

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	
Name	David Underwood
Address	29 Woodgarston Drive,Hatch Warren,Hampshire,
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I feel a little awkward commenting as I don't live locally having left Abingdon for Hampshire over 40 years ago for my job but my conscience is eased by knowing some of the noisiest objectors are not locals themselves.</p> <p>Over those 40 years I have travelled back for most home games to support OUFC and have held a season ticket since the move to the current stadium which, unfortunately, has been allowed to become run down, neglected and miserable by the owner whose name it bears. I do my best to reach it by public transport but it is very difficult to access it in a timely manner by bus from the rail station (and it's impossible for midweek games) so I often need to drive but try to reduce my carbon footprint by car sharing with others from Hampshire, Berkshire and Dorset.</p> <p>I highly commend the meticulous plans submitted for a new stadium at The Triangle which will make it much easier for me to attend by public transport, so much so that I don't believe I will impact on the good folk of Kidlington directly as my friends and I will arrive by train from various locations around the country and socialise in Oxford before jumping back on a train to the new ground.</p> <p>It is a state-of-the-art creation that will overall benefit not just locals but the county as a whole and will be the talk of the football world. It will make great use of a piece of neglected scrubland whilst taking advantage of its proximity to a railway station and ample P+R parking spaces next to the A34 to reduce the need for visitors to impose on the village itself. I know my friends and I each contribute hundreds, probably thousands of pounds to the local economy every season and this will be multiplied by not just OUFC fans but supporters of other clubs too.</p> <p>My only regret is that OUFC and the area have already been denied an even better stadium and ancillaries at Stratfield Brake by the short sightedness of a few 'local' activists who have quite wilfully and recklessly lost a fantastic opportunity for the football, cricket and rugby teams of Kidlington to gain new facilities at no expense to the residents and at the same time endangering the existence of a local institution supported and loved by generations. It is imperative to see the bigger picture for the proposed new stadium as without it OUFC will inevitably cease to exist as they will NOT be able to continue in the current stadium despite what some activists would have you believe with their persistent misinformation. Please approve the planning application without delay.</p>
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Attachments	