

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	Henry Moeran
Address	58 St Bernards Road,,Oxford,,OX2 6EJ
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Thank you for taking the time to read this message.</p> <p>I write both as an Oxford resident since birth and a passionate supporter of sport in all its guises. Few cultural endeavours have the ability to reach all members of the community, regardless of background, like the collective backing of a professional sports club.</p> <p>Whilst Oxfordshire is blessed with many extraordinary cultural outlets - science, art, music - it has just one professional sports club.</p> <p>Linking Oxford's manufacturing, sporting and academic history, Oxford United Football Club represents a vital part of the city and county's history. In existence for longer than Leeds United, West Ham and Chelsea, Oxford United is a treasured and important part of the fabric of Oxford.</p> <p>However, its future is in jeopardy.</p> <p>With the potential of no home from 2026, there's the very real and immediate prospect of Oxford United ceasing to exist. One only needs to ask fans of Bury and Reading to know what the impact of that would be.</p> <p>Few people would choose to have a football stadium in their back garden, but both the design and location of the proposed development at The Triangle is in keeping with Oxfordshire's ambitious green aspirations and a remarkably good site for such a project, given the land's current use and its proximity to Oxford Parkway station. The prospect of fans driving en masse to another stadium 50 miles away in a ground share would not only kill the soul of the club, it would also be a stain on the county's carbon neutral ambitions.</p> <p>As someone who spent their youth frustrated at the lack of accessible sports facilities, the idea that future generations will have a world-class facility close to home is something that can't be taken for granted.</p> <p>I very much hope your support for this ambitious and vital project will be fulsome.</p> <p>With best wishes,</p> <p>Henry Moeran [REDACTED]</p>
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Attachments	