

Minutes from a Meeting of the Selwyn Sister Cities Committee

**Held on Thursday 29 May 2025
at 4.30pm at Selwyn District Council, Rolleston.**

Present

Allison Rosanowski (Chairperson), Judith Pascoe, Nick Konijn, Cr Bob Mugford, Calvin Payne.
Karen Meares, Kelvin Coe, Bruce Russell, Sarah Walters, Amanda Wright (Darfield High School),
Liu Lin (Selwyn Exchange Student 2025), Lily Chin (Gansu Fellow),

Apologies

“That the apology from Sumi Hayakawa-Buist be received.”

C Payne/K Meares

Carried

Presentations

1. Liu Lin is an agriculture teacher with a masters degree and teaches in the College of Modern Agriculture at the Shandan Bayley Agricultural College. Lin is the 2025 Selwyn Exchange Student.
2. Dr Lily Chin is the 2025 Selwyn Gansu Fellow and introduced herself.

A farewell will be held for Liu Lin on 8 July and both Liu Lin and Lily Chin will give presentations.

Minutes

“That the minutes of the meetings of 4 March 2025 be confirmed.”

B Mugford/N Konijn

Carried

Matters Arising

1. Letter to Shandan suggesting change of date for the Selwyn visit scheduled for June 2025 to September 2026 due to insufficient interest.
2. Shandan Young Agriculture Workers visit not going ahead as no funding received from the Gansu Government.
3. Yubetsu Student exchange – no update.
4. Waiting in information from SDC staff the gift list.

Chairperson’s Report

- This report as contained in the agenda was received.

Additional comments

- The passing of former committee member, Bill Woods, was noted.
- The passing of Mr Takeuchi, instrumental in setting up the Yubetsu/Selwyn relationship was noted.
- Incorrect payments by SDC to the student host will be corrected.
- Best wishes to Lily Chin for her Gansu Student Exchange visit.
- Invitation to be made to Torajah to visit.

“That this report be received.

A Rosanowski/K Coe

Carried

Correspondence

As listed.

“That the correspondence as listed in the agenda be received.”

K Coe/B Mugford

Carried

Financial Statement

- An additional \$60 expenditure to be added for gifts for Yubetsu, Japan.
- Corrections to be made to Liu Lin’s homestay host payments.
- Cost of \$385 for business cards to be added.
- Current balance is \$3392.

“That the Selwyn District Council Sister Cities Committee accepts the financial report as circulated and noting that Shandan student costs, cost of business cards and Yubetsu gifts are to be added.”

A Rosanowski/K Meares

Carried

General Business

12.1 Sister City Review Process

- Cr Mugford has discussed with the CEO.
- Darfield High School has noted that there was no interest from Council in their student group to visit China next year to look at business activities.
- Noted that the Sister-City relationships are focussed on person to person relationships.
Council is to examine the process again and the setting-up documents.
- C Payne noted the need for an international department at the Council and that the relationships are built on voluntary time.
- A Rosanowski and C Payne have been contacted by the Selwyn Times with questions re the presentation. A Rosanowski circulated the information sent to the Selwyn Times and will send to the Mayor and the CEO.

12.2 Gansu Fellowship visit.

8 enquiries were received re the fellowships. Fellowship awarded to Dr Lily Chin.


12.3 Yubetsu Delegation.

- Email from S Hayakawa-Buist, Noted that this relationship is continuing through the schools however the 90 day exchange visit is not taking place this year, A student group will visit at the end of the school year.
- Delegation visiting Yubetsu in late June – A & P Rosanowski, S Hayakawa Buist & P Buist, J Pascoe, K Meares.
- Official letters needed from MCB to take to Yubetsu.
- C Payne noted that MCB has a budget of \$1000 for official gifts and are providing an A5 plaque at a cost of \$400 with both English and Japanese wording in memory of those setting up the relationship for the Japanese garden at Levi Park in Rolleston. Garden still to be named.
- A Japanese garden is also being built at Darfield High School to recognise the relationship between the schools.
- Official gift to take to Yubetsu is an electronic photo frame with Selwyn photos.

- 12.4 **Confucious Institute Principals Delegation to China**
Now timed for the September school holidays. Information has been recirculated to school principals and 4 indications of interest received.
- 12.5 **Chinese School Competition**
Alterations to the competition to a longer time frame and division into two age groups suggested. Awaiting final version.
- 12.6 **MOU – Toraja and Barama**
MOU signed to enable hosts to access to funds for N Konijn visit.
- 12.7 **Bill Woods Memorabilia**
The family have accessed if Council could take relevant memorabilia. The committee will need to see the Sister City memorabilia before agreeing to this to determine relevant articles. Agreed to organise this for July,
- 12.8 **Liu Lin Farewell**
To be held at the Darfield Library/Service Centre on the 8th July. Returns home on 10 July. Committee members will provide weekend activities.
- 12.9 **Toraja**
An invitation the Buparti and the Headmaster of the Barana Christian Secondary School with Lordna as interpreter has been made. Dates are yet to be decided. Noted that waste and recycling would be topics of interest to them.
- 12.10 **Coventry**
A proposal to invite the local government CEO and/or the new Mayor and the Education Superintendent to visit in March 2026. Costings needed and budget to be checked. A message will be sent to Coventry to acknowledge Independence Day on 4 July.
- 12.11 **Rewi Alley Anniversary on 2 December 2025**
Sister schools with those in Shandan County to be included.
- 12.12 **Sister City Panels**
Could be displayed in the foyer of the Rolleston office and moved around other offices for display. One panel is currently being displayed in the Rolleston office foyer. Mr Mugford is currently storing.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 6.08pm.

 2025
DATED this day of 2025.


CHAIRPERSON