**WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY SCHOOLS’ FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (WCSFA)**

**‘THE WAY FORWARD & FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOLS FOOTBALL IN WARWICKSHIRE’**

The Problem

* Serious concerns have been raised over the future of WCSFA in its present format – due in part to the falling numbers of key personnel on the WCSFA Council- and the lack of additional volunteers to replace them. At present, the Vice Chairman position is vacant; the Primary Schools Competitions Co-ordinator position is not yet up and running; the Secondary Schools Competitions Secretary position is vacant, owing to a recent resignation; Experienced Council members have recently retired and have not been replaced and there is the strong possibility of losing other key people on Council in the coming years. The recent situation at the Primary schools Finals in January highlighted the urgent need to change the present WCSFA structure. There is also a need to look at further ways to develop schools football in Warwickshire.
* Secretary Rob Heath has recently discussed these concerns with members of the ESFA and also looked at strategies we could try to overcome them. Following this meeting with the ESFA and after much discussion with WCSFA Council, the following proposal was put forward that would change the present structure of the WCSFA District Associations within the County- but would hopefully alleviate some of the difficulties arising from the lack of volunteers on Council – and hopefully help develop further, schools football in Warwickshire.

The Proposal

* To amalgamate the 9 current districts into 2 new districts (please also refer to document /flow chart ‘Proposed Warwickshire County Schools FA Structure’);
  + NORTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHOOLS ALL AGE DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Nuneaton Secondary (12 schools); Rugby Secondary (12 schools); Bedworth Primary (14 schools); Nuneaton Primary (32 schools); Northern Area (22 schools) and Rugby Primary (35 schools)

* + SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE SCHOOLS ALL AGE DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Mid and South Warwickshire Secondary (22 schools); Central Warwickshire Primary (39 schools); South Warwickshire Primary (57 schools)

* Schools to affiliate directly with the county (monitored by the paid county Administrator) with Districts then paid a grant from the county. This would reduce workload for districts who could focus on competition and representative football.
* The present Secondary Schools County Cup competitions organised by WCSFA to be re-structured to provide progressive competition from District to County? The North & South Districts could organise their own competitions potentially with North & South winners forming a ‘Champions League’ type competition rather than everyone entering county cups and having to travel.
* The Primary schools competitions – in the short term, WCSFA to arrange for an appropriate sports company to organise and run the Primary competitions. These can then be phased back to districts once structures are in place.
* WCSFA to continue to organise (and hopefully increase) County teams which would be strengthened through strong District rep team set ups.

Next Steps

* All District members invited to committee meeting to initiate conversation on the future of the WCSFA. Meeting held 12th April. 2 District Secretaries sent apologies, no response from 7 therefore none attended. Future discussed and proposal developed by county association members present.
* Secretary Rob Heath would send details of the new proposal /structure to all WCSFA schools and District Association Secretaries for consultation. Completed April/May 2018 – Comments received from 6/9 districts, all in support of restructure.
* Consultation meeting with hospitality offered to districts and volunteers. Held on 29th May – 3 districts represented, Kieren Laverick (ESFA) and 4 county members present. Positive discussions held with all concerns being answered with positive solutions.
* Proposal to be sent to ESFA for authorisation at 9th June council meeting. Sent to Andy Weston on 2nd June.
* Districts to vote on proposals at AGM’s.
* Proposal to be included as a motion on the WCSFA AGM Agenda and voted upon. The date for the AGM is Monday June 18th- 7.00pm at Leamington Football Club.