

# Mount Edgcumbe Joint Committee

Friday 22 July 2011

## PRESENT:

Councillor Trubody , Co-Chair in the Chair.

Councillors Austin, Mrs Beer (Co-Chair), Councillor Bragg, Councillor Mrs Foster, Pearn MBE, Penberthy, Riches, Peter Smith and Vincent.

Co-opted Representatives: Mr D L Richards and Cdr Crocker and Mr D L Richards.

Councillors Browne, Flashman and Holley, Co-Opted Representatives Sir Richard Carew Pole Bt, Mr T Savery and Mrs Spring.

Also in attendance: Ian Berry (Park Manager PCC), Nick Butcher (Head Gardener/Ranger PCC), James Coulton (Assistant Director for Culture, Sport and Leisure PCC), Charlie David (Operations Manager East CC), Wendy Eldridge (Senior Accountant PCC) and David Marshall (Business Development Mount Edgcumbe House and Country Park, Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery PCC).

The meeting started at 1.15 pm and finished at 2.05 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.*

## 9. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made by councillors in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

## 10. **MINUTES**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2011 are confirmed as a correct record.

## 11. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair's urgent business.

## 12. **BUDGET MONITORING 2011/12**

The Director for Community Services, Director for Corporate Support and the Head of Environment and Heritage Service submitted a report on budget monitoring 2011/12, which highlighted the following main issues –

- (a) a deficit of £6,896 had been identified which would require management action to address;

- (b) the main variations had been identified as the following –
- employee and catering staff costs
  - property and equipment
  - delayed implementation of price increases for parking permits, parking at Cremyll and Dry Walk Car park and the inclusion of the new car park near the Barrow Complex
- (c) there were a number of high rated risks within Mount Edgumbe’s monitoring which may require further action to address through the Mount Edgumbe Officers’ Working Group and the Joint Committee which included the following areas –
- property;
  - car parking income;
  - increases utility costs;
  - house admission price;
  - income from commercial catering;
  - trading operations at Barrow and Cremyll shop;
  - impact of the weather on special events that take place during the summer months and Christmas;
- (d) action had been taken by the Park management’s team to reduce the budget overspend.

The Co-Chair, Councillor Beer, expressed concerns at the late arrival of the budget monitoring 2011/12 report, which resulted in her having insufficient time to thoroughly read the report.

In response, the Assistant Director for Culture, Sport and Leisure assured the Joint Committee that in future, reports would be despatched in a timely manner.

The Joint Committee agreed to note the report.

13. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

Agreed that under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the press and public are excluded 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 3 of Part I Schedule 12A of the Act, as amended by the Freedom of Information Act, 2000.

14. **MOUNT EDGUMBE PROPERTY OPTIONS (E3)**

The Director for Community Services, Corporate Support and Assistant Head of Service Waste and Environment submitted a report on Mount Edgumbe property options.

The Joint Committee agreed to recommend to the Cabinets of each constituent authority that –

- (1) Picklecombe Cottage is released, subject to an acceptable price being received; this is to be agreed by the Joint Chairs, in consultation with the relevant Cabinet Members and the Directors of Finance from each constituent authority;
- (2) the additional land leading to the waterfront, in front of the property, is included to maximise receipts;
- (3) any capital receipts from Picklecombe Cottage are ring-fenced for investment in to the Park, to generate further revenue savings;
- (4) capital is used to maximise the revenue savings and income generation opportunities in the Park, the exact projects to be decided on the basis of individual business plans and the overall business plan for the park;
- (5) the full business cases are brought to the Joint Committee for consideration, as soon as possible, to ensure the savings required in the 2011/12 financial year can be achieved.