

Bucks Free Press

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Council offices sale is a 'betrayal'

**Proposal slammed
as building is part
of 'town's identity'**

By Nathaniel Lawson

WYCOMBE councillors have accused Buckinghamshire Council of 'betraying' the town after plans to sell its historic offices were tabled.

A report going to Cabinet next week recommends marketing the 1.1-hectare site at Queen Victoria Road, which includes four separate buildings.

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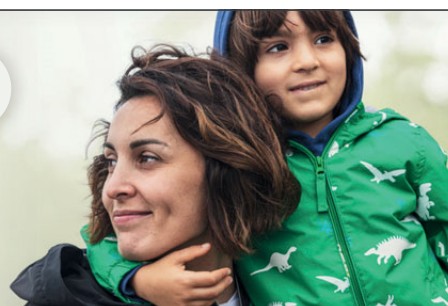


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FOOTBALL

Chesham Women pick up their first point



Erin Radbourne saves the first penalty for Chesham United.

AFTER a tough start to their FA WNL campaign, Chesham Women got their first point of the season at The Meadow last Sunday. Playing AFC Sudbury, who were one point behind Chesham in the table, this was an important game.

Kicking off towards The Meadow End in the first half, Chesham had some good early possession and one or two chances to get their noses ahead but the breakthrough came on 12 minutes when Jenny Nagle got on the end of a lovely ball from Sophie Bishop. Jenny outpaced the AFC Sudbury defence and managed to find the back of the net from the left side of the area.

The first half ebbed and flowed from there until the 38th minute when Sudbury were awarded a penalty for a handball in the area. Up stepped Erin Radbourne, Chesham's keeper, who is on a dual signing from

Tottenham, to save the day! A save low and to her left that kept Chesham ahead.

The second half provided a slightly different game with AFC Sudbury enjoying more of the ball and Chesham defending stoutly to keep the 1-0 lead intact. That plan worked until the 85th minute when the referee again awarded a penalty for a handball in the area, a decision that was greeted with disbelief by the player involved and some frustration on the bench (resulting in a yellow card for Chesham's Manager Mani Asare.) This time Radbourne couldn't keep a good strike that found the left side of the goal out. It keeps Chesham in 10th place in the table.

Next up Chesham, travel to Tier Three Watford on Sunday in the FA WNL Cup (played at Kings Langley FC) and the week after they're on the road again at QPR in the FA WNL.

FOOTBALL

Heathens progress in FA Cup

FLACKWELL HEATH 2 (Connor Young 90, Harlem Hale 91) LEWES 1 (Ryan Bernal 80)

ATTENDANCE: 235

FLACKWELL Heath pulled off a terrific 2-1 victory over their Isthmian League Premier Division opponents Lewes, with goals from Connor Young on 90 minutes and Harlem Hale a minute later, to progress the next round of the FA Cup, writes John Stephenson.

An even first half with few chances to either side ended level. The best opportunity fell to Flackwell's Jack Shakespeare whose effort was saved by visiting keeper Louis Rogers.

The second period saw both sides try to break the deadlock without being able to provide an opening until the 80th minute when a cross from the left was met by a powerful header by fullback Ryan Bernal.

With time running out a through ball from Jabir Laraba found Connor Young who slotted past keeper Rogers and a minute later Eli Grant found Harlem Hale who beat the keeper to send the home fans into raptures.

CHAIRBOYS

Club reveal transfer by mistake on social media

WYCOMBE Wanderers accidentally leaked the signing of striker Cauley Woodrow on Transfer Deadline Day.

The 30-year-old forward, who has joined the Chairboys on a season-long loan from Luton Town, was pictured in the farewell photos surrounding Garath McCleary's exit from Adams Park on August 31.

He was seen in the background next to the former Jamaican international, with the images being published on Wanderers' X page.

It was deleted almost immediately, but not quick enough as some eagle-eyed Wycombe fans took notice.

Woodrow was eventually announced hours later.

The forward began his career with Luton before joining Fulham in 2011.

He spent eight years in West London in which he joined Barnsley in 2018 and spent four years in Yorkshire, before moving back to the Hatters in 2022.

Despite a move back to his first club, Woodrow has only scored six goals in 77 games.

FOOTBALL

One point from six in busy week for Chesham United

CHESHAM United had another two-game week as they played Chelmsford on the road and then headed to Southampton to face AFC Totton under the lights, reports Andy Westlake.

First to Saturday, and Chesham went down to a second defeat in a week as ambitious Chelmsford took the points with a 2-1 victory.

Chesham made a bright start but conceded a poor goal in the seventh minute, when two defenders got in each other's way in attempting to deal with a long clearance and Louie Kudabor ran on to slot the ball past Ben Goode. Two minutes later a Ricky Holmes free

kick was headed back across goal by Joe Grimwood and David Longe-King netted from close range to make it 2-0.

Just after the hour mark Chesham halved the deficit when keeper Chris Haigh tipped away a corner from Alfie Williams, the ball bounced around in the area and eventually Matt Lench forced it over the line. On the hour, Chelmsford's David Longe-King was shown a straight red card after he wrestled Mitchell Weiss to the ground in an off-the-ball incident. Chesham pushed for a way to level the game after that but Chelmsford held on for the win.

Deep into stoppage time Steve Brown was

left one-on-one with Lyle Taylor inside the Chesham half, and as Taylor threatened to break clear Brown pulled his opponent down to be shown a straight red card.

On Tuesday night, Chesham travelled to AFC Totton and took a point in a 1-1 draw. The deadlock was broken in the 73rd minute - Connor Roberts starting and finishing a good move with Samson Esan.

Ten minutes later things were level after Tony Lee looped a header over Ben Goode from a right sided cross after some good build up play.

Chesham now sit in 14th place in the National League South table and they welcome Bath City to The Meadow on Saturday, September 6.



Connor Roberts celebrates as he puts Chesham ahead - photo Neale Blackburn

Holmer suffer a first defeat of the season

HOLMER Green slipped from second to eighth place as a result of their first league defeat of the season, losing 3-2 at home to Sport London e Benfica.

Defensive and midfield mistakes, which proved costly, were made and punished by a very speedy pair up front for the visitors. The first such mistake was on four minutes when a miscontrolled ball was seized on by Mayah, who the turned two defenders before finding a way past Sam Bell at his near post. On 23 minutes the lead

was doubled. Adetole Baruwa attempted to shoulder charge on an opponent who was facing away from goal near the bye-line. Unfortunately, the target cleverly speeded up and the charge was in the back rather than from the side. Raposo placed the kick low, and right in the corner, evading Bell's fine effort to save it. The Greens pulled one back on 25 minutes. An Ollie Saunders corner was punched out under pressure from by players of both sides. The ball was recycled straight back into

the goal area where Josh Peck quickly swivelled and put the ball over the line. Holmer now started to dominate possession and Benfica's flowing football was now missing and the ball was being pumped up-field at every opportunity.

Holmer paid for not creating openings on 44 minutes. Another defensive lapse allowed Raposo in on the left, and despite having many defenders back none marked up well enough. Mayah was fed with the ball and tucked the

ball inside the near post. The Greens struck back immediately. An Aaron Bryan cross bounced up unkindly for one of the visitors' centre-backs who was trying to intercept the pass. The Referee spotted the deliberate handball, and Alex Colverd did the necessary from the spot.

The best chance of the second half came three minutes into stoppage time. A diving header from Liam Butters was acrobatically tipped over the crossbar by the 'keeper.

Sport

BOWLS

Success for the Marlow Donkeys team

MARLOW Bowls Club has five teams playing in the Bucks County Ray Keen League. One of them, the Marlow Donkeys joined this league in 2024, bringing in a number of the Club's newer bowlers, together with some more experienced members. Last year the Donkeys had a modest season.

But this year, the Donkeys have won all eight of their games, playing home and away, against two teams from Flackwell Heath, one

from Burnham and one from Gerrards Cross. Their closest games were against Burnham Cygnets who came second in the league; in most other games the Donkeys won by margins from 10 to 30 shots. They are therefore top of their league.

Marlow is rightly proud of this 100 per cent success and with further interest from our newer and not so new members, we hope to enter a sixth team in the Ray Keen League in 2026 to join the five

teams - Marlovians, Blues, Bluecoats, Swans and Donkeys.

The photo, taken after the last game, shows seven of a team of ten players. Team leaders, Fred & Tricia Best, in the centre, with the players of the final game (left to right) Andy Tinnelly, Jeff Higgins, Roger Pearce and Mark Lanaway and almost hidden behind on the right, Andy Burrell. The other three members of the team are Colin Brown, Angela Moss and Sef Potter.



Marlow Donkeys.

GOLF

Kemp joins England Golf Home International squad

By Sport Reporter

England Golf has confirmed its Senior Men's Team for the upcoming European Senior Men's Team Championship and Senior Women's & Men's Home Internationals.

Stephen Creed, Danny Holmes, Peter Jackson, John Kennedy, Steve Sansome and Martin Young will represent England at the European Team Championships which take place at Diamond Country Club, Austria, from 2-6 September.

The same six players, plus John Kemp (Woburn), will be part of the Senior Women's & Men's Home Internationals Team, with the event set to take place at Ferndown Golf Club, Dorset, from 16-18 September.

Team Captain Andrew Atkinson said: "This year has been a very difficult year to pick the team with six players all vying for the final two places. I had numerous sleepless nights and a long consultation with (England Golf Performance Director) Nigel Edwards before we came to our final decision.

"My expectations for the team are very high and I'm sure the seven selected will represent England with honour and give everything to carry on the team's fantastic legacy."

Find out more about the players below.

Stephen Creed, Stratford-on-Avon (Warwickshire)

- 2nd-place finish at Spanish International Seniors' Championship
- Top-5 finish at Irish Seniors Men's Amateur Open
- Top-10 finish at European Seniors Championship
- Top-20 finish at 2025 English Senior Men's Stroke Play Championship
- Represented England in Senior Women's & Men's Home Internationals in 2023 and 2024, and at European Senior Men's Team Championship in 2023

Danny Holmes (Rochester & Cobham Park, Kent)

- Won the 2024 England Golf Senior Men's Order of Merit title
- Top-10 finish at 2025 English Senior Men's Stroke Play Championship
- Reached the quarter-finals of the 2025 English Senior Men's Amateur Championship

Peter Jackson (Woking, Surrey)

- Won the 2025 English Senior Amateur Championship
- Top-20 finish at 2025 English Senior Men's Stroke Play Championship

John Kennedy (Consett & District, Durham)

- Won the 2025 Senior Men's Amateur Championship
- Won the 2025 Scottish Senior Men's Open Championship
- Won the 2025 Durham County Championship
- Top-20 finish at 2025 English Senior Men's Stroke Play Championship

Steve Sansome (Rothley Park, Leicestershire)

- Won the 2025 Welsh Men's Open Seniors Championship
- Reached the quarter-finals of the 2025 English Senior Men's Amateur
- Runner-up at 2024 English Senior Men's Amateur

Martin Young (Brokenhurst Manor, Hampshire)

- Reached the quarter-finals of the 2025 English Senior Men's Amateur

Joining the Home Internationals Squad:

John Kemp, Woburn (Bucks, Berks & Oxfordshire)

- Won the 2024 and 2025 English Senior Men's Stroke Play Championship
- Top-5 finishes at 2025 Spanish International Seniors' Championship and John T Lupton Memorial - Senior (USA)
- Top-10 finish at 2025 Scottish Senior Men's Open
- Reached the last 16 of the 2025 US Senior Men's Amateur, after having finished 1st in the stroke play stages
- Represented Team Europe against USA at 2024 Concession Cup



John Kemp. Picture: Leaderboard Photography/England Golf

CRICKET

Slough can win Div 2 title on Saturday

SLOUGH CC lost to Gerrards Cross, but remain on course to win the Home Counties Premier League Division 2 title going into their final fixture this weekend. They are home to Falkland, who have already been relegated along with Bicester and North Oxford.

The Upton Court Park men hold a nine-point lead over Wokingham, who in turn are seven points clear of Gerrards Cross.

Last Saturday, they were bowled out for 226, with Mujtaba Ghayyas contributing 57 and Humza Ishaq 52.

Following breaks for rain, Gerrards Cross were given a revised target of 109 from 21 overs, and reached it for the loss of four wickets, three of which were taken by Kazim Naqvi.

Datchet defeated Falkland in a rain-affected game. They dismissed their hosts for 172 but were given a revised target which they reached in 24 overs, finishing on 122-4, Joe Thomas making 27 not out.

Stoke Green face relegation from Division 1 after losing to Oxford Downs by 66 runs, with Wargrave moving above them following their two-run success at Harefield.

Green complete their season at Wargrave this Saturday.

●In Division One, champions-elect High Wycombe shared the points with third-from-bottom Great Brickhill as weather forced the match to be abandoned.

The strugglers won the toss and put the leaders on to bat first, setting a target of 189/9 from their 50 overs.

Rain impacted play and the visitors were set a revised target of 174 from 39 overs, however only 11 overs were played and the match was called off with Great Brickhill at 31/4.

It is a battle between the top two on Saturday as High Wycombe travel to Oxford Downs with a 38-point lead over their hosts.

●Buckinghamshire clinched the NCCA Eastern Division 1 title after their match with Lincolnshire at High Wycombe was abandoned due to rain, with only 104 overs being bowled over the three days. They were on 90-2 in reply to the visitors' 308.

Bucks finished five points ahead of Suffolk and seven points better off than Staffordshire, who drew with Cambridgeshire when just one wicket away from winning, which would have taken them to the top of the table.

Bucks will meet Western Division champions Devon in a repeat of the 2023 Championship final at West Bromwich Dartmouth, with the four-day fixture starting on Sunday.

Wanderers confirm three Deadline Day loan signings

WYCOMBE Wanderers have completed the loan signings of Cauley Woodrow, Niall Huggins and Sam Bell from Luton Town, Sunderland and Bristol City, respectively.

In what was a busy Transfer Deadline Day for the Chairboys, with several departures, along with the arrival of Donnell McNeilly from Nottingham Forest, the trio were confirmed after the window officially closed at 7 pm on September 1.

For Woodrow, the striker joins the Adams Park side following the departures of Richard Kone to QPR and Dan Udoh to Salford City.

With Huggins, the right-back has signed for the South Buckinghamshire outfit to provide competition for fellow full-backs in Jack Grimmer and Finn Back.

He can also play at left-back.

Speaking on his transfer, Woodrow said: "This is a great football club that has been doing well for a number of years now.

I know players like Jack Grimmer and Fred [Onyedimma], and they could only speak highly of this club.

"I'm happy to be here, and I hope I can help as much as I can.

"I have got a lot of experience from playing in different leagues, so I have felt it all.

"I am an experienced head now, and just need to be playing again and scoring goals as I have scored goals over my career, and that's something that excites me.

"Hopefully, I will have the opportunity to do that.

"I think there is an exciting



Cauley Woodrow (left), Niall Huggins (centre) and Sam Bell (right) have joined Wycombe on loan Image: PA

project here.

"I know some of the lads here, and I know Dan Rice from my time at Fulham.

"Looking from the outside in, it's always been a club that has done well."

Prior to his move, Woodrow scored eight times in 77 games for the Hatters.

On Huggins, who worked with Wycombe head coach Mike Dodds when the latter was at Sunderland, the 39-year-old said: "I'm really keen on Niall as a player.

"We're really pleased to bring him here to give us extra competition down the right-hand side.

"He's a great lad, he works hard and has battled back from injury, so he's ready to make a big impact for us here throughout the season."

Director of Football Strategy & Data Intelligence Tom Stockwell added, "Niall is a top footballer who can play in multiple positions, shapes and systems.

"With high energy and in-

tensity, Niall will give us the drive to carry us out of the defensive shape and into attack."

Finally, Sam Bell, son of the 1997 Player of the Year for Wycombe, Micky, was last announced on Deadline Day.

Speaking on his loan move to Adams Park, he said: "It's been a fairly frustrating period of time for me with [the lack of gametime].

"I'm hoping to hit the ground running and get as many minutes as I can and

help the team going forward.

"I can't wait to play at Adams Park.

Mike Dodds added: "Sam's got real talent down the left wing and gives us another option at the top end of the pitch.

"We're really pleased with the business that's been done throughout the window and look forward to welcoming the newest lads into the group and working hard as ever to turn our performances into results."

FOOTBALL

Coach had 'choice words' after loss

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds has admitted he had some 'choice words' to tell his team following the Chairboys' 2-1 home defeat to Colchester United in the EFL Trophy.

He has also revealed that he was 'angry and frustrated' as many individuals 'were too casual' in the loss, with him confirming that some could be exiled from future matchday squads if they don't improve.

In the group stage fixture against the Essex-based team, the Us went ahead on 30 minutes thanks to a Jaden Williams tap-in, before an Alex Lowry screamer on the stroke of half-time put Wycombe level.

The Chairboys were once again slow and passive during the encounter, and in the final minute of the contest, Jack Tucker popped up to score a well-taken volley.

The result means Wanderers have lost nine of their last 14 games in all competitions.

Additionally, since Dodds took over from Matt Bloomfield earlier this year, he has now tasted 12 defeats in his 28 games in charge.

Speaking after the loss, he told BBC 3 Counties and the Free Press: "I thought we started well as we had some purpose, but became casual, and I will not accept a Wycombe Wanderers team that is casual.

"I have had to have some choice words, and we will be in tomorrow [September 3].

"What I need now are certain players who have been brought to the football club recently to step up and say, 'I am your main man'.

"I don't feel many are doing that at the moment."

Dodds made eight changes to the team that lost to Stevenage on Saturday, with Dan Harvie, Anders Hagelskjær, and Luke Leahy all retaining their places.

However, with four new faces arriving on Transfer Deadline Day at Wycombe (Cauley Woodrow, Niall Huggins, Sam Bell and Donnell McNeilly), it does seem that minutes for some Chairboys players are numbered, if the club continue this poor run of form.

The head coach continued: "The squad is bigger than what I would want, but that's only a problem if people are performing.

"I have made the players know in no uncertain terms that too many of them at the top end of the pitch were too slow and casual.

"You can talk about process, style and philosophy, but it all counts for nothing if you don't move a ball at a tempo and don't roll your sleeves up.

"I thought we did that in the first bit in the first half, but we were far too casual which was frustrating.

FOOTBALL

Two attackers leave for League Two teams

WYCOMBE Wanderers have confirmed the departures of two attacking players on Transfer Deadline Day.

On August 31, the Chairboys revealed that club legend Garath McCleary had mutually agreed to cancel his contract following an automatic one-year extension that had been triggered.

He hasn't featured for the Adams Park team all season, despite playing 52 times in the previous campaign.

Becoming a free agent, he has now signed for League Two outfit Gillingham on a one-year deal.

He reunites with former Wycombe boss Gareth Ainsworth, who took over at the Gills earlier this year.

At the time of writing, the Kent-based team are top of the fourth tier with Ainsworth winning seven, drawing nine and losing none of his 16 games in charge so far.

Additionally, McCleary will be reunited with Sam Vokes, his Wanderers teammate of four years.

Another player who has left Adams Park is striker Dan Udoh.

The Nigerian forward scored 10 goals in 57 matches for the Chairboys following his arrival from Shrewsbury Town last summer, with six of his appearances coming this season.

However, it has been reported that Salford City in League Two made a bid of around £325,000, which was accepted by the Chairboys.

Speaking on his move up north, he said: "This is a challenge I am looking forward to, it is a challenge that this club have dived head first with, signing players like myself from the league above, it obviously shows where they're going as a club and as an ownership group."



Garath McCleary (left) and Dan Udoh (right) have left

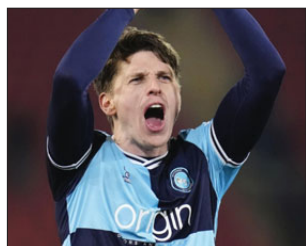
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Ex-Wycombe man registers an assist on debut for rivals



Ex-Wycombe player Adam Reach
Image: Nick Potts

A former Wycombe Wanderers man has found himself a new club and registered an assist on his debut.

Adam Reach, who joined the Chairboys as a free agent in January following his exit from West Bromwich Albion, has signed for League One rivals Lincoln City.

He was announced on September 1, a day after the summer transfer window closed, and made his first appearance for the Imps just hours after his arrival was confirmed.

This was in a 3-0 home victory against Notts County in the EFL Trophy, which is assisted ex-Wanderers man Sonny Bradley for the first goal.

During Reach's time at Adams Park earlier this year, he played 15 times with nine of these outings being starts.

He made his debut for the Chairboys in Mike Dodds' first game in charge, a 0-0 draw away at Preston North End in the FA Cup fourth round, where he missed a penalty in the resulting

shootout which the Championship outfit won.

His last appearance for the Adams Park team was in the play-off semi-final loss away at Charlton Athletic in May.

He wore the number 41 shirt, and was not offered a new deal in the summer.

Speaking on his move to Sincil Bank, Lincoln boss Michael Skubala said: "Adam is a fantastic player with an illustrious career in the Championship and a real hunger for more success, which

matches our ambitions.

"The pursuit of a specialist in this position has been a challenge for us all summer, so we are pleased that in bidding our time, we have secured such a good option to complement Ryley and the squad overall.

"Adam needs no introduction.

"He will add quality to the group, an attacking option in this position, and has the ability to play in other positions.

"In the circumstances, it is a really smart move by the club."

If you perform, you stay in the team - Dodds

WYCOMBE Wanderers head coach Mike Dodds has revealed the club's four arrivals on Transfer Deadline Day are 'in contention' to make their debuts this weekend.

The Chairboys acquired the services of Cauley Woodrow, Sam Bell, Niall Huggins and Donnell McNeilly, all on loan from Luton Town, Bristol City, Sunderland and Nottingham Forest, respectively.

The quartet were not registered in time to make their Buckinghamshire bows against Colchester United on September 2 in the EFL Trophy, one day after they signed, but are expected to be in the matchday squad to face Mansfield Town at Adams Park on Saturday.

It is expected to be a much-changed team from the one that played Col U earlier in the week, which Wanderers lost 2-1, with Dodds being positive about Wycombe's new arrivals.

The Chairboys go into this weekend's clash with one win in 14 in all competitions, with nine of these being defeats.

Additionally, in the 29 games Dodds has taken charge of Wycombe, he has tasted defeat on 12 occasions.

He said: "They have strong chances [to make their debuts].

"They have trained all week, and we will see how they react today [September 4], as today was a big session.

"They have all done a full pre-season, so from a training perspective, they tick that box.

"They are in contention, and we will make some changes from Tuesday night."

Dodds was not happy with his side's showing versus Colches-

James Richings

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ter, in which he publicly called out his team's performance.

Boos were heard at Adams Park at the full-time whistle, similarly to when Wanderers lost 1-0 against Stevenage last Saturday.

On squad selection, he added: "I don't think there are a huge amount [of players] from Tuesday who can knock on my door and say, 'you've got to start me on Saturday'.

"I'm not saying anyone is in or out, but some of these players aren't doing enough to knock on my door.

"That's the reality if you look at the last two performances, and that's probably the reason why I haven't chosen a certain team.

"It's really simple - if you perform, you stay in the team.

"I have had to reinforce a few things in terms of how we want to look, and we have had a positive two days on the grass.

"I take things personally when I stand at the side of the pitch, and I don't like my team, and on Tuesday, I thought we were too casual.

"We had a lot of possession but didn't do anything with it, which is not how we want to look."

Mike Dodds could give four debuts in the Wycombe's upcoming league match against Mansfield this weekend Image: Yui Mok



Dodds closer to seeing his preferred starting 11

MIKE Dodds has revealed he is closer to seeing his preferred starting 11 following the club's EFL Trophy group fixture loss versus Colchester United, and insisted that the four new arrivals on Transfer Deadline Day were not 'reactionary'.

The Chairboys made eight changes to the team that lost 1-0 in the league at Stevenage on Saturday against Col U three days later, but still ended up on the wrong side of a 2-1 defeat.

In the clash that was played on September 2, Jaden Williams put the Essex-based team one up before Alex Lowry's first goal for the club put Wycombe level.

But a last-minute strike from Jack Tucker gave Colchester the three points and their first victory at Adams Park in nine years.

Boos were heard at full-time from the Wanderers faithful, as they saw their team lose for the ninth time in 14 games, 12 in 29 since Dodds took over in February.

The 39-year-old called out his players in post-match interviews, claiming they were 'too casual and slow', and when asked if he knew his best/regular 11 going forward, he said: "After the performance tonight [versus Colchester on September 2], then yeah.

"I said to some of the guys this was an opportunity [for them].

"I have been disappointed in the last few weeks as I need some of these players to step up and say, 'I'm your man' but I believe a lot of tonight was in fits and starts, in particular in the top end of the pitch.

"I knew that this process was going to be difficult, as we have signed 16 players.

"We have got to get through this period where I will take a bit of pain, as I knew this was going to happen.

"But when we start that flow and we start to get a settled team, it will evolve and take off."