

TRUSTEES REPORT 2020/21 SEASON

The season was of course severely affected by the COVID pandemic and although activity was limited, the club did its best to adhere to the guidance offered on a regular basis by the Football Association and our County Football Association to make it both safe and successful.

Training started again in late June 2020 when our players were only allowed to train in groups of no more than 6 people. Very few of our players had left the club during the period March – June 2020 when the first period of lockdown hit.

Competitive football started in August 2020 and league fixtures from September. Once again, the club followed updated guidance to ensure that games could be played as safely as possible whilst adhering to issues of social distancing, cleaning equipment and safe gathering of spectators. Risk assessments had to be written and were updated as and when the guidance was updated. Having returned to action successfully with all required measures in place we then had the next period of lockdown from December until the end of March.

Use of the clubhouse facilities was prohibited from the start of the season but once we were allowed to “open up” the club had strict measures on “one in one out” access to the toilet facilities with separate entry and exit points into the building. The tuck shop on reopening was initially through a serving hatch (window) to the outside. Once we were able to use our normal facilities again this was done using social distancing to include queueing with separate entrance / exit points and users wearing masks at all times whilst in the building.

Nevertheless, as the Country gradually “opened up” from March 2021 things were gradually returning to some level of normality by the end of the season. A QR poster was introduced to which all visitors to the site were asked to log into to aid track and trace measures. Football activity commenced again after the 2nd period of lockdown from April 2021 although some games had to be cancelled where players had unfortunately contacted the virus.

Our new Kickers section for 5–6-year-olds finally began in April 2021. Recruitment of players was an immediate success and gave us encouragement to have successful recruitment to our under 7 and 8 teams in the future where past playing numbers were of concern. This is crucial to our long-term sustainability.

The club was pleased to report that there were no reported incidents throughout the season of anyone becoming COVID positive as a result of either playing or spectating at the club. Our members and their families adopted a very responsible attitude to the measures we put in place for which the club is very grateful. We adopted a serious and responsible attitude to implementing all the guidance given to us by various parties and we emerged strongly at the end of June 2021. This gave us the confidence to run our annual small, sided football competition in July 2021 but with strict operating procedures still in place. These protective measures will continue to be in place for as long as we are required to do so.

From a financial perspective 2020/21 was a challenging year. The reduced income from members subs and fundraising activities put pressure on club finances. Members subscriptions were paid on a strict monthly basis with “payment free” months in place during the lockdown period to avoid a potential issue of refunds. However, our members (parents) were keen to offer the club as much support as possible.

We were unable to operate fundraising activities during the season to include car boot sales,

Christmas raffles etc and as stated above our tuck shop income was significantly reduced compared to usual. However, the club was able to apply for continued grant support for loss of income from our local council which was well received. Funding from the Football Foundation was also forthcoming to be used on specific virus protection purposes e.g., signage, PPE, extra cleaning materials, maintenance of the clubhouse. As shown in the accounts a "Return to Action" grant was received late in the season and the "committed but unspent" balance was carried forward into the new financial year 2021/22.

The club was also successful in applying for a 5-year grant from the Football Foundation towards the improvement in our pitches although the first payment received in June 2021 was carried forward into 2021/22 as the work had not started by 30th June.

Whilst the club successfully controlled its spending in the face of the above issues, our main spend continued to be on pitch and clubhouse maintenance to ensure they were kept in good condition once we were allowed to use them again.

The club accounts show a small in year surplus once again demonstrating the robust nature of our finances whilst acknowledging the support from external bodies that we were able to advantage of during a very challenging period.

THORNES JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB**FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2020 TO 30 JUNE 2021****INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD - ALL ACCOUNTS**

INCOME	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	EXPENDITURE	2019/20 £	2020/21 £
Subscriptions	17423.00	15141.52	Insurances	702.70	714.86
Raffles	814.00	1218.00	League Fees	638.00	342.00
Sponsorship / Donations	1837.35	1400.00	Referees	1195.00	1745.00
Miscellaneous	1101.91		Miscellaneous	100.00	50.00
Presentation Day	0.00	0.00	Presentation Day	895.38	0.00
Refreshments	2532.14	2234.39	Refreshments	1054.56	774.82
Fundraising Events	1244.10	0.00	Fundraising Events	74.02	0.00
Fine Refunds	20.00	138.00	Fines	50.00	148.00
Xmas Raffle	886.00	0.00	Xmas Raffle	175.00	59.00
Facility Hire Donations	1900.00	1115.00	Winter Training	10796.00	2345.00
Merchandise	40.00	0.00	Kit	3515.96	3898.49
Gala	280.00	0.00	Gala	215.00	0.00
Bank Interest	18.65	2.47	Queens Drive / Clubhouse	4853.98	8515.63
Fencing Grants - WMDC / FF	33072.84	0.00	Fencing : Pugh-Lewis	33072.84	0
Wakefield Council - Support Grant	8000.00	13750.86	Office	18.00	0.00
Football Foundation COVID 19Grant		500.00	Covid 19 Protection	0.00	633.87
Football Foundation Pitch Grants	8675.34	2500.00	Pitch Maintenance	19480.00	16880.00
Football Foundation Return to Action Grant		536.12	Football Foundation Return to Action Grant		536.12
Kickers Kit Sales		466.50	Kickers Kit		437.13
			Raffle Prizes	39.94	57.98
			Training Courses	390.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	77845.33	39002.86	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	77266.38	37137.90
BALANCE BFWD 1 JULY 2020	19307.40	19886.35			
SUB TOTAL	97152.73	58889.21			
LESS EXPENDITURE THIS PERIOD	77266.38	37137.90			
BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	19886.35	21751.31	BALANCE MADE UP OF AS FOLLOWS:		
			BANK ACCOUNT - MAIN	13144.35	18437.56
			BANK ACCOUNT - OTHERS	19.94	19.94
			PETTY CASH FLOAT	110.00	355.00
			FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT	12003.06	10506.53
			YEAR END ADJUSTMENTS		
			WMDC SUPPORT GRANT - IN ADVANCE	-2000.00	
			FF PITCH GRANT IN ADVANCE	-2500.00	-6850.00
			SUBS - CREDIT TO 21/22	-2047.00	
			SUBS - ARREARS	1156.00	
			RETURN TO ACTION BALANCE		-763.88
			WINTER TRAINING PAYMENT IN ADVANCE		1114.00
			GALA INCOME IN ADVANCE		-1067.84
			TOTAL BALANCES	19886.35	21751.31
			SURPLUS / DEFICIT ON YEAR	578.94	1864.96