

17 December 2020

**Community Committee Chairpersons
Community Committee Secretaries**

**cc: Councillors
Malvern Community Board Members**

Kia ora committee chairpersons and secretaries,

In my letter in 11 December I said that I would update you on the outcome of the meeting that was held yesterday to discuss a report that reviewed the structure of Community Committees and recommended changes.

At the meeting Council heard a public submission from Mr Jens Christensen and subsequently discussed the report. These discussions included Councillors outlining feedback from their Ward communities on the issue.

The meeting will be available in full for you to view online at [the Council's livestream page](#) or [the Council's YouTube channel](#), the minutes of the meeting will be available very soon at <https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/agendas-and-minutes/council-agendas>

During the meeting the Council made the following decisions:

1. Effective immediately, the following Community Committees of Council are discharged:
 - Claremont Residents Association (in recess)
 - Edendale Residents Association (in recess)
 - West Melton Community Centre Committee (in recess)
2. Work with our current council committees as specified in Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 [Lists of Committees] through to 1 June 2021 on a change process to be implemented for 1 July 2021 to ensure Council can continue to meet its community expectation and legislative requirements.'
3. Prior to June, 2021, any Community Committee of Council may choose to disestablish itself, if the approved motion is minuted at the Committee meeting, communicated to, and approved by, the Chief Executive.

Following the acceptance of decision 2 above it was accepted that the remainder of the recommendations in the report did not need to be addressed as these issues would be addressed in the work to achieve the outcome described in decision 2 above.

In conclusion, Councillors agreed with the report that Selwyn, with 70 committees, has far too many community committees of council. Council is keen to progress exploration, with committees, on Council taking on operational management of Council owned community centre, halls, reserves and pools, while continuing to work with volunteers as much as possible.

Council agreed that the new Committee structure is expected to ensure that going forward, committees of Council need to be clear in their roles and in their legal responsibilities, as key “cogs” in the “machinery” of Council. As part of the process, Council will work with committees to consider new roles and to support them to re-form in a way that allows them to best contribute to their communities.

At this time, we have some breathing space over Christmas and the New Year, to reflect and consider the way forward.

We look forward to working with you over the coming months to make that happen.

In the meantime have a peaceful and refreshing Christmas and New Year.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DKidd', is positioned above the printed name.

Denise Kidd

Group Manager – Community Services and Facilities