

**MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
REPRESENTATION REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL, ROLLESTON
ON WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2020 COMMENCING AT 8.30AM**

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr S Hill (Group Manager Communication and Customers, Deputy Electoral Officer), Mrs N Smith (Executive Assistant); and Ms T Davel (Governance Coordinator)

KARAKIA

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming everyone present and on-line.

Mayor Broughton opened with karakia.

APOLOGIES

Councillor Epiha for lateness.

Moved – Mr Morten / **Seconded** – Mayor Broughton

‘That the Representation Review Committee receives the apology for lateness from Councillor Epiha.’

CARRIED

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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

‘That the Representation Review Committee confirm the minutes of its Meeting held on 28 October 2020, as circulated.’

CARRIED

Cr Epiha entered the meeting at 8.36am

REPORTS

1. Deputy Electoral Officer

Population – Representation Tables Update 2019

The Deputy Electoral Officer went through his report referring to additional analysis showing population growth by Ward.

There was a discussion about the appropriate level of representation in relation to population growth and whether Council could ask for an exemption of its wide-spread areas. The Deputy Electoral Officer noted any exemption would have to be subject to consideration by the Local Government Commission, but in general they have historically been reluctant to allow an exemption. He added that the updated mesh block data will be available late January / early February which will be presented to the Committee. He suggested there could be a workshop to look at different options.

Councillor Epiha noted it would be helpful to quantify the numbers in relation to geography and said having access to data on the amount of time and work Councillors put on the road for example would be useful.

Councillor Miller said it was difficult for Councillors to review their own roles, which is basically what is required. He said they should be working out what was best for the District.

Mr Morten observed that if one were to drive 40 minutes around the Banks Peninsula a large area of the ward could be covered but 40 minutes from Darfield in any direction won't get you to much of the ward.

The Chair said the legislation was clear that numbers are what needed to be considered and as there is urban growth in the District there will probably be more Councillors for the urban areas as opposed to rural.

There was consensus around the table that Council can't continue with the status quo and that they needed to think about the future.

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

'That the Representation Review Subcommittee receive the report for information.'

CARRIED

2. Deputy Electoral Officer

Representation review – consultation with other councils on basis of election

The Deputy Electoral Officer referred to the meetings with Ashburton District Council and Napier City Council. He quoted a few of the pros and cons of either a mixed model or ward only model.

The Chair apologised to Councillor Miller for having been missed off the invitation list to the zoom meetings and Councillor Miller said he was disappointed that he had missed the question and answer sessions. He said it would have been very valuable to attend.

The Chair also said that it was important that council start telling people of the changes to come, not that any decisions have been made yet, but just to start communication that there will be change.

Councillor Epiha asked whether the two councils had considered engagement with iwi or hapu and that it would be important for Selwyn District to do so.

Councillor Miller said community boards do a lot of work on the ground and there was often a difficulty in being both a Councillor and a board member. The Chair reminded the Committee that communities had turned down community boards in the past and that it could be included in the different options that will be presented to communities, for them to decide.

Councillor Miller also asked staff to work on a clear work plan and the Chair said a February workshop could be the place for a work plan / programme discussion.

The Chair added he will work with the Chief Executive and the Deputy Electoral Officer to explore the best way to prepare for a workshop.

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

'That the Representation Review Subcommittee receive the report for information.'

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Committee decided that a workshop will be arranged for Wednesday 27 January 2021 after the next scheduled meeting. An invitation will be sent out to members.

The meeting closed at 9.11am

DATED this 27 day of January 2021



CHAIRPERSON