



Parks in Jersey

Overview

This paper provides information on Jersey's oldest public park, establishment and governance of the National Park, Regulations that govern the Island's parks, and the role of parks in green infrastructure as set out in the Bridging Island Plan.



Introduction

Jersey has 45 areas designed as parks on the Island (Schedule, [Policing of Parks \(Jersey\) Regulations 2005](#)) as well as a National Park, originally called the Coastal National Park, which was formally endorsed in the 2011 Island Plan. The designation and regulation of parks is managed through the [Policing of Parks \(Jersey\) Regulations 2005](#) which provides maps of each area designated as a park in Jersey. Parks are also integral to the concept of "Green Infrastructure" which seeks to protect and enhance a range of open spaces, green assets such as trees and hedgerows, as well as ponds, streams and cycle paths to support wellbeing, food production, and urban cooling.

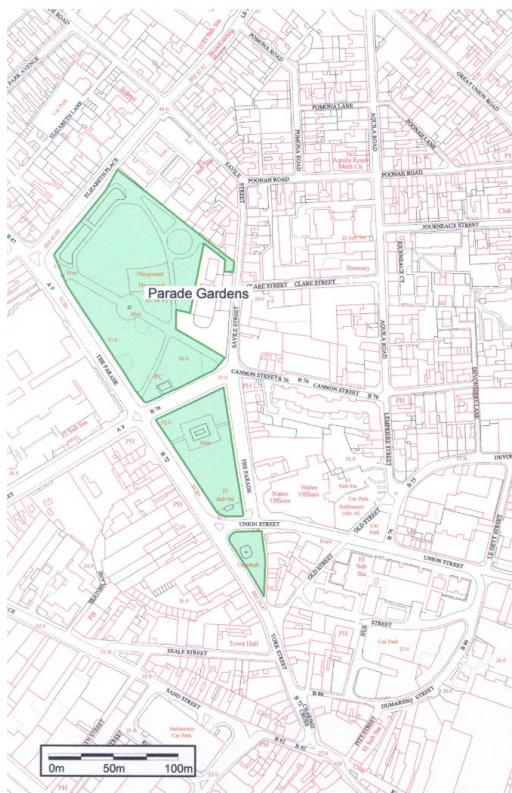
Jersey's oldest public park

Jersey's oldest public park is Parade Gardens purchased by the Parish of St Helier on 19 July 1856.¹ Parade Gardens, originally a military parade ground, was developed as an urban park at a time when the Victorian movement in England was seeking to establish green spaces available to the public free of charge.² The site of the Parade Gardens has a covenant on it preventing buildings being placed on the site and includes a playground, though it is unclear when this was established. The park also contains a First World War memorial, designed by Siobhann MacLeod, which was completed in November 2018. On 10th July 2024 the St Helier Parish Assembly approved a major project to upgrade Parade Gardens play areas.³

¹ [Parade Gardens: Refurbishment of the existing Playground & Proposed new 0-6yrs. old Playground": Landscape Design and Planning Statement](#), p. 4.

² [The Victorian Legacy | Historic England](#)

³ [Business Plan and Estimates; £750k upgrade planned for "outdated" Parade play area | Bailiwick Express Jersey](#)



Jersey's National Park

The concept of a Coastal National Park for Jersey was formally endorsed in the 2011 Island Plan ([R Revised 2011 Island Plan.pdf](#), p. 19-20) with a commitment by the Minister for the Environment to develop and adopt a management plan. Renamed the National Park (NP) in 2018 it covers approximately 30 miles (48 km) or Jersey's coastline. The primary purposes of the NP were:

- the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park;
- to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park by the public. (p. 20)

Stakeholder engagement was facilitated by the Department of the Environment to develop the management plan. A [Jersey Coastal National Park Interim Working Group](#) was formed following this engagement.

Governance timeline

2014	Jersey Coastal National Park: Role of CNP Group & Interim Working Group (August 2014). This publication included Initial Responsibilities of the Interim Working Group (p. 1-2) and Ongoing roles and responsibilities of the CNP Group (p. 2).
	4 August 2014 – first meeting of the Interim Working Group
2015	Jersey Coastal National Park management plan (6 th Feb 2015) Jersey Coastal National Park draft action plan (6 th Feb 2015)



2017	<p>Rural Economy Strategy 2017 (gov.je)</p> <p>“Aim NE 1 Coastal National Park (CNP) To support the National Park Interim Working Group in the development of a permanent governance model and in the development and review of the National Park Management Plan. KPI = Review the National Park Management Plan in 2018” (p. 92)</p> <p>“Policy NE 1 Coastal National Park (CNP) (DoE) The Government of Jersey will continue to support the CNP through membership of the Governance body, support statutory functions within the Park boundary in a way that is sympathetic to the purposes of the Park and provide specialist advice and administrative support. The Department of the Environment will lead a periodic review of the Coastal National Park Management Plan.” (p. 92)</p>
2018	<p>Jersey National Park Ltd became a Registered Company Private 31.01.2018 (Registry entities — Jersey Financial Services Commission (jerseyfsc.org))</p>
2020	<p>Business Plan 2020 – 4 year plan accompanying Jersey National Park funding for 2020 – Ministerial Decision (4 February 2020). Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture.</p>
	<p>Jersey National Park Ltd. Progress Against Plan For 2020 And Situation Forward. Written submission to the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel 28th October 2020. “Work completed</p> <p>2. JNP Ltd Board Consideration and discussion of suitable organizations, and individuals within those organizations, to join the Board of Jersey National Park Ltd has been undertaken. Discussions with many of the individuals have taken place. Comprising approx. 8-10 people, they will form the governance and advisory board, but also expected to be pro-active in helping achieve the aims and vision for the Jersey National Park. It is hoped they can also provide treasurer, secretarial and legal support. There will also be Government of Jersey representation attending the Board, in particular to represent the Environment Department and Economic Development, Tourism, Sport & Culture as relevant.”</p>
	<p>Jersey National Park Ltd – registered as a charity 17/12/2020 (Public Register - View · Charities Register (charitycommissioner.je))</p>
2021	<p>Island Plan 2022-25: Approval (P.36/2021) : included Jersey Coastal National Park: Boundary Review</p> <p>Island Plan 2022-25: Approval (P.36/2021) – Thirtieth Amendment Coastal National Park Amendment – “proposals for the establishment of the Coastal National park in law” (withdrawn).</p>
2022	<p>Jersey National Park forms a new Board – Jersey National Park (May 2022) “Park directors – Honorary Chair, Jim Hopley, MBE and Mike Stentiford, MBE – who have worked for many years to establish the Park as a reality since it was declared as a planning designation in 2011.” “Each new member is represented on the Board of Directors of Jersey National Park Limited.”</p>



Parks as part of Green Infrastructure

The term ‘green infrastructure’ refers to assets including open spaces such as parks and gardens, playing fields, allotments, woodlands, fields, trees, hedgerows, banques and ponds, as well as footpaths, cycle routes and streams.” ([Bridging Island Plan](#), p. 115)

According to Jersey’s [Bridging Island Plan](#) “Green infrastructure enhances wellbeing, provides access to outdoor recreation, improves health and wellbeing, enhances biodiversity, influences food and energy production, results in urban cooling and builds resilience to climate change.” (p. 33)

Parks are a green infrastructure asset and featured in the Open Space Study for St Helier that was undertaken in 2018 as part of the preparation for the Island Plan. The Bridging Island Plan adopted benchmark standards for open space in Town (p. 250) and provided a summary of performance against open spaces in St Helier. According to the benchmark standard at the time of the audit St Helier’s parks slightly exceeded the total space “expectation” –

Summary of performance against St Helier benchmark standards (recorded 2018)				
Typology	benchmark standard (Ha/1,000 population)	Total space “expectation”	Actual availability of space	Status against benchmark at the time of audit (2018)
Parks	0.5	17.5ha	17.6ha	100%
Play space	0.1	3.5ha	1.38ha	39%
Outdoor sports facility	0.8	28ha	27ha	96%
Amenity greenspace	0.25	8.75ha	6.93ha	79%
Natural greenspace	1.0	35ha	24.62ha	70%

Table C13: Town performance against benchmark standards (as at 2018)

(p. 250) - St Helier open space audit (2018): see [IPR core evidence base](#)

The Bridging Island Plan also set out **Proposal 28 – St Helier Country Park –**

“The development of the country park will reflect an investigation and report by the Council of Ministers on opportunities to incorporate adjacent areas of countryside into the park in the future, in line with the map attached to, and supporting, Paragraph 7 of Amendment 38 (as adopted by the States Assembly on 21st June 2011) to the previous Island Plan.” (p. 251)

Currently Warwick Farm, a publicly owned site, is leased to Jersey Hemp with the lease due to expire in January 2026.⁴

⁴ [Constable announces bid to create country park north of St Helier - Jersey Evening Post](#)



Regulation of parks

There are 45 Areas designated as parks in the [Policing of Parks \(Jersey\) Regulations 2005](#) (Schedule) with ministerial responsibility for these areas lying with the Minister for Infrastructure. There are a range of regulations that apply to all areas designated as parks which aim to control behaviours in those spaces:

Regulation 3. Prohibited acts in parks

Regulation 4. Acts for which written permission of park authority is required

Regulation 5. Animals in parks

Regulation 6. Cycle tracks in parks

Regulation 9. Holding of events in parks

However, *Regulation 5. Animals in parks* sets out specific rules in relation to animals in specific parks as defined in the Schedule Part 1-Part 5:

5 Animals in parks

- (1) Except as provided by this Regulation, a person must not –
 - (a) take an animal into a park; or
 - (b) being a person with responsibility for an animal, allow the animal to remain in a park.
- (2) A person in charge of an assistance dog, such person being the person whom the dog has been trained to assist, may take the dog into a park.^[4]
- (3) A police officer or an officer of the Impôts may take into a park a dog that is being worked by the officer in the course of his or her duty.
- (4) A person may take a dog into a Part 1 park so long as the dog is kept on a lead and is kept within the confines of established paths while it is in the park.
- (5) A person may take a dog into a Part 2 park so long as the dog is kept on a lead while it is in the park.
- (6) A person may take a dog into a Part 3 or 4 park.
- (7) A person may take a horse or pony into a Part 4 park so long as it is ridden or led on a road or riding way established for the purpose by the park authority.
- (8) A person who contravenes a provision of paragraph (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of level 2 on the standard scale.

The following graphics provide information on parks, the parish in which they are located, and the relevant Schedule Part regarding animals that apply to each:



Schedule – Part 1

Dogs may be taken into this park, but they must be on a lead and kept to the confines of established paths.

First Tower Park (also known as St Andrew's Park)	St Helier
FB (Florence Boot) Playing Fields	St Clement
Grainville Playing Fields	St Saviour
Les Quennevais Playing Fields	St Brelade
Liberation Square	St Helier
The Weighbridge	St Helier
Millennium Town Park	St Helier
Parade Gardens	St Helier
South Hill & Mount Bingham Gardens	St Helier
La Collette Gardens	St Helier
St Martin's Village Green	St Martin
Westmount Gardens	St Helier
Lower Park	St Helier
People's Park	St Helier
Victoria Park	St Helier
Vallée des Vaux Gardens	St Helier

Schedule – Part 2

Dogs may be taken into this park, but they must be on a lead.

Coronation Park (also known as Coronation Gardens or Millbrook Park)	St Lawrence
The public gardens at Gorey	St Martin
Harvey Memorial Gardens	St Helier
Moignard Liberation Garden	St Lawrence
Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Park	St Brelade
Seafront gardens at St Brelades' Bay	St Brelade



Schedule – Part 3

Dogs may be taken into this park.

Beauport Headland	St Brelade
Castle Green Gardens, Gorey	St Martin
The Corbière Walk	St Brelade
Le Côté du Grouin	St Brelade
Glacis Field	St Helier
Ouaisné	St Brelade
Le Parc de la Petite Falaise	Trinity
Portelet	St Brelade
Public Land on La Route du Nord	St John
Sorel headland	St John
Promenade and gardens from St. Helier to St. Aubin	St Helier & St Brelade

Schedule – Part 4

Dogs may be taken into this park. Horses or ponies can be taken into this park, so long as it is ridden or led on a road or riding way established for the purpose by the park authority.

Beauport Headland	St Brelade
Castle Green Gardens, Gorey	St Martin
The Corbière Walk	St Brelade
Le Côté du Grouin	St Brelade
Glacis Field	St Helier
Ouaisné	St Brelade
Le Parc de la Petite Falaise	Trinity
Portelet	St Brelade
Public Land on La Route du Nord	St John
Sorel headland	St John
Promenade and gardens from St. Helier to St. Aubin	St Helier & St Brelade



Schedule – Part 5

No animals may be taken into this park, except for assistance dogs or working Police/Impôt dogs.

Elephant Park

Howard Davis Park

Patier Park

Springfield Sports Ground

St Brelade

St Saviour

St Saviour

St Helier