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FOOTBALL: Skipper to remain for seventh season Parker signs new deal to stay at Wealdstone

WEALDSTONE manager Gordon Bartlett thinks the direction of the club was behind captain Wes Parker's decision to sign a new one-year deal.

The 32-year-old has spent the majority of his professional career with the club, which he first joined from Gainsborough Trinity in 2010, and will now spend a seventh season at Grosvenor Vale.

Bartlett told the Harrow Times: "We worked hard to try to keep hold of the nucleus of the squad and I'm very pleased Wes has signed."

"It's important because he has been with us for a long time and is Wealdstone through and through. "There's always other clubs interested and times move on, and you can't take anything for granted, but we sat down with him and it was clear his heart is at the football club."

Parker was on the scoresheet as Wealdstone went down 2-1 to QPR Under-21s at Grosvenor Vale on Saturday, in a game featuring a number of trialists, including former Welling striker Sehr Kabba.

The Stones' league fixtures have been confirmed this week and be-

By Ron Walker

gin with a trip to Dartford on August 6.

They will open their home campaign against nearby St Albans City two days later, at 7.45pm, before a Christmas double-header against Maidstone United.

They will finish the league campaign on April 29 at East Thurrock.

Elsewhere, Nick Archer has been named Wealdstone vice-chairman following his departure from St Albans, to work under the club's new as yet unnamed chair.

Wealdstone confirmed his appointment on Monday, days after his former club was forced to release a statement following "an announcement on social media" to clarify he was still a director at the time, but he eventually left late last week.

He said: "The option was a very attractive one when I was approached by Wealdstone, it's a very well supported and run club with a strong board structure."

"It was an opportunity I had to grab with both hands. The chairman hasn't been unveiled yet but I like what he has to say."



Wes Parker scores during the Stones' defeat to QPR.

Picture: ALAN PALMER

Bessboro' rooted to bottom

SIDE STRUGGLE FOR BREAKTHROUGH AS TIME RUNS OUT IN UXBRIDGE GAME

THE clock denied Bessborough time to bowl out Uxbridge and kept them bottom of Middlesex County Cricket League Division Three after their draw.

Bessborough opened the batting but were in trouble when Sherrick Chavda and Sanil Shah both departed for ducks early on, from the bowling of Savinda Liyanagedera.

Opener Kushal Patel was taken lbw shortly after for six. Urooj Ahmed could only forge a brief partnership with Ian Barrie, who was again taken by Liyanagedera for 18.

Kibreeth Rameez made 33 but was bowled by Andrew Stephens, before Ahmed finally departed on 88, the highest score of the entire innings.

Kanagaraj was dispatched for ten and William Grogan run out by Scott Williams - his second stumping of the day - but Vivek Patel saw Bessborough over the 200 mark with 19 not out as they closed on 203-9 from 55 overs.

Aman Quadri and Ilyas' opening partnership for Uxbridge made life difficult for Bessborough in the field and only when Ilyas struck Vivek Patel's ball into the arms of Jay Chavda, for 38, did they make a breakthrough.

Rameez (2-53) and Vivek Patel (2-47) made inroads but largely down to Quadri's unbeaten 71, they ran out of time and the match was drawn with Uxbridge making 179-5.

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