



# Mount Edgcumbe

Britain's historic park by the sea

## **Oversight and Governance**

Chief Executive's Department  
Plymouth City Council  
Ballard House  
Plymouth PL1 3BJ

Please ask for Elliot Wearne-Gould  
T 01752 668000

E [democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk)  
[www.plymouth.gov.uk](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk)

Published 05 July 2024

## **MOUNT EDGCUMBE JOINT COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENT PACK**

**Date:** Friday 12 July 2024  
**Time:** 10.00 am  
**Place:** Belvedere Room, Mount Edgcumbe

### **Committee Members-**

#### **Plymouth City Councillors-**

Councillors Briars-Delve (Co-Chair), Blight, Gilmour, Allison, Morton, Ms Watkin and Wood

#### **Cornwall Councillors-**

Councillors Alvey, Ewert, Lennox-Boyd, Pascoe, Tivnan, Worth and Seeva

#### **Co-opted Members-**

Mr D L Richards and Mr Alan Drummond

Members of the Committee are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business overleaf.

For further information on attending Council meetings and how to engage in the democratic process please follow this link – [Get Involved](#)

Tracey Lee and Kate Kennally  
Joint Clerks

## **MOUNT EDGCUMBE JOINT COMMITTEE**

- 6. MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 12)
- To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2023 as a correct record.
- 9. Mount Edgcumbe Revenue Outturn 2023/24:** (Pages 13 - 18)
- 10. Strategic Management and Development Plan (CMP) for Mount Edgcumbe Country Park:** (Pages 19 - 32)
- 11. Park Manager's Report:** (Pages 33 - 40)
- 14. MEJC Tracking Decisions Log:** (Pages 41 - 42)
- 16. Part II Minutes from November 2023:** (Pages 43 - 44)

## Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee

Friday 10 November 2023

### PRESENT:

Councillor Ewert, in the Chair.

Councillor Briars-Delve, Vice Chair.

Councillors Alvey, Tivnan, Worth, Daw, Blight, Gilmour, Penrose, Stoneman, Harrison (Substitute for Councillor Salmon), and Lugger (Substitute for Councillor Carlyle).

Apologies for absence:

Councillors Salmon, Carlyle, Lennox-Boyd and Pascoe. Mr Ged Edgcumbe, and Mr D L Richards.

Also in attendance:

Alan Drummond (Chair, FOMECP), Richard Pyshorn (Secure Forests CIC), Jozef Lewis (Technical Accounting Officer), Chris Burton (Park Manager), David Marshall (Business Development Manager), Dan Cooke (Protected and Historic Landscapes Manager), Victoria Pomery (CEO, the Box), Rosie Bookshaw-Williams (Democratic Advisor), and Elliot Wearne-Gould (Democratic Advisor).

The meeting started at 10.05 am and finished at 12.20 pm.

*Note: At a future meeting, the committee will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.*

#### 45. **Declarations of Interest**

There was one Declaration of Interest made in accordance with the Code of Conduct:

Councillor	Item	Interest	Description
Tivnan	10 – Car Parking Review	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Was a member of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe

#### 46. **Minutes**

The Joint Committee agreed the minutes of 14 July 2023 as a correct record.

*(Councillors Worth and Alvey abstained from this vote, as they were not present at the previous meeting. All other votes were unanimously 'For')*

#### 47. **Chair's Urgent Business**

There were no items of Chair's Urgent Business.

#### 48. **Questions from Members of the Public**

There were four Questions from members of the public:

Question	Will the Joint Committee please confirm the location of the Mount Edgcumbe Archive, its condition and how it can be accessed for research?
Response	Thank you for your question: There is no single public archive in existence at Mount Edgcumbe. Any historic documents that survived the bombing would be held by the Edgcumbe family. The main historic archives of the Edgcumbe family and estate of Mount Edgcumbe and Cotehele are held at Kresen Kernow, the Cornish county archive service. Their catalogue is available here: <a href="https://kresenkernow.org/our-collections/search-the-catalogues/">https://kresenkernow.org/our-collections/search-the-catalogues/</a> . Some artefact and succession records are held at The Box in Plymouth however, the majority of items in The Box collection are copies of items in Kresen Kernow or photographs/prints/publications or records relating to PCC's involvement. See: <a href="#">Archives Catalogue Search (plymouth.gov.uk)</a>

Question	In the best interests of democracy and open debate, I ask that citizens (many of whom, on the subject of the conservation of MECP, are knowledgeable, experienced, and offering to help) are encouraged to speak at JC meetings so that they and the JC members engage in meaningful discussions.
Response	Thank you for your question: The Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee is bound by the regulations of the 1972 and 1985 Local Government Acts, as amended by Localism Act 2011. As such, every committee meeting is open to the public, except when the public is excluded because of confidential business. Only Committee members and supporting officers may contribute during the course of a meeting. Public participation at the Joint Committee is enabled through the submission of public questions. The Joint Committee recognise the value of public participation, skills and experience. Should members of the public wish to contribute knowledge/ideas, they can submit them to the Joint Chairs (Councillor Kate Ewert & Tom Briars-Delve) or alternatively, to Council Officers.

Question	In relation to the proposed plan for Mount Edgcumbe, can you say who will be the specialist in conservation, who will be consulted and whether or not what is envisaged is a Business Plan or a Conservation Management Plan, which are entirely different (all HLF stipulations)?
Response	Thank you for your question: The Development Plan will be an overarching strategic document that collates management plans, business plans and conservation plans that are currently in existence, along with several new documents. In terms of the historic buildings and landscape, consultation will be undertaken with expert partners including the statutory body Historic England, along with Cornwall Councils Historic Environment Team and Historic Environment Planning Team.

Question	To my amazement, in July 2023 I was informed that the responsibilities of the Joint Committee, as laid down in its Constitution document, are not mandatory?? So, given that the Joint Committee apparently has no responsibilities whatsoever, can you explain what the function of the Joint Committee actually is?
Response	Thank you for your question: The Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee is a Committee of Plymouth City Council and Cornwall Council, first formed in 1973, and comprised of 7 members from each authority. The Councils formed the Joint Committee “for the purposes of the management of the Country Park” within the budgets approved by the Councils on an annual basis and in line with agreed terms of reference about the general ethos of management of the Country Park and House. The Joint Committee is responsible for monitoring performance, management, finance, and compliance, as well as undertaking inspections of the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park. As a Joint Committee of the Cabinet of each Council, the Committee considers annual reports on the Parks performance, and recommends actions to the relevant Cabinet Members within Plymouth and Cornwall Council’s.

49. **Co-opted member update** (Verbal Report)

The Committee thanked Mr Ged Edgcumbe for his hard work and support while Chair of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe, and welcomed Mr Alan Drummond, who had recently taken over the Chair role.

The Committee agreed to:

1. Remove Mr Ged Edgcumbe as a Co-opted member of this Committee;
2. Co-opt Mr Alan Drummond to this Committee;
3. Note that Mr Pete Smith had regrettably declined the offer of Co-option for personal reasons.

*(Councillor Tivnan abstained from this vote. All other votes were unanimously ‘For’).*

50. **Finance Report 23/24**

Jozef Lewis (Technical Accounting Officer) delivered the Mount Edgcumbe Finance Report 2023/24 to the Joint Committee, and discussed:

- a) As of Quarter 2, there was an adverse variation of £32,000 in the budget. This would be funded equally by Plymouth and Cornwall Councils;
- b) This pressure was primarily the result of unavoidable one of cost pressures of repairs and maintenance;

- c) Additional costs had included:
- i. A revenue contribution to the costs of play equipment due to health and safety concerns;
  - ii. Increased staff costs due to the 2023/24 pay award salary uplift, and recruitment of temporary staff due to long-term sickness;
- d) Initial budget planning was underway for 2024/25. The Joint Authority Subsidy was removed in 2022/23, and a net zero budget target would be ongoing. This would require the maximisation of existing and future income streams;
- e) A review of the Capital Plans for Mt Edgcumbe was being undertaken by the PCC finance team. The plan included refurbishment of the Orangery toilets, and a marquee development plan;
- f) The predominant risks for the 2023/24 revenue budget were repairs and maintenance, as revenue budgets had already been exhausted due to storm damage and adverse weather conditions.

The Joint Committee agreed to:

1. Note the financial position contained in the report along with the risks, issues and any mitigating actions;
2. Note the capital programme.

51. **Guest Speaker - Richard Pyshorn, Director of Secure Forests CIC** (Verbal Report)

Richard Pyshorn (Director of Secure Forests CIC) delivered a presentation to the Joint Committee and discussed:

- a) The non-profit organisation, Secure Forests CIC, had been established at Mount Edgcumbe Country Park to enable armed forces and blue light veterans to utilise their skills in the natural environment. While providing a skilled workforce, this was also highly beneficial for veterans mental and physical wellbeing;
- b) Richard had undertaken over 10 years of voluntary work in rainforests around the world, training rangers, particularly in central and south America;
- c) Secure Forests had trained 10 veterans in forestry skills, and three had secured full time employment in the local community;
- d) 24 Veterans were scheduled to go through skills training courses next year, with 36 scheduled for the year after;
- e) A business plan was being developed to work with corporate economic and social governance (ESG), to fund veterans training and wildlife conservation projects around the world. This ensured that training places were fully funded;

- f) Recruitment to Secure Forests was predominantly through referrals from charities, and potential recruits were encouraged to undertake voluntary work at Mount Edgcumbe before enrolling;
- g) Courses lasted seven weeks and could train up to eight people at a time. This could be completed in stages for those with work/ other commitments, or in seven consecutive weeks;
- h) The course helped attain meaningful qualifications, with accredited training provided by Duchy College, Secure Forests CIC, and the Institute of Training and Occupational Learning (ITOL), resulting in a level 4 qualification;
- i) Training modules included health and safety, first aid, risk management level 4, chainsaw, brush-cutter, tractor driving, drone piloting, and others, providing a diverse set of transferrable skills. One of the projects underway at Mount Edgcumbe was a Cornish hedging programme, which was a 'red listed' skill;
- j) A workshop and teaching facility had been established at the Park to facilitate the courses, and members were invited to view the facilities;
- k) An open day was being held in one week's time, with 8 possible candidates expected to be in attendance. This included a former Afghan interpreter.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- l) Referrals to the programme were open to self-referral, and the Joint Committee were encouraged to suggest any suitable candidates for the course that they knew of;
- m) Secure Forests were working with Natural England to compile a central database of qualified workers, so that other employers could view and draw upon the skillsets as required. This helped maximise employment opportunities for veterans who had completed the course;
- n) The Oak Foundation had provided initial funding for the foundation of Secure Forests, through grants. It was crucial to attain corporate ESG investment to ensure the project was enduring, encouraging corporations to invest in carbon security, as well as traditional carbon offset programmes;
- o) Secure forests were working with Exeter University and the University of Leister Space Lab to develop LIDAR carbon models of forests, to monitor vegetation density and thus measure the impact of carbon security provided by the rangers;

The Joint Committee agreed:

- I. To request to be provided with further information on how to refer someone to the Secure Forests programme;

2. To ensure that relevant contacts within Cornwall Council were passed to Secure Forests, to facilitate ongoing support and signposting;
3. To thank Richard Pyshorn (Director of Secure Forests CIC) for the presentation.

52. **Park Manager's Report**

Chris Burton (Park Manager) delivered the Park Manager's Report to the Joint Committee, and discussed:

- a) An overview of the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park, including its listing as a grade I listed landscape, 17km of coastal strip, 865 acres of land, and 7.5 acres of formal gardens. The park also had 56 listed buildings, 5 ancient monuments, 36km of footpaths and received around 250,000 visitors per year, although these figures were old and would be reviewed under funding from the National Marine Park project. Mount Edgcumbe was the largest country park in England/Cornwall;
- b) Operational costs of the Park were around £1MM, annually. The Park had historically relied on around £450,000 of financing per year, funded by Plymouth and Cornwall Councils however, the park was now largely self-sufficient due to a variety of innovations and efficiencies;
- c) Over the past 10 years, the Park had recruited 4 new staff, purchased 5 new vehicles, renovated 9 new holiday-huts, and attained £4MM in grant-aid since 2010. There were around 24 businesses operating across the park, with approximately 70 staff employed;
- d) 24 events had been held at the park this year, in partnership with Miss Ivy Events. It was important to consider the scale of events and their suitability for the Park, with car parking being one of the biggest limiting factors;
- e) The Park had won TripAdvisor's 'Travellers Choice Award' for the past two consecutive years, placing them in the top 10% of venues in the world;
- f) The Park had strong ecological benefits, featuring 27 different types of Waxcaps; this was above the 22 varieties required to be 'internationally important';
- g) The Park relied heavily on volunteering and the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe group, with 7.5 acres of garden to maintain, across three full-time gardeners. Over 600 voluntary days had been held in the past year, including a partnership with Royal Navy recruits from HMS Raleigh. While volunteer numbers had declined during the Covid-19 Pandemic, levels had now relatively recovered;
- h) Mount Edgcumbe had held a Deer Park since 1515 however, much of the fencing had deteriorated. Three quarters of the fencing had now been completed, with 4.6km of deer fencing in total. Deer surveys were being conducted to assess numbers, and gates and access points were being installed. A Deer management plan would be complete by the end of Winter;



- i) A priority for the Park, was improving climate resilience. This included replacing/re-connecting old water tanks and pipe infrastructure across the Park. The National Camellia collection would be revisited this year, and the Cornish Black Bee project was performing well;
- j) The Garden Battery development was subject to HLF funding, which was expected to be determined by Christmas. Planning permission had been attained and would soon move on to a consultation phase, engaging communities on the nature of stories/history included in displays, before building work began in around Summer 2024. This would then be opened to the public, for free, to engage in local history;
- k) A tour system was in place at the house which had been highly successful. Every school within 20 miles of the Park had been written to, inviting them to visit the park. Transport remained a barrier for many schools, and Park management funded transport, where possible, to enable engagement. (*A list of these schools was circulated to the committee as part of a previous tracking decision*);
- l) A new playground had been installed following demolition of the existing facilities due to safety concerns. This had been funded in partnership with the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe;
- m) For the first time, Mount Edgcumbe Country Park had hosted a race of the National Triathlon Series, including a children's triathlon. Feedback had been positive and it was planned to repeat this event next year;
- n) Over 1,000 children had attended the Park this year as part of the Plymouth Schools Partnership, enabling schools with a lack of green space to enjoy outdoor activities;
- o) The predominant pressures this year had been winter storms and Ash Die-back. In the last storm, 15 trees had fallen, including a 300 year old Oak. All trees were surveyed and monitored throughout the year and a new digital asset management system had been introduced. As part of SOPs, the Park was closed for safety reasons when wind speeds reached over 50mph;
- p) Utility bill cost increases were a significant challenge for the Park, which regrettably had to be passed back to tenants. There had also been an increase in the cost of Pertemps agency staff due to national/living wage increases. While not initially noticeable, there were now indications that the recession had started to impact public spending, with various park income streams seeing a reduction in demand;
- q) It was a challenge to juggle the various priorities and interests of various public groups/individuals, within the park. While some people prioritised cycling accessibility, others prioritised horse riding, coastal path walking, sea access, green spaces, or historic building conservation. The Park was therefore diverse, and catered to many different individuals and groups.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- r) The Tamar Bridge and Torpoint Ferry Joint Committee would shortly consider a report detailing opportunities to expand its services, which included transport up and

down the Tamar, rather than just across. There was potential that these proposals could serve the Park, thus benefiting ease of access and visitor numbers;

- s) Historically, Plymouth City Council had subsidised the Cremyll Ferry. The Joint Committee were aware of rising operation costs, and thus fares, due to fuel and wage inflation. As a vital access route between Plymouth and Cornwall, there was potential for subsidisation to be reconsidered at a future date;
- t) The use of Pertemps staff, while contributing to cost pressures, provided operational flexibility to increase capacity during events and ceremonies;
- u) Rangers had inspected Rame Head two weeks ago and confirmed the ponies were still being grazed.

The Joint Committee agreed:

1. To note the update from the Park Manager;
2. To recommend that the Cabinets of Plymouth and Cornwall Councils instruct officers to produce a strategic management and development plan for the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park. To be renewed every five years;
3. To recommend that the Cabinets of Plymouth and Cornwall Councils approve the Strategic Management and Development Plan by the end of 2024, and that an interim update on the progress is brought to the next Joint Committee Meeting in July 2024;
4. To recommend that the Cabinets of Plymouth and Cornwall Councils review the Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee's Terms of Reference, and update accordingly to reflect pertinent changes;
5. To add the Strategic Management and Development Plan as a standing item on this Joint Committee's agenda, to monitor performance and progress against these plans.

*(These recommendations were proposed by the Chair, Councillor Ewert, seconded by Councillor Gilmour, and agreed unanimously).*

53. **Car Parking Review (To Follow)**

David Marshall (Business Development Manager) delivered the Car Parking Review report, and discussed:

- a) Mount Edgcumbe Country Park undertook a quinquennial review of its parking fees, due to the expense and length of the process;
- b) Following endorsement by this Joint Committee, the report would be opened to public consultation, before consideration at a Cornwall Cabinet meeting. Legal proceedings would then be required to formally amend the of-street parking order;

- c) Mount Edgumbe Country Park had four car parks, which would all require updated signage;
- d) The process took between 8 months-1 year to complete;
- e) The target date for competition was 01 April 2024 although this would depend on the completion of the consultation and approval process, as well as court backlogs.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- f) The car parking review was a regular process undertaken every 5 years in order to re-align prices with CPI. It was not feasible to amend the charges yearly in line with inflation, due to the extensive process and costs involved;
- g) For the past two years, inflationary rates had been over 9%. Year on year, this represented a loss of potential funding, which the Car Park review aimed to address;
- h) Local users and communities were able to benefit from reduced parking rates;
- i) While it was regrettable to have to raise prices, and the Joint Committee were sympathetic with other Cost of Living pressures, reviewing charges in line with inflation was a necessary and responsible measure to ensure the Parks financial sustainability and resilience.

The Joint Committee agreed:

1. To support the principle and proposed terms for a new Off Street Parking Order, as set out in the report;
2. To recommend to the appropriate Cornwall Council Cabinet Member, that Cornwall Council revokes the 'Cornwall Council Off-street Parking Places at Mount Edgumbe Country Park Order 2018', and introduces a new 'Off-street Parking Places at Mount Edgumbe Country Park Order 2024', on the terms set out in the report.

*(Councillor Tivnan abstained from this vote due to a pecuniary interest, as a member of the Friends of Mount Edgumbe Country Park. All other votes were 'for'.)*

#### 54. **Friends of Mt Edgumbe Report**

Alan Drummond (Chair, Friends of Mount Edgumbe) delivered the Friends of Mount Edgumbe report to the Joint Committee, and discussed:

- a) The Friends enjoyed a strong relationship with the Mount Edgumbe Park management team, and worked together in joint projects, for the benefit of the public;
- b) Membership of the Friends continued to increase, and now stood at over 800 people. This was the highest number since the formation of the Friends in 1985;

- c) Unfortunately the increase in membership was not reflected by an increase in volunteer numbers and it remained a challenge to recruit to the Committee structure of the Friends, which was at half strength;
- d) The annual Car Show and Summer Fair was held on the first weekend of August, with over 700 classic cars on display. The Friends had parked approximately 1,800 visitor cars, with total visitor numbers estimated at 8,000 people.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- e) Volunteer numbers were essential to ensure a safe level of staffing, in accordance with the risk assessment. It remained a challenge to recruit sufficient volunteer numbers;
- f) The traffic management plan for the Classic Car Show event was complex, and a significant undertaking.

The Joint Committee agreed to note the report.

55. **Tracking Decision Log**

Elliot Wearne-Gould (Democratic Advisor) delivered an update on the Tracking Decision Log and discussed:

- a) Kat Deeney (Head of Environmental Planning) had advised that all relevant Cornwall Councillors would receive a briefing on the National Marine Park, if/when the next submission round was successful;
- b) A card had been sourced for the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Committee members who had recently stood down, to thank them for their service, and would be circulated for signing at the end of this meeting;
- c) The list of schools accessing the park, including those struggling with transport had also been compiled, and would be circulated to members.

The Joint Committee agreed to note the update.

56. **Exempt Business**

The Joint Committee agreed to pass a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1/2/3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

*(Councillor Tivnan left the meeting at this time.)*

57. **Part II Minutes**

The Joint Committee agreed the private minutes from the meeting of 14 July 2023 as a correct record.

*(Councillors Worth and Alvey Abstained as they were not present at the previous meeting. All other votes were 'For'.)*

58. **Mount Edgcumbe Tenancy and Land Holding Update**

Chris Burton (Park Manager) delivered an update on Mount Edgcumbe Tenancies and Land Holdings.

The Joint Committee agreed to note the update, and receive a further update at a future meeting.

*(Please note, there is a confidential part to this minute)*

This page is intentionally left blank

# Mount Edgumbe Joint Committee



Date of meeting:	12 July 2024
Title of Report:	<b>Mount Edgumbe Revenue Outturn 2023/24</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Jozef Lewis (Lead Accountant)
Contact Email:	Jozef.Lewis@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	2023/24
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## Purpose of Report

Presents the final outturn position of Mount Edgumbe for the financial year 2023/24 and confirms the 2024/25 budget.

## Recommendations and Reasons

It is recommended that Joint Committee:

- Notes the financial position contained in the report along with the risks, issues and any mitigating actions.
- Notes the capital programme

## Alternative options considered and rejected.

None

## Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This monitoring report links to delivering the priorities within the Council's Corporate Plan, including 'spending money wisely', 'providing quality public services', and 'green investment, jobs, skills, and better education'.

## Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

None

## Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

Monitoring of commercial project delivery times and ensuring they perform in accordance with budgets set, with continued focus to sensibly capitalise on existing assets, to generate new and / or more income as soon as possible.

**Appendices**

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Mount Edgcombe Revenue Outturn 2023/24							

**Background papers:**

\*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Sign off:**

Fin	DJN. 24.2 5.03 1	Leg	LS/0 0001 966/ AC/2 /7/24	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Anthony Payne											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 03/07/2024											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jemima Laing, approved via email											
Date approved: 04/07/2024											



**Section I****I.1 Revenue Outturn 2023/24 - Financial summary**

Business Type	2023/24 Budget			2023/24 Outturn			Variation to net Budget	Comments
	Income	Expenditure	Net	Income	Expenditure	Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Staffing & Operations	(12)	589	577	(16)	595	579	2	
House	(24)	62	38	(28)	98	70	32	Staff, Energy and Repairs & Maintenance cost pressures
Gardens	0	14	14	(7)	20	13	(1)	
Grounds	(27)	152	125	(50)	183	133	8	Repairs & Maintenance
Trading Activities:								
Alpacas	(13)	8	(5)	(9)	10	1	6	Did not achieve net income target
Conferences	(2)	1	(1)	(1)	0	(1)	0	
Rents	(157)	39	(118)	(190)	62	(128)	(10)	Increased income offset by increased energy costs
Chalets	(355)	0	(355)	(371)	0	(371)	(16)	Increased rental income
Parking	(96)	7	(89)	(89)	14	(75)	14	Adverse weather impacted income
Special Events	(46)	30	(16)	(29)	22	(7)	9	Adverse weather impacted income generating events
Holiday Lets	(235)	119	(116)	(193)	115	(78)	38	Booking/Income reduction
Glamping	(16)	13	(3)	(10)	10	0	3	Did not achieve net income target
Weddings	(70)	19	(51)	(63)	18	(45)	6	Did not achieve net income target
Filming	(1)	0	(1)	(2)	0	(2)	(1)	
Misc. Activities	(2)	3	1	(2)	3	1	0	
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>(1,055)</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,060)</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>Subsidy</b>								
Cornwall CC			0			45	45	
Plymouth CC			0			45	45	
<b>Total Deficit / (surplus)</b>			<b>0</b>			<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	

## 1.2 Commentary

The breakeven target budget, whereby circa £1m of income was budgeted to meet £1m of costs, was not achieved in 2023/24.

The £0.090m adverse variation is subsidised equally by Plymouth CC and Cornwall CC.

This £0.090m variation is largely due to increased energy and staff salary costs, reduced Holiday let income and one-off repair and maintenance cost pressures. Repairs and maintenance pressures include emergency sewage repair works and also the replacement of Play Equipment due to Health & Safety concerns.

## Section 2

### 2.1 Revenue budget 2024/25

Business Type	2024/25 Budget		
	Income	Expenditure	Net
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Staffing & Operations	(15)	637	622
House	(27)	62	35
Gardens	0	14	14
Grounds	(27)	158	131
Trading Activities:			
Alpacas	(9)	8	(1)
Conferences	(1)	1	0
Rents	(179)	45	(134)
Chalets	(387)	0	(387)
Parking	(108)	7	(101)
Special Events	(27)	14	(13)
Holiday Lets	(231)	125	(106)
Glamping	(16)	11	(5)
Weddings	(70)	15	(55)
Misc. Activities	(2)	3	1
Total Operations	(1,100)	1,100	0

### 2.2 Commentary

The joint authority subsidy was removed for 2022/23, and this will be the target ongoing.

Opportunities to maximise existing and future income streams for Mount Edgumbe continues.

The Mount Edgumbe team are to review achievement from commercial activities after the summer period and explore opportunities to maximise grant funding opportunities.

### **Section 3**

#### **3.1 Approved Capital Programme**

Project	Funding	Prior Year	2023/24	2024/25	Total
		£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Mount Edgcumbe Cremyll Car Park	Service Borrowing	75	0	0	<b>75</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Orangery Toilets	Service Borrowing & FOME Contribution	0	122	0	<b>122</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Play Park	FOME Contribution & Revenue Contribution	0	20	0	<b>20</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Deerfield Carriages	Service Borrowing	0	5	53	<b>58</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Marquee	Development Funding	0	0	20	<b>20</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Mower	Cap Receipts	0	9	0	<b>9</b>
Mount Edgcumbe Commercialisation	Service Borrowing	660	7	0	<b>667</b>

#### **3.2 Capital Commentary**

Mount Edgcumbe have a Capital Receipt available of £198k from the sale of a chalet. £9k of this was used for the purchase of a Mower, leaving £189k remaining for use. The Capital Receipt has been ringfenced to be used as match funding for a bid put forward for a new Marquee. £20k of Development Funding has been approved to cover the cost of works required to submit a grant funding bid for a new wedding marquee. If successful, the project will be financed by Grant and the remaining Cap Receipt. It must be noted that Development Funding has to be repaid once the grant bid is successful. If the project is unsuccessful, all costs related to the project will be classed as abortive costs and will be charged to revenue.

Approval was granted for works to begin on the Orangery Toilets in preparation for the 2024 wedding season. This project has been financed by £60k of Service Borrowing and a £60k contribution from the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe (FOME). The Service Borrowing repayments will be financed by the income generated from the weddings booked. It was decided that there would be a risk of loss of wedding bookings due to the current state of the Orangery Toilets.

Works have now begun on the Deerfield Carriages project. A horse has already been purchased and the stables have been built. This project has been fully financed by Service Borrowing with the loan repayments being paid for by the income generated from the Deerfield Carriage rides.

A new Play Park was installed in the Barrow Centre due to the previous equipment being deemed unsafe and unusable. The new Play Park is made from carbon fibre, meaning that the asset will have a longer life than the previous equipment which was made from wood. The project has been financed by a £8k contribution from FOME and the remaining £13k has come from a revenue contribution.

The Mount Edgcumbe Commercialisation and the Mount Edgcumbe Cremyll Car Park projects are now complete with the remaining Service Borrowing no longer being required. The forecast has now been reduced to reflect this with no further costs expected.

**Section 4****4.1 2024/25 Risk Register**

Risks are recorded below to reflect those activities that may happen and could affect the monitoring position.

<b>Mt Edgumbe financial risks</b>		<b>£'000s</b>
Achieving the 2024/25 target break-even budget	Risk based on breakeven target not having been achieved 2023/24.	tbc

**Section 5****5.1 Recommendations**

It is recommended that Joint Committee:

- Notes the financial position contained in the report along with the risks, issues and any mitigating actions.
- Notes the capital programme.

# **‘The Historic Park by the Sea for Everyone’**

## **An Inclusive Conservation Management Plan 2025-2035 for Mount Edgcumbe House & Country Park**

Summary Update for MECP Joint Committee 12 July 2024



# **CMP Phase 1 – Now Commissioned**

---

Includes surveys of all 'non formal' landscape and roofless historic built assets, full report and recommended priorities for ongoing management.

---

Land Use Consultants delivery partner.

---

MECP and Natural England will use to create Higher Tier Countryside Stewardship Agreement, including capital items and annual payments for sensitive land management.

---

£50,000 funding for Phase 1 secured from Natural England/RPA.

---

August 1 start date, draft by Dec/Jan, final report due by March 2025.

## **CMP Phase 2 – Commissioning Planned Autumn 2024**

---

EOI accepted by National Lottery Heritage Fund, full application in production (due to be submitted July 2024).

---

Will include surveys of formal gardens and historic buildings assets, desktop documentation review, community and stakeholder consultation, light-touch governance review, recommended vision and priorities, and full Conservation Management Plan as output.

---

Early consultation underway (via Let's Talk Cornwall website survey and Parish Council discussions)

---

Commissioning due November 2024 (subject to funding c.£50k), draft CMP due to Joint Committee Jun/July 2025, final version August 2025.

# ‘The Historic Park by the Sea for Everyone’

## An Inclusive Conservation Management Plan 2025-2035 for Mount Edgcumbe House & Country Park

- Building on the excellent work of the MECP team over recent years, an inclusive CMP will provide the basis for proactive and sensitive management and resourcing of MECP’s Grade 1 Listed Landscape, ***for the benefit of local communities and visitors for generations to come.***





# Mount Edgcumbe Country Park Survey

---

## **SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT**

10 December 2019 - 02 July 2024

### **PROJECT NAME:**

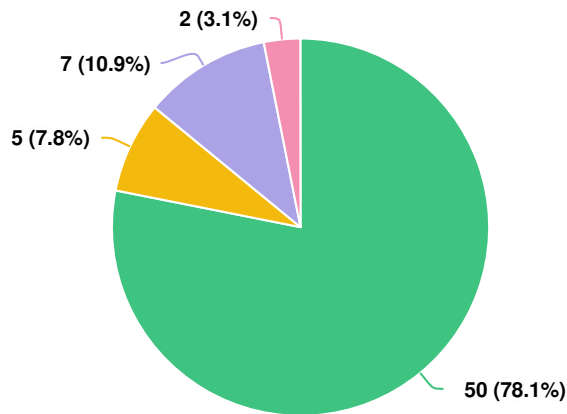
Mount Edgcumbe House & Country Park 'The Historic Park by the Sea for Everyone' - Preparing for a new Conservation Management Plan 2025-2035

---

# SURVEY QUESTIONS

---

**Q1** | Where are you from?

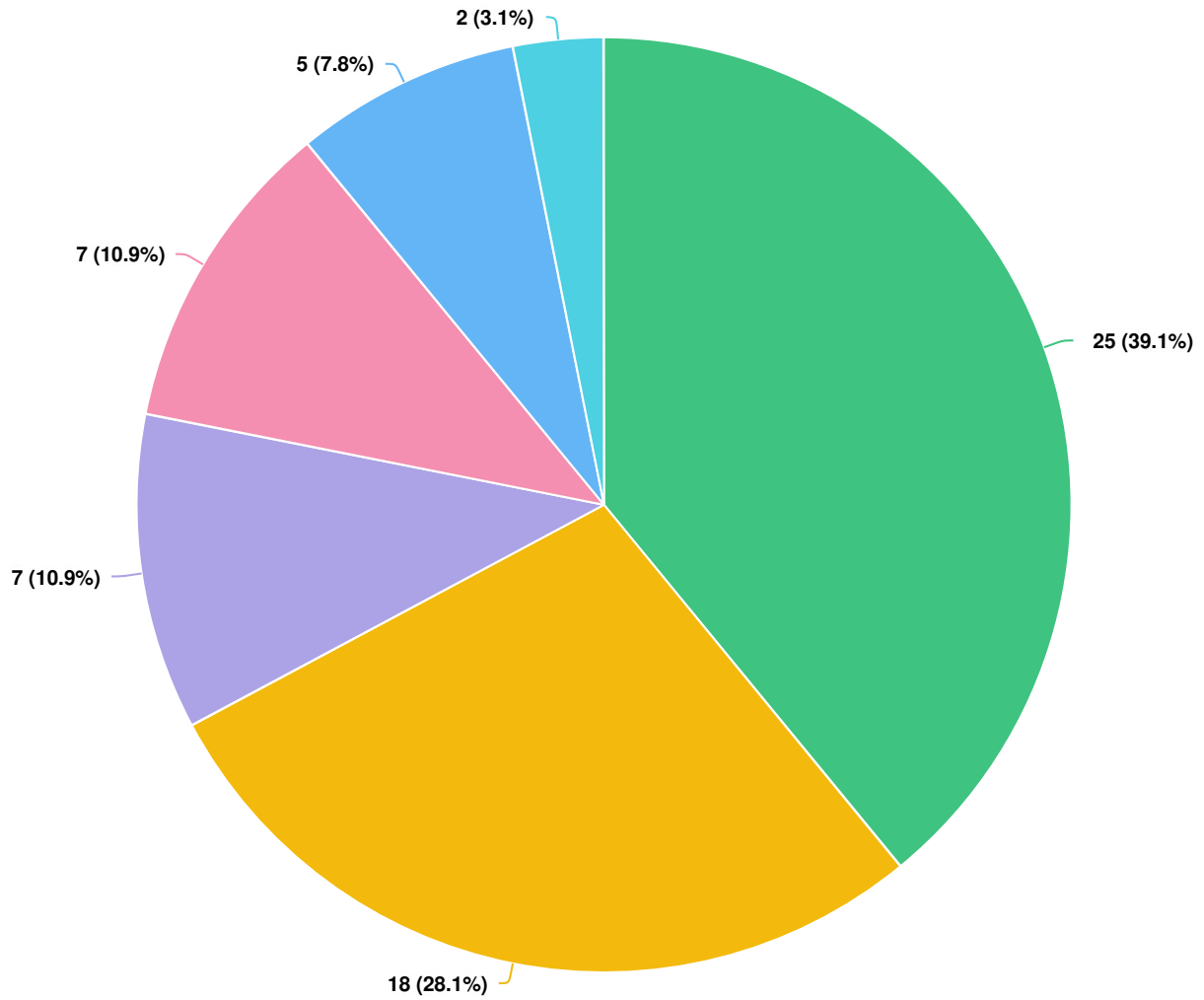


**Question options**

- Local resident to the area
- Elsewhere in Cornwall
- Outside of Cornwall
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (64 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q2** How often do you visit Mount Edgcumbe Country Park?

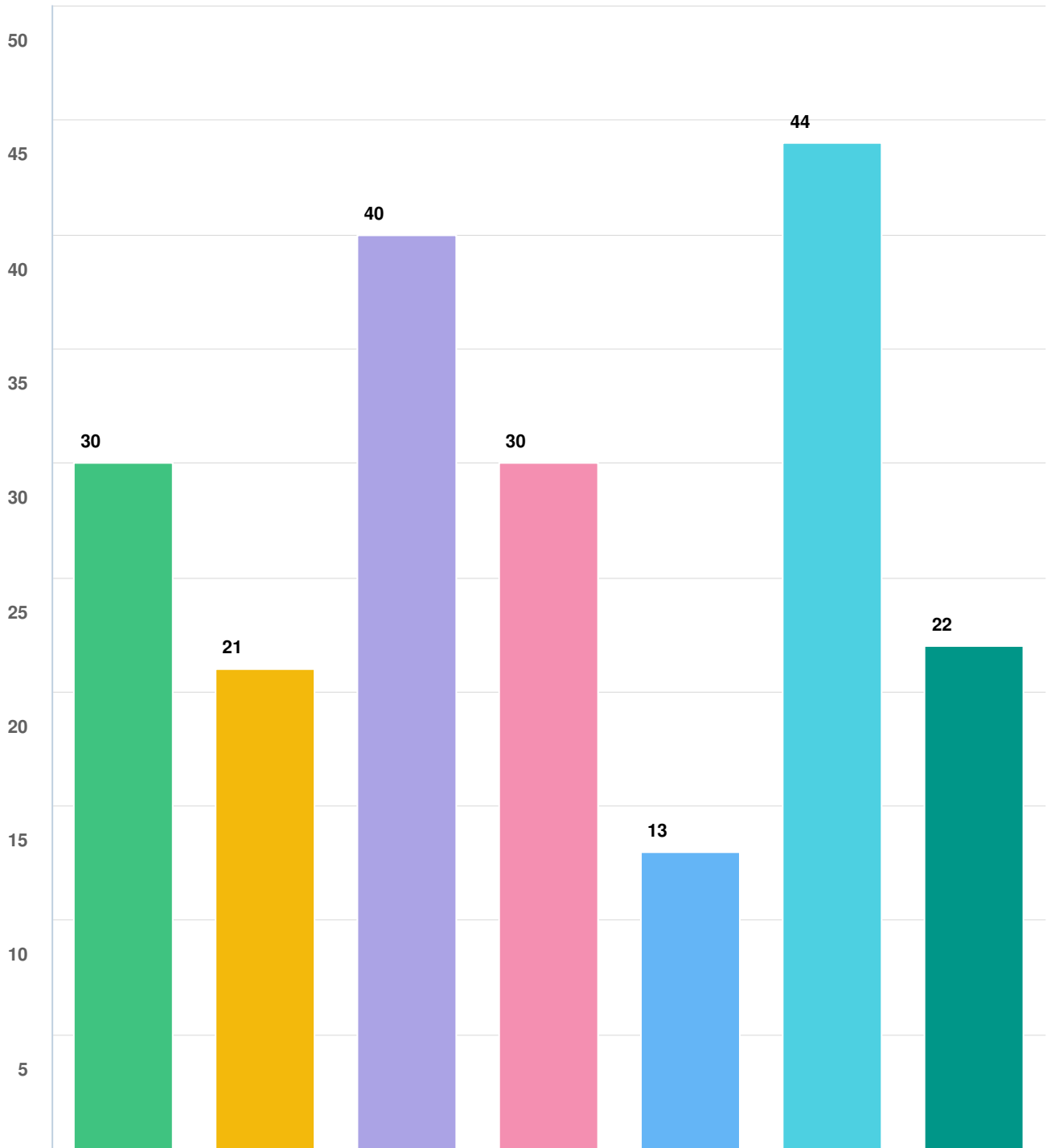


**Question options**

- Very Often (a few times a week or more)
- Fairly Often (a few times a month)
- Sometimes (once or twice a month)
- Not Very Often (once or twice every other month)
- Rarely (a few times a year)
- Less than once a year

Mandatory Question (64 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q3** What do you use the park for?

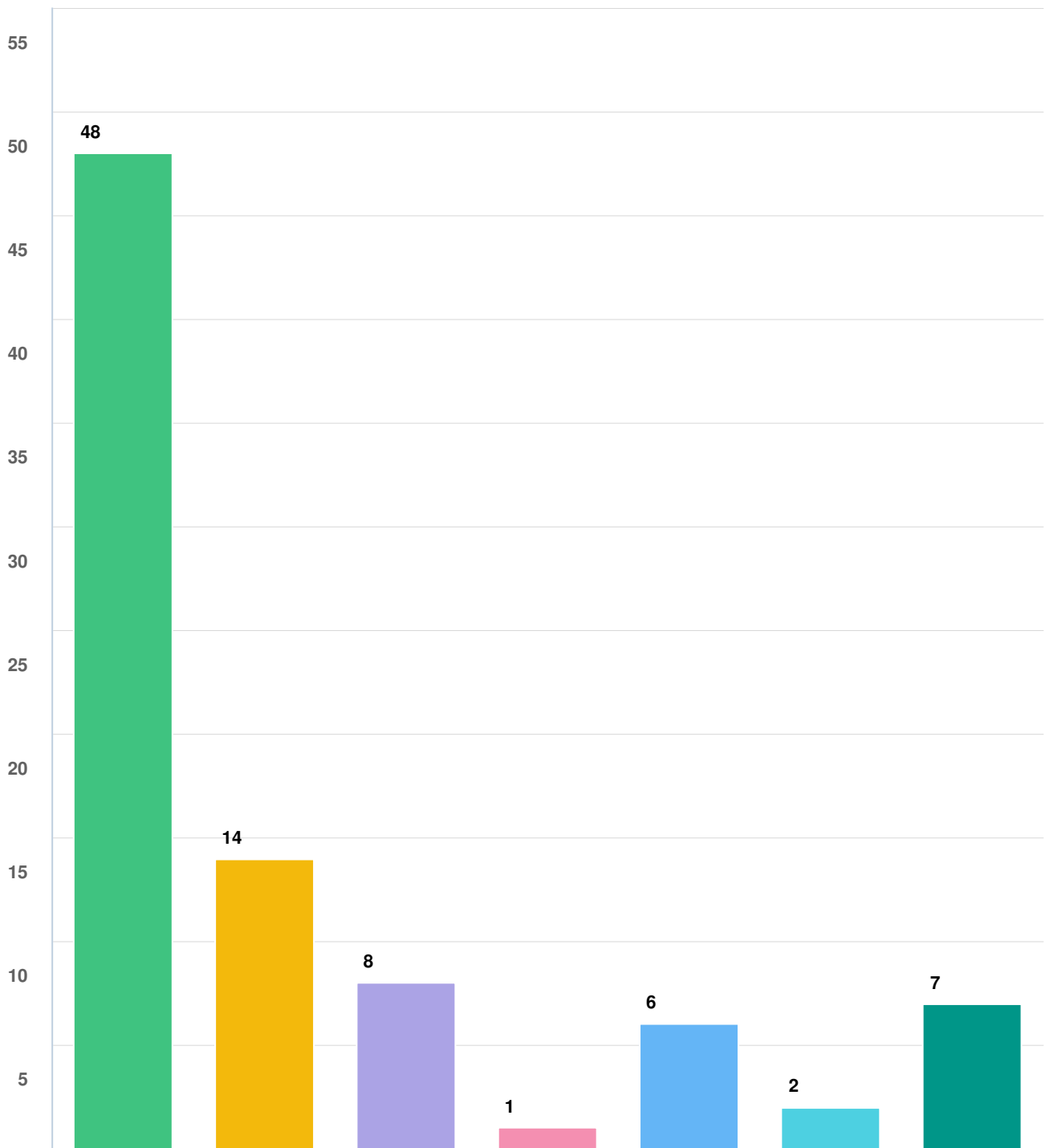


**Question options**

- Events
- Picnics
- Exercise
- Dog-walking
- Hobbies (photography etc)
- Spending time in nature
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (63 response(s))  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q4 What is your involvement with Mount Edgcumbe Country Park?**

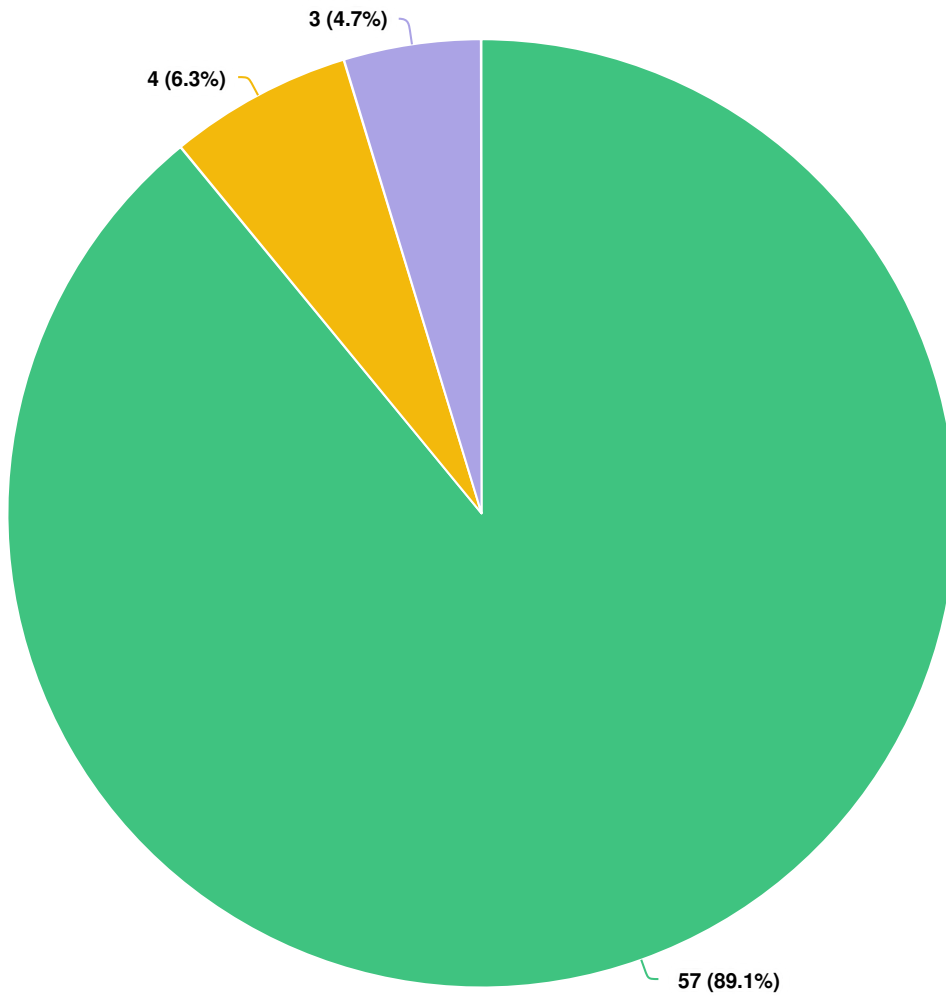


**Question options**

- Visitor
- Active volunteer/member of Friends of Mount Edgcumbe community group
- Local business
- Parish Council
- Other Local Authority
- Partner to the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (64 response(s))  
 Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q5** Should Mount Edgcumbe Country Park remain free for entry?

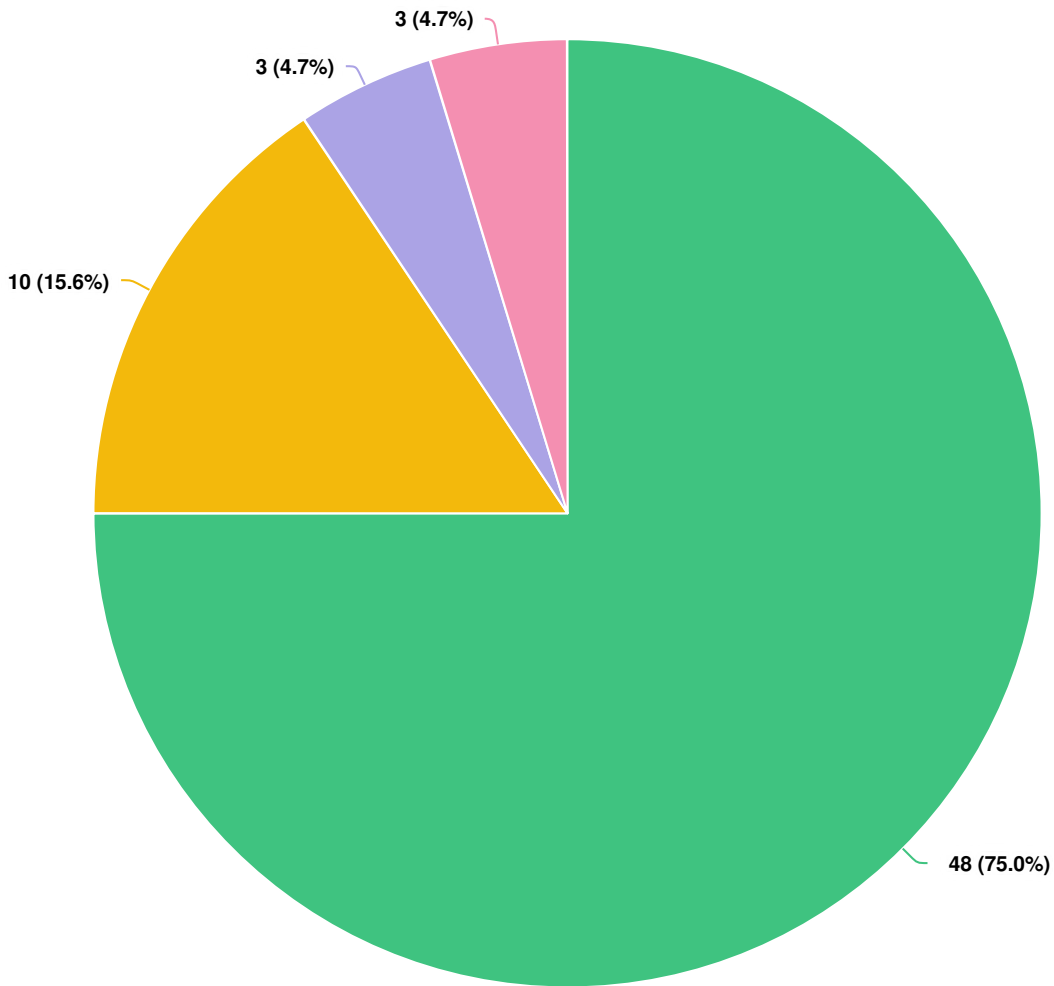


**Question options**

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know / Unsure

Mandatory Question (64 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q6** How much would you be happy to pay for entry?



**Question options**

- £0
- £1-5
- £5-10
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (64 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question



**Q7 | What do you think should be the top priorities for the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park management team in the next ten years? Please rank your options 1-14, from most to least important**

<b>OPTIONS</b>	<b>AVG. RANK</b>
Maintaining and enhancing the historic buildings and landscape	4.30
Gardens and habitats	4.34
Wildlife and biodiversity	4.80
Education & Green Skills	6.91
Inclusion and engagement with local communities	7.39
Supporting local businesses and employment opportunities	7.61
Combined fundraising & revenue generation to maintain a 'cost-neutral' budget	7.61
Fundraising for major projects	7.83
Volunteering programmes	7.97
Interpretation & visitor experience	8.16
Climate change (adaption, mitigation and carbon reduction)	8.33
Events	8.84
High quality commercial activities (weddings, retail, pop-ups, etc)	9.92
Communications and media	11.00

*Mandatory Question (64 response(s))*

*Question type: Ranking Question*

This page is intentionally left blank

# Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee



Date of meeting:	12 July 2024
Title of Report:	<b>Park Activity to July 2024</b>
Lead Member:	Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader of Plymouth City Council, and Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Chris Burton (Park Manager)
Contact Email:	chris.burton@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	N/A
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

## **Purpose of Report**

The report provides an update on activities in the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park from November 2023 to July 2024.

## **Recommendations and Reasons**

The Joint Committee will be asked to note the update.

## **Alternative options considered and rejected**

N/A

## **Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan**

In line with the Council's priorities, the Park provides a vibrant cultural offer, as well as 'green investment, jobs, skills, and better education'.

## **Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:**

N/A

## **Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:**

N/A

## **Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:**

N/A

**Appendices**

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Park Activity Report							

**Background papers:**

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Sign off:**

Fin	DJN. 24.2 5.03 4	Leg	LS/0 0003 612/ 1/LB/ 04/0 7/24	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Anthony Payne Date agreed: 02/07/2024											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jemima Laing, approved via email. Date approved: 04/07/2024											

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report informs members of the works and activities conducted since Nov 2023.

## 2.0 Park Matters

- 2.1 **The grants are rolling in...** This year, the Park has generated almost £1.4 million of fundraised income. This is an amazingly successful achievement by any standards and my thanks goes out to the team here who have helped deliver this. The above amount includes £942,000 for the Garden Battery, £330,000 for the English Garden House an expected £50,000 for the PAI Countryside Stewardship plan for the Deer Park and £60,000 from the Friends of Mount Edgcombe Country Park (FOMECP) for the Orangery toilets.

This has all been achieved through working with our partners at Historic England, Natural England and our supporting charity FOMECP. The fundraising environment is particularly challenging given the competition for funds and demonstrates that we have significant in-house skills in bid writing and delivery. We are now moving from a phase of financial resilience, gained by developing commercially but sensitively with our statutory partners to one of planning for the future. To this end, a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) is being developed in two phases and Phase I has now been commissioned (see separate slides on CMP). The overarching document will provide strategic direction and incorporate elements of the many other management plans the Park has. A consultant, Land Use Consultancy, has now been appointed and will work on Phase I of the plan over the forthcoming months. They will ensure that the relevant statutory bodies and the public are involved in the consultation process.

- 2.2 The Park will continue to be free to enter as it is obliged to be under its designation as a Country Park. It will continue to offer a vibrant offer to visitors including health & well-being activities e.g. kicking a ball around to the study of 18<sup>th</sup> century paintings. We are a Park for all to enjoy. Trip Advisor is a great system for finding out what visitors actually think and value. In the past two years, we have been awarded one of the top 10% of venues in the world, this is a major achievement.
- 2.3 The Park is committed to building in climate resilience and this will form part of the Conservation Management Plan. We will be looking at how we provide services such as water and heating as well as how we 'future proof' our gardens and landscape. This may involve projects such as looking at the reinstallation of the water storage system in the formal gardens and investigating alternative energy provision for the House and Barrow Centre. Climate resilience also plays a role in how we adapt planting regimes and manage future landscapes. The Park Management has been working with the Net Zero Delivery Team at PCC to explore options for the future.
- 2.4 The Park has been working closely with Natural England and Historic England in producing an application for Higher Level Stewardship that will go forward this year. This will provide a ten-year plan for the historic grade one listed landscape, taking note of both the nature conservation and importance of the historic buildings in the Park and providing funding on an annual basis for the management of this asset.
- 2.5 Work has been completed on the internal refurbishment of the Orangery WCs, this has provided modern WCs which are easy to maintain and can be divided when the Orangery restaurant holds wedding receptions. WCs are an important part of the visitor experience. We are very grateful to the FOMECP for funding 50% of this refurbishment.
- 2.6 The Park has had over 500 volunteer days in this reporting period. We value the role that volunteers play in the life of The Park. They support work in a range of activities from working at events, working with the Rangers, working with the Gardeners and driving the buggy.

### 3.0 Natural Infrastructure

- 3.1 The Park now has a fully trained forestry horse called Duchy she will be working with the Ranger Team to extract wood and help manage the woodlands according to the woodland management plan. She is able to sensitively manage woodlands for amenity rather than commercial forestry by getting into places where otherwise clear fell would be needed to get a tractor or machine in. The rangers have completed a weeklong training course on basic operations and will undertake more training as their skills develop. Horses would have been a very active part of this Estate in the past and it is a real pleasure to see them working in the landscape again.
- 3.2 The Park has been a venue for training courses hosted by Natural England looking at our world class assemblage of Wax Cap fungi. To put this into context to be internationally important a site has to have 22 species we have 28 so far identified in the Park. We have a species which is on the IUCN red list and another that is threatened with global extinction. A species-specific management plan is underway to help the Park manage this very important habitat.
- 3.3 The Woodland Management Plan has recommended in many instances the thinning out and opening up of woodland areas in order to improve floral diversity. This work has already started and will be aided by the addition of the forestry trained horse that will be able to help with selective felling a removal of timber.
- 3.4 New technology plays an increasing role in land management. As a daily part of their work the rangers continue to use 'I Naturalist' to record species/observations on the Park along with portable devices through the Alloy System that record tree health, fence conditions, landslips and all matter of other issues in a 865 acre Park. One of our rangers is completing a Civil Aviation Authority registered training course in drone flying and will be able to use this tool to cover a large park more effectively and also areas such as cliffs that may not be safe to visit on foot.
- 3.5 A major undertaking for the Ranger team has been deer fencing of the Deer Park. This has included the building of several new gates and deer leaps. This work has been boosted by help from Royal Navy recruits through a partnership with Secure Forests and HMS Raleigh. The fence is heading towards completion now with an aim to complete by Autumn 2024. A deer census took place this winter, in order to assess population and inform management. There has been a deer herd at the Park since 1515 and it is an integral part of the landscape. The existing deer fence was in a very poor state for many years. A further kilometre over very difficult ground has been completed since the last report.
- 3.6 The meadow area that was subject to a fire two years ago has now fully recovered and has been seeded with a wildflower mix (kindly sponsored by the Bee Group) it is now home to a much more diverse range of species. We continue to harvest and seed Yellow Rattle expanding their area from the East meadow by the main house.
- 3.7 Wildflower seeds and plugs have also been planted along the Great Hedge bank and the west side of the main avenue, in an effort to increase diversity and wildlife were practical in a formal park setting. This has meant changing the mowing regimes to show that sites are being deliberately left as part of a wildlife area and not just left uncut.
- 3.8 Ash Die Back surveys will be completed again this summer with a view to directing future woodland work in the winter season, trees that need to be felled will be removed and those that are infected monitored for the level of infection. It is a sad fact that we will lose many of the ash trees, but these will be replaced where possible with other species. All the major Estates are struggling with this at the moment.
- 3.9 The Bee Apiary has had an update on the viewing area completed, with some fascinating close ups of bee structures added in the information section, along with further improvements to the work area for the beekeepers. New interpretation panels are under way. This work was

funded through the National Lottery. The primary function of the Apiary is to provide queens and further increase the native Black Bee population. Honey is a tasty by product.

- 3.10 Watch house field continues to be grazed over the winter by Dartmoor ponies a process that has been going on for many years now, this helps maintain floral diversity and keep back the scrub. The Park is also building a conservation grazing herd of Jacobs sheep that will graze throughout the wider estate.
- 3.11 Rhododendron removal continues to take place throughout the Park, with a particular focus on the Penlee area over this winter.

#### **4.0 Heritage Infrastructure,**

- 4.1 We have received a grant from DEFRA under the (FIPL) Farming in Protected Landscapes grant, and match funding from the English Heritage and the FOMECP that will allow us to restore the roof on English Garden House. This will protect the building and allow future works to preserve and repair the inside of the building. English Garden House a Grade 2 listed 17<sup>th</sup> Century Bath house is one of the most important buildings in the Park and this grant of £320,000 will go a long way to helping preserve this building for future generations.
- 4.2 The Garden Battery has been formally awarded £942,000 this year as part of the National Marine Park New Horizons lottery funding. Initial surveys are taking place and work will commence in 2025 following consultation with statutory bodies and the public. This is a fantastic opportunity to protect and enhance a building that has not had any use since WW2 and has fallen into disrepair. It will be used to tell the story of Mount Edgcumbe and its role in defending Plymouth Sound as well as many other stories. It will also provide the Park with another free to enter interpretive space as well as a venue.
- 4.3 New planting on the East lawn formal beds has taken place using species that are both drought and pest tolerant in order to have a formal garden that will be climate and pest resilient for years to come. We shall be investigating the Victorian/Edwardian water infrastructure with a view to updating it and reusing it to capture water and supply the gardens once more. Obviously over the years its lead piping infrastructure has disappeared, but its water tanks remain in situ.
- 4.4 The National Camellia Collection is receiving some maintenance work along with creation of a new trail and supporting guide as part of a project with a student placement. The existing trail has many defunct pathways and new plantings since its original inception. The interpretation will also need replacing as it is somewhat out of date.
- 4.5 The forthcoming Countryside Stewardship application will further develop an asset register and a list of priorities for the non roofed heritage assets (such as seats and follies) in and around the Deer Park and allow further funding to be accessed for maintenance and repair, this review of heritage assets will form the backbone of the work carried out by the newly appointed consultants over the next few months. The forthcoming Conservation Management Plan will prioritise and direct work for the remaining roofed structures.
- 4.6 Work on the main House has included roof restoration work on all four turrets along with drainage improvements to help cope with sudden large downpours that are now an all too regular occurrence as the climate changes.
- 4.7 The maintenance team have carried out minor repair works to Stone Seat and Red Seat as well as repairs to the Shell Seat in the Earl's Garden.

## 5.0 The Main House

- 5.1 The Main House has a good start to the season and has had positive Trip Advisor reviews since we adopted a guided tour approach to House visits. This also allows us to have the minimum of staff doing the tours as there are no unaccompanied visitors to the house. This year we have had a single steward with supplementary help from the head of team for cruise parties and pre booked tours.
- 5.2 The ever popular 'Dressing up room' has several new costumes that will further encourage people to dress up and have fun based around the Tudor period.
- 5.3 The Blitz exhibition has proved very popular this year. We have made a few minor changes to the layout and included new artefacts. The recent 'bomb' incident in Plymouth played a role in highlighting this interesting part of Plymouth's history. The Ginger beer display has also received a favourable response.

## 6.0 Formal Gardens and Lower Park

- 6.1 Maintaining the Formal Gardens with only three Gardeners is always a challenge as there are over 90 acres to deal with. Much of the work is day to day maintenance and runs on a seasonal rotation of preparation, manuring, planting and cutting (over 4km of hedges!) The FOMECP help with the display of bedding in both the Italian and French Gardens through funding the bedding plants each year. Volunteers have played a key role in maintaining the gardens particularly since covid as groups based around work such as EE and Department of Pensions have spent many volunteer days helping the Gardeners.
- 6.2 Students from Arts University Plymouth, formerly Plymouth College of Arts, have added their exhibits for the 2024 season in and around the formal gardens, this long-term partnership is valuable both for the Park as it adds to the offer but also for the students who learn what does and does not work in the public art sphere.
- 6.3 The Winter season was very mild and wet and has caused a particular problem with 'Box Blight' a fungal disease that kills box hedges of which there are a number in the Park these hedges form part of the formal garden architecture. The Gardeners have been treating for this serious condition and early signs show that the treatment has been successful. This issue shows however how important climate resilience is to future maintenance and planting regimes.
- 6.4 Formal park benches throughout the Park have been taken in and repaired in rotation and most have now been repaired and painted. We have received three rather grand Victorian seats from Plymouth that are now installed around the Park after refurbishment, The grandest of which now sits in the Earl's Garden.
- 6.5 The Bee apiary continues to flourish and has seen the addition of extra facilities for the bee keepers as well as improved interpretation we have around 10 hives that produce queens that we then relocate to hives within Cornwall and Devon to spread the Cornish Black Bee populations.

## 7.0 Events

- 7.1 The Events calendar is just starting and will be reported on at the next meeting please see below the list of events.
- 16 December 2023 (Saturday) – **Wild Running** – Night Run – evening event - operator led (Lower Park)
  - 25 and 26 May (Saturday and Sunday) – **Green Man** (Chapel Lands and Lower Park – 9th year)



- Sat/Sun 1 and 2 June – **Caribbean Weekend** – Barrow Field - Ms Ivy Events (Sat 12.00 – 22:30 music, food and bar – Sun 10.30 – 16.00)
- 7th July (Sunday) – **Mount Edgcombe Triathlon** – 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- 08– 11 July (Monday – Thursday) **Plymouth School Sports Partnership**
- 20 and 21 July (Saturday and Sunday) – 20<sup>th</sup> July **Street Food Festival** 12:00 – 20:00 / 21<sup>st</sup> July **Bubbles Festival**
- 20 – 28<sup>th</sup> July – **Armchair Adventure Festival**
- 4 – 8 August – Motor Caravanners Club South West Peninsula Group – camping in the Deer Park around Maker
- 4 August (Sunday) – **Classic Car Rally**(FOMECP and CHC - 27<sup>th</sup> year)
- 14 and 15 August **Plymouth Fireworks Display**
- 24 and 25 August – Ms Ivy events – **Folk Festival**
- 8 September (Sunday) – **Sept Doggy Summer Fete** – Miss Ivy
- 7 and 8 September (Saturday and Sunday) – **Sealed Knot**
- 29 September (Thursday) - House closed (open every Sunday throughout the winter season)
- 27 October (Sunday) – Ms Ivy Events: **Halloween Hunt** (Barrow Centre to Orangery 20<sup>th</sup> year)
- PRE-LIGHT – Folly every evening 4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December

## 8.0 Business Development

- 8.1 The Park has individual Business Plans for each of its individual business streams that are approved as part of the capital loans programme by PCC. The main income streams will form part of the Conservation Management Plan that will be worked on in 2024.
- 8.2 The Park continues to benefit from its holiday let portfolio which at present seems to be bucking the national trend. We now have nine holiday lets and hope to add more perhaps developing current Gardeners' accommodation and relocating them.
- 8.3 The Park has submitted capital bids for the development of the wedding marquee and has received capital funding through the sale of a chalet. The Park is in discussions with Historic England about possible designs for the new marquee.
- 8.4 Alpaca trekking is proving to be very popular. Some of our best Trip Advisor reviews centre on this activity. One real pleasure has been the partnership with the 'Wilder Me' TIC an autism charity who have used our alpacas as therapy animals on several occasions. This rather unusual way to see the Park and hear its stories is proving successful at engaging new audiences who have never visited the Park before.
- 8.5 Car parking will be reviewed this year with view to increasing hourly rates. We do this on a five yearly basis rather than yearly because the process is slow and onerous and take up to 6 months to complete as well as attracting costs.
- 8.6 There will be a review of rents this year in partnership with Land and Properties Team of PCC.
- 8.7 This year's wedding season will see 8 marquee receptions and 25 house ceremonies proving to be a successful year despite the challenges faced with a degraded marquee, and the cost-of-living crisis. All told that is a similar year to last year.

## 9.0 Summary

- 9.1 The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) will be a big bit of work this year and will encompass and update the many management plans that we have at present. It will provide direction and set priorities for the next ten years. The draft of Phase 1 we anticipate will be ready at the end of the financial year, March 2025, with Phase 2 completing by the summer of

2025 (subject to funding). It is important to note that a CMP needs to be robust and comprehensive document and takes time and money to deliver well.

- 9.2 The Park still has a backlog of infrastructure works to complete and maintenance issues that will need to be dealt with, these may impact on the budget and the Park will require additional funds from fundraised and earned income alongside the support of CC and PCC in future years. Any commercial development opportunities must be sympathetic to the Park's status as a grade one listed landscape.

**MOUNT EDGCUMBE JOINT COMMITTEE**

Tracking Decisions Log 2024 - 25



**Please note that the Tracking Decisions Log is a 'live' document and subject to change at short notice.**

For general enquiries relating to this Committee, please contact Plymouth Democratic Support, on 01752 398261

Meeting Date	Resolution	Officer Responsible	Response
Friday 10 November 2023	<p>Requested to be provided with further information on how to refer someone to the Secure Forests programme;</p> <p>Requested Officers ensure that relevant contacts within Cornwall Council were passed to Secure Forests, to facilitate ongoing support and signposting;</p>	<p>Richard Pyshorn</p> <p>Dan Cooke</p>	<p>Richard Pyshorn was placed in touch with relevant Cornwall Council officers (meeting held with Annie Surtees in Forest 4 Cornwall team and details provided to the Managers &amp; Chair of Tamar Valley and Cornwall National Landscapes)</p>
Friday 10 November 2023	<p>Recommended that Plymouth and Cornwall Councils instruct officers to produce a strategic management and development plan for the Mount Edgcombe Country Park. To be renewed every five years;</p> <p>Recommend that the Cabinets of Plymouth and Cornwall Councils approve the Strategic Management and Development Plan by the end of 2024, and that an interim update on the progress is brought to the next Joint Committee Meeting in July 2024;</p> <p>Recommended that the Cabinets of Plymouth and Cornwall Councils review the Mount Edgcombe Joint Committee's Terms of Reference, and update accordingly to reflect pertinent changes;</p> <p>Add the Strategic Management and Development Plan as a standing item on this Joint Committee's agenda, to monitor performance and progress against these plans.</p>	<p>Chris Burton, Councillor Jemima Laing, Elliot Wearne-Gould</p>	<p>Phase I of the Strategic Management and Development Plan (CMP) has been commissioned, and public consultation is underway.</p> <p>The Terms of reference have been updated in draft however, it would not be appropriate to introduce them until the Strategic Management and Development Plan is in place.</p> <p>The Strategic Management and Development Plan has been added as a standing item on this Committee's work programme.</p>

Friday 10 November 2023	<p>Agreed to support the principle and proposed terms for a new Off Street Parking Order, as set out in the report;</p> <p>Recommended to the appropriate Cornwall Council Cabinet Member, that Cornwall Council revokes the 'Cornwall Council Off-street Parking Places at Mount Edgumbe Country Park Order 2018', and introduces a new 'Off-street Parking Places at Mount Edgumbe Country Park Order 2024', on the terms set out in the report.</p>	Chris Burton Councillor Richard Williams- Pears Elliot Wearne- Gould	All parties have now signed off the car parking proposal and its been submitted to Strategic Director Phil Mason for individual decision – approval expected imminently –
24 July 2023	The JC agreed to request that the NMP project team return at regular intervals during the delivery stage to update on the progress of the project and request that any future briefings include Cornwall Councillors who's wards border the National Marine Park.	Kat Denney (Head of Environmental Planning)	<p>Cornwall Councillors have received briefings on the National Marine Park since the funding bid was successful.</p> <p>All future briefings will be made available to relevant Cornwall Councillors as requested.</p> <p>An update will be tabled for the July 2024 meeting.</p>

The following relates to exempt or confidential matters (Para(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Govt Act 1972). A breach of confidentiality could prejudice the Council/person/body concerned & might amount to a breach of the councillors /employees codes of conduct.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank