(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of

Tourism, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environmental Hygiene Committee

Date: 28 January 2019 (Monday)

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Islands District Council Conference Room,

14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong.

Present

Ms LEE Kwai-chun (Chairman)

Ms FU Hiu-lam, Sammi (Vice-Chairman)

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS

Mr CHAN Lin-wai Mr CHEUNG Fu

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken

Mr FAN Chi-ping Mr LOU Cheuk-wing Mr WONG Man-hon

Ms YU Lai-fan

Ms YUNG Wing-sheung, Amy Mr CHOW Ho-ding, Holden

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Mr WONG King-chuen Mr CHAN Ngai-chung Mr LO Wan-kai, Rico

Attendance by Invitation

Ms SHING Ne-chi, Alice Senior Engineer/Drainage Projects 5,

Drainage Services Department

Ms AU Yin-ping Engineer/Drainage Projects 12, Drainage Services Department

Mr WONG Kwong-yin Assistant Engineer/Drainage Projects 14,

Drainage Services Department

Mr Matthew LI Principal Engineer, Atkins China Ltd.

Mr Jason LAU Engineer, Atkins China Ltd.

Ms YIP On-vee, Annie Engineer/Project Management 14, Water Supplies Department

Mr CHAN Man-tai Project Coordinator/Project Management 16,

Water Supplies Department

Mr LEE Cho-yin, Jason Engineer /Water Loss Management 2, Water Supplies Department

Mr MA Hok-chi, Frankie Mr CHAN Chun-wing, Chester

Mr MAN Ho-yin

Dr LUI Siu-yun

Principal Engineer, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited Project Engineer, Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited

Deputy General Manager (Nursing) & Senior Nursing Officer,

Assistant District Officer (Islands)1, Islands District Office

Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office

Central Nursing Division, North Lantau Hospital Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison)1,

Department of Health

In Attendance

Mr AU Sheung-man, Benjamin Ms YEUNG Cin-man, Winnie

Ms LAW Wai-chun

District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands)(Atg), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Mr KWOK Chi-hang Administrative Assistant/Lands

(District Lands Office, Islands), Lands Department

Mr YUEN King-ho, Vic Police Community Relations Officer

(Marine Port District), Hong Kong Police Force

Mr HO Siu-tong (Sergeant) Police Community Relations Officer

(Lantau District), Hong Kong Police Force

Ms SIN Kai-wai, Marie Senior Transport Officer/Islands 2, Transport Department Mr LI Kim-man

Senior Environment Protection Officer (Regional South)5,

Environmental Protection Department

Mr IP Ka-lok, Kelvin Conservation Officer/1 (Lantau),

Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr TANG Wing -kai, Ricky Fisheries Officer (Cooperatives and Projects),

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Secretary

Ms TANG Yuen-shan, Serena Executive Officer (District Council)2, Islands District Office

Absent with Apology

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, JP

Mr KWONG Koon-wan

Mr KWONG Kwok-kam, BH, JP

Mr LI Ming-yau Senior Inspector of Works, Islands District Office

Ms WOO On-ting, Amy Agricultural Officer (Agricultural Extension),

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Mr Benny CHAN Representative, New Lantao Bus Co., (1973) Ltd.

Ms NG Chun-wai, Sarah Representative, New World First Ferry Services Limited

Ms Cardi CHUNG Representative, Hong Kong Tourism Board

Welcoming remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of the government departments and organisations as well as Members to the meeting, and welcomed Mr Rico LO to join the Committee as a co-opted member. She then introduced the following departmental representatives who attended the meeting:

- (a) Ms LAW Wai-chun, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Islands)(Atg) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department;
- (b) Mr HO Siu-tong, (Sergeant) Police Community Relations Officer (Lantau District) of the Hong Kong Police Force who attended the meeting in place of Mr YAU Siu-sang;
- (c) Mr Kelvin IP, Conservation Officer/1 (Lantau) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department who attended the meeting in place of Miss TONG Yee-fun, Pauline; and
- (d) Mr Ricky TANG, Fisheries Officer (Cooperatives and Projects) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) who attended the meeting in place of Ms LUN Chui-yuen, Janice.
- 2. Members noted that Mr Randy YU, Mr KWONG Koon-wan, Mr KWONG Kwok-kam, Mr LI Ming-yau, Senior Inspector of Works of the Islands District Office (IsDO), Ms Amy WOO, Agricultural Officer (Agricultural Extension) of AFCD, Mr Benny CHAN of New Lantao Bus Co. (1973) Ltd., Ms Sarah NG of New World First Ferry Services Limited and Ms Cardi CHUNG of Hong Kong Tourism Board were unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments.

I. Confirmation of minutes of the meeting held on 26.11.2018

3. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously without amendments.

II. PWP Item No. 4163CD – Drainage Improvement Works at Ngong Ping (Paper TAFEHC 4/2019)

- 4. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Alice SHING, Senior Engineer/Drainage Projects 5, Ms AU Yin-ping, Engineer/Drainage Projects 12 and Mr WONG Kwong-yin, Assistant Engineer/Drainage Projects 14 of the Drainage Services Department (DSD); and Mr Matthew LI, Principal Engineer and Mr Jason LAU, Engineer of Atkins China Ltd. to the meeting to present the paper.
- 5. <u>Mr WONG Kwong-yin</u> briefly presented the paper.

- 6. Mr LOU Cheuk-wing said that flooding in Ngong Ping was a long-standing problem and more serious than that in Tai O. He opined that the rainwater collection facilities of Ngong Ping were not adequate and that the department did not handle the issue properly, thus causing damage to the vicinity of Po Lin Monastery. He said that he had discussed the works concerned with the responsible persons of Po Lin Monastery, and urged DSD to carry out the works as soon as possible.
- 7. Mr WONG Kwong-yin said that the department hoped that funding would be obtained soonest for works commencement. Subject to the approval of funding, the works were expected to commence in late 2019 for improvement of the entire drainage system in Ngong Ping to resolve the flooding problem caused by heavy rainstorm.
- 8. Mr Holden CHOW enquired whether the works cost more than \$30 million.
- 9. Mr WONG Kwong-yin said that the works cost more than \$30 million and the current estimated total cost of the works was about \$210 million. The department would seek funding for the works from the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.
- 10. <u>The Chairman</u> urged the department to follow up on the flooding problem reflected by Tai O Rural Committee as soon as possible.
- 11. Members supported the above works project.
- III. <u>Implementation of Water Intelligent Network, remaining works (Islands)</u> (Paper TAFEHC 5/2019)
 - 12. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Annie YIP, Engineer/Project Management 14, Mr CHAN Man-tai, Project Coordinator/Project Management 16 and Mr Jason LEE, Engineer/Water Loss Management 2 of the Water Supplies Department (WSD); and Mr Frankie MA, Principal Engineer and Mr Chester CHAN, Project Engineer of Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 13. Ms Annie YIP briefly presented the paper.
 - 14. <u>Mr Frankie MA</u> briefly presented the paper with the aid of PowerPoint presentation.
 - 15. Mr Holden CHOW said that the works were expected to commence in the fourth quarter of 2019 and be completed in 2023. While the department stated in the paper that noise barriers would be adopted, some works locations were close to the residences. He enquired about the average time required for works at various works locations. In addition, it was learnt that upon the issue of permit from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), works could be carried out at night. He enquired of the department whether it would consider conducting works during day time instead of night time to avoid affecting the residents.

16. Mr Eric KWOK raised his opinions as follows:

- (a) The paper revealed that 4 works sites were located in Yat Tung Estate, 2 at Yat Tung Street and 2 at Yu Tung Road behind Yat Tung Estate. He reminded the department that re-planning for Yat Tung Street would take place. The Traffic and Transport Committee Working Group had discussed and followed up with relevant departments on the re-planning and related traffic matters. It was decided that the pavement near Kui Yat House would be designated as bus parking space, whereas the road section leading to the roundabout would be used as taxi stand. He urged the department to maintain close liaison with the Transport Department, the Highways Department (HyD) and the Housing Department (HD) on chamber works to facilitate co-ordination between the two projects, so as to avoid construction of chambers at Yat Tung Street when re-planning works were underway and thus hindered the works progress. He urged the department to review the works schedule prudently to avoid delay.
- (b) The water supply of the entire Yat Tung Estate would be affected as there were 4 works sites at Yat Tung Street and Yu Tung Road. He proposed that WSD should give advance notice to HD, the management company and the Estate Management Advisory Committee (EMAC). Chairmen of various Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) would attend EMAC meetings to explain the progress and impact of works to the residents. He also proposed that the department should arrange for temporary suspension of water supply during non-peak hours, such as after the residents had gone to work (8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.) or before 5:00 p.m., and enquire of the management company about the storage capacity of roof water tank of each building so as to tie in with the works arrangements and minimise the impact on residents.
- (c) He was concerned about the noise problem and hoped the department would clearly state the dates of commencement and completion of works.

17. Mr Frankie MA made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) With regard to the time required for chamber works, the chambers concerned were small ones, which were about 2m long, 1.5m wide and 1.5m deep. It was expected that the construction of each chamber would take about 2 to 3 months. Except when there were special needs, the department would as far as possible arrange the works to be carried out in day time. In addition, the consultant was aware of the Yat Tung Street re-planning project and would closely liaise and co-operate with relevant departments as appropriate to avoid the need of chamber relocation in the future and hence repetition of work procedures.
- (b) With regard to the arrangements for temporary water suspension, the consultant would formulate a water suspension plan and co-ordinate with various estate management offices in advance.

(c) With regard to the works period, it was anticipated that the whole project would be completed at the end of 2023. The award of works contract was pending. Upon the appointment of contractor, the department would request the contractor to submit the works schedule so as to confirm the time required and the works details of each chamber. The department would inform and consult relevant District Council (DC) members and stakeholders in due course.

18. <u>Ms Annie YIP</u> supplemented as follows:

- (a) With regard to the works period, WSD would as far as possible tie in with the needs of residents and shop owners in setting the water suspension schedule, such as arranging for water supply suspension to take place during non-peak hours. According to the past experience, the storage capacity of water tank could normally maintain water supply for at least 2 to 3 hours. The department would make every effort to complete the whole works during that period of time in order to minimise the impact and inconvenience caused to the residents.
- (b) The department would as far as possible avoid conducting works at night time. Where night works were necessary, the department would arrange meetings with relevant DC members, residents and EMACs to discuss the night works arrangements, and would obtain relevant permit from EPD before conducting night works.
- (c) The department would maintain close communication with relevant DC members, residents and other government departments with a view to shortening the time needed for the works and minimising the affected areas.
- 19. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> reiterated that the department was requested to attend the EMAC meeting to introduce the works project to the Chairmen of MACs, HD and the management company.
- 20. Mr Frankie MA noted Mr Eric KWOK's opinion and said he would discuss the related arrangements with EMACs, relevant departments and the stakeholders in due course.
- 21. <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u> stressed that the works sites were close to residences and hoped that the department would as far as possible shorten the works period to reduce the impact on residents.
- 22. Members supported the above works project.

- IV. Question on district health care service during winter influenza peak season (Paper TAFEHC 6/2019)
 - 23. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Dr LUI Siu-yun, Medical & Health Officer (Community Liaison)1 of the Department of Health (DH) and Mr MAN Ho-yin, Deputy General Manager (Nursing) & Senior Nursing Officer, Central Nursing Division of North Lantau Hospital (NLH) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written replies of DH and NLH of the Hospital Authority (HA) had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.
 - 24. <u>Ms Amy YUNG</u> presented the question.
 - 25. Mr MAN Ho-yin elaborated the written reply of NLH of HA.
 - 26. Ms Amy YUNG raised her opinions as follows:
 - (a) In the previous 2 weekends, hospital staff expressed strong aspirations, reflecting the severe shortage of health care facilities. She said that the shortage of hospital staff had remained unresolved for years and opined that HA should be sympathetic to the hardship of hospital staff and increase manpower to cope with the influenza peak season. According to the information provided by HA, phase one development of NLH project could provide 160 in-patient beds. However, there were only 80 in-patient beds at present and she reckoned that the progress had lagged behind due to the shortage of manpower.
 - (b) She enquired whether HA would consider introducing doctors or health care personnel from overseas, and when recruiting qualified persons, require that they had work experience in Hong Kong and went through an assessment period. As far as she understood, nurse training was no longer available in Hong Kong since a few years ago, and training of doctors was currently provided by only 2 universities. She enquired whether HA would consider increasing the number of places of medical and health care training programmes in universities, so that more medical and health care personnel would be trained up to join the medical sector in Hong Kong.
 - 27. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether HA could provide gynaecology specialist out-patient service within the current year. He said that in 2007-08, he had discussed the arrangements concerning the NLH development project with HA, which pledged that it would provide services at NLH according to the timetable. However, the present progress lagged far behind the original schedule. He opined that NLH was equipped with good hardware but HA failed to provide comprehensive service due to resource problem. He was disappointed. He opined that the Government had deployed very limited resources on health care and urged HA to respond to public demand.
 - 28. Mr WONG Man-hon said that the Home Ownership Scheme development in

Mui Wo had started resident intake and the population was gradually increasing. At present, there were only 2 private practitioners providing out-patient service in the area, one providing service in the morning and the other providing service for 2 to 3 hours in the evening. One of them was going to retire in March. Residents reflected to him that the quotas for public general out-patient service were inadequate, especially during the influenza peak season, where the residents were forced to seek consultation in the urban areas. He enquired whether HA could increase the resources of health care services to cope with the increase in district population.

- 29. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that funding application for individual services had to be made via HA's annual work plan. He understood that the quotas for out-patient service were limited and said that the hospital would enhance its services if resources allowed.
- 30. <u>Mr WONG Man-hon</u> proposed that HA might regularly monitor the population growth of each district in order to enhance services correspondingly.
- 31. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that with regard to nurse training, the nursing school of HA would continue to provide training of registered nurses and enrolled nurses, and relevant training was also provided at 3 hospitals, thereby producing a certain number of graduates each year to join the hospital services. As for gynaecological service, funding application had to be made via the annual work plan. NLH anticipated that gynaecological specialist out-patient service could be provided within the current year.
- 32. <u>Ms Amy YUNG</u> enquired whether HA would consider allowing health care personnel who received overseas training to take up internship and provide service in Hong Kong.
- 33. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that as the matter involved the internal system of HA, he could not respond to the above question at the moment.
- 34. <u>Ms Amy YUNG</u> enquired whether NLH could relay the enquiry to relevant personnel of HA for proper follow-up and providing a written reply.
- 35. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that he would reflect Members' opinions to relevant personnel of HA.
- Mr Holden CHOW said that the written reply of HA stated "at present, a total of about 800 part-time and temporary nurses were hired by various public hospitals, and over 40 additional nurses were recruited through the newly established Locum Office". As the above figures referred to the nurses in all public hospitals, he enquired about the number of nurses in NLH. As it was now the winter influenza peak season and Lunar New Year holidays were approaching, according to the past experience, the situation of hospitals being flooded with people would be aggravated. He enquired how HA would cope with the demand for out-patient service during Lunar New Year holidays and whether it would consider increasing the number of quotas for out-patient service.
- 37. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that the hospital would hire part-time nurses according to

internal needs as well as the demand and supply situation. At present, a part-time nurse was hired for influenza vaccination service.

- 38. Mr FAN Chi-ping said that many villagers reflected to him that they always could not get through to the telephone lines for booking of out-patient service, and thus went to the Accident and Emergency (A&E) Department even though their cases were not severe. He enquired about the number of quotas for out-patient service at NLH per day. As the population of Tung Chung kept increasing, he enquired whether HA would increase the daily quotas to avoid members of the public going to the A&E Department.
- 39. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that the number of quotas for general out-patient service at NLH was about 200-odd. The number of quotas could only be increased when the number of doctors and nurses increased correspondingly. For the time being, the hospital would maintain the number of quotas at about 200-odd.
- 40. <u>Mr Holden CHOW</u> enquired of HA about the service quotas of general out-patient clinics during long holidays and whether it would increase the number of quotas.
- 41. <u>Mr MAN Ho-yin</u> said that the Special Honorarium Scheme was implemented for general out-patient service. However, whether quotas would be increased depended on the number of people actually taking part in the service, and no details could be provided at present.
- 42. <u>The Chairman</u> enquired that if the hospital was not able to provide relevant service, whether it could refer the cases to other hospitals.
- 43. <u>Mr MAN Ho-yin</u> said that patients might opt for general out-patient service at other clinics nearby.
- 44. Mr FAN Chi-ping supplemented that while the population of Tung Chung at present had reached 200 000, there were only about 200 quotas for out-patient service. He opined that the out-patient service could not meet the demand of the population and HA should increase the number of quotas for out-patient service to prevent lengthening the waiting time at A&E Department.
- Ms Josephine TSANG said that the population of Tung Chung and Yat Tung Estate was increasing. There was no general out-patient service on Peng Chau on Saturdays and Sundays and when there was a need, residents had to go to NLH, which allocated only about 200-odd quotas. The out-patient service in Mui Wo was also inadequate and residents were forced to go to the hospital for service, but the number of service quotas remained at about 200-odd even during long holidays. She urged HA to consider how to enhance the service.
- 46. Mr Eric KWOK said that he was disappointed with the services of NLH. Residents of Yat Tung Estate reflected to him that doctors of NLH were under excessive pressure, but HA did not hire more doctors and health care staff, shifting the pressure

onto the doctors, some of whom had to seek medical treatment. The doctors vented their stress on patients as a result. He said that NLH provided health care services for the entire Lantau Island and opined that the problem of inadequate health care resources was imminent. He urged the hospital to apply for funding from HA as soon as possible to increase the manpower. He hoped that the hospital would discuss and follow up with relevant departments the soonest possible.

- 47. Mr MAN Ho-yin said that he would reflect the opinions to the relevant personnel of HA and seek funding for increasing medical resources.
- 48. <u>The Chairman</u> urged HA to follow up on Members' opinions and enhance medical services as soon as possible.
- 49. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> said that at present NLH mainly provided referral service and failed to fully utilise its resources, thus the waiting time of members of the public for consultation was lengthened.
- 50. <u>The Chairman</u> urged HA to increase resources for enhancement of medical services in response to the population growth in the district.
- V. <u>Progress report on DC-funded District Minor Works Projects</u> (Paper TAFEHC 7/2019)
 - 51. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Winnie YEUNG, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 of IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.
 - Ms Winnie YEUNG briefly presented the paper and supplemented that a funding of \$1.5 million was previously approved for "Project no. IS-DMW-686: Maintenance and provision of minor works items in Islands District (Cheung Chau, Peng Chau, Lamma and Po Toi) (2018-2019)", but the latest cost was adjusted to \$1.61 million after tendering. She asked the Committee to endorse the increase of funding for the works project from \$1.5 million to \$1.61 million.
 - 53. Mr Eric KWOK said that the contractor recently replaced the bulbs of street lights with a new type of LED bulbs, the colour and luminance of which were different from the old ones. Drivers found it difficult to adapt to 2 different colours and luminance of lights on the street. He proposed that IsDO should reflect to the parties concerned that the same model of light bulbs should be used for replacement.
 - 54. <u>Ms Winnie YEUNG</u> said that street lights were within the purview of HyD. IsDO would relay the opinion to HyD and explore to replace all light bulbs at the same road section in one go to avoid having different colours of lights. IsDO would report to Members after obtaining information from HyD.
 - 55. Members endorsed the paper and noted the report of IsDO.

VI. Report by Working Group

- (i) TAFEHC Activities Working Group
- 56. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the report of the working group had been faxed or emailed to Members for perusal before the meeting (see Reference 1 for details). Members were welcome to comment on the report.
- 57. Members had no comment and endorsed the above working group report.
- (ii) <u>Islands Healthy City and Age-friendly Community Working Group</u>
- 58. The Chairman said that as Mr Randy YU was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments, she presented the report of the working group on his behalf. She said that the report of the working group had been faxed or emailed to Members for perusal before the meeting (see Reference 2 for details). Members were welcome to comment on the report.
- 59. Members had no comment and endorsed the above working group report.

VII. Any Other Business

- 60. <u>The Chairman</u> indicated that WSD contacted the Secretariat earlier indicating its hope of arranging representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee. She enquired whether Members agreed to the arrangement.
- 61. Members endorsed that WSD arranged representatives to attend the meetings of the Committee.
- Ms Amy YUNG said that the constituencies of Islands District were sparsely located, the issues discussed at meetings were relatively complicated, and Members raised opinions and enquiries concerning their respective constituencies. In view of the above, she proposed that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman co-ordinated with the Secretariat to instantly draw up a list of all matters to be followed up at the meeting, so that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman could effectively co-ordinate the speaking order of guests at the meeting. This would enable more focused and efficient discussion on Members' enquiries and issues as well as facilitate the Secretariat drafting minutes.
- 63. <u>The Chairman</u> said that it would be practically difficult to instantly draw up a detailed list of all matters to be followed up.
- 64. <u>Ms YU Lai-fan</u> said that sometimes Members might raise quite a number of questions, but she believed that the guests would respond to Members' enquiries and the demands of various areas one by one.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

65. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:00 p.m. on 25 March (Monday) 2019.

- End -