

TUE 13TH OCT, 19:30 KO, **BELL CLOSE** 









### WELCOME TO TOWN TALK

Welcome to the 2020/21 Matchday
Programme. We've gone to real effort to make
this year's programme, our best yet, so please
feel free to give us any feedback you may
have. A warm welcome to this afternoon's
visitors, Biggleswade United.

# WHAT'S IN THE PROGRAMME

#### **PAGE 4: A WORD FROM THE PRESS BOX**

Kieran Carvell gives you the rundown of all recent and upcoming Town news and fixtures!

#### PAGE 11: THE LOWDOWN WITH JAMES TOWELL

One of our finest gives us the lowdown this time, it's James Towell!

#### PAGE 14: SUPPORTERS SAY WITH ANDREW PARKER

Andrew Parker is in the hot seat this evening for Supporters Say.

### TODAY'S TIE

#### **OPPOSITION**

**Tring Athletic** 

#### TIME & VENUE

7:30PM at Bell Close

#### COMPETITION

Spartan South Midlands
Premier Division







# PEOPLE AT THE CLUB

The hard-working volunteers at our Football Club:

Acting Chairman: Steve

Harris

**Director of Football:** 

Sean Downey

First Team Managers: Joe

Sweeney and Paul Copson

Physio Team: John

Rutherford and Lorraine

Smith

Secretary: Roy Parker

Photographer: Andrew

Parker

Hall-Hire: Pauline Parker

Groundsman: Bruce

Warner

Media: Kieran Carvell







# A WORD FROM THE PRESS BOX

Welcome to Bell Close for this evening's SSML Premier Division tie, against our local rivals, Tring Athletic. A warm welcome to our visitors this evening, who have made the short journey to be here with us.

We come into the game having suffered our first league defeat of the season, being beaten 1-0 at Bell Close on Saturday to Biggleswade United. However, despite the defeat, we had a maxmum capacity crowd 320 (including volunteers/officials). This turned out to be the highest/joint-highest attendance in the whole country at Step 5 on Saturday. Unbelievable support for our club and we thank you all most kindly. For the full report from Saturday, head further down the programme. In today's progamme we have a great interview with Mr. Versatile, James Towell and an equally as good one with supporter, Andrew Parker.

Tring Athletic are today's visitors, who haven't won a game so far in the league. However, having beaten us in Pre-Season and showing a good performance last Tuesday at Potton, it will not be easy tonight at Bell Close.

Keep an eye out for Leiston this evening! Our FA Cup victors take on AFC Telford United of the National League North at home tonight. What a night that could've been...

But, tonight promises to be just as good. with your brilliant support, at Bell Close, underneath the lights, against a local rival! Let's do it.

Enjoy the Game!







amazon appstore









### YOUR TOWN, YOUR HISTORY

Leighton Town, who were known as Leighton United between 1922 and 1963, were formed in 1885. They were mainly involved in local leagues until the outbreak of the Great War, and were winners of the Leighton and District League on several occasions. Leighton were one of the original members of the South Midland League in 1922 – which at the time was known as the Bedfordshire County League. They were also members of the Spartan League between 1922/23 and 1951/52, but their only successes being the Spartan League Division 2 title in 1923/24 and 1927/28. They were Bedfordshire Senior Cup winners in 1926/27.

In 1952, they became a founder member of the Hellenic League, but after two disappointing seasons, moved to the South Midlands League. In 1965/66 season however, the Premier Championship sat in the Leighton Town Boardroom. The club then rejoined the Spartan League in 1967/68.

Leighton proceeded to consolidate their League success by winning the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for three successive seasons in 1968, 1969 and 1970. Unfortunately, some of the successful players moved onto other clubs, and Leighton's fortunes again declined. A move to the United Counties League proved disastrous and, after just two seasons, the club rejoined the South Midlands League. During the '70's and '80's, Leighton were unable to capture the success of the '60's.

In 1990/1991 the First Team won the South Midlands League Challenge Trophy and the O'Brien's Premier Division Cup, both for the first timThe 1991/2 season was one of the club's best ever. The South Midlands Premier Division title, which had eluded the club for so long, was won, and with it a place in the Isthmian League.

1992/3 saw the Club's success continue when they won the Bedfordshire Senior Cup for the first time since 1970. The Club missed out on promotion in their first Isthmian League season by just a single point but the Youth Team retained the County Cup. 1995/6 saw the First Team win promotion to Division 2 of the Isthmian League, whilst at the same time retaining the Buckingham Charity Cup.

In the 1996/7 season, Leighton won the Isthmian League Associated Members Trophy for the first time. 1998/99 saw the return of the Associated Members Trophy and the Buckingham Charity Cup.

Season 2003/04 was arguably one of the Club's best ever, as the First Team won the Ryman Isthmian Second Division title. The team was also named Ryman Division Two Team of the Year, and Paul Burgess was awarded Manager of the Year. They also reached the Fifth round of the FA Vase, and the final of the Beds Senior Cup, before losing to Andover and Arlesey respectively.







### YOUR TOWN, YOUR HISTORY

The 2004-05 season saw the club placed in The Southern League East Division and finished in a creditable tenth place. They also won the Buckinghamshire Charity Cup. The Reserves won the Bedfordshire Intermediate Cup and the U18's won the SCYFL League Shield.e in the club's history.

The 05-06 Season saw the Club progress again, improving on the year before, as they finished 8th in The Southern League West Division. After a poor start, League results improved and the side only suffered four defeats from the start of November until the end of March, a play-off place just eluding them. After three excellent victories interest in the FA.Trophy competition ended with a single goal defeat to eventual semi-finalists. Borehamwood.

The Club also reached the Beds Senior Cup Final, but sadly they again finished as Runners Up.

The Club were relocated to the Southern League, Midland Division for 06-07 season but only one League win in the first six games and early exits in the two FA Competitions cost Paul Burgess his job in September. He was replaced by former Wycombe, professional Keith Scott, results did improve but it was a disappointing season, although Town did win the Bucks Senior

Charity Cup.

The 07-08 started brightly with the first League defeat not coming until mid-October. Three wins in the FA Cup saw the Club reach the 4th Qualifying Round for the first time in it's history. A 3-0 defeat to Conference South, Havant and Waterlooville finally ended the run. Keith Scott left in December to join Windsor and Eton. In January 2008, Assistant Manager Sean Downey was appointed as First Team Manager and did a splendid job as the Club ended their League season in 9th place, winning the Bucks Charity Cup and reaching the final of the Beds Senior Cup once more.

The 08/09 Season the First Team finished 8th in the Southern League, Midland Division, achieving their highest points total to date at that level.

The 09/10 season saw Leighton once again finish in the top half of the table, when they finished in 9th place and they also lost the Bedfordshire Senior Cup Final to Southern League rivals, Arlesey Town after penalties.

Season 2010/2011, saw Town finish in 7th place in the League, gaining 69 points, their best performance since joining the Southern Football League.

The 2011/2012 a poor season saw Leighton finish in their lowest position for several years.

2012/13 was also very disappointing for the First Team as they finished in 20th place.





### YOUR TOWN, YOUR HISTORY

A 2015/2016. After 3 disappointing seasons Leighton finished the season in the bottom two of the Southern League Central Division and were relegated to the Spartan South Midlands League where they had last played in the 1991/92 season. 2016/2017 This was a disappointing season with the club struggling for much of the time after yet another Managerial Change. Things did pick up towards the end of the season and we eventually finished in 16th place.

2017/18 The club retained Scott Reynolds as Manager and finished 4th in the League and reached the Quarter Finals of the FA VASE. Gates improved and it was our best season for about 8 years, however Manager, Scott Reynolds resigned at the end of the season.

2018/2019 The Club appointed experienced coach Danny Nicholls as the new Manager, but he resigned at the start of October. The Club then appointed Joe Sweeney and Paul Copson as their Management Team and results improved but we were unable to reach the top third of the table..

2019/20: A very poor league start saw us with just one point in 8 games. However, fortunes changed and we went 5 months unbeaten in the league, drawing just once. We also had an FA Vase run once more, reaching the Quarter Final stages again, with memorable games over Eastbourne Town and Eynesbury Rovers. When the season was called to a halt due to COVID-19, we were in 7th-place, however had 5 games in-hand on 2nd, with a 14-point gap. Overall, a very competitive and in the end, great season.

2020/21: We'll find out...











# TRING ATHLETIC HISTORY



Leighton Town Football Club

## Dur solicitors can make a difference







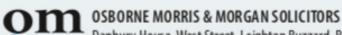






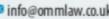






Danbury House, West Street, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 1EP 

















# THE LOWDOWN WITH: JAMES TOWELL

Disappointing to lose on Saturday?

of course it was disappointing to lose and even more disappointing to lose at home, unfortunately we didn't take our chances and we got punished for it but that's football we have to take it on the chin and move on!

You've been at Town a long time now, what's been your favourite moment in a Red and White shirt?

I've had lots of good moments in a town shirt, obviously the Eynesbury game away in the vase was unbelievable but on a incredible support once again, personal note probably Bradford away in the next round of the vase, to score and get two assists and help the team get to the quarter final was brilliant.

Despite the defeat, unbelievable to have the highest attendance in the country at Step 5 Saturday?

incredible support once again, we're so lucky as players to have such a huge, loyal fan base here and we thank you all that come and support us home and away, you make a huge difference!!







# THE LOWDOWN WITH: JAMES TOWELL

On a personal note, you've been playing slightly 'out of position' of late, although not unfamiliar. How do you adapt your game to different positions?

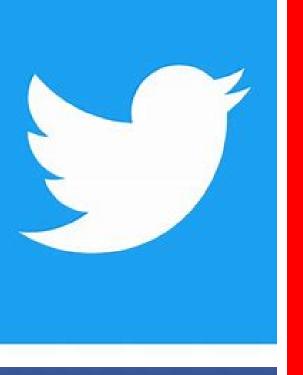
yeah I get bantered off a bit being called James Milner for my versatility but yeah I've been covering at right back for a few games while we've had a few defensive injuries, like you say not to unfamiliar for me I've played there in the past so I just do the best I can and look forward to getting unleashed back into midfield again.

Finally, plenty of football still be played, with Tring up next tomorrow, looking to bounce back quickly in front of another big crowd?

yes the game against tring can't come soon enough after a defeat, we look to come back strong and get back on track in the league, and what better way to do so with a local derby.

That's the lowdown from Jimbo, who would you like to see next in Volume #6 of Town Talk?

Let us know on Twitter!



# FOLLOW US!

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** 

### @LeightonTownFC

Follow us on Twitter for Live Match Updates, News and Content Throughout the Week!

# Home of Leighton Town FC

Like us on Facebook to stay in the loop!



## @LeightonTownFC

Complete the Trilogy and Follow us on Instagram as well!



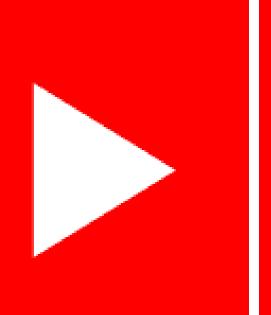


**HIGHLIGHTS & MORE** 

Leighton Town FC



Stay Safe at Bell
Close - Check out our
latest video from our
players and staff
about how to stay
safe at Bell Close!





# UPCOMING FIXTURES

Here's who your Town are facing in the coming weeks!

Oxhey Jets (A)
Sat 17th Oct
Boundary Stad.

N'P' Town (A)
Tue 20th Oct
Willen Road

Levy Green (H)
Sat 24th Oct
Bell Close



# BOOK YOUR PARTY WITH US



HALL HIRE AT LEIGHTON TOWN FC BELL CLOSE LAKE ST LEIGHTON BUZZARD LU7 1RX

21st,30th,40th & ANY OTHER SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS
CHRISTENINGS.....ENGAGEMENTS....RETIREMENT
WORK DO's....END OF SEASON FUNCTIONS
SUITABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

TO CHECK AVAILABILITY EMAIL bookings@leightontownfc.co.uk







### REPORT VS BIGGLESWADE UTD

An 88th-minute winner for Biggleswade United was enough to sink Town on Saturday, as the visitors took all three points away from Bell Close, in front of a capacity crowd!

Town came into the game having played just two league games compared to United's 5, however, it was an 100% start Town were looking to continue.

Both sides had headed opportunities at the beginning of the contest, with Mealing heading wide for Town, before Parkinson's header flashed past Brad Kirkwood's goal.

Louie Collier was denied by the palms of Leslie, before Kirkwood was recalled into action, down low to his right.

Town had the bigger chances towards the end of the second period. Marcus Mealing found himself unmarked in the box, but his headed effort was straight at the keeper. Archie McClelland should have buried his chance, however, the visiting goalkeeper made himself big to deny McClelland the luxury of a goal.

The latter had two half chances at the end of the first period, but neither troubled Leslie in the opposing net.

On 56 minutes, the games inspired substitution was made, with United's goalkeeper Ollie Leslie, replaced by 17-year-old, Taylor Haddow. Town made a change on 58, with Ross Adams being replaced by Ben Pattie.

Parkinson found himself in behind on 61 minutes, but was thwarted by the outstretched palms of Brad Kirkwood.

Tom Silford's wild effort flew over the bar from the edge of the box and shortly after. Marcus Mealing was replaced by Connor Calcutt. Ben Pattie entered the referee's book as the game entered the final quarter and Town found themselves squandering a massive chance! Louie Collier was in behind after a great pass from the just introduced Calcutt. Collier bared down on Haddow's goal, but the youngster in the net got fingertips to Collier's low effort and tipped it on to the woodwork!

With Town bombarding the box, chances continued to fall the reds way. Brian Foulger was next to head wide, before Calcutt's half volley from a few yards, wide to the goal, was beaten away by the strong palms of Haddow.

Collier was soon replaced by Dave Murphy, as the game ticked on past the 80th minute.

Then came another piece of Haddow brilliance. On 87 minutes, the ball was fizzed across the face of the six-yard box and James Towell directed it goalwards, but somehow, Haddow kept the ball out and held the strike from Towell.

With Haddow in inspired form, straight from his kick, United managed to find a winner. Parkinson latched onto a long ball and he coolly slotted last Kirkwood, to net his 3rd winner in as many game. Town pushed once again, having dominated the second period, but they could've stayed out there for another 90 minutes and wouldn't have found a way past young, Taylor Haddow, who was reaping the praise from the noisy Town supporters behind the goal, to Town supporters on Twitter and Facebook.

A great atmosphere once again at Bell Close despite the defeat. Town will look to bounce back in their usual quick fashion as they welcome Tring Athletic to Bell Close on Tuesday, in a league tie!

























# **Our Fantastic Sponsors! #SupportLocal**



#### Marcus Feinhols

Marcus Feinhols MNAEA Sales Director







marcus@finehomesproperty.co.uk



www.finehomesproperty.co.uk

#### FINEHOMESPROPERTY

Taking the stress out of moving



















**FutureSigns** 

















# UNDER 18 FIXTURES AND NEWS

Our U18 side made their debut bow last season. After a rocky start, they picked up form and results in the turn of the new year, with wins against Luton Town Cedars and AFC Dunstable.

Managed by James Heeps with Coaching Staff James Setchell, Mick Zanetti and Deano.

## NEWS AND UPDATES

#### **WILL & ED HORNE GET 1ST TEAM MINUTES**

A big congratulations to U18 brothers, Will and Ed Horne, who played in Pre-Season for the 1st Team!

#### **U18S WIN AT DUNSTABLE**

In their opening league game, our U18 side beat AFC Dunstable U18 2-1 at Creasey Park.

### **NEXT FIXTURE**

#### **OPPOSITION**

Crawley Green U18s

#### TIME & VENUE

19:45 at Bell Close

#### COMPETITION

SCYFL



# Change the conversation on mental health

#headsup

thefa.com/headsup

## SQUADS AND OFFICIALS

### **Your Town Squad:**

- 1. Brad Kirkwood
- 2. Joe Fitzgerald
- 3. Tom Silford
- 4. Dave Murphy
- 5. Carl Resch
- 6. Aaron Jewell
- 7. Archie McClelland
- 8. Jordon Frederick (C)
- 9. Connor Calcutt
- 10. Louie Collier
  - 11. James Towell
- 12. Ross Adams
- 13. Brian Foulger
- 14. Alex Condon
- 15. Ashton Campbell
- 16. Marcus Mealing
- 17. Ben Pattie
- 18. Alfie Osborne
- 19. George Boland

### **Tring Athletic Squad:**

- 1. David Saunders
- 2. Paolo Baggati
- 3. Gareth Terblanche
- 4. Scott Bonner
- 5. Harrison Cornick
- 6. Connor Blake
- 7. Prince Nimoh
- 8. Joe Chott
- 9. Clement Asanti
- 10 Ollie Butler
  - 11. Wesley Ireogu
- 12. Jonathan Pitts
- 13. Callum Shortt
- 14. Marshall Stedman
- 15. Franky Hercules
- 16. Adam Murphy
- 17. Will Salmon
- 18. Joe Naylor
- 19. Jack Sunderland

Today's Match Officials: Neo Neophytou, Sam Winter, Simon Cudner