

Blues chairman pushes pitch plan

WYCOMBE Wanderers chairman Ivor Beeks has written to councillors to persuade them to support his club's plans for a new training pitch.

Members of Wycombe District Council plans committee, which meets tomorrow to discuss the club's revised application, were sent the letter on Friday.

Mr Beeks suggested in the letter that the new application, independent of an ongoing one already once refused by councillors and now being considered at appeal, may prove acceptable.

"The present application has been lodged with your council as part of a

genuine attempt to overcome those concerns which were previously expressed by your members," wrote Mr Beeks.

The new application differs from the old plan, recommended for conditional permission by council officers but thrown out by the elected representatives in July last year.

Both plans are for a training pitch, 224 car parking spaces and extensive landscaping on land near Wanderers' Adams Park stadium.

The new plan incorporates a two-metre reduction in the height of the pitch and a five-metre reduction in the height of the floodlights.

Wanderers face going West

BLUES boss Martin O'Neill was being wined and dined at a function in London when the name of Wycombe Wanderers was pulled from a bag at the

Football Association's headquarters on Monday.

As one of the staff at Adams Park said, he was the lucky one. Because after the Blues were given the plum tie of the Second Round, the club was deluged with calls about tickets and media enquiries.

A home game against West Bromwich Albion is Wycombe's reward for their 3-1 defeat of Conference rivals Merthyr Tydfil in Saturday's First Round tie.

For the spectators, the draw could hardly be more attractive - the Conference favourites against one of the biggest teams outside the Premier League.

West Brom are one of the giants of English football. They may only be in the Second Division but the club has had a famous history.

Almost as famous as the club itself is their manager, Ossie Ardiles. The Argentinian World Cup star made his name in this country for Tottenham, particularly because of the FA Cup.

He was the name on everyone's lips in 1981 when Spurs reached Wembley, which the club celebrated by making the famous record with Chas & Dave, 'Ossie's Going To Wembley'.

It's now up to non-league Wycombe to help ensure he doesn't this year.

Town goes football mad

WYCOMBE Wanderers' home tie against West Bromwich Albion will be an all ticket clash, with a capacity of 7,100.

The phone lines at the club haven't stopped ringing with the area going football crazy this week. The match has also caught the attention of the national media.

The FA Cup second round game between the Conference leaders and Second Division side West Brom, managed by Ossie Ardiles, will be screened live on Sky TV, kicking off at 1.30pm on Sunday, December 6.

Season ticket holders, vice presidents of

the club and League Line full members will be given the first chance to buy the tickets, on Sunday, between 10am and 1.30pm, at Adams Park and again on Monday, between 9am and 5.30pm and Tuesday, between 9am and 7.30pm.

Other fans will not be allowed to buy tickets until Sunday, November 29, between 2pm and 4.30pm. There will only be one ticket per person.

● The Sky Sports channel is planning to screen a feature on the history of Wycombe if the Blues win the big game.