

URGENT DECISION

of Councillor Crew, and Councillor Holder, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Tourism and Leisure Committee, in consultation with the Town Clerk.

Skate Park Lease

The Council has had a project to refurbish the Skate Park at Hutton Moor for 2-3 years. In preparation for this a renewed Lease of the Skate Park for 20 years at a peppercorn rental was granted by the North Somerset Council in 2015, expiring 2036. A user group has been set up and their needs and wishes clarified. Earlier this year a grant was awarded by the Sports Council of £75,000, enabling a project total value £90,000 plus project management costs. A contractor, Canvas Skateparks, has been procured to carry out the refurbishment work.

In September 2016 officers of North Somerset Council made an approach asking for the Skate Park to be moved to the north side of the Hutton Moor estate where they were planning a suite of outdoor sports facilities including Multi Use Games Areas and Tennis Courts. Both Policy and Finance Committee which approved the procurement process on 17th October 2015 and the Tourism and Leisure Committee which selected the successful tenderer on 5th December 2016 were aware of the possibility of the Skate park moving to a different location within the Hutton Moor grounds (see plan attached).

North Somerset Council have now offered a new peppercorn Lease for the new site, on the same terms as the previous except as to dates. As well as fitting in with the plans for a suite of outdoor facilities, this has the advantage of offering a longer term as the 20 years would run from the grant of the new lease. The Town Council is also insisting that to move the Skate Park that three further conditions are met:

- a) a full planning permission with no onerous or costly conditions
- b) Approval of the Sports Council to relocate the Skate Park
- c) Covering any additional costs of groundworks on the new site

However in anticipation that these three conditions are met, authority is sought to enter the new lease and surrender the old Lease.

This matter is urgent because the Sports Council are insistent on work commencing on the Skate Park by 6th February **and** on the Town Council having security of tenure before they will allow the grant to be applied to the amended location.

DECISION

Under the Town Council's Scheme of Delegation paragraph 2 "Chairman's Action" we as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Tourism and Leisure Committee in consultation with the Town Clerk **AGREE** that a new Lease entered into on the new site and the Lease on the current site can be surrendered – to take effect if conditions exist before 6th February 2017 for the Skate Park to be reconstructed on the new site.

SignedP Crew..... **(Chairman)**

Date.....22 12 2016.....

SignedJ Holder.....**(Vice-Chairman)**

Date.....22 12 2016.....

Advice confirmed by:

SignedM L Nicholson.....**(Town Clerk)**

Date.....21st December 2016