

BISHOP'S STORTFORD 0, SUTTON UNITED 2 (THE EMIRATES FA CUP – 2ND QUALIFYING ROUND)



Stortford's hopes of a run this season's FA Cup were extinguished at the first hurdle with the visitors clinching a place in the next round following a comfortable victory over a listless Blues side that again found it hard to find their form at home.

It might have been a different story had Matt Johnson scored in the second minute. The on-loan midfielder hit the inside of an upright with a 15 yard drive after good work on the right flank by Dymon Labonne. After that near miss it was downhill for the Blues.

Predictably Blues' boss Rod Stringer made just the one change to the side that started at Hemel Hempstead with Dymon Labonne replacing the injured Sheldon Sellaars. Included on the bench was new on-loan signing Charlie Sheringham from Ebbsfleet United for his first appearance at Woodside since leaving in early 2010.



After Johnson nearly got on the score-sheet the Surrey side settled and gave the Blues little space to create worthwhile attacks. U's skipper Jamie Collins was close with a deflected header from Stuart Fleetwood's corner in the 11th minute whilst Tom Bolarinwa and Kevin Amankwaah threatened for the visitors before the midway point of the half. Stortford gave up possession too easily and with Collins and Simon Downer in control of matters at the back the hosts created few openings. United gained in authority and a free-kick from Stuart Fleetwood in the 34th minute resulted in a header from Collins that was fortunately close to Tom Lovelock.



However, the Surrey side took a deserved lead four minutes from the break. Johnny Herd lost possession just inside his own half and after a run on the right Bolarinwa crossed for Craig McAllister to bury into the net from close range.



Stringer brought on Sheringham on the restart but Sutton increased their lead in the 54th minute after Mason Walsh had fouled Bolarinwa out on the right touch-line. Fleetwood's free-kick wasn't dealt with and Kevin Amankwaah in acres of space past the far post stroked the ball wide of Lovelock. Stortford had greater possession in the closing stages with Ross Worner holding an Anthony Church header and saving an

Elliott Buchanan angled effort at his near post. Then in the second minute of stoppage time Collins cleared off the line from Sheringham after an error by the Sutton stopper. During the tie referee Carl Fitch showed yellow cards to Church, Walsh and Johnson and Sutton's Collins and Craig Eastmond.

MATCH DETAILS:

BISHOP'S STORTFORD: Tom Lovelock; De'Reece Vanderhyde; Johnny Herd (Josh Ekim 66); Alli Abdullahi (Charlie Sheringham 46); Christian Smith; George Allen; Dymon Labonne; Anthony Church; Elliott Buchanan; Matt Johnson; Mason Walsh (Matty Fanimio 56).

Unused substitutes: Frankie Merrifield, Kenzer Lee and Anthony Furlonge.

SUTTON UNITED: Ross Worner; Kevin Amankwaah; Dan Spence; Simon Downer; Shaun Cooper; Jamie Collins; Tom Bolarinwa; Bedsente Gomis (Dan Wishart 81); Craig McAllister (Craig Dundas 74); Stuart Fleetwood (Ross Stearn 71); Craig Eastmond.

Unused substitutes: Dan Fitchett, Louis John and Wayne Shaw.
 Half time: 0-1

Goalscorers: Sutton United – Craig McAllister 41 and Kevin Amankwaah 54

Attendance: 347