

Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number

Location

Proposal

Case Officer

Organisation Name

Address

Type of Comment

Type

Comments

The proposed development of a new stadium, together with a hotel and possible other commercial developments for Oxford United is not appropriate in a rural setting. Oxford United have an option to extend their tenure at Kassam Stadium but do not make this clear.

The site south of Kidlington is in a green belt area with poor access as it is in a triangular site that is bounded on two sides by busy roads that would not make access on match days easy or safe.

The location for parking on match days is extremely limited; only the Oxford Parkway park and ride or the station car park; both of these are normally well used at weekends and are located on the other side of the road from the proposed stadium so access is difficult and potentially dangerous. A footbridge has been proposed which MUST be built in advance of any permitted development of the site. Local roads must be off-limits for football supporters; Resident-only parking permits would be required for all residential road within a mile of the stadium. There has been a suggestion widely reported in the local press that the roads by the stadium would be closed for an hour before, and up to three hours after the match had finished. This is clearly a ridiculous notion as it is both a major inconvenience to local traffic and emergency service vehicles, with no way then possible to travel south from Kidlington by road.

If a hotel is developed then the traffic movements will also exacerbate pressure on the local road system.

It is unclear why a stadium capacity of 16,000 to 18,000 is required when Oxford United home games attract attendances much lower than that.

Football crowds are noisy, disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the countryside of local residents. Night-time matches will also create light pollution for a significant local area around the stadium. This is a potential problem for birds and small animals, as well as an inconvenience for residents.

The so-called amenity for local sports clubs ignores the fact that facilities are already n existence at Stratfield Brake, so is not any gain to local sport players.

There is nothing to commend the proposed development with the planning application for the stadium and any associated commercial activities.

Received Date

Attachments