

# Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

**Application Number**

**Location**

**Proposal**

**Case Officer**

**Organisation Name**

**Address**

**Type of Comment**

**Type**

**Comments**

As a local resident and the wife of an Oxford United fan, I wish to express my strong objection to Oxford United's proposal to build a stadium on the triangle of land east of Stratfield Brake and west of Oxford Parkway station. This is for the following reasons:

1. Damage to the local environment - building the stadium on green belt land would result in the loss of a valuable wildlife habitat. The increase in pollution coming from increased volumes of traffic would also be detrimental to the wildlife and wetland at nearby Stratfield Brake, and to the air quality for local residents. The Executive Summary proposal still does not adequately address this loss. Green belt land should be protected, especially at a time when so much other building and development is going on in the local area, and so much life-giving green space is in danger of being lost. Building a new stadium and pulling down a perfectly adequate stadium will also increase carbon emissions in both Kidlington and Blackbird Leys. At a time when climate change is threatening the futures of so many of our local habitats, as well as increasingly affecting many people's homes and livelihoods, we should be looking to reduce carbon emissions, not increase them.
2. Traffic congestion - the construction of the stadium, and the subsequent running of the stadium once it opens, would increase traffic levels around Kidlington, Cutteslowe and the surrounding area, especially on match days. Kidlington is already struggling with the levels of traffic that pass through it each day. Adding more traffic to this would put unmanageable stress on the road system, causing long traffic jams and gridlocks, which will be dangerous to the local community and increase levels of pollution in the air. The measures put forward in the proposal do not adequately address this problem - indeed, the aim of '90% of fans travelling by sustainable modes of transport' cited in the report is totally unrealistic and does not reflect the current reality of how most people travel.
3. Parking availability - I live within a mile of the site of the proposed stadium. The large numbers of people travelling to the stadium by car on matchdays will drastically reduce parking in the roads close to the stadium, including the one where we live, where parking space is already under pressure. This will cause huge disruption to local residents. The large numbers of fans coming into Kidlington after the match will also potentially overwhelm local shops, pubs and businesses and potentially decrease the safety and wellbeing of the local community.

Thank you for taking the time to read my feedback. I do hope that the feedback of local residents will be given sufficient weight given that they will be most affected if this proposal goes ahead.

**Received Date**

**Attachments**