

Beeks: We had to drop name

Chairman believes club is right to lose Adams name from stadium

WANDERERS chairman Ivor Beeks said there is no alternative than to drop the words Adams Park from the stadium name.

The Blues' ground will be named Causeway Stadium after the Loudwater sponsors, as exclusively revealed in Tuesday's BFP Midweek, and Beeks said it had to be done to keep Wycombe going financially.

Beeks also believes Jack Adams – son of Wanderers benefactor Frank – would have done the same thing.

Frank Adams donated Wanderers' old Loakes Park ground and Adams Park is named after him, with son Jack sitting on the board until his death in April 2002.

Beeks said: "I've been involved for 14 years on the

JOE SLADE

WANDERERS

board and for 13 years, I sat on the board with Jack Adams.

"I knew him exceptionally well and I'm reasonably sure in my mind that if he knew the financial situation, Jack's considerations would have been the same."

"This was not a decision that was taken lightly. It went to two or three board meetings before a decision was made."

"At the end of the day, we are here to make sure that the football club survives."

"It was a financial decision and we needed to make it."

And Beeks is standing by that decision.

He said: "I know how the

fans feel. I feel strongly about it as well but we had to make that decision.

"Of course we knew that everybody would not be happy but we can't not make a decision just because people won't be happy about it."

"We've got to take it on the chin and deal with the criticism."

"Last year, when it was known that we were going to have Wasps, all hell broke loose. But we've had 12 months and we've seen fantastic rugby, help financially and the pitch is excellent."

"Now we're getting financial help and from that help, the club can survive."

"If we didn't have this sponsorship or sponsor for the shirt, we'd have a massive hole to fill. How do we fill it?"

"We don't want to be like the 15 or 20 clubs in the last 18 months who have really struggled."

Beeks believes it is a good deal with Causeway Technologies, who specialise in software for the construction industry.

He said: "The marketing team have done exceeding well. They've got a shirt sponsor and a stadium sponsor and I don't know of any other club that has managed to do that."

But fans are angry about the dropping of the Adams name for less than £100,000 a year.

Ian Mobsby, chairman of Wycombe Wanderers Independent Supporters Club, said: "If people thought we were getting a lot of money for it, they might accept it but it's upset an awful lot of people."

"I think Causeway are laughing all the way to the bank. Not only have they got a football club, they've got a rugby club in Wasps who are doing well."

"The fans will still refer to it as Adams Park."

And former player David Pembroke said: "Frank Adams has done everything for Wycombe Wanderers."

"I was a 17 year-old player in the reserve side when my father died and Frank Adams and Sid Cann [manager] knocked on my door to offer their condolences and see if there was anything they could do for me and my mother."

"That was the kind of person he was and for the club to do this to his memory is very disappointing."

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