MINUTES

REPRESENTATION REVIEW HEARING - ROLLESTON
MONDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2015 AT 4 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

In Attendance

Councillors S G Walters (Acting Mayor), M A Alexander, J B Bland, S T Broughton, D Hasson, P S Hill, D P McEvedy, M Lyall and J B Morten

Apologies

Apologies were received for absence from Mayor Coe, Councillor Miller and Barnett. Councillor Broughton was an apology for lateness.

Welcome

The Acting Mayor welcomed all in attendance.

The Chief Executive provided a brief in respect of today's hearings and deliberations.

The Acting Mayor advised that there are 3 late submissions.

Members raised concerns about the lateness of the late submissions. Reference was made to a particular submission due to its lateness and the view was expressed that the process has been taken advantage of.

Councillor Broughton arrived at 4:09pm

The majority of Councillors agreed to hear the late submissions.

Moved - Councillor Lyall /Seconded – Councillor Morten

'That the Council agrees to accept the late submissions.'

CARRIED

Submissions

100002 - Kenneth May – He indicated that he is a strong believer in democracy and fair representation is an essential part of democracy. Reference was made to the graphical location of Malvern and that the 2 current Councillors would be unable to cover the area themselves without the Community Board. He wants to see a full democratic representation.

Councillor Hasson- Which option do you prefer? I preferred an option outside the 4 suggested options. Rolleston should be a ward in its own right and the other boundaries rearranged for appropriate levels of governance. He indicated that there

are a number of issues in Rolleston that may not be prevalent in Malvern and other areas.

100018 - Jenny Gallagher and Bob Mugford - Malvern Community Board – Mrs Gallagher noted that she is presenting on behalf of MCB and fully supports the Council's proposal and to retain the 2 Councillors and MCB. She wished to speak on the retention of MCB. She made reference to the Darfield public meeting and responses from the community endorsing the Board. She focused on 3 areas in relation to her submission. The value from the community and ability to engage with the Board and its members. This is particular seen on the road at the quarterly 'on the road' meetings. It's an opportunity for locals to raise issues to the Board who in turn provide these questions back to Council for answers. It has provided goodwill in the community.

The geographical area makes it difficult for 2 Councillors to cover. The increasing workload of our Councillors as our District grows and new legislation requires their increasing attention. Board members have a good relationship with their Councillors and wish to see it continue. The Board unanimously gives endorsement to Councils proposal and encourage you to vote in favour of retaining MCB.

Councillor Broughton – Why should we keep you as opposed to SCCB? Mrs Gallagher responded noting the geographical area and the amount of committees. She indicated that to do justice we need people on the ground.

Councillor Alexander – Mr May's comments regarding Rolleston? Mrs Gallagher responded we see merit in splitting Rolleston to its own urban ward.

100160 - Alan French – I support Council in the proposal for 11 Councillors and 4 wards. But the SCCB should be retained as advocates for the ratepayers. I deal with a lot of enquiries from ratepayers and I direct them where necessary to Council. There is a need for a Board and to work with the Council. The Board work with a number of committees and can't recall any Councillor part from Councillor Hill attending the meetings. We work with the Reserve Boards and seen them through some difficult times. In terms of the Resident Associations, we work closely with them and support the local schools through the cups for leadership awards. The Board members are in touch with the community from talking to residents. We provide financial support to a number groups and sports people. The Board should be delegated more responsibilities and stronger leadership. Should the Board be disbanded then the Board should go to LGNZ for a determination.

Councillor Broughton – Community Boards are funded via targeted rate – what is the feeling from people in your community? Mr French responded we provide value for money. The people I've spoken to, want the Board.

Councillor Alexander – How do you respond to the RRA who doesn't support the Board retention? Mr French responded it's quite sad and they should support the Community Board and we should have a say over the RRA.

Councillor Bland- MCB have a large area and community support etc. Is there any difference between the 2 Boards? Mr French responded MCB have a widespread area and get more local responses from people. With SCCB we do a number of meetings and represent Council on numerous committees. Not many Councillors attend these meetings so any problems raised we take to Councillors. MCB is spread over a large area and SCCB is more concentrated. We need a closer relationship with Council and that would improve things.

100165 - Bruce Russell – I agree with Council in the allocation of 4 wards in the meantime and I agree with the number of Councillors and consider that we need to relook at this in the future. The name of Selwyn Central be retained. The Board plays an integral part in our community and are on a number of committees including schools, reserves and are the eyes and ears of our community. It is evident in West Melton as far as I'm concerned. We have had a number of issues dealing with Councillors and council. The Board could do a lot more but we have limited delegations. At the Community Board conference the most active Boards had the support of the Councillors and CEOs. Last Sunday I canvased the West Melton area. I was made most welcome and if I had accepted the hospitality I would still be getting over it. They all wanted to keep the SCCB.

We have had statements from Councillors, and this is concerning. Statements from my own chairperson both publically and from a fellow Board member and it's been mentioned at the RRA meeting. The former Chair rang and apologized to me but at that stage it had already gone to print. Once something is taken away it is very hard to get reinstated.

I strongly support Community Boards.

Councillor Alexander – statements from Councillors were they against the retention of the Board? Mr Russell responded yes

Councillor Walters – you made references to delegations for both Boards to have the same delegations. Mr Russell responded that it's down to leadership and down to those people on those Boards. Our Board is very divided. And it reflects on ability to act in the community.

Councillor Hill –from practical view understand the differences between the Boards. Also understand the opposition to the retention of the MBC Board. I don't understand why.

Mr Russell responded with if you lose the retention of SCCB you guys will have to attend the meetings that we do. When it gets closer to election time we will see Councillors going to meetings. The cost of the Board is nothing in his mind and according to the people he spoke too.

100164 - Jenny Gilgenberg - Cancelled

100001 - Mark Treffry – no attendance

Break to receive written submissions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66,67, 68, 69,70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 156, 157, 158, 161, 162, 163, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198,199, 200, 201, 204, 205, 206, 207, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226.

The Chief Executive provided a brief summary of the non-speaking submissions from 3 to 226. He provided a brief overview of the 3 late submissions. Reference was made to some key points to be discussed during deliberations.

100202 - Di Chesmar – She noted that this is personal submission. Reference was made to her support of the representation review proposal going forward from October 2016. She advised the meeting that she was working in a personal nature due to the split within the Board. She indicated that she wished for the community to have their say in how they wished to be represented.

Hasson – Going through the submissions there is strong support from those in West Melton yet submissions from other areas were sadly lacking. Is West Melton proactive and need more support? Mrs Chesmar responded with no is that consultation or cronyism? She went further and noted that all the information is there in the public arena from Council, it was clear in the publications. She believed that there had been a lot of misinformation.

Councillor Alexander – In reference to Mr May's comments regarding Rolleston ward being ceased do u see any benefits in an urban ward? Mrs Chesmar responded with it's an urban area but we still need a mix.

Councillor Bland – did you believe in Community Boards when you stood? Mrs Chesmar responded yes they have served their purpose here. I think people identify more with their residents associations now.

The Chief Executive advised the meeting that they would receive the submissions from the non-attendees Jenny Gilgenberg and Mark Treffry.

100159 - Nicole Reid spoke to her submission

I support the proposal of 11 Councillors with 4 wards and the boundaries in map 2. I also support the removal of SCCB and definitely do not support the name change to Central.

Councillor McEvedy - SCCB isn't engaged in Rolleston? Nicole responded with yes.

Hill –I prefer the name of Selwyn Central. It defines it.

Councillor Alexander – In teasing out the comments about the removal of the Community Board; as a resident your engagement is what led to this conclusion? Nicole responded noting that she had not had much engagement with the Community Board. She attended a meeting to discuss kea crossing. What I have heard and seen talking about grants and awards; which I think could be done by something else. Haven't seen anything of note and therefore question why the Board exists. Problem in Rolleston is there is very little engagement in the political process.

Councillor Hasson –with regards to the role of the SCCB would you say that more people are aware of the RRA than the SCCB? Nicole responded noting it was a good question but she was unsure of the answer. She noted that she knew about the RRA she attended the RRA but didn't know much about the SCCB. She also noted that the RRA is self-explanatory but not so much for SCCB and they don't have much powers in any case.

100208 - Rolleston Residents Association – Nicole Reid indicated that the RRA supports the proposal of the 4 wards and 11 councillors. The RRA do not support the renaming to central and instead wish to retain the status quo. They also support the removal of SCCB but have concerns how this will affect the RRA and Rolleston.

Councillor McEvedy – before your involvement with RRA what was your involvement? Nicole explained that her involvement was making submissions and now she indicated that she is the chair of RRA.

Councillor McEvedy - Who are your go to people? Nicole responded with Ward Councillors and they attend the RRA meetings and some are on facebook.

LATE SUBMISSION - John McKim and Gary Doyle – Weedons Residents Association –

John McKim – Weedons Residents Association – He indicated that they are totally opposed to the removal of Community Boards. He noted this is based on a number of reasons including that they are a good conduit between Council and us. Community Board members regularly attend our meetings and in election year is the only time we see Councillors. Board members provided us with information and find that their input is beneficial and we can solve things at a grass roots level.

We are opposed to the removal of Community Boards and feel that we get good service from them. We understand that their powers are fairly limited and there are times when they provide information from a different context from Council.

John McKim - indicated that he had the same opinion as above.

Gary Doyle – The review was discussed at the last meeting. Issue is that we believe the cancellation of the Community Board would be a negative and it is a shame that there isn't a Board in each ward. The District is growing so rather than reducing representation it should be increasing. While there have been little delegations such as the right to name streets and that gets overridden by Council at times. The service from Council is a little less than negative. Without a Community Board we would have no input or information coming through from Council. Community Board helped to reduce a rate from $54 to $14. Without them we would struggle. You should be giving them more powers rather than get rid of them.

Councillor Alexander – Councillors are often discouraged from attending as there are Community Board reps and may have difficulty in being noted in their role to allow the Community Board member to be the conduit to Council.

John McKim - I find that discouraging that Councillors are discouraged from attending. It would be nice to have other members that are not so familiar with ratepayers to show the flag.

Councillor Hasson – you are familiar with how Ellesmere and Springs work between Council and residents' committees and the fact that it is divided between 3 Councillors and we attend each other's meetings?

Gary Doyle - I see your point and rarely see councillors to put a face to the name.

Councillor Walters – delegations – we have lots of support for Malvern and mixed for SCCB including a dispute over level of delegations? Anything that they should have delegations for? Gary responded with subdivisions – influx of industrial activities in the area. Consents for a lot of activities in selwyn in particularly central is pathetic and number of organizations do not have consents and just carry on. Or don't abide by the consents so that is something that the Community Board could deal with.

100203 - Jens Christensen – He wondered if he should attend and if Council would bother to listen. He would like to expand on the disbandment of SCCB. It is my view that there is no room in this district to have half the District covered and half not covered. It's all or nothing.

It's a shame that MCB that only raised the geographical area and act as a mini county council. He believes that Council can supply other Councillors to help cover the area.

No room for a Community Board where 1 Councillor represents 5000 people. They are important in the city but not out here. I support whole heartedly the disbandment.

He noted he was involved in the naming of Selwyn Central. Against Paparoa from 1989 and why carry it forward.

Break for dinner at 6pm

Resume hearing submissions at 6:30pm

100154 - Eric Buxton – He read from his hand written additional notes to his submission. He indicated his submission tonight is about the Malvern Community Board. He noted that he is a past chair and deputy chair in Malvern and was a member for 5 terms. He summarized the functions of the Malvern Community Board and the matters dealt with. He listed the townships in the Malvern area and noted that 2 councillors cannot handle this area by themselves. He summarized the additional travel and noted that apart from Darfield the area is rural. Council spending is directed on a population basis and because of the lower population factor in Malvern, spending will suffer without the Community Board to assist with consultation and communication required to feed information to the council table. The key words here are communication and consultation. I looks forward to hearing of Council's decision to retain the Malvern Community Board. I've supported the Board since 1989 since the amalgamation.

Councillor Hasson – townships in Malvern signage and beautification – is that managed by Community Board or by township, hall groups? He responded that it was done by township and conveyed to Community Board for specifics. The Community Board had the ability to allow that to happen by giving the ok and it was always done with notification to council and engineering staff. It mainly transpired thru the Community Board in Malvern.

He then conveyed his respect to Kelvin Coe for his role as mayor over the past three terms of Council.

100118 - Robbie Watson/Courtenay Reserve Members – no attendance

100155 - Annette Foster – She advised Councillors that she was very surprised and shocked that the name was up for a possible change. When Selwyn Central was proposed we were finally given an identity. I have spoken briefly with Cr Alexander but don't understand the confusion. I have another proposal for the Selwyn Central name. I came up with the name of Paparoa as it is consistent with other names in the area.

She noted that Christchurch name their Boards after the areas they are located in. For her the name is Paparoa.

She indicated her support for disbanding SCCB. She noted that it has been a disappointment and the delegations have been limited so the functions have been limited. She would like to consider what we can put in place and this community needs something efficient and professional support form Council to continue to liaise properly. The RRA has struggled to get people and we are a growing population with issues and some are social.

Finally I think that councillors should have job descriptions. People have no idea what councillors do so they know what they should expect. Anyone applying should have a clear idea of what they are applying for and ratepayers know what to expect from key indicators.

Councillor Walters – naming preferred to retain selwyn central if not Paparoa? Annette advised yes.

Councillor Hasson –Do you see how Springs and Ellesmere work; whereby councillors attend meetings. Is this sufficient or would you like more of the job description to make that role clearer? Mrs Foster responded that it is fine for Councillors to attend. It's expected. We deserve better than that and manage the community better.

Councillor Morten – I listened to Mr Christensen's submission indicating that the name should relate to area. So why hasn't there be any discussion about calling Rolleston? It will not be acceptable to West Melton or Weedons.

Councillor Hill –I have consideration of using Te Reo equivalents. Most of other wards have equivalent names. Would you support those sort of changes? Annette responded with I'm happy with Selwyn Central or Paparoa

Councillor Alexander - I proposed the name change and its promotion of debate; which we will do shortly. You haven't touched on in submission so you support the rest of the proposal? Mrs Foster responded yes.

The Chief Executive provided a summary of issues that will require further discussion and outlined the next steps.

Hearings concluded at 7pm