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

Liam Redpath

Address

17 Norwich Ave, Bournemouth , Dorset, BH2 5TG

Type of Comment

Support

Type

neighbour

Comments

I grew up in Oxfordshire and now live down in Bournemouth as I'm at uni. I started watching football on TV in 2021, I was supporting Liverpool, until a staff member at college told me I'd get much more enjoyment from supporting my local side. Not believing them, I went to a game in August 2021 with low expectations. Then another, and another. Aside from something to do to get out the house on a Saturday, supporting Oxford United gave me a sense of belonging and community, something I had never really felt before. I always go to games alone but enjoy seeing the same faces week in week out, and I've travelled many hundreds of miles around the country with these strangers. Without a new stadium, there will be no football club. No buildup of excitement walking to the ground, seeing more and more people wearing yellow the closer you get. No last minute winners, moments of pure joy where everything else in life disappears and you're there, present, sharing that with thousands others around you. No pre match pint or cup of tea, soaking in the atmosphere and reading the programme, no talking up or down the game with other fans on the bus home, no greeting a stranger like an old friend when you bump into someone wearing the club badge in another city- I've had conversations with people I wouldn't otherwise have done in The Hebrides, and Bournemouth, where I live now.

I think that having the news stadium somewhere accessible is key especially for those such as myself who don't drive. Living out of the county now, it's hard and longwinded to get to a game at the Kassam. The new stadium being near Oxford Parkway Station would be a godsend.

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Attachments