



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Steve Clarke
Head of Renaissance Programme
Colchester Borough Council
PO Box 5215
Town Hall
Colchester CO1 1GG

3rd June 2007

Dear Mr Clarke,

Community Stadium - facilities for supporters

Could you please provide me with a layout of the Community Stadium indicating the area or areas which have been allocated for "facilities" (eg, a club room and bar) for use by home fans?

I would also be grateful if you could let me have details of the precise dimensions.

You are no doubt aware that currently Colchester United Supporters' Association (CUSA) has use of the whole of the first floor above the turnstiles at the northern corner of the Layer Road frontage. This is used for meetings and, on match days, for pre-match and post-match gatherings in the "Corner Bar". This is also used as an office departure point for CUSA organised coaches travelling to away games.

It has been suggested to me that the plans for the Community Stadium currently have no provision for CUSA. I hope that this is not correct!

From what was said at this year's Annual Meeting of Colchester United Football Club Limited I understand that Colchester Borough Council will be providing a stadium "shell" - and that it is up to the Football Club to undertake the fittings, furnishings and decoration, etc. Can you please let me have a description of (a) what form the stadium will be in when construction has finished and (b) what Colchester United FC will be required to carry out to complete the stadium so that it can be used by the paying public?

What is the estimated cost of the "fitting out" which will be the responsibility of Colchester United FC?

I would also be grateful if you could please provide me with a layout of the stadium in general, indicating areas of seating for (a) home supporters and (b) visiting supporters; location of toilets and the ratio of male and female facilities; catering points; location of admission points for supporters, of all categories; Police control point and facilities for stewards; changing rooms etc for players and officials; office accommodation for Colchester United FC; and the provision of other facilities within the stadium.

Hitherto I have seen an architect's impression of what the Community Stadium will look like, but I have no recollection of ever seeing a layout plan of what will actually be inside the Stadium. I do not think it unreasonable that this is made public, so I hope that my request will be granted.

I look forward to receiving a detailed response to my request for information and also a detailed layout of the Stadium facilities. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Russell,
MP for Colchester