

**MINUTES OF MEETING AT THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, HELD ON FRIDAY 19
OCTOBER 2012 AT 11.00 AM.**

Present

Mrs Philippa Foster Back	Chair
Ms Kate Bazeley	Secretary
Dr Adrian Fox	British Antarctic Survey
Prof. Mike Bentley	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Mr John Killingbeck	Royal Geographical Society
Prof. Julian Dowdeswell	Scott Polar Research Institute
Mr Henry Burgess	Polar Regions Unit, FCO / Government British Antarctic Territory
Dr John Shears	British Antarctic Survey
Dr Suman Chowdhury	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Mrs Caroline Burgess	Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
Dr Kim Crosbie	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Mr Pat Geelan	<i>Expert Member</i>
Dr Mike Thomson	<i>Expert Member</i>
Ms Isabelle Faulkner-Corbett	Polar Regions Unit, FCO

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Lt Cdr Jonathan Marshall (UK Hydrographic Office), Mr Paul Woodman (*Expert Member*).

2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 12 March 2012

The minutes were agreed with the following amendments:

- To delete Dr Mike Thomson from the attendance list;
- To include the outcome of APC(12)06 Bird Island place-name proposal, following talks with Dr Forcada.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

i) Centenary Naming

The Secretary presented maps (new 1:50,000 maps from Land Information New Zealand) and satellite imagery (USGS) showing potential unnamed features identified on Ross Island, which could be used in the Centenary naming proposal, for preliminary assessment by the Committee. Based on the feedback, the Secretary will put together 2-3 proposals for consideration by the Committee via email.

ii) APC website updates and iShare

The Secretary informed the Committee that the money to fund the planned improvements for the APC website had been granted by the FCO. The proposed improvements were agreed by the Committee, however instead of including a 'members only' section into the website, it was agreed that using a Team Site on iShare would be an easier way of storing and distributing Committee information. With regard to the inclusion of BAT place-names into the GeoNames website, it was felt that the pros outweighed the cons and that the names should be included in order to proactively improve the accuracy of Antarctic place-names within GeoNames. However, it should be ensured that the APC is correctly acknowledged in the contributors list on the website and include a direct link to the APC website.

iii) Naming after living people

The current APC policy on naming after living people was reviewed, taking into account the recently revised (2012) US-ACAN policy. It was felt that the current APC policy still applied and that, as stated in the APC guidelines, proposals will be considered on a case by case basis.

The Aitcho Island place-names proposal [APC(12)04] will be resubmitted to the next APC meeting in March for consideration by the Committee.

4. Secretary's report

The Secretary's report was noted. The Committee agreed that it was important to have the APC Misc map collection scanned in to create a digital archive of the series. It was suggested that there could be an article written for the *Geographical* magazine outlining how the maps show the evolution of exploration, surveying and discovery in Antarctica through place-naming.

5. Place-names decisions

It was confirmed that all of the place-names recommended at the March 2012 APC meeting had been approved.

6. ACAN response

There were no comments on the proposals from US-ACAN.

7. New Place-name proposal – Danco Coast APC(12)12

The Committee agreed that the peak is prominent enough to require a place-name and that it should be named in keeping with the theme of ‘Pioneers of aviation’ in this area. However, the Committee felt that the name Amundsen would be better placed near to Mt Scott and Mt Shackleton on the Graham Coast. Instead it was suggested that the name *Lynx Peak* should be considered for this feature, in commemoration of the aircraft.

8. New Place-name proposals – Luitpold Coast APC(12)13

This proposal raised the issue of the naming remit of the APC. The current policy states that underwater features within 12 miles of the coast are dealt with by the APC, so the features in this proposal are within APC remit. The Committee thought that the proposed names were appropriate, however it was suggested that there should be further evidence of the significance of the features in order to ensure that they are large enough to require naming. In addition, the place-name descriptions should include the full information of who the features are named after.

It was suggested that the policy of the APC naming remit should be updated to include subglacial features within BAT.

It was highlighted that the glaciers adjacent to the troughs in this proposal were also unnamed. The secretary noted that there is a pending proposal regarding glaciers in this region, so these features could be submitted as part of this proposal, with appropriate supporting evidence.

9. New Place-name proposals –Ellsworth Mountains APC(12)14

It was noted that although the Ellsworth Mountains are not in BAT, they actually fall within the Chilean claim, so this proposal should go to either the Chilean National Committee for Antarctic Geographic Names, or to US-ACAN, who have already named many features with these mountains. Dr Crosbie informed the Committee that ALE were using this area more frequently and intend to name features in this region in a systematic way in order to promote safety and best practices. The Committee therefore felt that this proposal should be reviewed by ALE before being submitted to the Chilean APC/US-ACAN. It was agreed that the ‘Space

Research' theme was a good idea, but that some of the suggested names sounded too similar and could be confusing for navigation.

10. A.O.B.

i) Rott Inlet double naming

Dr Fox informed the Committee that it had been brought to his attention that the Bulgarian APC had already named *Rott Inlet* as *Mundraga Bay*, after a medieval fortress in Bulgaria, and suggested to him that the APC should retract its name to avoid double naming. It was noted however that the APC had had no prior knowledge of this name being applied to this feature, as it had not been entered into the SCAR CGA before the papers were prepared for APC(12)01. As Prof. Rott has already been informed of the decision, the Committee felt that it could not retract the place-name and that unfortunately the feature would have to be doubly named.

ii) John Killingbeck retirement

The Chair informed the Committee that John Killingbeck would be retiring from the APC next year and that discussions were in place to find a replacement representative from the Royal Geographical Society.

iii) Proposed BAS/NOC merger

Dr Shears informed the Committee that there had been around 370 documents submitted to the Consultation and that there had been a debate on the future of Antarctica in the House of Lords on 18th October 2012. Analyses of the consultation inputs are being reviewed by members of the merger team and will be subject to an independent assessment by someone from outside of NERC. The outputs will be presented to NERC Council on 1st November 2012.

iv) Commemoration for Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith

The Committee acknowledged the great contribution that Geoffrey Hattersley-Smith made to Antarctic Place-names and agreed that a letter should be written to his family to pass on our condolences. The Committee thanked Dr Shears for attending the funeral as a representative of the APC. Dr Shears, Prof. Dowdeswell and the Secretary are in the process of liaising with his family to ensure that his personal collection of Polar artefacts and documents are properly archived.

11. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed via email.

Meeting closed at 13:10.