

Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number

Location

Proposal

Case Officer

Organisation Name

Address

Type of Comment

Type

Comments

My main objection is due to the likely effect of the stadium on traffic in the local area. As someone who commutes by bus from Kidlington to central Oxford to work, I strongly feel that the proposal to close Oxford Road to traffic for at least 30 minutes either side of matches is absolutely unacceptable. Road closures on weekday evenings will have a significant negative effect on the large number of Kidlington residents who commute in this way, lengthening journey times and affecting the reliability of bus services as vehicles will be caught up in traffic leading to knock-on delays throughout the evenings. Equally, road closures on Saturdays will make it far harder for Kidlington residents to travel into central Oxford for shopping or leisure purposes, and the likely additional congestion along the diversion route from the Sainsbury's roundabout to Peartree will make it harder to access the A34 southbound. (The proposed closure of the Sandy Lane level crossing also removes an alternative route to Peartree for Kidlington residents, pushing more traffic onto Frieze Way.)

The proposed stadium will also have negative effects for local residents wishing to travel to Oxford or London by train from Oxford Parkway. Oxford Parkway station is small, and the presence of large numbers of football fans travelling through the station will be intimidating and offputting to non-football fans wishing to travel, particularly those with a variety of protected characteristics (women, people of colour, LGBT+ people).

I also object to the proposal on environmental grounds. The construction of the stadium will result in the loss of green belt land and will affect bird, bat and insect populations, contributing to general environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. In addition, the land on which it is proposed to build the stadium is important for drainage of the surrounding area; throughout the last few months I have observed that significant amounts of the land which can be seen from the upper deck of a bus on the Oxford Road was underwater. If the stadium is built, this land will no longer be available to soak up excess rainwater and there will be an increased risk of flooding on the surrounding roads or even into residential areas.

Received Date

Attachments