

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 April 2024 10:01
To: Planning
Cc: Barbara Harriss-White
Subject: Ref 24/00539/F.

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Ref 24/00539/F.

To whom it may concern:

I wish to add my voice to those objecting to the proposed stadium. (I'm an Arsenal fan but I watch games on TV.)

1. Is the stadium's site a response to local *demand* from active football fans in N Oxford? Where's the evidence? I think that the fan-base is across the city so no, it isn't!

2. Is the stadium well *located* for football fans who come from elsewhere in and outside the city? No it isn't! It is on the Oxford Road – the main travel artery north to the A34-M40 and south from the M 40- A34 into Oxford. Regularly blocking or diverting this road will shift and add travel costs and spillover effects onto masses of people - unconnected with football. I read that OCC has also decreed that this road cannot be closed! The short windows of time suggested for shifting crowds are completely unrealistic.

3. The planned busses and coaches will add *congestion and pollution* to a region already chock a block full of suburban village-building with general expected effects on traffic that have already resulted in the *•lter* programme (which I happen to support). The main roads around the north and east of Oxford are now all badly congested. They need relief and not extra traffic! So is the general parking in the nearby suburbs which will be subject to extra competition on matchdays. How have fans visiting by car been accommodated? The proposed projections and plans are seriously unrealistic!

4. What's the point of a *green belt*? The proposed stadium encroaches grossly onto the green belt. It will destroy a modest conservation landscape with its biodiversity and trees! What is the status of a green belt that an unplanned football stadium can become a 'very special circumstance'?

I expect that you will ignore what I have written above because the only arguments you will accept have to be considerations of material planning. You will have masses of objections on these grounds but here goes!

5. Was this site ever designated for development in the *Local Development Plan and the Neighbourhood Development Plan*? No it wasn't! What are plans FOR?

6. Where's the *parking*? Oxford Parkway car park is for railway users not football audiences and it is full most days. Local residential parking cannot take the assault from football fans' vehicles. Nor can the Park and Ride. Where is the co-ordinated realistic plan for public transport?

7. *There are not no alternatives*. The politics of relocating OUFC smells *•shy*. Cherwell Dt Council must challenge OUFC and Firoka to renegotiate the existing Kassam stadium. The owner has apparently said that the club can stay there!

8. OUFC will probably not own this stadium whose *non-match uses* are unspecified and will shift in ways that cannot be foreseen or planned for or funded. These uses won't be *controlled* by OUFC.

On all these grounds, please turn down the proposal at Strat•eld Brake.

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