

MINUTES

Meeting held at 11:00 on Wednesday 30th April 2025, at British Antarctic Survey.

Present:

Ms Natalie Allen (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)
Dr Mark Belchier (SGSSI)
Dr Mark Brandon (Ad hoc member)
Dr Elizabeth Chant (Ad hoc member)
Mr Rod Downie (Ad hoc member)
Ms Elena Field (British Antarctic Survey – Secretary)
Mr Andrew Fleming (British Antarctic Survey)
Mrs Philippa Foster-Back (Chair)
Prof Dame Jane Francis (British Antarctic Survey)
Mr Robert Headland (Royal Geographical Society)
Dr Alex Liu (Ad hoc member)
Ms Camilla Nichol (UK Antarctic Heritage Trust)
Prof Richard Powell (SPRI)
Ms Jane Rumble OBE (Polar Regions Department, FCDO)
Mr Lee Truscott (UK Hydrographic Office)
Dr Kate Winter (Ad hoc member)

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Bethan Davies (Ad hoc member), Ms Catherine Cheetham and Ms Allison Dollimore (PGCN)

2. Place-names decisions and matters arising from APC(24)2nd meeting**2.1. UK APC Membership Updates**

The Chair welcomed the two new Committee members to the meeting

4. Minutes of the last meeting [APC(24)2nd], held on 20 November 2024

Approved

5. Secretary's report

The report was sent to members in advance of the meeting.

The Secretary verbally updated the Committee on a matter that arose since the report was circulated:

EF produced a short paper to describe the issues observed throughout their tenure including:

- Dataset that needs updating according to best practise
- Coordinates needing updating
- Wealth of knowledge stored in hard-copy documents and maps

This was verbally discussed in the last meeting. Since then, EF approached the Institute of Name Studies, part of the University of Nottingham, as it seemed to be an interesting project for a student to take on. EF met with the Director of the Institute on Monday 28th, and they are really interested in this as a potential PhD project, in conjunction with FCDO and the Secretariat of the APC. They have requested that they come visit towards the end of June to review the hard copy data.

Any comments on this at this time?

6. US ACAN Comments for APC(25)1st Meeting

Comments were received and considered in the meeting. APC passes on their thanks to ACAN. Suggestion on another meeting with ACAN for June/July

7. New Place-name Proposal – Bird Island [APC(25)01]

SG – not an issue. Only question was whether the feature needs a name.

Mark Brandon – why name this feature but not others,

Note – Mound is not a defined generic.

Jane Fr – there is a safety aspect

AGREED - Name to be added to SG

ACTION: Secretary to add generic to list.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

8. New Place-name Proposal – Signy Island [APC(25)02]

Hydrargyrum Rock:

The Committee discussed whether the name “Hydrargyrum” would be appropriate given it is difficult to pronounce and might not be suitable for radio communications. They also considered whether the feature was a rock or a hill. After deliberation, the Committee decided on “**Mercury Hill**” with reference to the feature “Quicksilver Lake” nearby.

Havoc Holm:

The Committee agreed with the justification and approved the name, in keeping with existing theme of “noise” in the area.

Bangarang Beach:

The Committee discussed whether this name was well-known or would add confusion. After discussion, the Committee recommends “**Stramash Beach**” with reference to the existing theme of “noise” in the area, and the link to Scotland through “McLeod Glacier,” which terminates there.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

9. New Place-name Proposal – Deception Island [APC(25)03]

The Committee agreed with the justification and approved the name, in keeping with existing theme in the area.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

10. New Place-name Proposal – Anvers Island [APC(25)04]

The Committee deliberated over this feature and decided not to recommend the name at this time. It was decided that this was not necessarily appropriate for inclusion in the BAT Gazetteer and would be better placed within the undersea names gazetteers.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

11. New Place-name Proposal – Graham Coast [APC(25)05]

The Committee discussed this feature name and it was determined that the feature did not require naming at this time.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

12. New Place-name Proposal – Adelaide Island 1 [APC(25)06]

The Committee felt that these features did not meet the criteria for acceptance of a place name. The features were not deemed of significant navigational or scientific importance and at this time there is no known requirement to identify the individual peaks in this region.

Related to the proposed theme, the Committee noted that the region is largely glaciated and very little biological research is possible. It was noted that the persons nominated did not have any significant link to the region.

13. New Place-name Proposal – Adelaide Island 2 [APC(25)07]

The Committee agreed with the justification and approved the name, as the nominated person meets the guidelines for a place-name nomination.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

14. New Place-name Proposal – Ryder Bay [APC(25)08]

The Committee agreed with the justification and approved the name, as the nominated person

meets the guidelines for a place-name nomination.

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

15. New Place-name Proposal – Alexander Island [APC(25)09]

The Committee discussed this feature name and it was determined that the feature did not require naming at this time. It was also noted that the nominated individual was named for a feature in Victoria Land (Gogineni Subglacial Trench).

REJECTED

ACTION: Secretary to inform applicant.

16. New Place-name Proposal – ACAN [APC(25)10]

The Committee discussed this feature name and it was determined that the feature did not require naming at this time.

Does this feature need a name? Seems insignificant at this time.

UKHO – does not require naming.

Rod Downie – caution against anthropomorphising of animals.

Feed back to ACAN that APC are cognisant of naming following tourism and so the feature really does need to meet our criteria and guidelines.

REJECTED

ACTION: Secretary to inform ACAN.

17. Any Other Business.

UKHO – found a name not in the BAT gazetteer, will send to Secretariat.

18. Date of next meeting.

To be confirmed.