



City of Liverpool FC

Coronavirus Update #2





With the country remaining in the grip of the coronavirus crisis, our focus remains on supporting those in our community who face a frightening combination of isolation and vulnerability.

To this end City of Liverpool FC has mobilised COLFC Community and COLFC Welfare as part of the Liverpool City Region social solidarity movement, alongside our Everton and Liverpool supporting friends at Fans Supporting Foodbanks and the Spirit of Shankly supporters' union.

We've also been working closely with great local causes An Hour for Others and Kit It Out.

We continue to provide weekly food parcels to those in need and will shortly be launching a fund-raising campaign to purchase PPE for care workers in homes where both workers and elderly residents have been left criminally exposed to the lethal dangers of the Covid-19 virus.



CLUB

AGM

Although football seems a world away from the situation, we find ourselves in, the club that provides us with a sporting focus for our community solidarity has to continue to function.

Following the members' registration process for the virtual AGM, the process of submitting nominations for candidates to stand for the board of directors has been undertaken.

The existing directors standing down at this AGM following their three-year term are Paul Manning, Peter Furmedge, Cathy Long and Peter Manning.

Members will receive details of those nominated for election and the voting process in line with the timetable issued on registration for the AGM.

Of the directors standing down, Peter Manning has informed us that he will not be seeking re-election and will therefore be vacating the position of Club Secretary.

The club owes Peter a huge debt of gratitude for the time, effort and stress he has invested in ensuring that the role of club secretary has been undertaken to the highest standard.

We also thank him for being the perfect club ambassador in his dealings with other clubs and the various football authorities that we work with.

Perhaps only those who have fulfilled the club secretary role will fully appreciate both the workload and the level of responsibility involved.



ANNOUNCEMENT

With the official end of the European football season still to be announced, and uncertainty still surrounding the timetable for, and indeed the possibility of, completing Premier League and EFL fixtures and European competitions, it is impossible to plan for the resumption of football activities with anything approaching a degree of certainty.

Nevertheless, we can announce that our pre-season programme, whenever that may be, will include a fixture with FC United of Manchester.

We were delighted to accept the invitation to visit Broadhurst Park, a magnificent example of a community football facility that we would be proud to emulate here in Liverpool.

Being the most high-profile community owned club in the region, FCUM has a distinctly left leaning supporter culture and provided the founders of COLFC with some important pointers in our pre-formation period. This will be a historic fixture between the two cities' premier community owned clubs and something we have looked forward to since COLFC was just a mad idea being kicked around by some local football activists.



THE WAY

HOME

Following on from a meeting with council officers in March, hosted by our partners at the Fazakerley Community Federation, a further meeting with officers from Liverpool City Council's Regeneration team was held last week via Zoom.

While we are still at the pre-public consultation stage, details will not be divulged on public forums, however, it is fair to say that things have moved apace in recent months.

The club places on the record our thanks to the city council's Regeneration team and to Fazakerley Community Federation for their help and support with this.

Whilst we continue to work towards a home of our own, the club will play next season as tenants of Bootle FC at the Berry Street Garage Stadium.

It is fair to say that a transformation has been taking place at the Vesty Rd ground following Berry St Garage's involvement with Bootle.

Prior to the premature cessation of our season, a huge upgrade in the clubhouse and changing facilities had taken place. Also, while this

may seem a minor thing, COLFC benefitted hugely from having a container sited alongside the Dodge Kop.

This facility gave us important storage space as well as somewhere where the matchday administration could be undertaken.

For the forthcoming season, the improvements have continued. In particular, a new hospitality lounge has been installed alongside the decking at the “Romans” end of the ground.

This will be a help in professionalising our hospitality for visiting clubs and football officials.



NEW KIT

2020/21

Being a fashion-conscious lot (but somehow managing to look anything but!), COLFC supporters have always taken an interest in the design of the club kit.

Since formation, this has led us to purchase adidas team kits. While this has always involved a greater expense to the club than some of the offers made from our leagues' commercial partners, COLFC kits have carried a degree of gravitas and our first purple shirt was included in a travelling exhibition of Iconic Football Shirts curated to coincide with the 2018 World Cup.



In addition, last year, COLFC was chosen to take part in the “Purple Sole” launch event for a limited-edition Merseyside adidas Trimm Trab

range. In previous close seasons we have considered other kit manufacturers and we will be doing so again.

For example, the NPL's association with Kappa would enable us to make some savings on the cost of adidas kits – as long as it looks good!

Hopefully, as the weeks pass, we will begin to see where the end of the current crisis begins. In the meantime, please watch out for our updates and help us to spread the word through sharing on your social media.

Also, please continue to look after yourselves and your loved ones by following the strictest guidance on social distancing and the isolation of our vulnerable elders, those with disabilities and those with health conditions.

COLFC sends solidarity and support to the essential workers that are keeping us afloat through this crisis. “The people choose their own heroes”.

COLFC Board of Directors