Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number	
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24/00539/F

Location

Land To The East Of Stratfield Brake And West Of Oxford Parkway Railway Station Oxford Road Kidlington

Proposal

Erection of a stadium (Use Class F2) with flexible commercial and community facilities and uses including for conferences, exhibitions, education, and other events, club shop, public restaurant, bar, health and wellbeing facility/clinic, and gym (Use Class E/Sui Generis), hotel (Use Class C1), external concourse/fan-zone, car and cycle parking, access and highway works, utilities, public realm, landscaping and all associated and ancillary works and structures

Case Officer

Laura Bell

Organisation

Name

Address

Type

Type of Comment

Comments

Objection

neighbour

There are multiple reasons for me to object to the stadium as a local Kidlington resident that travels around the proposed stadium location on a daily basis:

- 1. The increased traffic will lead to increased air pollution in the area.
- 2.OUFC have failed to demonstrate the 'very special circumstances' needed to build on the Green Belt. The development will not achieve the 10% Biodiversity Net Gain required by the emerging policy, Core Policy 14: Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services (CP14) which is included in the draft Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040.
- 3. The planning application lists laws and regulations but fails to address key safety issues. There is insufficient room to allow for segregation of home and away fans. We cannot ever have another Hillsborough
- 4.OUFCs statement conflicts with the public information that the owner has stated that it is possible for OUFC to stay at the Kassam Stadium
- 5. New pedestrian crossings on the Oxford Road and Frieze Way will cause even more congestion on the Kidlington Roundabout and Peartree Roundabout. Too many cars and pedestrians will cause accidents.
- 6.Traffic congestion and road closures Road closures are planned DESPITE OCCs statement that the Oxford Road cannot be closed. The diversion route is already heavily congested and there will be even more traffic when the diversion is in place and people are trying to access the stadium. I can't comment on the traffic modelling at the moment but will do so when the data is available.

The stadium at 25km high will dominate and ruin the local village feel and landscape.

- 7. Flooding: The site is susceptible to significant surface water flooding which will mean that run-off from Oxford Road has to go elsewhere potentially resulting in local flooding.
- 8. The claim of the wildlife-rich green area at the northern tip of the site is unrealistic. With16,000+ people regularly on site enabling wildlife to thrive is zero. The environmentally friendly solution is to stay at the Kassam Stadium. Why demolish a perfectly functioning stadium and replace it with a new one? This is directly at odds with all Oxfordshire Council's Climate Crisis promises.
- 9. Thames Valley Police concerns that fans won't use designated crossing routes have not been addressed

This stadium is wholly unnecessary, and not built with sustainability in mind in respect to the local area and the local community.

Cherwell District Council must challenge OUFC's claims with Firoka.