

Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

Application Number	<input type="text" value="24/00539/F"/>
Location	<input type="text" value="Land To The East Of Stratfield Brake And West Of Oxford Parkway Railway Station Oxford Road Kidlington"/>
Proposal	<input type="text" value="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	<input type="text" value="Laura Bell"/>
Organisation Name	<input type="text" value="Hamish Armstrong"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="132 Greenfell Mansions,Greenwich,London,SE8 3EX"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Support"/>
Type	<input type="text" value="neighbour"/>
Comments	<p>Oxford United has put forward a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the county, committing to build a state-of-the-art facility that will transform football in the local area and create hundreds of jobs.</p> <p>The stadium will be environmentally pioneering, with full consideration given to ecosystems and local residents with noise and light cancellation.</p> <p>Be in no doubt, without its own stadium Oxford United - the only professional football club in the county - will die. I grew up going to the Manor Ground and latterly the Kassam Stadium with my father, one of the only interests we share. I left Oxford seven years ago but have kept my season ticket. It's a lifestyle and it isn't just about the football.</p> <p>I attended Oxford United soccer schools in the summer holidays as a child, run by Peter Rhoades-Brown who is still a club stalwart to this day and is a remarkable man. During sixth form, I did work experience with the club (again, with Mr Rhoades-Brown). When I graduated the then-Chairman of the club gave me two hours of his time to meet me and speak about careers in sports directorship. While completing my postgraduate degree, the Communications Manager invited me to the club to interview him for dissertation. The club has shaped so much of my life and that of so many others, too much to be simply disregarded by a few bitter individuals who are hellbent on blocking progress at every opportunity.</p> <p>My parents, sister, brother-in-law and toddler niece still reside in North Oxford. My niece kicked a football in the garden over the Easter weekend, wearing the Oxford United shirt I bought her for her 2nd birthday. When she grows up I want her to enjoy playing sport in a safe environment, not subjected to the dreadful sports facilities that Oxfordshire currently has to offer.</p> <p>The council has already passed up a golden opportunity to build a true sports complex at Stratfield Brake because of pathetic NIMBY-ism, and the same people are trying to block efforts to develop The Triangle site. It is a totally useless piece of land that would be perfect to develop into a home for a wonderful football club that is special to so many of us. The activists trying to prevent this are property developers looking to get the land for themselves, or politicians using the club as a pawn in their election games. They have spent the last two years slandering football fans and I find that disgusting.</p> <p>This is no game. Stop this stadium being built and the final whistle will be blown on Oxford United Football Club, the owners who are prepared to bankroll this project will take their money elsewhere and The Triangle will become a housing development anyway. Just look at the laughable self-interest of the councillor who has voiced his objection to the project on grounds of traffic congestion, when his Party has subjected Oxford to LTNs all over the place!</p> <p>Be in no doubt that the club is so much more than 11 men who play football every week.</p>

This isn't a game. It's so much more.

SUPPORT THE STADIUM SAVE OUR CLUB.

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17/04/2024 23:20:04

Attachments