



IPSWICH & SUFFOLK CLUB

October 2020

Dear Member,

We are now approaching the end of the Furlough Scheme which has been a temporary lifeline for the Club, but most importantly for our staff who since the beginning of Lockdown in the UK, have been receiving their full contractual pay during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We re-opened the club at the beginning of August and were delighted that members came to support us throughout that month and subsequently into September and October too. That support has been greatly appreciated by staff, management, and The Directors alike.

Since March we have relied on our cash reserves as we have not been generating sufficient revenue thus our financial position has been hit very hard. This was expected as the fixed costs of running Archdeacon's House remain and even though the Directors have taken measures to mitigate this income deficit, we still need to safeguard the future of the Club.

The financial year just ended 30th September 2020 will see us barely breaking even despite receiving considerable Government and local authority support totalling £84,000. You will no doubt be aware that the Government support reduces dramatically after the end of October and without taking any action we will continue to expend significant cash in the order of £13,000 per month.

Therefore, as a direct consequence of Covid-19 and the reduced trade at the Club, it is with great sadness that we now have to inform you that the staff have been recently consulted about redundancy measures. Please be assured that although these measures are unfortunately necessary, we will still be able to maintain a sufficient level of staffing throughout the club and in due course (fingers crossed) we should be able to rebound after restrictions are lifted and demand increases.

In the meantime, our General Manager, Robert Coppin, is constantly reviewing and making alternative plans as future events become viable and as Government announcements allow. Last week you will have seen a communication from him advertising TWO Restaurant Nights next month plus a limited capacity Annual Members Dinner (AMD) on Friday 4th December.

With these recent developments in mind, the support from you, our members is critical to the future of our Club, particularly when you come to renew your subscriptions next March.

There is still some way to go before this crisis is passed but we urge you to continue your support of The Ipswich & Suffolk Club in anticipation of functions restarting and enabling you to enjoy the full facilities of our Club, our little oasis, once again.

Best Wishes

Keith Ferguson
Chairman