(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of the Community Affairs, Culture and Recreation Committee

Date: 5 March 2018 (Monday)

Time : 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Islands District Council Conference Room

Present

Ms YU Lai-fan (Chairman)

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine (Vice-Chairman)

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, JP

Mr CHAN Lin-wai

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Ms LEE Kwai-chun

Mr TANG Ka-piu, Bill, JP

Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy

Mr KWONG Koon-wan

Mr CHOW Ho-ding, Holden

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Ms FU Hiu-lam Sammi

Mr WONG Hoi-yu

Mr LAI Tsz-man

Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha

Mr ON Man-sang

Ms YIP Sheung-ching

Attendance by Invitation

Mr LIU Wai-sum Assistant Divisional Officer (Building Improvement)1,

Fire Services Department

Mr KONG Tat-shing Senior Station Officer, Fire Services Department

In Attendance

Ms CHAN Sok-fong, Cherry Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine Senior Librarian (Islands),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms LEE Kit-yee, Kitty Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr WONG Kin-sun, Frederick Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong West/

Islands), Independent Commission Against Corruption

Dr LEE Chi-on, Clement Senior School Development Officer (Islands)1,

Education Bureau

Miss LO Choi-yuk, Brenda Acting Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central

Western, Southern and Islands)2, Social Welfare Department

Mr AU Sheung-man, Benjamin

Ms YUEN Wai-kwan Ms CHOI Kwok-por Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office Representative, Association of School Heads of Islands District Representative, Hong Kong Islands Cultural & Art Association

Secretary

Ms CHAN Shuk-yi, Rachel Executive Officer (District Council)1, Islands District Office

Absent with Apologies

Mr LAM Kit-sing Representative, Islands District Sports Association

Welcoming remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of government departments and organisations as well as Members to the meeting and introduced the following department representatives who attended the meeting:

- (a) Mr WONG Kin-sun, Frederick, Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong West/Islands) of Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) who succeeded Mr TAM Kwok-chu, Joe; and
- (b) Miss LO Choi-yuk, Brenda, Acting Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western, Southern and Islands)2 of Social Welfare Department (SWD) who attended the meeting in place of Mr NG Wai-lung, David.
- 2. Members noted that Mr LAM Kit-sing was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 8.1.2018

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the above minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by government departments and organisations and had been distributed to Members for perusal prior to the meeting.
- 4. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously without amendment.
- II. An Introduction to the flexible and pragmatic measures in the Fire Safety (Buildings)
 Ordinance Cap. 572
 (Paper CACRC 13/2018)
 - 5. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr LIU Wai-sum, Assistant Divisional Officer (Building Improvement)1 and Mr KONG Tat-shing, Senior Station Officer of Fire Services Department (FSD) to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 6. Mr KONG Tat-shing presented the paper with the aid of PowerPoint presentation.
 - 7. Mr Holden CHOW said that the ownership issue (such as failure to form owners' corporations or reach a consensus among owners) or building structure of many buildings might make it difficult for owners to fully comply with the requirements of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance. Therefore, he supported the introduction of measures by FSD to handle cases flexibly. He asked about the specific implementation date for Phase Three, which mainly dealt with matters of buildings with the height less than 20m, and the number of target buildings in Islands District.
 - 8. <u>Mr KWONG Koon-wan</u> asked whether the new measures would take the floor area into consideration apart from the building height. For buildings with, say, only 6 to 7 storeys but with a rather large floor area for the non-domestic parts or public space, would restrictions be imposed? He also asked FSD to provide the last two presentation slides with information notes after the meeting for reference.
 - 9. Mr KONG Tat-shing made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) FSD understood that owners' corporations had not been formed for some composite buildings since the coming into operation of the Ordinance. FSD suggested owners of this kind of buildings contact Home Affairs Department for assistance in the formation of owners' corporations for more effective coordination and implementation of fire safety improvement works.
 - (b) FSD would provide the number of buildings of 7 storeys or above which met the requirements of the third phase in Islands District after the meeting.
 - (c) The flexible and pragmatic measures under Phase Three targeted at composite buildings of 7 storeys or above, instead of those under 20m in height. According to the law, the sprinkler systems must be installed if the total area of

the non-domestic parts of a composite building exceeded 230m². The flexible and pragmatic measures were subject to the height and number of storeys of buildings only, whereas the floor area was not subject to the requirement.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the information requested by a Member at the meeting, FSD has provided the materials concerned for reference after the meeting.)

III. <u>2018/2019 Visit Arrangements to Community Involvement Projects</u> (Paper CACRC 14/2018)

10. Members noted and endorsed the visit arrangements set out in the Paper and the proposed group list for visits in 2018/2019.

IV. Report on "All for Integrity" Publicity Project for Islands District 2017/18

- 11. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr WONG Kin-sun, Frederick, Senior Community Relations Officer (Hong Kong West/Islands) of ICAC to the meeting to give a briefing.
- 12. Mr Frederick WONG said that the project was launched in June 2017 and completed in late March 2018. It was jointly organised by the ICAC Regional Office (Hong Kong West/Islands) and Islands District Office, assisted by the 2 area committees of Islands District, District Fight Crime Committee (Islands District) as well as Association of School Heads of Islands District, and supported by Islands District Council (IsDC). He reported the details as follows:
 - (a) The Kick-off Ceremony of the Bus Parade was held on 25 November 2017 (Saturday) in Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung. The bus parade passed through Yat Tung Estate, Fu Tung Estate, Tung Chung MTR Station and Central Ferry Piers. Information leaflets and promotional materials were distributed by guests and ICAC Club members to around 4 000 counts of citizens and the theme song was played en route to spread integrity and probity messages.
 - (b) 4 secondary schools in Islands District participated in the iTeen Leadership Programme for Senior Secondary Students, paid visits to the ICAC Building and arranged ICAC interactive drama. In addition, 8 primary schools and 9 kindergartens took part in moral education parenting activities.
 - (c) 17 resident associations, district organisations and schools participated in the Community Involvement Programme.
 - (Post-meeting note: 2 mutual aid committees withdrew later.)
 - (d) ICAC uploaded videos on the "All for Integrity" Facebook fanpage to promote integrity and encourage citizens to report corruption.

(e) The aforesaid activities were joined and supported by more than 30 organisations and schools and reached out to around 12 000 counts of citizens. The total expenditure of around \$13,000 was fully borne by ICAC Regional Office (Hong Kong West/Islands). He expressed gratitude to the co-organisers, assisting organisations, IsDC as well as participating organisations and schools for their support, which contributed to the success of the activities.

V. Reports by Working Groups

- (i) CACRC Vetting Group
- 13. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the Vetting Group had processed 12 funding applications for community involvement projects to be organised from April to May 2018 at the meeting held on 13 February this year. The funding proposals had been submitted to the Committee by circulation of paper for endorsement.
- 14. The Vetting Group noted the contents of 7 activity evaluation reports.
- (ii) CACRC Activities Working Group
- 15. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the "Islands District Cantonese Opera Show 2018" was held at Concert Hall, Hong Kong City Hall on 20 February this year, attracting over 2 100 audience.
- 16. Members noted and endorsed the reports of the above 2 working groups.

VI. Reports on the work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Islands District

- (i) <u>Cultural Activities</u> (Paper CACRC 10/2018)
- 17. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms LEE Kit-yee, Kitty, Senior Manager (New Territories South) Promotion of Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting to present the paper.
- 18. <u>Ms Kitty LEE</u> presented the paper.
- 19. Members noted the contents of the paper.
- (ii) Extension Activities held in Public Libraries (Paper CACRC 11/2018)
- 20. The Chairman welcomed Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine, Senior Librarian (Islands)

of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

21. <u>Ms Elaine KWOK</u> presented the paper.

Ms Amy YUNG said that the activities held in libraries in Islands District were popular, particularly the mobile libraries which had a high usage rate. At present, a mobile library would provide service in Discovery Bay on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She had paid a site visit and found the library usage rate steady and satisfactory. However, some residents (especially the elderly) seldom went to the Central or other places and therefore it was inconvenient to limit the book return service to Tuesdays and Thursdays. The mobile library in Discovery Bay was parked adjacent to the post office. She suggested LCSD make reference to the practice of the City Hall and the MTR stations and place book drops at the post office for residents to return books conveniently. She understood that LCSD had to discuss the relevant arrangements with Post Office and hoped LCSD would adopt and implement her suggestion proactively.

23. <u>Ms Elaine KWOK</u> responded as follows:

- (a) Book drops were available at all public libraries at present. As for book return service at other locations, LCSD placed book drops at 3 MTR interchange stations (Central, Kowloon Tong and Nam Cheong Stations) in September 2011. Books were collected and sorted out by logistics companies hired by LCSD every day and were then delivered to the libraries for reader record update. This service was provided on a trial basis and LCSD would continue to review its effectiveness.
- (b) LCSD had to be cautious when selecting service spots outside libraries, taking into account factors such as the logistics arrangements, overall resources and long-term financial implications as well as cost-effectiveness. She would relay the views of Ms Amy YUNG to LCSD.
- (c) The loan period for books borrowed from mobile libraries was 28 days, which was longer than the 14-day loan period for books in community libraries. Apart from returning books in mobile libraries, readers could renew borrowed items by telephone or via the Internet. LCSD would continue to pay attention to the users' demand and enhance library services.

(Post-meeting note: The provision of book drops outside libraries must be handled cautiously by LCSD. Factors including the number of people benefited, logistic arrangements, site security, overall resources and long-term financial implications should be considered. As large operating expenses were involved in the book drop service, LCSD considered maintaining the book drop service at 3 main MTR interchange stations an appropriate arrangement under the principles of prudent use of public money and cost effectiveness, and had no plans to expand the book

- 24. Members noted the contents of the paper.
- (iii) <u>Sports and Recreational Activities</u> (Paper CACRC 12/2018)
- 25. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms CHAN Sok-fong, Cherry, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Islands of LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
- 26. <u>Ms Cherry CHAN</u> presented the paper.
- Mr Eric KWOK said that a number of people in the district were interested in gardening and planting but found it hard to enrol in the Community Garden Programme (CGP) (Items 28 and 29 in Annex 2). The information of LCSD revealed that the application submission rate of item 28 was 1 897%, while that of item 29 was also as high as 920%. He asked whether LCSD would consider providing more arable lands for the CGP. In addition, some residents asked whether the large piece of grassland deserted for over ten years between Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate could be converted into a garden temporarily. Even if it could only be used for 2 to 3 years, it could serve as a short-term planting space for residents.
- 28. <u>Ms Amy YUNG</u> asked whether the time (9:30 to 11:00 a.m.) of a Tai Chi training course in item 38 at Annex 3 was correct as she noticed that the duration per training session was usually 1 hour.
- 29. <u>Ms Cherry CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) She expressed gratitude to the residents for their support for the CGP. To her understanding, 70 nos. of planting plots were available for the CGP in Tung Chung and the scale was relatively large compared to that of other districts. There was difficulty establishing one more community garden in Islands District due to resource and land constraints as well as the necessity to provide basic auxiliary facilities and deploy staff for management. She would approach relevant departments to understand the situation and explore the feasibility of the proposal.
 - (b) Regarding the Tai Chi training courses held in Discovery Bay, the duration per session was 1 hour for courses with 3 sessions per week, while that of courses with 2 sessions per week was 1 hour 30 minutes. Therefore, the time set out in the document was correct.
- 30. Mr Holden CHOW said that the application submission rate of CGP in Tung Chung was quite high, reflecting positive response from the residents. He asked if the CGP in other districts were well received as well. If the situations were similar, LCSD should address the needs in this respect as far as possible.

- 31. Mr Eric KWOK was surprised at the response of the representative of LCSD. He opined that the Government was committed to serve the community and should seriously address the problems encountered. While the Budget released recently projected a surplus of over \$130 to \$160 billion, LCSD complained about a lack of resources. In view of the excessive demand for the CGP, LCSD should seek resources to enhance the service. Given the abundant financial reserves at present, the Government could increase the funding for LCSD. As Mr Holden CHOW suggested, LCSD should handle the problem if similar situations occurred in other districts.
- 32. <u>Ms Cherry CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) She would check the applications received in other districts and follow up on the matter with Mr Holden CHOW after the meeting.
 - (Post-meeting note: LCSD has provided the relevant information to Mr Holden CHOW.)
 - (b) She noted the views of Mr Eric KWOK and would study the feasibility of the suggestion concerned with him after the meeting.
 - (Post-meeting note: LCSD has followed up on the suggestion of Mr Eric KWOK after the meeting. It has enquired the relevant departments about the land use conditions of the location suggested and is awaiting their reply.
- 33. Mr LAI Tsz-man said that he had participated in the CGP in Tseung Kwan O. Although many people had submitted applications, the actual enrolment number was not so high. Participants mobilised all family members to submit applications, with each household submitting 6 to 7 application forms. However, he agreed with the views of Mr Eric KWOK that LCSD should actively seek resources if necessary. If more lands were available, he hoped the Government could speed up the supply of public housing to shorten the waiting time.
- 34. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> hoped LCSD could report the progress of the follow-up actions at the next meeting.

VII. Any Other Business

35. There was no other business.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

36. The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The date of next meeting was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on 7 May 2018 (Monday).