

Kidlington Parish Council – Statement on Stadium Traffic Consultation

The decision on Oxford United's planning application for the new stadium does not rest with Kidlington Parish Council; it lies with Cherwell District Council as the local planning authority. The role of KPC is essentially to ensure that the best available information is on hand so that the Council can represent the interests of all Kidlington residents effectively.

Traffic congestion and road closures resulting from the new developments are issues of the greatest concern to the Parish Council and to residents.

At the meeting of the Full Council on 26 June 2025, a proposal was made by Councillor Ian Middleton to engage a study by the transport consultants Mayer Brown on OUFC's calculations of the likely traffic impact of the new stadium, particularly in connection with the proposed road closures. The proposal was brought up under the Chair's Announcements.

It was resolved that the Council could not approve it there and then, since the proposal had not been presented in advance with the Council papers. Following common practice, the matter was referred to the Finance & Assets Committee for formal consideration on 10th July

The Clerk was therefore asked to clarify the cost of the proposed work and confirm that it could be carried out in a suitable timeframe should the matter be agreed at the Finance and Assets Committee, so that the Committee could make an informed decision. No formal agreement or instruction to proceed with the report was given by the Clerk prior to the Committee's decision on 10th July. Her actions were limited to ensuring that accurate cost information was available in advance of the meeting, as is common practice in local government administration.

KPC has responded to all the FOI requests to date, and the Council has complied with its legal obligations within the statutory timescales.

Commissioning the transport consultation did not hold up the decision on the OUFC application, nor was it intended that it should. It did add further expert findings to the discussion, which will be useful in future discussions on traffic issues if and when the stadium application goes ahead.

**Statement from Kidlington Parish Council
28 August 2025**