

# Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

<b>Application Number</b>	24/00539/F
<b>Location</b>	Land To The East Of Stratfield Brake And West Of Oxford Parkway Railway Station Oxford Road Kidlington
<b>Proposal</b>	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
<b>Case Officer</b>	Laura Bell
<b>Organisation Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Type of Comment</b>	Objection
<b>Type</b>	neighbour
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Hello there</p> <p>21 May 2024</p> <p>I, [REDACTED] a resident of Kidlington, am writing to formally object to the proposal for building a new stadium for Oxford United Football Club Application number - 24/00539/F.</p> <p>While I understand the club's need for a new home due to the expiration of the Kassam Stadium lease in 2026, I don't see why OUFC's lack of planning should become our emergency. I believe that the proposed location at "The Triangle" is unsuitable for several reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Environmental Impact:</b> The development will disrupt local wildlife habitats and green spaces. The environmental assessment should be scrutinized to ensure minimal ecological damage, but such projects inevitably have a footprint that could harm the local biodiversity. What is the point of having a green belt if you are willing to entertain the idea of or let massive infrastructure projects alter it? It sets a terrible precedent. Do you know what is more sustainable than "a sustainable sports, entertainment and lifestyle landmark"? A green belt left to its own devices.</li><li><b>2. Traffic and Congestion:</b> The new stadium will significantly increase traffic in Kidlington, causing congestion on already busy roads. This will lead to longer commute times and increased pollution, negatively impacting local residents' quality of life.</li><li><b>3. Community Disruption:</b> The introduction of a large stadium will alter the character of Kidlington. Noise, litter, and disturbances on match days and during events will affect the peace and tranquillity currently enjoyed by residents.</li><li><b>4. Infrastructure Strain:</b> The local infrastructure, including public transport, parking facilities, and emergency services, may not be equipped to handle the influx of visitors that a stadium would attract. This could lead to overburdened services and decreased safety and convenience for residents.</li><li><b>5. Alternative Locations:</b> The council and the club should explore alternative locations that would not have such a detrimental impact on a residential area. Brownfield sites or areas already designated for commercial use could provide a more appropriate setting for a large sports venue.</li><li><b>6. The Kassam:</b> What is going to happen to Kassam? What a waste of a suitable stadium that has served the club for decades. Kidlington shouldn't have to suffer because the OUFC are burning bridges with Firoz Kassam. "The owner of Kassam Stadium says he is open to Oxford United staying at the ground, despite the club claiming it 'must find a new home'." - <a href="https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/24056192.oxford-united-stadium-owner-open-club-staying-kassam/">https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/24056192.oxford-united-stadium-owner-open-club-staying-kassam/</a></li></ol>

I urge the council to consider these points seriously and to seek a solution that balances the needs of Oxford United Football Club with the well-being of Kidlington residents.

I am disappointed to read that you signed the Heads of Terms and the lease option agreement.

Why is the Kidlington Parish Council - Parish Poll from 10 May 2023 not being considered?

Thank you for considering my objections.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,



**Received Date**

21/05/2024 00:39:56

**Attachments**