**COMMUNITY UPDATE FOR WYCOMBE WANDERERS TRUST MEETING – 26th OCTOBER 2021**

**Disabled Supporters Association**

Many of the improvements which the DSA has asked the Football Club to implement are now being undertaken, including disabled toilets, signage, and ramps. Thanks to Steve Copp and Mark Wengler for helping to push these through.

The DSA is now in the planning stage for two further coach trips to away matches. These are Sheffield Wednesday (27th November) and Cambridge United (5th February). Many thanks to Trust colleagues for helping to ensure that the coach fills up.

The DSA is now represented on WWFC’s EDI group not only by me, but by Liam O’Rourke. The EDI Group has organised training for WWFC staff and directors, WWSET staff, and Trust Directors, in both Equality, Discrimination and Wellbeing and Mental Health and Wellbeing (the latter to be arranged shortly). This training is provided by Bucks Adult Learning and one of the trainers is DSA member Wendy Tilby.

**Autism Project**

The DSA is working with the Trust and WWFC to create media (either written, video or both) to assist people with autism, and their carers, to feel safe if they come to Adams Park for a match. This was the brainchild of DSA member Louise Brown, and she and fellow DSA member Luke Wright are part of the team (including Matt Cecil, Steve Copp and Mark Wengler of WWFC) who are making this happen

**Mental Health Initiative**

WWSET, with the Trust as partner, have succeeded in obtaining a five-figure grant from Heart of Bucks towards the establishment of a project to help prevent suicides in young males. We already have links with Sunderland AFC who have developed a similar project. The plan is for it to be ready to be introduced before the end of the year. Nigel Kingston and I are representing the Trust on the project group

**All Quarters**

The third meeting was held on 5th October, and the next will be on Tuesday 2nd November at Adams Park. Yes, this is also the night of the home match vs Ipswich Town, and the start time of the AQ meeting will be brought forward to enable people to attend both.

The meetings have already attracted the attention of several interesting and enthusiastic people who want to assist WWSET, WWFC and the Trust jointly develop supporter groups for Women and Girls, LGTBQIA+ communities, and Ethnic Minority Communities, to sit alongside our DSA. If you would like to attend but are not already on the AQ mailing list, please register before the meeting with Paul Foley, paul.foley@wwfc.com

**Match Ticket Donation**

Trust member and WWFC supporter Beverley Eames bought two tickets for our home match versus Ipswich Town. The original date was cancelled because of the International Break, and Beverley is unable to attend the rescheduled match.

So, she forwarded the match tickets to the Trust, and asked that we make them available to two people who do not normally find that they can come to Adams Park to watch the Chairboys in action.

Via All Quarters, we have recently made good contact with the Hairoun Day Centre for Elderly People in High Wycombe and offered the tickets to them. The offer was accepted with great enthusiasm.

If any other Trust member finds themselves with match tickets that they cannot use but would like to give them to other worthy recipients, please let us know.

Meanwhile Beverley Eames thanks the Trust for all its hard work, and we should thank her for her kindness and thoughtfulness.

**Anyone interested in participating in any of the above projects, or has any other good ideas to increase Wycombe Wanderers’ outreach into the local community, is invited to contact Peter Lerner at** **peterjlerner@gmail.com**

**PL 22nd October 2021**