

MINUTES APC(21)2nd Meeting:

Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 11:00 AM, hybrid meeting.

Present:

Dr Neil Arnold (Scott Polar Research Institute)
Prof. Mark Brandon (*Ad hoc* member)
Ms Catherine Cheetham (Permanent Committee on Geographical Names)
Mr George Clarkson (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)
Dr Alistair Crame (British Antarctic Survey)
Dr Bethan Davies (*Ad hoc* member)
Dr Rod Downie (*Ad hoc* member)
Ms Elena Field (British Antarctic Survey – Minutes)
Mr Andrew Fleming (British Antarctic Survey – observing)
Mrs Philippa Foster-Back (Chair)
Dr Adrian Fox (British Antarctic Survey - Secretary)
Mr Robert Headland (Royal Geographical Society)
Rebecca Kaye (*Ad hoc* member)
Ms Rachel Morgan (*Ad hoc* member)
Ms Jane Rumble (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)
Mr Lee Truscott (UK Hydrographic Office)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Prof. Dame Jane Francis, Dr Kate Winter, Paul Woodman, Dr Mark Belchier and Ms Camilla Nichol.

2. APC Membership news

The Chair announced that this would be Dr Fox's last meeting as APC Secretary because he is retiring from BAS early in 2021, however he has been awarded Emeritus Fellow status at BAS. The Committee offered their congratulations.

The Chair welcomed Andrew Fleming, who has succeeded Adrian Fox as the Head of Mapping and Geographic Information Centre, BAS, to the meeting, and Dr Neil Arnold (Scott Polar Research Institute) to the Committee.

3. Place-names decisions and matters arising from APC(21) 1st meeting and inter-sessional paper APC(21)10

All the names proposed at the last meeting (25 March 2021) were approved apart from APC(21)04 Getz Ice Shelf glaciers and subsequently included in the BAT and CGA gazetteers.

3.1 As agreed at the March meeting, Dr Davies had a follow-up discussion with the proposers which resulted in a revised proposal for the Getz Ice Shelf glaciers names, which was circulated inter-sessionally as paper APC(21)09. This was approved following some email

discussion by the Committee members. The names were held back from the APC and CGA gazetteers until early November to mesh with a press release about the names, related to the COP26 conference in Glasgow (see item 10. AOB).

3.2 Intersessional APC(21)10 – Stock Bay. This proposal was unanimously recommended by the Committee and approved and included in the BAT and CGA gazetteers.

4. Minutes of the last meeting [APC(21)1st], held on 25 March 2021

Some minor comments on the text were noted by the Secretary and the Minutes were approved.

The Secretary confirmed that all actions from the meeting were complete, except for the task for the Secretary to write an introductory article about the APC for the website, in liaison with Elena Field and Dr Winter.

5. Secretary's report [APC(21)11]

The Secretary presented the report at the meeting. Summarised below:

He has liaised with the CGA team over some missing names that had been submitted to the CGA but not included. The Secretary has reviewed all names sent to the CGA since 2015 and these should all now be in the CGA.

The Secretary has liaised with ACAN to catch up a backlog of names approved for the UK Gazetteer but not reviewed and included in the US Gazetteer (and hence CGA as US names). In July ACAN approved 63 names from the UK Gazetteer going back to 2018.

Status of the SCAR SCAGI 'International Principles and Procedures for Antarctic Place Names' document. As noted in the minutes from the APC(21)1st meeting, this is regarded as a finished output from this project. At the time of the APC(21)2nd meeting the status was that that the SCAGI Working Group had responded to questions from the SCAR Executive and were waiting for a decision.

AJF: *Since the October meeting this has been approved by the SCAR Executive Committee and published as SCAR Report 41:* <https://www.scar.org/scar-library/reports-and-bulletins/scar-reports/5729-scar-report-41/>

In response to a question on whether the international community is going to be able to enforce these principles, the Secretary explained that SCAR has no authority, and the CGA is simply an agnostic compilation of international gazetteers. However, the principles should be considered guidelines on best practice that have been agreed by the international cohort and therefore should carry some weight.

FCDO stated that the UK agrees with these guidelines, and when they are formalised we should demonstrate our support and work to make our practices consistent.

Website, Social media and Publicity:

The Secretary and Elena Field prepared 'Place-name of the Month' articles for the BAS Ice Sheet newsletter and APC website: March-April 2021: Names related to James Clark Ross, linked to the final voyage for BAS of the *RRS James Clark Ross*; May-June 2021: Names related

to countries at the finals of the Euro2020 football tournament (matches postponed to summer 2021); July-August 2021: Names for dragons in Finlandia Foothills from 2018, linked to another article about use of VHR imagery to support fieldwork in the area.

The APC Twitter feed continues to get attention – well done to Elena for keeping fresh with new material – most recently the dragon names, which was cross linked by the European Space Agency.

Action: Committee members are requested to send ideas for Twitter items to Elena Field.

BAS has an Innovation Champions group led by Director of Innovation, Dr Beatrix Schlarb-Ridley. Groups within BAS have an Innovation Champion to help drive innovation across the organisation and link to wider BAS Innovation initiatives. Elena Field, who is the MAGIC Innovation Champion, gave a talk about the APC to the Innovation Champions group as a way to convey information about the APC to groups within BAS and encourage science and operations-led proposals to the APC.

Elena has since been invited to give similar talks to other committees within BAS and whilst at Rothera.

Update on BAS map publications: BAS (Misc) 12, *South Georgia*, is at the printers. It includes recent name Viola Peak.

The focus will now shift to completing the first BAS map of the South Orkney Islands which was de-prioritised waiting better satellite imagery. This will include substantial additions to the place names, as approved at previous meetings.

The Secretary prepared a map showing Attenborough Strait, for display on-board *RRS Sir David Attenborough*.

The Committee offered their congratulations to Laura Gerrish for work on the portfolio of BAS published mapping.

It was noted that Laurie Island is about to become two islands due to retreat of the glacier over the isthmus.

Action: Secretary to review satellite imagery for Laurie Island and consider a potential inter-sessional paper in time for inclusion on the new map.

6. US ACAN Comments for APC(21) 2nd Meeting

ACAN would also prefer the generic 'Channel' over 'Passage' for the feature in paper APC(21)17.

They have asked for a meeting between executives of ACAN and APC to refresh the relationship and ensure continued alignment between the Committees.

AJF: Since organised for 16 November 2021.

7. New Place-name proposals

The secretary gave a verbal summary of the background to proposals APC(21)12-14 (FIDS and BAS personnel who died in Antarctica and do not have a place name) and the role of the

British Antarctic Monument Trust. These three papers generated significant discussion amongst the Committee. A final decision was that they should be recommended, to complete place names for those who died in Antarctica.

7.1 New Place-name Proposals – Graham Coast [APC(21)12]

The names Coll Glacier, Morgan Buttress and Ockleton Glacier were approved after discussion about the choice of generic feature for Morgan Buttress.

ACTION: Secretary to liaise with the BAMT over dissemination of the names, and Elena Field to add to the BAT Gazetteer, Secretary to forward to the SCAR CGA.

7.2 New Place-name Proposals – Graham Coast [APC(21)13]

The names Hargreaves Spur, Walker Ridge and Whitfield Ridge were approved after discussion about the choice of generic feature for Hargreaves Spur.

ACTION: Secretary to liaise with the BAMT over dissemination of the names, and Elena Field to add to the BAT Gazetteer, Secretary to forward to the SCAR CGA.

7.3 New Place-name Proposals – Adelaide Island [APC(21)14]

The names Anderson Buttress and Atkinson Ridge were approved.

ACTION: Secretary to liaise with the BAMT over dissemination of the names, and Elena Field to add to the BAT Gazetteer, Secretary to forward to the SCAR CGA.

7.4 New Place-name Proposal – Elephant Island [APC(21)15]

The name Burton Glacier was approved.

ACTION: Secretary to report the outcome to the proposer and write to the recipient. Elena Field to add to the BAT Gazetteer, Secretary to forward to the SCAR CGA.

ACTION: The glacier to the east of Point Wild similarly needs a name. Secretary to liaise with the proposer and Mr Burton over an appropriate name for this feature, for a proposal at the next meeting.

7.5 New Place-name Proposal – Marguerite Bay [APC(21)16]

The name Capper Peak was accepted. It was emphasised that the award of the name recognises the significant and sustained contribution of the recipient, and is not specifically linked to her upcoming retirement.

ACTION: Secretary to report the outcome to the proposer and write to the recipient. Elena Field to add to the BAT Gazetteer, Secretary to forward to the SCAR CGA.

7.6 New Place-name Proposal – Fallières Coast [APC(21)17]

The name Sadler Passage was approved.

The Secretary had previously asked IAATO about navigation, and confirmed that this feature is navigable and has been used by Zodiac-type boats.

The Committee recommended the generic 'Passage' on advice from the UKHO, based on IHO definition of terms and that a 'passage' is a smaller feature than a 'channel'.

8. South Georgia place names update.

Dr Mark Belchier sends apologies and had no updates on South Georgia naming.

Mr Pat Lurcock has undertaken a detailed review of the South Georgia gazetteer. Thanks for this work were recorded by the Committee. His comments on the gazetteer include both the editorial content and the gazetteer structure. The latter will be superseded by planned database updates.

ACTION: Secretary to pass on thanks from the Committee to Mr Lurcock. His comments to be addressed in 2022.

9. Changes to the Committee.

The Chair announced the following changes to the Committee:

As noted in Item 2, Adrian Fox is retiring from BAS and stepping down as Secretary of the APC. Elena Field will succeed Dr Fox as Secretary from 1 January 2022.

Dr Fox will then succeed Dr Alistair Crame as the BAS Representative on the Committee, starting at the APC(22)1st meeting. The Chair and Committee thanked Dr Crame for his contribution to the work of the APC.

10. Any Other Business.

10.1 Getz naming and APC process for names in the Unclaimed Sector

There will be a press release about the Getz Ice Shelf glaciers names timed for the run-up to the COP26 meeting in Glasgow, November 2021. This being coordinated between the Leeds University and FCDO press offices.

Work on the text of this press release has highlighted a lack of clarity in the APC naming process for features in the Unclaimed Sector.

For BAT the APC process is unambiguous – the Committee Recommends names and then the Commissioner (or deputy with the Commissioner's authority) decides whether or not to accept the recommendation, and if so, Approves them.

In the Unclaimed Sector the UK is able to submit names to the CGA.

Technically, the Committee can put forward names for this area, as there is no formal requirement for approval. However, the FCDO should be the body that ultimately gives

Approval. The FCDO will formally approve the names provided that there is consensus on the Committee. Consensus here means the absence of a formal objection from any of the member organisations.

For the Getz Ice Shelf names, the press release will state that the FCDO approved the names for submission to the CGA.

ACTION – Secretary to review and update the APC Terms of Reference following on from this discussion, to define the process for approval of names in the Unclaimed Sector.

10.2 SGSSI names:

It was noted that there are some significant dates coming up for South Georgia: Shackleton 100th anniversary January 2022; SG Association – 40th anniversary 2022.

11. Date of next meeting.

To be decided – probably March or April 2022. The Easter period 2022 is Thursday 14 April to Monday 18 April. Meeting to be held at BAS.

ACTION: Secretary to liaise with the Chair, FCDO and Members to define a date.