

MINUTES APC(22)1st Meeting:**Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 11:00 AM, hybrid meeting.****Present:**

Dr Neil Arnold (Scott Polar Research Institute)

Dr Mark Belchier (GSGSSI)

Prof Mark Brandon (*Ad hoc* member)

Ms Catherine Cheetham (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names)

Mr George Clarkson (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)

Mr Rod Downie (*Ad hoc* member)

Ms Elena Field (British Antarctic Survey – Secretary)

Mr Andrew Fleming (British Antarctic Survey – observing)

Mrs Philippa Foster-Back (Chair)

Dr Adrian Fox (British Antarctic Survey)

Prof Dame Jane Francis (British Antarctic Survey)

Mr Robert Headland (Royal Geographical Society)

Ms Rebecca Kaye (*Ad hoc* member)

Ms Camilla Nichol (UKAHT)

Ms Jane Rumble (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)

Mr Lee Truscott (UK Hydrographic Office)

Mr Paul Woodman (Expert Member)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Dr Bethan Davies (*Ad hoc* member), Ms Rachel Morgan (*Ad hoc* member), and Dr Kate Winter (*Ad hoc* member)

2. APC News

A minute's silence was observed for the recent passing of Bob Burton, founding member of the South Georgia Association and previously a member of the committee. It was noted that there were two places named for him:

Burton Cove (54° 01' 14" S, 38° 04' 29" W), Bird Island, and *Burton Glacier* (61° 06' 25" S, 54° 51' 50" W), Elephant Island.

The Chair highlighted that this would be Mr Paul Woodman's last meeting after sitting on the committee for 40 years. The Chair thanked Paul for his extremely valuable contributions and for his dedication to the UK Antarctic Place-names Committee.

3. Place-names decisions and matters arising from APC(21) 2nd meeting

All place names from the previous meeting have been added to the gazetteer and included in the SCAR Composite Gazetteer.

The committee received a thorough review of the South Georgia gazetteer from Pat Lurcock. The committee acknowledged the time, effort, and expertise it must have taken to compile the review. The Secretary and BAS Mapping team will produce a prioritised list of work following on from this to address the issues highlighted.

4. Secretary's Report

Role news:

Following on from Dr Adrian Fox's retirement, Ms Elena Field has taken on the role of APC Secretary effective from 1st January 2022.

Gazetteer Additions:

All approved names have been added to the UK BAT gazetteer, submitted to the SCAR Composite Gazetteer teams and recipients/applicants notified.

Getz Ice Shelf names:

These names generated significant media interest with organisations writing features about the new names included the BBC, The Guardian, Leeds University and the FCDO. The Prime Minister also referred to them as part of a COP26 address.

ACAN meeting and review of UK APC/US ACAN agreement.

A meeting was held between the UK APC representatives, FCDO and US ACAN representatives. This meeting yielded a wish to renew the original UK/US agreement. A new draft has now been reviewed and the committee was invited to comment on the agreement during the meeting.

Internal Communications

Three Place-name of the Month articles have been published in the BAS internal newsletter and on the BAT website:

- Glasgow Glacier announcement and background
- Centenary of Shackleton's death (5 January 2022)
- Ukrainian station and associated names

External Communications:

Dr Kate Winter (ad hoc member) has been on parental leave since April 2021. Ms Elena Field has carried on maintaining the social media accounts. Twitter is proving popular and over the last six-month period has averaged:

- 5000 impressions a month, with peaks around specific tweets or events:
 - o E.g., Glasgow Glacier spiked at over 20K impressions.
 - o Place name of the month features average at 6K impressions.
- 12 new followers per month, with spikes around events averaging at 25 new followers per instance.

Future Work:

Work has started on developing a new online application form to replace the existing document-based form. This is expanded on as an Agenda Item at the end of the meeting.

There are plans to attend the IGS and UK Antarctic Science Conference, taking place in September this year. The Secretary invites the committee to sign-off on communications messaging which will be circulated later.

Comments on the Report:

- Question raised about the status of place naming in Google maps. It was acknowledged that it had been some time since the names were reviewed.

ACTION: Secretary to contact Google representative.

5. US ACAN Comments for APC(22)1st Meeting

Comments received and given verbally during the meeting.

Comment– in previous years it has not be clear to the committee about comments being returned from ACAN.

ACTION: Going forward, Secretary to circulate ACAN comments prior to APC meetings where possible.

6. UK APC/US ACAN Agreement VTC

Comment – positive meeting held between the committee representatives, with a renewed drive to formalise practises.

Correction – US Board on Geographic Names

ACTION: Secretary to circulate minutes of November meeting to committee.

ACTION: Secretary to feed back correction to ACAN representative.

7. New Place-name Proposals

7.1. Signy Island [APC(22)02]

Note from UKHO:

- At the scale of the current chart (1: 50,000) this feature would not be significant to appear on products.
- As the full bathymetric dataset collected by HMS Protector has not yet been reviewed by UKHO, it is proposed to pause naming until the feature can be viewed in context.

Comment:

Going forward, it is agreed that the UKHO will liaise with the proposer and APC Secretary prior to the feature coming before the committee to establish context and potential themes.

The proposed names are therefore not approved by this committee.

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee’s decision to proposer.

7.2. Danco Coast [APC(22)03]

The place name was not approved by the committee on the basis that there was not a suitable justification for the name suggested.

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee's decision to proposer.

7.3. Marguerite Bay [APC(22)04]

The theme was approved by the committee, who acknowledge the proposer for their consideration of the surrounding names and existing theme. The following names were approved:

- Farrier Col
- Clincher Lake
- Puller Lake
- Pritchel Lake
- Pick Lake
- Rasp Lake
- Forge Knoll
- Bellows Knoll
- Blacksmith Knoll

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee's decision to proposer.

7.4. English Coast [APC(22)05]

The committee agreed that the feature warranted naming, however the committee did not approve the names suggested by the proposer as they do not meet the established naming guidelines.

Given the existing theme of the area (USAS expedition led by Byrd, prior to WW2, the committee recommends Cruzen Point for the feature.

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee's decision to proposer.

ACTION: Bob Headland to research and send relevant information on proposed name to Secretary.

7.5. Various locations [APC(22)06]

The committee approved the name Wingham Dome

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee's decision to proposer and write to the recipient.

7.6. Walgreen Coast [APC(22)07]

Whilst the committee acknowledges the feedback from ACAN on the name, the committee approved the name Nowicki Foreland based on the honouree's significant contributions to our understanding of the continent.

ACTION: Secretary to feed back the committee's decision to proposer and write to the recipient.

8. Place-names Proposal form – proof of concept

Secretary demonstrated two examples of an online place-names proposal form for the committee. Comments were received and will be taken forward for the next iteration.

ACTION: Secretary to circulate links to the proof of concepts for more feedback.

9. Any Other Business:

Mr Paul Woodman had circulated a paper "40 years on the APC" to members prior to the meeting, which prompted discussion in the committee, particularly on name themes across BAT and the importance of existing naming themes when a new name is proposed.

ACTION: Secretary and BAS Mapping team to assess names and existing themes across BAT.

10. Date of next meeting:

Date of next meeting will be defined within the coming months.