

# Comment for planning application 24/00539/F

<b>Application Number</b>	24/00539/F
<b>Location</b>	Land To The East Of Stratfield Brake And West Of Oxford Parkway Railway Station Oxford Road Kidlington
<b>Proposal</b>	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
<b>Case Officer</b>	Laura Bell
<b>Organisation Name</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Sarah von Billerbeck
<b>Address</b>	23 Linkside Avenue, Oxford, OX2 8JE
<b>Type of Comment</b>	Objection
<b>Type</b>	neighbour
<b>Comments</b>	<p>I strongly object to the construction of the Oxford United stadium and related buildings and businesses near the Kidlington Roundabout. We are close neighbours to the site and have major concerns about the traffic and related noise and pollution, parking congestion, road closures, threat to nature and green spaces, and character of our neighbourhood. First, the traffic in our area is already horrendous. It takes half an hour to drive to the City Centre or towards Kidlington at rush hour - even though these are distances of 2 miles or less. This is already being exacerbated by the construction of hundreds of new homes all around us. On game days, this will be multiple times worse and the residents of this area will struggle to take care of basic activities, e.g. going to the supermarket, taking our children to activities, etc. The noise and pollution from this extra traffic will be horrible, and made worse by the destruction (already ongoing) of precious green space. And in case of emergencies, it is unclear how emergency services will be able to quickly reach our area. Second, while the Club states that they 'aim' to have people travel by train or public transport, they only 'aim' to and have no clear plan for making this happen. There are no easy transport links from the main fan base in East Oxford, and there is ample parking at nearby park and rides, thus disincentivising anyone from travelling by train or bus. On top of that, train prices are hugely expensive - people will opt for cars as a cheaper option. Third, the road closures that are planned on game days will severely restrict access and liveability for local residents. In particular, disabled people - including one of my family members - will be stuck at home on most game days, which is truly shocking. Fourth, we love having green spaces nearby and they constitute key reserves of nature that are rapidly disappearing all around Oxford, Kidlington, Enysham, etc. This entire area is being built up, thus making this a concrete jungle and making the environment dirtier, more polluted, and less healthy. Preserving and maintaining green spaces should by far take priority. Fifth, the areas both to the north and south of the proposed construction site are residential areas. We do not need a large hotel, and it is unclear to me who would stay in this. We already have community spaces and would rather have natural green spaces, rather than small slivers of pre-planted and manicured hedges around an otherwise urban area. We'd like to be able to easily get to our nearest supermarket (Sainsbury's in Kidlington) and to other nearby small businesses across the road. Oxford United already has a stadium and there is NO REASON to move it. They should focus on salvaging their existing home and let this area remain an attractive place for families and local businesses to thrive. Please don't build the stadium in our neighbourhood!</p>
<b>Received Date</b>	20/04/2024 11:25:01
<b>Attachments</b>	