

Islands District Council
District Facilities Management Committee
Paper DFMC 8/2020

Question on Discovery Bay Recreation Club clubhouse occupying open space and restricting public use

Ms Amy YUNG notified this Council that she would raise the following enquiry at the District Facilities Management Committee meeting to be held on 11 May 2020:

“ When established in 2002, Discovery Bay Recreation Club (DBRC) and Club Siena made an application for inclusion of the clubhouse building and swimming pool as clubhouse facilities. However, DBRC later occupied and fenced off the open space for use as tennis court, basketball court and children’s playground and admitted members only.

As confirmed by the Lands Department (LandsD) last year, the open space occupied by DBRC should be open to Discovery Bay (DB) residents and their visitors instead of being restricted to members only. At the Owners’ Committee meeting held on 18 March this year, DBRC only agreed that the above facilities would be open for use by DB residents from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Mondays to Fridays.

Since the outbreak of epidemic, DBRC has closed all facilities but continued to charge membership fees, resulting in a large number of cancellation of membership. In view of the keen demand of DB residents for recreational facilities, I hope that the Planning Department (PlanD) and LandsD would urge DBRC to cease occupying the open space and open it to DB residents and their visitors.

In this connection, I would like to invite PlanD, LandsD and DBRC to arrange representatives to the meeting and respond to the following:

PlanD and LandsD:

1. DBRC has been occupying the open space for years but PlanD and LandsD have not taken any action. What are the reasons?
2. Is there any requirement on the duration of opening

the open space for public use?

3. DBRC has been occupying the open space for years with restrictions on use by DB residents and their visitors, which defeats the purpose of the outline zoning plan. Would the government impose penalty on it?

DBRC:

1. What are its justifications for installation of fences restricting the use of the open space by DB residents and their visitors?
2. If the facilities are open to DB residents and their visitors, would any compensation be made to members for being misled? ”

Islands District Council Secretariat

File Ref.: IS 56/5/02

Date: 20 April 2020

Photos



