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## WEALDSTONE helped by support package



Wealdstone FC says it is grateful for the extra support funding

Photo: Wealdstone FC

## Upturn in form continues

By Simon Grigor

There were goals for all three strikers as Harrow Borough climbed five places up the table with a 4-1 win against Beaconsfield Town on Monday. Dernel Wynter, signed a couple of days previously from Chesham United, came straight into the side. Frank Keita filled in at right-back as Bradley Empson was injured, with Kensley Maloney continuing to operate at left-back.

Harrow haven't started games very well lately, and that was again the case here, although Liam Ferdinand missed a chance to give them a fourth-minute lead, getting to Maloney's pass before home goalkeeper Forster but guiding the ball past the post. Sprague drove over for the Rams, and former Harrow favourite Dylan Kearney shot wide after two Borough defenders got in each other's way as a cross dropped beyond the far post.

In the 19th minute, the hosts went in front. Minhas was not closed down after he had got past Lewis Cole, and he hit a shot from the edge of the box that went past Dan Purdue's left hand. Before Beaconsfield could capitalise on their lead, Harrow levelled just a minute later. Ferdinand threaded the ball through to O'Connor, in the inside-left channel, and he guided a right-foot shot past Forster into the far corner. An even passage of play followed. Harrow went in front in the 37th minute, all three members of the strike force playing a part, as Wynter surged forward, finding Ferdinand whose shot was blocked, O'Connor reacting quickly to put the dropping ball in the net for his second.

The second half opened with Beaconsfield in the ascendant. Most were expecting a home equaliser but it was Harrow who scored next, in the 74th minute. Ferdinand put O'Connor in on the right of the box, and Ajanlekoko hauled him down. Foster got a hand to Ferdinand's penalty but the power of the strike took it into the goal. In the 82nd minute, a deep Beaconsfield corner saw a push on an attacker, and they had a penalty. Pulling a goal back could well have led to a panicky conclusion, but Purdue dived to his left to push away Louis's spot-kick. Harrow sealed the win in the 87th minute when Ferdinand played a lovely crossfield pass to Wynter. He cut in and struck a right-footer into the far corner. There was time for Purdue to underline his man of the match performance with a double save. Harrow have gone three Southern League games unbeaten after losing the first four. They travel to Burgess Hill Town in the FA Trophy next.

## Club grateful for funding

WEALDSTONE FC have received funding to mitigate the impact of playing behind closed doors.

The details of the support package - provided by the National League, the FA and the National Lottery - were made available earlier this week.

The National League club has been struggling since March due to a lack of revenue caused by postponed games and fans being unable to sit in stadiums.

In a statement published on Tuesday on their website, the club said: "Over the past seven months the club has faced unprecedented challenges, as have so many other clubs across the country. We have continued to incur significant costs whilst receiving no meaningful football or social club revenue. The response of everyone at our club has been amazing as we've prepared our stadium and team for the step up to the top tier of non-league football. The incredible amount of money contributed by supporters to the StoneShare fundraising scheme has been a critical factor in helping shape

By Ann Yip

our squad. Thanks go to everyone who has played a party to help get us to where we are today.

"The funding we will receive helps to mitigate the impact of our current operating restrictions however we must continue to manage our finances with prudence and work on maximising the revenues that are available to us to protect our financial stability. We will continue to try and strike the important balance between supporting Dean and Stuart put out a side we can all be proud of and ensuring the club exists in a healthy state for future years. This is a lifeline rather than a windfall and one for which we're very grateful.

"The club very much looks forward to welcoming fans back to The Vale when it is safe to do so and this funding helps ensure that many clubs including ours can continue to operate until that time."

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