

Mount Edgumbe Joint Committee



Date of meeting:	10 November 2023
Title of Report:	Mount Edgumbe - Off Street Parking Order, 2023.
Lead Member:	Councillor Richard Williams-Pears (Portfolio Holder for Transport, Cornwall Council)
Lead Strategic Director:	Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)
Author:	Chris Burton
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Your Reference:	OSPO 2024
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To provide the Joint Committee with an overview of the current, and proposed parking tariff charges for Mount Edgumbe Country Park, which were last reviewed in 2018. Due to the resource implication of their amendment, these parking charges are reviewed approximately every 5 years, and therefore, due for re-consideration.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. That the Joint Committee agree to support the principle, and proposed terms for a new off street parking order as set out in this 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 Cornwall Council (Off Street Parking Places At Mount Edgumbe Country Park) Order 2024 on the terms set out in this report.

Reasons: The Off Street Parking Order for Mount Edgumbe is reviewed once every five years. This review is necessary to ensure the park continues to provide a suitable service for members of the public, and meets its financial revenue targets.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. Maintain Car parking Charges as the currently stand for a further five-year period.
Rejected as this does not reflect national inflation levels, which have risen over the past 5 years, and is therefore not a viable financial option for the park, leading to future deficit. The park has been set ambitious, but achievable financial targets for revenue generation to maintain the service and achieve a balanced budget.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The revenue secured from car parking income helps to underwrite the cost of the service. Mount Edgcombe Country Park – England / Cornwall's largest Country Park – continues to be free of charge at the point of use for every visitor. The wider landscape, coastline, pathways, roads and buildings are maintained to allow free and safe public access 365 days of the year.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

The legal and consultative processes involved take a variable amount of time to complete and cost around £4.5k in accumulative fees to create a new legally binding OSPO with updated tariffs.

This decision, if implemented as listed, is anticipated to generate approximately £16k additional revenue for the park, and help restore parking charges to inflationary levels.

Financial Risks

There is a small financial risk associated with the creation of a new legally binding OSPO. While estimated through historical costs at around £4.5k, this process can take a variable amount of time to complete, and therefore figures may vary.

There is also a financial risk that an increase in parking charges may result in reduced car parking numbers, and therefore park revenue.

There is also a financial risk to the park if car parking charges are not raised in line with inflation, as this would result in future years remaining in deficit.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

There are no anticipated direct carbon implications for this decision. It is anticipated that increasing parking charges will have the effect of making motorists more cautious about driving and affordability, and potentially increase car-shares or use of public transport.

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

Our policy in offering free parking for all Blue Badge holders will remain unchanged.

Mount Edgcombe Country Park will also continue to maintain the offer of free all-day parking at Maker car park directly next to the Deer Park.

The equalities impact assessment remains unchanged.

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 1 of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant exemption paragraph number.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Briefing report title							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment							

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)						
	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:

Fin	DJN. 23.2 4.14 2	Leg	LS/0 0001 966/ AC/2 /11/2 3.	Mon Off	N/A	HR	N/A	Asset s	N/A	Strat Proc	N/A
Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Anthony Payne (Strategic Director for Place)											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 01/11/2023											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Richard Williams-Pears (Portfolio Holder for Transport, Cornwall Council)											
Date approved: 06/11/2023											

Briefing Report

1. THE Off Street Parking Order (OSPO) for Mount Edgcombe is reviewed once every five years. The legal and consultative processes involved take a variable amount of time to complete and cost around £4.5k in accumulative fees to create a new legally binding OSPO with updated tariffs. The last time this process was completed it took just over a year (2017 – 2018) culminating in the Mount Edgcombe Country Park Off Street Parking Order 2018.
2. This proposal follows a logical increment to a pricing format which has been in place since the first OSPO for Mount Edgcombe Country Park was created in the last century. It is recommended that the familiar tariff format (set against the duration of parking) be maintained as the supporting legal framework; the proper management and enforcement of parking; the public understanding of the tariffs; and the display and recognition of various passes must be both readily understandable and reasonable.

3. The proposal:

Tariff	2011	2018	2024 - 2030
1 hour	0.70	1.00	1.30
Up to 4 hours	2.70	3.00	4.00
Over 4 hours	3.90	4.00	5.00
Annual Parking Permit	£55.00	£80.00	£100 (residents)

4. The process via Cornwall Council, the legal process in the courts, and the required consultation takes time and expenditure. Therefore, this process is undertaken on a quinquennial basis – with the possibility of unpredictable delays involved (not least getting Court time). It should also be noted that the tariffs being considered above would remain extant until at least 1 April 2030.
5. We do not wish to reflect full inflationary pressures (the last ONS inflation report has it running at 9.067% annually). We are also very keen to maintain the 1-hour tariff (mostly a quick dog-walk). The 'Up to 4 hours' tariff is the most frequently used ticket type – and this will equate to around a £1 per hour tariff in effect (again this will be the relevant tariff until 2030). The 'over 4 hours' tariff is an all-day parking ticket.
6. Plymouth parking rates: The nearest car park to the Box in Plymouth (Regent Street) charges the following for parking:
 - £3 two hours
 - £3.80 three hours
 - £5.20 four hours
 - £6.60 six hours
 - £13 24 hours
 - £55 weekly
 - £165 monthly

7. Cornwall Council: Cawsand Car Park

- Up to 1 hour - £0.90
- 1 to 2 hours - £1.50
- 2 to 3 hours - £2.00
- 3 to 4 hours - £2.50
- 24 hours - £3.50
- Weekly - £8.75
- Annual season ticket - £400

8. Looking after our residents and frequent users: The Mount Edgcumbe Country Park Annual Parking Pass is available to any local resident, and we are proposing to maintain the annual parking pass at £100 per annum until 2030. There will remain a discounted Annual Parking Permit rate for those who join the Friends of Mount Edgcumbe Country Park (this will be negotiated separately with FOMECP should this recommendation be accepted).