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FOOD SHOCK

We reveal least hygienic places to eat

Special report: Page 10



INSIDE • 24 pages of Property • 12 pages of Freetime • 3 pages of Nostalgia • 6 pages of Sport

PRAYERS FOR LIBBY

Devastated family join residents in Wycombe vigil as detectives reveal CCTV of night missing student was last seen

Full story: Page 9



Libby Squire (inset) was last seen more than two weeks ago

NEWS

Drivers told not to repair potholes



Page 2

NEWS

Major 350-home plan overhauled



Page 7

Green light for 500 homes

By Jasmine Rapson

PRELIMINARY plans to build hundreds of homes in High Wycombe have been given the green light – despite concerns over traffic and a lack of retirement housing on site.

On Wednesday, Wycombe District Council's planning committee said

it was “minded to approve” initial proposals to build up to 550 houses at the Abbey Barn south reserve site, subject to the completion of a number of obligations, such as providing affordable homes.

The development will include a range of one to two-bedroom flats and houses with up to five bed-

rooms – 40 per cent of which will be classed as “affordable”.

Space for an industrial site – with a view to increase employment opportunities – has been included in the proposal, replacing earlier plans for retirement accommodation.

Planning officers will now have

to agree the final details of the application before it is given final approval. The committee also gave the nod to developers Berkeley Homes to start work on the first 129 homes in Abbey Barn Lane, as well as parking and landscaping.

Continued on page 7



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In the CHAIR



BFP sports reporter Nick Tunney



WELL it wasn't to be as the Blues lost 3-0 to Luton Town at Kenilworth Road on Saturday.

Sometimes you just have to say you were beaten by a better team and Luton were definitely that at the weekend.

You can see why the Hatters top the table by a considerable margin. They have threats right throughout their team and they are rock-solid at the back which is a recipe for success at any level.

After seeing them in the flesh on Saturday, I certainly tip them to be champions.

As for Wycombe, at 1-0 down deep into the second half they were certainly frustrating the Hatters and were edging closer to an equaliser before George Moncur made it 2-0.

These are the games, though, that the Chairboys can play with pressure off and it is the games with the teams below them that are vital to their survival chances.

Wanderers have yet another match against a side with an unbeaten league home record this season at the weekend.

Barnsley have been excellent at Oakwell since dropping down from the Championship at the end of last season and they look prime for a return to that level at the first time of asking.

However, Wycombe produced arguably their best performance of the season at Adams Park in December when beating the Tykes 1-0 and Barnsley were never really in that contest.

Ironically, that was the last time the Yorkshire side lost in League One and they will be hoping lightning doesn't strike twice.

They have a fitness doubt over top scorer Kieffer Moore and if the Chairboys play with the same spirit and skill as they did back in December, don't be surprised to see Gareth Ainsworth's side get a positive result.

Unfortunately, I won't be at the game on Saturday or the following week as I am on holiday, but I hope to return to work to see Wycombe six points better off and of course, hope to see all our sports sides and individuals making a positive impact.

WANDERERS

Hatters task proves too much for Blues

WYCOMBE Wanderers' five-match unbeaten run was ended with a 3-0 defeat to League One leaders Luton Town in a lively affair at Kenilworth Road.

James Collins and a brace from substitute George Moncur sealed the three points for the Hatters, but Wycombe improved after the break to restrict Luton to very few chances.

Luton began the game well and Wycombe keeper Ryan Allsop looked to have been blocked going up for a cross with Danny Hylton on nine minutes, but referee Andy Davies did not give a foul.

From the resulting loose ball, Luke Berry's goalbound shot was magnificently blocked by Joe Jacobson.

Allsop then produced a brilliant save on 22 minutes to deny Hylton after a wonderful pass by Andrew Shinnie played the striker in on goal.

The Hatters then deservedly took the lead on 33 minutes when Collins got in front of Adam El-Abd from Jack Stacey's excellent cross following a superb move.

On 63 minutes, Collins came so close to making it two as his delicious curler went inches over with Allsop struggling.

Wanderers were now having their best spell of the game approaching the final 10 minutes, with Adebayo Akinfenwa beginning to get the better of the centre halves.

However, Luton grabbed a crucial second on 84 minutes when Jason Cummings' shot was well stopped by Allsop, but Moncur tapped home the rebound.

Moncur then grabbed his second



Wycombe goalkeeper Ryan Allsop made some good saves against Luton Town during his side's 3-0 loss

of the game three minutes later when he smartly stroked the ball into the corner after more good work from fellow substitute Cummings.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: Allsop, McCarthy, Jombati, El-Abd,

Jacobson, Thompson, Gape, Bloomfield (sub: Freeman, 81), Cowan-Hall (sub: Bolton, 65), Akinfenwa, Tyson (sub: Kashket, 71). Subs not used: Yates, Stewart, Bean, Owens.

LUTON TOWN: Shea, Stacey, Bradley, Pearson, Justin, McCor-

mack, Mpanzu, Berry (sub: Moncur, 72), Shinnie (sub: Sheehan, 88), Hylton (Cummings, 81), Collins. Subs not used: Isted, Potts, Baptiste, Thorne.

REFEREE: Andy Davies
ATTENDANCE: 10,072

WANDERERS: Gaffer impressed with the Hatters Ainsworth hails 'different class' Luton

WYCOMBE manager Gareth Ainsworth praised his side's conquerors from Saturday, Luton Town, hailing the Hatters as "the best team in the league" after seeing his Chairboys lose 3-0 at Kenilworth Road.

Luton stretched their run to 20 games unbeaten and Ainsworth admitted he was impressed with Mick Harford's men.

He said: "They are a really good team.

"Over the last four or five years, we have had some great battles with them and I am honoured to be in these battles with them.

"They have a very good side and they have household names who would step into any team in League One.

"They are the best team in the

league, in my opinion, and I will be very surprised if they don't get promoted this season."

Wycombe improved in the second half and frustrated Luton until the dying embers of the game and Ainsworth admitted his side were well in the game until that point.

He added: "We did well in the first half and defended stoutly and then for 25 minutes in the second half we were well in the game.

"If we nicked one, it would have been a special point but the last 10 minutes we tired and gave everything and came a cropper to one of their substitutes.

"The scoreline may be a bit flattering, but we can't be too down about that and it is awesome and these experiences are great for us."



Gareth Ainsworth wasn't too downbeat with his side's loss to Luton

There were positives to take from the match with lively cameos from Scott Kashket and loanee Luke Bolton in the second half.

Ainsworth said: "I thought Scotty made a real impact and Luke is getting up to speed and he is an outstanding talent."

Fit-again Samuel in contention for Oakwell clash

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth had issued an upbeat injury update ahead of his side's trip to promotion-chasing Barnsley.

The manager confirmed that front-man Alex Samuel is back in contention for a starting berth this Saturday (3pm ko) having recovered from a short-term injury.

With no fresh injuries throughout the week, only two players are ruled out of the clash at Oakwell.

Ainsworth said: "I think Yves [Makalambay] and Darius [Charles] are the only two missing. Yves has a long-term finger injury and is recovering from a bad triple fracture."

Charles has had an injury plagued season so far, limiting his game time. He has only made five appearances since signing a one-year-deal from AFC Wimbledon in the summer.

Ainsworth added: "We are really strong. I am very happy with what I am taking up to Barnsley. We're playing a team away from home who were in the Championship last year, and we have just played Luton."

"We have got Sunderland, Charlton, Portsmouth and Peterborough all coming up, so it is fantastic to be in this position and we have worked really hard to be here. I just want to be able to repeat this again next year."



Alex Samuel could be available for the clash at Barnsley

WANDERERS: Midfielders claims the pressure is on home side Barnsley trip a 'free hit,' says Gape

DOMINIC Gape claims the pressure is off Wycombe Wanderers tomorrow when they follow up their tough trip to Luton Town with a similarly difficult clash at promotion-chasing Barnsley (Saturday, 3pm ko).

With the hosts currently boasting an 11-game unbeaten run, Gape believes the Yorkshire side will be the ones feeling the heat.

He said: "Going to the top of the league and second in the league away from home, the pressure is off us completely. Everyone looks at it and expect a home win. It's a free hit. You don't need to get up for these games, it's one you look forward to all week in training."

"Unfortunately, the performance did not match that on Saturday [against Luton Town]. It wasn't where we'd like it to be, but we have got a chance with another game against one of the big boys in the league to try and ruffle some feathers and get some points."

With another raucous atmosphere expected, Gape said he is thriving on the chance to play in front of a big crowd.

"Personally, I love it. I think if you look at over the two and a half years I have been here, in games where the atmosphere and the crowds are large, we always seem to do well."

"We went to White Hart Lane in front of 30,000 fans and performed, at Portsmouth away we did well and that was a very fiery atmosphere. As a player, these are the games you want to play in. You want packed houses, noise and atmosphere."

Barnsley arguably boast the best central midfield partnership in the division. Last weekend, highly rated Northern Ireland midfielder Cameron McGeehan and former England U20 starlet Alex Mowatt started in the centre of the pitch in the 4-1 victory away at struggling Gillingham.

On the prospect of facing the duo, Dominic said: "I am really excited to be honest. I think both their central midfielders are a similar age to me, so if I get the nod and get the start, I can't wait to pit my wits against them."



Wycombe Wanderers midfielder Dominic Gape is relishing the trip to Oakwell this weekend

SPORT

Football
Beaconsfield
back in action
- Page 69



Rugby
Wycombe lose
to county foes
- Page 68



Wanderers aiming to tame Tykes once again



Wycombe ace Randell Williams scored a stunning winner against Barnsley in the victory at Adams Park in December. Picture: Anita Ross

By Matt Joy

WYCOMBE Wanderers boss Gareth Ainsworth admits their home victory over high-flying Barnsley will count for nothing when the sides clash in the reverse League One fixture this Saturday (3pm ko).

Blues clinched a memorable 1-0 win over the Tykes at Adams Park in December thanks to a stunning strike by Randell Williams.

But Daniel Stendel's promotion-chasing Barnsley are unbeaten since that day and sit second in the table behind leaders Luton Town – the side Wycombe lost 3-0 to away from home last weekend.

And Ainsworth knows it will be a clean slate for his players when they step out at Oakwell.

He told the *Bucks Free Press*: "I am sure the team will be remembering what they did against Barnsley, but you would have to be quite naïve to think that just because you beat them once, you're going to go up there and give them a good game again."

"Personnel and people on the day win games and the players have got to turn up and make sure that they believe they deserve to be on the same pitch as a quality side like Barnsley."

Nevertheless, Wycombe's hopes will be boosted by the news Tykes talisman, Kieffer Moore, is likely to be missing from Saturday's clash.

The Barnsley striker took his tally to 18 for the season in their 4-1 win at Gillingham last weekend – but left the pitch on a stretcher

following a collision with Gabriel Zakuan.

Ainsworth admitted: "It is obviously going to be a bonus for us if somebody who has scored 18 goals this season is not playing."

"We can't be worried if he does turn out on the pitch, we are going to prepare for both eventualities."

"It is an old cliché but concentrating on what you're doing is more important."

"We have had a look at the changes they could make so we're hoping we have covered all bases."

Wanderers came off second best against champions-elect Luton Town, with Ainsworth accepting they were beaten "by a better side," before joking they "might have needed a police escort" if they had got anything from their trip to Ke-

nilworth Road. Nevertheless, Wycombe remain in a strong mid-table position and are currently 10 points away from both the relegation zone and the play-off places.

And Ainsworth stressed their sole aim at this stage remains League One survival.

"I am not even thinking about any chance of getting in the play-offs," he declared.

"It would be a great thing to be able to say one day, but we just want to survive in League One."

"That was all we ever set out to do, that would be the fifth year of the five-year plan."

"I think that would be the most amazing achievement for many a year at this club. We could celebrate that as much as any promotion."

● **More inside.**



Heroic Heathens bow out

Non-league football

FLACKWELL Heath put in a phenomenal display as they agonisingly lost 2-1 to Reading FC U23s in their Berks and Bucks Senior Cup quarter-final clash at Wilks Park on Tuesday.

The first real chance of the game came on 14 minutes as Josh Baines rifled a free kick from 20 yards out just over the Reading bar.

Reading continued to move the ball at a tempo and Flackwell began to force mistakes from the young Royals. Then on 44 minutes, Flackwell's patience and press was rewarded as the Reading goalkeeper, Myles Roberts, misplaced a pass which found itself at the feet of Lewis Sinclair who took a touch and bent it around the advancing keeper.

On 63 minutes, Reading's full back Cameron Green whizzed down the flank and drilled a superb cross across the Flackwell penalty area which seemed to bypass everyone except a blue and white shirt who struck it past Watkins with power. At this point, it was a hold what we have situation for Flackwell who threatened through Adam Thomas and Mo Ceasay at times.

The pressure from the Royals was relentless and on 74 minutes a corner came in from the left-hand side and was met by Khalid Simmo who finished from five yards at the near post.

With 94 minutes on the clock, it was the Heathens last chance to force an equaliser but Ceasay headed inches wide.

Flackwell now face Fairford Town at home in the Hellenic League Premier Division on Saturday (3pm).

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