

March 2006

Professor Barry Cunliffe CBE and Jane Kennedy are appointed English Commissioners

David Lammy, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Professor Barry Cunliffe CBE and Jane Kennedy have been appointed as English Heritage Commissioners. Their terms of appointment will run from 15 February 2006 to 14 February 2010.

Biographical notes

Professor Barry Cunliffe has been Professor of European Archaeology at Oxford since 1972. Before this, he was Assistant Lecturer in the Classics Department at Bristol University, and then Professor of Archaeology at the University of Southampton (1963 to 1972). During a career of over thirty years in Archaeology, he has served on a variety of public bodies, in the Archaeology sector, including the Ancient Monuments Board, the Museum of London, the British Museum, and the Council for British Archaeology. Between 1986 and 1992, he served on the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission which became English Heritage. He has published a numerous books on Archaeology. For three years, he presented the Radio 4 programme, 'Age to Age'. He has excavated widely in Britain, France and Spain and is currently directing excavations in Hampshire and on Sark. He has not undertaken any significant political activity in the last five years.

Jane Kennedy is a Partner with Purcell Miller Tritton (1992 to date). She is an architect with thirty years experience in historic building conservation, both in private practice and as a local authority conservation officer. Her particular expertise is in the planning and management of major conservation work programmes, including new design in historic settings. Since 1994, she has served as Surveyor to the Fabric for Ely Cathedral. She is a Board Member of RIBA AABC, the body which accredits architects in building conservation and a member of the RIBA's Conservation group. She has been a member of the Historic Churches Committee for the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia and the Council for the Care of Churches. In addition to her work with Ely Cathedral, she has played a major role in the preservation of Stowe House, the re-presentation of Kew Palace and the conservation of Ballyfin House and Demesne in Eire. She is architect for a number of parish churches including Selby Abbey in Yorkshire. She has not undertaken any significant political activity in the last five years.

Background

English Heritage (EH) was set up by the National Heritage Act 1983, and is the public body with responsibility for all aspects of protecting and promoting the Historic Environment. It is the statutory adviser to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media & Sport on Listing and Heritage matters, manages over 400 historic properties, and disburses some £40 million a year in conservation and archaeology grants. English Heritage is also responsible for the National Monument Record and the Survey of London.

English Heritage Commissioners receive remuneration directly linked to responsibilities undertaken such as attending/chairing advisory committees and regional commissioner duties. Currently, the remuneration range is £3,840 to £8,780.

This appointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.