

Tilbury 3

Halstead Town 1

Essex Senior Cup Third Round

Tuesday 13th October 2026

ATT 84

Report by Mason Hutchinson

Following a well-deserved first win of the month for The Dockers on the weekend, we must now turn our attention to the Essex Senior Cup as we host Halstead Town in the Third Round. George and Jack made a few changes to the team from Saturday as Alfie Fry and Malaki Toussaint returned to the starting 11. U18 player Freddy Townsend also started for The Dockers, leading the line in this cup tie.

The Humbugs took the lead after just 53 seconds when a cross from the left-hand side made its way to George Smith, who fired home from just outside the 6-yard box.

And not even a minute later, Halstead should have extended their lead when a near-identical chance from the left wing caused issues for The Dockers. This time, the cross found Joel Older, who struck a volley on the swivel which was denied only by the crossbar.

The visitors started the second half just as lively, breaking down the left-hand side of the penalty area. However, a volleyed effort was denied brilliantly by Billy Lawlor.

Tilbury were handed a lifeline in the 53rd minute, when Soumen Nandi advanced into the box before being brought down by Billy Jamieson. Ben Allen stepped up to take the spot kick, but the penalty was saved by Jack Cherry.

Soon after, Cherry was called to action to deny Ben Allen again. The opportunity was created by Rasheed Salau in the middle of the pitch as he beat a man before finding Allen on the right. However, the eventual drilled strike was tipped around the post by the keeper.

With just four minutes left on the clock, The Dockers were awarded another penalty as Rasheed Salau raced through before being chopped down from behind in the box. This time the responsibility fell to Issa Sidibe, who made no mistake, levelling the game.

And Tilbury wasted no time in taking the lead, as Rasheed Salau was involved once again, bursting past his man and drilling his strike into the bottom corner.

In the dying moments, the hosts put the game to bed through Issa Sidibe, who netted his third goal in two matches by chopping past the defender and firing a rocket past Jack Cherry.

That was all the action at Chadfields, and Tilbury advanced into the next round of the Essex Senior Cup. The Dockers are back in action on Saturday 17th October when we travel to high-flying Gorleston.

SQUAD: Lawlor, Fry, Rea (Hegarty), Bennett, Reeve ©, Winn (Brocklebank), Toussaint, Salau, Nandi (Taylor), Allen, Townsend (Sidibe).

SUBS UNUSED: Stimson.

GOALS: Issa Sidibe x 2, Rasheed Salau.