

Essex Walking Football League
Minutes of the 2025 A.G.M
Venue: Billericay Town football Club
Date: 24th November 2025
Start 7.30



Register: Billericay Town, Chelmsford City, Clacton Knights, Colchester Phoenix, Grays Athletic, Harlow Town Pirates, Little Oakley, Stanway Rovers.



Apologies for Absence: Kevin Preston, Simon Crump.

Those Present: Derek Hornsey, Richard Coleman, Trevor Ridley, Robin Ogilive, Gary Murphy, Jake Fairman Essex County FA.

Minutes of last Meeting: Proposed Billericay Town, Seconded Harlow Town Pirates.



Chairman's Report: Firstly, I would like to thank you all for coming. I would also like to thank the committee for all their hard work throughout the season. On the whole this season has been quite good. I would like to think that 2026 will be even better than this last year. If we all put in the effort, hopefully this will happen.

Secretaries Report: On the whole this season has been an improvement on the previous one, We also, now play our 50s at Billericay on a Saturday. We have also started a 60s Division on a Saturday. As the league continues to grow we will need to find another venue for Saturday to insure we keep the fixtures to a maximum off four weeks in between tournaments, or another day of the week. Our 60s, 65s and 70s play at Billericay Town FC. This is a far better facility as it allows us to organise hospitality after each tournament in the Bar, which has been a big success. The expansion of the Tuesday Divisions is not a problem as we can book extra pitches on the outside pitch therefore divisions can expand to 10.

The feedback from players this year is that nearly everyone has enjoyed the football. The Committee are still looking at ways to improve everything we do. The 50's would like shorter times in between tournaments.

It was hoped that with the introduction of the new Standard Code of Rules, especially the 4 accumulated not walking offences, that it would have an effect on the amount of running that took place. Unfortunately, this does not seem to have worked. As the season has progressed most of the teams are constantly reminding their players to slow down.

This season only match officials that have taken the FA Walking Football Course can officiate at our tournaments. The course sets out the Rules for Walking Football it is up to the individual to put them into practise.

Having seen a number of training sessions, the biggest problem I've seen is the amount of running that goes on and is not checked by anyone.

Congratulations to all of Divisional winners:

50s Div One Colchester Phoenix Yellow
50s Div Two Little Oakley White
50s Div Three Cheshunt
60s Saturday Bexley
60s Div One Blackmore Athletic Blue
60s Div Two Bexley Reds
65s Div One Wakering
65s Div Two Leyton Orient Red
70s Div One Chelmsford City Clarets
70s Div Two Norwich

Challenge Cup winners and Runner up:

50s Cheshunt – Bexley Red
60s Saturday Bexley – Little Oakley
60s Romford – Blackmore Athletic
65s Wakering - Southend
70s Little Oakley – Barnet
75s Norwich - Barnet

Fair Play Award: 50s Eastwood Falcons, 60s Harlow Town Pirates, 65s, Stones Athletic, 70s, Romford.

The committee would like to thank everyone for making it an enjoyable season.

Special thankyou goes to Trevor Ridley for the endless hours he has put into not only insuring that the website keeps up to date but also him being the League Treasurer. Also to Robin for insuring that all of your players are registered. A a big thank you to Kevin for all of his hard work, sorting out the fixtures as well as the Cup competitions.

Gary and Simon are our two Representative Managers. They give up an enormous amount of their time to insure our players represent the League in the correct manner. Congratulations to both Managers and all of the players that have represented the League.

When you are not part of a committee you don't tend to realise how much time is spent in organising any league. So, thank you, Trevor, Derek, Kevin, Gary, Robin and Simon. It's been a pleasure working with you all.

Treasurers Report:

As stated in the notes to the accounts for the financial year April to December 2024 - Following the deficit accrued in the year 2023-24 of £1218.24 the league managed an excess of income over expenditure for the year April 2024 to December 2024 of £3775.79. This was mainly due to charging for hospitality to cover those costs. An increase in number of teams, a decrease in the cost of running the representative teams and a decrease in the cost of the League website.

As stated in the notes to the accounts the Metro Bank account had the sum of £148.74 in it. This sum was transferred to the main RBS account and the Metro Bank account was closed on 4th June 2024.

The current financial year to date is showing a healthy excess but this will change as invoices are still due.

An interim financial forecast has been carried out for the 2026 season to ensure that the League finances are sufficient to ensure that the League's activities are fully funded. A full financial forecast will be developed once the total number of teams and leagues are known as well as likely costs for pitch hire and the supply of hospitality. Hospitality will continue to be provided on Tuesdays at Billericay. Unfortunately, it is not possible to provide hospitality for Saturday leagues at Billericay. This will mean that match day fees at Billericay on Tuesdays will remain at £60 while Saturdays will remain at £50.

With the current information available with respect to number of teams and likely expenditure the forecast for 2026 is for the League to break even.

Chelmsford City asked if an E.G.M could be arranged for early in 2026 to bring the clubs up to date with the finances for season 2025. This was agreed and a date will be set when the accounts have been finalised.

Registration Secretary: I would like to thank all Club Secretaries for helping register every one of their players on the registration Portal. I would also like to thank Rob Craven from Essex County FA for all of his help sorting out the problems with the system.

Election Of officers: As there were no applicants for managerial positions, the current Management Committee were unanimously voted back in.

Constitution: Until every Club has notified the League of their intentions for next season it is impossible to sort out the constitution for next season. Clubs were given a date of the end of the second week in January to enter their intentions. After that a Management Committee Meeting will be arranged to sort out the constitution.

Laws of the Game: It was proposed that the amended Rules be voted in on Block. Chelmsford city asked if two Rules could be voted on separately. (1) One step penalty. It was proposed that it be altered to One Metre with no limitation on the number of steps. At one metre no backward step would be allowed past the one-metre mark. It was agreed that the match official would put down a marker so that the penalty taker would know where the one metre was. Also, the ball coming off of the goal keeper and going above the cross bar would now go to the side line for a kick in. And not back to the keeper.

Referee Secretary: Referees were stopped from officiating this season until they had taken The FA Walking football Match officials course. Chelmsford asked if all of the match officials that are refereeing at the moment had taken the Course. A number of the original match officials that were unable to take the course on that specific date were removed from refereeing. The county has now realised that they need to ensure that more courses are arranged and have put forward a date in February.

Representative Football: Gary thanked everyone that had participated over the season. The League would like to know from any team if they have players that would like to be considered for any of the rep teams at 50, 60 and 65. Both Gary and Simon's numbers can be found on the Leagues website.

A.O.B:

The Referees Secretary put a proposal forward for all clubs to mark the match official on the whole game system after each match. This was not accepted but clubs did agree to inform the committee if they thought any match official needed looking at and also the reason why.

A proposal was put forward that we should adopt the three touch Rule. This would stop time wasting on the ball. This proposal was not accepted.

Secretary: The League have entered two teams into the 75s, this will allow players of that age from clubs that do not have sufficient number to make up a team. Individual players can put their names forward for inclusion in either of these two teams. The committee have been asked if it was possible for divisional runners up could be presented with a medal. Instead of an extra cost it was proposed that instead of giving medals for third and fourth place in the Cup competitions. Just winners and runners up medals for Cup Competitions, and give Divisional Runner up a medal. A vote was taken and passed.

Jake Fairman Essex County FA: Jake thanked everyone for their hard work in making sure the League was organised properly.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 21.12