

Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number

Location

Proposal

Case Officer

Organisation Name

Address

Type of Comment

Type

Comments

Oxford United is one of my remaining ties to my home city, having moved away ten years ago. I am a season ticket holder, and travel back to the matches regularly as a result of my fervent passion for my team. One of the first things people come to know about me is that I am an Oxford United fan.

In my time supporting the club, I have strengthened friendships and made new friends as part of the wider Oxford United community. It means a lot to me, and to so many others - many of whom come from families that have supported the club for generations. The club cannot be allowed to die - but if it is not afforded this new home, it may cease to exist.

May 16th 2010 saw in excess of 30,000 oxford fans descend upon Wembley Stadium to watch the club secure its return to the Football League. Many of these fans will have been present at the club's previous appearance at the national stadium in 1986, and many more will have had family connections who were there. The club is in their blood.

This club means a lot to so many fans, club employees, current players, former players. It has been the home to many club legends, some of whom have maintained their ties to the club well beyond their playing days: Peter Rhoades-Brown (40 year employee of the club), Mickey Lewis (RIP), Joey Beauchamp, Jim Smith, James Constable, Cameron Brannagan, and so many more. Some of these players rejected offers from clubs higher up the league pyramid to stay at / return to the club due to the passion of its fans, and the sense of community that surrounds the club. That cannot be understated.

The reasons why the club cannot stay at Grenoble Road are well documented and numerous. As it stands, the club will be homeless ahead of the 2026/27 season - just over two years from now. A ground share - while possibly necessary for a season or two - does not, would not, and cannot be seen as a viable nor sustainably option for the club moving forward. The Triangle represents an opportunity to allow for the club's survival and is the perfect location - given its proximity to Oxford Parkway - and Oxford United is committed to building a stadium that the county can be proud of: all-electric, accessible, inclusive and eco-friendly.

Save our club.

Received Date

Attachments