

MINUTES OF MEETING AT BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2005 AT 11 AM.**Present:**

Mr P.J. Woodman	Chairman
Mrs C. Burgess	Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
Prof. J.A. Dowdeswell	Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge
Mr P. Geelan	<i>Ad hoc</i> member; former Chairman, APC
Lt Cdr J.E.J. Marshall	Hydrographic Office
Ms J. Rumble	Polar Regions Unit, Overseas Territories Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Dr M.R.A. Thomson	<i>Ad hoc</i> member
Prof. D.W.H. Walton	British Antarctic Survey
Ms A. Martin	Secretary

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Dr J.A. Heap, *Ad hoc* member, and Dr G. Hattersley-Smith, *Royal Geographical Society*. The Chairman informed the committee that Dr Heap had decided to retire from the committee, due to poor health, after nearly 40 years of service. The committee expressed their deep appreciation to Dr Heap for his valuable service over the years. With the impending retirement of Prof. Walton in 2006 it was decided to wait until then to decide on the future composition of the committee.

2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 9th May 2005

The minutes as circulated were approved by all present.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting

Secretary's Report of Development work being carried out on the BAT gazetteer

- i) Dates of Acceptance - It was decided that where place-names were changed for whatever reason e.g. islet to island, or multiple specific parts of names were reduced to a single part, then the dates of acceptance given on the website should be the original date of acceptance of the original form. Date changes of this type should be recorded in the database, with the previous name. Where the specific part of the name was fundamentally changed then the date of acceptance would be the date of acceptance of the new name. The original name would be recorded with its original date of acceptance as a previous name in the database.
- ii) Presentation of Data on the website – Descriptions should not be added to the tabulated gazetteer page. Instead they should be accessible via a separate button which will take the viewer to a separate page on the website. Previous names and their dates should not be viewable on the website.

- iii) Map interface – the map page should hold a small window for viewing the description as described. However, there should also be the provision for viewing a full page dedicated to the description.
- iv) Printer – The option for a printer friendly version should be added.

The Committee passed on their thanks to Ms Dignam and Mr Cooper for their hard work towards the website.

4. Secretary's Report [APC(05)08]

The question about where the APC Correspondence from the time of B.B. Roberts should be housed was considered. It was decided that the Secretary should meet with Prof. Dowdeswell and the SPRI Archivist to determine the content of the papers and how they would best be stored.

The Secretary presented a map received from the Bulgarian Antarctic Place-names Commission. It shows the position of many Bulgarian names already in the SCAR-CGA. It was noted that the map may not always comply with SCAR resolutions on best practice.

5. Place-name Decisions [APC(05)09]

All place-names were ratified.

6. Postal Assessments and ACAN Response

These were noted.

7. British Antarctic Territory Strategy Document

The Committee was advised that the current work being undertaken on the BAT gazetteer formed part of a new five year plan within the BAT government strategy. The Committee was invited to forward new ideas for development to be carried out within the next five years.

8. Proposed Adoption of Foreign Names – Fallières Coast and Alexander Island [APC(05)10]

It was decided that, apart from Uspallata Glacier, there was insufficient evidence to clearly identify the features and, therefore, further evidence (remote sensing data at a higher resolution) should be sought before decisions could be made. It was also noted that the transliteration of the Russian names required further work before the committee could approve the names.

9. New Place-name Proposal – Pacific Sector [APC(05)11]

The name was agreed in the form *Ellsworth Subglacial Lake*.

10. New Place-names Proposal – South Orkney Islands [APC(05)12]

The name was approved in the form *Wön Rock*.

11. APC Website Amendment

The entry for *Subglacial* should begin “*Describes feature lying under ice cover....*” and the examples should include *Ellsworth Subglacial Lake*.

The note about using the correct character encoder should include a brief description on encoding in specific web browsers.

12. Any Other Business*Guidelines for the Use of Place-names*

It was agreed that where maps were required for international, collaborative programmes, and where it was necessary to identify features within BAT that had a foreign government name but no APC approved name, then unpublished maps could include non APC approved, foreign government names within BAT in italics and parentheses in their foreign form as they appear in the SCAR CGA, e.g. (*Nunataki Andreeva*). They should not be anglicised in any way.

Disseminating Place-names Policy.

It was agreed that all scientists taking part in the Antarctic Funding Initiative (AFI) research programmes should be made aware of the UK policy on place-names.

SGSSI Gazetteer

Following a request from the Marine Officer on South Georgia for a copy of the SGSSI gazetteer it was agreed that the draft version currently available could be given to the Commissioner for South Georgia.

Potential new place-names

It was unanimously agreed that, given the extensive work that Dr Heap had undertaken for the APC, that his name should be born in mind for naming a feature in the future.

New Ad hoc Members of the Committee

Following the retirement of Dr Heap from the committee the question of recruiting new ad hoc members was discussed. The Secretary was asked to supply a draft nomination process/advertisement for recruitment of new ad hoc members at the next meeting.

British Cartographic Society(BCS)

The Chairman informed the Committee that he had been asked by the BCS to write a short piece entitled "The UK Antarctic Place-names Committee and the Antarctic Naming Process". This will go on the BCS website and includes a hyperlink to APC.

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 26th April 2006.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.