

STAFFS FA SUNDAY TROPHY QUARTER FINAL

23rd January 2011

ABBOTS BROMLEY FC 0 V 1 MEIR SPORTS AND SOCIAL

In a full bloodied competitive cup tie, the more experienced side from Stoke won through to the semi final stage against the battling villagers from Abbots Bromley.

A crowd of over 100 people turned out to support their local side and although disappointed at the end result were encouraged by the effort and progress made by Bromley in their inaugural season.

Both sides started the game confidently and it was the away side who thought they had made a breakthrough in the 15th minute only to see their effort ruled offside after consultation between the referee and his assistant.

Within minutes Bromley were presented with their first real opportunity of the game when striker Olly Crooks seized the ball off a Meir defender only to then see his shot well saved by the keeper.

As the first half ended on level terms both sides were ruing missed opportunities knowing that chances were limited in the first 45 minutes.

The second half started with the home side trying to take a grip on the game and a flowing move was ended with winger Matt Tracey blazing the ball over the bar with only the keeper to beat.

As the half wore on it seemed that one goal was going to settle the tie and so it proved when after a spell of sustained pressure Meir striker Al Brown evaded the Bromley defence to meet a cross and head the ball past keeper Jackson into the corner of the net.

With striker Tim Fearnett causing the visitors problems with his pace the last 15 minutes saw the home side command most of the possession in their search for an equaliser.

The game ended with Meir catching Bromley on the break and should have put the game beyond doubt but that would have been an injustice to the home side who battled bravely and with better finishing could have caused another upset and claimed a place in the last four.