

I HAVE just returned from watching a very entertaining and successful afternoon's football at Adams Park, and so far I am very impressed with the way that the club have settled in at the new ground.

All concerned deserve congratulations on the way that they have overcome the enormous number of problems involved in such a huge challenge of moving grounds.

My major worry had been the car parking facilities, but thanks to the very commendable co-operation of the local companies, this has been a very small problem. While sympathising with the local residents, the disturbance has been relatively minimal, and a delay of up to a quarter of an hour to leave the ground is fairly trivial compared to leaving grounds such as QPR.

Hopefully, the club will not mind some constructive criticism, but I hope they will benefit from some opinions from the terracing as I feel that they often make decisions without enough consideration of the majority of the fans.

The Altrincham and Welling games highlighted how ludicrous the segregation of the ground is. The "visitors" terrace has been completely empty, while the home fans are all at one end!

In order to achieve this segregation, they need at least 10 stewards to stand on the gates, to keep Wycombe fans apart! Please Wycombe, let us move freely around our own ground, let us meet friends like we used to, let our visitors look around our new ground, which we should be proud to show off, and save these poor stewards from wasting their time.

I am sure that I speak for almost all of the fans when I complain about the matchday programme, and a brief look around the terraces tells me that the lack of sales will probably reflect our views quite accurately.

The programme costs £1 and is packed full of advertising, out of date news, sponsorship waffle, commercial waffle, statistics and pictures of several players standing still.

I do not wish to put down the fine efforts of the editor because there is some interesting and essential information in there but I feel that they have been told to fill out 40 pages in a vain effort to justify the price.

This is entirely the wrong attitude. We know what our own players look like so don't pad it out with photos. Reduce the size to at least 8 pages less, let the editors put what they want in it, and reduce the price accordingly to about 60p like the other clubs, don't rip us off.

I would like to congratulate the club on the return of the inspirational music that they play when the team run out onto the pitch at the start of the game, which sadly was replaced at the Welling game.

This tune has become our team's theme over the past season and it is sad to read in the programme that it may be replaced by some antiquated war theme.

Now is not the time for jingoistic revivalism, we like the modern theme, we were a modern team with a modern ground, we don't want to be reminded of wars, especially in the current climate. I suspect that there are some influences behind the scenes here who are still living in the past.

Finally, I would like to wish the team the best luck, and I hope that the current confident spell on the pitch can continue, although I feel that with practically the same team that finished 10th last season we will need more than just a new ground and an excellent new manager to improve significantly on that position.

I also hope that when this letter is received the fans' favourite Kevin Durham is still at the club, and not sold off for a discount price.

**S Boyce
High Wycombe**

Blues seem destined to become champions

AS a long time Slough Town supporter, I feel I must congratulate Wycombe Wanderers on their excellent new facilities at Adams Park.

I attended Wycombe's first league game at their new home and was very impressed by the scale of the place. The terraces are excellent and the playing surface second to none — a far cry from what we can expect to find at Wexham Park.

As I watched the Wanderers carry out the demolition of Welling in those smart new surroundings, I couldn't help feeling that perhaps we were witnessing a performance by the future champions of the Conference.

Certainly, Slough have an awful lot of work to do before they can hope to achieve what the Wanderers seem destined for. Good luck to you Wycombe Wanderers and maybe, just maybe, I'll see a few more of your games yet.

Name and address supplied

Council must stand firm on opposition

AS A local resident, I must write in support of Cllr Mrs Letheren and the other brave stalwarts on the planning committee who have stuck to their policy and stood firm resisting further development at Wycombe Wanderers new ground in Hillbottom Road.

In his recent letter, Mr Goldsworthy accused the council "of turning down at least a dozen proposals for re-location of the club" yet I can find no record of any application for re-location by the club other than Hillbottom.

Mr Goldsworthy also bemoans the fact that the club, encouraged by officers, spent a lot of money on the original Hillbottom application prior to refusal. Surely developers realise that the final decision on the planning rests quite with the elected members of the planning committee, and that the officers are only there to advise?

Mrs Letheren, members of the council, local residents and others have always been concerned about the inadequate car parking at the ground. It was also one of the reasons for the original application being refused. Now our worst fears have become a reality, it is difficult not to say, "I told you so!"

Mr Goldsworthy quite rightly says that the football ground is there, accept it. However, I find his proposal to build a multi-storey car park, which would remain empty except on match days (unless of course, the management could find a 'community use' to put it to), quite ridiculous. His second suggestion of a continuous shuttle service of buses, subsidised by the club, and not the council, I think could be the solution.

**Karen Isaacs
Stanley Road,
High Wycombe**

REBELS' rivals in the Conference, Wycombe Wanderers, have made their best start since joining the league three seasons ago. The close season move to Adams Park and a level pitch has been accompanied by gates well over the 2,000 mark and a buzz along the terraces as well as the pitch. Unbeaten in five starts, Wycombe's defence led by Glyn Rees has only conceded two goals and scored eight, most of them quality. Mark West hit two gems in their 3-0 win against Altrincham last Saturday, while defender Andy Kerr got his second in successive games. Manager Martin O'Neill has just boosted the side by signing former Manchester United forward, 20-year-old Simon Hutchinson, from Eastwood Town for £7,000.

LOCAL clubs hit the hope and glory trail for the FA Cup when the first qualifying round takes place next Saturday (September 15). Slough are at home to Feltham Vauxhall Div 2 South side Feltham while Windsor & Eton travel to Cove from the same Division. Burnham face Vauxhall Premier Division leaders Dagenham away from home while Maidenhead United make the short journey to Adams Park for a meeting with Wycombe.