

**MINUTES OF MEETING AT BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY HELD ON THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009 AT 11.00 AM.****Present**

Mrs P. Foster Back	Chair
Mr P.J. Woodman	Outgoing Chairman and <i>Expert Member</i>
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
Dr A.J. Fox	British Antarctic Survey
Mr P.J. Geelan	<i>Expert Member</i>
Mr J. Killingbeck	Royal Geographical Society
Lt Cdr J.E.J. Marshall	Hydrographic Office
Ms J. Rumble	Polar Regions Unit, Overseas Territories Dept, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Dr J. Shears	British Antarctic Survey
Dr M.R.A. Thomson	<i>Expert Member</i>
Ms A. Martin	Secretary

**1. Chairmanship succession**

Mr Woodman expressed how it had been an honour and a privilege for him to chair the committee over the past 10 years and formerly handed over the Chair of the committee to Mrs Foster Back. Ms Rumble thanked Mr Woodman for his hard work as Chairman and remarked at how pleased she was that he would be staying on. Ms Rumble welcomed Mrs Foster Back to the Chair. Mrs Foster Back thanked Mr Woodman and Ms Rumble and observed the depth and breadth of Mr Woodman's knowledge and experience.

**2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Dr John Shears (BAS), who would join the meeting after lunch, Prof Julian Dowdeswell (SPRI), who would be leaving the meeting after lunch and Ms Lesley Peto, BAT Desk Officer, Polar Regions Unit, FCO.

**3. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

The minutes were agreed.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting****i) Letter to Google Earth representatives and reply**

Mr Woodman had approached Google Earth at the UNGEGN Session in Nairobi in May, and it was agreed that this initial approach should now be followed up. The Secretary would pursue contacts with Google Earth, urging their adoption of gazetteered names via SCAR SC-AGI. A letter would be written to Henk Brolsma, SC-AGI Chairman, urging pursuit of this, the letter to include all correspondence to date and copied to Dr Colin Summerhayes,

Executive Director, SCAR and Crystal Sholts, GIS Data Quality Co-ordinator at Google Earth.

The Secretary demonstrated the SCAR CGA website which now includes the option for viewing chosen names on Google Earth. Unfortunately it was impossible to demonstrate this using only UK names owing to a technical glitch, the Australian Antarctic Division is aware and has agreed to rectify the problem.

**5. Secretary's report [APC(09)08]**

For details of Falkland Island place-names, Mr Woodman referred the committee to the PCGN website:

<http://www.pcn.org.uk/Falkland%20Islands-July2006.pdf> and the document, *The toponomy of the Falkland Islands as recorded on maps and in gazetteers*. The document contains a list of features which have both English and Argentinian names. It was agreed that the MarBIN enquiry would be referred to PCGN as APC had no knowledge of the Falkland Islands Gazetteer.

**6. Place-name decisions [APC(09)09]**

The names were noted. Ms Rumble asked that she be notified of any contentious issues arising from postal ballots, when presented with names to approve. It was noted that Bill (Harold William) Tilman, sailor/explorer who sailed to South Georgia and the South Shetland Islands in the 1960's and 70's, would be a suitable person to remember for naming purposes.

Following discussions regarding the best formats when using surnames composed of dual parts, it was agreed that all of the guidelines for naming would be revised at the next meeting.

**7. Summary of Decisions**

These were noted.

**8. US ACAN Comments**

These were noted.

**9. New Place-name Proposal – Deception Island [APC(09)07rev]**

Given the precedence of the name *Extremadura Cove* in the Spanish paper, it was agreed that this name would be approved (*extremadura* = “back of beyond”). The description would be amended accordingly. The committee agreed that Mr Downie was well deserving of recognition for his work on Deception Island, but a more permanent feature should be chosen to mark his contribution.

**10. New Place-name Proposal – Sweeney Mountains [APC(09)10]**

*Hinde Nunataks* was approved unanimously. After much discussion it was agreed that there was no objection to either *Mount Hunter* or *Hunter Ridge* in being named or *Riley Peak* and its associated ridge, but that the Secretary should ask the geologists (specifically Dr Leat) whether the names would be

most usefully applied to the single point or ridge in both cases, and to forward these names to Ms Rumble for approval.

**11. New Place-name Proposal – South Palmer Land [APC(09)11]**

There was much discussion concerning the southern limit of Palmer Land and the Antarctic Peninsula. The current definitions arguably did not take sufficient account of their topography. It had become apparent in recent years, particularly with extensive satellite imagery, that a good case could be made for extending both Palmer Land and the Antarctic Peninsula southwards into an area of BAT currently unnamed by APC but known informally by the US and others as eastern Ellsworth Land.

It was decided that *Palmer Land* and the *Antarctic Peninsula* be redefined southwards to a line running north-westwards from a point on the grounding line of Evans Ice Stream at approximately 76°34'S 75°00'W to a position on Rydberg Peninsula at 73°00'S 80°00'W. The land contained in this newly included area would be known informally as *southern Palmer Land*, rather than formally as *South Palmer Land*.

**12. New Place-name Proposal – Fallières Coast [APC(09)12]**

As images were still awaited from US ACAN it was decided to defer any discussion on this paper until all the information was available.

**13. Comparison of GEBCO and SCAR CGA coordinates and generics [APC(09)14]**

It was unclear what GEBCO/SCAR were asking from this paper. Discussion was deferred until further information is available.

**14. The new South Shetland Islands maps**

The committee was shown draft copies of APC Misc 18, Deception Island, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2009, 1:50,000; and APC Misc 102, Hurd Peninsula, Livingston Island, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2009, 1:75,000. It was agreed that the clarity of the maps was adequate for place-naming purposes although it was not going to be possible to make maps from the LIMA images at a higher scale. Dr Fox informed the committee that BAS was currently negotiating for free access to *Quickbird* satellite imagery. This is available at higher resolutions than the *Landsat* satellite images used in LIMA and, if available, would provide a far more suitable image for the maps of higher scales.

**15. Any Other Business**

i) Mr Woodman informed the committee that he would be resigning as PCGN Secretary at the end of the year. This would not affect his position as *Expert Member* on the APC.

ii) New Place-name Proposal Antarctic Peninsula [APC(09)14]

It was agreed that *Woodman Highlands* was a highly suitable name and feature with which to commemorate Mr Woodman's tenure as Chairman.

The name was approved. Mr Woodman thanked the Committee for bestowing this honour.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.

The Secretary to canvas members for the date for the next meeting.