

**Report of the Directors and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

**for**

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

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**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

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for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

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**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Company Information  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

**COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

J Bell  
G Bowes  
T Black  
D Collinge  
M Cundick  
R Duncan  
L Jasper  
L Kilcran  
C Stockdale (Chairperson)

**SECRETARY:**

N Raper

**TREASURER:**

A Matthews

**REGISTERED OFFICE:**

Blackwell Meadows  
Grange Road  
Darlington  
Co. Durham  
DL1 5NR

**REGISTERED NUMBER:**

7077 (England and Wales)

**ACCOUNTANTS:**

Sochall Smith Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Queens Court Business Centre  
Newport Road  
Middlesbrough  
Cleveland  
TS1 5EH

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Committee Report  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

**Committee Report for the Year Ending 30 June 2018**

The year ending 30 June 2018 has been a year of progress for Darlington FC Supporters Group (DFCSG), albeit with several challenges along the way.

**Ground Development**

The most notable challenge and success has been the financial support that DFCSG has provided to Darlington Football Club to enable them to continue to re-develop Blackwell Meadows.

The major proportion of DFCSG's funding was provided by the very successful Community Share offers which amounted to £107,850 being paid over to the football club during the accounting year. Some of this was the residue from the previous accounting year with the remainder being collected for the successful pitch improvements, the new stand groundworks and of course the extra seating.

This funding enabled Darlington FC to upgrade Blackwell Meadows to ground grading B level, ensuring full compliance with ground qualification requirements for promotion to the National League.

Of course, DFCSG were only the facilitators in the fundraising. The real heroes were the wonderful and generous fans of Darlington Football Club, who provided the vital funds.

**Transport to matches**

DFCSG has continued to organise convenient transport for our fans to away matches.

The Fans' Travel Club organised by Glen Bowes continues to be successful with coaches travelling to all away games. Not only is this a comfortable and cost effective way for fans to travel to away matches it also generates a surplus which increases the amount DFCSG can re-invest in the club. Last season, the surplus was £1,500.

**General Fund Raising**

The DFCSG are directly involved in a number of fundraising activities which have provided vital funds to support the operations of the Football Club.

DFCSG organises the match-day 50:50 draw under the supervision of Glen Bowes, the proceeds go directly to the Football Club on the day and don't feature in accounts. Nevertheless, last season's 50:50 raised £13,292

DFCSG operates the 'Fans Lottery' and this generated £19,225 for the Football Club.

The DFCSG also manages the bucket collections at home matches. These initially supported the move to Blackwell Meadows but the proceeds now go to the 'Ground Development Fund' to support future infrastructure projects. We continue to be asked questions relating to the bucket collections which are ear marked for ground development and although the large infrastructure improvements such as the seats are met with the community share scheme, we still have some small improvements that are needed around the ground. One such improvement which we funded was the new portable programme kiosk, which is used for the sale of programmes and 50/50 tickets. As we are a Community Benefit Society, we were eligible to receive assistance through Northumbrian Water's 'Just an Hour' community scheme and a team of their volunteers paved an area of verge to accommodate the kiosk, which we thank them for.

Over the year £7,073 was collected.

The DFCSG this year launched the 'Boost the Budget' scheme to assist the football club in funding the 17/18 playing budget. This was something completely new for the DFCSG to facilitate and the take up from our amazing fans was incredible.

The total amount collected amounted to £41,945 with £32,945 being paid to the club in the 17/18 accounting year (£9,000 was paid in June 2017, therefore included in the 16/17 accounting year figures).

Rob Duncan organised a couple of fund raising evenings throughout the year, which included an evening with the Darlo Rat Pack and an evening with our very own David Johnston and his punk band. Both these evenings were very well attended and funds amounting to £1,525 were raised.

**Fan Engagement and Communication**

DFCSG worked with the Football Club to create a new Supporter Liaison Officer (SLO) role that has subsequently been filled by David Collinge. The SLO acts as a bridge between the club itself and supporters of the club. The SLO builds relations with the club management and the fans through two-way communication, informing supporters about decisions made by the club and informing the club about the fan's point of view.

We also continued engagement with supporters via our regular page in the match programme. We also provided regular email bulletins to our members as well as communicating via our web site and social media accounts. We continue to provide face to face contact through the 'Fans Table' in the bar at home matches.

Co-ordinated by DFCSG Board Member, Rob Duncan, we distributed fixture posters at regular intervals that have been displayed at prominent locations in many retail outlets and pubs across town. As ever, we are very grateful for the support provided by Brad Woods' Technocopy for printing the posters.

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Committee Report  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

**Community Engagement**

Under the direction of DFCSG's Tony Waters, Football Club representatives led by Geoff Gale (ably assisted by 'Mr Q') have addressed the assemblies at several of the town's primary schools to raise awareness of the Football Club. We have also engaged with the Town Mission, culminating in their members attending a home match. We also assisted Prostate Cancer UK to stage an awareness event at Blackwell Meadows at one of our home matches. We also held our 5th food bank collection for Kings Church and again we would like to thank our fans for their generosity.

Due to an increase in his work commitments, Tony Waters had to stand down from the DFCSG board during the season and the vacant community engagement position was subsequently advertised. Unfortunately we had no applicants to fill the position and as a result we lost some momentum in community engagement. It will be a key focus of the coming year and we hope to make significant progress in this area.

**Infrastructure**

Two new board members with construction industry experience were elected at the 2017 AGM, Lee Kilcran and Malcolm Cundick.

Shortly after joining the board, it was agreed that they would establish a team of suitably experienced volunteers, with the primary aim of assessing future ground grading requirements and developing options for meeting these at Blackwell Meadows. The team now boasts a range of professional experience including civil and structural engineering, ground engineering, planning, architecture, quantity surveying and contract law.

Lee and Malcolm extend their thanks to Simon Brodie, Steve Bass, Jon Saddington and Ian Walker for their input to the team over the past year.

In brief, work undertaken over the course of this year has included:

" Production of an internal document by Lee Kilcran and Simon Brodie, which lays out future Ground Grading/Football League Membership requirements and outlines the challenges these pose in relation to Blackwell Meadows;

" Meetings between Lee Kilcran and Northumbrian Water to firmly establish the development constraints posed by the presence of the high pressure water main underlying the ground;

" Commissioning of a topographical survey of Blackwell Meadows to enable computer aided design work (thanks to Duncan and Mike Bell for undertaking this work on a volunteer basis);

" Significant amounts of preliminary design work in order to establish potentially feasible options for meeting future Ground Grading/Football League Membership requirements on the current footprint at Blackwell Meadows;

" Production of an options appraisal regarding the temporary seated stands at Bishop Auckland;

Moving forward, it is anticipated that the infrastructure workload will continue to be centred on meeting future Ground Grading/Football League Membership requirements at Blackwell Meadows and/or the Sporting Village negotiations. The election of Jon Saddington to the board in 2018 will provide fresh impetus in this area.

**Governance of Darlington Football Club**

As of 30 June 2018, membership stood at 961 (down from 1082 in 2017). This drop is disappointing but the membership still represents a very significant proportion of the Football Club's fan base.

DFCSG's purchase of £30,000 of equity combined with the acquisition of £57,000 of equity via the Share Exchange Scheme linked to the Community Share Offer has increased DFCSG's voting rights in Darlington Football Club to over 80%, which represents a controlling interest and provides the ability for the DFCSG board to make changes to Football Club's Articles of Association as determined democratically by the DFCSG membership.

The DFCSG Board is currently working with the Football Club board to draft proposed amendments to the Articles to improve the governance of the Football Club for the benefit of all the shareholders. This will include the requirement for the adoption of a formal framework that sets out the relationship between the DFCSG & DFC Board's with clear roles, accountability and reporting procedures. This will help enable transparency in the performance of both Boards in achieving the objectives of the Club.

This implementation will move us significantly closer to our vision of a fans' owned Football Club, operating democratically, fairly and transparently in the interests of our fans, and the Darlington Community, which follows the model recommended by Supporters Direct.

Finally the Board of DFCSG would like to extend a 'thank you' to all our members and fans who have contributed to what turned out to be a very significant year in the history of Darlington Football

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Income Statement  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

Notes	30.6.18 £	30.6.17 £
<b>TURNOVER</b>	146,049	84,175
Administrative expenses	<u>101,806</u>	54,582
<b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>	44,243	29,593
Interest receivable and similar income	<u>20</u>	<u>16</u>
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION</b>	44,263	29,609
Tax on profit	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<u>44,263</u>	<u>29,609</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited (Registered number: 7077)**

**Balance Sheet  
30 June 2018**

	Notes	30.6.18 £	£	30.6.17 £	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	3		1,358		-
Investments	4		<u>305,090</u>		<u>248,790</u>
			306,448		248,790
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	5	238,849		130,999	
Cash at bank		<u>18,466</u>		<u>57,727</u>	
		257,315		188,726	
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>2,225</u>		<u>4,774</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>255,090</u>		<u>183,952</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			561,538		432,742
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	7		<u>319,061</u>		<u>234,528</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<u>242,477</u>		<u>198,214</u>
<b>RESERVES</b>					
Retained earnings			<u>242,477</u>		<u>198,214</u>
			<u>242,477</u>		<u>198,214</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 June 2018.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2018 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited (Registered number: 7077)**

**Balance Sheet - continued  
30 June 2018**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the board on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....  
C Stockdale - Chairperson

.....  
N Raper – Secretary

.....  
A Matthews - Treasurer

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The notes form part of these financial statements

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Statement of Changes in Equity  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

	Retained earnings £	Total equity £
<b>Balance at 1 July 2016</b>	168,605	168,605
<b>Changes in equity</b>		
Total comprehensive income	<u>29,609</u>	<u>29,609</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017</b>	<u>198,214</u>	<u>198,214</u>
<b>Changes in equity</b>		
Total comprehensive income	<u>44,263</u>	<u>44,263</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<u><u>242,477</u></u>	<u><u>242,477</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

**1. STATUTORY INFORMATION**

Darlington 1883 Supporters Society Limited is a private company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**Turnover**

Turnover represents subscriptions, donations and other fundraising activities carried out by the society.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery etc - 20% on cost

**3. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Plant and machinery etc £
<b>COST</b>	
Additions	<u>1,381</u>
At 30 June 2018	<u>1,381</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
Charge for year	<u>23</u>
At 30 June 2018	<u>23</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 30 June 2018	<u><u>1,358</u></u>

**4. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	Other investments £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 July 2017	248,790
Additions	<u>56,300</u>
At 30 June 2018	<u>305,090</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 30 June 2018	<u><u>305,090</u></u>
At 30 June 2017	248,790

Fixed asset investments represent the society's shareholding in Darlington 1883 Limited.

**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

5.	<b>DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
		30.6.18	30.6.17
		£	£
	Trade debtors	<u>238,849</u>	<u>130,999</u>
6.	<b>CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
		30.6.18	30.6.17
		£	£
	Other creditors	<u>2,225</u>	<u>4,774</u>
7.	<b>CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR</b>		
		30.6.18	30.6.17
		£	£
	Other creditors	<u>319,061</u>	<u>234,528</u>

**Reporting Accountants' Unqualified Report to the Committee  
on the Unaudited Financial Statements of  
Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

We report on the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2017 set out on pages 4 to 7. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the provisions of Section 1A 'Small Entities' of Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006.

This report is made solely to the society in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 November 2015. Our review has been undertaken so that we may state to the society's officers those matters we have agreed with them in our engagement letter and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the society and the society's officers as a body for our work, for this report or the conclusions we have formed.

***Officer's Responsibility for the accounts***

The society's officers are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, and they consider that the society is entitled to opt out of an audit.

***Reporting Accountants' Responsibility***

It is our responsibility to carry out procedures designed to enable us to report our opinion under s85 *Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014*.

Our review was conducted in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements (ISRE) 2400 (Revised) *Engagements to review historical financial statements* and ICAEW Technical Release TECH 09/13AAF *Assurance review engagements on historical financial statements*. ISRE 2400 also requires us to comply with the ICAEW Code of Ethics.

***Scope of our review***

A review of financial statement in accordance with ISRE 2400 (Revised) is a limited assurance engagement. We have performed additional procedures to those required under a compilation engagement. These primarily consist of making enquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, applying analytical procedures and evaluating the evidence obtained. The procedures performed in a review are substantially less than those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

***Conclusion***

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us not to believe that, in our opinion:

- (a) the accounts are in agreement with the accounting records kept by the society under s75 of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.
- (b) having regard only to, and on the basis of the information contained in those accounting records, the accounts have been drawn up in a manner consistent with the accounting requirements of the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard 102; and

the society satisfied the conditions for exemption from an audit of the accounts for the year specified in s84(1) of the Act and did not, at any time within that year, fall within any of the categories of societies not entitled to the exemption specified in s84(3) and (4).

**Reporting Accountants' Unqualified Report to the Committee  
on the Unaudited Financial Statements of  
Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

Sochall Smith Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Queens Court Business Centre  
Newport Road  
Middlesbrough  
Cleveland  
TS1 5EH

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**Darlington 1883 Supporters Society  
Limited**

**Detailed Profit and Loss Account  
for the Year Ended 30 June 2018**

	30.6.18		30.6.17	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Turnover</b>				
Members subscriptions	19,328		16,445	
Donations	89,327		35,568	
Lottery income	36,025		30,131	
Ticket Sales	<u>1,369</u>		<u>2,031</u>	
		146,049		84,175
<b>Other income</b>				
Deposit account interest		<u>20</u>		<u>16</u>
		146,069		84,191
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Post and stationery	343		1,254	
Licences and insurance	2,805		690	
Sponsorship and fund raising	40,405		28,302	
Donations	56,711		23,277	
Sundry expenses	89		77	
Accountancy	<u>600</u>		<u>600</u>	
		100,953		54,200
		45,116		29,991
<b>Finance costs</b>				
Bank charges		<u>830</u>		<u>382</u>
		44,286		29,609
<b>Depreciation</b>				
Computer equipment		23		-
<b>NET PROFIT</b>		<u>44,263</u>		<u>29,609</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements