

The Birmingham Plan 2031

Public Examination

Statement by the Licensees of Birmingham Wheels Park

Matter M

8) Is policy TP11 consistent with national policy in its approach to protecting sports facilities?

The Licensees* consider that Policy TP11 is not consistent with national planning policy since it specifically seeks to exclude facilities such as Birmingham Wheels Park through the inclusion of paragraph 6.64.

(* The Licensees preparing this evidence represent the motorsport and roller speedskating activities at Birmingham Wheels Park)

The National Planning Policy Framework does not reflect the City Council's artificial distinction between facilities that provide for participation from stadia that provide for spectators. In any event one of the benefits of sports stadia is that through watching sport people will be enthused to take part and thereby enjoy a more active lifestyle. It is also the case at Birmingham Wheels Park that the income stream secured through the spectator turnstiles not only provides a significant contribution to the finances of the entire facility including all participatory sport and leisure activities but also brings wealth into the local economy.

In fact the inclusion of paragraph 6.64 simply shows how the City Council has consistently failed to understand and appreciate the variety and type of activities that take place at Birmingham Wheels Park and the support these provide to the local economy and employment both directly (on-site) and indirectly through for example, overnight stays, restaurants and caterers, garages, on-site conferencing, taxi/private hire but also significant support to local businesses for the supply of parts, servicing and race-car construction. The events also attract a significant number of volunteers for marshalling duties.

As the Licensees pointed out under Matter G 13), the facilities at Birmingham Wheels Park comprise a mix of facilities that provide a wide variety of participative sporting activities and a small proportion of those sports provide a spectator sporting element.

It is because of this mix that it is the view of the Licensees that all the activities at Birmingham Wheels Park to be classed as taking place at sports facilities as (inadequately) covered by Policy TP11.

The Licensees would also wish to point out that the City Council has failed to share with them any assessment of the usage and need for the sports at Birmingham Wheels Park thus demonstrably

failing to fully and properly consider the implications of its actions. This is not only contrary to national policy but also existing planning policy set out in the Birmingham Plan 2005.

In relation to the NPPF the Licensees consider that Birmingham Wheels Park as a sports facility is consistent with the following aspects:

Paragraph 73:

It provides important opportunities for sport and recreation that can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

The intensity of usage of the site demonstrates a healthy and robust demand for the facilities on the site. The City Council has failed to identify and allocate any alternative facilities in the city in the event of demolition.

Paragraph 74:

Demolition should only occur after an assessment has shown the facilities to be surplus to requirements. The City Council has made no such assessment.

In the event of demolition then adequate alternative facilities should be put in-place. There is no such provision made in the BDP outside of the AAP boundary.

There is no alternative sport or recreational proposal put forward which would outweigh the loss of the facilities.

Paragraph 156:

The City Council's approach in the BDP risks favouring an approach which concentrates on housing and other commercial uses. It fails to secure a proper balance between the full range of uses and activities that are necessary to meet different needs and aspirations of our society. In the case of Birmingham Wheels it fails to recognise the importance of grass-roots wheeled activities and appreciate that sporting interests in society spread much wider than mainstream sports.

Paragraph 157:

The City Council's approach towards facilities such as Birmingham Wheels provides too much flexibility towards the alternative commercial use of the site whereas greater emphasis should be placed on identifying "areas where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of buildings, and support such restrictions with a clear explanation".

In respect of compliance with the NPPF it is the Licensees view that the TP11 is unsound while Paragraph 6.64 remains in the BDP.

The appendix to this statement includes background information on the history of Birmingham Wheels Park, the nature of the activities and level of usage as well as a summary of the threat of redevelopment including a summary of the Licensees representations on the Core Strategy 2026 and Bordesley Park AAP. The appendix also provides other contextual information.

9) Should policy TP11 also protect sports stadia and other facilities for watching sport?

For the reasons set out above it is important that Policy TP11 should apply to all sports facilities including stadia. This can only be achieved through the specific deletion of paragraph 6.64.

The Licensees note that the approach in paragraph 6.64 appears to have been included despite the City Council producing no evidence to support the change.

Ironically, it almost appears that the response to the supportive comments made on the Draft Core Strategy by one of the Licensees and the large petition submitted to the City Council (please refer to the appendix for detail) have prompted the unfortunate weakening of the policy.

Main Modification 61

The City Council has proposed Main Modification 61 which includes several changes to the wording of Policy TP11. The Licensees only comment is that while these changes in themselves appear acceptable they do not address the substantive point set out in their representations.

Appendix to Statements by the Licensees of Birmingham Wheels Park

Contents

(1) History of Birmingham Wheels Adventure Park	Page 5
(2) Range, legitimacy and intensity of usage	Page 8
(3) The emerging and unjustified threat of redevelopment	Page 10

Annexes

Annex 1 – Birmingham Wheels Oval Racetrack – Fixture List 2014	Page 13
Annex 2 – Grand Prix Karting – Events	Page 15
Annex 3 – Birmingham Roller Skating Club	Page 16
Annex 4 – Potential alternative layout included in the Licensees representations on the Bordesley Park AAP	Page 19
Annex 5 – National Governing Bodies, letters of support for Birmingham Wheels Park	Page 20

(1) History of Birmingham Wheels Adventure Park

In this section we have provided a summary of the history of Birmingham Wheels Park highlighting key milestones since the inception of the concept to the present day.

1978: It was the vision of Bernard Mouzer (then the West Midlands Assistant Chief Probation Officer) to create an “adventure park” on former quarry/landfill site “Central Depot” in Saltley. Mouzer had the support of West Midland Police, Birmingham City Council and local magistrates to move the project forward through land reclamation using Manpower Services Commission (MSC) for labour resources.

1978 to 1982: Site sufficiently developed to support 1,000 long-term unemployed through MSC; a Probation Service Centre; the development of skating and karting areas and “off road” motorcycling facilities. The “project” is run as a non-profit making Company under the auspices of West Midlands Probation Service.

1982 to 1985: The project continues to deliver to the community and City as a “pay and play” site supporting go-karting, skating, BMX biking, car driving and motor cycling. Development takes place to create the oval circuit which is shale dressed for use by both Birmingham Speedway and stock car racing operating from 1983.

1983: The facility starts to provide the venues for the first of many major championship events including the European BMX Championship (1983), the European Roller Speed Skating Championships (1984, the year in which the skating track opened) and the British Speedskating Championships (1985).

1985 to 1986: The Birmingham Wheels Company is formed as a charitable company controlled by Birmingham City Council and West Midlands Probation Service. The City Council provide grant aid through its Leisure Services Department and take on day-to-day control through a seconded manager. Recognised operators receive licences.

1986: Speedway racing ends and the oval racetrack is resurfaced with tarmac. Stock Car race meetings a regular feature with approx 30 events held annually.

1990 to 1995: Venue for skateboarding, BMX biking & closed circuit cycle racing. In 1992 the Amateur Moto-X Association (AMCA) withdraws “moto-cross” provision following a fatality at another site.

1991 to 1998: Landscaping to support licenced operations continues with investment made to support karting through track extensions and safety enhancements. Motorcycle training facilities improved through dedicated tarmac areas. Areas of site are given over to tree planting and general horticulture to provide a balance between activity and environment. Core staff level reduces to eight employees, but extra resources utilised to deliver Summer and Easter Play schemes across the City, with funding support from BCC.

1991 to 1996: RAC/MSA karting is a prominent feature every 4th Sunday of the year.

1998: Birmingham City Council agrees new 120 year lease with the Wheels Company.

2001: BCC begins a gradual withdrawal of support as it no longer seeks to second manager.

2004: Development of the track for off-road rally-style racing.

2004 to 2007: Casino “crisis” – see below for further detail regarding this.

2005: West Midlands Probation (WMP) resigns from Wheels Board and transfers its share to Birmingham & Solihull Connexions.

2009: Connexions replaced by BXL Limited.

2010: Birmingham Wheels oval racetrack is featured on the BBC TV series “Gears and Tears” shown on network television. Over the years numerous TV and radio programmes have featured Birmingham Wheels Park including Bangers & Smash, Blue Peter, Childrens BBC, the Gadget Show, Men & Motors, Olympic Torch Relay, Sky TV, Soldier Soldier, Top Gear, Unsung Hero, Watchdog, Zandfoorde Skating Grand Prix, and Radio 5 Live.

2011: Birmingham City Council ceases to fund non-statutory voluntary youth support organisations, includes Birmingham Wheels Park.

2011: Incarace, one of the Licensees submit representations on the Birmingham Core Strategy consultation (see below for more detail).

2002 to 2012: Large scale development of “In the Driving Seat” and “On Two Wheels” youth programmes, designed to deliver alternative education provision to pupils at risk of educational exclusion. These programmes develop into year-round provision catering to a wide range of nationwide organisation, (Schools, Youth Offending Service, YMCA, Connexions, youth & community groups, colleges etc). At its height the projects are delivering over 6,000 education sessions to young people a year. Users range from as far South and East as Reading and Peterborough to Derby, Leicester and Wolverhampton in the Midlands.

2011: Following a withdrawal of local authority funding, all employees of the Company are made redundant and the City Council seeks to wind up the Trust. This was regarded as a tactic by the Council to regain control over the land so as to facilitate its development for alternative uses.

2011: Premier Sports commence TV coverage of BriSCA (British Stock Car Association) F1 Stock Car Racing including events held at Birmingham Wheels.

2012: Petition to Save Birmingham Wheels Park and Raceway submitted to Birmingham City Council (see below for detail).

2012 to 2014: The Licencees of Birmingham Wheels Park, supported by the Company Chair and Councillor Bob Beauchamp (sole Director) campaign and lobby the City Council to maintain the Trust Charitable status and retain the site as a home for their various operations and activities.

2013: Representations are made to the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan consultation (see below for more detail)

2014: The Charitable Trust continues to trade supporting the activities of licencees and enjoying their reciprocate support. In particular the Trust gives support to the Speed Skating Club, the

Regional Driving Assessment Centre, and protecting the site in regards to its use by approved licensees within the auspices of the Trust's Constitution and Articles and Memorandums of Association. The Trust also seeks to protect the natural environment, flora and fauna within its boundaries.

The Regional Driving Assessment Agency, a Charity, locally based branch in Nechells, aims to promote and help mobility in older or disabled people by offering solutions to driving issues and problems, e.g. suitability to drive after loss of licence though health issues and suitability for utilising converted vehicles. The Agency are allowed use of the roadway on a private user basis to assess where a client does not have an adequate/sufficient licence for "proper" roads.

The site also hosts Gristwood and Toms Tree Services as well as providing a base for Gledales and Brophy's the City Council's contracted ground-care operators, National Road Planing Limited (Tarmac) who support the Amey/ City Council PFI highway maintenance contract, General Guard Security Services, and Graham Jones Woodcarving, all employing people in the community. The site is also designated by West Midlands Police as a major incident assembly area for the emergency services

In support of academic or learning quarter in Eastside Birmingham Wheels Park has sought to support Birmingham City University in making testing facilities available to the Engineering and Formula Student facilities and projects. Also, Licensees, in particular Grand Prix Karting and Walker Adams have provided support to Students and employment and internment/work experience opportunities.

2014: The Licensees at Birmingham Wheels Park submit representations on the Birmingham Development with the aim of securing the long-term future of the facility (see below for more detail).

2014: The oval racetrack plays host to the BriSCA F1 Stock Car British Championship which is the second-most prestigious event on the national calendar. The oval racetrack event fixtures list for 2014 is attached at Annex 1. In November each year two events which attract capacity crowds feature as part of the 33 event calendar. This includes the BriSCA Gala night that raises funds to support the existence of the governing bodies of both BriSCA F1 and BriSCA F2 Stock Car Racing, as well as helping facilitate the appearances of both organisations at the Autosport International Motorsport Show held at the National Exhibition Centre in January each year.

2014: The Kart Club continues to expand racing opportunities on a variety of karting circuits. A copy of the current 'offer' is included at Annex 2.

2014: The Birmingham Wheels Rolling Speed Club wins the West Midlands Project of the Year Award, Sport Birmingham for its work with the local community at Small Heath Academy. Please see Annex 3 for detail of this award together with a short history of the Club.

(2) Range, legitimacy and intensity of usage

Birmingham Wheels Park provides the facilities upon which a very wide range of wheeled activities take place (see Figure 1). It is important to stress that the venues provide for participation in a wide variety of sporting and leisure activities. There is an important spectator element which is vital to the facility because this is one of the main ways in which income is generated thus enabling the participative activities to exist.

The facilities are well-used which means that they are protected by Government planning policy as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Birmingham Plan as currently submitted is not consistent with the national policy which in the view of the Licensees makes the plan unsound.

Below we provide a summary of the usage of the various component elements of Birmingham Wheels Park. The Licensees suggest that the intensity of usage make the facility one of the most important sports and leisure-related venues in Birmingham, the significance of which has, and remains, to be seriously under-estimated by the City Council.

Figure 1 – The sport and leisure activities taking place at Birmingham Wheels Park



The Birmingham Wheels Park is a truly unique venue which each year plays host to over 70,000 visitors most of whom will actively participate in a ‘wheeled’ sport.

- The Kart Club has 4,667 individual enthusiasts holding current annual membership.
- In excess of 1,000 separate drivers competed in BriSCA and other oval racing events.
- Over 1,000 novices were introduced to oval racing at ‘Extreme Dodgems’ events.

- Our three Drifting promoters offered experiences to over 6,000 drivers.
- Almost 3,000 people competed at the Off-Road rally centre.
- 180 young drivers took control of a driving school car on our private roads.
- Around 600 people received formal training at our Motorcycle Training School.
- Our multi-award winning Speedskating Club coached over 500 young people.
- Almost 250 companies held karting, off-road or oval events.
- 10 independent motor clubs host events at the Park each year.

In addition to active participants taking part in sporting events the Park is an external training site for Birmingham City University, a designated national major incident facility for the emergency services and home to tree surgeons, a sculptor, security company and aggregates company sustaining over 200 full and part-time jobs on-site and making a significant economic contribution to life in the socially deprived area of east Birmingham.

Annex 5 includes letters of support from a range of sports represented at Birmingham Wheels Park.

(3) The emerging and unjustified threat of redevelopment

a) Regional Casino

In 2004, proposals to build a new super-stadium at Birmingham Wheels Park started to emerge. The proposal for a 50,000 to 60,000 stadium was advanced by Birmingham City Football Club. It was predicated on the assumption that the development would be funded by a new regional casino. The Las Vegas Sands Group was the potential developer with the casino generating the funding not only for the stadium but also to overcome the huge costs to reclaim the land. In the event the regional casino proposals were not even supported by the City Council when in 2006 it supported the NEC as the preferred casino location and then in 2007 when the concept of regional casinos was dropped altogether. The unfortunate consequence has been a decade of uncertainty for the well-used and legitimate sporting activities at Birmingham Wheels, even culminating in a threat of eviction in 2012 when faced with a 400% rent increase.

b) Birmingham Unitary Development Plan, Alterations adopted 2005

Birmingham Unitary Development Plan 2005 (UDP) identifies the Birmingham Wheels Park as a proposal (E47 on p236) where further development as a leisure attraction could take place and that the facility would benefit from environmental improvements to improve its image and attractiveness.

The UDP also includes a policies which recognise the importance of sports stadia and leisure facilities highlighting (in paragraph 2.20) the “need to resist increasing pressure for housing development on open spaces and sports pitches, stadia and other sports facilities ...” and (in paragraph 3.63) states, “Where there is an identified demand for particular sports and physical recreation facilities, redevelopment of existing facilities will not be allowed until either adequate replacement for their loss has been secured, or adequate alternative facilities have been identified.

These policies combined represent a strong base position – consistent with national policy - from which the licensees would look to the BDP to maintain or enhance. In its submitted form, however, the BDP appears to significantly weaken this position even though there appears to be no effective case set out in the evidence base to justify the change.

c) Birmingham Core Strategy 2026

The Consultation Draft of the Core Strategy 2026 was published in December 2010. Incarace Limited are one of the tenants of Birmingham Wheels responded to this consultation strongly welcoming and supporting Policy SP46 relating to Sports Facilities since this “effectively recognises the importance of Birmingham Wheels Raceway alongside other sports stadia in the city. This is in stark contrast to the insensitive approach just a few years ago when casino-linked proposals were mooted.”

The representation also supported Policy E6 Bordesley Park SUN since this proposed to “Promote a leisure and employment led mixed use development of the Wheels site and environs” since this suggested that scope for an enhanced facility at Birmingham Wheels to feature as part of Bordesley

Park Action Area Plan and this has been the position upon which discussions on the future of the facility had been taking place with the City Council.

The approach in the Core Strategy appeared to contain the necessary policies to carry forward and enhance the approach in the UDP.

d) Bordesley Park Area Action Plan

Work started on the Bordesley AAP in 2009 and an Options consultation report was published in August 2011. This report was of concern to the licensees because, despite the approach set out in the Draft Core Strategy additional options were set out raising the prospect of demolition of the sports facilities. In response a petition was organised to raise the profile of the facility – see e) below.

The Preferred Options Consultation ended in October 2013. While this reverted to employment-led redevelopment proposals and possible consolidation or relocation of existing sports facilities the proposals lacked clarity and commitment prompting extensive representations from the licensees. In summary these representations included a plan (attached at Annex 4) which would see key national and internationally significant sport and leisure facilities being retained possibly on a consolidated footprint; with the added opportunity to invest internally as secure long term leases are mutually sought and granted.

The Licensees would wish to stress that they have no strong desire to move to the consolidated position since this would require the relocation of the Skating Club and also result in the loss of the Off-Road racing track. The purpose of the alternative, which arose from discussions with the City Council, was to demonstrate that both retention of most of the sports and leisure facilities alongside development of parts of the site could open up significant economic development opportunities. It should be noted that the City Council appeared supportive of the initiative since they kindly provided the attached drawing of the proposal.

The signatories remain committed to their various objectives and a desire to commit to supporting the charitable objectives of the Trust within the local community. But further, they remain committed to supporting the City of Birmingham with investment into various sports and recreations which currently attract in excess of 70,000 visitors per annum thus generating tourist benefits to the local economy, and through the various mediums of television, radio and social media provide promotional benefit to the City through the delivery of successful events.

The representations also pointed out the Council has shown neither little real intention of entering discussion regarding the relocation of current facilities should the existing facilities either be lost or if the above consolidated proposal was not considered feasible, nor has it produced convincing evidence of the viability and desirability of developing a highly contaminated site. It also highlighted how the Council has seriously and consistently under-estimated the importance and intensity of usage of the facilities.

e) Petition: Save Birmingham Wheels Park and Raceway

In February 2012 a petition was submitted to Birmingham City Council with the objective of raising awareness of the importance of Birmingham Wheels Raceway as this has been identified for potential demolition within the emerging Bordesley Park Area Action Plan.

The petition called on Birmingham City Council to:

- 1. Recognise the importance of Birmingham Wheels Raceway both as a sports venue in Birmingham and also to the sport of short oval racing acknowledging the Raceway meets proven need and demand for local, regional and nationally significant motorsport and provides an important venue for regular spectator events attracting large crowds.*
- 2. Recognise the Raceway provides - alongside other uses at Wheels - important adventure activities and experiences which are particularly attractive to younger people including those from disadvantaged communities.*
- 3. Recognise that the provision of the Raceway as a motorsport venue is a key component supporting economic activity in the automotive industry reflecting the skills and heritage of Birmingham in this sector.*
- 4. Pro-actively support and plan for the improvement of Birmingham Wheels Raceway as part of the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan and to reject options that would involve demolition of the Raceway.*
- 5. Recognise that in the event that the Raceway is to be demolished then an alternative facility of at least equal quality should be fully funded, constructed and operational elsewhere within the boundary of the City of Birmingham before activities at the existing facility are allowed to cease.*

The petition was collected in late 2011 in two formats:

- A paper petition made available at motor racing events at Birmingham Wheels Raceway .
- Using the City Council's epetition facility.

The total signature count at the time of submission was 3,455. It could be noted from the paper petition that the events at Birmingham Wheels Raceway attract participants and spectators from far and wide, even internationally, as well as local people underlining the importance of the venue and the activities as an important visitor attraction in its own right as well as an important sports venue.

At the time this evidence was written (October 2014) no formal official response has been received to this petition.

Birmingham Development Plan

The licensees representations to the BDP focus on Policy GA7 Bordesley Park and SP11 Sports facilities and include suggestions on how they might be strengthened through changes to the plan. To avoid duplication these suggestions are not repeated here.

SAT 18TH OCT 6.30PM

2.0 HOT RODS
MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIP
STOCK RODS
1000 FT. FIGURE 8 RACE

SAT 25TH OCT 6PM

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR
BANGERS MAN OF THE MIDLANDS QUALIFYING
BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS
SHOOTOUT SERIES ROUND/WORLD QUALIFYING ROUND
BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS

SAT 1ST NOV 4.30PM

1 FACTOR NIGHTS FAST & FURIOUS SERIES
OP MIDGETS - INCARODS - JASCARS - JNR STOKKARTS
MODSTOK - NINJA KARTS - SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS
MASCAR BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

SAT 8TH NOV 6PM

2.0 HOT RODS
OVAL TRACK LEGENDS GOLDEN HELMET
BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS & REBELS RACING

SAT 15TH NOV 6PM

GALA NIGHT
BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS
BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS
NATIONAL MINISTOK

SAT 22ND NOV 6PM

UNLIMITED NATIONAL
BANGER
CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS
PLUS JUNIOR BANGERS

THURS 1ST JAN 2015 2PM

2 LITRE NATIONAL BANGERS
2 LITRE WORLD WILD CARD
INCARODS, MINISTOK & JNR BANGERS

BIRMINGHAM
Wheels Renault

M6 South, to M42
A38(M) to city centre, Take the 2nd exit - to Wholesale Markets - and follow signs for Birmingham football club. 1 mile & 2 roundabouts later, pass under a railway bridge and left into Landor St. (signposted) Wheels park is about half a mile on the right.

RACEWAY ADDRESS
EXIT JUNCTION 6 OF THE M6 JUST OFF THE A4540 LANDOR STREET, BIRMINGHAM WEST MIDLANDS B8 1AD
TEL: 0121 771 0725

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1 FACTOR EVENTS 5PM

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 <p>NATIONAL BANGERS MICRO MADNESS BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS OVAL TRACK LEGENDS</p>	<p>SAT 1ST MAR 6.30PM</p>
<p>NATIONAL HOT RODS 2014 WORLD QUALIFIER ROUND 6 ORCI MINISTOX V8 HOT STOX</p>	<p>SAT 8TH MAR 6.30PM</p>
<p>NATIONAL BANGERS 1200CC - 2LTR WORLD FINAL WILD CARD - INC DD BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS LIGHTNING RODS</p>	<p>SAT 15TH MAR 6.30PM</p>
 <p>BANGERS WORLD QUALIFYING ROUND STOCK RODS ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIP BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS</p>	<p>SAT 22ND MAR 6.30PM</p>
<p>HERITAGE F2 STOCK CARS LIGHTNING RODS MODSTOX & REBELS RACING</p>	<p>SAT 29TH MAR 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 1 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> INCARODS - JASCARS - JNR STOKKARTS MODSTOX - SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS</p>	<p>SAT 5TH APR 5PM</p>
<p>BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUND BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUND NATIONAL MINISTOX</p>	<p>SAT 12TH APR 6.30PM</p>
<p>2.0 HOT RODS REBELS MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIP RELIANT ROBINS MAYHEM SERIES ROUND 2</p>	<p>SAT 19TH APR 6.30PM</p>
<p>BANGERS JUNIOR BANGERS V8 HOT STOX WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING ROUND</p>	<p>SAT 26TH APR 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 2 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> GP MIDGETS - INCARODS - JNR STOKKARTS MODSTOX - NINJA KARTS - SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS</p>	<p>SAT 3RD MAY 5PM</p>
<p>2.0 HOT RODS STOCK RODS & MODSTOX RELIANT ROBINS ESD MAYHEM</p>	<p>SAT 10TH MAY 6.30PM</p>
<p>BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS BRISCA F2 STOCK CARS NATIONAL MINISTOX</p>	<p>SAT 17TH MAY 6.30PM</p>
<p>1300CC STOCK CARS MIDLAND CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSIC HOT RODS ORCI MINISTOX</p>	<p>SAT 24TH MAY 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 3 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> GP MIDGETS - INCARODS - JNR STOKKARTS MODSTOX - NINJA KARTS - SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS</p>	<p>SAT 7TH JUN 5PM</p>
 <p>BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP SUPREME BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP NATIONAL MINISTOX BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP REBELS BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP</p>	<p>SAT 14TH JUN 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 4 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> GP MIDGETS - INCARODS - JASCARS JNR BANGERS - MASCARS - MODSTOX - SLICK CARS - UK MODIFIEDS</p>	<p>SAT 28TH JUN 5PM</p>
 <p>NATIONAL BANGERS WORLD SERIES ROUND UNDER 200CC - INC DESTRUCTION DERBY STOCK RODS RELIANT ROBINS MAYHEM SERIES ROUND 2</p>	<p>SAT 12TH JUL 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 5 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> INCARODS - JNR BANGERS - JNR STOKKARTS SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS - STREET STOX - UK MODIFIEDS</p>	<p>SAT 26TH JUL 5PM</p>
<p>2.0 HOT RODS STOCK RODS & MODSTOX RELIANT ROBINS ESD MAYHEM</p>	<p>SAT 10TH AUG 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 7 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> JASCARS - JNR BANGERS TEAMS - MODSTOX NINJA KARTS - SLICK CARS - JNR RODS - UK MODIFIEDS</p>	<p>SAT 23RD AUG 5PM</p>
<p>BRISCA F1 STOCK CARS SHOOTOUT SERIES ROUND 1 NATIONAL MINISTOX V8 HOT STOX INCARODS OLD CUP/CHALLENGE SERIES ROUND 3</p>	<p>SAT 30TH AUG 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 8 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> INCARODS - JASCARS - JNR BANGERS JNR STOKKARTS - MASCARS - SLICK CARS STOKKARTS - MODSTOX BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP</p>	<p>SAT 6TH SEP 5PM</p>
 <p>BANGERS CLASSIC HOT RODS ORCI MINISTOX REBELS CLASS SERIES FINAL</p>	<p>SAT 13TH SEP 6.30PM</p>
<p>'1 FACTOR ROUND 9 <i>FAST & FURIOUS SERIES</i> GP MIDGETS - JNR STOKKARTS - MASCARS MODSTOX - NINJA KARTS - SLICK CARS - STOKKARTS - UK MODIFIEDS</p>	<p>SAT 27TH SEP 5PM</p>
<p>NATIONAL HOT RODS 2015 WORLD QUALIFIER ROUND 4 BANGERS WORLD QUALIFYING ROUND \$100 RAMP ROLLOVER CHALLENGE CLASSIC HOT RODS</p>	<p>SAT 4TH OCT 6.30PM</p>

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
ANDY HANWIN, PHILIP CORNISH
MARTIN KINGSTON, MATY BILL & COLIN CASSELEY
GRAPHICS
88-PAVE

Annex 2 – Grand Prix Karting - Events



CLUB EVENT PRICES AND FORMATS
Birmingham Wheels Centre
 Adderley Road South, Saltley, Birmingham, B8 1AE





THE FAMOUS NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CIRCUITS (16 Years plus)



FORMAT	INCLUDES	NUMBERS	PRICE
WHEELS 30 INDIVIDUAL ENDURO	Full Instructional Briefing, 8 min Practice / Qualifying, 30 min Solo Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 10 - 18 drivers Nat: Upto 10 drivers - £500*, Extras £50*/hd Intl: Upto 10 drivers - £550*, Extras £55*/hd
WHEELS 60 9+ TEAMS OF 2 - 3	Full Instructional Briefing, 16 min Practice / Qualifying, 60 min Team Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 18 - 54 drivers Nat: Upto 9 Teams - £900*, Extras £100*/tm Intl: Upto 9 Teams - £950*, Extras £110*/tm
WHEELS 90 9+ TEAMS OF 2 - 4	Full Instructional Briefing, 24 min Practice / Qualifying, 90 min Team Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 18 - 72 drivers Nat: Upto 9 Teams - £1350*, Extras £150*/tm Intl: Upto 9 Teams - £1485*, Extras £165*/tm
WHEELS 120 8+ TEAMS OF 3 - 6	Full Instructional Briefing, 32 min Practice / Qualifying, 120 min Team Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 24 - 200+ drivers Nat: Upto 8 Teams - £1600*, Extras £200*/tm Intl: Upto 8 Teams - £1760*, Extras £220*/tm
SPRINT EVENTS GRAND PRIX HEATS IRONMAN INDIVIDUAL ENDURO	Instruction, Practice, 3 Qualifying Race Heats, Semis and Grand Prix Final	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 24 - 100 drivers Nat: Upto 30 drivers - £1500*, Extras £50*/hd --- Available National Circuit Only ---
TWENTY:20 INDIVIDUAL ENDURO	Full Instructional Briefing, 10 min Practice / Qualifying, 50 min Solo Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 10 - 18 drivers Nat: Upto 10 drivers - £650*, Extras £65*/hd Intl: Upto 10 drivers - £700*, Extras £70*/hd
	Full Instructional Briefing, 10 min Practice Session, 2 x 20 min Solo Endurance	All equipment, tuition & race organisation with medals & bubbly spraying for the top 3	Bookings taken for 10 - 18 drivers Nat: Upto 10 drivers - £650*, Extras £65*/hd Intl: Upto 10 drivers - £700*, Extras £70*/hd

* Price excludes £5 Annual Club Membership fee and / or VAT where applicable

To book your place on the grid please call the **Grand Prix Karting Club Office** On **0121 327 7700**
P.T.O. For Further Options



CLUB EVENT PRICES AND FORMATS
Birmingham Wheels Centre
 Adderley Road South, Saltley, Birmingham, B8 1AE

INTERNATIONAL BOOK & DRIVE

AVAILABLE	FORMAT	INCLUDES	NUMBERS	PRICE
BOOK & DRIVE	Subject to circuit availability -Please Book-	Instruction, followed by one or two 20 min sessions in a Sodi GT Thunderkart	Expert tuition, use of race kart, helmet and gloves etc.	Bookings taken for 1 - 9 drivers 20 mins - £35*/hd 2 x 20 mins - £50*/hd

THE GP CIRCUIT

AVAILABLE	FORMAT	INCLUDES	NUMBERS	PRICE
ARRIVE & DRIVE (12 Years and above)	Saturday 12noon - 3pm	15 or 30 minute sessions	Instruction and use of Karts and equipment.	N/A 15 mins - £15*/hd 30 mins - £25*/hd
TEEN PARTIES (12 Years and above)	Tue - Sun : 11am - 5pm	One hour hire	Instruction and exclusive use of circuit, Karts and equipment.	2 Karts (2 - 8 Drivers) £140 per hour 3 Karts (3 - 12 Drivers) £195 per hour 4 Karts (4 - 16 Drivers) £240 per hour

JUNIOR CIRCUIT

AVAILABLE	FORMAT	INCLUDES	NUMBERS	PRICE
ARRIVE & DRIVE (8 - 11 Years)	Saturday 12noon - 3pm	15 minute sessions	Instruction and use of Karts and equipment.	N/A 15 mins - £10*/hd
JUNIOR PARTIES (8 - 11 Years)	Tue - Sun : 11am - 5pm	One hour hire	Instruction and exclusive use of circuit, Karts and equipment.	2 Karts (2 - 8 Drivers) £110 per hour 3 Karts (3 - 12 Drivers) £150 per hour

Drivers must be a least 16 years of age unless stated otherwise. Under 16's must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
 *Prices exclude £5 Annual Club Membership fee where applicable

To book your place on the grid please call the **Grand Prix Karting Club Office** On **0121 327 7700**
P.T.O. For Further Options

Annex 3 – Birmingham Roller Skating Club

a) Birmingham Wheels Roller Skating Club wins the West Midlands Project of the Year Award, 2014 (extract from the internet)



News

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Birmingham youngsters inspired to play sport thanks to award winning local project

Birmingham sport project named best in West Midlands for its inspiring work with young people

An Olympic and Paralympic legacy project in Birmingham has been honoured as the best in the West Midlands after inspiring a number of young people to get into sport.

[Birmingham Wheels Roller Speed Club](#) has got more young girls skating in the heart of Birmingham, working closely with Small Heath School PE department the club provided beginner lessons for females at an extra-curricular session on the school site. As confidence and skill levels improved, the girls were introduced to the Birmingham Wheels track and pairing them with more experienced skaters really enhanced their experience over the six week period.

The sessions were a part of Sport England's [Sportivate programme](#), which aims to give young people aged 11-25-year-olds who weren't taking part in sport previously, the opportunity to discover a new sport of their choice by giving them six-eight weeks of coaching. Once the coaching sessions have been completed, the young people are then helped to find a club or venue where they can continue to take part in sport.

More than 30 young girls have attended each of the weekly sessions in Small Heath and many of these are now skating regularly at the club, even competing in entry level races at weekends.

14-year-old Madeeha from Small Heath School, wants everyone to give skating a try, *"Inline skating is an outstanding opportunity. Once you start you just don't want to stop!"*

Sport England's Executive Director for Community Sport, Mike Diaper, said: *"It's fantastic that so many teenagers and young adults are getting into sport through Sportivate."*

"Whether it's BMX biking, canoeing or netball, I've been really struck by the enthusiasm of the young people on Sportivate sessions and impressed that so many of them are continuing to play once the course is over."

On presenting the West Midlands Project of the Year Award, Sport Birmingham CEO Mike Chamberlain encouraged the participants and members of Birmingham Wheels to shout about the great work the club are doing in the community of Small Heath and Bordesley, *"There is clearly a great team of dedicated coaches and volunteers providing an enjoyable experience for visitors to the track. It is key that new participants and skaters continue tell people about Birmingham Wheels and urge others to give inline skating a try."*

Since its launch, over 420,000 young people have attended Sportivate sessions, with 350,000 completing their coaching sessions. Sportivate is being delivered by the network of 45 county sports partnerships, working with local clubs and providers.

It is part of a £56 million National Lottery funded Olympic legacy programme and will benefit hundreds of thousands of young people until 2017.

Further information about the Birmingham Sportivate Programme, including how to apply for funding, can be found [Here](#).

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21/09/14



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Registered charity number: 1155171

Registered company number: 08177159

Sport Birmingham, Floor 11, Cobalt Square, 83-85 Hagley Rd, Birmingham, West Midlands, B16 8QG

Source: <http://www.sportbirmingham.org/News/Details/139/birmingham-youngsters-inspired-to-play-sport-thanks-to-award-winning-local-project>

b) Short history of the Birmingham Wheels Roller Skating Club

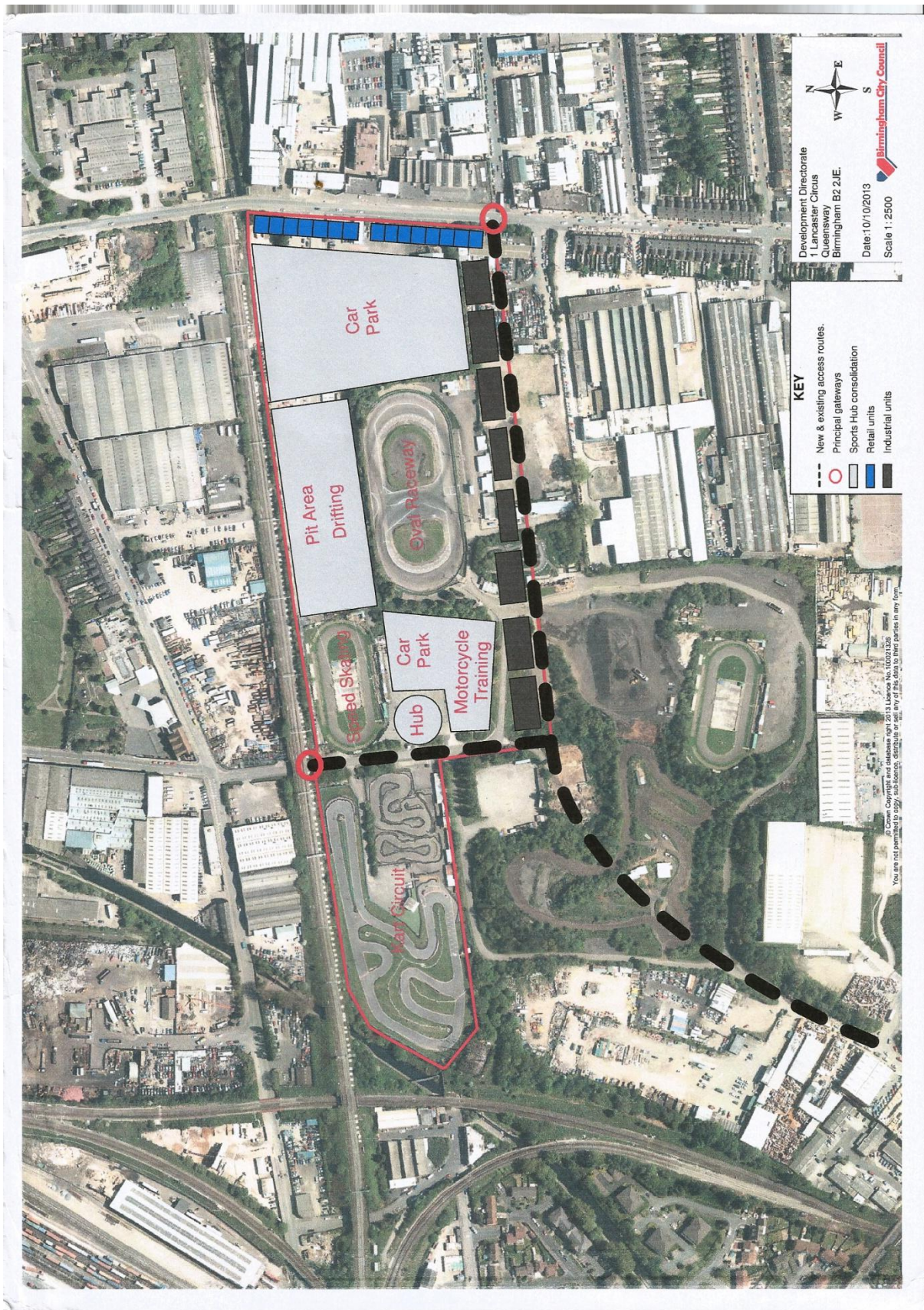
Roller speed skating was one of the "wheeled sports" identified as being included in the original Wheels Park Project as early as 1980. Work began on the construction of the roller skating track in

late 1983 and opened in 1984. From that day to this it remains the only purpose built speed skating track in the UK. Built to comply with international standards it has hosted European Championships and is the premier facility for staging the National Championships. It is also used by the NGB to prepare National Teams and squads for both World and European Championships.

The facility has also been a major factor in raising the standard of the Birmingham Wheels Roller Speed Club to being the most successful UK in-line speed skating club in the sports history. Our status as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) was this year enhanced by the club being awarded by Sport England, The Sportivate Sport Project of the Year for the West Midlands for our work in a local school – Small Heath Academy (see above).

Over the last 30 years the Birmingham Wheels RSC have developed an excellent partnership with numerous local schools and community groups providing opportunities to young people and families to engage in a sport/activity that encourages a healthy active lifestyle that brings people from this area of diversity together helping social cohesion and understanding. To move the roller skating facility from the Birmingham Wheels Park would be devastating to the long term development of elite athletes who train and compete there, and severing the ties built up over 30 years with the local schools and community would leave a vacuum which would be nigh on impossible to fill.

Annex 4 – Potential alternative layout included in the Licensees representations on the Bordesley Park AAP



Annex 5 – National Governing Bodies, letters of support for Birmingham Wheels Park



The Federation of Inline Speed Skating

Registered Office: 26 Newby Grove, Bacons End, Birmingham, B37 6QR

12 October 2013

As Chairman of the Federation of Inline Speed Skating it is with regret that I have been informed of the possible loss of the only specific internationally recognised speed skating track in the UK. For the following reasons I strongly disagree with the preferred options laid out for the 'Wheels Site and Environs' in the BPAAP.

Birmingham Wheels is one of the top clubs in the country and regularly hosts events at the Birmingham Wheels speed skating facility.

Birmingham Wheels is the preferred venue for the pinnacle events of the season, i.e. the Outdoor British Championships, and the Federation are looking to increase this to include an annual open international event where elite athletes will attend from all over the world.

This Open International would be the first of many that would lead to the invitation to hold, run & deliver events that are included as part of the European and World circuit.

Removing this facility would be detrimental to the NGBs development plans and growth of the sport in the UK. Birmingham Wheels is the home of the GB Speed Skating Team, and as such is the premier facility that in the past has led to successes on the international and European stage.

As an NGB we want to work with and support young people in their chosen sport of in-line speed skating and to do this we need an internationally recognised track to train and compete on. By removing this facility would be to destroy their dreams and desires to succeed.

Birmingham wheels have shown that they are leading the way in inclusion and have several religious and physical athletes that have restrictions to their participation. As an NGB and club we have shown that with the right facilities and people there is no barrier to participation. These are also reflective of national funder's key targets in relation to participation with ethnic groups, females and the obesity epidemic.

All this stops with the loss of this facility. The club and the NGB have become so reliant on the track and have invested lots of time and money into building this facility into what it is today and without it you will put back by some decades the future growth, development and participation in the sport.

People want safe and secure facilities in which to compete and enjoy their chosen sport and by not including this track in your plans would be detrimental to the whole skating fraternity.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Simnor

FISS Chairman

The Federation of Inline Speed Skating
A Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales

Devonia,
Long Road West,
DEDHAM.
Colchester.
Essex. CO7 6ES
Tel: 01206-322726
E.Mail nka@nationalkarting.co.uk.



Councillor Tahir Ali
Birmingham City Council
Council House
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB

25th July 2012

Dear Councillor Ali,

Re: Bordesley Park Area Action Plan / Grand Prix Karting & the Wheels Site

Thank you for giving the National Karting Association the opportunity to comment on the Preferred Options Report dated July 2013.

In the 15 years I have personally visited the Kart Centre I have witnessed the transformation from an underused and dilapidated enthusiasts track into a safe, vibrant sports facility that attracts local, National and International visitors.

Grand Prix Karting, in partnership with the Wheels Park trust, have created a recognised, prominent and sustainable sporting asset which engages the community, creates employment, generates income for the local economy and promotes social cohesion in addition to providing an important and unique sporting provision in the region. We also note that considerable additional housing is proposed within this AAP and the wider area which will create additional demand for sport and recreational facilities.

In summary, it is our judgment that the Kart Centre provides a vital sporting provision and should be considered an important asset to the city of Birmingham and beyond and the NKA therefore strongly object to any proposals that would result in its closure on the current site unless the Centre is suitably relocated prior to any development.

Yours sincerely

Keith Barton

National Karting Association.



**BRITISH STOCK CAR
ASSOCIATION**

25th October 2013

To whom it may concern.

As Chairman of the British Stock Car Association (Formula One), I am writing to register my concern on behalf of our sport and the wider oval racing community with regard proposals for the Wheels Park which may preclude the inclusion of motorsport at some point in the future based on alternative plans produced for the area.

Birmingham has for over a quarter of a century become a hugely popular and a well located central venue for our sport attracting many thousands of visitors each year including many from Mainland Europe – and for major events, other parts of the world. It is also extremely popular with competitors and provides a significant facility that identifies Birmingham City as a major Championship centre for our sport.

The many thousand attendees each season brings with it incremental economic benefit to the hinterland of the arena in so much as race fans and competitors utilise hotels, eateries and other establishments during their stay.

The sport attracts considerable media coverage, most recently a documentary series on BBC 1 which adds to the kudos and awareness of Birmingham as a vibrant and diverse city in terms of sporting and entertainment attractions and culture.

Operators, Incarace, organise and promote the sport to the highest standards and on behalf of BriSCA I unreservedly add our support to the company in presenting a viable proposal to maintain racing at this important centre for BriSCA Formula One and indeed all oval motor racing.

Yours faithfully

Steve Rees

BriSCA F1 Chairman



20th October 2013

To whom it may concern.

As Chairman of the British Stock Car Association (Formula Two), I am writing to add my concern regarding the Preferred Option Report issued by the Birmingham City Council for the Bordesley Park Area Action Plan.

Within the Wheels Park the Raceway has provided one of the best racing areas for a wide variety of Oval track formulas for the past 30 years. In that time it has become an integral part of the sport throughout the UK and Europe. Its location in the heart of the country offers an excellent opportunity to drivers and race fans to enjoy their sport. Families travel to this Raceway, not only from Birmingham and the West Midlands, but from all over the UK and indeed Europe to watch our exciting and dramatic type of Motorsport.

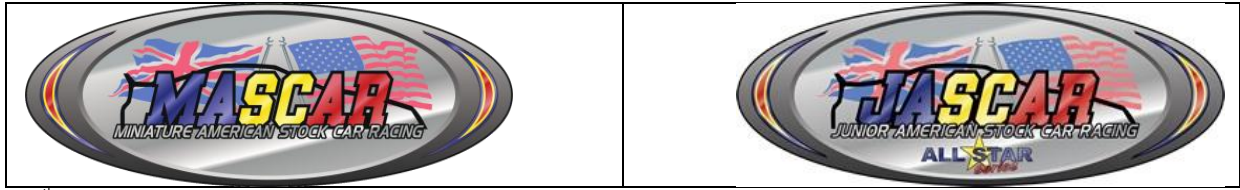
There are also a large number of businesses in the area already benefiting from Oval Motor Racing. Not just the hotels, petrol stations, pubs and clubs but also those that manufacture and service the cars that are raced. The area has a proud tradition of innovative design and manufacture of Oval Racing cars not least the BriSCA F2's that I represent.

I wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the present tenants of the site who have come up with a viable scheme to retain the Raceway and other motor based sports.

Yours faithfully

Dave Coventry

BriSCA (F2) – Chairman



18th October 2013

Mascar Racing Ltd incorporating Jascar Racing
27 Holloway Lane, St Georges,
Redditch,
Worcestershire
B98 7ET,
Tel 01527 458002
Mobile 07540934998

Reference Birmingham Wheels Park Re Development

To whom it may concern

Birmingham Wheels Raceway and Park is a vital part to many existing businesses including my current two companies which also supply an entertainment factor to not only locals but people from as far as the USA who attend the venue to watch our UK version of the American style racing we put on, also this will affect many of the current drivers and families who's life is built upon short oval racing, The closure of the park with no immediate alternative will also affect income brought in to the area effecting local hotels and restaurants and petrol stations, along with employment of our officials and staff and will lead to us considering redundancy or alternatives within Mascar Racing Ltd,

Wheels Park has been an active part of my business development plan of bring juniors from the age of 8 to 16 years off the streets of the UK and in to a controlled motorsport environment and offering these young lads and girls the opportunity to learn a skill and a discipline in a very tightly controlled area whether this is through track hire or meetings run by other promoters at the wheels park, With the possible loss of the venue and no immediate alternative available in the area this again will lead to the youth of today to be forced back on the streets and for me to consider our youth programme,

Our senior Racers again bring income from all over the country in to the area along with their followers which would all be lost through closure.

Oval Racing in the UK is one of the best kept secrets and has a massive following from spectators offering excellent value for money to go and watch or take part with excellent entertainment value, It also leads to future careers and employs thousands of people throughout the UK and many of the top UK drivers in Motorsport start there careers on the Ovals with the loss of another oval we are again killing opportunity entertainment and employment for the sake of another business park which we currently have hundreds of empty units and yards available within the midlands area that are struggling to get filled, By closing the park you will be putting business out of work opportunity and again more business closing than this area would support.

Birmingham City council currently offer loans and Grants for small business why not save some money and let the existing small business survive by keeping this facility open and adults and juniors a place to go and have fun or for people to be entertained in a controlled environment instead of falling out of a bar or crime or hanging around the streets and costing more police time and money,

I urge the council to consider that this will affect 1000s of people and our youth as well as business which need this facility for the future of our youth motorsport and entertainment. And we believe if we lose this venue we will also loose Birmingham as the City of Culture

Regards

Steve Stanford
MASCAR Racing Ltd Director.

From: Rebelsracing@aol.com [mailto:Rebelsracing@aol.com]
Sent: 18 October 2013 14:27
To: Paul Gerrard
Subject:

To whom it may concern

We are Rebels racing, a formula of oval racing cars, built here in the Midlands, yet supported by drivers, and spectators nationwide.

The Wheels Park forms an integral part of our annual race dates, when we regularly have 30 to 35 race cars in attendance, With Birmingham being so centrally located, support from our drivers and spectators is always high.

Birmingham Wheels Park has many attractions to our followers, being located where it is, in fact most of the cars development work was carried out at the track in 1994, and every year since our launch, support for our formula and the actual track has visibly grown.

I, as an oval race fan, regularly visit the track to watch and enjoy the various many other formulae that race there, Indeed I am not alone, and often meet other spectators there that have travelled some distance to attend.

Our driver base stretches from Cumbria to Somerset, as do many other formula's racing at Wheels, which is why this Facility is so important and so well attended by competitors and spectators alike, being so well connected by the motorway system, and so very central to the UK.

The Wheels Park is an ESSENTIAL element in every form of Oval Racing both here and for the regular drivers from Europe, It must remain open for the diversity of entertainment that the city has to offer, and the importance it has to motor racing, and the other forms of wheeled activity available there.

Hans Kirimaa Owner and Promoter of:

Rebels Racing
Belmont Farm
Belmont Road
Needwood Nr Burton-on-Trent
DE13 9PH

Tel 01283 521 557 / 07973 441 827

Fax 01283 521 558

Bookings: rebelsbookings@aol.com / 07976 534 607 www.rebelsracing.com

From: ian@stoxkarts.co.uk
To: info@birminghamwheelspark.org
Sent: 18/10/2013 14:21:41 GMT Daylight Time
Subj: Wheels Park

Dear Sirs,

I write regarding the preferred options at Wheels Park.

As a Director of Stoxkarts Ltd. a company that promotes and runs an Oval racing Formula throughout the UK I would like to put forward my concerns with regards to the Re-development at Wheels Park.

The closure of Wheels Park would impact us in a major way. Birmingham is central to most motorway networks and this is a major factor in why our business has developed as well as it has. We not only use Wheels Park on Race Days we also run test days and development days at Wheels Park during the week. We also run a Junior development side to the formula where we invite Children with Family problems to come and have a ride out on a junior test day. In 2013 we also ran a Junior Scholarship for 1 young driver and he raced 7 times at Birmingham during the season. If Wheels Park were to be closed it is not just the local drivers that would be effected, it is far more wide reaching than just that.

Just as a small example we have a large number of licensed drivers based throughout the UK who attend regular race meetings at Birmingham wheels, many of them staying over in local Hotels, using local facilities such as restaurants and public houses, they also bring friends and family who often spend the day heading into the centre of town and the local shopping areas, so it is not just about the immediate locals. Most of these people would never visit Birmingham if it were not for the racing at Wheels Park.

We have no idea of the politics involved in making the decisions but as just a very small part of the oval racing community that uses the Wheels Park facility we feel it would be a travesty if Motor Racing was lost to the area.

Regards

Ian Higgins
Stoxkarts Ltd.

t: 01430 872852
e: racing@stoxkarts.co.uk
w: www.stoxkarts.co.uk