

April 2011

Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries has appointed Professor Colin Renfrew (Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn) as Chair of the Treasure Valuation Committee for a term of four years.

His term of appointment will run from 6th May 2011 to 5th May 2015.

Biographical notes

Professor Colin Renfrew (Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn) is a prominent archaeologist and highly regarded academic, best known for his work on the prehistoric Aegean, radiocarbon dating and the prehistory of languages. He read Archaeology and Anthropology at St John's College, Cambridge, graduating in 1962. In 1965 he completed his doctorate on Neolithic and Bronze Age cultures of the Cyclades, and thereafter continued to work and publish in the field of European Archaeology. In 1980 Renfrew was elected a Fellow of the British Academy. In 1981 he was elected to the Disney Professorship of Archaeology in the University of Cambridge, a post he held until his retirement in 2004. In 1990 Renfrew was appointed as Director of the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research. Renfrew also served as Master of Jesus College from 1986 until 1997, and is an Honorary Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Background

The Treasure Valuation Committee (TVC) provides independent advice to the Secretary of State on the fair market value of declared Treasure finds from England, Wales, and Northern Ireland which national and regional museums wish to acquire. Its membership comprises experts on the range of antiquities submitted for valuation, and on museums and their collections. In addition, the membership includes an individual who represents the interests of finders.

TVC members give their services on an honorary basis. However, reasonable expenses incurred by TVC members carrying out their duties can be claimed.

This appointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments and reappointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Lord Renfrew of Kaimsthorn is a Conservative Party member of the House of Lords.