

ASHTON COURT ESTATE, BRISTOL

NEW MANSION CAR PARK, RE-INSTATING AND SURFACING THE PARK ROADWAYS, LANDSCAPING AND ERECTING TRADITIONAL METAL ESTATE PARK FENCING

Ashton Court with over 1.6 million visitors annually is the UK's third busiest country park. It's Grade II registered landscape, with 850 acres of woodland and grassland, and Grade I listed mansion rank amongst the country's finest.

The estate is a venue for large scale annual events such as the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta, Community Festival and Kite Festival. The Balloon Fiesta is probably one of the most popular events with daily crowds of over 100,000 viewing over 100 balloons participating in mass ascents.

Improving views and vistas, providing better facilities for visitors such as toilets, car parking, educational and learning resources and a dedicated picnic area, as well as major works to the boundary wall are just a few of the many restoration and development works in the current £4.4 million Heritage Lottery funding package.



Ford Bros were awarded the contract to construct the new Mansion House car park, re-instating and surfacing the park roadways, landscaping and erecting traditional metal estate park fencing.

The work involved both new and estate road improvements to the original and historic route with careful grass cultivation to reduce the impact on the landscape.

In addition, other items included within the works were:

- /// Conservation kerbs and quality paving
- /// CCTV and ACCESS controls
- /// Tree planting
- /// Street lighting (existing lights were removed and replicas constructed)



The estate is in use 12 months of the year so it was imperative that disruption to daily life was kept to a minimum. Hence, whilst work was being programmed it had to cater for the many events that took place on the estate such as weddings, private and civic functions etc.

These events had to be co-ordinated with the site management company to ensure that disruption was kept to minimum for guests and visitors.



The Mansion House car park work involved significant movement of material, mostly rock, stone and subsoil. All this material was recycled and retained on site.



The rock was crushed on site and recycled for the car park and other paved areas. Surplus top soil from the car park was used to restore the contours of the landscaping of the historic driveway edges and the re-established grass edges.



The whole of the works were completed on schedule and within budget



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FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION

