
Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood
ANNUAL REPORT
2025



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Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood

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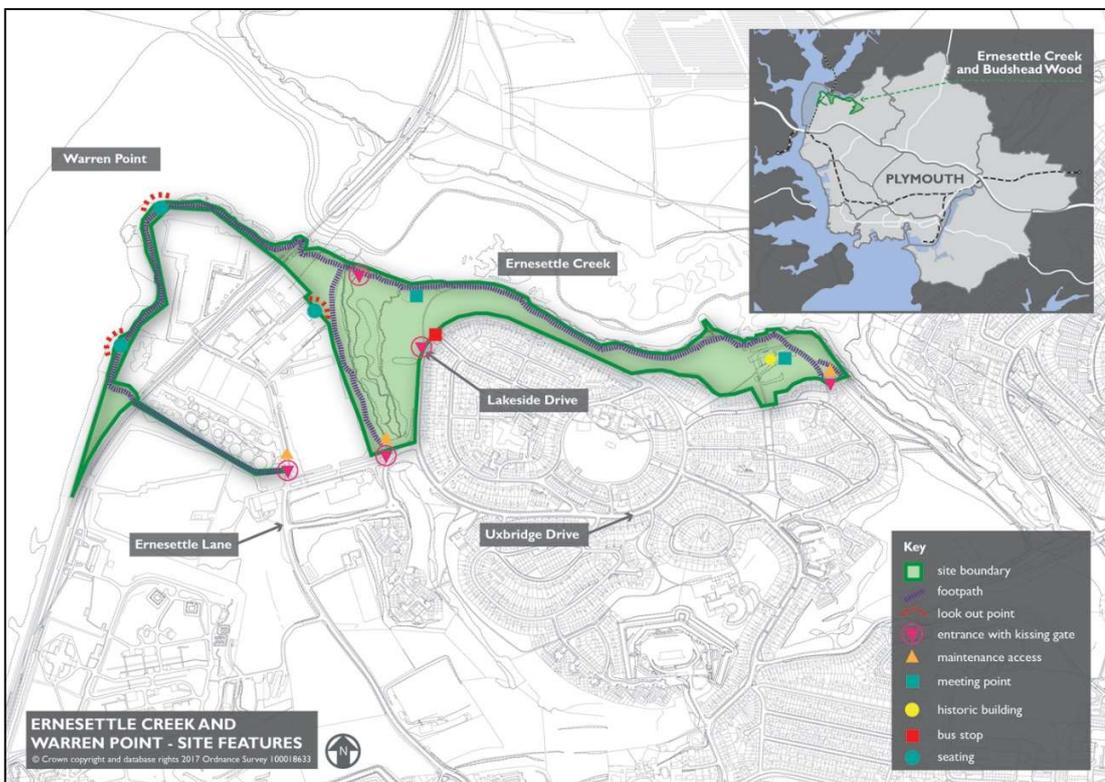
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Overview

This document has been created for the purposes of information only and summarises the work of the group throughout 2025, including collaboration opportunities with other groups and organisations such as Ernesettle Community Forum Fund (ECFF), Solomon's Porch Community Church (SP), Clean Our Patch (CoP), Plymouth Natural Grid (PNG), Westcountry Rivers Trust (WRT), Mill Ford School (MFS), All Ways Apples (AWA) and Plymouth Sound National Marine Park (PSNMP) alongside our ongoing voluntary works under Plymouth City Council's Natural Infrastructure Team (NIT).

The Greenspace:

The site is owned by Plymouth City Council (PCC) and the site is currently managed by PCC through the Natural Infrastructure Team with the help of the Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood group, which was created as a legacy from the Active Neighbourhood project.



Ernesettle Creek & Warren Point

Ernesettle Creek is a 14.8-hectare public open space in north-west Plymouth, bordered by the Tamar Estuary to the north and west, Budshead Wood LNR to the east, and housing along Lakeside Drive to the south.

Ernesettle Creek:

The western part of the site includes grassland, recent tree plantings known as the Pylon Field, and a narrow strip of woodland, saltmarsh, mudflats, and stream south of the old mill causeway. This area, called Budshead Mill Pond during high tide, divides a large mown grassland in the eastern bloc of the site. A remnant woodland strip runs along the northern edge between the estuary and this grassland, with several large, scattered trees.

In 2015, a community orchard and wildflower meadow were created at the western end, and a hedgerow was planted in early 2017. Additional native tree planting occurred east of the site next to Budshead Wood. In December 2016, wildflower seeding created a central meadow. The site also includes a playing field and the ruins of Budshead Manor near Budshead Wood.

Warren Point:

Warren Point County Wildlife Site consists of a diverse mosaic of amenity land, situated adjacent to an industrial area. It is bounded to the east and north by Ernesettle and Tamerton Creeks and to the west by the River Tamar, featuring associated inter-tidal mudflats. A newly established headland path offers excellent vantage points of the creeks and the Tamar Estuary. The site encompasses a variety of habitats, including broadleaved woodland, scrub, brackish grassland, small areas of saltmarsh, and mown grassland connecting to Ernesettle Creek.

The site also contains remnants of an anti-aircraft structure, now serving as an accessible viewpoint since 2017. Additionally, the community installed a crab and fish bench as part of the Active Neighbourhood project.

Reasons for the designation of the Warren Point County Wildlife Site include the presence of nine Devon Notable species: sea aster, sea purslane, sea couch grass, English scurvy grass, saltmarsh rush, common saltmarsh grass, glasswort, greater sea spurrey, and annual seablite. The wooded areas align with the W10 English Oak-Pteridium aquilinum-Rubus fruticosus woodland classification, the Prunus scrub corresponds to the W22 Prunus spinosa-Rubus fruticosus scrub classification, and the saltmarsh aligns with the SM15 Juncus maritimus - Triglochin maritima salt-marsh community classification.

Budshead Manor

The site includes ancient walls, buildings, and archways that are Grade II listed, first listed in 1954. Families that have resided at the site include the Budockshide, Gorges, and Trelawney families. The site is initially recorded in the Domesday Book as belonging to Alfred le Briton and is known for having the first church dedicated to St Budoc. See Appendix 2 for the Tudor Border Project Plan.

Budshead Wood

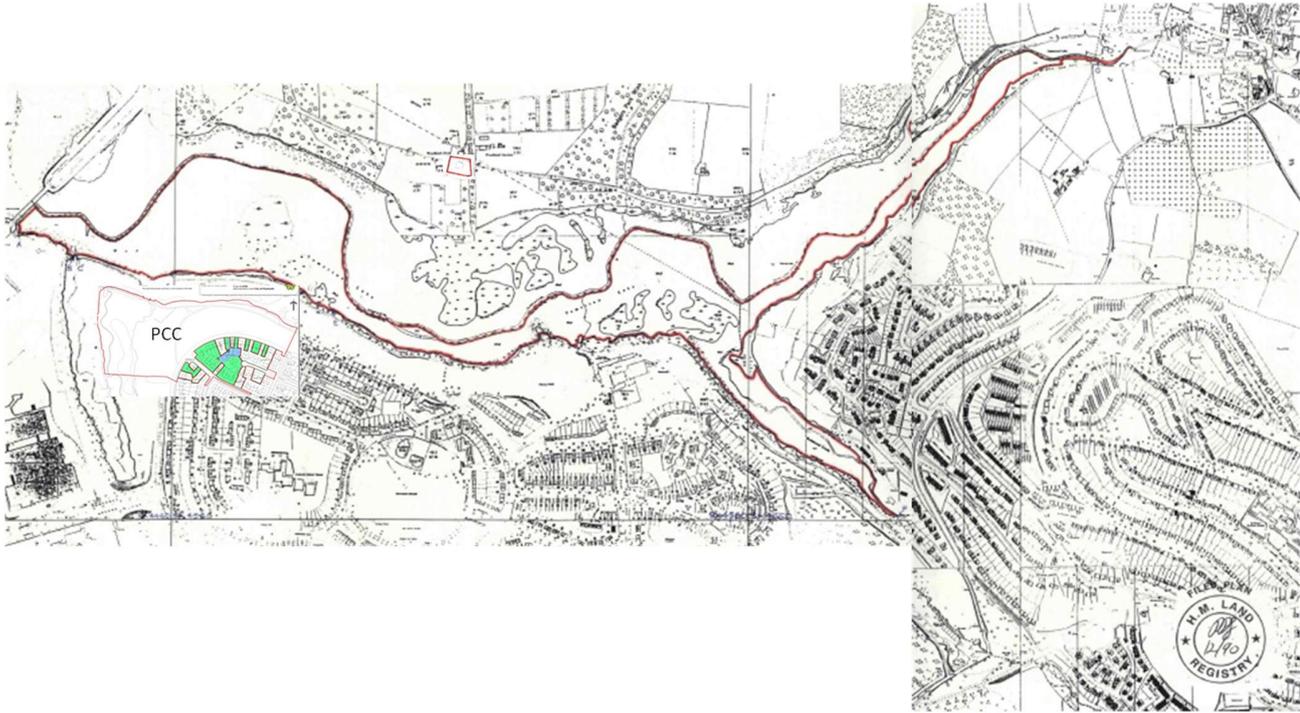
Budshead Wood is a Local Nature Reserve situated in the northwest of Plymouth, immediately east of Ernesettle and south of Tamerton Creek. Spanning 14 hectares, this site offers opportunities for relaxation, walking, play, and nature exploration.

Budshead Wood is an ancient woodland adjacent to a tidal creek that connects to the Tamar River. The reserve contains a significant population of Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The timber of the Hornbeam is characterized by its pale, creamy white colour with a flecked grain, and it is noted for being the hardest wood of any tree in Europe. Currently, Hornbeam timber is primarily used in furniture, flooring, and wood turning. Historically, it was employed in the making of ox yokes, which were used to join teams of ploughing oxen, possibly influencing the tree's name. However, it is more likely that the name 'hornbeam' derives from the hardness of its wood ('horn' meaning 'hard' and 'beam' being the Old English term for a tree).

Additionally, Hornbeam wood had various traditional uses, including butchers' chopping blocks, piano hammers, wood screws, coach wheels, and cogs for windmills and water mills. It was also regularly coppiced and pollarded for producing poles. The wood's excellent burning properties make it suitable for firewood and charcoal production. A tonic derived from Hornbeam was believed to alleviate tiredness and exhaustion, while its leaves were utilized to stop bleeding and aid wound healing. The year-round leaf cover provided by Hornbeam trees makes Budshead Wood a winter sanctuary for wildlife.

The Blue Space:

LA Boundary Map



Tamar River

Responsibility for the Tamar River stretch from Warren Point Headland to Tamerton Bridge lies with the Harbour Authorities, including Cattewater Harbour Commissioners, which consist of the Kings Harbour Master team, Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum (TECF), a User Group (CHUG), and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

Fishing and baiting activities are managed by Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authorities (IFCA). The beaches along the river near Warren Point and the Headland are well-used with minimal anti-social behaviour, though occasional hypodermic needles are found. Littering, rag, and discarded fishing lines are ongoing issues, prompting regular Beach Cleans. The area could benefit from more cleans, especially around the embankment, a former landfill site, where historical rubbish surfaces, providing interesting finds for beachcombers, such as art deco ink wells, bones, and intact lime cordial bottles from the 'Scurvy days' when British sailors were nicknamed 'Limeys'.

Tamerton Lake

The Tamar-Tavy Estuary, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Protection Area (SPA), supports overwintering bird species, grasses, mudflats, and marine plant life.

Plymouth City Council manages the land up to the mean high tide mark, while private owners control the fundus. Fishing activities, boat moorings, and baiting fall under private ownership, with the Deputy King's Harbour Master re-licensing existing moorings. Plymouth City Council is responsible for Gabion Baskets and the Causeway.

Since 2020, fly-tipping and littering around Creek Car Park have decreased. However, abandoned vessels and anti-social activities persist, monitored by MoD Police. The Gabion baskets suffer damage from moored vessels.

An area behind the car park used as a 'public toilet' needs cleaning and regeneration. Volunteers avoid this hazard-prone spot.

Stone steps created by locals assist recreational water users and emergency rescues. Plymouth Sound National Marine Park will address the issues around the slipway, and repair of the Causeway and Gabion baskets.

Eutrophication and untreated waste from South West Water's Ernesettle Lane treatment plant impact Tamerton Lake. Despite efforts to address these issues with the SWW Community Engagement Officer, communication has stalled after initial discussions.

Budshead Mill Pond

The surrounding land and fundus of Budshead Mill Pond are now managed by Plymouth City Council, previously under the Duchy of Cornwall Estate. Created in the late 1790s by building a dam, sluice gates, and wheel housings, the pond captured tidal waters to power a Grist Mill. The area is prone to fly-tipping; although much was cleared during 2020 lockdown, recent waste like bathtubs and traffic cones have appeared. The removal of fly-tipping has helped marsh samphire (glasswort) thrive.

Budshead Creek

The land up to the mean high tide mark falls under the responsibility of Plymouth City Council. The fundus is owned by the same owners as Tamerton Lake. During the Plymouth River Keepers project, water testing revealed significant pollution in the watercourse due to misconnections, with no river-fly detected. WRT has identified over 20 misconnections and collaborated with SWW to correct them. Some misconnections still require investigation and resolution. However, recent collaboration with NT Rangers on Leaky Woody Dams has led to the discovery of multiple insect larvae, indicating that the waterway is regenerating and becoming more habitable.

Leaky Woody Dams have been introduced in areas that could benefit from controlled land erosion, aiming to affect the flow and create a meandering waterway rather than its current straight path. By placing dams in areas with adjacent low-lying land, it is hoped that during high flow periods, the water will overspill and create wetland habitats, thereby increasing biodiversity.

An adjacent business (Woodland Nurseries) to a large stretch of Budshead Creek has failing fences, causing debris to spill into the creek, potentially contributing to water pollution levels. Additionally, there is a significant amount of fly-tipping on the fundus of Budshead Creek, including items like rusty bicycles, shopping trolleys, and tyres. Due to the location, accessibility issues, and potential for personal harm, resolving this problem with volunteers would be challenging.

Budshead Wood Pond

The surrounding land and pond are managed by Plymouth City Council. The pond was created through a culvert that diverts road runoff. Despite minimal levels of pollution, life continues to thrive in the pond. Overflow from the pond flows directly into Budshead Creek. Water-testing conducted by Plymouth River Keepers has indicated that the pond naturally filters out road runoff pollutants, effectively preventing contamination of the creek and supporting a healthy ecosystem.

This woodland pond is typically bustling with activity throughout the year. With the assistance of Plymouth River Keepers in 2021 and 2024, efforts to address the invasive Azolla fern issue have been made through the introduction of North American weevils. As a result, pond life has improved, and native wildlife such as palmate newts, toads, common frogs, and a wide range of invertebrates including pond snails, dragonflies, and damselflies are flourishing once again.

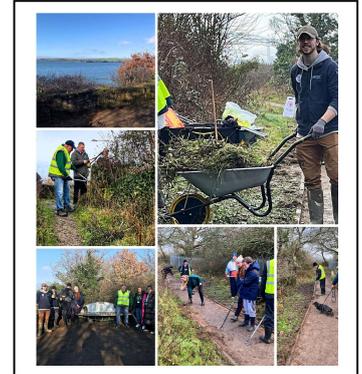
The surrounding land is periodically managed to control Giant Hogweed and remove fly-tipping. While further repairs to the fencing are needed, there may be an opportunity to assist PNG with planting willow in this area instead.

Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood

Works Schedule & AGM

January

We collaborated with Plymouth Sound National Marine Park, Mill Ford School and NSPCC Together for Childhood project on some path clearing at the Headland Path. Following the clearance, we had some photos taken of the newly installed plaques on the Headland benches. It reads "Together for Childhood. In Ernesettle, good things come from a chat." This serves as a reminder of the importance of community spirit and connection.



February

Ray undertook river fly and pollution monitoring with Plymouth Natural Grid. Together, they tested the stream that winds its way through the wood alongside Forefathers Steps, flowing from Budshead Road to Budshead Manor. The water was full of life. River fly species, such as mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies, are key indicators of water quality, and their presence reassured us that this stretch of the stream remains a healthy habitat.



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was conducted on 18 February 2025, with a commendable turnout of volunteers, residents, and members of the Tamerton Foliot Conservation Society. The existing officeholders retained their positions, and the committee election proceeded accordingly. The financial accounts were presented and were found to be in good order, and we give thanks to our Treasurer for always recording the finances exceptionally well.

March

We spent some time this month pruning the Orchards ensuring the health and productivity of the trees.

We also spent more dates path clearing at the Headland with PSNMP.



April

We supported Ernesettle Community Forum Fund (ECFF) and Solomon’s Porch Community Church (SP) with the annual Easter Egg Letter Hunt on 19 April.

We placed clues around Budshead Wood for the children to find, eventually collecting all the letters needed to make an easter themed word.

Afterwards, Ray & Taran removed some fly tipping from Budshead Wood.

We collaborated with PSNMP and held a Bird Walk from Budshead Wood through to the Creek Causeway. The walk was well attended, and we stopped at the end with a cuppa and biscuits.

We also spent a few dates tackling Budshead Barn area and ground clearing for the Tudor Border project. We’ve kept some of the original greenery, such as the wild roses and Himalayan honeysuckle, which add beauty and character to the area. The hope is that, once the space is cleared further, we’ll be able to introduce a variety of wildflowers and other suitable plants to encourage biodiversity.

We also spent a few dates path clearing at the Headland with PSNMP and Mill Ford School.



May

We started works at the Tudor Borders and Budshead Barn area. Richard headed straight to the orchard to water the young trees he had planted previously. Ray followed shortly after to plant and water another. With that done, we turned our attention to clearing more space for the borders.

Barbara and Richard tackled the area around the drain, clearing debris and tidying the edges of the roadway. In the afternoon, we were delighted to welcome Margaret Boadella, who arrived with several new dogwood plants—generously purchased to replace those that had sadly been stolen.

Richard thoroughly enjoyed using the mower to tidy the barn’s edges, while Paddy and John worked with the brush cutter to clear another section—revealing a long-forgotten wall in the process.



June

The community orchards at Lakeside and Digby have received some grass cutting around the bases to keep the voles and associated damage under control, whilst keeping wildflower meadow for the insects and pollinators.

The headland path has received some care during the month to keep the path open and accessible for all to enjoy as well as a good litter pick.

We also joined PSNMP for a Coastal Clean and Litter Survey.



July

We targeted the Budshead Barn area. As we cleared the vegetation, we spotted numerous cinnabar moth caterpillars — black and yellow striped larvae feeding on ragwort — a striking sight and a reminder of how much biodiversity thrives even in neglected spaces. Horseflies, less welcome, also made their presence known. Maintaining this historic area is not just about aesthetics — it's about encouraging community use and protecting both local history and wildlife. A passing dog walker kindly thanked us for our efforts and commented on how tidy the area looked, which was heartening to hear. Before long, we could hear the familiar hum of trimmers coming from the nearby orchard — Paddy and John hard at work, cutting the long grass. They did a superb job, transforming the space with care and precision.

We also attended a foraging walk arranged by PSNMP and Incredible Edible. During the walk we identified and sampled (where safe to do so) a variety of edible and medicinal plants such as yarrow, blackthorn, rowan, acorns, and others native to the Creekside environment.



August

We undertook more path clearing at the Headland joined by PSNMP. While the atmosphere was light-hearted and full of camaraderie, there was also a serious undercurrent of purpose and future planning. Particularly around potential improvements we hope to make with the support of the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park (PSNMP). Jess, drawing on knowledge from a recent food foraging talk, even introduced us to some of the wild edible plants growing nearby — a lovely moment that brought nature and learning together.

We joined PSNMP with a History Walk and Talk led by Kim and Sarah. We started at the car park by Budshead Manor (Scouts Hut), convening for a 1.7-mile walk along Ernesettle Creek. Sarah and Kim led us through a layered narrative—past traces of the old manor and mill, into stories of the communities that once thrived here. Their talk came alive with carefully selected images, maps, and diagrams illustrating where we stood, how the surroundings once looked, and how they've transformed through centuries. These aids grounded our experience in both space and time, making the history understandable.



September

We started the month with a pollution incident on the main pathway through Budshead Wood. The incident was reported and a warning was issued via the group Facebook page advising of the raw sewerage through the Budshead Pathway and rag on the Headland Beaches.

We also joined PSNMP and Devon Bat Group to host a Bat Walk at Budshead Manor, which was well attended and we listened and saw a few species of Bat such as Common & Soprano Pipistrelle.

We also had a report of fly tipping at the Creek 'Car park' area which was still alight when we attended for a Coastal Clean Up. Fire services attended and put out the debris, and we arranged for a clean-up via PCC (FS-Case-752317187)



October

We supported another Bat Walk with PSNMP and Devon Bat Group. The event drew a fantastic turnout, with a mix of families, residents, and nature enthusiasts eager to learn more about these fascinating nocturnal creatures. As dusk settled around the ancient ruins of Budshead Manor and the old barn, our bat detectors soon began to crackle with the high-frequency calls of pipistrelles swooping through the twilight. There was a real sense of excitement as tiny silhouettes darted overhead, perfectly timed with the fading light. Between sightings, friendly chatter flowed over cups of tea, coffee, and biscuits, making it as much a social evening as a wildlife experience.

We also did some pathway flailing with the help of Dave Curno and his tractor. We began on the White Trail, at the top of Budshead Wood. With Dave Curno and his tractor, Richard and Barbara Lillicrap, and Ray, all made steady progress, opening the path as they went. There was a moment of drama when the tractor slid slightly off the trail — but with a mix of luck, skill, and teamwork, it was soon safely back on track! By lunchtime, Paddy and Sarah provided much-needed refreshments, recharging everyone for an afternoon session along the Ernesettle Headland Path, where we widened more sections of the trail. A special thank-you to John and Paddy for their hard work and good humour.

A lot of work was needed at the Orchards as several of the fruit trees had leaned under the weight of the abundant fruit this year. To support them, we propped them up with stakes kindly supplied by Dot at PNG. We all got stuck in to help, while Paddy and John took on the task of cutting and strimming the orchard grass. Meanwhile, the rest of us worked on staking the trees to prevent further damage. Several baby oak trees were removed from around the fruit trees. They probably got planted when we mulched the orchard last year. We managed to replace a couple of trees that had died too.

We also joined PSNMP and Mill Ford School with more Headland Path clearing works on a few Wednesdays!



November

We headed off to clear the Headland Path with more overgrowth to clear. Sarah lifted everyone's spirits with news that PCC is considering sending a tractor with side flails to help clear the Headland Path, a welcome suggestion, as she'd pointed out to them that there's barely any view of the River Tamar now. The blackthorn proved the toughest to tackle, but once we'd made some headway it wasn't long before break time. Luke had kindly brought tea, coffee and milk, but had forgotten biscuits, luckily, Ray had packed some pasties supplied by Sharon from the 31st Ernesettle Scout Group, who are looking for funding at this time. The pasties didn't last long!



We tended the Orchards with Mulch, kindly dropped off by Theo. The crew included Paddy & Sarah, Oskar the Dachshund, Richard & Barbara, John, and Ray. Kim & Taran were missed today, but they had other duties that they couldn't put off. Paddy & Sarah's stash of cardboard, saved thoughtfully over the last few months, proved invaluable. With that laid down, we were able to pile mulch on top, giving the orchard trees a cosy, weed-suppressing blanket to see them safely into spring. Armed with buckets, plastic trugs, shovels, a wheelbarrow and a large tarp, we set up a cheerful production line. Before long, mulch was flying into containers, onto tarps, and occasionally straight into someone's boots. The usual banter kept us warm as we worked. It was reassuring to see that the orchard trees, including the recent replacements, are looking healthy.

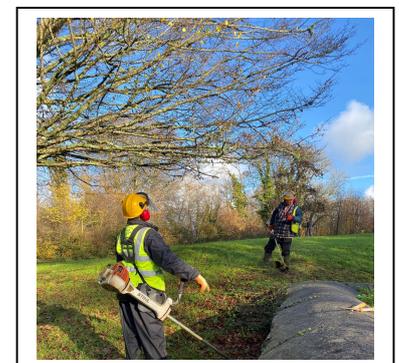


We began our efforts at the end of the month by widening and cutting back vegetation along the path leading to Budshead Wood. This has been on the 'To Do' list since last April, and it was plain to see that blackthorn and brambles had taken an extremely tight foothold. Indeed, Steve discovered that the asphalt path extended much further in width than one might currently imagine. Paddy and John set to work with the power tools, cutting back the overgrowth, while Richard, Barbara, Steve and Ray did some serious pruning to the nearby trees. At this point, we would like to draw attention to the newly wooded area by the western entrance to Budshead Wood, which very much needs thinning out. This area was once completely grassed and used for wildflower studies under the Active Neighbourhoods Project, with support from Kieran Shaw-Flach, lately a DWT ranger at Slapton Ley. After some quiet reflection, we decided to stop where we were and return another day to continue the work.



December

December started with works at Budshead Barn. John and Paddy got straight to work like men possessed, making short work of finishing off the strimming in the orchard, that they had started during the last session. Once that was complete, we paused for refreshments and a reflective chat before getting stuck in again. Kim, Barbara and Steve, set to work on the weeds in the barn itself, tackling pennywort and the ever-persistent old man's beard, also known as Traveller's Joy (*Clematis vitalba*). This vigorous climber, a woody member of the buttercup family, is often seen scrambling over hedgerows, and today it certainly kept us busy! Meanwhile, Richard got busy pruning nearby fruit trees to keep them productive and healthy.



December (continued)

On the 13th of December we supported the final Christmas Market & Carols event offered by ECFF. The event was mainly organised by Sarah and a sub-committee due to the upcoming closure of ECFF due to lack of volunteers. The event was a success and was well attended with a host of freebies available to residents along with Santa's Grotto run by Connecting Youth CIC and selection boxes paid for in part by Plymouth Community Homes. There were fun activities and market stalls along with support offered by PSNMP, PL5 Pathways and All Ways Apples. The Lord Mayor and Consort were also in attendance along with Carols sung by the Solomon's Porch Community Choir.



We returned to our duties after the Christmas festivities by mulching the Digby Orchard and providing much needed care. Over at Ernesettle Community Orchard, Richard and Steve got stuck in with the shovels, tackling the pile of mulch kindly left by Plymouth City Council. Meanwhile, Paddy and John took on the epic role of transport, ferrying the mulch right across the reserve to Digby Orchard. There, Kim, Taran and Ray laid cardboard and carefully spread mulch around the bases of the fruit trees, giving them a snug winter blanket. Underfoot, conditions were very muddy. Recent rain had turned the ground into a slippery challenge, especially on the grassy banks. There was a sad moment, too. We noticed more vandalism at the orchard: trees torn from the hedgerow and others snapped brutally along their stems. It was disheartening, but we're already keeping an eye out for replacement stock to help restore what's been lost.



Projects operating in the Green & Blue spaces during 2025:

Tudor Borders Project is being managed by the FoEBW group with approval from Plymouth City Council and we are working with Plymouth Sound National Marine Park and Mill Ford School. The project involves highlighting the history of the Budshead Manor site introducing plants known in Tudor times and akin to the contemporary style next to the Budshead Manor ruins. We aim to celebrate the history of the area, for the local community to enjoy and for educational purposes (through sessions explaining what the plants were used for in Tudor times, for local schools and community groups). See Appendix 2.

The Plymouth Natural Grid project is managed by National Trust Rangers, Plymouth City Council Officers, and Apprentices. This project involves managing woodlands, repairing and installing steps, maintaining the leaky wooden dams, and potentially installing willow hedging around Budshead Wood Pond across the green spaces.

Plymouth Sound National Marine Park is a new initiative funded by the National Lottery Heritage Horizons Fund (NLHF). Our involvement focuses on the Ernesettle Creek/Tamerton Lake area and the ancient ruins of Budshead Manor. The development phase has concluded, and we are currently awaiting news regarding funding for the delivery phase, expected to commence in 2025.

We anticipate feedback about the capital bid and the allocated budget for rejuvenating the Creek area. Coordination with the new private owner will be crucial for implementing some of the proposed works (see Asset of Community Value pg. 15). Additionally, we will be collaborating with Together for Childhood and Plymouth Natural Grid, as they have expressed an interest in installing signage in the area. We believe that a collaborative approach will serve the community better than multiple individual signs for each project.

Other works associated to this group:

River Surveys, River fly Monitoring & Leaky Woody Dams

Brenda continues to monitor water quality and regularly conducts river surveys and feeds back to this group and Jenny at Westcountry Rivers Trust. PSNMP have offered some refresher training for River fly monitoring, which can be used as a gauge for water quality monitoring and biodiversity. The Leaky Woody Dams are being monitored under PNG.

Signage Repairs

Jess (PSNMP) is organising for the repairs to the signage that has been lost at the Creek Car Park and Headland. There are also plans for some new installations during 2026.

Community Noticeboards

A new Community Noticeboard has been installed by Plymouth Community Homes with funding in part from their social fund and by our Local Counsellors. This project was overseen and pushed forward by Sarah, and now all community groups have keys, and we can see a wide variety of information appearing in the one noticeboard.

Rainwater collection system

WRT supplied and installed a rainwater collection system for us at the Scout Hut to collect rainwater from the roof to use on the orchards during periods of drought. We also have a towable bowser and wheelbarrow kit to transport the water. The group has insured the equipment and is responsible for its maintenance and use.

Asset of Community Value (ACV) application

We have on file the completed applications for the fundus of an estuary, commonly known as Tamerton Lake (also referred to as Ernesettle Creek) and Budshead Creek, along with adjoining land, including woodland to its north, to be registered as an Asset of Community Value. This registration is contingent upon any plans by the new owners that may restrict community access. This application is supported by the community of Tamerton Foliot, who are also considering applying for an ACV on Tamerton Creek. The Community Interest Company (CIC) supporting our application is Four Greens Community Trust CIC.

We need to submit the application and accompanying title deeds and documents to both South Hams District Council (SHDC) and Plymouth City Council (PCC), as the fundus is managed by both local councils in addition to a private owner.

A decision needs to be made regarding whether we should contact the new owner (on behalf of the community and boat owners) to inquire about their intentions, as they have not yet responded to the King's Harbour Master concerning the renewal of the mooring license on Tamerton Lake. It is anticipated that the Plymouth Sound National Marine Park (PSNMP) will support the community with this application and the regeneration of the area where boat owners in Ernesettle access their vessels and tenders. Coordination with all marine agencies and landowners is crucial to ensure future community access to the fundus (river/lake/creek bed).

The ACV is currently on file and efforts to regenerate the area are being considered by PSNMP, and we will be guided by them for the duration of the project and deciding on whether an ACV application is necessary.

Finances – 2025

Bank Account			Income	Expenditure	Balance
21/11/2024		B/fwd	11,286.46		11,286.46
13/03/2025	PCC Local Counsellor - Community Grant - Storage Container (New Ringfence) ***	1	2,800.00		14,086.46
18/03/2025	Service Charge	2		4.25	14,082.21
22/04/2025	Service Charge	3		4.25	14,077.96
19/05/2025	Service Charge	4		4.25	14,073.71
03/06/2025	Patrick Colwill - Fuel (1)	5		13.45	14,060.26
16/06/2025	Patrick Colwill - Fuel (2)	6		15.93	14,044.33
17/06/2025	Service Charge	7		4.25	14,040.08
20/06/2025	Patrick Colwill - Leaf Blower (3)	8		80.00	13,960.08
30/06/2025	Zurich Charities Insurance (4)	9		236.52	13,723.56
11/07/2025	Patrick Colwill - Path Scrapers & Handles (5 (x2))	10		59.96	13,663.60
17/07/2025	Sarah Colwill - Tudor Garden - Rose (6)	11		22.99	13,640.61
21/07/2025	Service Charge	12		4.25	13,636.36
04/08/2025	Patrick Colwill - Path Scraper Handles (7)	13		31.32	13,605.04
12/08/2025	Patrick Colwill - Flasks x2 (8)	14		21.84	13,583.20
19/08/2025	Service Charge	15		4.25	13,578.95
20/08/2025	Patrick Colwill - Strimmer Repair (9)	16		50.00	13,528.95
26/08/2025	Angela Woolcock - Tudor Garden - Plants & Membrane(10 & 11)	17		80.67	13,448.28
19/09/2025	Service Charge	18		4.25	13,444.03
14/10/2025	Kim Ash - Pond Hose (12)	19		12.44	13,431.59
16/10/2025	Kim Ash - Tudor Garden - Compost & Fertiliser (15)	20		9.00	13,422.59
16/10/2025	Kim Ash - Hose Connectors (13 & 14)	21		11.14	13,411.45
20/10/2025	Service Charge	22		4.25	13,407.20
27/10/2025	Patrick Colwill - Fuel (16)	23		16.06	13,391.14
18/11/2025	Service Charge	24		4.25	13,386.89
04/12/2025	Patrick Colwill - Strimmer Repair (Triton) & Repair & Purchase (Hyundai) (17)	25		40.00	13,346.89
19/12/2025	Service Charge	26		4.25	13,342.64
January (tbc)	Service Charge	27		4.25	13,338.39
	Totals		14,086.46	748.07	13,338.39

In addition to the £13,338.39, we have £27.34 in petty cash held by A Sargent, giving an overall total of £13,365.73 - of which £12,676.63 is ringfenced - as detailed below - leaving £689.10 available in non-ringfenced funds.

Ringfenced Funds:			Income	Expenditure	Balance
19/12/2019	Lillies donation - Budshead Wood Pond	B/Fwd			63.40
05/11/2021	Co-op Causes (2020/21) - Tools, PPE, Benches	B/Fwd			1.06
16/10/2025	Kim Ash - Hose Connectors (13 & 14)	21		11.14	-
	Tudor Border Project	B/Fwd			674.26
17/07/2025	Sarah Colwill - Tudor Garden - Rose (6)	11		22.99	651.27
26/08/2025	Angela Woolcock - Tudor Garden - Plants & Membrane (10 & 11)	17		80.67	570.60
16/10/2025	Kim Ash - Compost & Fertiliser (15)	20		9.00	561.60
	Pathway Repair & Creation	B/Fwd			9,478.97
20/06/2025	Patrick Colwill - Leaf Blower (3)	8		80.00	9,398.97
11/07/2025	Patrick Colwill - Path Scrapers & Handles (5 (x2)	10		59.96	9,339.01
04/08/2025	Patrick Colwill - Path Scraper Handles (7)	13		31.32	9,307.69
22/10/2025	Patrick Colwill - Fuel (16)	23		16.06	9,291.63
29/11/2025	Lantra & First Aid +F Training fees (x4) - New Ringfence*			1,680.00	7,611.63
29/11/2025	PSNMP Pathways Creation - New Ringfence**			6,500.00	1,111.63
04/12/2025	Patrick Colwill - Strimmer Repair (Triton) & Repair & Purchase (Hyundai) (17)	25		40.00	1,071.63

29/11/2025	New Ringfence - Training Costs*	B/Fwd			1,680.00
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29/11/2025	New Ringfence - PSNMP Pathways**	B/Fwd			6,500.00
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13/03/2025	New Ringfence - Storage Container***	B/Fwd			2,800.00
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	Total Ringfenced				12,676.63
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Petty Cash			Income	Expenditure	Balance
25/02/2023	Refreshment donations B/fwd		19.82		19.82
15/10/2023	Refreshment donations B/fwd		7.52		27.34
	Total Petty Cash				27.34

Appendix 1 - Manifesto for Tamerton Lake & Budshead Creek Explanation

Many groups and individuals value and care for the Tamerton Lake area of NW Plymouth. These include people who use the water, litter pickers and those who engage with land management activities on behalf of Friends of Ernesettle & Budshead Wood. Following numerous conversations about changes people would like to see in the area and based on feedback from the ongoing ErneVoice survey and input from regular volunteers, the Friends group has decided to create a Manifesto (a broad starting point of wishes) for Tamerton Lake—known locally as Ernesettle Creek—and Budshead Creek.

Plymouth has been awarded £9.5 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to protect the area's 1,000 marine species within an offshore 'park in the sea' to help tackle the impact of climate change. A portion of this funding has been ring-fenced to regenerate Tamerton Lake.

The Lake's fundus (riverbed) is currently for sale as part of an area of land that includes woodland—trees whose roots make the banks more resistant to erosion. Now is a good time for the area to be acknowledged by future landowners, stakeholders and authorities as a natural asset valued by the community. Also, to ensure that the local community's relationship with the land and the water is respected and valued into the future.

The Friends of Ernesettle & Budshead Wood group is working with the Bioregional Learning Centre, local councillors and Westcountry Rivers Trust (Plymouth River Keepers) to achieve this. A further step, should the community show its support, would be to undertake a wider collaborative process resulting in a River Charter for Tamerton Lake & Budshead Creek like that recently undertaken by the community for the River Dart (<https://bioregion.org.uk/project/river-charter-for-the-dart-at-dartington/>).

What can you do?

This is an opportunity to help define what people locally most want and value in relation to this important natural resource. As a first step, the Friends group is asking for feedback and suggestions on the draft Manifesto—if there are lots of requests for a particular point then that point will be incorporated.

The Tamerton Lake & Budshead Creek Manifesto

The Ernesettle Community proposes this Manifesto for the sustainable use, enjoyment and protection of Tamerton Lake, referred to here as Ernesettle Creek, and Budshead Creek. We ask that visitors, current and future landowners, the Council and other authorities, consider the importance of this waterway for local communities and nature.

In Ernesettle, we value and name as our shared assets:

Safe, respectful and agreed access to the Creeks for the enjoyment of the shared water.

Creeks that are valued and understood as a central part of our community's pride of place, enhancing our mental and physical well-being.

Clean and unpolluted water for safe recreation and healthy wildlife.

The Mill Pond dam (known locally as the causeway) which is integral for access to the headland walks and protects important mudflat habitats for protected species.

Respected environmental protections and improvement of the Creeks' habitats for nature.

The trees and shrubs of the banks of the creek that maintain its integrity and provide important habitats.

Appendix 2 – Tudor Borders Project Plan

Outline

The group will plant and maintain new gardens with plants known in Tudor times and akin to the contemporary style next to the Budshead Manor ruins in Ernesettle. This will celebrate the history of the area, for the local community to enjoy and for educational purposes (through sessions explaining what the plants were used for in Tudor times, for local schools and community groups).

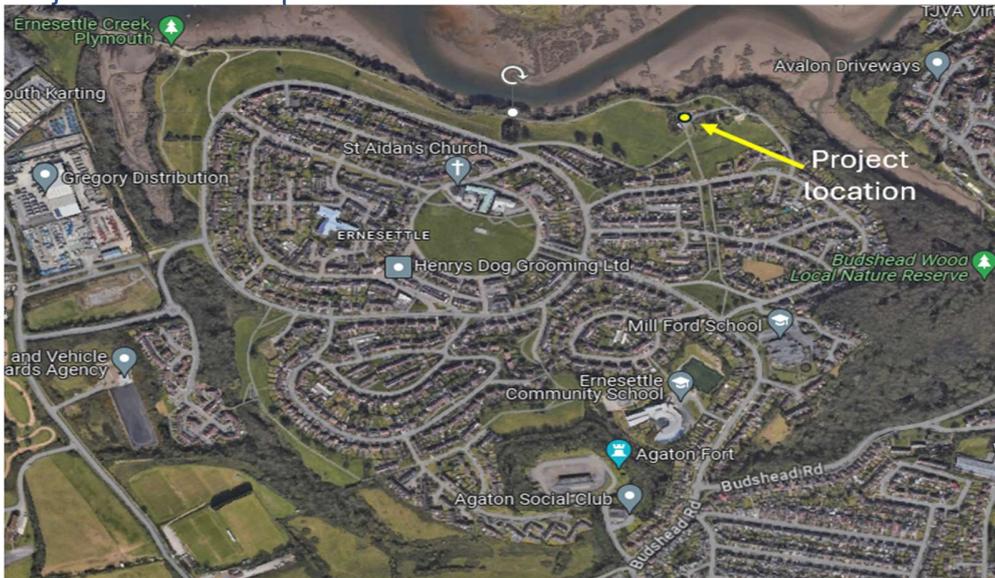
Historical background

Budshead Manor (commonly referred to as ‘the ruins’) holds a special place in the hearts of locals due to its historic heritage and memories associated to their childhood and adolescence spent exploring and/or enjoying the site when it was used for community activities such as tea parties, snooker and fencing competitions, youth group and library services. The site is uniquely placed transporting the walker from the urban area into the rural immediately creating a place of calm and tranquillity.

Tudor gardens followed in the tradition of early medieval gardens, in that they were both functional and decorative. Gardens provided food for the household as well as herbs and flowers for strewing on the floor and cloth dyeing^{1, 2, 3}. Monastic “physic gardens” contains herbs and flowers for medicinal uses, known as simples. Decorative gardens were referred to as “Pleasaunce”, a garden of delight. There was a focus on scented flowers.

Gardens were laid in rectangular beds with small paths between them. These paths allowed plants to be picked more easily and let people appreciate at a closer view.

Project Location Map



Project details

We propose to do the planting in main phases:

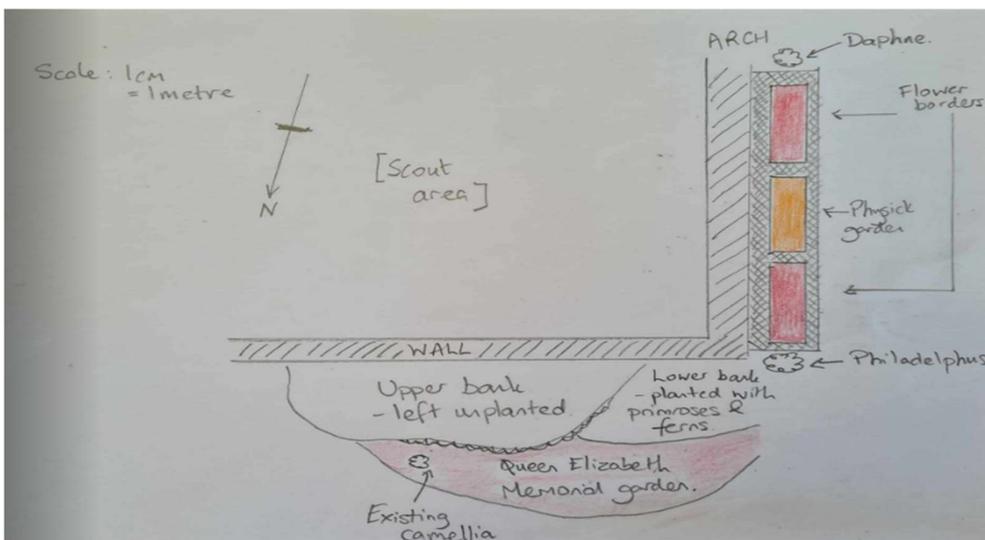
2024

Phase 1. Prepare the ground and plant the eastern side of the wall with plants in the Tudor style, to celebrate the long history of the ruins.

2025 - 2026

Phase 2. Prepare the site to the north of the ruins and plant a Queen Elizabeth II memorial garden, with a more relaxed planting (cottage garden) style, that she was reported to enjoy ^{4,5}.

All the plants used would have been known in the Tudor era.



Phase 1 Tudor Borders

It will consist of 3 rectangular flower beds (3x1 metre each). They will be situated 50 cm away from the wall (to ensure accessibility to the wall for any work needed and ensure its integrity) and 50 cm away from each other. They will not be raised beds. The corners of each will be marked out with T-shaped stakes protruding from the ground by about 6 inches. The flower bed will consist of a physick garden in the middle and flower beds in the 2 outer rectangles. As Elizabethan enjoyed geometry, both the flower beds will be a mirror image of each other. The flower beds will be surrounded 50 cm on each side with mulch mat fabric to suppress weeds and covered in bark chips. Taller plants will be at the back of the border.

The existing daffodils and climbing roses near the arch will be maintained. A single daphne bush will be planted near the daffodils. It will provide fragrant flowers in late winter. The final height will be 90-150cm. The other end of the flower beds, there will be a philadelphus tree. It is richly scented during the early summer. The final height will be about 150cm. This will be underplanted with narcissus.



The plants chosen for the project were chosen by the following criteria:

- Authenticity^{6,7}
- Non-invasiveness
- Ease of cultivation
- Availability
- Suitability to amount sun/shade on the site and the soil type
- Together, will provide colour/interest throughout the year.

List of plants for the Physick section (all these plants are sensory – they all have distinctive smells when touched. The peppermint will be planted in a sunken pot to prevent it from spreading)

Lady's Bedstraw, Borage, Lavender, Feverfew, Fennel, Lemon Balm, Chamomile, Marjoram, Peppermint, Rosemary, Bay (when big enough, the bay can be clipped into a geometric shape), Tansy, Southernwood (was used as a natural insect repellent), Pineapple Sage, Meadowsweet, Hyssop, Curry Plant, Yarrow, Sage, Thyme.

List of plants for the Tudor section

Sea Holly, Dogwood, English Marigolds, Yellow Tulips, Ornamental Onion Flowers, Lavender, Sunflowers, Goldenrod, Purple Toadflax, Snapdragons, Purple Perennial Wallflowers, Teasel, Aquilegia, Rosa Gallica Officinalis (aka Apothecary's Rose - highly scented rose species), Crown Imperial (Fritillaria Imperialis).

Phase 2 Queen Elizabeth Memorial Border

The planting will be in an informal style. Most of the plants are perennial. Included is a myrtle tree. It has white flowers in the summer and was used in the late Queen's wedding bouquet. Its final height is 200cm.

This is a predominantly north-facing garden; therefore, the plants have been selected for semi-shade conditions. Apart from the existing camellia bush, all the plants were known to the Tudors, in keeping with the Elizabethan theme.



List of plants for the Queen Elizabeth section

Lady's Mantle, Foxgloves, Ox-eye Daisy, Dogwood, Purple Toadflax, Love-in-a-Mist, Primroses, Violets, Forget me Nots, Lily of the Valley, Jacob's Ladder, Lungwort, Hellebore, Variety of Ferns, Bear's Breeches, Michaelmas Daisies, Solomon's Seal, Aquilegia, Snowdrops.

Timeframe

- Surface cut of Phase 1 site by early July 2024.
- Hand dig the Phase 1 site by the summer holidays (this will be a FoEBW "activity", not a public event)
- Planting over weekends in the summer holidays or the early autumn.
- Surface cut of Phase 2 site by end of February 2025. Prepare the group and cover by end of 2025.
- Hand dig the site by Easter 2026. Planting by end of May 2026.

Maintenance

Angela Woolcock and other volunteers will weed the sites every 3 weeks during the spring to autumn. They will water as needed during the summer using water from the water butts behind the Scout Hut.

Funding

We already have £1000 for the plants, with thanks to former Counsellor Phillip Partridge. We hope to be able to install information boards in the area, giving historical information of the site and the plants chosen for educational purposes. We will need to seek further funding to continue and complete this project.

References

1. <https://bardgarden.blogspot.com/2014/03/elizabethan-gardens.html>
2. <https://www.growbar.co.uk/recipe-inspiration/herbs-in-the-tudor-garden>
3. <https://kilkennyarchaeologicalsociety.ie/tudor-herbs/>
4. <https://www.flyingflowers.co.uk/blog/royal-family-favourite-flowers>
5. <https://www.gardenersworld.com/queen-elizabeth-ii-remembered-by-alan-titchmarsh/>
6. The Tudor Garden (2013), Twigs Way, Shire Books
7. Tudor book of the Garden (2019), Tudor Times, Graffeg publishing

Appendix 3 - Constitution of Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood Group

Name

The name of the group shall be Friends of Ernesettle Creek & Budshead Wood (referred to in this document as 'FoEBW').

Vision

To work in partnership with Plymouth City Council (PCC) in respect of the Green Spaces of Ernesettle Creek, Warren Point & Budshead Wood to preserve and improve the spaces for the benefit of people & nature in line with a site management plan.

To work in partnership with the Pier Master (PCC), private fundus owners and other river and/or marine-based organisations in respect of the Blue Spaces of Ernesettle Creek (official name Tamerton Lake), the Tamar River and Budshead Creek and Pond.

To work in partnership with Plymouth City Council, 31st Plymouth Scouts group, Historic England and other heritage-based organisations in respect of the historic remains of Budshead Manor and associated Barn.

Aims & Objectives

Work in partnership with organisations and groups to encourage public interest in conservation and heritage

To protect the wildlife and habitats of the green & blue spaces

To advance the community's awareness of the spaces by promoting its plants, wildlife, landscape, sustainability and supporting recreational activities for the benefit of both the people and wildlife

To develop and deliver information and educational opportunities for the areas by way of activities & events

To raise funds for the purposes of achieving these aims

Represent the FoEBW group when communicating with other organisations to achieve the vision outlined herein

Promote the health and well-being of residents and visitors through encouragement of the use of the green and blue spaces as an amenity and recreational area

Work to safeguard residents and visitors in connection to the use of the areas and prevent anti-social behaviour within it by working with Plymouth City Council, Devon & Cornwall Police, Environment Agency and other relevant authorities and youth groups

Membership & Voting

The FoEBW group shall be voluntary and self-supporting

Committee Members and Rangers shall be referred to as 'members'

Rangers can also be Committee members and *vice versa*

Membership shall be open to anyone interested in taking part in the group and furthering its aims and is willing to abide by the rules of the FoEBW group

All members shall be bound by this constitution

Only members may vote

Any complaints against the Committee or Rangers shall be made in writing to Plymouth City Council (theodore.nickols@plymouth.gov.uk)

Any member may resign by giving written notice to the Secretary

Conduct

Members shall always conduct themselves in a reasonable manner and will be asked to leave the meeting by the Chairperson if they contravene reasonable standards of behaviour or the aims of the group

If anyone is asked to leave a meeting following the majority decision above but fails to do so the Chairperson will close the meeting immediately and any unfinished business will be discussed at a following meeting. If this occurs at an AGM, then the meeting will be closed and a new general meeting called by the Secretary within four weeks.

The Committee

The committee should aim to consist of nine members. This number of members is to be reviewed at each AGM

Four of these committee members are to each have one of the following named roles: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary

Additional roles can be created if required and voted for at an AGM

No member shall exercise more than one vote

In the event of equal votes, the Chairperson shall make the casting vote in the best interests of the FoEBW group

Conflicts of interest: Members must not vote on issues where there is a conflict of interest e.g., they are a member of another group that would benefit from the decision

Members may not benefit financially from FoEBW but may claim expenses if agreed by the committee and signed for by two members

The Committee shall have the power to refuse, or withdraw, membership to, or from, any person found to be acting against the interests of the FoEBW group. The member or representative of the member shall have the right to make representation to Plymouth City Council before the final decision is made (theodore.nickols@plymouth.gov.uk). If the decision of the Committee is upheld by PCC the Secretary shall notify the member in writing

Any complaints against the Committee or its members shall be made in writing to Plymouth City Council (theodore.nickols@plymouth.gov.uk)

Committee members are expected to attend at least quarterly meetings or give a valid reason for not attending with as much notice as possible

At least one person from the committee is expected to represent FoEBW at relevant meetings in conjunction with Plymouth City Council and other Friends groups within the city, including Plymouth Open Spaces Network meetings

The Committee has the right to expel members if they continuously do not attend committee meetings, achieve their committee duties or coordinate with FoEBW and Plymouth City Council or other organisations

Should a vacancy occur in the positions of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer or Secretary, every member shall be contacted to seek out a member to cover until the next AGM

The maximum term of any committee member shall be twelve months. At this time, they could be re-elected or step-down at the AGM

The sharing of duties and named roles within the committee is to be encouraged prior to AGMs to allow all interested parties to step up or down from these posts and prevent a sense of ownership of a specific role or a sense of 'having to stay' from being formed

Subgroups can be formed for specific purposes. These subgroups must work within the remit of the Committee, and all financial decisions must go through the Committee. Subgroups can be made up of the committee members and members of the wider community

Duties

Duties of the Named members:

The duties of the Chairperson are to chair meetings of the Committee and the Group; represent the Group at functions/meetings that the Group has been invited to; act as spokesperson for the Group when necessary

The duties of the Vice Chairperson are to cover any duties of the Chairperson as required

The duties of the Secretary are to take and keep minutes of meetings; prepare the agenda for meetings of the Committee and the Group in consultation with the Chairperson; maintain the membership list; deal with correspondence; collect and circulate any relevant information within the Group

The duties of the Treasurer are to supervise the financial affairs of the Group; keep proper accounts that show all monies collected and paid out by the Group

The duties of the Rangers are to provide quarterly reports; raise any issues to the Chairperson for discussion with the members as necessary

Meetings

Committee meetings are to be held at least every quarter

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) is to be held every year, with at least four weeks' notice given to the members and wider community – this meeting will also be the Annual Open Meeting

The Agenda for each AGM is to be strictly adhered to and must include the presentation of the year's accounts or balance sheet as well as the election of members

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) can be called at any time to deal with specific issues that require the input of all members

The Agenda for an EGM should be strictly adhered to

The committee should aim to give members at least two weeks' notice prior to an EGM

Volunteers, Collaborators & Local Counsellors may attend meetings but not vote

Accounts

Accounts shall be kept by the Treasurer, submitted to an annual audit and approved at a member's meeting. Any bank account in which part of the FoEBW funds are deposited shall be in the name of FoEBW

The Treasurer shall open a bank account in the name of FoEBW (ensuring an online banking facility is available) and ensure that all funds held elsewhere are transferred to this account under the group's name

The Treasurer shall ensure any donations received in the groups PayPal account are transferred to the main bank account on a regular basis and in advance of an AGM or audit

The Treasurer and two other committee members shall be nominated as cheque signatories

All cheques, online banking, transactions and instructions to the groups bankers shall require two of the agreed signatures. These should not be from the same household, nor should you sign a cheque for yourself

The Treasurer shall have the accounts checked by an independent person with adequate financial experience at the end of the financial year

The Treasurer shall ensure that the checked accounts are agreed by a Committee meeting before the AGM where they will be presented

Petty cash and spending: Authorisation will need to be given by the Committee for all spending. Before each event, a decision should be made about who should count the monies - this needs to be at least 2 people, of which 1 should be independent of the group

Alteration of the Constitution

Proposals for alterations to this constitution or dissolution must be delivered to the Secretary in writing. The Secretary in conjunction with all other members shall then decide on the date of a General Meeting to discuss such proposals, giving members at least four weeks (28 days) notice

Any changes must be agreed by at least two-thirds of the members present and subsequently approved by Plymouth City Council

Dissolution

The FoEBW group may be wound up at any time if agreed by two-thirds of the members present

Any assets remaining after the payment of all debts and liabilities shall be given to an Ernesettle charity or Not for Profit group working in or for the benefit of Ernesettle according to the wishes of the members present

Any unused funding from Plymouth City Council or any other organisation shall be returned to them

Quorum

No General meeting shall take place if less than two thirds of the committee are present

A minimum of five committee members is needed for an EGM to take place

A minimum of five committee members is needed for an AGM to take place, plus 6 members of the wider community

Constitution Agreement

This constitution was agreed on (date):

Chairperson (print name & sign):

Vice-Chairperson (print name & sign):

Secretary (print name & sign):

Treasurer (print name & sign):

Rangers:

(print name & sign): PATRICK COLWILL*+^#

(print name & sign): RAY MORTON*+^

(print name & sign): RICHARD LILLICRAP

(print name & sign): JOHN CLOUGH^

*First Aid Level 3

+Forestry First Aid

^Lantra Brushcutter

#Food Hygiene & Safety Level 2