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

Ian Higgins

Address

49 Rosemoor Gardens, Appleton, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 5RF

Type of Comment

Support

Type

neighbour

Comments

You may well wonder, why is someone living in Warrington writing to support the stadium application in Oxfordshire? The answer is straightforward. I lived in Bicester for the first 22 years of my life and still come back to the area regularly. Why? Well to visit friends, but also to watch Oxford United. Here's the critical bit. I am 62 now and if it was not for the football, I would have lost touch with these friends many year's ago. Football, and sport in general, connects people. Men especially are hopeless at maintaining contact. However, a mutual love of a team keeps us together. Oxford United Football Club is not simply a business. Forgive the cliche but it is a huge community asset. It is there for the benefit of the entire region, and, for expats like me, the wider community.

Some will stay the club should stay put. However, as a tenant of Firoka, the club has no opportunity to develop and will ultimately cease to exist. This move is essential for the future of the club.

I note that plans for the new facility place huge importance on sustainability and responsible environmental management. The arguments put forward by opponents to the development are devisive and misleading. I urge you to look beyond these and consider the essential role the club plays in the area.

Thank you.

Received Date

13/04/2024 09:41:20

Attachments