

**MINUTES – MEETING Thursday 13th February 2020 AT 11:00 AM.****Present:**

Mrs Philippa Foster-Back Chair  
Dr Adrian Fox British Antarctic Survey (Secretary)  
Ms Elena Field British Antarctic Survey (Minutes)  
Prof. Mark Brandon *Ad hoc* member  
Mrs Catherine Cheetham PCGN  
Dr Alistair Crame British Antarctic Survey  
Mr Stuart Doubleday Polar Regions Department, FCO  
Prof. Dame Jane Francis British Antarctic Survey  
Mr Robert Headland Royal Geographical Society  
Ms Jane Rumble Polar Regions Department, FCO  
Mr Robert Wheeler UKHO  
Mr Paul Woodman Expert Member  
Mr Andy Willett UK Hydrographic Office

**1. Apologies**

Dr Mark Belchier, Dr Suman Chowdhury, Prof Julian Dowdeswell, Mrs Rachel Duncan-Morgan, Ms Camilla Nichol.

The Chair welcomed Mr Robert Wheeler (Deputy for Lee Truscott UKHO).

**2. APC membership news**

The Chair noted the passing of Dr Mike Thomson. A minute of silence was observed. The Secretary had updated the APC entry for Thomson Rock and this was read for members.

The Chair noted that this was the last meeting for Mr Andy Willett and Dr Suman Chowdhury and thanked them for their contributions to APC.

The Chair welcomed Mr Robert Wheeler from UKHO who was deputising for Mr Lee Truscott who will be the successor to Mr Andy Willett as UKHO member.

It was noted that the APC is now depleted by two expert members – Ms Jane Rumble (FCO), stated that there is no defined number of experts but that FCO would like to ensure a standard rotating *ad hoc* member list. The plan is to have one *ad hoc* member from the UK non-BAS Antarctic research community, one from Industry (adventure tourism) and one other. There was a discussion about potential areas where the APC might be missing expertise, for example geology and satellite glaciology.

It was also suggested to invite Mrs Janet Thomson (Head of MAGIC to 2003) as an expert member.

**Action:** Prof. Dame Jane Francis to invite Mrs Janet Thomson as expert member of the APC.

**Action:** Members to email suggestions for potential members/areas of expertise to either the Secretary or Mr Stuart Doubleday, for recruitment before next meeting.

**3. Place-names decisions [APC(20)02] and matters arising from APC(19)1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Taken as read.****4. Minutes of the last meeting [APC(19)1<sup>st</sup>] APC(20)03**

Minor comments were noted by the Secretary and the Minutes accepted.

South Georgia place names. It was noted that in the past there has been little formalisation of place name decisions – and that GSGSSI has no place names ordinance. Having a GSGSSI representative on the APC (Mark Belchier) is a positive development.

Action: Secretary to liaise with GSGSSI to resolve outstanding issues.

**5. Secretary's Report APC(20)04** (paper at the meeting).

SCAR Naming Guidelines – led by Major-General Jean-Yves Pirlot with contributions by SCAGI members. Paper to be distributed in SCAR Hobart.

**Action:** Secretary to distribute the latest version to members for feedback before May/June Helsinki Antarctic Treaty meeting.

Update on Reference Elevation Model of Antarctica. Whilst this is a remarkable dataset and a great step forward in the quality of elevation data available for BAT, there are some issues with missing data etc. A version 2 is in development, and the Secretary recommended waiting until this is released and reviewed before embarking on systematic updating of mountain heights in the gazetteer.

**6. US ACAN comments for APC(20)1<sup>st</sup> meeting**

ACAN members made some comments about the proposed names in APC(20)07 (Hudson Mountains) and these were taken into account.

**General comments on place-name proposals:** Ms Jane Rumble reiterated that all approved names should be fully justifiable, and that all the members of the APC must be comfortable with the approved names.

**7. APC(20)05 – Whichaway Nunataks**

The Committee recommended the proposed names Turner Nunatak, Pillinger Nunatak and Karpenko Massif. The proposed name 'Hutchinson Icefields' will be accepted pending a decision on the generic – icefield is already used elsewhere in BAT for an ice cap type feature and is not suitable for blue-ice areas as well.

**Action:** Secretary to liaise with Prof. Julian Dowdeswell to define Icefield and suggest a generic term for blue-ice areas, and then add to the APC generic terms list.

**Action:** Secretary to inform proposer of the outcomes and write to the recipients or their family.

**Action:** Mr Robert Headland to supply further details about Karpenko to the Secretary.

The Committee did not recommend the name Otkrytij Slope.

**Action:** Secretary to liaise with the proposer to suggest that they reference their samples to Turner Nunatak rather than the slope.

**8. APC(20)06 – Eights Coast**

After discussion about the permanence of the proposed feature and the choice of generic, the Committee recommended the name Wienecke Ice Tongue.

It was noted that this feature falls within the unclaimed sector 80°W to 150°W where the Committee will consider proposals from UK proposers and submit approved names to the SCAR Composite Gazetteer.

**Action:** Secretary to inform the proposer of the outcome and write to the recipient.

**9. APC(20)07 – Hudson Mountains**

The Committee recommended the name Larter Glacier but did not recommend the other names in the proposal. The ACAN comments on these proposed names were considered in the discussion.

The Committee agreed that the features did need names for scientific purposes and that a revised proposal would be considered inter-sessionally.

**Action:** Secretary to liaise with the proposer to develop a revised proposal using descriptive names for the features.

**10. Proposals APC(20)08 – 14.**

The proposed names generated considerable discussion. It was noted that the proposals lack diversity and have a narrow scientific scope. It was suggested that diversity and scientific breadth

should be included in the APC Terms of Reference. It was agreed that the name proposals represent a first tranche and that a second set of proposals will be prepared for the next APC meeting. Prof. Mark Brandon will lead the development of these proposals in liaison with the Secretary and Elena Field. Names approved at the APC(20)1<sup>st</sup> meeting will be held back and gazetted later with names from the second tranche.

**Action:** Prof. Mark Brandon to lead development of the second tranche of proposals. Secretary to circulate call for names and justification.

The Committee recommended all the proposed names.

It was noted with reference to APC(20)10 that the coast at the northern end of Berkner Island and the inlet at the southern end of the island are un-named and may require a name in the future.

It was agreed that the features in APC(20)13 are a sub-division of Sweeney Mountains. There are other similar groups of nunataks in the area and these may similarly need a name in the future.

**Action:** Secretary to note the potential future requirements for names for these features.

**APC(20)14 – Fallières Coast:** The Committee recommended the names with the caveat that one name should be recommended in principle, but held back for a more suitable feature/location. It was noted that these features already have Bulgarian names. It was reiterated that the Committee will not accept foreign names where there is no link to scientific, operational or mapping activity or where the names cut across an established naming theme. In this area there is a prominent theme of names for international Glaciologists and no Bulgarian activity in the area.

**11. APC(20)15. Adelaide Island** (late paper presented at the meeting).

The Committee recommended the name Francis Peak.

**Action:** Secretary to write to the recipient.

**12. Any Other Business**

The Chair and FCO acknowledged the contributions of Dr Suman Chowdhury and Mr Andy Willett to the APC, and thanked them for their work.

The FCO extended thanks to the UKHO for continuing to provide a representative for the UK APC.

Bear Peninsula is shown in modern data to be an island, not a peninsula.

**Action:** Secretary to prepare an inter-sessional paper to rename the feature.

Legislative review of BAT – new ordinances are going to public consultation. This includes a place-names ordinance which will be circulated to members.

**Action:** Mr Stuart Doubleday to circulate the material.

Mr Robert Wheeler (UKHO) thanked the committee for his welcome.

**13. Date of Next meeting**

**Action:** Secretary to organise a Doodle Poll for dates in June 2020.