

## **The Coming Of Age!**

It is with great pleasure that Denton Town Football Club announces another exciting expansion to its footballing portfolio, with the creation of a new football team. Flying the flag of Denton Town FC will be our new Veterans team.

Managed by former first team players Lee Paul and Steve O'Connor along with the experienced John Hill, they are looking to establish themselves and the club as the place to play when the rigors of Saturday afternoon football have taken its toll but still want to play for an established club and at the highest level possible.

The team has taken some months to evolve since Dave Starkie (club secretary) first ran the idea of a veterans team past Lee and Steve at the launch of the newly renovated clubhouse. The idea gathered greater momentum at the Christmas social event, where it was agreed to take it to the next stage and start a consultations process of how it would work with the clubs current commitments, and its vision of how to expand the club further within the community and beyond.

It's fair to say the response has been overwhelming, and currently the squad boasts many former Town players including former club captain Carl Jackson, Pete Berry, Carl Malone, Rick Cartner, Mike Knowles, Steve Prescott, Andy Wales, Barry Herbert as well as managers Lee Paul and Steve O'Connor who says "managing is the only way I will get a game!" Added to this we have a number of ex professionals in Steve Garvey (Crewe, Blackpool, Northwich Vics, Ashton Utd, Stalybridge Celtic and Hyde Utd), Simon Yeo (Lincoln, Harrogate, Macclesfield and Hyde Utd) together with other semi-professionals Elliot Prest (Glossop) Peter Band (Hyde, Northwich Vics, Mossley and Altrincham) and Lloyd Morrison (flixton).

On the pitch, the team so far has had a very impressive start too, with the following results;

Denton Town Vets 7 vs Denton Town Reserves 2  
Denton Town Vets 12 vs AFC Sportsman 0  
Denton Town Vets 3 vs Denton Town First 4  
Manchester Wolves 2 vs Denton Town Vets 3  
Denton Town Vets 5 vs Haughton Villa 1

This weekend, 13<sup>th</sup> September, they will host last year's Tameside Leagues winners in the first league match of the season at Whittles Farm. Kick off @2pm. This is sure to be a great curtain raiser for the club so all your support is welcome.

The management team would like to place on record its thanks to everyone that has contributed to getting this off the ground, especially Dave Starkie and Phil Bentley for their continued effort and support. We would also like to show our gratitude to all the committee members and wives for their hard work in making the exhibition match against Haughton Villa a huge success, where a crowd in excess of 200 saw a good game but more importantly they were treated to a truly warm welcome from everyone involved.

Finally a special mention to all the players who make this a truly enjoyable adventure and without their commitment to the club this simply would not be happening! We look forward to achieving our goals of picking up a couple of trophies in our maiden season. Thanks again and support your local club.

The Veterans management team.