Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number | 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 of Comment

Type

Comments

Support

neighbour

I fully support Oxford United's planning application to build a new stadium on land known as 'The Triangle'.

It has been accepted by Oxfordshire County Council that the club has no right to stay at The Kassam Stadium beyond 2026, contrary to the narrative pushed by opposition groups. Oxford United will be homeless in just over 2 years without a new stadium, meaning that the approval of this application is imperative to secure its long-term future. Oxford United is important to thousands of people across the county and the club is much more than the men's first team - the club has a fantastic charity arm that engages with and helps the wider Oxfordshire community, whilst it also has a thriving Women's team that will be able to grow if the club is allowed to build a new home. As a father of two young daughters, I am so excited by the prospect of taking them to Women's games at the new stadium and giving them the opportunity to find new role models they can aspire to be like. Blocking the application puts the future of the club - and all of the benefits to the community outlined above - in serious jeopardy and would be utterly reckless and nonsensical.

The site at the Triangle is also perfect for a new stadium. It offers the opportunity for people to travel via more sustainable methods as it is situated right next to a mainline railway station with integrated bus routes. Most fans currently drive to the Kassam whereas the club is committed to ensuring 90 per cent of journeys to the new stadium end on public transport. I currently drive to the Kassam by myself which can take up to 45 minutes depending on traffic, whereas at a new stadium I intend to travel to Oxford Parkway in a journey that can take as little as 10 minutes from my nearest train station, to which I can walk.

Another benefit is that 'The Triangle' is not currently open to the public and is unused scrubland, and the club taking on the lease will mean that a new public green space will be created at the north end of the site. This will have a positive impact on public wellbeing.

The club has also committed to improving and maintaining the sports facilities at Stratfield Brake in Kidlington as part of the move, representing a hugely beneficial commitment for the people of Kidlington and surrounding areas that use the facilities. The current facilities are in a poor state and are regularly waterlogged, and are in dire need of investment. With this initiative the club stands to actually be the real friend of Stratfield Brake and give the people of Kidlington the facilities they deserve to participate in activities that are good for their health, and of which they can be proud.

Please do the right thing and allow Oxford United to build a new home, enabling the club to continue to invest in the people of Oxfordshire and have a hugely positive impact on their health and wellbeing.

Received Date

27/03/2024 12:50:04

Attachments