



DERBYSHIRE FA

**Minutes of Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 6th December 2023 at 7pm
Via Virtual Meeting on Microsoft Teams and at Harrison's Hub, Pride Park Stadium.**

Present:

R.Stevenson (RS) (CEO), F.McArdle (Chair), A.Smith, A.Constable, C.Brown, D.Brown, I.Wright, G.Elliott, I.Stevens, A.Sandhu, K.Lewis, C.Dean, C.Sedgwick, J.Woolley, R.Mercer, S.Bassett, T.Kemp, W.Jubb, G.Bonner, R.Stewart.

J.Bell (FDO - Minute Taker)

The Chair started the meeting by welcoming members both online and in person.

1. Apologies: S. Ainley, A.Brewin, L.Waghorn, J.Ratcliffe, P.Randle, G.Parkin, S.Nicks, S.Riley.

2. Matters arising: - Council Minutes of 27th September 2023 –

No matters arising - Minutes accepted as a true record.

Minutes approved

3. Reports from the following meetings: -

Board minutes – 9th October 2023 - Minutes noted for information.

Youth Board – 5th October 2023 – Minutes noted for information.

Referees Standing Committee 8th November 2023 – Minutes noted for information.

Adult Standing Committee 16th November 2023 – Minutes noted for information.

4. DCFA Updates

a) Safeguarding Report – RS presented in the absence of Gary Parkin,

RS updated that he Jenny and Liam had attended the National Safeguarding Conference in November 2023, Staff in person briefings had taken place and Council written briefing had been sent out post conference and all Codes of Conduct are to be returned by Council members by 20th December 2023.

The 2023/24 season has seen the introduction of the player welfare course and all staff have completed the course. We would ask that all board and council members complete the course which will be mandated for all open age welfare officers for 24/25 affiliation. - advise to all clubs and leagues to do this.

In addition, the FA have introduced new Welfare Officer Workshops for clubs at step 1-4 and Derbyshire have 100% of clubs booked to attend a workshop.

Cases - increase in number - 116 cases reported so far this season - currently 14 ongoing cases that are with the Police or FA SCMT for investigation which are still being managed locally by our DSO.

Increase in poor practise cases reported which we are working with clubs / leagues with

Compliance - we have started the safeguarding visits and more planned for the new year - you will see information around play safe activities in the Council Operational report.

b) EDI Report-

RS updated in the absence of Leoni Waghorn, brief update to say we have been supporting the Rainbow Laces Campaign and circulated lasts to a number of clubs who wished to participate.

c) Operational Update – R.Stevenson

RS sent the report out with the notification of the meeting

RS highlighted area of note:

- Discipline - affected by weather and number of games
- Cawrden County Cups underway
- Recreational Football - Increased offer spread across the County
- Youth Board - seen last minutes group is building momentum
- KPI's Player pathway in good player - 32,705 players taking part in registered activities
- Strong CPD and Coaching offer
- Good Referees offer trying to support across the game
- Play Safe - lots of engagement
- Facilities - Special mention about Racecourse - due to for completion next month
- Online engagment keeps growing

FMc thanked Derby County in particular for their role at the play safe campaign.

d) Presentation by JB on our work around Disability Football and Facilities

5. FA Council Representative update – F. McArdle (DCFA rep on FA Council): -

FMc updated on latest work of the FA and attendance of FMc and RS at the upcoming FA Collaboration event in which they will hear updated on the FA Conversation with the Game and CFA Review of Counties.

7. AOB – for which notice had been given

A.Constable raised about the recent AGM and Members Event, it was well received and he wish to pass on thanks for all involved in creating a great event.

I.Wright raised that the Adult Football Standing Committee would like to request someone from the female game to join the committee. RS updated he had spoken to R.Mercer this evening and would look at this.

8. Date of next meeting –

All dates of displayed on screen. Next Council Wednesday 13th March 2024 at Harrison's Hub and online – thanks to Derby Community Trust for their support in hosting these meetings.

FMc thanked all for their attendance. Meeting closed at 20:20 hours.

