

We all oppose parking plans

LIKE Wycombe Wanderers Football Club, Sands Residents' Association is opposed to the latest set of proposals for additional parking restrictions in Sands. Although not necessarily for the same reasons.

The existing parking restrictions in Sands are no longer enforced by the police as they appear to have insufficient resources. There is no evidence to suggest that more yellow lines will change this.

If the current parking restrictions were enforced together with the rules on obstruction and dangerous parking contained in Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act, then the traffic and parking would be managed sufficiently well to meet the objectives of the new regulations.

The proposed new restrictions would prevent residents as well as others parking on the roads affected and would therefore worsen the existing situation.

The proposed restrictions would not reduce the number of football fans trying to find parking spaces. It would just move these vehicles out of the heart of Sands into streets slightly further out. This is no solution.

What is required is a proper solution which does not involve more parking at the ground or in the factories around the ground. Either of these solutions just brings more traffic into Sands, with its attendant noise and pollution. At the original planning inquiry the football club suggested that it would put on a park-and-ride scheme. Now is the time for the club and perhaps the council to organise

a scheme which spreads football parking around the district. A park-and-ride scheme must be made to work.

Now is the time for a long-term solution, not short-term measures.

Stephen Billingham
Chairman
Sands Residents'
Association
Carisbrooke Avenue
Sands

FOOTBALL By Claire Nash

WYCOMBE Wanderers have finally secured their friendly date against Chelsea at Adams Park, two seasons after the Premiership club's chairman Ken Bates first pledged that they would visit.

The match takes place on Wednesday, August 10 (ko 7pm).

A pre-season fixture was set up between the two Blues in August last year. But Chelsea boss Glenn Hoddle, who had only then just become manager, withdrew his team because it took place too soon after the annual Makita international tournament, which they won.

Beaconsfield-based businessman Bates, who has described Martin O'Neill's Blues as his local team, hoped the teams would do friendly battle after Wycombe were promoted to the Football League last year. He said then: "What greater way of celebrating the move up than by Chelsea coming to play them in a challenge match before the start of next season?"

The early kick off time is due to upgrading work on the Adams Park floodlights.

O'Neill hopes to have arranged a further friendly to add to the only other home date against Leicester City on Monday, August 1 (ko 7.45pm). In the meantime Wanderers' players begin pre-season training today before embarking on a four-day tour to Holland and Germany, starting on Sunday, July 24, where they will play representative sides including one against a Combined Services XI.

They will travel to Berkhamsted Town for Ray Jeffrey's testimonial the day after their return on Thursday, July 28 (ko 7.30pm).

●Wanderers fans may be prevented from witnessing Blues' first League trip to Birmingham City's St Andrews ground which is currently being redeveloped. Wycombe are due to play Birmingham on Tuesday, August 30. "It has been indicated to the Football League that Birmingham will have a problem at the beginning of the season in as much as away fans are concerned," said a Football League spokesman this week. But he added: "It is subject to discussions between Birmingham City and the Football League and no decisions have been made as yet."

Blues dust down their whites

CRICKET: Martin O'Neill and his Wycombe Wanderers squad will be donning their whites for a cricket match against town mayor Lesley Clarke's invitation team at High Wycombe Cricket Club on Tuesday.

All proceeds from the game, starting at 6pm at the London Road ground, will go to the mayor's youth development appeal. Wanderers will be fielding a full first team. Matt Crossley, who has played Thames Valley League cricket for Basingstoke, and O'Neill are known to be useful cricketers.

They will be up against a team, managed by High Wycombe player Richard Morgan, and featuring ex-Marlow FC manager Dave Russell, who plays cricket for Marlow Park, in the 20-over-a-side game.

Food and refreshments will be available at the ground, and admission is £1, including free entry to the prize draw.

●O'Neill and his men should be in good form by Tuesday, because they will also be turning out in a cricket match at Wooburn Park against Wooburn Narkovians on World Cup Final day on Sunday. The match will start at 2pm.

Fans set up new club

A GROUP of Wycombe Wanderers fans are keen to hear from anyone interested in joining a supporters' club they are trying to set up.

Blues have not had an official fans' group for some time. But Tim Rutland, and eight fellow supporters, believe it would be a good idea to start one up.

"The supporters are obviously there and I

believe they would be interested in joining something like this," said the 33-year-old, of Carrington Road, High Wycombe. If you are interested in joining the club, write to Tim Rutland at 2 Carrington Court, Carrington Road, High Wycombe, or telephone (0494) 441131.

●This week's League-line winners (week 40) are £400 A Pearce 650; £25 N Busby 1056; £25 D Churchill 860.