

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	Stephen Cantwell
Address	35 Conisboro Avenue,Caversham,Reading,RG4 7JE
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I was born in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire and spent my early years living in Abingdon, and now reside in Caversham, just across the border with South Oxfordshire. Being my local League team, I have watched and supported Oxford United for the best part of 65 years, starting when the team had recently gained entry to League Division 4.</p> <p>Throughout that period, the club has sought to be part of the local community - the city itself, the county of Oxfordshire and retaining links with far and wide as supporters migrated to countries across the world. It is unthinkable that those links with the community would be severed if the club were to be without a stadium in the vicinity of Oxford.</p> <p>I understand that the lease on the Kassam stadium will terminate at the end of the 2025/26 season and the current application for a new stadium on the Triangle site is the only alternative. I have looked at the plans for the new stadium and fully support the application in for planning approval.</p> <p>My reasons are as follows:-</p> <p>The site is well served by existing transport infrastructure. The Oxford Parkway station will offer great transport links to/from Oxford station and wider. (For instance, I would travel to matches by train from Reading in future rather than by car at present). This will take many cars off Oxfordshire roads, saving the environment. Away fans may also travel by rail once this an option. The nearby park and ride car park offers suitable space for those that would continue to travel by car. Also, hopefully, bus services on match days will improve so that less cars will be utilised. Improved travel infrastructure together with the lack of parking at the stadium itself will improve the environment.</p> <p>The stadium itself will be a considerable improvement to the Kassam stadium. It is environmentally friendly, will offer improved access for those with disabilities and will provide conference and hotel facilities which will bring investment into the county and local services.</p> <p>The club would retain links to local clubs and associations and financially support these as money flows into the club. This stadium will be the only one in Oxfordshire to host a professional league club. In terms of prestige, this can only be good for the district of Cherwell and Oxfordshire as a whole.</p> <p>I fully support this application and urge councillors to approve the plans for the new stadium.</p> <p>Steve Cantwell</p>
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Attachments	