

Wolves Speedway: latest position

February 2024

Background

- **April 17, 2023**, Council first learnt about Entain's decision to terminate lease in Express and Star article
- Council officers reached out to owner and met on **April 21, 2023**
- Council Leader wrote to Entain (**April 24**) to urge reconsideration and more time
- Response received from Entain (**May 9**):
 - Raised greyhound welfare issues
 - Supporting Speedway to relocate
 - No response on delaying decision – clear going ahead
- Speedway owner / team's focus over summer/autumn 2023 was competing for the championship – made playoffs
- Although Speedway owner would have considered another year, no option given to stay
- Focus therefore has been on a 'fresh start' and finding an alternative site elsewhere in city and region
- Process led by Speedway owner as private business. Council offered support.

Wolves Speedway latest:

- Speedway track has now been removed from Monmore Green.
- Track turfed over, equipment in storage
- Owner keen to develop a mixed 'Moto-Park' including speedway to create an all-year round venue / commercial model
- Has expertise of creating similar in Cleveland – keen to attract younger riders
- Minimum of 10 acres, ideally 20 acres (latter is 10 football pitches for context)
- Needs to be close to industrial land, not residential properties due to noise
- Owner has money to invest to cover cost of development
- Would consider temporary sites but minimum lease of 5 years, preferably 10 to make commercially viable

Council support provided

- Regular meetings with owner on 21 April 2023, 10 May 2023, 30 June 2023, 11 Sept 2023 and 15 Jan 2024
- Leader of the Council letter to Entain
- Reviewed council site availability and suitability – including short-term options - nothing currently available
- Liaised with commercial agents – no sites currently available
- Liaised with a neighbouring authority re a specific site identified by Speedway owner – not suitable due to local road infrastructure
- Leader of Council is writing to fellow regional leaders and director of regeneration to fellow regeneration / planning leads in wider West Midlands on behalf of owner
- Supported Speedway with public statements
- Engaged with local MPs to gain support.