

**Westbury Football Club Report 2018**  
**For Westbury Annual Parish Meeting**

Unfortunately, neither the Club or myself are able to be present at tonight's meeting due to us having a football engagement that clashes with this evening.

On behalf of the Club can I thank you for giving the Club the opportunity to present a short report for the Annual Parish Meeting and we trust that the Parish Council will have a good and successful meeting this evening.

It goes without saying that the Football Club would like to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to the Parish Council for their tireless work and efforts having provided and now maintaining the excellent facilities that the Club have at their disposal to be able to use for its home fixtures. The majority of the Clubs and Match Officials that have visited the Club again this season have all made very complimentary remarks regarding the changing facilities that are available with the spacious dressing rooms giving the players plenty of room to change together with being able to have a nice hot shower after the game. Also the Club would like to thank Vicky Webb for her work, together with Ken Thurlow and Robin Bone for their help and assistance to the Club throughout the football season it is very much appreciated.

For the eighth year in succession the Club have again participated in the bottom division of the North Bucks and District Football League, it appears that we like it there so much we do not wish to move to a higher division or play elsewhere so they say, but we are playing at a level that the Club can sustain without too much of a problem.

This season has been a real nightmare for the Club having to start the season in August and now we are struggling to complete our fixtures by the end of April, despite the fewer fixtures for this season. The league changed its way of producing fixtures this season going over to a computerised system which has been a real headache with the fixtures not being on a constant basis playing one week and then not the next. Everything was going along on this basis until we reached the first weekend in December when the weather intervened. Since that weekend a combination of inclement weather of frost, snow and continuous rain has caused cancellations of numerous fixtures for the Club and the league in general. We have had to cancel five home fixtures in this period of time due to our pitch being unfit to play on. As a result of these cancellations the league did schedule seven matches in eighteen days for the Club but two of these have ended up being cancelled leaving the Club to play a further four matches before April 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 to complete its season which should see a respectable final league position.

At the time of going to press for the record the Club to date have played 19 of their League Matches of which 9 have been won, 2 drawn, and 8 have been lost giving a total of 29 points, three points less than this time last season and currently sit in sixth place in the league table. Although it looks more likely that the final position

will be either seventh or eighth as the teams around the Club have numerous games still to play to complete their season. There have been 51 goals scored for and 49 goals scored against the Club. The Club has also played in 3 cup matches, against opposition from higher divisions of the league of which two have resulted in defeat and one was victorious.

I am also very pleased to report that the Football Club at the present time is still in a strong and healthy position as in the previous two years. We have maintained the Membership of the Club with the players, some living in the village, who have wanted to play football for the Club this season although we have had forty-four players turn out for the Club, many do not play on a regular basis but are happy to play on the odd occasion. This still seems to be the modern day trend for Adult open age 11 v 11 football and not just with Westbury Football Club.

Once again the Club are in no different situation to all the other Football Clubs up and down the country at grass roots level, but I am relatively confident that the Club will continue to survive in its current format for the foreseeable future.

Once again our many thanks for giving us this opportunity to give a short report to the Parish Council.

David Grainge  
Chairman / Secretary Westbury Football Club