

Supporters slam Adams sell-off

SUPPORTERS have reacted with anger to the news that Wanderers are selling the name of their stadium for less than £100,000 a year.

They are calling on the board to pull out of the deal with Causeway and have accused them of selling their heritage down the river.

Supporter Derek Roe is so angry that he will not be renewing his season ticket.

He said: "I am utterly disgusted by the decision to sell the name of Adams Park. The new stadium was named in honour of a man who made a huge contribution to the club. The phrase 'thirty pieces of silver' comes to mind.

"The club doesn't appreciate the fans' money, so my season ticket will not be renewed and my Leagueline membership cancelled. An insignificant gesture, but I've had enough."

Supporter Ed Goode said: "The name of the ground is a part of our heritage, and worth an infinite amount more than we will receive for any sponsorship deal. If the current board of

By DAVE PETERS

directors do not understand this, perhaps it is time they stood aside.

"I have been a season ticket holder for more than half my life, and if I hadn't already renewed my season ticket for the 2003/04 season, I probably wouldn't be."

Alan Vickers added: "The re-naming of Adams Park can't be allowed to happen. This will be a huge ghastly mistake by Wycombe's board, it will alienate many traditional supporters and once again prove that the motive is money, at the expense of traditional values."

Jim Goff has also called on the club to perform a U-turn.

He said: "Dropping the name for financial gain is an insult to the Adams Family."

Denise Lindsay from Sands said: "I think the idea to change the name is appalling. Yet another piece of Wycombe's recent past has been eroded."

James Ray turned on the decision-makers and called on them to identify themselves.

He said: "Whoever let this happen should face the fans to explain themselves and see the reaction they get. My disgust for the board over this is immeasurable and I can see the club seeing the effect at the start of the season.

"I would not be surprised if supporters boycotted the matches as a sign of protest to this move.

"The fact that us the fans were told that we would not be losing the name has only incensed me more. This is truly a black day for Wycombe Wanderers FC."

Exiled fan Colin Hazelden from York also vented his fury and called on the Free Press and the Midweek not to use the stadium's new name.

He said: "Wycombe's ground will always be Adams Park. We can only ask you not to bow to the inevitable pressure to acknowledge the sponsor when you write the ground's name. Keep calling it Adams Park."

Flackwell Heath-based supporter David Wiltshire slammed the sponsors:

He said: "I was a schoolboy when I attended the match between the Wanderers and Corinthian Casuals, at which Frank Adams presented the freehold of Loakes Park to the club. I still have the programme from that game!

"It was his generosity which gave the Wanderers the ground to sell years later, and to provide the funds to move to Adams Park so it was appropriate that the new ground was named in his memory.

"It seems very churlish of the club to turn their back on this heritage but financial pressures in modern football culture can't be ignored and if a company is foolish enough to be prepared to pay a sizeable sum to have the ground renamed, then so be it.

"However, whatever happens I will carry on calling it Adams Park rather than 'The Heinz 57 Stadium' or whatever it may become, and I hope that every other Wanderers supporter, with even half an appreciation of what has gone before will do the same."

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