

**MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE  
REPRESENTATION REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE  
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL, ROLLESTON  
ON WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2020 COMMENCING AT 8.30AM**

**PRESENT**

Mayor S T Broughton, Councillors M A Alexander, S Epiha, J A Gallagher and Mr J B Morten (Malvern Community Board Chair)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs. D Ward (Chief Executive), S Hill (Group Manager Communication and Customers), Mrs N Smith (Executive Assistant); and Ms T Davel (Governance Coordinator)

The Chief Executive presided as Chair until a Chair was elected. He provided background information on the purpose of the Committee, noting the membership is the Mayor, one member of each Ward and the Malvern Community Board Chairperson. The Chief Executive said the process would take approximately 12 months.

**APOLOGIES**

An apology was received from Councillor G S F Miller.

**Moved** – Councillor Alexander / **Seconded** – Councillor Gallagher

*‘That the apology from Councillor Miller be received, for information.’*

**CARRIED**

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None.

## APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

### 1. Chief Executive

*Election of the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Representation Review Subcommittee*

The Chief Executive called for nominations for the position of Chair.

**Moved** – Mayor Broughton / **Seconded** – Councillor Epiha

*‘That the Representation Review Subcommittee*

*(a) elects Councillor Mark Alexander as the Chair; and*

The Chief Executive called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson.

**Moved** – Mayor Broughton / **Seconded** – Councillor Alexander

*‘That the Representation Review Subcommittee*

*(b) elects Councillor S Epiha as the Deputy Chair.’*

Councillor Alexander took his place at the top table and asked the Chief Executive to present his reports.

## REPORTS

### 1. Chief Executive

*Representation Review – Procedural Requirements*

The Chief Executive said this report was for background, acknowledging the purpose of the subcommittee was to provide procedural advice to matters Council need to consider.

The Chief Executive noted part of the Local Electoral Act was included in the agenda for today’s meeting. He said the first thing the subcommittee needed to do was to choose an electoral system. Whatever is chosen would apply to Council and Community Boards for the 2022 and 2025 elections. He said Council should at all times provide effective and fair representation of our communities. It was important to avoid arrangements that may create barriers to participation in respect to familiarity of geographical areas and to not split townships.

The subcommittee need to consider ward boundaries. The mesh blocks will be made available by early 2021. There would be consideration as to whether community boards were appropriate.

There was a brief discussion about the timeframes for making each decision with the Chair adding that there was a flow chart identifying milestones to be met. The Deputy Electoral Officer also referred to some of the deadlines as per the reports.

Councillor Epiha asked whether the subcommittee could start each meeting with karakia.

**Moved** – Councillor Gallagher / **Seconded** – Councillor Epiha

*‘That the Representation Review – Procedural Requirements report be received for information.’*

**CARRIED**

## **2. Chief Executive**

### *Adoption of the Terms of Reference*

The Chief Executive referred to the Terms of Reference for the Subcommittee outlining their roles and responsibilities.

**Moved** – Mayor Broughton / **Seconded** – Councillor Gallagher

*‘That the Representation Review Subcommittee adopt the Terms of Reference.’*

**CARRIED**

## **3. Deputy Electoral Officer**

### *Choosing of an Electoral System*

The Deputy Electoral Officer said this report was not officially part of a representation review but had to take place prior. He explained the two systems – first past the post (FPP) or single transferable vote (STV), which is not widely used. Neighbouring Canterbury Councils use the FPP.

He explained the options to the Subcommittee and there ensued some discussion about the pros and cons of each. It was acknowledged that FPP is a much easier system but that STV probably provides for a fairer outcome as it allows for preferences to be ranked.

It was also acknowledged it was unfortunate timing that the first decision of the Subcommittee will have a significant impact rather than wait for 12 months when the number of councillors and ward structure were known. There was also concern that STV could be confusing to electors.

**Moved** – Councillor Gallagher / **Seconded** – Mr Morten

*‘That the Representation Review Subcommittee recommends to Council to resolve to confirm continued use of First Past Post (FPP) for the 2022 and 2025 local government triennial elections.’*

**CARRIED**

#### 4. Deputy Electoral Officer

##### *Consideration of Establishing Māori Wards or Constituencies*

The Deputy Electoral Officer briefly went through the report. The 2018 census data on the District's population showed the numbers did not meet the threshold for a member to be elected from a Maori Ward. He added that to meet the threshold elected members would need to be increased to 14.

The Deputy Electoral Officer also spoke about the timelines for the process and added if there was to be a poll, it could run alongside the 2022 election, which would bring a potential Maori Ward in time for the 2025 election.

The Mayor noted that at a recent Taumutu executive meeting the matter was discussed. The Mayor asked whether the decision could be delayed and there was support for this suggestion.

Councillor Epiha added his support, noting that alongside this the Subcommittee would need a view of the wider district and other rūnanga and iwi who are not necessarily from Selwyn but live here. Their views need to be respected as well. He wanted wider representation and views from the total amount of Maori in the District. He said there were many digital platforms alongside advice of the rūnanga and he would be happy to front-foot this.

The Mayor moved a procedural motion that the matter lay on the table in order for further consultation to take place.

**Moved (as amended) – Mayor Broughton / Seconded – Councillor Alexander**

*'That the Representation Review Subcommittee let this report lie on the table awaiting further consultation with iwi and other parties.'*

**CARRIED**

The Subcommittee decided to meet again on 28 October 2020 at 8.30am and 9 December 2020 at 8.30am. Monthly meetings will be held in 2021, starting early February. In preparation for the October meeting, the mesh blocks used in the last review would be provided.

*The meeting closed at 9.25am*

DATED this                      day of                      2020

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**CHAIRPERSON**

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DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020



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