Beeks urges fans to keep an open mind over share plan

WANDERERS chairman Ivor Beeks has called for fans to treat the club's share plans with an open mind as more details of the radical proposals emerged this week.

Blues are hoping to raise £1 million through a partial share scheme but need the support of their 450 members to push the move through.

Beeks said: "There seems to be so much suspicion about everything we try and do."

Fans are worried that opening their members-only club up to private investors could see Wanderers fall into the wrong hands.

But following last week's Free Press exclusive, Wanderers have revealed more details of their plans which they say will safeguard the club's future.

One option being considered is to split the club into two with the members retaining ownership of the ground – to ensure it doesn't fall into the hands of developers – and a new company, supported by new investors, effectively being formed to look after the day-to-day running of the club.

Beeks admitted such a scheme is being considered but added that at this stage 'nothing is the preferred option.'

But Beeks said: "We need to look at every area but at the end of the day the membership will make the decision not the board of directors."

Team boss Lawrie Sanchez thinks change of some sort is necessary.

He said: "To go forward we do need something revolutionary off the field. We are a second division club and it's very difficult to go forward with the resources available.

"We do need something radical to happen off the field and all we can do is give as good a shout as we can with what we've got on the field."

● Wanderers new boy Steve Dell is determined to make it second time lucky in the pro-game after his first bid was scuppered by illness.

He contracted glandular fever when he was a YTS trainee with QPR and that knockback ended his hopes of earning a professional contract.

He said: "I was 17 when I caught it. It took me a good year and a half to get over it and I had to pull out of football. It was a big blow but I never thought it was all over for me."

Dell battled back to fitness and then joined non-league clubs Hayes and Beaconsfield SYCOB. And it was while he was at SYCOB last year that he was picked up by Wanderers.

Becky are managed by Wanderers goalkeeping coach Colin Barnes and he pushed him towards Wanderers' attention.

Dell said: "I'm delighted to be back in. I've always believed in my ability and now that I have got back to the professional level I am really pleased about it.

"I'm just happy to have the chance again. It's only for three months but I know that if I impress it will be extended.

"I know I've got the ability to do it and I won't let anyone down."

● Lawrie Sanchez put one over his old club Wimbledon on Tuesday and then admitted that the state of his old club makes him despair.

The Dons have lost most of their best players, alientated their fans with a proposed move to Milton Keynes which is due to happen his year.

He said: "When you think where we were and what we did and see that it has been shorn of everything but good young kids now, no crowds and no ground in administration, it does sadden me. That's my history, ten years there as a player, five years there as a coach."

And he told Wycombe fans: "We've seen what Wimbledon are like – let's be grateful for what we've got here."