## 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

Laura Sanders

**Address** 

Mill meadow , Ducklington , Ox297ay

Type of Comment

Support

Type

neighbour

**Comments** 

The future of Oxford United Football Club and the community it serves will be in jeopardy if the planning application for the new stadium is not approved. I have been a season ticket holder at Oxford United since I was 5 years old and my dad took me to my first game. In the nearly 30 years since, I have become more and more aware of what the football club means to me. It's not about the 90 minutes on the pitch, the goals, the controversial decisions, even the team, or the management. It's about the friends and community it provides, the faces you've seen for years but don't even know the name of, the people in the seats around you who have morphed from strangers to best friends. It's sharing good times and bad times and it's absolutely imperative to the mental health of its supporters. Evidence based wellbeing advice always refers to being 'connected' or having 'meaning' which it says is being part of something bigger than yourself. To some that is a religion or group, to the Oxford United community, it is this football club. In a time when mental health care is devastatingly underfunded and over prescribed, those who aren't part of the football community have seriously underestimated what effect the loss of football club will have on its people. Oxford United is a football club, but primarily it is a community hub that allows the people of Oxfordshire to be part of something bigger than themselves and benefits their wellbeing. It is imperative the club is supported in order to benefit the people of Oxfordshire.

**Received Date** 

22/04/2024 20:08:10

**Attachments**