



ENGLISH HERITAGE

# Commission

**Open minutes of the 256th meeting held at 1:30pm on  
Tuesday 7 July 2009 at the Chilton Park Hotel, Lenham**

**Commissioners  
present:** Professor Sir Barry Cunliffe CBE – Interim Chairman  
Ms Lynda Addison OBE  
Mrs Joyce Bridges CBE  
Professor Sir David Cannadine  
Mr Manish Chande (Items 1-13)  
Mrs Gilly Drummond OBE  
Mr Michael Jolly CBE  
Ms Jane Kennedy  
Lord Leicester CBE

**Staff present:** Dr Simon Thurley – Chief Executive  
Mr Peter Beacham – Heritage Protection Director (Item 13)  
Mr Steven Bee – Director of Planning and Development  
Ms Vida Cody – Commission Secretariat Manager  
Mr Keith Harrison – Director of Finance and Corporate Services  
Dr Edward Impey – Director of Research and Standards  
Mr John Hudson – Head of Publishing (Item 10)  
Ms Deborah Lamb – Director of Policy and Communications  
Mr Mark Pemberton – Director of Properties and Outreach  
Dr Christopher Young – Head of World Heritage and International  
Policy (Item 14)

**Observers  
present:** Baroness Andrews OBE – EH Chair Designate  
Mrs Deborah Osborne – PA to the Chairman

## **Item 1 – Apologies, Announcements, Declarations of Interest**

### **Apologies**

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Ms Maria Adebowale, Mr Chris Wilkinson and Ms Elizabeth Williamson.

## Announcements

- I.2 Baroness Andrews was welcomed to the meeting as EH Chair Designate.
- I.3 Barry Cunliffe was thanked for his leadership since becoming Interim Chairman.
- I.4 Commissioners were informed that it was David Cannadine's last Commission meeting as he had already sent apologies for the September meeting. Ronald Hutton, Professor of History at Bristol University, was announced as his successor.
- I.5 Mark Greenwood was welcomed as an observer from the DCMS' Public Appointments Unit.
- I.6 Commissioners' attention was drawn to four new English Heritage publications:
- The English Buildings Book: An Architectural Guide
  - Ryder and Yates
  - Powell and Moya
  - Berwick-upon-Tweed – Three Places, Two Nations, One Town
- I.7 Commissioners were informed that the Commission Handbook had been updated, revised and improved and that a new copy would be sent to them all within the next few days.

## Declarations of Interest

- I.8 Jane Kennedy declared an interest in item 9 (e) (Tottenham Hotspur Football Ground and the British Museum) as her practice had been involved in both projects.
- I.9 Barry Cunliffe declared an interest in item 9 (e) (British Museum) as a Museum Trustee.

## **Item 2 – English Heritage Strategy 2010-2015: Aims and Objectives (CP 2009/67/E)**

- 2.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

## **Item 3 – English Heritage Strategy 2010-2015: Expertise (CP 2009/68/E)**

- 3.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

#### Item 4 – Open Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 May 2009 (CP 2009/69)

- 4.1 The open minutes of the 254th meeting held on 12 May 2009 were agreed as a correct record subject to the last sentence of paragraph 15.11 being re-worded to show that the London Advisory Committee considers policy items in relation to London as well as casework.

**ACTION:** *Vida Cody*

- 4.2 It was noted that the deferred paper on volunteering issues would be brought to a future Commission meeting.

**ACTION:** *Mark Pemberton*

#### Item 5 – Exempt Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 May 2009 (CP 2009/70/E)

- 5.1 The exempt minutes of the 254th meeting held on 12 May 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### Item 6 – Matters Arising

##### Properties and Outreach Third Party Partnerships (paragraph 5.3 of the exempt minutes)

- 6.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 43: commercial interests.*

#### Item 7 – Chairman’s Report (Oral)

- 7.1 Three launches were highlighted as particularly well done:

- The Princess Beatrice garden at Carisbrooke Castle, designed by the TV and radio gardening presenter, Chris Beardshaw
- The re-creation of the Elizabethan garden at Kenilworth Castle
- The new publication on Blue Plaques

#### Item 8 – Chief Executive’s Report

##### Open report (CP 2009/71)

- 8.1 It was reported that the text of the Planning Policy Statement was due to be completed and ready for consultation in July.

- 8.2 Commissioners were informed of the collapse of the Public Inquiry for the Lancaster Canal Corridor. The local authority had withdrawn its evidence and decided not to take further part in the Inquiry. As the Inspector still had to complete his report, EH's evidence was heard but without cross examination by any party.
- 8.3 A Commissioner suggested that the display on the JW Evans manufactory, scheduled to be mounted at Waterhouse Square in July, also be used elsewhere, for example, in Birmingham or Swindon to communicate progress. A travelling exhibition could be set up like the one used by the National Monuments Record.
- 8.4 Record numbers of people attended the Summer Solstice at Stonehenge (36,000). The high cost of the event (£120k) was questioned and how it could be better presented in the report to acknowledge the value and benefits. It was noted that the cost covered – *inter alia* - catering, signage, car parks, generators, floodlights and the cleaning operation.
- 8.5 Further discussions had taken place with the recognised trades unions over pay reform with a further meeting due to take place on 9 July. If it was not possible to reach a negotiated settlement, there was a possibility of strike action by members of the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS).
- 8.6 A large number of Freedom of Information requests over staff and Commissioner expenses was noted.

Exempt report (CP 2009/72/E)

- 8.7 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

**Item 9 – Committee Minutes**

- a) English Heritage Advisory Committee (Open) – 29 April 2009 (CP 2009/73)
- 9.1 Commission noted and endorsed the open minutes of the English Heritage Advisory Committee held on 29 April 2009.
- b) English Heritage Advisory Committee (Exempt) – 29 April 2009 (CP 2009/74/E)
- 9.2 Commission noted and endorsed the exempt minutes of the English Heritage Advisory Committee held on 29 April 2009.
- c) Remuneration/HR Committee (Open) – 27 May 2009 (CP 2009/75)
- 9.3 Duncan Brown, Director at the Institute of Employment Studies, had joined the Remuneration/HR Committee in May 2009.

9.4 Commission noted and endorsed the open minutes of the Remuneration/HR Committee held on 27 May 2009.

d) Remuneration/HR Committee (Exempt) – 27 May 2009 (CP 2009/76/E)

9.5 Commission noted and endorsed the exempt minutes of the Remuneration/HR Committee held on 27 May 2009.

e) London Advisory Committee (Open) – 5 June 2009 (CP 2009/77)

9.6 It was noted that a good discussion session had been held with the agents for the new American Embassy and that issues included possible infringement on the World Heritage Site.

9.7 Commission noted and endorsed the open minutes of the London Advisory Committee held on 5 June 2009.

f) London Advisory Committee (Exempt) – 5 June 2009 (CP 2009/78/E)

9.8 Commission noted and endorsed the exempt minutes of the London Advisory Committee held on 5 June 2009.

#### **Item 10 – EH Publishing Team Strategy 2009-2014 (CP 2009/81/E)**

10.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

#### **Item 11 – Heritage Counts 2009 (CP 2009/82)**

11.1 It was reported that the emphasis of *Heritage Counts* had changed from indicators to social and economic research and that the theme of the 2009 report would be the impact of the historic environment on sense of place. The format of the *Heritage Counts* launch had also changed with members of the public engaging in a question and answer session with the Secretary of State and representatives from the sector.

11.2 Commissioners considered public engagement and community cohesion of high importance and suggested that *Heritage Counts* might be linked to any initiative on volunteering.

11.3 Commissioners noted the importance of the initial findings from the research and the evidence that the historic environment plays an important role in sense of place.

**Item 12 – Key Performance Indicators and Critical Projects 2008/2009 (CP 2009/83/E)**

- 12.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 22: future publication and Section 43: commercial interests.*

**Item 13– Heritage Protection – the Way Forward (CP 2009/84/E)**

- 13.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

**Item 14 – Future Support of ICOMOS UK (CP 2009/85/E)**

- 14.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 36: prejudice to the effective conduct of public affairs.*

**Item 15 – Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project (CP 2009/86/E)**

- 15.1 *This item is included in the exempt minutes of this meeting as it contains information that is potentially exempt from public access under the Freedom of Information Act, Section 43: commercial interests.*

**Item 16 – Financial Overview (CP 2009/87/E)**

- 16.1 Commission noted the financial overview for the two months to the end of May 2009 and in particular the increase in income, largely due to the increase in visitor numbers.

**Item 17 - Any Other Business**

**DCMS Networking Event**

- 17.1 A networking event for Arts and Heritage bodies would be held on 24 September at the Tower of London, the second in a series of diversity networking events aimed at introducing potential new Commissioners and Board members to existing Chairs. (The first such event was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in March 2009.) It was noted that the 2008 *Get on Board* initiative had produced around 100 names from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds interested in becoming Board members. Invitations for the September event would be sent out shortly.

Next Meeting

17.2 The next Commission meeting would be held in the North West on 22-23 September 2009.

2010 Meetings

17.3 The Commission Secretariat Manager had been asked to consider combining the June and July Commission meetings in future. Options were being explored.

**ACTION:** *Vida Cody*

**Vida Cody**  
**Commission Secretariat Manager**  
**July 2009**