

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	Matthew Zidani
Address	Heol Y Parc,Hendy,Swansea,Carmarthenshire ,Sa4 0xf,
Type of Comment	Support
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>This development represents a transformational opportunity for the city of Oxford and for the football club. Every major city should have a usable stadium, it puts the city on the map and brings in tourism from across the UK. It can not only be used for football, but major sporting events including women's football, and also other sports. It can also be used for events such as gigs and tours bringing in thousands to the Oxford economy. The development also features other features such as a hotel and office and conference space which will further boost the economy.</p> <p>The development is within the green belt, but I believe the applicant has considered this well and incorporated green space throughout. The park to the north of the development will be beneficial for wildlife and also people, allowing a cleaner and more accessible green area than what was there before.</p> <p>The club are in dire need of a stadium and without this application it is very likely the club will be forced to close. This would be a disaster for all of Oxford as the club is the biggest sporting team nearby. I and would be a huge loss for the community and the profile of Oxford. The fact that the council had the opportunity to save the club but failed would be disastrous for local politics.</p> <p>The club is forward thinking and progressive with a charity arm and lots of community outreach. The stadium would increase opportunities for young boys and girls across the county.</p> <p>The club is considering the application for the construction of a bridge to aid foot traffic to the train station which is a good idea. I do not think it would be bad if the road has to be closed - again, this is something that happens across the country and is not going to be a serious issue. Road closures after matches would be short and restricted, and everyone would know when the matches are on so would be aware of the road closure in advance. This takes place in Swansea, where their stadium is also on a major road - they simply close the road immediately after the final whistle for no more than half an hour, until the crowds narrow down enough to use the crossing safely. This is all that would be needed and other routes are available for traffic.</p> <p>I strongly support this application, and think it has been well thought through and approached. This stadium would be a lifeline for the club, and to deny this application would be a death sentence, causing a tragic loss for football fans and the community within Oxford who have supported the club for decades. It would be a loss to all football fans, and fans from further afield. This application has a national impact, and I would ask that it is supported whole-heartedly by the council, and that support is given to the club to allow the stadium to progress in a way that is beneficial for all.</p>
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Attachments	