

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	MARK GELDER
Address	24 Cooper Road, Guildford, GU1 3IY
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I am an Oxford United fan who lives in Guildford. I support the planning application for the stadium at The Triangle.</p> <p>This is vital to the entire future of the football club as the existing license at the Kassam Stadium is not being renewed and would leave the only full time professional football club in Oxfordshire homeless and put its entire being at risk.</p> <p>The football club is of huge value to not only its regular fans, but also in terms of the value that it adds to the city and surrounding areas.</p> <p>We can see how much wider the support is for high profile matches like the 1986 milk cup final, 2010 play off final, where more than 30,000 fans supported Oxford United at Wembley.</p> <p>Each Saturday home game I take a train from Guildford to Reading, then from Reading to Oxford, then walk into the city centre and later catch a bus to Blackbird Leys and walk to the ground. I spend money on food and drink outside of the stadium footprint, and also at the ground. If you repeat this across thousands of fans, you can see how much this adds to the local area in terms of money being spent, jobs and businesses supported.</p> <p>This would be similar at The Triangle and I would anticipate again travelling by train to Oxford, stop off, then train to Oxford Parkway or bus to the ground. So this supports the sustainability and green credentials of the new ground location.</p> <p>The development at The Triangle would provide facilities up to standards appropriate for modern football, being more inclusive for all types of fans of ages, sex, and provide better facilities for the disabled.</p> <p>In addition, the football club being the key user would allow the women's football team to also play matches there.</p> <p>I believe the argument that the green belt between Kidlington and Oxford would be lost is misleading. The Triangle is currently an overgrown piece of wasteland surrounded by roads.</p> <p>Many other developments for housing are being planned and implemented which are also taking away the green belt. Freeing up the area around the Kassam stadium would also provide space for much needed housing within the City Council boundaries.</p>
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Attachments	