

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="Jerome Waite"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="6 Long Close,Botley,Oxford,OX2 9SG"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Support"/>
Type	<input type="text" value="neighbour"/>
Comments	<p>I'd like to register my support for the stadium proposal. Oxford United are a huge part of my life and many others. Unlike with the elite clubs of top-flight English football, where there is an ever-increasing distance between clubs and its fans, Oxford United is a community club which flies the flag for the city I call home; it is one of the primary ways that I feel connected and part of the city and county, and I think that really matters.</p> <p>The stadium proposal represents the best possible step to safeguard this sense of community and connection, and indeed safeguard the future of the club as a whole. We have seen that there is no alternative now, the club cannot stay at the Kassam when the lease expires. It is obvious that the overall situation is imperfect, but if we are honest with ourselves, there is no better spot for a stadium than here by a train station, with good bus links in terms of moving fans to public transport, protecting wildlife and the environment. We cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Surely we must agree that there has to be a stadium for the club to play at. Football is one of, if not the major cultural force in the modern day United Kingdom, and to leave a major city such as Oxford bereft of a home for its only professional club would be an enormous and heart-breaking loss for myself and so many others. The financial implications for the club would be grave and so the mental health implications for its fans would too.</p> <p>I think therefore it is absolutely essential to consider the wider impact in the context of the city and the county and in that context, I see no other alternative than for the stadium to be built at the Triangle site.</p>
Received Date	<input type="text" value="21/04/2024 20:39:36"/>
Attachments	