

Bucks Free Press

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SHOPS AND FLATS PLAN AT FORMER BAR SITE: P6



FOUR ARRESTED IN MASS STREET BRAWL: P5

18-year-old man dies in road smash

FULL STORY: PAGE 4



Two in hospital after car collides with tree

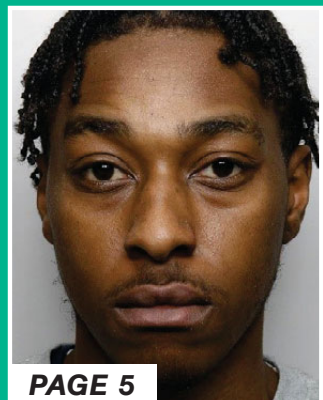
AN 18-year-old man has died and two others are in hospital after a car hit a tree on a Bucks road.

Police were called at around 11.12pm on Wednesday after a white Volkswagen Polo left the road and collided with a tree on the A40.

By Timothy Edgley

The incident took place near Stokenchurch, close to the junction with Kingston Hill.

An 18-year-old man was pronounced dead at the scene.



PAGE 5

THUG JAILED FOR BRUTAL 4-HOUR ATTACK

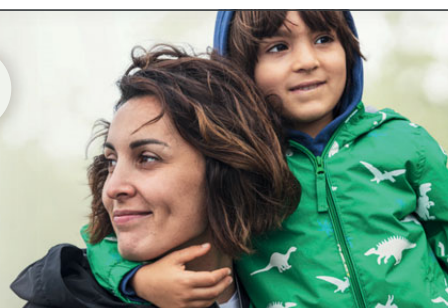
Trader boycott over 'aggressive' begging: PAGE 2

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75 names on list of potential additions



Andy Farrell

ANDY Farrell is open to picking players based in France, including his son Owen, for this summer's British and Irish Lions tour to Australia.

Farrell confirmed on Wednesday that Richard Wigglesworth, Simon Easterby, John Dalziel, John Fogarty and Andrew Goodman will be his assistant coaches for the visit Down Under – and then immediately turned his attention to squad selection.

An initial list of around 75 names was drawn up by the management team when they gathered together for the first time in London's Rosewood Hotel on Tuesday.

Included were those competing in the Top 14, even though the scheduling of the French league means anyone appearing in the final would miss the first two fixtures in Dublin and Perth.

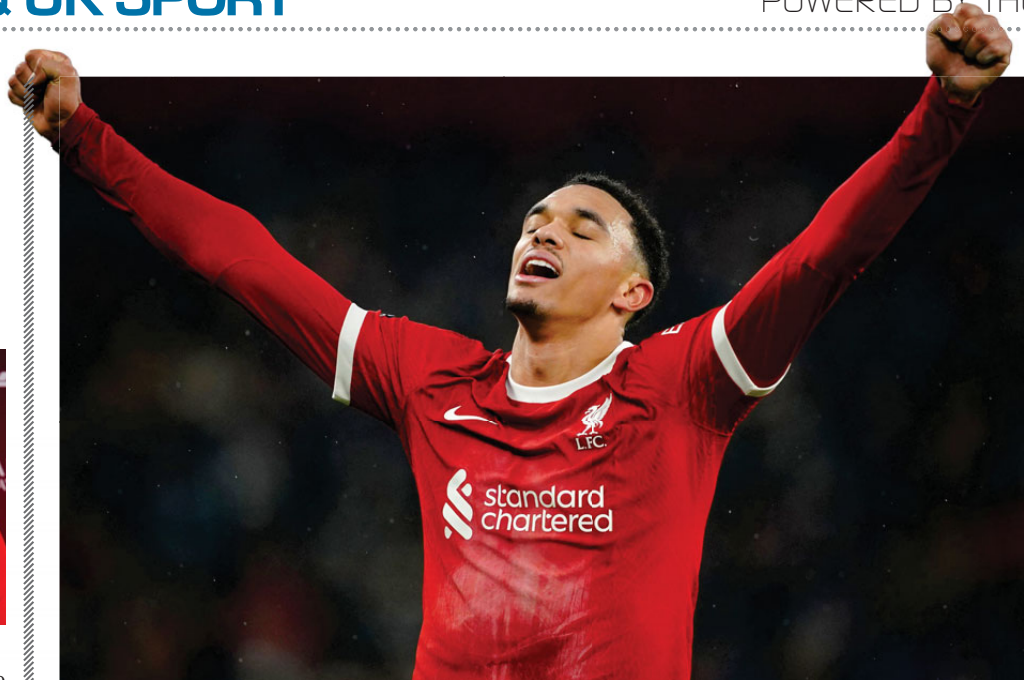
Toulouse duo Blair Kinghorn and Jack Willis are the most likely to be involved in that game, while Kyle Sinckler, Courtney Lawes and Owen Farrell also play for clubs across the Channel.

"We're open minded about all of that," said Farrell, who announces his final squad on May 8.

"We could have a conversation with some clubs over there, they might release them. These things will be ongoing.

"It's just the dynamics of what the team needs at the time when we get to the point of pulling the trigger."

The identity of the three fly-halves is among the fiercest areas of debate, with three-time Lions tourist Owen Farrell in contention even though his debut season at Racing 92 has been affected by a groin injury and the Parisians' poor form.



Trent Alexander-Arnold

Pic: PA

Player's move 'hard to understand'

FORMER Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher cannot understand why local boy Trent Alexander-Arnold does not see his long-term future at Anfield amid reports of a switch to Real Madrid moving closer this week.

The 26-year-old England right-back, along with other key players Mohamed Salah and Virgil van Dijk, is out of contract this summer

and has reportedly agreed terms on a transfer to the Spanish giants.

Liverpool-born Alexander-Arnold made his debut for the club as an 18-year-old in 2016 and has won the Champions League, Premier League, Carabao Cup, FA Cup, UEFA Super Cup and Club World Cup, with a second league title now likely as the club are 12 points clear at the summit.

The news of Alexander-Arnold's decision to leave has not been welcomed by Liverpool fans.

In the *Stick to Football* podcast, Carragher said: "I'm not angry about him going on a free. Where I'm at is that, as a local player and a Liverpool fan, Liverpool are in a position where they're competing for the league and a European Cup every year."

Lawson dropped after just two races

LIAM Lawson's dramatic axing after just two races with Red Bull has been confirmed by the Formula One team.

Red Bull said they had a "duty of care to protect" Lawson after demoting him to Racing Bulls and replacing him with Yuki Tsunoda for the Japanese driver's home race in Suzuka a week on Sunday.

New Zealander Lawson's time at Red Bull was plunged into uncertainty after a desperate weekend in China. He qualified last for both the sprint race and the Grand Prix. He also crashed out on his debut for Red Bull in Melbourne a week earlier.

Lawson then finished 12th in the main event in Shanghai, 81 seconds behind winner Oscar Piastri, and team principal Christian Horner refused to confirm that he would remain in their car for a third appearance in Japan.

A decision was taken in the aftermath of Sunday's race by Red Bull to send Lawson back to Racing

By Philip Duncan

PA F1 Correspondent

Bulls and promote Tsunoda, who had originally been overlooked.

"It has been difficult to see Liam struggle with the RB21 at the first two races and as a result we have collectively taken the decision to make an early switch," Horner said in a statement released by Red Bull yesterday.

"We came into the 2025 season with two ambitions, to retain the world drivers' championship and to reclaim the world constructors' title.

"We acknowledge there is a lot of work to be done with the RB21 and Yuki's

experience will prove highly beneficial in helping to develop the current car. We welcome him to the team and are looking forward to seeing him behind the wheel of the RB21.

"We have a duty of care to protect and develop Liam and together, we see that after such a difficult start, it makes sense to act quickly so Liam can gain experience, as he continues his F1 career with Visa Cash App Racing Bulls, an environment and a team he knows very well."

Following just 11 appearances across two seasons for the team's junior outfit, Lawson, 23, was thrust into the Red Bull cockpit this year after Sergio Perez was dropped.



McIlroy aiming for third win



RORY McIlroy insists he is focused on claiming his third win of the year in the Texas Children's Houston Open, despite the Masters looming ever closer.

McIlroy made his annual trip to Augusta National following his victory in the Players Championship at Sawgrass, which came six weeks after he kicked off his PGA Tour season by winning the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

The world number two wanted one more competitive start before his latest attempt to win the Masters and complete the grand slam and has opted for a first Houston Open appearance since 2014.

"I just want to get a card in my hand and shoot scores and get myself in contention and try to win another golf tournament," McIlroy said.

Raducanu's run ends



EMMA Raducanu's impressive run to the Miami Open quarter-finals came to an end at the hands of fourth seed Jessica Pegula on Wednesday night.

The American survived a mid-match surge from Raducanu en route to a tough 6-4 6-7 (3) 6-2 victory.

Raducanu only once broke Pegula's fearsome serve, and despite rallying in the second set to force a decider, was unable to match Pegula in the third.

Pegula will face 19-year-old wild card Alexandra Eala in the semi-finals, after the Filipino beat world number two Iga Swiatek 6-2 7-5.

FOOTBALL

Beaconsfield left frustrated with draw



The game is levelled by Beaconsfield. Image: Ben Cousin

BEACONSFIELD Town played out a frustrating 1-1 draw with Enfield on Saturday afternoon, writes Arran White.

It took just eight minutes for the first goal of the game to be scored. Enfield took the lead courtesy of a Beaconsfield own goal, headed into the wrong net from a corner.

Beaconsfield slowly grew into the game from then on and should have been level mid-way through the half, when Akiel Raffie's free kick was knocked on by Luke Neville only for the on-rushing Manu Oke-William to see his header narrowly tipped round the post.

As the half wore on it became difficult for either side to gain any momentum due to a number of stoppages. The half-time whistle came with the single goal separating the sides.

It was a fast start to the second half, as Beaconsfield levelled up the tie soon after the restart. A great ball in from Josh Marcon from a corner looked like it was heading straight in but was touched over the line by Jacques Kpohomouh.

Beaconsfield looked fired up after the goal and dominated the game for a while but lacked a clinical touch to take the lead. As the half wore on, the game once again became scrappy and multiple stoppages prevented both teams from creating anything noteworthy.

Despite a disappointing draw for Beaconsfield, they are having a strong end to the season, with only two losses since the turn of the year.

Beaconsfield face a huge test tomorrow afternoon, with a trip to the league leaders Real Bedford.

HOCKEY

Marlow continue winning

MARLOW Hockey Club men's first side were away at Staines and, having secured promotion last week, might have hoped for an easy afternoon, but Staines have been difficult opponents in the past and it required a gritty performance to enable Marlow to come out on top.

The game started cagily and both teams had few chances but then Marlow scored with a nice finish by Chris Brown.

In the second half, Marlow began to dominate and won a penalty corner, which Sam North converted. Staines got a goal back, which ensured quite a tense end to the game.

Overall Marlow deserved their 2-1 win in an enjoyable competitive match.

The 2nd team lost at home to Oxford Hawks 2nds but are now assured of remaining in Premier Division 2 next season.

Other results:- The 3rd team beat Staines 2-3-0, 4s beat Newbury & Thatcham 3-3-1 away, 5s lost 2-1 to Reading 5, 6s drew 1-1 with Maidenhead 3, 7s beat Wycombe 5s 8-1 away

FOOTBALL

Chesham United Women secure safety despite defeat

CHESHAM United were on the road on Saturday at Weston-super-Mare while Chesham's women welcomed unbeaten Real Bedford to The Meadow on Sunday, writes Andy Westlake.

First to the men and Chesham reached the 50-point mark for the season with a hard-earned 1-1 draw against a Weston side pushing for a place in the play-offs. After going behind early in the second half Chesham fought back and scored a deserved equaliser, although the home side will feel aggrieved not to have won after twice striking the woodwork in the closing stages.

Chesham fell behind five minutes into the half they were caught on the break. Will Dawes broke down the right and squared for Luke Coulson to score at the near post. Chesham came back well and with 20 minutes to go reshuffled with Avan Jones coming on at right back, and Taylor Foran switching to the centre of defence which allowed Laffleur to push forward on the left. Mitchell Weiss also came on

and two minutes later Avan Jones broke down the right and squared for Minhas to stroke the ball into the net to equalise.

The home side came back in the later stages, and Dawes crossed from the right and the ball came to Luke Coulson whose shot came back off the post.

On Sunday, Chesham's women welcomed top of the table Real Bedford to The Meadow. Chesham also had one eye on the result of the game between Ashford Town and Chatham Town. If Ashford lost then Chesham's place in Tier 4 next season was guaranteed.

While Chesham put up a very dogged defensive display Real Bedford won the tie 0-4 and take one step closer to promotion. Elsewhere, Ashford were comfortably beaten by Chatham 6-0 and that guarantees Chesham their place in Tier 4's FA Women's National League next season.

Next up Chesham United welcome Welling United to The Meadow on March 29. The women are at Chatham on April 13.



Nathan Minhas with the equaliser for Chesham. Image: Neale Blackburn

Holmer keep leaders waiting for trophy lift

HOLMER Green picked up three points from a possible six in two close matches in Combined Counties Division One last week.

On Saturday, promotion-chasing Eversley and California won 2-1. Josh Peck had the ball in the net early on but the flag was raised to end any celebrations.

Level at the break, Holmer took the lead on the hour mark through Jeffrey Fordjour.

Ten minutes later a free-kick for accidental handball was correctly awarded

25 yards out. The ball was floated centrally where it just cleared two defenders and the forward it seemed to be destined for. But this may have been a ruse, and another attacker stole in - poorly tracked - to deftly head the equaliser.

Just two short minutes after the setback, the hosts completed the turnaround. An Eversley player was allowed to progress to the bye-line and get in a low cross. That cross did not find a colleague, but was not controlled beyond the far post when it could have been.

The unfortunate Holmer defender was then turned inside out. This accurate low cross found two defenders sleeping when they at least one should have been getting between attacker and goal at the far post. A simple tap in while Bell was still necessarily covering his near post proved to be the winning goal of a tight game.

On Tuesday, a great performance, and 2-0 win, against the Division leaders Windsor and Eton moved Holmer back into eighth place and kept Windsor & Eton waiting to claim the title, which will

surely happen in the next few games.

Goals from Lancaster (40) and Lloyd Majaya (67) gave Holmer victory despite missing a penalty (hitting post) on 63 minutes.

Stand out performances from Ben Booker and Peck, aided by solid play and good game management all round, moved Holmer onto 62 points with six league games still to go.

Their final league home game is this Saturday (3pm ko), against Penn & Ty-lers Green.

FOOTBALL

Chalfont youngsters maintain dominance

CHALFONT St Peter AFC's U10s cemented their dominance in the Chiltern Church Junior Football League, securing their fourth consecutive Tigers Cup title with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over a resilient St Peters Iver FC.

After an intense first half with both teams battling for control, the breakthrough finally arrived early in the second period. Midfielder Jack Murphy burst down the right wing and linked up with Shack in a slick one-two. Murphy showed great vision and technique to cut the ball back into the box, picking out forward Harry Walmsley, who calmly slotted home the decisive goal.

Speaking about his immense pride in the team, coach Jack Fowler said: "What a game - a very close one, but I'm super proud of the boys for winning their fourth trophy in four years. This trophy represents the incredible teamwork on the day, and I couldn't be prouder."

Sport

HOCKEY

Marlow women win relegation clash

MARLOW Hockey Club women's 1sts welcomed Swansea to Pound Lane in a crunch match as both teams were in danger of relegation, winning 3-0.

The first quarter was cagey, with both teams equal. Kerri Smith opened the scoring for Marlow, calmly slotting the ball past the Swansea keeper after a great piece of skill and a cross from Martha Goodridge. Smith scored her second four minutes later with another shot at close

range to leave Marlow leading 2-0 at half time.

Swansea had their chances on the counter attack, but Marlow keeper Alys Ramm and the central defenders Sophie Apletree and Emily Thatcher kept their composure to deny Swansea any success. Marlow's final goal came late into the third quarter with a strike from Jess Rees deflected at the back post by Mia Cranfield. These three points for Marlow guaranteed their position in the National

League again next year and, unfortunately, meant that Swansea would be relegated.

The 2nds won their final game of the season 1-0 away at Thame. Holly Lohead scored the vital goal, tapping in from close range following a corner routine. The three points, combined with results going their way elsewhere, cap a fantastic season for Marlow. They finish top of the league and secured promotion to Premier Division 2.



Kerri Smith

FOOTBALL

Flackwell find a way at Northwood late in the day

FLACKWELL Heath ran out 2-0 winners at Northwood in Southern League Division One Central on Saturday.

As soon as the team sheets came out it was clear this was going to be a tougher game than the league positions suggested for Flackwell, with Northwood in a relegation battle reinforcements had most certainly been drafted in.

This showed in the opening stages of the game with both sides cancelling each other out and both defences standing strong against any potential threats on goal in front of a crowd of 178.

With thunder rumbling in the sky it felt like something was brewing and it was the lighting pace of Makowski that created the first clear cut chance of the game in the 43rd minute, the frontman found himself one of one with Hosier who did well to make himself big and tip the ball out for a corner. Although Flackwell would have been disappointed not to go in one up at half time the 0-0 scoreline was definitely a fair reflection of the first half.

Northwood came out in the second half shooting down the slight slope and they looked very dangerous on the counter attack. The home side created their best chance of the game five minutes into the second half when skipper Perez-Duah beat his man well, with only the keeper to beat the midfielder lifted the ball over Denison but it landed on top of the net.

Buoyed by their quick start Northwood managed to get in behind again but were denied

By Mark Glynn

firstly from a good save from Denison and then from an offside flag much to the disappointment of the home fans. A moment of magic on the edge of the box from Shakespeare as he jinked past three players in the 73rd minute was nearly the moment Flackwell needed but he was thwarted by another good block. Flackwell's number ten then turned blocker putting his body on the line with a last ditch block to stop the goal bound shot from Folarin.

Just when hope was starting to fade and the game looked destined to be a goalless draw Flackwell's substitutes combined to get the first goal in the 89th minute, Harding played the ball through to Kearny who controlled the ball perfectly which allowed the forward to drive a low shot across the keeper into the bottom corner. Kearny's goal is his first goal in his second spell back with Flackwell and was a killer blow to Northwood's resilience, Odumosu who also came off the bench made a big impact running the tired Northwood defence ragged.

Within two minutes of the opening goal, Makowski burst through and found himself one on one with Hosier once again, this time he made no mistake and calmly finished to put the game to bed.

The win and three points keeps Flackwell in third place with a week's rest before a home game against Leverstock Green this Saturday.



Flackwell Heath walk off the victors. Picture: Mark Glynn

DARTS

PRDDL results and the scorers

RESULTS of games played on March 20 2025 in the PRDDL (Sponsored by Terry's Badges)

Division 1 (Sponsored By Avocet Construction)

Bradmoor Farm Warriors 1-10 The Bull A

Chinnor Pavilion D 5-6 Chinnor Pavilion A

George Slatter/Richard Smith 20 Dart Leg (Pairs)

Thame Snooker Club 5-6 The Crown Royals

Matt Davis/Anthony Hamstead 20 Dart Leg (Pairs)

Jamie Vernon 102 Checkout

Chas Martin/Mark Amos 14 Dart Leg (Pairs)

Jamie Vernon/Tom Mayo 17 Dart Leg (Pairs)

The Crown Jacks 3-8 Rivets

Ian Campin 180

The Honey Bee 7-4 Chinnor Pavilion B

Harry Wagerfield 180 & 14 Dart Leg

Allan Way 17 Dart Leg

Weavers 7-4 Bradmoor Farm A

Alfie Carter 180 & 15, 17 Dart Legs (94avg)

Charlie Carter 20 Dart Leg

Alfie Carter/Scott Philbey 19 & 20 Dart Legs (Pairs)

Martin Britnell 180 & 18,21 Dart Legs

Whiteleaf Cross B 6-5 Bledlow Village Cricket Club A

Ross Hales 104 Checkout & 21, 18 Dart Legs

Jake Graham 19 Dart Leg

Vinnie Connolly 180

Pete Dumbarton 16 Dart Leg

John Dumbarton 21 Dart Leg

Division 2 (Sponsored By Wessex Landscapes & Brickwork)

Bledlow Village Cricket Club B 3-8 Bradmoor Farm B

Simon Middleton 180 & 17, 19 Dart Legs

Chinnor Pavilion C 4-7 The Bell

Lee Emery 180

New Zealand 11-0 Chinnor Pavilion E

John Cox 116 Checkout

The Black Horse 10-1 Golden Cross

Matt Ing 180x2

Stan Chandler 108 Checkout

The Plough 3-8 Bay 19

James Hill 100 Checkout

Steven Allen 20 Dart Leg

Matt Moran 19 Dart Leg

The Three Horseshoes 4-7 Bradmoor Farm D

Andrew McLennan 180

Daniel Sudd 101 Checkout & 17 Dart Leg

Wendover RBL 7-4 Aylesbury Vale FC

Ex-Wycombe boss Ainsworth joins League Two Gillingham

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers player and manager Gareth Ainsworth has sensationally left Shrewsbury for Gillingham, replacing the sacked John Coleman as manager at Priestfield.

The 51-year-old, who was only appointed as the Shropshire's side man in charge in November, 13 months after being sacked by Queens Park Rangers, leaves the Salops bottom of the League One table.

His departure comes one week before he was due to face the Chairboys at Adams Park, in what was supposed to be his first managerial visit back at Wanderers since leaving in February 2023.

He joins Gillingham who sit in 19th place in League Two, after they sacked ex-Accrington Stanley manager John Coleman after just two months in charge.

A club statement reads: "The Football Club is delighted to announce the appointment of Gareth Ainsworth as our new first-team manager.

"The 51-year-old has signed an agreement which runs until the end of the 2026/27 season. Gareth is joined at MEMS Priestfield Stadium by his long-term assistant, Richard Dobson."

Shrewsbury were taken aback by developments, with chairman Roland Wycherley initially suggesting an unnamed club had been unwilling to meet the termination clause.

That stance changed on Tuesday, leaving the writing on the wall.

In an open letter published on the Shrewsbury website, Wycherley stressed the lengths taken to resist the



Former Wycombe manager Gareth Ainsworth has left Shrewsbury Town to join Gillingham. Image: Nick Potts

move.

He said: "Much to our shock and dismay Gareth Ainsworth has informed us he wishes to leave the club after receiving an offer from a League Two club.

"First of all, I can confirm that the club has done absolutely everything in its power to persuade Gareth to stay.

"Failing that, we also asked if he would continue until the end of the season.

"Gareth's contract contained a termination clause which

the League Two club in question initially refused to meet.

"We made clear from that point we would not allow him to leave and that we wanted him to honour the remainder of his contract.

"But Gareth made clear he wanted to leave immediately, despite acknowledging the position the club are in at this moment in time."

He won five of his 22 games in charge, drawing five and losing 12.

Former Accrington and

Rochdale boss Coleman had been brought in by Gillingham as "interim manager" at the start of the year.

Coleman said: "We arrived at Gillingham at a difficult time, knowing we'd be here for a short time, but hoping we could turnaround performances and work rate.

"We believe we achieved this, particularly in recent weeks.

"Whilst the results haven't reflected the performances given at times, we are pleased

to leave the team more stable and having improved both in attitude and application."

Ainsworth, as a manager is best known for his stint with Wycombe between 2012 and 2023, in which he took charge of 550 games, winning 219 times.

He masterminded promotion winning seasons in 2018 (League Two) and 2020 (League One) respectively, whilst also losing two play-off finals in 2015 (League Two) and 2022 (League One).

FOOTBALL

Couhig: 'I don't roll over for anybody'

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers owner Rob Couhig has revealed he doesn't 'roll over for anybody' after winning a court case against the Chairboys' Thames Valley and League One rivals, Reading.

The American, who has been trying to purchase the Royals all season from disgraced Chinese tycoon Dai Yongge, was able to keep his security over assets after Mr Yongge, and Reading's, case was chucked out of Commercial Court on Friday, March 21.

Despite the former Premier League club claiming a sale was not possible without the charges held by Mr Couhig being satisfied, Judge Justice Jacobs believed otherwise, as does the former Wycombe Wanderers chief.

Speaking on the EFL Today podcast, he said: "Two messages.

"One: Justice Jacobs pointed out; we are not an impediment to the sale.

"We never have been and never will be.

"Anybody who has bought any business or sophisticated property deals with these issues all the time.

"We fully expected that somebody would ring us to ask how to deal with it and we are willing to do that."

"The second message is: I don't roll over for anybody."

Mr Yongge has now been disqualified as an owner by the EFL and has been given a matter of weeks to sell the football club or face possible suspension from the league.

Despite admitting that he is willing to negotiate, something the club said they look forward to doing on Friday, Mr Couhig has stated he is yet to hear anything to solve the matter.

He continued: "The soap opera continues.

"It doesn't change the commercial reality before they filed their most recent pleas.

"We have a legitimate claim because they brought us to the alter, we spent over \$1m hiring accounts, analysts and consultants to do the purchase, sent all our money to England to sign the documents.

"We signed the documents to complete the purchase that was drafted by Mr Yongge's lawyers and told us that the minority shareholders across the world had signed it. We were sitting there and without a phone call or letter, they wired us back the money we had lent."

Wycombe play Reading at the Select Car Leasing Stadium on April 5, with the game kicking off at 12.30pm.

CHAIRBOYS

Just nine games to go on the run-in

WITH just nine games remaining in this League One season, Wycombe Wanderers go to the final stretch one place and three points behind second-placed Wrexham.

There will be many twists and turns left to come, but here are the final matches for fans to attend to get behind the team.

The Chairboys are hoping for a return to the Championship after a four-year absence.

If they do achieve this, it will be the first time in their history they will be in the second tier of English football with fans being able to attend matches.

The previous season (2020/21) was during the Covid-19 pandemic, which meant lockdown restrictions prevented fans from attending games.

Wycombe's next nine games are as follows:

- March 29: Wycombe Wanderers vs Lincoln City (3pm)
- April 1: Wycombe Wanderers vs Shrewsbury Town (7.45pm)

- April 5: Reading vs Wycombe Wanderers (12.30pm)
- April 8: Huddersfield Town vs Wycombe Wanderers (7.45pm)
- April 12: Wycombe Wanderers vs Stevenage (12.30pm)
- April 18: Bolton Wanderers vs Wycombe Wanderers (3pm)
- April 21: Wycombe Wanderers vs Charlton Athletic (3pm)
- April 26: Leyton Orient vs Wycombe Wanderers (3pm)
- May 3: Wycombe Wanderers vs Stockport (3pm)

At the time of writing, Wycombe have achieved 71 points from 37 games.

They have already accumulated more points than what they did last campaign (65), and have also scored more goals than this time 12 months ago. Wanderers ended the 2023/24 season with 60 goals to their name, whilst 64 have been registered this campaign.



Five of Wycombe's next nine league games are at Adams Park

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WYCOMBE WANDERERS V LINCOLN CITY

Getting ready for weekend encounter at Adams Park



Wycombe Wanderers take on Lincoln City this weekend. Image: Mike Egerton/PA

James Richings

james.richings@newsquest.co.uk

AFTER a week off due to the international break, Wycombe Wanderers will be back in action as they take on Lincoln City this weekend at Adams Park.

For the Chairboys, they know they have got nine games between now and the end of the season to achieve an automatic promotion back to the Championship after a four-year absence.

It won't be easy as the Imps have got a relatively good record against Mike Dodds' side, so how will this Saturday's clash go down?

The lowdown on Wycombe

Wanderers' form since the turn of the year has been very patchy with six wins from 15 league fixtures, but the

recent 3-2 victory away at Rotherham United just before the break would have done the Chairboys the world of good going into the final nine matches.

The win at the New York Stadium came just three days after a demoralising 1-0 home loss to promotion rivals Wrexham in front of 9,333 spectators – Adams Park's largest crowd in three years.

The word to describe Wycombe in 2025 is inconsistent as they haven't won back-to-back league games since November, and have only kept four clean sheets in that time.

But, the determined spirit shown in the Rotherham win, especially after going 1-0 down, showed that there is a lot of fight left in the team who are aiming to join Birmingham City in the top two.

The lowdown on Lincoln

Last season, the Imps suffered the heartbreak of missing out on the League One play-off places after a defeat on the final day of last season.

It meant the former National League outfit sat just two points outside the top six and therefore regrouped for this campaign.

However, it hasn't had the same impact as the Lincoln sit in midtable, 11 points off the play-offs.

Of course, there is still a long way to go and the Imps do still have a mathematical chance of getting in, but this seems very unlikely with Charlton Athletic, Stockport County, Bolton Wanderers, Huddersfield Town, Reading, Leyton Orient, Blackpool and Barnsley and of course, Wycombe, sitting above them between third and 12th.

Despite the tall mountain to climb,

they head to Adams Park unbeaten in their last two league games and have a relatively good record against Wycombe.

Wanderers have only won twice in their last 10 games against Lincoln, and the Lincolnshire-based team are unbeaten in their last two visits to Adams Park.

Last five meetings between the two

2024/25: Lincoln City 2-3 Wycombe Wanderers;

2023/24: Wycombe Wanderers 1-1 Lincoln City;

2023/24: Lincoln City 1-1 Wycombe Wanderers;

2022/23: Wycombe Wanderers 0-2 Lincoln City;

2022/23: Lincoln City 3-0 Wycombe Wanderers.

FOOTBALL



Wycombe are now third after Wrexham beat Stockport County

Wanderers drop to third but have a game in hand

WYCOMBE Wanderers have dropped out of the League One automatic promotion places.

The Chairboys had the weekend off due to their away fixture at Huddersfield being postponed as a result of the international break, and are now third, three points behind Wrexham.

The Welsh outfit played their respective clash with Stockport County, a Jay Rodriguez strike separating the teams as the Red Dragons won 1-0 at the Racecourse Ground.

This means they are now second on 74 points, three ahead of Wycombe who now have a game in hand.

Rodriguez's goal, scored after his penalty was saved, was enough to give Wrexham a hard-earned victory against their promotion rivals.

The visitors started the stronger but, an off-target shot from Isaac Olaofe aside, they struggle to create chances and fell behind just before the half-hour mark.

A ball to the back post was bundled behind by Ibou Touray but, after a discussion with his linesman, referee Simon Mather awarded a penalty for handball.

Rodriguez saw his spot-kick saved by Corey Addai but he was first to react, squeezing the loose ball in under the keeper's body.

Stockport were inches away from an equaliser seven minutes into the second half as Callum Connolly rose to meet Lewis Bate's ball into the box but Arthur Okonkwo stretched out a hand to tip the ball on to the top of the bar and out for a corner.

Ollie Rathbone should have made the last 20 minutes more comfortable for Wrexham from Ryan Longman's cross but he nodded wide.

County's chances of salvaging a point were dashed 10 minutes from time when Brad Hills was shown his second yellow card for a foul on Rathbone.