

Public solution to parking problem

AS an avid Blues supporter and regularly witnessing the problems of access, parking and departure at Adams Park, my sympathies are with the residents of Sands who put up with me and 2,999 others descending upon the area every other Saturday as well as some evenings, to watch the matches.

Sympathy also goes to the police who are in an impossible situation, no matter how well they do their job, somebody always suffers, namely the local residents.

Sympathy does not solve problems, action does. But, one must ask, how did the problem occur in the first place? Answer: a basic lack of forward planning.

What kind of planning builds a complex for 6,000 plus people gives scant consideration to the movement/ access/ departure/ parking etc for those people.

Did not the planners think of this at the outset? If not, why not? And did they consider the other farcical situation that exists? A successful team, full of ambition, and yet no training pitch – what a nonsense.

A properly constructed plan is one that considers all aspects, problems, present and future, that could possibly occur, and with consultation with all interested parties, thinks things through, and arrives at a logical, sensible and workable conclusion BEFORE construction begins.

This was obviously not done, if it were the present dilemmas would not exist. For the assistant county engineer, Mr Currell, to say that Adams Park was planned and built before the Hillsborough tragedy and before the 1990 Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds, bears no relevance to the present situation. To hide behind a tragedy and use it as an excuse for basic incompetence is an utter disgrace.

The situation exists – what to do? A good start would be for those responsible to admit publicly that the whole concept was not properly thought through at the outset.

Secondly, a public meeting(s) could be arranged, perhaps at Adams Park, open to all interested parties, club officials, council officials (including planners) supporters, Police, local residents, etc. Only then is there any hope of arriving at a sensible solution acceptable to all.

**R B Pickard,
Wynbury Drive
High Wycombe**

Councillor moves on the defensive

I AM disappointed to read in your report of the planning applications panel debate on the Wanderers' application that I headed 'the attack' on the pitch.

I don't believe any member of the panel attacked the application; rather a number of councillors defended planning policies relating to areas of natural beauty which the application seemed to infringe.

These policies have been produced by very many councillors and officers over many years, set with a view to preserving areas around the district for the benefit of all residents.

I said and I think it is worth repeating that every member of the panel wished the club every success and did not wish to impede its progress.

However, that does not mean that we have to ignore as we see, it our obligations to the community at large.

**Cllr Ted Collins
Booker and Castlefield**

Grieving Ruth thanks supporters

I HAVE been overwhelmed by the response to the news of Kevin Durham's death.

So many people have taken the time and trouble to write, phone or call and I would just like to thank everyone for the kindness and support I've received.

Although there isn't anything anyone can say, I have drawn comfort from the knowledge that so many people care, and this has helped me a great deal in the past week. Thank you. I really do appreciate it.

**Ruth Payne
Harden Waye
High Wycombe**