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	Support
Туре	neighbour
Comments	I have been a supporter of Oxford United since 1984. I support this application for three principal reasons: 1. The proposed location of the stadium and proximity to Oxford Parkway station will significantly increase the accessibility of the club and, hence, its reach, thus strengthening its long-term viability. In my younger days, I was a regular attendee (when the club was based at the Manor Ground in Headington). However, in adulthood I moved away from the area to London and this inevitably has made attending matches a much bigger undertaking. However, this situation has been significantly exacerbated since 2001 by the location of the club's current home at Grenoble Road. The situation of the stadium on the extreme southern edge of the city, a long way from any major public transport hub makes getting to matches an incredibly difficult proposition. The lack of car parking only makes this situation worse. By comparison, the proposed location of the new stadium would bring the club back within easy reach and would enable me to attend more than the 2/3 games per season that I currently do. I am sure this is the case for those many other fans who, like me, have moved away from the area. I am also very supportive of the fact that the location of the stadium would make the primary mode of access for me and many others public transport. This can only be a good thing; 2. The new stadium will secure the future of the club. Whatever the rights and wrongs of how the club ended up in its current stadium predicament, those responsible for it from the club's side are long gone. Furthermore, it is abundantly clear to anyone who has followed the club for the past 20 years or more that the current stadium owner, Mr Kassam, has not and will not ever act in the club's best interests. This is evidenced by the fact that every owner of Oxford United since Mr Kassam sold it in 2006 has tried to open negotiations over the stadium purchase and each time has met a total lack of willingness to engage from him. The fact that we are now
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