



Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011

CARSHALTON ATHLETIC 5, BISHOP'S STORTFORD 0  
(FA CHALLENGE TROPHY – 1<sup>ST</sup> ROUND)

In what turned out to be Ian Walker's last game in charge of the side, Stortford were unceremoniously dumped out of the FA Trophy after giving a dire performance at the War Memorial ground. The Blues were a beaten side by the break when two goals in five minutes just before the interval really killed off the visitors. The Robins on the back of an unbeaten run looked confident from the start and up for the tie. The Blues, on the other hand, were from the start, second to the ball and looked disorganised and lacking in spirit. This, despite the fact, that they themselves had not been beaten for almost a month since losing at Solihull Moors.

Stortford's starting line-up didn't include Scott Shulton and Junior Dadson who were on the bench whilst Ritchie Jones was preferred in the right back berth instead of Max Lette Jallow. Others coming into the side, in midfield, were Alli Abdullahi and new loan signing from Southend United, Merrick James-Lewis. Another newcomer was Sam Ives who came on as a substitute for the last 13 minutes. Ives, another midfielder, joined the Blues after a short spell at Cambridge City and had played earlier in the campaign for Corby Town. Phil Anderson failed a pre-match fitness test on his injured foot.

The first few minutes of the tie saw little between the sides and Dwight Gayle almost got on the end of a David Adepipe cross from the right towards the near post. However, there was already evidence of the Ryman Premier League side giving Stortford players little space and the hosts had done their homework by, in particular, nullifying the threat of Gayle.

Carshalton's first corner resulted in the first goal in the 14<sup>th</sup> minute. Tom Davis' flag kick from the left looked overhit but skipper David Ray retrieved the ball and played it back across the goalmouth for PAUL VINES to steer a right footed shot inside an upright from 12 yards (1-0).

For a spell it looked as though Stortford might get back on level terms. In the 19<sup>th</sup> minute, Daniel Subuola and Dwight Gayle combined just outside the Athletic box and when the former drove a low shot goalwards, keeper Nick Hamann saved low to his left. Then, eight minutes later, Sean Francis couldn't quite get high enough to get his head on a Reece Prestedge free-kick and Hamann held on to the ball.

Stortford were lacking penetration with too many attacks down the middle and not enough using the wings. In the 36<sup>th</sup> minute Gayle and Subuola again linked, this time in an attack coming in from the left, and Gayle's shot from the left was fumbled by Hamann but the ball was cleared.

Two minutes later the Blues' defence was carved open by a move down the centre involving Vines and Laurent Hamici but when Vines broke clear Jordan Archer managed to divert his shot for a corner. Any hopes of Stortford reaching the break just a one goal behind were blown out of the water when the hosts struck two goals in five minutes. In the 40<sup>th</sup> minute the Blues' defence was slow to react to a quickly taken throw on the left by Luke Pigden and LUKE NOLAN, gaining possession, stormed into the box and hammered a shot that hit the inside of a post before finding the back of the net (2-0).

David Ray headed a Pigden corner over the bar at the far post but Carshalton extended their lead in the 44<sup>th</sup> minute. A swift move through the middle finished with Vines playing the ball to the left to LUKE PIGDEN and his 20 yard shot, with the aid of a deflection off of Ritchie Jones' boot, looped over Jordan Archer and under the bar (3-0).

Half time: 3-0

Junior Dadson replaced Sebastian Dunbar on the restart but chances for the Blues to get back in the tie were limited as the Surrey side gave nothing away at the back early on after the break. Then, Scott Shulton, in his first action after coming on in the 57<sup>th</sup> minute, collected a loose ball on the right and made tracks for goal but his low drive from the edge of the box was saved by Hamann.

At the other end, Jordan Archer was the busier of the two goalkeepers and the Blues' stopper was at full stretch to keep out a shot from substitute Anthony Joseph in the 64<sup>th</sup> minute. He wasn't so convincing a minute later as a harmless looking effort from Pigden deflected off his hands and flew narrowly over the bar. The resultant inswinging corner on the left from TOM DAVIS flew straight into the net inside the far post (4-0).

Jack Jeffries had a long distance effort held by Hamann but Archer was again in action in the 72<sup>nd</sup> minute as he made a fine save turning Laurent Hamici's shot away for a corner. Stortford battled to at least try and net a consolation goal. In the 73<sup>rd</sup> minute Dwight Gayle collected a wayward headed back pass from Michael Kamara but the Blues leading goalscorer overran the ball and Hamann gathered. Then, two minutes later, Gayle's long throw into the box was back-headed by Sean Francis and Scott Shulton's goalbound shot was blocked by a defender and cleared.

The hosts completed the scoring 14 minutes from time when, following a move down the middle, Luke Pigden slipped the ball through for BILLY CROOK to beat Archer (5-0). Stortford's last chance for a goal came five minutes from time after Scott Shulton played Dwight Gayle through on goal but again Nick Hamann denied the opportunity, conceding a corner when diving to his right for an excellent save.

Referee Ryan Atkin booked Alli Adullahi, Daniel Subuola and Reece Prestedge during the match.

Full time: 5-0

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Jordan Archer; Ritchie Jones; Sebastian Dunbar (sub – Junior Dadson 46 mins); Alli Abdullahi; Sean Francis; Jack Jeffries; David Adepipe (sub – Sam Ives 77 mins); Reece Prestedge; Dwight Gayle; Daniel Subuola; Merrick James-Lewis (sub – Scott Shulton 57 mins).  
Unused substitutes: Bai Mass Lette Jallow and Mitch Hahn.

CARSHALTON ATHLETIC: Nick Hamann; Michael Kamara; Luke Nolan; Billy Crook; David Ray; Justyn Roberts; Dean Lodge (sub – Anthony Joseph 63 mins); Tom Davis; Paul Vines (sub – Dean McDonald 71 mins); Laurent Hamici; Luke Pigden (sub – Kennedy Adjei 79 mins).  
Unused substitutes: Sonny Ayres and Ben Dudzinski..

Attendance: 243