

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	Neil Vaughan
Address	5 Holly Close,Kidlington,OX5 1EP
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>My major objections concern traffic and parking. It is extremely unlikely that the majority of fans will travel to the stadium on foot or by bicycle or using public transport. They will use the quickest most convenient option which is by car and that, of course, particularly applies to the away side. It is blatant talking up to pretend otherwise and measures such as providing more bike racks will do nothing to constrain fans to use bikes.</p> <p>Unless parking restrictions are applied all over South Kidlington our roads will be choked with parked cars because drivers will try to avoid the park and ride charges. If parking restrictions are introduced it will still be to the detriment of local residents who have to park on the road and visiting friends and family.</p> <p>The stadium will be at an extremely busy road junction with major traffic passing on both sides. I am pleased that the leader of the council has specified that roads will not be closed. However, it is noticeable that Oxford United have declared that traffic should be "diverted" instead.</p> <p>I cannot quite grasp from anything I have seen which part of Oxford Road it is proposed would be closed. If Oxford United mean the road outside the stadium how will traffic from the North get to the park and ride? Where do Oxford United propose the traffic would go instead? Have traffic projections been made or is it a case of why should I care so long as I get my way?</p> <p>Traffic would be converging on the stadium from every direction with through traffic limited presumably limited to one route, which would surely be a recipe for complete gridlock in North Oxford. Queues would rapidly form back to the ring road and the Pear Tree roundabout and the A34. Actually, this is going to happen regardless of traffic "diversion". Have a look at the traffic jams at commuter time morning and evening and multiply by ten. Bus routes would be severed and people in Cottesloe would be deprived of a service. How long would it take to get into Oxford?</p> <p>I believe I saw that Oxford United have proposed closing roads for one hour and before and after matches. How do they propose that they could signpost that and a reasonable diversion to traffic coming from every direction and not driven by people with local knowledge? As an old hand commuter round the ring road on busy Friday afternoons I know that roads through Wood Eaton and Islip will become choked on a regular basis.</p> <p>Discounting road closures, how is going to be possible to get the sheer quantity of people across both Frieze Way and Oxford Road in the time available? I gather that the footbridge originally proposed by Oxford United rapidly disappeared from their proposals. Even if it is reinstated how wide would it have to be to take half of the stadium leaving for the park and ride, buses and station in any kind of reasonable time. People will take the shortest route across the road. Pelican crossings would be inadequate for the queues and once the flow begins it would be impossible for traffic to push through.</p>

The Kazam stadium site can "swallow" the traffic. The Kidlington stadium cannot. Why is the Kassam just being dropped in such a wasteful way? As a resident of Kidlington of 36 years I am deeply unhappy at the change that having the stadium on our doorstep will make to our village. Yes, village! Kidlington is having a lot thrown at it without building on greenbelt land. Football supporters, Including, I guess, many counsellors, are fixated with their own enthusiasm and are incapable of imagining that not everyone shares it. I urge you to reject the proposal.

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Attachments