

Blues could ask players to take a pay cut

WANDERERS could join Watford and Leicester in asking their players to take pay cuts – but they insist it will only happen as a last resort.

The Blues announced an operating loss of £455,000 for the last financial year at Monday's AGM and finance director Rod Tomlin admitted that a 10 per cent wage cut for players and staff could be imposed by Christmas if revenue does not pick up.

He said: "I hope it doesn't come to that but we could conceivably be looking at a voluntary pay cut.

"My worse case scenario is a 10 per cent reduction in wages.

"I would be absolutely devastated if our loss matched that of the previous financial year."

But he remains confident that he will not have to impose his emergency plan. He is planning to cut costs elsewhere while at the same time boosting income from merchandising.

And the signs are good. Blues are close to signing a sponsorship deal with Jarvis Hotels which would give the team free use of their accommodation on away trips.

They are also considering closing their Wanderers in Town club shop, saving a packet in rent, and selling their merchandise and tickets through sport shops instead.

West scores from 50 yards

FOOTBALL: Mark West scored straight from the kick-off on Tuesday, as Thame trounced Hemel Hempstead 8-2 in the Ryman Division One North.

With the wind behind him, West struck from the centre spot just after Hemel had taken the lead at 2-1.

Thame manager Andy Sinnott said: "It was a great bit of thinking. He looked up and saw the goalkeeper was still organising his defence.

"He chipped the goalkeeper and it hit the post and went in while everybody was still in their positions for the restart.

"Everybody sort of looked around and then the celebrations started.

"I was still moaning about the goal we'd conceded and all of a sudden we were back in the game.

"It was superb."

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