

#### Oversight and Governance

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

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# Mount EDGCUMBE JOINT COMMITTEE

Date: Friday 8 August 2025

Time: 10.00 am

Place: Belvedere Room, Mount Edgcumbe

#### **Committee Members-**

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

Councillors Briars-Delve (Co-Chair), Blight, Gilmour, Allison, Morton, Wood and S.Nicholson

## **Cornwall Councillors-**

Councillors Parsonage, Rich, Dennis, German, Candy, Gibbons and Ewert

## Co-opted Members-

Mr D. L. Richards, Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park, Natural England, Cornwall National Landscape and Maker with Rame Parish Council.

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 – <u>Get Involved</u>

Tracey Lee and Kate Kennally Joint Clerks

# MOUNT EDGCUMBE JOINT COMMITTEE

#### **AGENDA**

#### I. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for non-attendance submitted by Joint Committee Members.

#### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members will be asked to make any declarations of interest in respect of items on this agenda.

# 3. APPOINTMENT OF CO-CHAIRS FOR THE 2025-26 MUNICIPAL YEAR

The Joint Committee will be asked to note the appointment of Councillor Briars-Delve as Plymouth's Co-Chair, and appoint a Co-Chair from Cornwall for the 2025-26 Municipal Year.

#### 4. CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS

To receive reports on business, which in the opinion of the Chair, should be brought forward for urgent consideration.

5. MINUTES (Pages I - I2)

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2024 as a correct record.

## 6. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To receive questions from member of the public in accordance with the Constitution.

#### 7. CO-OPTED MEMBER UPDATE

(Verbal Report)

The Joint Committee will be asked to consider the co-option of representatives from Millbrook Parish Council, and consider other pertinent updates.

8. Park Report: (Pages 13 - 22)

9. Development Manager's Report: (Verbal Report)

10. Mount Edgcumbe Fire Damage Options Appraisal: (To Follow)

11. Finance Monitoring Report: (Pages 23 - 30)

12. Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Report: (Pages 31 - 32)

13. Action Log: (Pages 33 - 34)

#### 14. EXEMPT BUSINESS

To consider passing 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(s) of business on the grounds that it (they) involve(s) the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph(s) 1/2/3/4/5/6/7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## **PART II (PRIVATE MEETING)**

#### MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO NOTE

That under the law, the Panel is entitled to consider certain items in private. Members of the public will be asked to leave the meeting when such items are discussed.

15. PART II MINUTES

(Pages 35 - 36)

To agree the Part 11 Minutes of 15 November 2024 as a correct record.

16. Tenancy Update:

(Pages 37-41)

17. Business Planning:

(To Follow)

## **ANNUAL INSPECTION**

Please note, the Annual Inspection of the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park and House will take place at the conclusion of this meeting.



# **Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee**

## Friday 15 November 2024

#### PRESENT:

Councillor Ewert, in the Chair.

Councillor Briars-Delve, Co-Chair.

Councillors Lennox-Boyd, Pascoe, Tivnan, Worth, Allison, Morton, Ms Watkin, Wood and Penrose (Substitute for Councillor Blight).

Co-opted Representatives: Mr D L Richards and Mr Ben Church.

Apologies for absence: Councillors Blight, Alvey, Gilmour and Seeva.

Also in attendance: Chris Burton (Park Manager), David Marshall (Business Development Manager), Victoria Pomery (CEO, The Box), Jozef Lewis (Lead Accountant), Sharon Mercer (Head of Strategic Programmes), Tamsin Daniel (Heritage Services Manager), Michaela Barwell (Natural England), Coralie Barrow (Cornwall National Landscape), Councillor Rebecca Lingard (Maker with Rame Parish Council).

The meeting started at 10.04 am and finished at 12.23 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.

#### 18. **Declarations of Interest**

There were two declarations of interest:

Member	Interest	Description
Councillor Briars-Delve	Private (Registered)	Member of the National
		Marine Park Horizons
		Board
Councillor Tivnan	Other-Registerable Interest	Member of the Friends of
		Mount Edgcumbe

#### 19. **Minutes**

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2024 as a correct record.

#### 20. Chair's Urgent Business

The Chair advised the Committee that due to a technical error, 'Questions from Members of the Public' had been omitted from the agenda. Four Public Questions had been received for today's meeting.

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to respond to these questions under Chairs Urgent Business.

Question I	As mentioned in the minutes of the July 2024 meeting, trees in the Park are under significant pressure of disease. Is replanting with more resilient species underway or planned? If so, what is the time-frame for replanting? Which species are being used and in what quantities?
Answer I	Thank you for your question Adapting to climate change and diseases presents a considerable financial and labour challenge for the Park, and has been particularly prominent in the past few years. As a result, the Park has undertaken significant work to replant effected areas, and begun a transition to planting climate resilient species. Over the past 3 years, around 2,000 trees have been planted across several areas of woodland in the Park, including two plantations in the Deer Park, an area in Picklecombe Valley, and the replanting of avenue trees and felled trees in the lower park. The species planted have been Beech, Oak, Sweet Chestnut, Hornbeam, Wild Cherry, Limes, Birch, Field Maple, Rowan, and Holly. We, along with the rest of the country, are suffering from Ash Die Back. The Park undertakes a yearly Ash Die Back survey in the months of June and July, before removing or pollarding infected trees where they may be at high risk of causing injury or damage to property. Those of low risk are left in the hope that they maybe resilient or become resilient to the disease. Some areas of ash will be left to naturally regenerate, while others will be re-planted with the above mentioned species. Unfortunately, it is anticipated that this will be an ongoing project as climate change and disease continually adapt, presenting new challenges.
Question 2	What is the current status of the draft Conservation Management Plan for Mount Edgcumbe Country Park?
Answer 2	Thank you for your question. Phase one surveys conducted by LandUse Consultants are underway and are nearing completion. These will form part of the PAI application for Countryside Stewardship as well as informing the CMP. With regards to the over-arching Conservation Management Plan (Phase 2): An Expression of Interest was submitted by Cornwall Council on behalf of the Joint Committee to the NLHF in April 2024 and we received permission to submit an application within 12 months; A draft application has been developed by the officer working group which has been informed by the preparation of a brief for the CMP and two estimates received; Cornwall Council and Plymouth City Council will now be taking the decision to apply to the NLHF through their respective approval processes, including the requirement for both councils to provide a minimum of 10% match funding; Our ambition is that we will have all the necessary approvals and match funding in place by January 2025, allowing us to submit the application to the NLHF; The NLHF decision will be 3 months after the submission of the application and if we are successful, we will then go out to tender for the CMP in April/May 2025 for the work to commence in the summer; We anticipate that the CMP may require 9-12 months to complete to allow sufficient time for public consultation.

Question 3	In 2023/24 'rents' produced 18 per cent of net trading income. In the interest of transparency, can the Joint Committee provide a breakdown of this figure (e.g. catering, office accommodation, shops, grazing, Cremyll ferry etc.)?
Answer 3	Thank you for your question. These figures requested are commercially sensitive information, and are restricted under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act – 'information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any legal person (an individual, a company, the public authority itself or any other legal entity'.
Question 4	In light of the obligations and responsibilities under the 'Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (2023)', how has the MEJC/MECP/PCC been- and/or is CURRENTLY making progress in securing the protected SSSI status at Rame Head, 'in a proactive, methodical manner, and as a priority for MECP and the wider community'?
Answer 4	Thank you for your question. The conservation and appropriate management of the SSSI at Rame Head is of upmost priority to both Park management and the Joint Committee. Since the removal of the grazing ponies earlier this year, we are aware of a number of complaints raised by members of the public and ongoing concerns towards the condition of the site. Mount Edgcumbe Country Park (MECP) has acted proactively to arrange meetings with the relevant parties, and remains in contact with both Natural England and the tenant farmer. The responsibility for the management of the SSSI habitat at Rame Head rests with any occupier (tenant) of the land, and its designation and monitoring is the responsibility of Natural England. MECP has requested the restoration of appropriate grazing at the site to ensure appropriate long-term habitat management, and will continue to negotiate for this. Natural England are aware of the removal of the ponies and concerns regarding degradation to the site. As the body responsible for designating and monitoring SSSIs, they can be contacted at DevonCornwallandIslesofScilly@naturalengland.org.uk.'

## 21. **Co-opted Membership**

Elliot Wearne-Gould (Democratic Advisor) delivered the Co-opted Membership Update to the Joint Committee, and discussed:

- a) At the last meeting in July 2024, the Joint Committee agreed to extend invitations to relevant organisations and bodies, to nominate individuals for co-opted membership to the Joint Committee;
- b) Co-opted members were appointed for four year periods, reviewed annually;
- c) Co-opted members were treated as non-voting members in accordance with Section 13 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;

- d) Invitations had been sent to Natural England, Historic England, Cornwall National Landscape, Maker With Rame Parish Council, and Millbrook Parish Council;
- e) Organisations were able to nominate more than one representative for co-option however, only one member was eligible to attend per meeting;
- f) The following nominations had been received:

Natural England	Michaela Barwell
Historic England	Declined
Cornwall National Landscape	Emma Browning & Coralie Barrow
Maker With Rame Parish Council	Rebecca Lingard & Lin Stewart Birch
Millbrook Parish Council	Awaiting Response

Following introductory presentations from the nominees, the Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to coopt the following members to the Joint Committee:

Michaela Barwell	Natural England					
Emma Browning & Coralie Barrow	Cornwall National Landscape					
Rebecca Lingard & Lin Stewart Birch	Maker With Rame Parish Council					

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to request that a training and introductory session was arranged for the newly co-opted members.

## 22. Finance Report

Jozef Lewis (Lead Accountant) delivered the Mount Edgcumbe Budget Monitoring Report for 2024/25, and discussed:

- a) An adverse quarterly position of £80,000 was reported, forecast to be funded equally between Plymouth and Cornwall Councils;
- b) The adverse variation was primarily attributed to energy price pressures, reduced holiday let income, and parking pressures. Over the past three years, salary costs had increased £90,000, and energy costs had increased by £40,000;
- c) There remained a cost neutral budget expectation for Mount Edgcumbe Country Park. As annual cost pressures increased, the Park was expected to match these pressures with additional revenue generation or cost savings;
- d) Collaborative work was ongoing in relation to Capital Programme projects. Work had been completed on the Orangery toilets, and the English Garden House project was in progress;
- e) The primary ongoing risk to the 24/25 budget was a further increase in the adverse variation. As of Q2, the repairs and maintenance budget had been exhausted, resulting in six months of risk for further expenditure.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- f) Potential financial implications of the recent National Insurance increase. It was unclear if the financial settlement would be increased, or if other funding streams would be put in place by Government to compensate for this increase;
- g) The harsh financial impact of the Covid Pandemic and Cost of Living for the Park, particularly for its Holiday Lets;
- h) Concerns around the future trajectory of finances, the importance of financial planning and strategy, and the need for investment to enhance income generation within the Park;
- i) The submission of the Conservation Management Plan bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund, which would include a business plan for the park, helping to identify long term investment and risks.

## The Joint Committee agreed:

- I. To note the financial position contained in the report along with the risks, issues and any mitigating actions;
- 2. To note the Capital Programme.

## 23. 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 park, including its natural, historical and environmental significance, as well as its free entry for the public;
- b) Around £1.4 MM of grants had been attained by the park this year. The Garden Battery initial scoping works had taken place and the drainage system had been restored, the Orangery toilets refurbishment had been completed, and work on the English Garden House had commenced. Other maintenance works had included holiday lets, formal benches, fencing, Barrow Centre windows, and the Gardeners Lodge roof work;
- c) Phase One of the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) would assess non-roof heritage and landscape assets, and a new stewardship application would provide a steady revenue income;
- d) Volunteering remained a strong asset in the Park, with various businesses providing a voluntary workforce, including the Royal Navy, EE, and the Department for Work and Pensions:

- e) Secure Forests had conducted two dry stone walling courses for ex-service and Blue Light men and women, delivering re-training and mental wellbeing, while providing the Park with a high quality, repaired dry-stone wall;
- f) The East Garden Lawn had been replanted with climate and deer resilient plants, with grant support received from the Friends;
- g) As part of a future project to improve climate resilience, the team were looking to improve the water transport infrastructure across the park, This would require replacement of the Victorian led pipes;
- h) The 12 Cornish Black Bee colonies continued to remain strong, despite a Bee warning being issued due to the wet summer;
- i) A Willow hedge had been planted in the play area, and the formal planted beds would be planted in a new floral theme;
- j) Work was ongoing to maintain the heritage infrastructure, including 56 listed buildings:
  - I. £1 MM of Heritage Lottery funding had been received for the Garden Battery, and initial works had started;
  - II. £300,000 of funding had been attained to replace the roof of the English Garden House. Once complete, the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) would help identify potential funding sources to help transform the rest of the building;
  - III. Plans were in place next year to repair the French Garden House;
  - IV. The Main House roof had been repaired;
  - V. Additional office spaces had been created, which could present an additional income source;
  - VI. The Orangery Toilets had been refurbished;
  - VII. Work was ongoing to refresh the Wedding Marquee. Meetings had been conducted with the architects and Historic England to ensure an appropriate planning submission later this year. This long term investment was vital to maximise income for the park, provide an appropriate standard for weddings, while maintaining a design sympathetic to the park and historic landscape;
- k) Pressures affecting the Park remained largely unchanged, including Ash Die-Back (approx. £10,000 PY), storms and tree safety works, utility bills, wage bills, cost of living, inflation and local authority funding;
- I) Feedback for the Park remained positive, with the Park featuring in Trip Advisor's Travellers Choice Award for the third consecutive year;
- m) The working horses were training to provide carriage rides next year as part of a business partnership, while also conducting winter woodland work;
- n) Holiday Lets were performing well in comparison to national averages however, the market remained down overall.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- o) The operation of the working horses, including their potential to feature in wedding ceremonies;
- p) Operational issues of the current wedding marquee, which was 13 years old and required frequent and repeated repairs. The marquee was also utilised for events, and helped support commercial tenancies;
- q) Incorporating Natural England's comments, an estimated cost of a new wedding marquee was £450,000, which it was hoped would be funded from capital receipts;
- r) The Mount Edgcumbe Country Park was covenanted land, purchased for the purpose of a country park. Country Parks were enshrined in the 1968 Countryside Act as having to provide free public access;
- s) Plymouth City Council operated a 'Memorial Bench' scheme, enabling members of the public to commission benches around the City, including the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park.

The Joint Committee agreed to:

- I. Thank the Park management and team for their continued efforts and successes within the Park;
- 2. Note the report.

#### 24. Car Parking Briefing Paper

David Marshall (Business Development Manager) delivered the Car Parking and Enforcement Briefing Paper to the Joint Committee, and discussed:

- a) While access to the Mount Edgcumbe Country Park remained free, the Park operated four separate carparks which were subject to parking tariffs;
- b) It was important that parking tariffs were updated periodically to ensure they aligned with inflationary and CPI increases;
- c) By law, all parking signage must be updated when new tariffs were introduced, and all parking machines required reprogramming. Furthermore, updating the Off-street Parking Order incurred considerable costs and time, making it impractical to update charges yearly. Therefore, the Park updated parking tariffs approximately every five years to account for inflation and CPI;
- d) Parking charges underwent a public consultation process, and were tailored with consideration for the local population and commuters, with an annual parking pass available.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- e) The possibility and potential benefits of introducing donation points around the park, to enable the public to contribute to the Park's upkeep;
- f) The financial cost of implementing the new tariffs was estimated at around £4,500. This was expected to produce an annual increase of around £6,000 for the Park and therefore, the cost should be self-funded after the first 10 months of operation;
- g) There was a need to maximise compliance with Parking charges, which was achieved through enforcement;
- h) This cycle of the parking tariff review had incurred additional costs due to the requirement to re-line and sign some of the parking bays due to wear and tear;
- i) A consultation process had been undertaken, with feedback suggesting that many considered the parking fees to be reasonable, particularly given that the Park offered free access;
- j) The park was also accessible by foot, bike and the Cremyll Ferry. The Park featured a cycle hire facility, and options had been explored to introduce Beryl bikes, and EV charging points;
- k) While parking presented a considerable logistical challenge, particularly during major events, the Park worked with the bus and ferry companies to ensure extra services were delivered during peak demand;
- I) The Park's parking tariffs remained low in comparison to many other car parks and attractions.

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to note the report.

## 25. Friends Of Mount Edgcumbe Report

Ben Church (Chair, Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Committee) delivered the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Report and discussed:

- a) The sad passing of the previous Chair, Mr Alan Drummond, on 29 September 2024. Alan had played an integral part in leadership, volunteering, and fundraising for both the Park and the Friends Committee:
- b) Membership of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe currently stood at 850-900 members. Following an EGM, membership would now be taken online, enabling greater access for members of the public to join and donate;
- c) The friends had contributed significant financial investment in the Park this year, with projects including:
  - I. Bedding plants;
  - II. Remedial statue work;

- III. Deer Park fencing;
- IV. The Children's Play Module;
- V. The dry-stone wall;
- VI. The Orangery Toilets;
- VII. The English Garden House
- d) It had been another successful year for events organised by the Firends, with over 400 children and parents attending the Easter Egg Hunt, and the annual Classic Car Show and Summer Fayre achieving record visitor numbers, with over 800 show cars. Significant positive feedback had been received, as well as valuable funding for the Friends;
- e) Next year would mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe, and the committee were planning to host a celebratory event;
- f) The Friends Lodge was run by volunteers, and acted as both an information point for the park, as well as a bookshop.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

g) Gratitude for the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Committee, and the importance of their voluntary and fundraising work for the Park.

The Joint Committee agreed:

- 1. To thank the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe for their ongoing hard work and support to the Park this year;
- 2. To note the report.

#### 26. National Marine Park Update

Sharon Mercer (Head of Strategic Programmes) delivered the National Marine Park Update, and discussed:

- a) The purpose of the project was to develop the entity of the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park, by the end of the programme;
- b) Considerable progress had already been made, with the National Marine Park working to establish a company. A CIO had been created, and a memorandum of understanding was in progress;
- c) Tinside was the first 'gateway' project due for completion next year, having been prioritised due to funding deadlines from the Youth Investment Fund. Works at Mount Batten would begin shortly, with a contract award expected today for the Mount Batten Centre, Public Realm and tower works;
- d) Re-consultation was underway with the public regarding 'community access points' to ensure plans created during the development phase were still appropriate;

- e) The project would look to drive environmental, habitat and species appreciation and behavioural change through a series of nature projects. Options for a blue finance model and carbon credits was being explored;
- f) A digital project was being developed to enhance engagement with the marine environment. A funding bid had been submitted to the Arts Council;
- g) A host of activities had been conducted over the summer, The team would now be reviewing current progress and future direction as part of 'evaluation week';
- h) In collaboration with the Plymouth Waterfront Partnership, the Marine Park had funded free and reduced activity sessions across the marine park, with over 1,700 sessions booked at Mount Edgcumbe, Tinside and Mount Batten. Mount Edgcumbe had hosted House Tours and Alpaca experiences;
- i) The purpose of the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park project was to increase engagement with the heritage of the marine park, enabling the public to discover new activities, gain appreciation of the park, and reduce barriers to access;
- j) At Mount Edgcumbe, drainage surveys had been completed of the Garden Battery, and meetings were ongoing to finalise the design. A letter of comfort had been signed during the bid, and would be superseded by the development of a collaboration agreement, enabling the National Marine Park to undertake work on the Park's asset;
- k) A National Marine Park ranger was based at Mount Edgcumbe several days per week. As part of the schools programme, 15 schools would be engaged over the next five years, including Four Lanes End school in Cornwall;
- I) Mount Edgcumbe would facilitate heritage events and digs next year as part of Marine Park engagement, as well as providing voluntary opportunities.

In response to questions, the Joint Committee discussed:

- m) The need to ensure a coordinated approach across Cornwall and Plymouth, particularly relating to transport and access to attractions across the Marine Park;
- n) Seagrass collection and development of seagrass meadows;
- o) The need to tackle waste water and sewage in the National Marine Park. While it was not within the remit of the Marine Park itself, a memorandum of understanding had recently been signed between South West Water, the Environment Agency and Plymouth City Council, and works were ongoing to develop sustainable water storage solutions across Plymouth, with investment in sustainable urban drainage systems.

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to note the report.

#### 27. Tracking Decisions

# Page 11

Elliot Wearne-Gould (Democratic Advisor) delivered an overview of the Tracking Decision Log, and highlighted:

- a) All of the actions and decisions within the log had been completed;
- b) Consideration of co-opted membership for Millbrook Parish Council would take place at the next available Joint Committee meeting.

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> to note the report.

## 28. Exempt Business

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> 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(s) of business on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1,2&3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

#### 29. Part II Minutes

The Joint Committee <u>agreed</u> the Part Two minutes off the meeting held on 12 July 2024 as a correct record.

## 30. Mount Edgcumbe Tenancy and Landholding Update

This item was considered under Part Two.

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

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# **Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee**



Date of meeting: 08 August 2025

Title of Report: Park Activity to June 2025

Lead Member: Councillor Jemima Laing

Lead Strategic Director: Glenn Caplin-Grey (Strategic Director for Growth)

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 park from Nov 2024 to June 2025

#### **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.

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

The financial implications are set out in the revenue monitoring report which is included as a separate agenda item.

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

n/a

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

n/a

#### **Appendices**

Ref.	Title of Appendix	<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b> (if applicable) 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.							
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7							
Α	Park Report Briefing								

## **Background papers:**

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> 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)  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.								
	ı	2	3	4	5	6	7		

## Sign off:

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			/25.								

Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Glenn Caplin-Grey

Date agreed: 31/07/2025

Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jemima Laing (Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care,

Culture and Communications)

Date approved: 31/07/2025

#### 1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report informs members of the major new works and activities conducted since Nov 24.

#### 2.0 Park Matters

2.1 Work on the English Garden House (a grade two \* Georgian 'Pleasure House') has been completed. Thanks to funding from DEFRA £280,000 Historic England £50,000 and the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe country Park (FOMECP) £20,000.

The Park worked closely with Historic England's Conservation Officer and a Conservation Architect.

In order to safely work on the site and protect its historically significant interior a large and imposing scaffold structure was installed, that was really something to behold!

Initially the works focused on roof repairs as the roof had had its lead stolen some time ago and the Delabole slates were in poor repair. The roof was stripped and repaired as were the soffits and gutters and down pipes. The original pitch pine woodwork in many areas was found to be in good condition and where it could it underwent restoration/conservation work. The existing roof lights were removed and new ones approved by Historic England added.

New drainage was installed in the form of a large soakaway which will draw water away from the building. This drainage area has now been regraded and will be seeded with a wildflower mix that will provide a nectar source for our nearby Black Bee Hives.

The West facing wall was repaired and then plastered using a traditional lime plaster mix as it had become quite damaged over the years. The Front façade has had a face lift and is now resplendent in a close approximation to the colours we believe the building was originally painted. We were able to find some traces of what could have well been the original wall colour during investigations with the conservation architect and Historic England.

The building is now protected from the elements and over time funding will be sought to restore its interior to its original grandeur. The restoring and listing of this building after many years of disuse is a major step forward in protecting the Park's built historic heritage.

This project, entirely grant aided, was completed on time and within budget.



2.2 The Park has appointed a consultant which is funded through Natural England to produce an application for Higher Level Stewardship (now known as the Environmental Stewardship Scheme) that will go forward for consideration this summer. This was slightly delayed by the seasonal nature of surveys. Most of those surveys have now taken place. This will provide both revenue and capital funding delivered through a ten-year plan for the historic grade one listed landscape.

Surveys of both the natural and built heritage of the site will provide a register of the Park's importance in terms of its landscape, nature conservation and built heritage. The Park's international importance for species such as the wax caps will be highlighted formally for the first time.

The Stewardship agreement will address both nature conservation and the importance of the historic structures in the Parkland and providing funding on an annual basis for the management of those assets. The consultants LUC (Land Use Consultants) will be presenting the initial application at the time of writing to the Park Management and Stewardship Working Group.

It is hoped to have in place a ten-year Stewardship programme that will fund both revenue conservation activities and capital works to historic features, by this Autumn. The Park will be working closely with Natural England officers to achieve this.

2.3 The Ranger Team has now completed the fencing of the Deer Park.

This has included the building of several new gates and deer leaps. With over 7km of fencing to repair this has taken over four years and was a long-term project first brought to the Joint Committee some six years ago. In addition, it has involved over two thousand volunteer hours for which we are very grateful.

This work has been boosted by help from Royal Navy recruits through a partnership with Secure Forests and HMS Raleigh.

A Deer Management Plan has been completed with the help of nationally recognised deer experts. A deer census took place in the winter of 2023 and 2024 in order to assess population levels and inform management.

New technology in the form of drones and remote monitoring techniques developed with our partners on site Secure Forests will help us monitor and manage the deer herd. The deer herd itself will form part of the stewardship agreement that will be delivered through Natural England Stewardship Scheme over the next ten years.

There has been a deer herd at the Park since 1515 and it is an integral part of the Park's landscape. This practical work, stewardship funding and the Deer Management Plan will see this Tudor legacy continue well into the future, with this historic herd bringing enjoyment free of charge to the Park's visitors and local users.



2.4 The Garden Battery is a Heritage Lottery funded (awarded £942,000 as part of the National Marine Park New Horizons) gateway site to Plymouth's National Marine Park and will act as a 'Heritage Hub' for the whole Marine Park. Initial works to the Battery will start this summer and will be in a phased approach with the larger works taking place next summer.

The building will be receiving a new roof, new access provision, bat hibernaculum, improved drainage, floor repairs and interpretation within the building. We have on loan from the dockyard museum some of the original ordinance that would have been in place in the Battery.

This new 'exploration space' will tell the story of Mount Edgcumbe and its role in the development and protection of the Plymouth Sound. It will be a public facing free to enter building that helps connect up the heritage of the area and Rame Peninsula.



The Park will be hosting a number of community archaeology events over the summer culminating in a large community dig at Barn Pool. This is in partnership with the Ships' Project and Plymouth National Marine Park. This is building on the successful schools' archaeology camps that have been held over the last couple of years at Mount Edgcumbe.

2.5 The Park will be submitting a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund this Autumn to fund a Conservation Management Plan. This will guide the management of this important grade one listed landscape for the next decade and will help set priorities for both the built and natural landscape. The CMP will consider the historic significance and provide an integrated approach, including other land management objectives such as the interests of wildlife, habitats, environmental gain and opportunities for people to enjoy the Park. We will undertake a programme of public consultation to inform a 10-year plan for the whole of MECP to guide day-to-day management, maintenance, conservation and restoration, visitor access and facilities, business planning and longer-term vision.

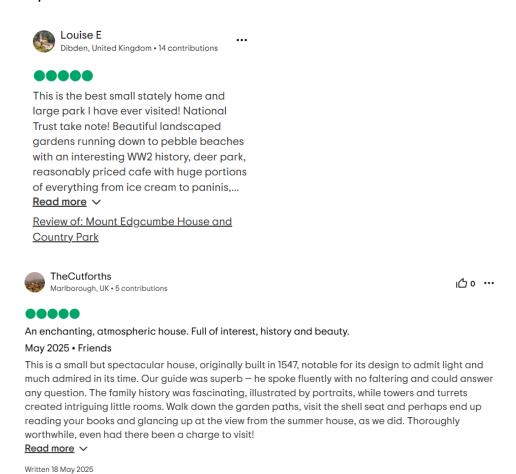
As an interim measure while funding is sought for the Conservation Management Plan, a draft Business Development Plan covering the next two years will be presented to the Joint Committee for review at this meeting.

- 2.6 The Garden Team has improved more formal beds on the east lawn, these will be both drought and deer resistant. The new beds reflect the sea with silver and blues and will be fully established over the next couple of seasons. They have been planted to also extend the blooming season and provide some colour all year round. Generous funding has been provided by the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park (FOMECP).
- 2.7 The Rangers continued with the Ash Die Back and tree surveys this winter with a good deal of the Park-wide survey now complete. The survey data is entered onto our new ALLOY monitoring system, the same system used by PCC. This asset management system enables us to log individual trees, record works and programme future works as well as recording the health status of all trees.

The winter months contain a good deal of forestry work with this year being no exception. We had three full weeks of MUPE (high lift apparatus) work as well as over 30 trees being either felled or large-scale remedial works needed.

Ash Die Back continues to be a big issue for the Park and takes up a lot of resources both in terms of surveying and also in terms of tree works.

- 2.8 The Park has been recording 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.
- 2.9 The Park has 10 new Jacobs lambs born this spring and will be using these as a conservation grazing flock throughout the Park. This means that the Park can use this conservation flock on other sites throughout its land holding where conservation grazing is desirable. Lambing in the lambing tent has now become a 'Thing' at the Park with lots of very positive social media responses. The Park now has pigs, alpacas and horses all performing services to and for the Park. They are always a very popular attraction to the Park's visitors, and this is reflected in Trip Advisor reviews.



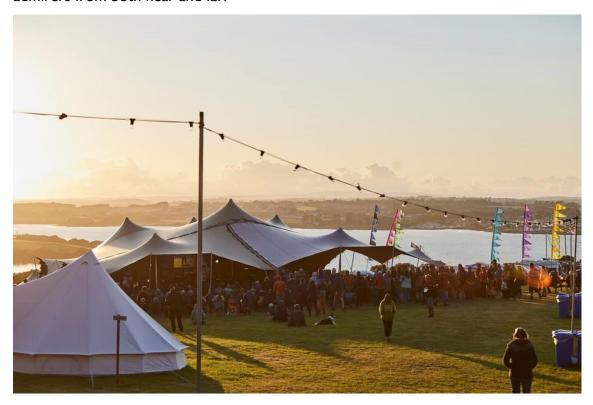
- 2.10 Another section of Drystone wall or 'Cornish Hedge' has been completed in partnership with Secure Forests by the Artists Platz this is part of the old wall line that framed the lower gardens, this has been a great partnership and an opportunity for local ex-servicemen and Park Rangers to learn new skills. This is one of a number of small-scale projects in which the Park has been able to utilise people power from Secure Forest training courses and students.
- 2.11 We have completed 2900 volunteer hours over the last reporting period. This demonstrates the huge value of volunteers to the Park as well as the importance the Park has for peoples'

wellbeing whether they are part of a city business on an away day, and individual volunteering or a group undertaking an arranged activity. We have had particular success with local businesses having team building and away days such as EE, DWP, Babcock and the Land Registry.

#### 3.0 **Events**

3.1 The Park has a full Events schedule this year with nearly every available space taken. It continues its partnership with Miss Ivy events and the Armchair Adventure festival and is busy creating new events for the next season.

The popular 'Green Man' took place this year despite a rainy Saturday the attendance on the Sunday was very good. There was a particularly good selection of bands this year and this free event that the Park delivers itself proved to still draw the crowds. The work of the garden team and volunteers produced a particularly resplendent Green Man this year who had many admirers from both near and far.



3.2 Arts University Plymouth has for many years now delivered a series of outdoor arts installations in the form of a trail in the lower gardens. Involving the artwork and an artist's statement designed to reflect a theme each year. This gives the year two students experience in selecting materials and subject matter that is suitable and robust enough for public display, and the Park something new to look at each year to look at in the formal gardens.

This year's contributions are particularly striking and of high quality. The Park usually chooses one installation to remain in the Park each year. This year it will be a tough choice.



#### 4.0 Fire

As you may be aware we had a major fire at Mount Edgcumbe located in the Barrow Centre on 4<sup>th</sup> February, no one was hurt but two staff lost their homes and two holiday lets were destroyed in the blaze. The blaze effectively gutted the top floors of the Southern wing and made the rest uninhabitable. At one time over 40 firefighters were in attendance with numerous appliances. The fire that started in a member of staff's residence sadly moved through the roof space of the adjacent properties but due to the amazing efforts of the fire brigade was prevented from spreading to the rest of the Barrow Centre.

The fire has had an obvious impact on the staff that lost their homes and belongings and the businesses that have been forced to close while we carry out essential making safe works. Those businesses are now up and running again and have been since the February half term week albeit with a less attractive environment. We have also lost two holiday lets.

We are now at the stage where, for the last couple of weeks, we have been clearing the upper floors of the debris from the fire and the remains of the fixtures, fittings and personal belongings. Shoring up and preparation work needed to make entry into these parts of the building and making safe, such as the removal of slates as salvage and the trimming and removal of rafters and ceiling joists, has now been completed.

Once the debris has been cleared, we will need to assess the triangular shaped brick walls in the loft space that divided the separate parts of this area of the building. We think they may need to be carefully dismantled down to wall plate level. This may need to be done from a MEWP.

In the meantime, JNE are arranging for further scaffolding quotes, as per the loss adjusters request. We are hoping these will be forwarded quite soon. This is not holding up the making safe works, which are currently proceeding as planned. The covering of the building to prevent further water damage will be achieved as soon as possible through the provision of a protective scaffold.

Cornwall Council have offered to lead on the rebuilding of the south wing, and this will form the next step of the works once the building has been cleared. The time scale is envisaged to be some 18 months.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the sterling efforts of the Firefighters, Mount Edgcumbe Staff and Business staff on the day of the fire and subsequently. I would also like to thank the response from all my colleagues in PCC and CC which has meant we secured and made safe the site with 24 hours of hand over from the Fire Brigade. Counselling was made available to all staff, and the local Rame community responded with kindness and practical help.

## 5.0 Summary

The Park has seen completion of some big long-term projects over the last six months, focusing on that balance between the built and natural heritage of this unique asset, with the completion of the deer park fencing and the English Garden House.

It has also seen us concentrating on planning for the future with Stewardship applications and Business Development Plans. It has also been a challenging year with the fire, and the continued cost of living crisis but we expect to be able to deliver a Park free of charge with minimum taxpayer burden into the next decade.

# **Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee**



Date of meeting: 08 August 2025

Title of Report: Mount Edgcumbe Outturn 2024/25

Lead Member: Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for

Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)

Lead Strategic Director: Glenn Caplin-Grey (Strategic Director for Growth)

Author: Christopher Burton, Mount Edgcumbe Park Manager

Contact Email: Chris.Burton@plymouth.gov.uk

Your Reference: 2024/25

Key Decision: No

Confidentiality: Part I - Official

## **Purpose of Report**

Presents the final outturn position of Mount Edgcumbe for the financial year 2024/25 and confirms the 2025/26 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.

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

Former years joint authority subsidy budgets were removed 2022/23 onwards.

The target budget ongoing remains a breakeven position, whereby circa £1.1m of income is currently budgeted to meet £1.1m of costs.

Opportunities to maximise existing and future income streams continues to be balanced against the need to meet rising costs.

#### **Financial Risks**

2024/25 Outturn £0.138m adverse variation to budget was subsidised equally by Plymouth CC and Cornwall CC. There is a risk in achieving the 2025/26 target break-even budget. Detail summarised below and in section 4 of the report.

Mt Edgcumbe financial risks		£'000s
Energy Costs - Electricity	Based on current unit cost and usage.	18

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PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

Bad Debt Write Off - Chalet	One-off 2025/26 - Chalet repossessed. To be used as a holiday let. Will be subject to a capital business case.	10
Holiday Let - Net Bookings Income	Based on 2024/25 income achieved.	48
Glamping - Net income target	Based on 2024/25 income achieved.	4
Weddings - Net income target	Based on current 2025/26 bookings - Marquee not fit for purpose	40
		120

## **Legal Implications**

(Provided by AC)

None arising from this report.

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

None

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

\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

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	<b>Exemption Paragraph Number</b> (if applicable) 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.							
		1 2 3 4 5 6 7					7		
Α	Mount Edgcumbe Outturn 2024/25								

#### **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 <u>unpublished</u> 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)							
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## Sign off:

# Page 25

#### PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 20/06/2025

Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jemima Laing (Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications. Date approved:

31/07/2025

### Section I

## I.I Commentary on 2024/25 Revenue Outturn

The breakeven target budget, whereby circa £1.1m of income was budgeted to meet £1.1m of costs was not achieved in 2024/25.

The £0.138m adverse variation was subsidised equally by Plymouth CC and Cornwall CC. The £0.138m variation is due to increased energy cost, holiday let income, parking cost, wedding income pressures and grounds pressures relating to ash die back cost and stewardship grant funding.

The context for this adverse position is that tourism in the South West is down. This downturn has particularly impacted outdoor based attractions with tourists instead preferring to plan activities not impacted by unreliable weather.

In February 2025 there was a serious fire at Mount Edgcumbe Barrow Centre. Costs have been separately captured to manage the ongoing insurance claim. In 2024/25 fire related costs at outturn were £101k. These costs were primarily for debris clearance and making the site safe. £350k of insurance funding was received in 2024/25 with the balance of £249k being held in the Mount Edgcumbe reserve account by Plymouth City Council that will be drawn down as qualifying spend occurs.

# 1.2 Revenue Outturn 2024/25 - Financial summary

		2024/25 Budget	t		2024/25 Outtur	'n	Variation	
Business Type	Income	Expenditure	Net	Income	Expenditure	Net	to net Budget	Comments
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Staffing & Operations	(15)	637	622	(18)	639	621	(1)	
House	(27)	62	35	(39)	84	45	10	Electricity and repairs & maintenance cost
Gardens	0	14	14	(5)	21	16	2	
Grounds	(27)	158	131	(44)	199	155	24	Upkeep of grounds including ash die back cost. Stewardship grant cost and income pressures
Fire – February 2025	0	0	0	(101)	101	0	0	
Trading Activities:								
Alpacas	(9)	8	(1)	(8)	10	2	3	
Horse and Carriage	0	0	0	0	I	I	I	
Conferences	(1)	I	0	0	0	0	0	
Rents	(179)	45	(134)	(213)	96	(117)	17	Electricity and repairs & maintenance cost
Chalets	(387)	0	(387)	(392)	0	(392)	(5)	
Parking	(108)	7	(101)	(102)	20	(82)	19	Parking order and Ringo transaction fee costs
Special Events	(27)	14	(13)	(25)	14	(11)	2	
Holiday Lets	(231)	125	(106)	(167)	102	(65)	41	Booking Income
Glamping	(16)	11	(5)	(7)	9	2	7	Booking Income
Weddings	(70)	15	(55)	(58)	20	(38)	17	Booking Income and repairs & maintenance cost
Filming	(1)	0	(1)	(1)	0	(1)	0	
Misc. Activities	(2)	3	1	(2)	4	2	1	
Total Operations	(1,100)	1,100	0	(1,182)	1,320	138	138	
Subsidy								
Cornwall CC			0			69	69	
Plymouth CC			0			69	69	
Total Deficit / (Surplus)			0			138	138	

## Section 2

## 2.1 Revenue budget 2025/26

		2025/26 Budget	
Business Type	Income	Expenditure	Net
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Staffing & Operations	(14)	672	658
House	(27)	51	24
Gardens	0	14	14
Grounds	(30)	157	127
Trading Activities:			
Alpacas	(9)	9	0
Horse and Carriage	(6)	6	0
Conferences	(1)	0	(1)
Rents	(183)	47	(136)
Chalets	(405)	0	(405)
Parking	(108)	7	(101)
Special Events	(26)	13	(13)
Holiday Lets	(229)	121	(108)
Glamping	(15)	11	(4)
Weddings	(70)	15	(55)
Filming	(1)	0	(1)
Misc. Activities	(2)	3	1
Total Operations	(1,126)	1,126	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 Edgcumbe continues. The Mount Edgcumbe 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	2024/25	2025/26	Total
		£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Mount Edgcumbe Orangery Toilets	Service borrowing, FOME contribution & capital receipt	122	13	0	135
Mount Edgcumbe Play Park	FOME contribution & revenue contribution	20	0	0	20
Mount Edgcumbe Deerfield Carriages	Service borrowing	5	48	5	58
Mount Edgcumbe Garden Battery Enabling Works	Capital receipt	0	5	40	45
Mount Edgcumbe Vehicle	Capital receipt	0	12	0	12
Mount Edgcumbe English Garden House	FOME contribution, Historic England grant & DEFRA grant	0	321	5	326
Mount Edgcumbe Marquee	Capital receipt	0	11	9	20
		147	410	59	616

## 3.2 Capital Commentary

Mount Edgcumbe have a capital receipt available of £231k from chalet sales. £100k of the capital receipt has been ringfenced to be used to renovate a chalet into an income generating holiday let. The mandate has been endorsed by the Plymouth City Council Capital Programme Officers' Group (CPOG) and a business case is currently in draft for this project.

The remainder of the capital receipt will be used as match funding for a bid put forward for a new Marquee. If successful, the project will be financed by grant and the remaining capital receipt.

The Orangery Toilets project was completed within the 2024/25 financial year with the project requiring an additional £3.7k of capital receipt financing due to an overspend.

The Deerfield Carriages project is still underway. Two horses have now been purchased, and the stables have been built. This project has been fully financed by service borrowing with the annual loan repayment forecast to be paid for by the income generated from Deerfield Carriage rides.

The Garden Battery works are currently going ahead and form part of the overall National Marine Park project.

A flatbed truck was purchased at the beginning of 2024/25 using £12,500 capital receipt funding.

The English Garden House project has almost reached full completion. This was financed from a £20k contribution from FOME, £50k grant from Historic England and £256k grant from DEFRA.

The refurbishment project of fire-damaged buildings at the Barrow Centre will be led by Cornwall Council and their officers. This project will start once the site has been made safe and scaffold put in place to secure and weatherproof the site. The scope of the project will include the design, procurement and construction of all fire-damaged buildings at the Barrow Centre.

## Section 4

## 4.1 2025/26 Risk Register

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

Mt Edgcumbe financial risks		£'000s
Energy Costs - Electricity	Based on current unit cost and usage.	18
Bad Debt Write Off - Chalet	One-off 2025/26 - Chalet repossessed. To be used as a Holiday let. Will be subject to a capital business case.	10
Holiday Let - Net Bookings Income	Based on 2024/25 income achieved.	48
Glamping - Net income target	Based on 2024/25 income achieved.	4
Weddings - Net income target	Based on current 2025/26 bookings - Marquee not fit for purpose	40
		120

## 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 Friends of Mt. Edgcumbe Country Park Registered Charity No. 29526 I Report to the Joint Committee, August 2025

As the Chair of the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park, I am pleased to submit this report, which provides an overview of the FOMECP vision and Executive Committee structure and an update on membership, finances, events and future plans for the 'Friends'.

As you know,

Our vision is to work in partnership with the Park Management by funding, jointly, or independently mutually agreed projects within the park.

Supporting the Park, as set out in our Constitution 'to preserve, or assist in the preservation and enhancement of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park for the benefit of the public, as a place of historical, botanical, horticultural, architectural and natural beauty'

#### **FOMECP Committee**

#### Officer Posts:

- Chair Ben Church
- Vice Chair Harry Vosper
- Treasurer Carol Drummond
- Secretary Janet Vosper
- Membership Secretary Shane Perry

#### Committee Posts:

- Rozanne Griffiths-Woodcock
- Simon Hughes

Our online Membership platform introduced this year has been successful, simplifying the joining process for everyone and aiding us with easier Membership access for requesting volunteers and information on friends and park news.

Membership currently stands at 730

#### Financial Update

The FOMECP financial year runs from 1st January to 31st December each year. The 'Friends' have supported many projects with healthy financial commitments.

#### Projects - So far in 2025:

- English Garden House £20,000
- Garden Planting £4000

## Committed Projects for 2025:

• Ships Project - Barn Pool - £1250

- Statues £4000
- Shrubs and Trees £5000
- Camelia Trail Interpretation Boards £6000

The FOMECP Committee continues to liaise with the Park Management in prioritising project funding within the Park.

#### **Events**

A very successful Easter Egg Trail event was held over the Easter period when approximately 400 children together with their parents had a very good walk through the formal gardens looking for clues and claiming their egg at the end.

Sadly, the annual Classic Car Show and Summer Fayre has been cancelled due to operational issues on the Cornwall Hospice side and at no fault of the FOMECP. This will understandably leave a big hole in the fundraising for 2025 and having a knock-on effect on park donations in 2026.

The Friends Committee is working on events to be held in 2026, including the return of the carshow, Easter egg hunt, and others yet to be confirmed.

## Friends Lodge

The Friends Lodge, which is run and managed by volunteers and acts as an information point and bookshop, continues to be very popular. For many visitors to the Park, particularly those using the Cremyll Ferry, it is their first port of call and the only place in this area of the park where they can seek advice about where to go, what to do and to obtain literature to guide them on their journey through the park. In addition, the bookshop element of the lodge provides a very important income stream for the Friends and a good source of encouraging new membership.

## **Actions**

- 1. Continuing to support the Park and working in collaboration with the park manager and staff on mutually agreed projects for the benefit of the Park and its visitors.
- 2. Continuing to promote and support traders within the Park.
- 3. Endeavouring to encourage FOMECP members and others to take a more proactive role in supporting and volunteering for events and other activities held within the Park.

Thank you

#### **Ben Church**

**Chair - Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park** 

# 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
15 November 2024	Requested that a training and introductory session was arranged for the newly co-opted members.	Elliot Wearne- Gould	An induction session was held on 18/06/2025. Due to limited attendance, another session will be scheduled.
12 July 2024	The Joint Committee agreed to request a briefing paper to clarify parking and enforcement charges at the next meeting.	David Marshall/Chris Burton	An update was brought to the Joint Committee in November 2024.
12 July 2024	The Joint Committee agreed to extend initial timescales for production of the full Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to allow for necessary public engagement, attainment of funding, and required process to be undertaken;	Tamsin Daniel / Chris Burton / Victoria Pomery.	An update on the progress of the CMP was brought to the November 2024 meeting. An extraordinary meeting will be scheduled as required.
	The Joint Committee agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting in/around March 2025 (as required), to examine draft reports of the full CMP.		
12 July 2024	To extend invitations to appropriate organisations and bodies, to put forward nominations for Co-option to the Joint Committee, in order to provide appropriate advice, specialist expertise and enhance democratic engagement. These bodies would include organisations such as Natural England, Parish Councils & Protected Landscapes.	Elliot Wearne- Gould (Democratic Advisor)	Invitations were extended, and the Joint Committee agreed to Co-opt the following organisations in November 2024:  Cornwall National Landscape;  Maker with Rame Parish Council;

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	Natural England.	
	Millbrook Parish Council will be considered for cooption in July 2025.	onsidered for co-

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Agenda Item 15

The following relates to exempt or confidential matters (Para(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Govt Act 1972). An 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



# **Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee**



Date of meeting: 04 July 2025

Title of Report: **Tenancy Update** 

Lead Member: Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for

Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)

Lead Strategic Director: Glenn Caplin-Grey (Strategic Director for Growth)

Author: James Watt

Contact Email: |ames.Watt@plymouth.gov.uk

Your Reference: Click here to enter text.

Key Decision: No

Confidentiality: Part II - Official: Sensitive

## **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update on the tenancy arrangements as requested by the Joint Committee

#### **Recommendations and Reasons**

I. That the Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee note the report

## Alternative options considered and rejected

I. Not applicable

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

Spending Money Wisely; Providing quality public services; Responsibility; Fairness

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

Not relevant – update briefing report

#### **Financial Risks**

Not relevant - briefing update report

## **Legal Implications**

The briefing note sets out all the legal issues regarding the tenancy arrangements. However, there are no legal implications as a result of noting the briefing report

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

Not Applicable

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

\* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

Not Applicable

## **Appendices**

\*Add rows as required to box below

Ref	Title of Appendix	If some why it i	lall of th s not for	Parag e informa publicatio vernment i	tion is cor n by virtu	fidential, e of Part	yoù must I of Sched	dule 12A	
		I	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Α	Briefing report (Tenancy Update)	eport (Tenancy Update) X X X							

## **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 <u>unpublished</u> 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)								
	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.								
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7								

## Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: David Draffan

Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes

Date agreed: 20/06/2025

Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Jemima Laing (Deputy Leader, and Cabinet Member for

Children's Social Care, Culture and Communications)

Date approved: 31/07/2025

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The following relates to exempt or confidential matters (Para(s) 1, 2, 3 of Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Govt Act 1972). An 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

