

Mackin cracks National record

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SPORT

Poacher Paul grabs the points

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Kingsbury chairman resigns

CHRIS Larkin has resigned as chairman of Kingsbury Town FC.

Mr Larkin took over the post from Mark Hart two years ago. He was previously chairman at Ruislip FC.

Pressure of work was the reason for stepping down, said Mr Larkin. "The club is in the middle of a lot of changes and I was being asked to put a lot more time into the job. It would have meant neglecting my business and I couldn't afford to do that so I decided to step down."

Alan Davies, the Kingsbury press secretary, who followed Mr Larkin from Ruislip two years ago, is strongly tipped to become the new chairman.

Kingsbury go seventh

Kingsbury 2 Witham 1

KINGSBURY shot up to seventh place in the table with this win on Tuesday night which owed much to a fine second half performance.

The first half was a disaster for Kingsbury and they could have been several goals adrift at the break. A great double save by Mick Coffey denied Gooch when he got clear, while Harding hit a post from close in. Later Gooch again got clear, but fired wide.

Kingsbury lived up after the break and took the lead in the 53rd minute when Niall O'Rourke powerfully headed home a Jason Dale cross, and it was O'Rourke who made it 2-0 after 74 minutes with a near post shot that squirted past the keeper.

Witham reduced the arrears with a Neil Grice penalty after Gooch had been pulled down in the 76th minute but Kingsbury were never in danger of losing and should have made victory more emphatic. Both Dale and O'Rourke missed good chances.

Kingsbury: Coffey, Keane, Simpson, Stapleton, K. Williams, Young, Surridge, O'Rourke, Dale (Mulhern), Petro, Birch. Other sub: P. Williams.

Clifton reads the riot act

But Supporters Club trio blasted as 'irresponsible and disloyal' get vote of confidence from members

BY JOHN



COMFORT

"Why then, I ask myself, debate an issue when everyone knew the answer would be a foregone conclusion."

Mr Clifton said that to keep the supporters committee abreast of the current issues and difficulties facing the club he invited them to a meeting and after 'meaningful discussions' had agreed, against the rule book, to invite 'a few' bona fide Supporters Club members to the club's recent extraordinary general meeting.

"Regrettably the Magi took advantage of my goodwill gesture and not content in solely issuing clarion calls via the local press for the whole population of Harrow to attend, they went one better and issued statements to the national press that this club was facing oblivion and in crisis and extended the invitation to the entire populous of London to come as well knowing full well that these statements were extreme and controversial."

"I considered their actions to be wholly irresponsible and disloyal and presented a picture of extreme hostility which I found intolerable."

The club's EGM was conducted with considerable decorum and terminated with a

vote of confidence for Mr Clifton and his board, but he said he was "shattered" when he later read in national newspapers statements emanating from the Supporters Club that everyone attending the meeting had left angry and discontented, and there was no mention of the vote of confidence.

"The three wise men in their infinite wisdom decided to omit the most important and salient point of the meeting which undoubtedly brought into question my acumen and integrity."

As a result, Mr Clifton wrote a letter to Supporters Club secretary Layne Patterson expressing his displeasure at his committee's attitude over the affair.

Revealing the contents of the letter, he accused the committee of "obvious attempts to create mayhem and discontentment" and of efforts to discredit him at the EGM.

"Your actions were not at all compatible with the office you hold and do nothing to further the cause of this club. To the contrary and to my great dismay, I have received notification withdrawing the offer of one of my negotiated alternative sites because the statements in the national press which originated from you were interpreted by the vendors that all within the club are discontented, angry and at odds with both myself and my board and that the club is unstable."

might like to propose that this episode be brought to a close. "One thing however is certain, that the activities and behaviour of certain members of your committee has caused the relationship between your organisation and myself to be severely strained and that a great deal of tact and diplomacy will be required in the future if fences are to be mended."

"I reiterate that Wealdstone FC is in safe hands and that my personal commitment will never waiver. We are on course for success."

Mr Clifton then stunned the meeting by promptly leaving and giving members no opportunity to quiz him.

In their response to Mr Clifton, the Supporters Club categorically refuted his claims, saying "we all have nothing but the club's interests at heart and to say otherwise is an affront to our association with Wealdstone FC."

Questions asked at the EGM, they said, "were sensible, reasonable and rational" and there was no intention to create mayhem and discontentment.

Chairman Ray Kemp said later: "We are not pursuing a personal vendetta and we don't have a problem with the board. We will continue as before, representing the views of supporters and we retain the right to ask pertinent questions until such time as the club's future is secure."

Mr Clifton said on Tuesday that he was "very close" to finalising a deal for the club's relocation, details of which he will announce at what is likely to be a hastily convened emergency general meeting of club members and shareholders.

It seems unlikely that the Supporters Club will receive any invitation to hear the plans at first hand.



Ray Kemp



Nick DuGard



Layne Patterson

League tables

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division

Table with columns: Club, p, w, d, l, a, pts. Rows include Camb City, Dover, Gloucester, Bromsgrove, Farnborough, Worcester, Halesowen, Dartford, Dover, V8 Rugby, Watlington, Wealdstone, Rushmore, Moor Green, Chesham, Silverstone, Poole, Crawley, Goswold, Weymouth.

WALTHAM LEAGUE Premier Division

Table with columns: Club, p, w, d, l, a, pts. Rows include Redbridge, Kingsbury, Aylesbury, Epsom, Woking, Grays, Marlow, Garsham, Wivenhoe, Wokingham, Hayes, Windsor, Dagenham, Rye House, Hendon, Staines, Rickmansworth, St Albans, Basinstoke, Berkhamstead, Harrow B, Leyton-Wing.

Division One

Table with columns: Club, p, w, d, l, a, pts. Rows include Chesham, Bromley, Barking, Hitchin, Watton, Tonbridge, Aveley, Yeading, Molesey, Chalfont St P, Whyteleafe, Bognor, Harlow, Dulwich, Epsom, Uxbridge, Croydon, Hemel Hempstead, Heybridge, Mel Poole, Worthing.

Division Two North

Table with columns: Club, p, w, d, l, a, pts. Rows include Slivergrove, Vaux Mot, Bilericacy, Ware, Royston, Berkhamstead, Kingsbury, Epsom, Rainham, Saffron, Purfleet, Hertford, Witham, Collier Row, Barton, Tilbury, Hornchurch, Hemel Hempstead, Basilton, Clapton, Friley, Ting.

* 3 pts deducted by league.

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Banned Bobby misses Stones are sunk by two goal Tony

LEADING goalscorer Bobby Hutchinson sits out Wembley's visit to bottom of the table Worthing on Saturday as he is suspended for an accumulation of bookings.

Against a side which has conceded 102 league goals this season Wembley, who have no injury worries, will have a dual aim - three points to get away from the danger zone, and a big boost to their goal average.

Harrow Borough's quest for points to escape relegation sees them with a tough home game against third in the table Aylesbury.

Colin Payne is still sidelined with his abdominal strain, while Mark Barnard and Mark Pye are both having treatment for injuries but are expected to be fit.

Wealdstone will again be without Jim Watson for their game with Waterlooville on Saturday as he completes a three match ban.

Defender Paul Morris has still not recovered from a back injury and keeper Dave Coles continues to struggle with a

knee injury. Dave Hudson again deputises.

Edgware visit Hemel Hempstead on Saturday and could be without Gerry Brennan, who has a calf injury and Andy Ferguson who has flu. Eugene Flynn is expected to play despite an ankle ligation injury.

Kingsbury have a tough task away to league leaders Stevenage on Saturday. Bobby

Cook and Robbie James are manager Frank O'Brien's injury doubts.

Rayners Lane have a difficult game at Bicester who won 2-0 at Lane earlier in the season. Manager Don Durkin will have top scorer Kevin Langston back after missing the defeat at Milton. Roland Matthews has an Achilles tendon injury but is expected to be fit.

Soccer fixtures

Saturday March 23: Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Wealdstone v Waterlooville (Lower Mead, 3pm). Vauxhall League Premier Division: Harrow Borough v Aylesbury Utd (Earlsmead, 3pm). Vauxhall League Division One: Worthing v Wembley. Vauxhall League Division Two North: Hemel Hempstead v Edgware Town; Stevenage Borough v Kingsbury Town. Hellenic League: Bicester Town v Rayners Lane. Suburban League: Edgware Res. v Wealdstone Res. (White Lion ground, 3pm). Tuesday March 26: Beazer Homes League Premier Division: Wealdstone v Bashley (Lower Mead, 7.30pm). Vauxhall League Division Two North: Basilton v Kingsbury Town. Wednesday March 27: Capital League: Colchester Utd v Wealdstone.

Waldstone 2 Dover 3 FORMER Lower Mead favourite Tony Lynch sunk his former club with a goal salvo on Tuesday night, writes John Comfort.

A clearly hyped up Lynch, on loan to Dover from Barnet, took just nine minutes to make Stones start regretting his departure when he ecstatically crashed the ball home from close range after a Nigel Donn free kick had been nodded down to him.

And a rout looked likely after rampant Dover went 2-0 up in the 26th minute, another ex-Stones player, Bert Davis, heading home a Jason Bartlett cross after Leo Donnellan had carelessly lost the ball just outside the area.

But Stones bravely batted back and they reduced the arrears after 33 minutes when giant keeper McCutcheon missed Mark Hopson's corner and the ball glanced into the net off the far post.

Three minutes later and it was all square when Donnellan broke on the left and crossed for Paul Goodison to head home.

A frail offside trap helped Stones to keep Dover at bay in the second half, although Ambrose went close when he outpaced Goyette and crashed a fierce shot against an upright.

Goodison had the ball in the net again for Stones but it was ruled out for offside and with seven minutes remaining it was Dover who grabbed the decider when Lynch raced onto Dixon's through ball and steered it past Hudson into the net.

Wealdstone: Hudson, Bartlett, Smart, Goyette (Kelly), Harrison, Donnellan, Hopson, Tapley, Goodison (Glipp), Blackburn, Cordice.

Police eject Dover fans

POLICE were called to Wealdstone's game with Dover on Tuesday after supporters from the Kent club, some clearly the worst for drink, attacked home fans. 10 Dover fans were escorted from the Lower Mead ground and police maintained a strong presence until the game was over.