

The Planning Department, Cherwell District Council, Bodicote House, Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon, OX15 4AA

19th April, 2024

Dear Planning Officers,

Planning Application 24/00539/F Proposals for the New Oxford United Stadium

We wish Oxford United good fortune in resolving their future stadium needs and success on the football field.

However, as a long-standing campaign organisation representing the interests of businesses in and around Oxford, we have very serious concerns about their plans for their widely dispersed supporters to use Park and Ride sites on match days.

As you will know both Oxford City and, particularly, Oxfordshire County Council have made it increasingly difficult for car drivers and their passengers to access Oxford with restrictive traffic measures and exceedingly high car parking charges.

They have done this with the message that people coming into Oxford from outside should use the Park and Rides and, indeed the Park and Rides have been set up to reduce the traffic into Oxford.

It is hardly fair to visitors to Oxford and the businesses within it, if, on match days, the Park and Rides are taken over by the football supporters going to a venue outside Oxford.

As Saturdays are very important trading days for retailers, it will have a damaging impact on their turnover and a knock-on effect on the hospitality and cultural outlets.

It is wrong for Oxford United to, in effect, hi-jack the Park and Rides to the detriment of Oxford.

We ask that you request the club to find another solution for their transport needs before making a decision on this application.

Yours sincerely,

