

Lynne Baldwin

From: Diane Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 April 2024 14:51
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to planning application

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To whom it may concern

Planning application reference : 24/00539/F

I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the above planning application.

I am a resident of Gosford/Kidlington and would therefore be affected directly if the building of the stadium were to go ahead. I stress that I am a resident in the immediate area, unlike many of those who are supporting the proposal. I have three main objections.

1. The proposed stadium is very large, yet the proposal is to build it (and all its constituent buildings) on a comparatively small area of land, meaning it will abut quite closely to the current boundaries and roads. Its presence will therefore be overpowering in the surrounding landscape which at present is open green belt land and constitutes an effective gap between the city of Oxford and the outlying district. This is unacceptable.

2. The stadium is due to seat approximately 18000 people, all of whom will need to reach and leave the stadium on match days. The current rail station is small and unlikely to be able to cope with this heavy demand, implying that most attendees will need to travel by car or coach. The current provision for parking is inadequate and people will therefore need to park in the surrounding roads, which will no doubt include the area of my house. I did not buy the house to be overwhelmed by cars in my road. This needs urgent consideration but the committee.

The suggestion that the main road into Oxford should be closed on match days, due to both pedestrians and cars, is totally unacceptable- and a direct negative influence on the lives of we residents of the area.

3. It has been stated that the football club has to find a new home by 2026 is apparently inaccurate. The club could negotiate to remain on its present site and therefore the claim that it will be 'homeless' in the near future should be strongly disputed and challenged by the District and County Councils. Far more clarification is needed on this point, and the stadium company, Firoka, should be questioned directly about remaining on the present site. It is not enough to say they would prefer a new site or that Kidlington is the only possible alternative.

Given these points, and many others I could make, I would argue strongly that the proposal should be rejected.

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Sent from my iPad