

MINUTES OF MEETING AT BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2006 AT 11.00 AM.**Present**

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

1. Apologies for absence and new members

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Hattersley-Smith, Royal Geographical Society.

The Chairman welcomed Dr Crosbie who had joined the committee as a result of the recruitment initiative following the last meeting. The Chairman also welcomed Mr Ross, the new BAT Desk Officer at the Polar Regions Unit, Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 10th May 2006

The minutes were approved by all present.

It was pointed out that the letters of reappointment for Mr Geelan, Dr Thomson and Mr Woodman had not been received. The Secretary was asked to look into this and to ensure that the letters were sent.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

Secretary's review of development work being carried out on the BAT Gazetteer and APC website.

The Secretary gave a demonstration of the website and outlined the changes that had been made since the last meeting. It was agreed that the FCO would consider the wording for a disclaimer and advise the Secretary accordingly. Several suggestions were made for improvements. It was pointed out that on some screens the top bar of the map overlaps the title. A different colour for water features on the map would be beneficial. A short note informing people that they needed to enable *pop-ups* on their computer was required. Another note informing users that the *Get Info* button required accurate clicking on the dot, not the place-name was required.

It was agreed that the website would benefit from a *Back One Page* icon and a *Limited Area Button* to allow the user to select an area for viewing. The use of an Antarctic URL address was not thought to be appropriate, as the .aq TLD

referred in a non-political manner to the Antarctic as a whole. The website was to remain on its current site until further notice.

It was also agreed that the Minutes would appear on the website in a .pdf format.

The website statistics were noted as was the fact that the APC website is now the number one choice for those searching under Antarctic place-names.

Ms Rumble thanked the Secretary for the development work on the website and the BAT Gazetteer map interface. There was general agreement that the map was fit for purpose and a very useful addition to the website.

4. Secretary's report [APC(06)14]

This was noted. It was agreed that the Secretary should contact the GSGSSI and prepare a costing for development work to be carried out on the SGSSI Gazetteer. Mr Fox informed the committee that BAS already held a digital map that had all known place-names, although their positions needed checking.

Ms Rumble informed the committee that the BAT Gazetteer might be published in the future.

Members asked the Secretary to prepare updated handbook contents for the next meeting.

5. Place-name decisions [APC(06)15]

All place-names were ratified.

6. Postal assessments and ACAN response

These were noted.

7. Place-name Proposal – Palmer Archipelago [APC(06)12rev]

It was agreed that the feature needed a name as it is on the main route to *Port Lockroy* for many tourist vessels and it appears, at first sight when sailing southwards, to be an extension of the *Neumayer Channel*. Given that another *Davies Bay* exists in Antarctica, and that *Cove* seemed inappropriate for this particular feature, it was decided after much discussion to approve the name *Lockley Bay*, in association with *Lockley Point*.

8. New Place-name Proposal – Transantarctic Mountains [APC(06)16]

The name *Ashworth Glacier* was found acceptable. It was agreed that this name should be forwarded to the New Zealand Place-naming authority for consideration.

9. New Place-name Proposal – Trinity Peninsula [APC(06)17]

The new name *Sjögren Inlet* was approved. The amended description for *Sjögren Glacier Tongue* was also approved.

10. Coordinate Amendments – Trinity Peninsula [APC(06)18]

These were noted.

11. New Place-name Proposal – South Georgia [APC(06)19]

The name *Poncet Island* was recommended for approval to the Commissioner for South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

12. New Place-name Proposal – South Orkney Islands [APC(06)20]

The name *Richardson Cove* was approved.

13. New Place-names Proposal – James Ross Island [APC(06)21]

There was considerable discussion regarding this proposal. In particular the naming of features after members of BAS and other staff who had served one or two seasons in the Antarctic was not seen as a significant enough achievement in itself to automatically warrant commemoration in the naming of a feature. The committee also voiced their displeasure at the practice of individuals forwarding their own names in place-name proposals.

Drawing from the map that was supplied by Dr Smellie, the following names were approved.

“A” Col – *Panorama Pass*

“B” Plateau/Mesa – *Johnson Mesa*

“C” Bluff – *Kaa Bluff*

“D” Col – *Baloo Col*

“E” Cliffs – *Hambrey Cliffs*

“F” Peak – *Smellie Peak*

“G” Peaks – *Lookalike Peaks*

“H” Gully – *Rockfall Valley*

“I” Glacier – *Whisky Glacier*

“J” Plateau/Mesa – *Kipling Mesa*

“K” Col – *Akela Col*

“L” Cliffs – *Limmershin Cliffs*

“N” Bastion/Buttress – *Asterozoan Buttress*

“O” Mesa – *Tumbledown Mesa*

“Q” Bay – *Swift Bay*

“R” Glacier – *Fleet Glacier*

“S” Cliffs – *Nelson Cliffs* (after P.H.H. Nelson)

“T” Cliffs – *Rhino Cliffs*

“U” Corner – *Rhino Corner*

“V” Glacier – *Coley South Glacier*

Small glacier immediately N of Coley Glacier – *Coley North Glacier*

64°07'30”S, 57°18'20”W

“W” Spur/Bastion – *Eugenie Spur*

“X” Mesa – *Jonkers Mesa*

“Y” Spur – *Pecten Spur*

“Z” Valley – *Förster Valley*

“AA” Pass/Col – *Mars Col*

“BB” Cliffs – *Cascade Cliffs*

Cliffs with waterfall, S of Keltie Head, Vega Island – *Waterfall Cliffs*

(Coordinates to be clarified)

“CC” Valley – *Boulder Valley*

“DD” Cape/Bluff – *Taylor Bluff*

“GG” Cliffs – *Sykes Cliffs*

The following decisions were taken for features where names were not approved.

“M” Bench – Clarification of feature required, photograph if possible

“P” Bench - Is a name really needed, is it a significant feature?

“EE” Spur. – Refer to Dr Smellie for a different name

“FF” Mesa - Refer to Dr Smellie for a different name

14. New Place-name Proposal – South Georgia

The name *Nicholls Peak* was recommended for approval to the Commissioner for South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

15. Any Other Business

The committee was informed that HRH Princess Anne is to visit *Rothera* in the new year and that some consideration had been given to naming a feature after her to commemorate her visit. The Secretary and Mr Fox outlined several potential features for consideration in the *Rothera* area. It was decided that the range of mountains from *McCallum Pass* in the north to *Cape Alexandra* in the south, Adelaide Island, would be named *The Princess Royal Range*. There was some discussion regarding the correct form of the name, whether the definite article should be used. This was to be investigated.

The date for the next meeting was set for Wednesday June 6th 2007.

The Meeting closed at 3pm.