

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	Ben Staveley-Taylor
Address	14 Carey Close, Oxford, OX2 8HX
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I oppose the construction of this new stadium on the grounds that it breaches the following policies in The Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ESD 1: Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change- ESD 3: Sustainable Construction- ESD 14: Oxford Green Belt, which specifically cites (B.260) the requirement to "protect the vulnerable Kidlington Gap". <p>Oxford United currently have a functional and adequate stadium, which was purpose-built for their use, in Littlemore, Oxford. It is nothing short of climate vandalism to literally throw away all the tons of concrete used to build the Kassam stadium and just pour hundreds more tons somewhere else. At 20 years old this stadium is well within its working life.</p> <p>It has been claimed that Oxford United cannot remain at the Kassam. However, this is untrue and has been contradicted by the owner of the stadium who says he is happy for the club to renew their lease. The club have never explained why they say they can't do this. They simply want a shiny new stadium. Source: https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/24056192.oxford-united-stadium-owner-open-club-staying-kassam/</p> <p>Cherwell DC might be distracted by the fact that the old stadium in Littlemore is outside their jurisdiction, but imagine if the club were playing at a different site in Kidlington already. Would the council really approve building a whole new stadium on a green belt site when the old site could be improved as necessary?</p> <p>Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council are taking steps to reopen the Cowley rail branch line, creating a station in Littlemore, which will improve transport and access at the current stadium. There is no need to move the whole stadium to get the benefit of being near a train station.</p>
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Attachments	