

Comment for planning application 21/01224/OUT

Application Number	21/01224/OUT
Location	Land at former RAF Bicester Bicester Oxfordshire OX26 5HA
Proposal	Outline planning application for Automotive Experience Quarter comprising Commercial, Business and Services uses (Class E), Light Industrial (Class B2), Local Community and Learning Uses (Class F) and vehicle circuits (Sui Generis) with all matters reserved aside from that of access).
Case Officer	Rebekah Morgan
Organisation Name	Tim Mulligan
Address	The Orchard House, Bicester Road, Stratton Audley, Bicester, OX27 9RF
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I have several concerns with this application as I feel it may adversely impact our quality of life and that of our neighbours. The documentation I have read has not allayed my concerns at this time. 1. Noise pollution I understand that some studies have been conducted with regard to the noise the track will create when in use. However, I see from the documentation produced that the location of the measuring microphones has been restricted by the availability of existing track to complete the tests on. This track is near to the houses on the opposite side of the A4421 (those residents will no doubt be concerned) but is not near to our house which is further to the northern end. My understanding is that the completed track would be much closer to our property - but I am not certain how far away and I therefore have no confidence that the measurements already taken will truly reflect the impact on us. In addition, I believe that there would be multiple corners on the track near us and we may therefore be subject to additional noise as cars accelerate away from them. Has this been taken into account? I imagine it will be deafening when multiple cars navigate 4 corners on the East, West and full circuit at the same time in the North-East area of the site. This is absolutely unacceptable to us. I have no confidence that measuring the noise generated on a short track with few cars will reflect the noise of a full track day or even multiple cars using the track for testing. In addition, I note that there are plans for an E-Karting track that would also be close to our home but I am not aware of any noise pollution testing being carried out from that area to determine the potential impact on us or Stratton Audley. Electric karts travelling at speed still create significant noise - especially on karting days. I am also concerned about the proposed friction training circle as I have seen no reference to this being monitored for noise levels. I am raising these concerns in their own right but particularly as my wife wears 2 hearing aids at all times and loud or continuous noise can be extremely painful for her and therefore her wellbeing - potentially causing longer term further damage to her hearing. I understand that the cars are to be "silenced" but there will no doubt be exceptions to this (as was the case during the testing) with some cars being too loud. Unfortunately, I do not have the confidence that the loudest cars will be removed from the track as has been suggested and even if they were, that would mean that "acceptable" noise levels would have been breached already thus causing disruption to local residents. In addition, even silenced cars can be very noisy as can be evidenced on normal roads. Please advise on the noise mitigation initiatives that will be in place that will prevent damage to my wife's hearing. 2. Access to site from Bicester Road. My understanding is that an access to the site will be served using the entrance from Bicester Road. We strongly object to this as it will cause additional congestion in the close proximity of our driveway. This will cause danger to us as cars travel at speed from Stratton Audley to the A4421 along Bicester Road and, as more traffic will result, the risk of an accident is increased. In addition, it will increase traffic pulling out from Bicester Road onto the A4421 which is an accident hotspot. The entrance from Bicester Road should be permanently be closed off as the main entrance on the A4421 is safer. The entrance on Bicester Road would cause considerable inconvenience to us from congestion and would significantly degrade our quality of life resulting from noise and air pollution. In my view, it would be irresponsible to open this entrance up as it would also cause danger to life. 3. Air pollution. The pollution generated but the busy A4421 has already had an increasingly adverse impact on our lives over the last 23 years. I do not wish air quality to deteriorate further from the increased use of fuel thirsty cars driving at speed around the circuit. Unfortunately, my wife also suffers from Asthma - requiring the frequent use of inhalers to assist breathing and I am increasingly concerned that further air pollution will exacerbate this condition. 4. Degradation of local</p>

environment for local people and the adverse impact of Stratton Audley village and surrounding properties. When we moved into our home 23 years ago, we were delighted with the environment we lived in. Since then, Bicester has grown at an incredible rate which has resulted in congestion and pollution increasing significantly. The town has grown massively in size and local long term residents have suffered as a result. I am concerned that allowing further development of the air field will lead to additional unwanted growth of Bicester to the extent that beautiful Oxfordshire villages and appropriate complementary housing will be absorbed by further urban sprawl. My view is that there should be a permanent moratorium on further housing development around Bicester. Does the preservation of our countryside mean nothing to people any more? 5. Security. With the additional activity and many people being potentially as close as the end of our driveway, there is an increased risk of nefarious activity. My family's security and safety is of paramount importance and we feel that there would be an increased possibility of criminal activity resulting from people "loitering" around the perimeter of our property. We have had to make complaints to the police in the past regarding trespass and, to some, the egregious use of our driveway as a convenient place to defecate is considered acceptable behaviour. Littering is another aspect that will need to be addressed - at present, I collect litter from the road when I ready our bins for collection but I feel this would not be possible going forward. I hope our concerns and those of our neighbours will be considered fairly by Bicester Heritage and the Council. Mr. Mulligan

Received Date

13/05/2021 16:38:10

Attachments