



5 Oct 2021

Cherwell District Council,
Planning Department.

Letter of support - Planning Application: 21/01224/OUT – Experience Quarter of Bicester Motion

Dear Rebekah Morgan,

On behalf of Mission Motorsport, the Forces' Motorsport Charity I am writing in support of this planning application for the Experience Quarter at Bicester Motion. By background, Mission Motorsport is a service charity that aids in the recovery and rehabilitation of those affected by military operations by providing opportunities through Motorsport and the Automotive Industry. On behalf of the MoD, the charity delivers the award winning "Mission Automotive" initiative, the Armed Forces engagement initiative for the UK automotive industry; in partnership with the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT).

We've been involved with the Bicester Motion team since 2013. Over that time the charity has been a tenant, a supported charity, hosted industry insight visits, placed wounded service leavers into education and training, run vocational workshops and found jobs for service leavers, veterans and their family members with the tenant businesses as well as with Bicester Motion themselves. We established and now host a monthly community veterans meeting (Veterans@Heritage, into its 5th year) that opens the site and facilities to the local Armed Forces community – and most recently we helped orchestrate an Armed Forces Covenant signing for Bicester Motion, and 17 tenant businesses.

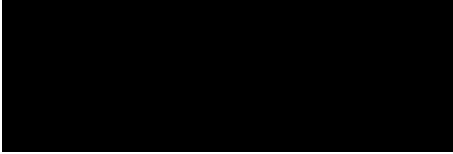
Mission Motorsport was created to uphold the very values of the Armed Forces Covenant, we work with our partners, sponsor companies and those who share our mission to support those who serve, our veterans and their families. As custodians of a unique part of our national military heritage Bicester Motion is playing a very important role, but never more than where it impacts directly the lives of those whose lives have been impacted by military service. The Experience Quarter represents an incredible opportunity to further contribute – and by the theme and the feel of the offering bring the military history of the site right up to present day by the employment of veterans.

The investment into the Experience Quarter represents a huge opportunity for the veteran population, and their families. We are welcoming a new venue for 'recovery sport' for those most impacted by military service, but by baking in the celebration of the site's history, and by bringing that narrative right into the present by employment of members of the veteran community it meets the Armed Forces Covenant pledges made by Bicester Motion, and also by Cherwell District Council. Such behaviour provides a focus and an outreach for visitors that is absolutely Gold Employer Recognition Scheme standard for advocacy, and will contribute strongly towards Cherwell District Council's case for, and seat at the Gold Award Association.

The preservation of the site, and the ability to open it up to visitors to help them experience, enjoy and be educated through sustainable and considerate use is very attractive to our audience, and we

are very much in support of Bicester Motion's vision, and are keen to work with government to enable that opportunity to be realised on behalf of the Armed Forces Community. Where the Bicester area has such strong heritage, the 'people' component of that heritage will be greatly enabled by this development.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything further that we can do to assist the council's work in this area, or in the support to the veteran community.



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Delivering Mission Automotive in partnership with the Royal Foundation and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders

Supported by the Endeavour Fund, Help For Heroes and The Soldiers' Charity

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