

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	Elizabeth Bruce
Address	58 Mill Street, Kidlington, OX5 2EF
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>As a local resident, I wish to object strongly to OUFC's plans to build a football stadium on The Triangle, Kidlington.</p> <p>I am very concerned that, in spite of previous representations (and Oxfordshire County Council's statement that the Oxford Road cannot be shut to accommodate OUFC), proposals are still being advanced for closing roads between Kidlington and Oxford on match days (and for other events) - the term "at least 30 minutes" really doesn't mean anything at all. The main route from Kidlington to Oxford (and beyond) would be shut for significant periods on a regular basis, preventing access to hospitals and delaying emergency vehicles as well as local residents. Diversions suggested would add to journey times, and could make a huge difference in life-or-death situations, quite apart from increased pollution and traffic congestion. If Oxford United are so sure that fans will use public transport or bicycles, why do they need to close local roads?</p> <p>Since it appears very unlikely that fans will use public transport or bicycles, I am also very concerned about extra cars parking in Kidlington for access to the proposed stadium. I attended a public meeting in Exeter Hall, Kidlington, where a spokesperson for OUFC responded to concerns about fans parking in the village by saying he was "hopeful" this would not be the case - being hopeful is not much of a strategy, and no new strategy seems to be in place. I have seen the many parked cars for matches at the Kassam Stadium as far away as Sandford, and there seems little reason to expect that fewer cars would be looking for places to park in Kidlington in the event of the stadium being built on The Triangle. This would again lead to increased pollution and congestion, as well as inconvenience for local residents accessing local services.</p> <p>There seems to be very little regard for the fact that this building would be on Green Belt land, which would impact the local environment and air quality - of course air quality would be further impaired by all the extra traffic. Do OUFC's arguments for "very special circumstances" actually hold water, and has Cherwell District Council investigated this thoroughly?</p> <p>Please consider these points seriously when this application is discussed.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Elizabeth Bruce, Kidlington resident</p>
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Attachments	