

Shop has plans for football pitch

COUNCILLORS have deferred a decision on whether or not to grant planning permission to an MFI store on the site of the old Wycombe Wanderers football pitch.

The furniture giants have applied to re-develop Loakes Park with a 37,000 ft MFI store, an 11,000ft building not yet allocated, and 220 parking spaces.

The rest of the Loakes park site has been earmarked for extensions to Wycombe General Hospital.

Cllr Alan Hill has criticised the plans as out of character with the area. He feels the MFI store would add to traffic problems in the area and that an out-of-town location would be more suitable.

Wycombe District Council's head of architectural services is currently discussing the design of the building with MFI's architect, the officers' report said.

The application was deferred until the next meeting or one in six weeks' time, by the Planning Applications Panel on Wednesday.

Chairman of Wycombe Wanderers Ivor Beeks said when asked about the prospect of an MFI store on the old ground: "It's no concern of ours. We have sold it.

"The supporters won't give a hoot about Loakes Park when they see what we have got here (Adams Park)."