

**St Albans City Youth Community Football Club**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020**  
**Meeting Held Via Zoom**

**Present**

Geoff Watts, Ian Woods, Sam Mardle, Andy Lawrence, Sarah Kropman, Robert Baker, Mervyn Morgan, Terry Edwards, Julian Hails, Ian Emmett, Adam Herron, Alam Jamil, Steve Mann

**Chairman's Report**

This has been a season like no other in the long history of St Albans City Youth. Just as we reached a point where we were heaving a sigh of relief at the prospect of an end to the awful spell of wet weather which disrupted so many fixtures in January and February, we were faced with the impact of the pandemic which has had such an impact on all of our lives. The Management and Trustees under the chairmanship of Sam Mardle have worked hard to deal with the many issues which have arisen and to keep the club on an even keel. They have had tremendous support and wise guidance from our newly appointed Commercial Manager Steve Mann. The 'Train at Home' programme devised by our Football Development Team of Charlie Boswell and Anthony Gosling, rightly recognised by the Herts FA with an award, has been a huge success and Press Officer Terry Edwards' unearthing of results and reports from days gone by have provided a fascinating source of interest and nostalgia. I'd like to thank you all for your support and understanding during this difficult time. Not every decision is going to gain the approval of everybody but the feedback that we have had has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive. It is greatly appreciated. Presentation Day this year was different to any of its predecessors. Thank you to all who helped make it happen and particularly to Jim Campbell who has put so much into compiling the brochure as a record of the most unusual of seasons. To all of you, officers, managers, assistants, coaches, parents / supporters and not least the players, please accept my best wishes with the hope that you remain safe and well. Thanks to the effort of the club's Covid committee we look forward to enjoying a resumption of live football in the near future. In the longer term we look forward to a special celebration of 50 years of St Albans City Youth in 2021.

**Secretary's Report**

A season which started brightly stalled because of the spring rains and then, when the weather improved, was brought to a premature end by an infected pangolin in China. This meant that our two small sided tournaments had to be cancelled and that the Presentation Day has had to take the form of a virtual on line exercise. In fact it is to the credit of the organisers that this is taking place at all. In addition the Club's coaching directors have managed to organise and run a scheme of home coaching exercises which are proving popular and effective. All this in a season which has seen the club move onto a more professional footing as it prepares for the future with the appointment of a full time Commercial Manager and Coaching and Football Administration Officers. In fact the Corona Virus lockdown has already seen the benefit of these appointments. The premature end of the season meant that all leagues and cup competitions remained unfinished so there are no successes to report here which is harsh on those who were in a good position to gain silverware when lockdown happened. We are of course grateful to all managers, coaches and team administrators for the time and work they put in to running the clubs teams. If it were not for them there would not be a St Albans City Youth. In addition we must thank their other halves and families for allowing them to find this time. The anti-climax which was the premature end of the season is particularly sad for those whose last this was as part of St Albans City Youth. This is the case for Andy Sibley's under 18

girls and Andy Martin and Dave Skinner's under 18 West boys. Both teams have been a credit to the club over the years and we wish all players a successful future on and off the pitch. So it is (hopefully) on to 2020/21 to see what that can throw at us.

### **Treasurers Report**

Profit for the year of £36,153

Makes up for loss of the past 2 years

Main reason is due to the registration fee increase to cover Employee costs which were not for the full year.

### **Balance Sheet**

Cash of £164,657

Debtors and creditors are timing of payments biggest being pitch maintenance at Highfield

### **Income**

Fees increases

Grants and donations

Football foundation, Sports England 948 Foundation, NLT. Also £5k from Steve Mann marathon Gift Aid - amount we can claim is reduced.

### **Community Related**

Mostly self-financing

No 6 a side

Good profitability from Saturday Morning, camps and Community Coaching lead by Charlie and Anthony

### **Expenditure**

Match pitches - very little rebate

Training - stopped in March

Business Management - higher due to the Employees

### **Election of Officers**

Andy Lawrence (Trustee) took over the Chair for the election of officers.

### **Officers Standing for Season 2020-21**

Chairman of Football Committee – Geoff Watts

Chair of Trustees – Sam Mardle

Hon Treasurer – Robert Baker

Hon Secretary – Ian Woods

Head of Girls Section – Sarah Kropman

Press Officer – Terry Edwards

The committee were elected en bloc

**The meeting concluded at 7:20pm**