**HEREFORD CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING 26TH May 2015**

**SURRENDER OF LEASE ON HOLMER SKATE PARK**

**Background**

When Wheeled Sports 4 Hereford began to develop the site at Holmer adjacent to the City Council’s allotment and the Herefordshire Council’s Leisure Centre they were not in a position to take on the long term leasing of their property. An arrangement was agreed whereby the City Council took on the head lease and agreed a sub lease to Wheeled Sports 4 Hereford. This satisfied Herefordshire Council’s position that the group were too newly established to hold a lease on their property. By resolving this matter the City Council was able to provide the group with a secure home for their facility, which has been beneficial in their receiving longer term grant funding from external agencies.

Wheeled Sports 4 Hereford are now well established as the operating agency delivering a state of the art facility which has staged significant national and international competitions. Herefordshire Council are prepared to consider releasing the site to them as an asset transfer which will further enhance their standing as an independent organisation.

Herefordshire Council have confirmed that the group have agreed through their management board to accept the transfer. To give effect to this it is necessary for the City Council to surrender its current lease and allow the asset transfer to take place.

Both the head lease and the sub lease were on peppercorn rents and there is minimal monetary value attached to the lease, namely an annual rent of £5-00.

**Standing Orders**

Under the Council’s standing orders authority for the Town Clerk to sign and sealed documents such as a lease must be explicitly given by full Council, it cannot be delegated to a committee. In order to give effect to the surrender, as the lease itself was sealed, a sealed agreement will need to be signed by the Town Clerk on behalf of the Council.

**Recommendation**

**That Council approves the surrender of the head lease on Holmer Skate Park to enable a new asset transfer agreement to be entered into between Herefordshire Council and Wheeled Sports 4 Hereford.**

**That the Council agrees to the Town Clerk signing and sealing the necessary documents to give effect to this surrender.**

Steve Kerry

Town Clerk