

**MINUTES OF MEETING AT THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY, HELD ON TUESDAY 29 MARCH 2011  
AT 11.00 AM.**

**Present**

Mrs Philippa Foster Back	Chair
Ms Kate Bazeley	Secretary
Mrs Caroline Burgess	Permanent Committee on Geographical Names
Dr Kim Crosbie	<i>Ad hoc member</i>
Dr Adrian Fox	British Antarctic Survey
Mr Pat Geelan	<i>Expert Member</i>
Mr John Killingbeck	Royal Geographical Society
Lt Cdr Jonathan Marshall	UK Hydrographic Office
Ms Jane Rumble	Polar Regions Unit, FCO / Government British Antarctic Territory
Dr John Shears	British Antarctic Survey
Dr Mike Thomson	<i>Expert Member</i>
Mr Paul Woodman	<i>Expert Member</i>

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Prof. J.A. Dowdeswell (Scott Polar Research Institute), Prof. Mike Bentley (Durham University) and Dr Suman Chowdhury (Shell Oil).

**2. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 9 December 2010**

The minutes were agreed with no amendments.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

**i) Licence Agreement**

The status of the progress on implementing the Licence Agreement needs to be checked.

**ii) Ad hoc committee member positions**

We welcome two new *ad hoc* members to the committee; Prof. Mike Bentley, Professor of Geography at Durham University, and Dr Suman Chowdhury, geoscientist for Shell Oil.

Neither was able to attend the meeting, however they both sent comments on the proposals.

Dr Crosbie has renewed her position as an *ad hoc* committee member for a 5 year term.

**iii) Potential Names list**

The Potential Names list produced by the previous Secretary was noted. The Secretary highlighted that many members of Scott's and Shackleton's expeditions have not been commemorated with names within British Antarctic Territory, however they may have been given names elsewhere in Antarctica. It was agreed that the Secretary would highlight any members yet to have been commemorated with names across the whole of Antarctica, for potential discussion with New Zealand, in particular.

It was noted that if new names are given to commemorate members of Scott's expedition, there may be opportunities to generate media interest, in order raise awareness of the importance of place names.

**4. Secretary's report**

As this was her first full committee meeting, Kate Bazeley was warmly welcomed as the new Secretary. The Secretary's report was noted.

**5. Place-names decisions**

It was confirmed that all of the place-names recommended at the December 2010 APC had been approved.

**6. ACAN response**

This was considered in assessing the new name proposals.

**7. New Place-name proposals – Graham Coast APC(11)03**

With regard to the exact location of Mt Shackleton, it was noted that the correct position is shown in the BAT gazetteer, and that the name had been placed incorrectly on the map (Misc 13). There was some discussion as to whether the feature had been previously named by Charcot on his 1910 map. However, it was determined that it was not. It was also agreed that the peak (denoted Point A on the proposal) was worthy of naming due to it being a significant feature and in an area that is popular with climbing groups, and that *Mount Faraday* was a suitable name, especially in recognition of the old Faraday Base.

**8. New Place-name proposals – Nordenskjöld Coast APC(11)04 and 05**

It was agreed that Mr Richard Harbour was deserving of being commemorated for his extensive work in this area. It was agreed that the name 'Harbour' could not be used for the features proposed, as they were both near to the coastline, and as such might cause confusion

on hydrographical charts. It was also agreed that there was no clear need for the peak [APC(11)04] to be named at this stage. The knoll [APC(11)05], however, marked the northern extent of the Drygalski Glacier, and could become a more prominent feature in the future if the glacier retreats. Therefore the name *Richard Knoll* was approved, as the committee's principles do not allow for full names or apostrophes to be used.

**9. New Place-name proposals – Byers Peninsula APC(11)06**

The point was raised as to why the third island in this group did not have a place-name proposal; this was because it was not included in the Antarctic Specially Protected Area [ASPA], so there was no immediate requirement for it to be named to support the current ASPA review work. However it was deemed appropriate by the committee for this third island to also be given a name, so long as it is in-keeping with the other names in this area. It was also suggested that the names should reflect the size of the island. Therefore the following names were approved by the committee:

- The largest island [with the proposed name of Sprite Island] was approved as *Demon Island*;
- The middle island [proposed as Imp Island] was approved *Sprite Island*;
- The unnamed island was approved *Imp Island*.

**10. Place-name amendment – Livingston Island APC(11)07**

The original place-name proposal for Siddons Point was identified in the APC records of the minutes for 1958, and stated that the point in question had been named after 'Capt. Richard Siddons, Master of the Australian sealing ship Lynx', in line with other features in this area, which also honour sealing ships and their captains. However, it was agreed that the Captain's name was misspelled and should be written 'Siddins'. Therefore the BAT gazetteer should be amended to honour the correct person.

In the discussion regarding the work of the UK Hydrographic Office, it was commented that there were islands and features within the increasingly visited Aitcho Islands which were as yet unnamed. It was therefore agreed that the Committee should consider this further at a subsequent meeting.

**11. A.O.B.**

- i) **Policy regime**

The importance of maintaining a clear set of policies and procedures involved in place-naming was noted, to ensure that the Committee acted consistently. It was agreed that committee members should consider the handbook to ensure that it reflects up-to-date procedures and to check that they are familiar with the content. Issues recently considered by the Committee, but not yet included in the handbook, should be flagged to the Secretariat, so that new text could be developed. It was also agreed that the Secretariat should seek to clarify the agreement that the APC has with ACAN for sharing place name proposals and approvals.

**ii) Place-names proposals from recent field season**

It was suggested that scientists returning from Antarctica should be informed of the place-naming process and encouraged to submit any proposals. Those targeted should not just be from BAS, but also from universities and other organisations. It was suggested that this process should be made a formal procedure that would happen each year.

**iii) Ideas for raising awareness of place-names**

- To increase awareness of the APC and the place-naming process, Dr Fox gave a talk at Rothera about the place names there, and will give a similar talk at BAS soon.
- It was suggested that the Secretary could produce a poster to show at the Girton Conference.
- IAATO would seek to identify any features regularly visited, which are not already named, and provide details to the Committee.
- BAS would explore options with the RGS magazine '*Geographical*' to develop an article promoting awareness of place-naming.
- A talk could be given at the next BAT Stakeholders meeting to inform all those involved in Antarctica of the place-naming process.
- There could be a 'Place-Name of the Month' in the BAS internal magazine and on the BAS website.

**iv) ACAN place names proposals**

The committee approved the name Wayne Head and welcomed the naming of Naveen Cove. However the committee felt that Pedro Skvarca is worthy of having a larger, more prominent feature named after him due to his extensive contribution to Antarctic research.

**v) New place-name proposals**

Dr Crosbie is still researching Ron Lewis-Smith's place names proposal in Palmer Archipelago.

**vi) Alternative committee meeting venues**

It was suggested that a future meeting could possibly be held at SPRI, to allow the committee the opportunity to look around the museum there.

**12. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 6 October 2011 at BAS, starting at 11.00.

Meeting closed at 13.00.