

25 September 2014

## William Robinson Gravetye Estate – Appointment of Trustees

### 1. Purpose

To update the Forestry Commissioners on the recent recruitment and selection of two additional Trustees for the William Robinson Gravetye Estate Charity.

### 2. Background/Introduction

The Trustees of William Robinson Gravetye Charity are appointed by the Member; the Member being the Forestry Commission or any other successor organisation.

The current trustees of the William Robinson Gravetye Estate Charity are:

- Sir Henry (Harry) Studholme appointed 14/4/09 (Term not specified)
- Michael Neal appointed 12/09/2011 for three years
- Andrew Martin appointed 12/09/2011 for three years
- Judith Webb appointed 17/04/2013 for three years

The process for the appointment of an additional Trustee/Trustees commenced in April 2014. Advertisements were placed in the following journals/newspapers:

- East Grinstead Observer
- Surrey Mirror
- Forestry Journal
- RHS Garden Magazine

### 3. Details

Sixteen people applied for the role of Trustee and four were selected for interview. All interviewees had responded to the advertisement in the RHS Garden Magazine.

Candidates were interviewed by Sir Harry Studholme, Michael Neal, and Judith Webb. Interviews were held on Tuesday 15th July 2014 at the Gravetye Manor Hotel, West Sussex.

After consultation with Andrew Martin it was agreed to recommend the appointment of two new Trustees, Karen Duke and Gillian Sandham. It is proposed that their appointments will commence on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 for a three year term.

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The Trustees of William Robinson Gravetye Charity have now created a board with overlapping tenures to ensure continuity.

4. Resource Implications

None

5. Risk Assessment

N/A

6. Communications Issues

None

7. Implementation and Evaluation Proposals

None

8. Recommendation

The Forestry Commissioners to note the appointments of Karen Duke and Gillian Sandham as Trustees for the William Robinson Gravetye Estate Charity.