



DERBYSHIRE FA

**Minutes of Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 27th September 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, I.Wright, G.Elliott, I.Stevens, S.Nicks, A.Sandhu, K.Lewis, C.Dean, C.Sedgwick, K.Brown, A.Constable, J.Wagstaff, R.Mercer, S.Bassett, T.Kemp, W.Jubb.

J.Blewitt (SEM - Minute Taker)

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

1. Apologies: S. Ainley, D.Brown, , G.Bonner, L.Waghorn, J.Ratcliffe, J.Woolley, R.Rees, R.Stewart P.Randle, G.Parkin, C. Brown

2. Matters arising: - Council Minutes of 7th June 2023 –

CS requested confirmation of AGM date – FMC clarified – Tuesday 21st November 2023

No matters arising - Minutes accepted as a true record and silence taken to be in favour.

Minutes approved

3. To receive Board report: -

Board minutes – 24th July 2023 - Minutes accepted as a true record and silence taken to be in favour.

SIAG – 4th July 2023 - Minutes not attached – update to be given in the EDI update.

Youth Board – 8th June 2023, 13th July 2023, 31st August 2023 – minutes noted

4. Council Nominations: -

RS updated on council nominations for the 23/24 season. Welcomed two new members – All Agreed

RS highlighted that the proposal of directors will be brought to the AGM. – All Agreed

RS updated that Board had nominated Alan Smith as the Derbyshire FA President and were looking for Council approval – unanimous decision.

FMc gave an overview of the roles for AGM elections and recommended Charles Hanson as an Honary Vice President – All Agreed.

RS highlighted the work FMc has undertaken for the DCFA over the last 25 years and he was awarded as a DCFA Life Member.

5. DCFA Updates

a) Safeguarding Report – Jenny Blewitt

JB updated poor practice and safeguarding had not stopped during the closed season and it had been a busy start to the season, 42 cases so far compared to 32 last September and a number of cases over the summer.

Compliance from clubs had not started well. 87 clubs had not supplied their training information as requested by Friday and 10 were today suspended due to their failure to complete.

JB updated on the plans for play safe at the weekend with DCFC and Derby Junior League and highlighted the new play phase programme.

JB highlighted that the new player welfare course had been released and the requirements of clubs and leagues to complete the course.

FMc thanked JB and GP for their work – Pass thanks onto the staff

b) SIAG Report–

JB updated that the July meeting was held at the DCFA offices and was attended by Anwar Uddin from The FA and Reece Davies RDO to update on support available from the FA and plans for courses for under-represented groups.

The September meeting was held in the community at the National Sikh Heritage Centre and Holocaust Museum which was a humbling experience. FMc added that he had invited the Nottinghamshire IAG to join us at the venue and that we had been invited back to make a presentation to the Sunday School. This session will be streamed live to North West India.

We achieved Preliminary Standard of the Equality Standard following lots of good work but are still awaiting the actual award.

FMc highlighted that we had a very good reputation as a proactive group.

c) Operational Update – R.Stevenson

RS sent the report out with the notification of the meeting

RS highlighted area of note:

- Discipline Update – changes for 23/23
- Top Posts on Social Media
- Increase in County Cup entries
- KPI update
- League Update
- Club Updates
- Referees – RDO looking at conveyor belt of referees
- Recreational football and female football updates
- Disability changes to provision and festival/tournaments

d) Presentation by JW on discipline cases and the process involved. JW highlighted 60 cases had already been received which is concerning considering the CFA received around 350 cases last season which shows a huge increase.

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

Dame Sue Campbell has announced her retirement as the Head of Women's football, will still be involved with the game but in a different capacity.

FMc updated members that he nominates young people as mascots and flag bearers for games at Wembley in his role as an ambassador. There will be four young people from Derbyshire present as mascots and flag bearers representing Derbyshire in the games against Australia and Italy in October.

The FA Finance and Risk Committee for the NGB has been absorbed into the NGB resulting in FMC being involved in the affiliated associations committee. The first committee meeting is due to be held in 3 weeks.

The DCFA awards evening had been held last week and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all 152 attendees. Thanked Cawarden for their continued support and thanked the staff for their hard work.

CS asked for it to be recorded that the brochure was absolutely brilliant.

7. AOB – for which notice had been given

RS – updated members that we had achieved the Code of Governance, 13th out of 53 CFA's. The code has now been updated and we have a target end date to ensure we are compliant with version 2.

Friday 22nd September 2023 was Derbyshire FA's 140th birthday and updated re the history of the Association.

8. Date of next meeting –

All dates for new season displayed on screen – all at Harrison's Hub and online – thanks to Derby Community Trust

RS updated on the plans for the AGM at Chesterfield Football Club on Tuesday 21st November 2023, a meeting followed by a carousel of workshops, all in person with no online function..

FMc thanked all for their attendance. Meeting closed at 20:26 hours.

