



## GOSFORD & WATER EATON PARISH COUNCIL: OUFC STRATFIELD BRAKE PROPOSAL

*February 2022*

Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council is committed to preserving the Green Belt and green space as much as possible. We are approaching negotiations on the OUFC Stratfield Brake proposal with an open mind.

We appreciate there may be benefits for the parish and the wider area but we also appreciate there will be some negative impact. We await the consultation of residents for a wider view but acknowledge that some residents support the proposal as do many of the local sports clubs.

Our initial view is that this proposal brings more overdevelopment to the area. In particular it should be noted that this OUFC proposal is **not** instead of the housing (in excess 1000 new houses) to the immediate area – **it is in addition to the housing being built on greenbelt land**. The combined housing and stadium is massive overdevelopment to a small area. Fundamentally we think this is the wrong place for a stadium. Due to these factors we have the following concerns with this proposal as a Parish Council:

- Loss of green space
- Infrastructure issues – including the entrance point to the Stratfield Brake proposed stadium site
- Links to the village
- Lack of parking – it is unreasonable to think that people will not drive to this site
- Security – not necessarily on match days which are well policed but the anti-social behaviour the site could bring
- Noise pollution (football, concerts)
- Environmental pollution (flood lighting)
- Pressure on local services (policing, ambulance)
- Extreme close proximity to the Garden City housing and new housing on Stratfield Farm
- Quick timescale / rushed

As a Parish Council we would like to see more detailed plans and guarantees that the above are being taken seriously and agreements will be put in place before relinquishing our lease.

*Clive Stajt*

Chairman  
(on behalf of the Parish Council)