



## Minutes

Meeting Name	<b>The Annual General Meeting</b>
Date	<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022</b>
Time	<b>7.30pm</b>
Location	Hybrid Meeting

## Attendees

D.E. Ramsbottom (President)

D.M. Bathurst, R.M. Street (Life Members)

M.J. Cooper and W.K. Martin (Life Vice Presidents)

S. Alexander, M. Barnard, C. Bennett, A. Bryant, R. Crawford, B. Degg, J. Dyson, K. Halliday, T. Homer, A. Hurst, P. Hussey, T. King, R. Mullin, A. Padley, C. Redfern, A. Salt, T. Sherratt, M. Stokes, R. Tooth, M. Warren (Council)

A. Wain (Independent Board Member)

A.C. Evans (CEO & Company Secretary)

K.S. Staples, V.J. Collins, A. Scott, J. Adams, A. Willis, G. Thomas, J. Scott, J. Lilburne, G. Taylor, C. Matthews, G. Machin, J. Triggs, J. Davidson (Staff)

Lichfield & Recreational League, Mid Staffs Junior Youth League, North Staffs Junior Youth League, North Staffs Youth League, Potteries & District Sunday League, Staffordshire Junior Football League, Stafford & District Sunday League, Staffordshire Ability Counts Youth League, Staffordshire County Senior League, Staffordshire Girls & Ladies League, Uttoxeter & District Sunday League, Walsall Junior Youth League

Eccleshall Eagles FC, Madeley White Star FC, Starlands Warriors FC, Holy Name FC, Cresswell Wanderers FC, Brocton FC, Royal Oak Biddulph FC, Lichfield City FC, Penkridge Juniors FC, Stoke City Community, Port Vale Community, Chasetown FC, Berkswich FC, Stafford Falcons FC, Rushall Olympic FC, Leek Town Ladies, Uttoxeter Town FC (Clubs)

Representatives of : The Inclusion Advisory Group, Affiliated Club Coaches, The National League System Clubs

Staffordshire Schools Football Association

Staffordshire County Referees Association

Apologies : B.J. Adshead, G. Appleby, P. Bateman, K. Hunt, L.G. Morris, M.A. Sanders, P. Savage  
Belt Road FC, Burton Albion Community Trust, Leek Town FC, Newcastle Town FC, Stafford Rangers FC, Wolstanton United FC



## President's Welcome

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The President welcomed the members to the Twenty Third Annual General Meeting of the Staffordshire Football Association, the first time that it had been held using a 'Hybrid' method.

He referred to a recent walk he had taken along the towpath to the Sapperton Tunnel on the Thames and Severn canal near Cirencester. His mind had been drawn to the book "The Flower of Gloster" by Thurston in which he wrote about legging his boat through the two-mile tunnel. He writes of his despondency as he reached the halfway point of the tunnel wondering if this was the end of the world until well after an hour they emerged into the sunlight at the other end and he was greatly rejoicing.

It seemed to him that these recent times could be likened to that after the very difficult period during covid, where there was very little income and redundancies were made. However, this last season has shown very encouraging signs where we had emerged into the light with the game was showing growth and the Association was continuing to build back. He thanked those that had been through those difficult times and had played a huge part in ensuring that the game could return.

### 1. Minutes

- 1.1 The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 were approved as a true and proper record by those present.

### 2. Annual Report 2021-2022

- 2.1 The Annual Report for season 2021-2022 was received. The President stated that the report was most encouraging and was very well presented.

### 3. Statement of Accounts and Accountants Report for the Financial Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

- 3.1 The Company Secretary gave a brief overview of the Accounts and stated that the Board of Directors were pleased with the 2021-2022 results. He referred to the narrative around the recovery from Covid 19 and that the Association had consolidated following the loss of the last couple of years.
- 3.2 The Statement of Accounts and the Accountants Report for the Financial Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were accepted.
- 3.3 The President thanked the Board of Directors for the due diligence and work carried out in producing the accounts.



## 4. Revision of Articles of Association

- 4.1 The President referred to the revision of the Articles of Association and explained that the Association was working toward the FA's Code of Governance which is an accreditation of good Governance in line with the Sport England Code. He advised that the Association's Council had recently met to consider these, and they had given their support. He thanked D.M. Bathurst, M.J. Cooper, M. Stokes, R.M. Street, the Company Secretary / CEO and himself for the extensive work carried out.
- 4.2 The proposed amendments to Articles of Association previously circulated were unanimously agreed. It was agreed that these changes would come into immediate effect. It was further agreed that minor grammatical errors could be amended rather than bringing this back to a Annual or Special General Meeting.

## 5. Members of Council

- 5.1 The Council Appointments pursuant to Article 35 (h) to (v) were received.

## 6. Accountants

- 6.1 The appointment of Dains LLP as Accountants for the 2022-2023 season was confirmed.

## 7. Vote of Thanks

C. Redfern proposed a 'Vote of Thanks' in which he thanked the President for his drive and enthusiasm ensuring that the Association operates to the highest standard. To Mike Stokes and the Board of Directors for their expertise, vision and hard work to move the Association forward in these times of change adding that the skillsets that they bring to the Association enables us to ensure that the Association is relevant, compliant and viable to move forward. To the CEO and the members of staff for their dedication and professionalism that they display in all aspects of their work and providing a support service that is second to none. To the match officials who work on behalf of the Association each week overseeing the matches. To the army of volunteers who contribute to all roles across the County giving their time freely and without whom the grassroots game wouldn't exist. And finally, to the Council Members for offering relevance, experience and guidance on all aspects of the game.

## 8. Closure of Meeting

- 8.1 The President then thanked those present for their attendance and contribution and closed the meeting at 7.50pm.