

Bucks Free Press

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INSIDE 36 pages of Property • 12 pages of Freetime • 3 pages of Nostalgia • 10 pages of Sport

Concern over future of our GP surgeries

Major 'super hub' plan revealed

By Jasmine Rapson

CAMPAIGNERS have raised concerns that GP surgeries across the county could be shut, as major plans to build a medical "super hub" in High Wycombe are revealed.

Buckinghamshire's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has been "provisionally allocated" £8.8 million by NHS England to create three "primary care hubs" in the county – with one planned for the Wycombe Hospital site.

Health chiefs say the new centre could eventually serve up to 50,000 patients – as councils continue to plan future housing growth for the county.

However, health campaigner Ozma Hafiz, who fought plans to close High Wycombe's Lynton House surgery, has raised concerns some patients will be forced to travel further for treatment.

She also questioned whether enough GPs could

be sourced to work at the hub – as the NHS continues to battle huge shortages in healthcare staff across the country.

Ms Hafiz said: "I am concerned about the GP surgeries. We fought hard to save Lynton House surgery, because there are people that could walk into their surgery, but would struggle to get to the hospital site.

"It would be the same for the surgeries in the town centre, it could mean further health implications for some people who can't get to a surgery independently.

"The surgeries on the outside of town, I understand they are looking to extend some of those as part of the local plan and the ones in the town centre are at risk of being shut.

"They have got to properly plan it out and think about the risks. They must also fully consult with the public."

Continued on page 6

TAKE THAT TRUMP!



Novel idea as statue of Matilda stares down President
See page 11



CRIME
Historic sex abuse
suspect appears in court
See page 6

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COMMENT

With
**NICHOLAS
TUNNEY**

Akinfenwa back in form



IT has been another one of those rollercoaster weeks for Wanderers.

I was at the Southend game on Saturday and once again, this Wycombe side never know when they are beaten.

Southend were very impressive overall and for my money, the best side I have seen at Adams Park in the league this season so far.

At 3-0 up with seven minutes to go, for nearly every side it is game over but not this Blues team and Mackail-Smith's wonder strike reduced the arrears before Akinfenwa pulled another one back with five minutes to go.

That ensured a nervy finish with the Shrimpers clinging on for the three points.

At this level, it shows you get absolutely punished for making mistakes and although the performances on the whole have been decent from the Blues, the errors at this level need to be cut out completely.

Most teams after a loss would struggle to get anything from a long journey to the north west three days later but the kind of resilience the team showed has been done time and again after a loss.

I wasn't at Highbury Stadium on Tuesday evening but by all accounts, Fleetwood have play-off ambitions, so a point there was no mean feat.

It is great to see Adebayo Akinfenwa get on the scoresheet again. The 'goal drought' he was on is well and truly over and three in three games signals a real return to form for 'The Beast'.

Having interviewed him a few weeks ago, it is clear he wasn't panicking about a lack of goals on an individual level but admitted he would have liked one earlier than the Norwich game.

His performances have been really coming together in the past few matches and he is beginning to terrorise League One defences as much as he did League Two defences the past couple of campaigns.

A fit and firing Akinfenwa is a weapon any side would love, and if Wycombe keep utilising him properly, the goals will continue to flow.

On to this match, Burton haven't had it easy since relegation from the Championship, which again shows how tough this league is whether you have been promoted or relegated.

The Blues are sure to be in for another tricky test this weekend, but will surely be buoyed by that point on Tuesday. I am going for a 2-0 win and hopefully this is the start of a good run up the table.

COYB!

Wycombe Wanderers

Last five league games:
LDDLD

VS

Burton Albion

Last five league games:
WDWDL

OPPOSITION VIEW



26. Dimitar Evtimov
10. Lucas Akins
2. John Brayford
5. Kyle McFadzean
14. Damien McCrory
23. Stephen Quinn
7. Scott Fraser
4. Jamie Allen
17. Marvin Sordell
27. Liam Boyce
11. David Templeton

THIS week's Opposition View comes from Burton Mail sports reporter Josh Murray.

How did Burton get on last week?

After a promising recent run of form, the Brewers have had a momentum check this week.

Nigel Clough's side struggled to rediscover the same quality and intensity from the Burnley cup win against Scunthorpe, but the result stretched their unbeaten run in the League to four matches.

That run was ended on Tuesday, though, by Southend United as they lost 2-1 at the Pirelli Stadium.

What is the aim for the team this season?

Burton's ultimate target for the season is to bounce straight back into the Championship following relegation in May.

Who are your dangers?

It's always hard to look past Liam Boyce, the Brewers' talisman and record signing up front.

The Northern Ireland international leads the line and provides the platform from which many of Burton's attacks are built.

What are your thoughts on Wycombe?

Obviously they are still looking for that first home win, but as Nigel Clough has said, it has to come at some point - and Albion will be wary of that.

Tell us one interesting fact about your club.

Burton's relegation from the Championship earlier this year was their first relegation in 41 years.

Prediction?

I'll go for a 2-1 win for the Brewers.



Josh Murray

In the CHAIR

Wycombe Sound sports presenter
Alan Harris



Alan Harris

GARETH Ainsworth is right when he says Wycombe Wanderers have enough quality in the squad to stay up this season.

It's a message he's been keen to repeat; judge his team at the end of the season, not now. And from what I've seen so far, I believe him.

It was a privilege to report for Wycombe Sound radio from the Chairboys' last match of their successful 2017/18 campaign.

It was a sunny day at Adams Park filled with optimism for another tilt at EFL League One. And that positivity is key for a different type of success this season; survival.

It's been a real buzz reporting at iconic grounds like The Valley and Fratton Park; the noise from the away-end has been phenomenal.

Being a club rooted in its community and having a settled and experienced manager at the helm are big strengths.

The performances have been good even if the results haven't always followed.

Opposition teams know all about Adebayo Akinfenwa but dealing with him is another matter.

He's been immense both physically and technically in recent games and Wycombe are brimming with attacking options.

More consistency is needed at the back and Wycombe shouldn't be relying on Ryan Allsop to keep them in the game and then throwing the kitchen sink at their opponents in last-minute fightbacks.

It's a challenge in the press box as well.

The Saturday Sports Show is broadcast live from 5-6pm.

That means reporting accurately on all the action, interviewing Gareth and any players available and providing post-match analysis.

The Wycombe Sound sports team is staffed by volunteers, with one thing in common – we're passionate about local sport. We're also lucky that Wycombe Wanderers really values its local community radio station.

Meanwhile, I can't wait to be at The Ricoh and The Bescot reporting for Wycombe Sound 106.6FM.

WANDERERS

Ainsworth frustrated with 'sloppy goals'

By Nicholas Tunney

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth bemoaned the "sloppy goals" his side conceded in a 3-2 home defeat to Southend United at Adams Park on Saturday.

The Shrimpers flew into a three-goal lead as goals from Theo Robinson, Tom Hopper and Simon Cox looked to have sealed an easy victory.

However, the Chairboys battled back in the last 10 minutes thanks to goals from Craig Mackail-Smith and Adebayo Akinfenwa, which ensured a nervy finish with Southend just holding firm.

Ainsworth said: "We can't be gambling like that on 83 minutes every game and hoping we will get back into it."

"They stuck their chances away and didn't concede sloppy goals and we did the opposite."

"We had one or two chances at crucial times which we didn't stick away. We then conceded sloppy goals and we can't do that."

The Blues have had a lot of fixtures in recent weeks with plenty of midweek games, but Ainsworth refused to use lethargy as an excuse.

He said: "People have said that, but there are people who were in the side on Tuesday [against Norwich] and there are people who weren't in the side."

"I can't be saying that they can't do three games in the week. We do our loading and try and remain fresh."

"The games come thick and fast now. We want to stay up and build and we will see where we are."



A disappointed Gareth Ainsworth

With both sides having a host of chances in the first half, Robinson gave the visitors the lead on 31 minutes from Hopper's cross.

Hopper made it two on 52 minutes when he tucked away Ben Coker's cross from six yards.

Southend looked to have made the game safe on 57 minutes when the impressive Jason Demetriou sent Cox scurrying down the right and he slotted coolly past Ryan Allsop.



Adebayo Akinfenwa was on target against Southend

Mackail-Smith then smashed home an incredible volley with eight minutes to go, thundering it past Mark Oxley from 20 yards.

Akinfenwa then scored with a close-range finish on 85 minutes to try and put the Shrimpers under maximum pressure.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: Allsop, McCarthy, Jombati, Charles, Jacobson, Gape, Morris, Bloomfield (sub: Cowan-Hall, 65), Onyedinnma

(sub: Williams, 65), Akinfenwa, Kashket (sub: Mackail-Smith, 65). Subs: Ma-Kalambay, Harriman, Thompson, Freeman.

SOUTHEND UNITED: Oxley, Demetriou, Turner, White, Moore, Coker, Dieng, Mantom (sub: Yearwood, 76), Cox (sub: McLaughlin, 71), Robinson (sub: Kightly, 71), Hopper. Subs: Bishop, Klass, Kyprianou, McCoulsky.

REFEREE: Tom Nield.

WANDERERS: Forward sparks Blues' fightback Mackail-Smith: Not good enough

WANDERERS forward Craig Mackail-Smith admitted letting a side of Southend's calibre get a 3-0 lead wasn't good enough as the Shrimpers held off a late fightback to hold on 3-2.

Mackail-Smith was the catalyst for that comeback with a wonderful volley from 20 yards with eight minutes to go before Adebayo Akinfenwa made it two with five minutes remaining.

However, Southend managed to win and keep Wycombe winless at home in the league this season.

Mackail-Smith said: "It was disappointing."

"We gave ourselves a lot to do. We started playing in the 83rd minute and it isn't good enough."

"You can't expect to give a team of

Southend's quality a 3-0 headstart and expect to get something out of the game."

"It is something we need to work on but we have quick turnaround now and hopefully we can right the wrongs of this defeat."

Mackail-Smith came off the bench to score with a stunning strike so spark hopes of an incredible result.

He said: "We were piling on the pressure and Randell Williams came out of nowhere with an unbelievably long throw."

"I think it was flicked on by Bryn [Morris] and I was really relaxed. "I wasn't trying to smash the life out of it. I just hit it so cleanly and saw it go in."

"I wanted to celebrate but I knew we were 3-1 down so we ran back to the



Mackail-Smith scored a cracker for his second goal of the campaign centre circle and went again.

"I am disappointed I only have two goals so far but it was nice to get one here and hopefully I can go on

a run." Wycombe play Burton Albion on Saturday at Adams Park (kick off 3pm)

THE BIG MATCH: Jombati banned for Burton match

WYCOMBE Wanderers have no new injury worries ahead of Saturday's home game against Burton Albion (3pm) following their long trip mid-week to Fleetwood.

The only new absentee is defender Sido Jombati, who picked up his fifth booking against Joey Barton's side on Tuesday evening and will now sit out with a one-game ban.

Other than that, the injured players, such as Adam El-Abd, are close to a return.

Manager Gareth Ainsworth said: "We seem pretty good after the Fleetwood game, which is nice. It was a long trip home and the fixture com-

puter comes up with these crazy games.

"I was really pleased not to pick up any injuries and I was able to rotate, so I was pleased with a point.

"Bayo [Adebayo Akinfenwa] picked up a dead leg against Southend but played through the pain barrier and he is absolutely fine.

"He is now fit and firing and his assist count is phenomenal. It's great to see him back on the scoresheet."

Nathan Tyson and Anthony Stewart are still a few weeks away, while Sam Saunders could be back after missing out through illness in the last two games.



Jombati has picked up five yellows and will miss the Burton game

WYCOMBE: Akinfenwa leveller gives Chairboys a decent point Bayo gives Fleetwood the Blues

By Nicholas Tunney

ADEBAYO Akinfenwa scored his third goal in as many games to give Wycombe a gritty point in a 1-1 draw against Fleetwood Town at Highbury.

Akinfenwa levelled matters on 56 minutes after good work by Matt Bloomfield.

Paddy Madden had given the home side the lead on 37 minutes with a glancing header after a brilliant cross by Ashley Hunter.

Fleetwood had the better of the first half but Wycombe came back strongly after the break.

Akinfenwa had a goal disallowed for offside, as well as having a header brilliantly saved when in an offside position again.

Dominic Gape smashed the crossbar, being denied by a magnificent save by Alex Cairns.

Manager Gareth Ainsworth said: "It was always going to be a game of two halves with the wind howling around like it did.

"It's the only condition that ruins football in my opinion, and we saw Fleetwood go very direct with their kicks in the first half.

"They stuck in a great cross which resulted in a goal from Paddy Madden but we've got to be better at picking up our men.

"A couple of the lads put their hands up at half-time but we needed to stop the cross coming in.

"We've worked on what we need to be doing when we go behind in games, and how to stop ourselves conceding again and giving ourselves a mountain to climb."

Ainsworth continued: "The big positive for us was not letting them in again - we stayed in the game and knew we'd get chances to score, which we did."



Adebayo Akinfenwa continues his recent good form against Fleetwood

SPORT

Golf
Hatton stars in
Ryder Cup victory
- Page 62



Blistering attack on FA by Penn chairman

'Draconian' FA rules killing Step 6 football



Penn and Tylers Green are playing their games at Amersham Town over an FA ruling. Inset: Tony Hurst

By Nicholas Tunney

THE chairman of Penn and Tylers Green FC has launched a scathing attack on the FA on their directives, which are potentially destroying Step Six football.

Tony Hurst has seen his Penn side, who play in the Hellenic League Division One East, groundshare with Spartan League side, Amersham Town.

Penn have been told by the FA that they cannot play their home games at French School Meadow (pictured above) due to the fact that they have

no floodlights.

However, the team are scheduled to play at their ground this weekend for the first time this term as it is a Bucks Cup match which doesn't fall under FA criteria.

Hurst backed the "excellent" facilities at their real home and is furious that the FA are punishing the club financially.

He said: "The trouble is we cannot play there because of restrictive, financially ruinous, FA-imposed Step Six directives which will not allow them to play their home games at their ground in Penn because they

do not have floodlights installed.

"We have applied for floodlights but because of our geographical position we have Green Belt Area and neighbour objections. We were refused permission back in February but are appealing that refusal.

"Because of another ridiculous and draconian FA rule, the groundshare agreement has to be implemented for the whole season which means they cannot even play their home games at their ground during the first three months when floodlights are not needed, thus imposing further unnecessary financial

hardship on a club which is run on a tight budget by a dedicated group of volunteers.

"The FA seem hell-bent on ruining this step of football with their unattainable ground criteria."

A spokesman for the FA said: "At the start of the 2017/2018 season, all non-compliant clubs were again informed that failure to meet said requirements by the end of the season would result in relegation to Step Seven for the 2018/2019 season.

"The leagues fully supported this. Unfortunately this has not been possible for a number of clubs."



Ainsworth: This is winnable

Wycombe Wanderers

WYCOMBE boss Gareth Ainsworth compared his task at Wycombe to that of this Saturday's visitors Burton Albion when they were in the Championship.

Burton punched well above their financial weight in the second tier of English football for two seasons before being relegated.

Now, they hope to secure promotion again and Ainsworth praised Albion manager Nigel Clough for his work at the Pirelli Stadium.

He said: "Nigel is a fantastic manager with what he did in the Championship. It is very similar to what we are up against this year.

"They were up against some incredible clubs and he was my manager of the year for a couple of seasons in the Championship for what he did there.

"It is fantastic to see teams like that survive in the Championship. They are a strong outfit, but they are beatable.

"We need a win at home and it has got to come and I am looking at Burton and what their weaknesses are and how we can break them down. If we can get that home win I am sure we it will bring confidence to everyone. We have come so close to that home win and I hope it comes this weekend."

The clash at Adams Park kicks off at 3pm this Saturday.

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