

The re-appointment of Mr. Michael Payne as the league’s auditor was approved unanimously.

**8. Rule Amendments**

No new rule changes were put forward by the committee.

**9. Season 2016/2017**

It was proposed that the League’s season should commence on Sunday 3rd September 2017 and finish on 13th May 2018.

**10. League Officers and Council Members**

Phil Craxton (Pembury Sunday FC) advised those present that as all members of the management committee were prepared to continue in their current roles, he proposed that they could be re-elected ‘en-bloc’. This was seconded by Andrew Stanley (Insulators FC) and was agreed unanimously.

Chairman Stuart Turner General secretary Angela Barham

Treasurer Reg Mackelden Fixtures Secretary Ian Scott

Referees Secretary Andrew Newman Registration Secretary Tony Vanns

Minutes Secretary Mike Noble

Management Members Peter Elwood, Geoff Mills and James Shaw

Stuart Turner stated that Andrew Newman was standing down as Vice Chairman because of work commitments but would continue in his role as Referee Secretary.

Peter Elwood has been proposed as new Vice Chairman.

**11. Presentations**

Presentation of the league awards for 2016/2017 were then made to:-

Sportsmanship Award Goudhurst FC

Secretary of the Year (Jim Smith Cup) Colin Castle (Brenchley FC)

Club of the Year (Cecil King Cup) Tonbridge United FC

The following were not at the meeting so will receive their awards later.

Assistant Referee of the Year (Alan Rolfe Memorial Cup) Pat Noble (Crowborough Town FC)

Refereed most games (Peter Hazlewood Memorial Cup) Ricky Riddall

Referee of the Year (Harry Friend Cup) Josh Smith

Club 10 Year Awards Mick Gylanders (Green Lane FC)

Garry Miller (Green Lane FC)

John Hall (Paddock Wood FC)

Sue Hall (Paddock Wood FC)

Dan Bailey (Cassidy’s Phoenix FC)

Ed Fairhead (Cassidy’s Phoenix FC)

Stuart Turner stated that Peter Elwood attended the recent Kent County FA AGM and received an award on behalf of the league to mark the League’s 50th Anniversary.

**12. League Constitution for 2017/2018**

Stuart Turner said that again it was difficult to find the best combination for the constitution of the league.

The original suggestion was that there should be 4 divisions with the teams in each division playing each other 3 times.

Then Gardeners Arms dropped out of division 1 leaving only 6 teams in that division.

Therefore the management committee has put forward 3 options to be discussed by all clubs.

Stuart then asked Geoff Mills to start the discussion. Geoff stated that in his opinion not many teams would want to play each other 3 or 4 times in a season and that he believed that the best option would be to have 3 divisions of 9, 10 and 10 teams. But for that to work in division 1 it would need another 3 teams to step up. Geoff asked for the opinions of other teams.

Option 2 was discussed where division 1 & 2 would join together at the start of the season and play each other once. Then the top 6 teams would stay in division 1 and the rest would be division 2. It was mentioned by several clubs that it would be very difficult to manage as not all teams will complete 12 matches at the same time with cup matches, weather etc., affecting the amount of matches played.

Mick Gylanders of Green Lane FC stated that they would go up to division 1 if it was decided to have 3 divisions.

Phil Craxton agreed that Pembury Sunday FC would accept 3 divisions.

Dan Marks of Paddock Wood FC was asked if he would accept that Paddock Wood FC would join division 1 if the decision was to go to 3 divisions. He agreed that they would.

Tim Thirlaway of Artois FC confirmed that they preferred 3 divisions.

Then Peter Elwood of Dormansland Rockets confirmed that they would go up to division 1 next season if 3 divisions was the preferred option.

Then division 2 was discussed with the recommendation that St. Johns Yard FC be replaced with Tonbridge Invicta FC who finished above them in division 3 last season and St. Johns Yard FC would go into division 3.

With this change 3 divisions was the preferred option.

This was proposed by Speldhurst FC and seconded by Pembury Sunday FC and accepted by those present.

Therefore the League Constitution for 2017/18 season is as follows:-

Division 1

Armada, Artois, Dormansland Rockets, Green Lane, Insulators, Paddock Wood, Pembury Sunday, Simla and Tonbridge Origin.

Division 2

Brenchley, Cassidy’s Phoenix, Crowborough Town, FC Grinstead, Goudhurst, Green Street Blues, Langton Green, Royal Oak, Tonbridge Invicta and TW Foresters.

Division 3

East Grinstead Mavericks, FC Haywood, Insulators Reserves, Paddock Wood Reserves, Speldhurst, St. Johns Yard, Tonbridge Casuals, Tonbridge Origin Reserves, Tonbridge United and TW Youth (Ridgewaye).

Pre season meeting is on 24th August 2017 8.00 pm at the High Brooms Working Men’s Club.

£50 fine for non attendance.

The meeting closed at 20.50