

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	Gordon Dawson
Address	27 Rookery Close,27 Rookery Close,Shippon,Oxfordshire
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Please support Oxford United in their bid to build a new stadium on the Triangle between Oxford and Kidlington.</p> <p>It has been proven to OCC that Oxford United will have to leave the Kassam Stadium in 2026 and need a new venue.</p> <p>Oxfordshire has a population of almost 750,000 people and only has one professional sports club, Oxford United. Considering that football is the national sport then it would be a major retrograde step for that club to have to either cease to exist or move out of the County to play. If they move more than a few miles from Oxford they would have to change their name because, according to Football Association rules, they could no longer use the name "Oxford". Oxford United also support the local Community in many ways, all this would be lost if they were no longer in the County</p> <p>.The Club looked at over 20 possible sites for a new stadium and the best option by far was The Triangle (Stratfield Brake was the only better site but that was unavailable) with the proximity to a mainline station and two Park and Rides, to maximise the use of public transport for supporters.</p> <p>A new stadium in the County would not cost the public purse anything since the funding would be from private sources. In fact, the local Councils would benefit financially from extra rate income, new jobs, extra facilities and somewhere which will be open all week with restaurant, etc. to also serve the non-football people including the new estates being built nearby.</p> <p>Yes, the Triangle is in Green Belt, but that particular piece of land is in the middle of major roads and a railway line which would not be good for wildlife and is rumoured to be toxic due to previous use including motor cycle racing.</p> <p>Oxford United moving to The Triangle will also substantially increase the use of public transport by travellers to matches while also reducing the use of private vehicles and therefore reducing toxic emissions in the County.</p> <p>The fact that building on the Triangle would reduce the green space between Oxford and Kidlington is a valid one but this is also true of the estates with 4,400 houses being also built on some of these green spaces nearby. Looking at the current rate of new house building then it is only, realistically, a matter of time before Kidlington is joined to Oxford, as have been Headington, Cowley, Botley, etc. in the past.</p> <p>Please do not live to regret, and take the blame, for missing a golden opportunity to enhance Oxford , Kidlington and the County's reputation as serving the community, with a state-of-the-art modern very green facility.</p>
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Attachments	