

FA Cup replay exit for battling Borough

Harrow Borough's hopes of pulling off a major FA Cup upset were scuppered after losing 4-1 at home to Basingstoke Town in the fourth qualifying round replay defeat on Tuesday night.

The Reds earned an impressive 1-1 draw at the Conference South leaders and took them all the way to extra time in their replay before late goals sent them to a harsh defeat.

Basingstoke were the first side to threaten at Earlsmead when Jamie Brown's 25-yard strike was tipped over the bar by Nick Jupp.

But the visitors took the lead after 15 minutes when Tom Bird set up Brown and he scored from close range.

Marc Charles-Smith had a chance for Dave Anderson's side but he was denied by keeper Stuart Moore.

Boro pushed forward and were rewarded three minutes before the break with their equaliser.

Jake Gilbert fired a shot against the post and the ball fell into the path of Charles-Smith who made no mistake by tucking home for the Reds.

Basingstoke appeared to be relieved for the half-time whistle but the side regrouped and came out much stronger for the second half.

Town were awarded a penalty in the 65th minute when Gilbert brought down Enver Marum. But Nuck Jupp delighted the home fans by saving Chris Flood's spot-kick.

Boro held out to force extra time but this got off to a bad start as Basingstoke scored



Harrow Borough took Basingstoke Town all the way to extra time on Tuesday night. Picture: PETER BEAL

within minutes. A long ball over the top caught out the home defence and Marum raced through to clip an effort past Jupp.

The Reds produced a spirited response and were only denied an equaliser when Ben Long's shot was superbly saved by Moore.

There were three minutes of injury time but this proved to be cruel on Boro as two late goals gave Basingstoke a flattering win.

Lloyd Macklin rounded the keeper for the third and the final action of the tie saw Simon Dunn blast home the fourth.

Anderson's side also trailed 1-0 in Saturday's first match through Marum but Shaun McAuley deflected an effort past his own keeper to earn them a replay.

The Reds switch their focus to the FA Trophy on Saturday with a trip to AFC Hornchurch.

Stones sign Stevenage striker Calcutt on loan

Wealdstone have strengthened their attack by bringing in striker Connor Calcutt on loan for a month.

The 20-year-old forward started off at Berkhamsted where he built his reputation netting 41 goals in 52 appearances last season.

This form earned him a move to League Two Stevenage and he netted his first Football League goal in the draw with Plymouth in August.

While he has arrived, two players have left the Stones after striker Michael Malcolm and midfielder Luke Pigden moved on.

Stones manager Gordon Bartlett said: "This has been a very difficult decision to make to release Michael and Luke who have both served the club extremely well.

"Neither have done anything wrong but I am in a situation where decisions have to be made over the squad and in the position we find ourselves. Both are great lads and we wish them all the very best for their future."

Wealdstone romped to a 6-0 home win over Hampton & Richmond Borough in the second round of the Middlesex Senior Cup second round on Saturday.

HOLDERS Hampton & Richmond simply had no answer to the Stones as they suffered a crushing defeat.

Calcutt and recent signing Matt Ball both made their

debut and impressed for the Stones.

It took just ten minutes for the new arrival Calcutt to make an impact as he turned sharply to fire past visiting keeper Ronnie Worster.

Calcutt was proving a real handful for the opposition and went close again before firing narrowly wide from a Ryan Watts cross.

Bartlett's side doubled their lead when Tom Hickey was fouled in the area and Sean Cronin blasted his penalty into the net.

The third goal quickly arrived when Joe Turner's cross was turned home by captain Wes Parker.

The hosts were not easing off the gas and number four came when Johnny Wright broke down the wing and rifled past the keeper.

Wealdstone made it 5-0 before half-time when debutant Calcutt calmly doubled his tally.

With the match long gone, the second half failed to offer as much entertainment.

But the Stones rounded off the scoring when Turner tapped into an empty net.

Bartlett's side turn their attention back to the Conference South on Saturday when they host Maidenhead United.

The Stones are currently 19th in the table and still searching for their first league victory at Grosvenor Vale this season.

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