**STANSTED PARK TREE SPONSORSHIP PROJECT**

The Stansted Park Charitable Foundation is offering the chance to restore its forest, planting thousands of trees to recreate woodland cover, offset emissions and create wildlife habitats.

The Foundation has reluctantly begun a major felling programme, under licence from the Forestry Commission because of the Ash dieback disease (Hymenoscyphus fraxineus) – most of this species at Stansted Park has some degree of infection and young trees in particular are either dead or dying.

This virulent disease weakens even larger trees, reducing their ability to fight secondary pathogens and making them unstable. This has serious safety implications in areas of public access, or adjacent to roads and buildings. Managing them is fraught with danger, meaning landowners are, with heavy hearts, having to fell large numbers of ash trees.

This was a last resort that our Head Forester Michael Prior, ever wanted to do. Ash is one of our most common trees and its widespread loss will have a disastrous effect. The species is vital for biodiversity, with huge numbers of creatures reliant on it for food or habitat. Old trees, with numerous cavities, are homes for birds, insects, bats and a myriad of insects and fungi.

‘Many superb young trees have to be felled and sold at a fraction of their potential value rather than as fine timber in the future.’

**WHERE YOU CAN HELP - THE SPONSORSHIP PROJECT**

The cost of replanting these large areas is huge but a vital part of Stansted Park’s charitable mission. A mix of native hardwoods will optimise biodiversity and the introduction of new species, able to thrive in our changing climate, will add seasonal colour. New access paths will be created to enhance visitors’ experience.

The Foundation is hoping individual sponsors will ‘buy a tree’, perhaps as a present for family members or in memory of a loved one.

While it won’t be possible to identify your individual tree, you will be able to specify which area and species you’d like and know that you have permanently committed to the restoration of the forest.’

For those who would like to contribute to this wonderful project the suggested cost of sponsorship is £10 per tree. Please see over for a sponsorship form to complete and return to Stansted Park Foundation, Stansted Park, Rowlands Castle, Hampshire, PO9 6DX

**STANSTED PARK TREE SPONSORSHIP FORM**

Your opportunity to be part of the future of Stansted Forest by sponsoring a tree.

Thank you for your interest in this worthwhile scheme, if you would like to sponsor a tree or trees please complete this form and return it to us together with your donation for each tree and your choice of tree(s) from the included list. If you are a taxpayer, your donation will be eligible for a Gift Aid Donation. For this purpose, please complete the accompanying form and return it with your donation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chosen Tree(s) Please tick:

ENGLISH OAK [ ] SWEET CHESTNUT [ ]

WILD CHERRY [ ] BEECH [ ]

SMALL-LEAVED LIME [ ]

PLEASE CHOOSE FOR ME [ ]

Preferred site of tree (s) Please tick:

 First Choice Second Choice

LADY’s WALK [ ] [ ]

EAST PARK NEW LANDSCAPE CLUMPS [ ] [ ]

(Mixed hardwood trees)

PLEASE CHOOSE FOR ME [ ] [ ]

I would like to dedicate this tree planting to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor the planting of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ trees and enclose a donation of £10 per tree totalling £\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please pay by bank transfer to:

Stansted Park Foundation

Account No. 10686182

Sort code. 206940

Ref: Replanting

Alternatively, please telephone 023 9241 2265 to make payment by credit/debit card