

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	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I have previously written to Oxford United Football Club on many occasions in response to a PR leaflet drop they did in Kidlington in April 2023. Despite repeated follow ups, they never replied or even acknowledged my email. My main concerns were around transport, congestion and parking. As I didn't receive a response to this, I pose my concerns and objections again as part of this consultation as I do not believe they have been addressed.</p> <p>Parking, transport and congestion</p> <p>OUFC states that it wants 90% of people to use public transport/active travel methods to get to games. This would be a fantastic outcome but is currently not feasible or achievable until the below are fully addressed to the satisfaction of the planning application.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. a) What is the current percentage of people travelling this way to your current ground? b) What barriers are there to this being higher currently?2. What percentage of people currently travel by car to your current ground?3. Presumably you have consulted with fans who currently attend games (home and away fans). What have they expressed as their travel preferences and their intentions for reaching the proposed new site?4. What is the split, by percentage, of travel by each method to a comparable football ground, i.e. of the same/similar size to the proposed new ground and in a similar village location to the proposed new site?5. If there is a mismatch between current percentage of people travelling by public transport/active travel and your desired 90%, a) what are the barriers to this, b) what will you do to move it closer to 90% and c) what might stop you achieving that?6. a) If the desired 90% of people travelling by public transport/active travel isn't achieved, what will you do about this, in terms of sanctions/fines/financial motivations? b) How will your actions ensure people move to public transport/active travel rather than still continuing to drive in and just parking around Kidlington? <p>There are not enough cycle spaces in the plans to match the desired outcome of the club.</p> <p>It can already be difficult travelling into Oxford city by bus since the timetable was reduced. Wait times for local residents into the city will increase significantly and will be a barrier to people spending money on Oxford businesses.</p> <p>Most spectators will inevitably use local residential and commercial parking spaces in Kidlington, which is unacceptable to residents and local businesses. Or if using the P&R, this will make it much harder for locals to access the train and P&R services to support Oxford city businesses and access the hospitals.</p> <p>With train prices so high, it is not realistic to expect most fans (especially away fans) to travel by train. They will inevitably drive and expect to park nearby.</p> <p>There is no way to control high numbers of fans crossing the Oxford Road on foot at non-designated crossings, making it dangerous for all road users as well as increasing the huge</p>

amount of congestion that will be present in the area.

Loss of green spaces and wildlife

Green spaces are already under severe threat with housing. Affordable housing is desperately needed and so there has to be some concession. However, this stadium is not desperately needed. It is a 'nice to have' for some people. We can't risk wildlife habitat destruction and loss of green space for local residents for this.

Oxfordshire County Council is supposedly meant to help improve public health and yet this risks reducing the amount of natural woodland available for people to enjoy and be active in.

Furthermore, this plans increasing the risk of flooding locally. We know that flooding will continue to present an ever-increasing risk over the coming years, so we should be planning for ways to mitigate this and not make it worse.

Air pollution and litter in the area will become significantly worse with the highly condensed period of additional cars and buses during match days and events. It is local residents who will suffer for this.

Anti-social behaviour

As a woman, I am especially concerned about the safety and wellbeing of local people, particularly women and families. The sudden influx of transient spectators is worrying, especially with the effects of alcohol and high emotions of matches. I would be very concerned about walking alone in the area, despite it being the normally safe village that I live in where I don't feel there are any barriers to me walking around. Instances of domestic abuse and gender-based violence are shown to increase around football matches, and this is not something I can support in our village. I urge the council to meaningfully consider the safety of women and children in this context.

Received Date

18/04/2024 10:21:54

Attachments