

MINUTES – MEETING Thursday 10th MAY 2018 AT 11:00 AM. DRAFT**Present:**

Mrs Philippa Foster-Back
 Dr Adrian Fox
 Ms Elena Field

Chair
 British Antarctic Survey (Secretary)
 Observer/Minutes

Dr Mark Brandon
 Mrs Catherine Cheetham
 Dr Alistair Crame
 Mr Stuart Doubleday
 Prof. Julian Dowdeswell
 Dame, Prof. Jane Francis
 Mr Robert Headland
 Mrs Rachel Morgan
 Ms Camilla Nichol
 Ms Jane Rumble
 Dr Mike Thomson

Ad hoc Member
 PCGN
 British Antarctic Survey
 Polar Regions Department, FCO
 Scott Polar Research Institute
 British Antarctic Survey
 Royal Geographic Society
Ad hoc Member
 UK Antarctic Heritage Trust
 Polar Regions Department, FCO
 Expert Member

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Suman Chowdhury, Andy Willett, and Paul Woodman. The absentees sent comments in advance.

2. Place name decisions [APC(17)24] and matters arising from ACP(17) 2nd meeting

SGSSI place names from previous APC meetings. Jane Rumble suggested that the SGSSI government would benefit from a definitive list of place names which need confirmation to aid review of the names by Commissioner Nigel Phillips.

Action Points

- Secretary to gather information and pass on to Government of South Georgia.

The Secretary had sent all this material previously, but since the meeting collated for the Government of South Georgia the papers and maps from the APC meetings going back to November 2016, together with the pro forma papers for Commissioner of SG signoff, and an Excel spreadsheet that summarises all this and relates the recommended name to the proposal number.

Prior to November 2016 any SG names that have been through the APC process should be up-to-date in the gazetteer and web-map.

The Secretary raised the issue of accuracy of place-name coordinates. Future advances in mapping capability, specifically the Reference Elevation Model for Antarctica (REMA) due in August 2018, will show that many of the coordinates in the APC gazetteer are inaccurate, even those updated relatively recently from LIMA. The conclusion is that MAGIC are mandated to correct minor issues of coordinate accuracy as they come to light, but that the Secretary will bring any instances that are likely to be contentious to the Committee.

3. Minutes of the last meeting [APC(17)25] held on 2 November 2017

Pending actions – Bob Headland compiled a list of sealing voyages to SG, SSI and BAT, detailing the year, ship, master and areas visited. This has now been passed on to the Secretary for reference and is likely to be very useful as a resource for future place names.

4. Secretary's report [APC(18)01]

Comments:

Adrian and Elena currently produce a "Place Name of the Month" feature for the BAS Ice Sheet in-house magazine, and these are then added to the APC website. It was suggested that this could be made more open - e.g. create a challenge for people to provide names of relevant people who are not currently noted in the gazetteer. There is potential to incentivise this initiative, with award of a BAT/SDA coin, or a prize draw. However, we will have to be careful not to create the expectation that names proposed through this route will automatically be approved – they must still meet the APC criteria.

Action points

- Jane Rumble to write up, Prof Dame Jane Francis to circulate to BAS.

5. US ACAN Comments for APC(18) 1st Meeting

No comments received.

6. New Place-name Proposals – Alexander Island [APC(18)02]

Mt Arach – Recommended by the Committee.

Mt Wyvern - Recommended by the Committee.

Tatsu Glacier – Not Recommended by the Committee. The Committee recommended the name Smaug Glacier after discussion (The fearsome dragon in JRR Tolkien's novel The Hobbit, 1937).

Drake Ridge - Not Recommended by the Committee. The Committee recommended the name Ryu Ridge after discussion (Sino-Japanese word for dragon).

Mt Hydra - Not Recommended by the Committee. The Committee recommended the name Dragon Peak to reflect the overall theme and the fact that this is the highest peak in the region.

Amphiptere Glacier - Not Recommended by the Committee because it was considered that there was strong potential for confusion with 'Amphitheatre.' The Committee recommended the name Tatsu Glacier (Old Japanese word for dragon).

Lindworm Glacier - Recommended by the Committee.

Draco Spur - Recommended by the Committee.

Komodo Ridge - Not Recommended by the Committee. The Committee observed that this is the only one of the proposed names that is a real, rather than mythical, creature and thus an anomaly. The Committee recommended the name Fafnir Ridge (A dragon in Norse Mythology).

Long Buttress – Recommended by the Committee as Long Heights as a more appropriate generic to represent the discontinuous nature of the feature.

Action points

- **Secretary to add the approved names to the BAT Gazetteer, emphasizing the underlying idea of a pristine, unmapped area in the descriptions.**
- **Secretary to write to Dr. Hughes to notify him of the outcomes for the proposals.**

7. New Place-name Proposals – Marguerite Bay [APC(18)03]

Mucklescarf Island - Recommended by the Committee (Secretary to check the taxonomic name included in the description).

West Lagoon Island - Recommended by the Committee.

East Lagoon Island - Recommended by the Committee.

The Committee also recommended the name Lagoon Islands to cover both features and reflect that historically people have referred to both features as 'Lagoon Island'. East and West Lagoon Island are thus part of the grouping of Lagoon Islands, which in turn is part of Léonie Islands.

Skart Island - Recommended by the Committee.

Action points

- **Secretary to check the taxonomic name.**
- **Secretary to add the approved names to the BAT Gazetteer.**
- **Secretary to write to Dr. Hughes to notify him of the outcomes for the proposals.**

8. Any Other Business

8.1. New Place-name Proposals - Palmer Land [APC(18)04]

The Committee considered a series of name proposals received close to the meeting from Dr Anna Hogg, University of Leeds. The Committee approved of the naming theme for satellites and sensors that have had a significant impact on understanding of the Antarctic ice sheet. After discussion, the Committee did not accept the use of acronyms in the specifics and preferred the generic 'Ice Stream' to the term 'Glacier' for these features. Conclusion - all names will not be capitalised, and the features will all be called Ice Streams (apart from Also Ice Rises).

ERS Glacier - Not Recommended by the Committee. The Committee recommended the name Esa Ice Stream (European Space Agency).

Envisat Glacier - Recommended by the Committee as Envisat Ice Stream.

Cryosat Glacier - Recommended by the Committee as Cryosat Ice Stream.

GRACE Glacier - Recommended by the Committee as Grace Ice Stream.

Sentinel Glacier - Recommended by the Committee as Sentinel Ice Stream.

ALOS PALSAR Ice Rises - Recommended by the Committee as Alos Ice Rumples. (Pending confirmation with Anna Hogg - Secretary to follow up).

Hall Glacier (USA) – Accepted for inclusion in the UK Gazetteer.

Landsat Glacier - Recommended by the Committee as Landsat Ice Stream.

Nikitin Glacier (USA) - Accepted for inclusion in the UK Gazetteer.

Action points

- **Secretary to communicate the outcome to Dr Hogg, and give her an opportunity to suggest alternatives. Also to suggest that she contacts the FCO with regards to a press release in future.**

8.2. University student projects

From Suman Chowdhury:

My AOB is a request to the committee for interesting research topics that landscape archaeology postgrad students here at Oxford might be able to help with. Any topics related to the historical interaction of people and landscape can be considered. At Oxford University, master's students undertake dissertation research for 6 months, are GIS-trained, and very cost-effective. I thought I might put forward some Antarctica related topics for the consideration of next year's batch. Happy to discuss. Some example ideas I came up with:

- The Management of Historic Sites in Antarctica.
- The commemoration of Britain's heroic age explorers in the Antarctic landscape.
- What are the historical drivers for Antarctic place-naming?

Decision - not directly relevant for the APC, but interesting for other members' organisations.

Action points

- **Secretary to contact Suman with regards to this.**

8.3. Bransfield Expedition

Stuart Doubleday highlighted that one member from the expedition (Pointer) does not have a place named for them. With the 200th Anniversary of the discovery of Antarctica coming up, FCO will liaise with MAGIC about naming aspects for upcoming mapping products.

8.4. Names of Irish personnel who have had a role in Antarctic affairs

Robert Headland has compiled a list of 71 names of use for future place names.

Action points

- **Mr Headland to provide the Secretary with a copy of the list for reference.**

9. Date of next meeting

A date of between 5 and 18th November 2018 suggested. The Chair and FCO will confer to narrow down and the Secretary will conduct a Doodle Poll.

10. Recognition of the contribution of Pat Geelan to the APC.

As recorded in previous minutes, Pat Geelan has made an unparalleled contribution to the work of the APC over many decades, but stood down at the last meeting. The Secretary had prepared a framed map showing the location of Geelan Ice Piedmont (Alexander Island), this was signed on the back by those present at the meeting and posted to Pat. The Secretary has since received a letter of thanks from Pat.