(Translation)

Islands District Council <u>Minutes of Meeting of District Facilities Management Committee</u>

Date : 12 July 2021 (Monday)

Time : 10:30 a.m.

Venue: Islands District Council Conference Room,

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

Present

Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Ken (Chairman)

Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP

Mr WONG Man-hon, MH (Arrived at around 10:40 a.m.)

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH

Mr CHAN Lin-wai, MH

Mr HO Chun-fai Mr HO Siu-kei

Ms WONG Chau-ping

Ms TSANG Sau-ho, Josephine

Mr KWOK Ping, Eric

Mr TSUI Sang-hung, Sammy

Mr FONG Lung-fei Ms LAU Shun-ting

Attendance by Invitation

Mr WONG Chung-pong, Gavin Chief Engineer/Lantau 2,

Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr LAM Chun-tak Senior Engineer/3 (Lantau),

Civil Engineering and Development Department

Mr Simon NG Director, Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited

Mr Bryan LEUNG Principal Engineer, Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited Mr TSANG Wai-man Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office,

Islands), Lands Department

Mr YAU San-ping, Peter Senior Executive Officer (District Management),

Islands District Office

Mr LEE Lap-chi, Alfred District Secretary, Islands District Office

Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms KONG Yuen-fan, Bonnie

Architect (Works)5, Home Affairs Department

Ms CHAU Cheung-ling

Liaison Manager,

Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development

Consultants Limited

Mr TANG Siu-fai Senior Architect,

Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development

Consultants Limited

In Attendance

Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office

Ms WONG Ka-ming, Grace Assistant District Officer (Islands)2(Designate),

Islands District Office

Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie District Leisure Manager (Islands),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly Senior Librarian (Islands),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Ms NG Ching-sum, Rain Executive Officer (District Council)2,

Islands District Office

Absent with Apology

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, BBS, MH

Absent

Mr WONG Chun-yeung

Welcoming remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of government departments and Members to the meeting and introduced Ms WONG Ka-ming, Grace, Designate Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 of the Islands District Office (IsDO) who was in attendance.

2. Members noted that Mr YUNG Chi-ming was unable to attend the meeting due to other office commitments.

I. Confirmation of minutes of the meeting held on 10.5.2021

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the captioned minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by the government departments and Members and had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.
- 4. The captioned minutes were confirmed unanimously without amendments.

(Mr WONG Man-hon arrived at the meeting at around 10:40 a.m.)

II. <u>Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works</u> (Paper DFMC 32/2021)

- 5. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr WONG Chung-pong, Gavin, Chief Engineer/Lantau 2 and Mr LAM Chun-tak, Senior Engineer/3 (Lantau) of the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) as well as Mr Simon NG, Director and Mr Bryan LEUNG, Principal Engineer of Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited to the meeting to present the paper.
- 6. <u>Mr Gavin WONG</u> and <u>Mr LAM Chun-tak</u> briefly presented the content of the works.
- 7. Mr Randy YU expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) He thanked the CEDD for carrying out the Improvement Works at Tai O over the years. The promenade linking Shek Tsai Po Street and C.C.C. Tai O Primary School under the Remaining Works was put forward to the Design Competition for the Revitalisation of Tai O in 2008. The proposed design included a bridge connecting to the bus stop to facilitate the access of residents and visitors. At that time, residents opined that the works for the connection to the bus stop could be implemented later, but nowadays the pedestrian flows in Tai O had increased. There were always long queues of visitors, and the situation was particularly serious on holidays. The average time spent waiting for a bus, as reflected by the pedestrian flows, was more

than an hour, and it was even longer on major holidays. This meant that it was not only visitors who were affected. The impact on residents' travel was even greater. Just as people might be deterred from returning to Tai O on weekends to visit their parents, the elderly would also give up going out. He opined that even though the paper was titled "Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works", the completion of the works outlined in the paper should not mark the end of the project because residents were fairly upset about the existing traffic conditions of Tai O, as seen during the resident forum.

- (b) With the Government's effort to promote Tai O, the number of visitors had increased greatly. While the 20 to 30% of residents who owned a business were happy with that, 70% of residents were filled with grievances. Whether it were weekdays or holidays, the road section from 1 to 30 Wing On Street and the entire Market Street were always very crowded. Therefore, at the resident forum held in June, residents expressed their hope that the bridge on the promenade connecting to C.C.C. Tai O Primary School could be extended to the bus stop area to divert the crowd by providing an alternative for residents and visitors.
- (c) In addition, as far as the road section from Shek Pik to Tai O was concerned, people who needed emergency medical service would be sent to the Tai O Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic. The only way to reach the clinic was to go through the road section from 1 to 30 Wing On Street and Market Street, where the overcrowding on holidays might cause a delay in treatment. Without a new connecting bridge, there would surely be a delay of a dozen minutes when going through the old route. In addition, carrying a patient on a stretcher through the crowd would give rise to privacy concerns. It was also not desirable for the ambulancemen and the patients during the epidemic. He reiterated his hope that the CEDD would consider the above-mentioned proposal.
- (d) He sought to move a provisional motion to revise the project title from "Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works" to "Improvement Works at Tai O Phase 3" in order to continue to follow up the proposal of building the new bridge.
- 8. <u>The Chairman</u> gave approval to the moving of the provisional motion by Mr Randy YU. The provisional motion was seconded by Mr HO Siu-kei.
- 9. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> proposed that the Phase 3 Improvement Works should include works to enhance Tai O's external transport, such as the construction of an elevated railway to connect Tung Chung Town Centre and Tai O.
- 10. <u>Mr Randy YU</u> thanked Mr Eric KWOK for putting forward the proposal. He said that he had followed up on the improvement works for Tai O facelift for more

than a dozen years. The funding allocation for the project, proposed by the then Financial Secretary Mr Henry TANG, did not cover the improvement of external transport. As far as he remembered, the estimated construction cost for a coastal highway connecting Tung Chung and Tai O was \$6.7 billion five years before, and it would be over \$10 billion nowadays. As a matter of reference, even the project of Airport City Link connecting Tung Chung and SKYCITY would cost several billion dollars. In order not to make the works more complicated and difficult to handle, he opined that it was not suitable to deal with the issue of external transport through the project in question.

- 11. Mr HO Siu-kei said that Mr Randy YU had illustrated the current situation of Tai O and the residents' demand. Tai O Rural Committee had cooperated with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association to install sensors on the main streets of Tai O to measure pedestrian flows. The results showed that during the Lunar New Year and Easter, more than seven thousand people visited the main streets of Tai O on average every day. In addition, around three thousand people walked from Tung Chung to Tai O. All residents hoped that the CEDD would adopt the proposal to construct a new bridge linking Wing On Street and Shek Tsai Po. In addition, he supported the change of the project title.
- 12. Mr Sammy TSUI said that he supported the improvement works. As the layout plan in the paper showed that the proposed community and cultural event space at Yim Tin and the helipad took up sizeable areas, he enquired whether it was possible to rezone those sites as multi-purpose spaces. As Tai O was a small place crowded with many visitors during holidays, he hoped the CEDD would make good use of the land and provide more multi-purpose spaces for leisure use by members of the public and visitors.

13. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He met with the CEDD before the meeting and proposed that fitness equipment for the elderly be provided in the park adjacent to Shek Tsai Po, but the proposal was not listed in the paper. He hoped the CEDD would consider the proposal.
- (b) In 2000, the District Council (DC) had a discussion on the fences of the helipad. The residents of the stilt houses adjacent to the fences often complained that helicopters would produce wind and stir up sand when taking off and landing. Nowadays the situation had greatly improved. He proposed that trees be planted in the direction of the fences towards the stilt houses to block the noise, wind and sand. In addition, he hoped that the CEDD would instruct the contractor to maintain the turf of the helipad in order to minimise the nuisance caused to the residents by helicopters taking off and landing.
- (c) He appreciated the trail extension works at Fu Shan and suggested that

materials such as natural rocks should be used for the construction as much as possible.

14. <u>Mr Gavin WONG</u> made a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) With regard to the construction of a new bridge connecting C.C.C. Tai O Primary School and the bus stop, he said that the CEDD had noted the residents' views at the resident forum. He also explained at the forum that the remaining works did not include the construction of the footbridge as it was more demanding in terms of technical requirements and had bigger impact on the environment due to the long length of the alignment. The impact on the surrounding stilt houses should be managed carefully. Nonetheless, the CEDD noted Members' views and would review the relevant proposals.
- (b) The proposed multi-purpose space at Yim Tin under the "Tai O Improvement Works Phase 2, Stage 2" was intended for the provision of community cultural facilities, given that there was a lack of space in Tai O for holding events and staging Chinese opera performances. The CEDD would consolidate the land in the Yim Tin area to provide more parking facilities and convert some of the spaces into community sites for the provision of leisure facilities. He believed that the multi-purpose space at Yim Tin, which could be used for holding various local events, would suit the development of local groups.
- (c) With regard to the proposal of providing elderly facilities in the park adjacent to Shek Tsai Po, the CEDD would review the situation and follow it up.
- (d) The CEDD noted Members' proposals of planting trees in the helipad site. However, as it might have an impact on the operation of the helicopters taking off and landing, the CEDD needed to discuss the matter with the Government Flying Service.
- (e) The maintenance of the turf of the helipad was responsible by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). The CEDD would relay the relevant views to the Department.
- (f) The CEDD would use environmental-friendly materials to construct the hiking trail at Fu Shan.
- 15. <u>The Chairman</u> asked Mr Randy YU to briefly present the provisional motion.
- 16. <u>Mr Randy YU</u> read out his provisional motion: "The Islands DC District Facilities Management Committee Paper 32/2021 introduced the 'Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works'. The DC hoped that the CEDD would consider

the demand of Tai O residents and the works of the current phase could be renamed 'Improvement Works at Tai O - Phase 3' to include suitable local facilities in the 'remaining works' of the next phase." The relevant motion was seconded by Mr HO Siu-kei.

- 17. <u>The Chairman</u> asked Members to vote by a show of hands on the above-mentioned provisional motion.
- 18. Members voted by a show of hands. The provisional motion was endorsed unanimously.
- 19. <u>The Chairman</u> asked Members to vote by a show of hands on whether to support the Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works.
- 20. Members voted by a show of hands and unanimously supported the Improvement Works at Tai O, Remaining Works.
- 21. <u>Mr Eric KWOK</u> enquired whether the CEDD could provide the works schedule.
- 22. Mr Gavin WONG thanked the Members present for supporting the project. The CEDD would handle the paper work as soon as possible and hoped to gazette the project in the second half of the year. If no objection was received during the gazettal, the CEDD would strive to secure funding approval from the Government and commence the works as soon as possible.

III. Question on cricket venues in Tung Chung (Paper DFMC 30/2021)

- 23. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie, District Leisure Manager (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the LCSD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.
- 24. <u>Mr Sammy TSUI</u> briefly presented the question and expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) He opined that the LCSD's written reply did not respond to the question directly. He said that many Tung Chung North residents, including expatriates, ethnic minorities and children, reflected that there were no suitable venues for playing cricket.
 - (b) Cricket was more dangerous than other ball games due to the speed of the cricket ball. Other districts had carried out alteration works for conventional pitches by, for example, raising the height of the fences. He urged the LCSD to accommodate the needs of various ethnic groups in Tung Chung and make alterations to conventional pitches for

residents to play cricket.

- (c) There were not many pitches in Tung Chung North, and there was only one roller-skating rink. According to his observation, many roller-skating rink users were expatriate children, which reflected that different ethnic groups had different recreational needs. As cricket was a popular sport among expatriates, he hoped that the LCSD would consider providing relevant facilities.
- Ms Currie SIU agreed that cricket was a relatively higher-risk activity. At present, the 7-a-side hard-surfaced soccer pitch in Tung Chung North Park and the 7-a-side artificial turf soccer pitch were the only venues in the area that could be hired for the activity because those venues were fenced to prevent cricket balls from injuring passers-by accidentally. When identifying venues, the LCSD would pay attention to their design. Venues with an open-style design might not be suitable for cricket games. The LCSD would look at which pitches could be further enhanced in order to promote cricket in the district. In addition, the Hong Kong Cricket Association organised formal cricket trainings and promotional activities in different areas regularly. Members of the public who were interested in participating could visit the Association's website for details.

26. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) There were many Indians and Pakistanis in Tung Chung, especially Yat Tung Estate. Lawn bowl and cricket were very popular among young people from ethnic minorities, but there was a lack of suitable venues in the area. There were also many youth problems in the previous 10 to 20 years.
- (b) The Government advocated community harmony and integration. He expressed his support for making alterations to conventional pitches and hoped that the LCSD would conduct long-term land planning with the CEDD and consider building a proper cricket ground in the reclamation area in order to improve the social life of the ethnic minorities in the area and help them integrate into the community.
- 27. Mr Sammy TSUI said that bookings of the relevant venues had to be made in the name of a club or a group. Residents raised with him that they encountered many difficulties in booking the venues. He enquired of the LCSD whether it was possible to improve the arrangements by taking reference from the booking methods of other ball games in order to facilitate residents to play cricket.
- 28. Mr Randy YU concurred that there was a need to provide recreational facilities for ethnic minorities. Over the years, people of different ethnicities expressed their desire for more venues for playing cricket, rugby and baseball. The LCSD's written reply said that "the LCSD planned to provide multi-purposed pitches to meet the demand for various sports and other activities". He urged the LCSD to

deliver on its promise. As there was a lack of space in the new reclamation area, it might not be feasible to provide venues for the above-mentioned sports there. Playing cricket did not require an entire pitch, so he hoped that the LCSD would open multi-purposed pitches with fenced areas for people to play cricket and do other sports at the same time, with a view to optimising the use of land under safe conditions. In addition, the turf in the middle of a cricket ground required higher specifications. In the past, not many venues had met the standard. However, with technological advancement, cricket games could now be played on an ordinary soccer pitch. Also, the LCSD should not neglect the residents' needs for rugby and baseball pitches.

- 29. <u>Ms Currie SIU</u> noted Members' views.
- IV. Question on proposal of changing the land use of green area under the footbridge at the junction of Yu Tung Road and Chung Yan Road (Paper DFMC 31/2021)
 - 30. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr TSANG Wai-man, Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Islands (DLO/Is)) of the Lands Department and Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie, District Leisure Manager (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to respond to the question. The written replies of the Planning Department, the DLO/Is and the LCSD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.
 - 31. <u>Mr FONG Lung-fei</u> briefly presented the question and expressed his views as follows:
 - (a) The LCSD replied that the purpose of green areas was to mitigate the impact on air caused by vehicles on the road. He said that Yat Tung Estate was surrounded by mountains on three sides and the sea on one side. He queried whether it was necessary to designate so many green areas.
 - (b) The LCSD said that green areas could prevent pedestrians from jaywalking, but he refuted that there had been a fatal traffic accident caused by a person jaywalking towards a green area.
 - (c) He hoped that the LCSD would refer to the design of the site under the Tai Hang Road flyover and provide community or recreational and sports facilities for community groups to organise activities. Doing so could kill two birds with one stone by preventing pedestrians from jaywalking and optimising the use of the site.
 - 32. <u>Mr TSANG Wai-man</u> said that he had nothing to supplement to the written reply of the DLO/Is.
 - 33. Ms Currie SIU said that she had nothing to supplement to the LCSD's

written reply.

- V. Report on the Services of the Public Libraries in Islands District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department between April and May 2021

 (Paper DFMC 24/2021)
 - 34. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly, Senior Librarian (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 35. Ms Polly CHU briefly presented the paper.
 - 36. Members noted the paper.
- VI. Report on the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department's recreational and sports facilities in Islands District (April to May 2021)

 (Paper DFMC 25/2021)
 - 37. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie, District Leisure Manager (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 38. <u>Ms Currie SIU</u> briefly presented the paper.
 - Mr WONG Man-hon did not agree with the statement in the paper that "the quality of the service provided by the outsourced contractors from April to May 2021 mostly reached a satisfactory level". He pointed out that the lawn of the park near the cooked food market of Mui Wo Pier had been damaged by cattle and become a piece of wasteland. The LCSD had not managed the land properly and did not mention the situation in the paper either. He said that the cattle affected both the traffic and residents, and their excreta also posed hygiene problems. He enquired whether the LCSD could raise the height of the fences to prevent cattle from lingering at the said location. Finally, he hoped that the LCSD would report not only the good news but also the bad ones.
 - 40. <u>Ms WONG Chau-ping</u> said she also knew the situation in Mui Wo and asked whether the LCSD was aware of it.
 - 41. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that the roadside planters on Yu Tung Road were planted with many mature trees. A torrential rain in the previous month caused a tree at the junction of Yu Tung Road and Shun Tung Road to collapse and crush a speed enforcement camera, which still had not yet been repaired. Fortunately, no pedestrian was injured in the incident. He noticed that the trunk of one of the trees in the planters was bent. He urged the LCSD to conduct an inspection to check if it posed any risk. He suggested that mature trees should not be planted on the roadside and enquired whether they could be replaced with shrubs. The reason was that during inclement weather, the collapse of mature trees would not only cause danger

but possibly also traffic congestion across the entire South Lantau.

- 42. Ms Currie SIU made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) With regard to the proposal of raising the height of the fences, the LCSD would follow up and arrange vegetation maintenance measures depending on the circumstances of each case. She said that the LCSD was aware of the situation in Mui Wo and would follow it up proactively.

(Post-meeting note:

The LCSD was studying the proposal of installing fences for the planters at Mui Wo Ferry Pier Road Sitting-out area and Ngan Kwong Wan Road amenity plots near the Mui Wo Cooked Food Market. If the proposal was feasible, the LCSD would implement the proposed works by submitting an application under the District Minor Works Programme.)

(b) The LCSD would review whether the trees in the roadside planters on Yu Tung Road were at risk of collapse and take follow-up action.

(Post-meeting note:

The Tree Team (New Territories West)under the LCSD had completed their inspection of the trees in the vicinity of the roadside planters on Yu Tung Road in late July, including the Ficus microcarpa with a bent trunk at the junction of Yu Tung Road and Shun Tung Road. After inspection, the health condition of the Ficus microcarpa was considered good in general. The LCSD had carried out maintenance work and would closely monitor its growth.)

- 43. Mr Eric KWOK said that he and Mr Randy YU had received a beach-related complaint. On 1 July this year, an Indian man went missing outside the shark prevention nets at Pui O Beach. His wife called the Police after discovering that he had gone missing, and the man was found dead around two hours later. He opined that even if the LCSD was unable to provide lifeguard service at its beaches because of a shortage of lifeguards, it should arrange for staff to monitor the waters. In case of an accident, at least there would be someone to provide first aid. He hoped that the LCSD could give an account of what had happened and avoid similar tragedies from occurring again in the future.
- 44. Mr Randy YU thanked Mr Eric KWOK for his concern over the incident and said that he himself had been paying attention to its latest developments. After the tragedy, he wrote to the LCSD immediately but had not received any reply. He would forward the reply to Members for circulation when he received it. He had

been discussing the shortage of lifeguards with the LCSD in recent months. He appreciated that Mui Wo Swimming Pool, which had remained closed because of manpower issue, was reopened finally on the 26th last month after the LCSD hired more lifeguards proactively. However, as there was still a shortage of lifeguards, he hoped that the LCSD would provide a written reply, report and explain the situation to Members, and explain whether the Department had formulated any measures in response to the continued closure of other beaches in Islands District.

(Post-meeting note: The LCSD provided a written reply to Mr Randy YU on 16 July this year. With the deployment of manpower, Pui O Beach was reopened to the public with lifeguard service on 17 July this year.)

- 45. Mr HO Chun-fai said that after the unfortunate incident, he had reminded residents to stay safe when taking part in aquatic activities. He suggested that the LCSD should arrange for staff to monitor the waters at beaches and make announcements more frequently to advise swimmers not to swim outside the boom line area.
- 46. <u>Ms Josephine TSANG</u> enquired whether part-time lifeguards were recruited by the LCSD to meet the shortage of manpower. She said that the LCSD's practice of opening government beaches without arranging for lifeguards to be on duty was far from ideal and very risky.
- 47. Ms Currie SIU made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) Pui O Beach was one of the six beaches in Islands District where lifeguard service was temporarily suspended. However, first aid service was still available to provide appropriate care for injured swimmers or members of the public. With regard to the unfortunate incident on I July, while there were not enough lifeguards at the time of the incident to meet the staffing requirement to provide beach lifeguard service, lifeguards did enter the water to assist in the search and rescue of the victim. They eventually found the missing person and performed first aid on him immediately.
 - (b) At present, the LCSD would make an announcement every 30 minutes at its beaches where lifeguard service was temporarily suspended to remind swimmers that it was not advisable to enter the water under such circumstances. In addition, the LCSD had also put up banners on the beach to advise members of the public stay out of water.
 - (c) Due to the epidemic, the LCSD's recruitment exercise of lifeguards was reluctantly delayed. In recent months, with the newly recruited lifeguards gradually reporting for duty, the LCSD would review the manpower deployment for beaches and swimming pools. If the staffing requirement was met in terms of safety concerns, the LCSD

would open more beaches and swimming facilities to the public.

- 48. Mr Eric KWOK hoped that after the unfortunate incident, the LCSD would actively ameliorate the shortage of lifeguards, so as to avoid beaches from being closed temporarily or posing dangers to users due to the lack of lifeguards. The HKSAR Government had abundant resources, so the recruitment of lifeguards should be free from financial considerations. He urged the LCSD to recruit sufficient staff to provide efficient service.
- 49. <u>Ms WONG Chau-ping</u> said that sea conditions were unpredictable. She enquired how the LCSD would determine whether there was adequate manpower to open beaches and swimming pools and what would be done when the staffing requirement was not met.
- 50. <u>Ms Currie SIU</u> responded that the LCSD and the Hong Kong Life Saving Society had reviewed the situation of every swimming pool and beach and established staffing standards.
- VII. Second Batch of District Minor Works Projects proposed by Leisure and Cultural Services Department for 2021/22 (Paper DFMC 26/2021)
 - 51. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms SIU Kit-ping, Currie, District Leisure Manager (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.
 - 52. <u>Ms Currie SIU</u> briefly presented the paper.
 - 53. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether the restaurant in Tat Tung Road Garden was still in business. According to his observation, the restaurant only opened occasionally before the epidemic. He worried that if the air-conditioning system remained idle for a long time, it would get rusty from exposure to sun and rain, resulting in a waste of public money.
 - Mr FONG Lung-fei said that the LCSD proposed providing recreational and sports facilities in Tat Tung Road Garden. However, not many people would go there and most of the clubhouses of the nearby private buildings were equipped with gymnasiums. He queried whether the proposal could benefit members of the public. He pointed out that there was a lack of recreational and sports facilities in Tung Chung West and enquired whether the LCSD would consider providing those facilities in the area.
 - 55. Ms Currie SIU made a consolidated response as follows:
 - (a) The restaurant in Tat Tung Road Garden was still in business. Its contract would expire at the end of March next year.

- (b) The works proposal of providing recreational and sports facilities in Tat Tung Road Garden was raised by Mr WONG Chun-yeung. After studying with the departments concerned, the LCSD opined that Tat Tung Road Garden was a suitable open space to provide fitness facilities. As for the sites Mr FONG Lung-fei mentioned, such as the areas underneath flyovers or the roadside flower beds, the LCSD was only responsible for horticulture maintenance. The Department did not have the land use right of those sites.
- 56. The Chairman asked Members to vote by a show of hands on whether to endorse the funding of \$1.47 million to implement the projects mentioned in the paper.
- 57. Members voted by a show of hands. The result was 11 votes in favour, 0 against and two abstentions. The works proposal was endorsed.

(Members who voted in favour included: Mr Ken WONG (Chairman), Mr Randy YU, Mr WONG Man-hon, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr CHAN Lin-wai, Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms Josephine TSANG, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr Sammy TSUI and Ms LAU Shun-ting; Ms WONG Chau-ping and Mr FONG Lung-fei abstained.)

VIII. <u>Utilisation and improvement works of Community Halls in Islands District</u> (Paper DFMC 27/2021)

- 58. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr YAU San-ping, Peter, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) and Mr LEE Lap-chi, Alfred, District Secretary of the IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.
- 59. Mr Peter YAU briefly presented the paper.
- 60. Members noted the paper.

IX. <u>Proposed District Minor Works Projects for 2021/22</u> (Paper DFMC 28/2021)

- 61. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 of the IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.
- 62. <u>Ms Christy LEUNG</u> briefly presented the paper.
- 63. The Chairman said that with reference to item 7 in Annex I, i.e. the works of "widening the road from Sha Lo Wan Tsuen to Sham Shek Tsuen" proposed by Mr HO Siu-kei, there was a report earlier saying that slope cutting and removal of plants had taken place illegally on government land for the purpose of widening the road. As the proposed road widening works would be considered a "destroy first and

build later" activity, he did not recommend referring the works to relevant departments for preliminary review. He said that the irregularities should be resolved first to avoid the public perception that the Islands DC supported illegal land destruction.

- 64. <u>Ms WONG Chau-ping</u> enquired about the use of the vacant site shown in photo A of the Temporary Community Garden Programme proposal on page 11 of Annex I.
- Mr Eric KWOK said that photo A showed the idle grassland adjacent to Mun Tung Estate, which he proposed to be converted into a temporary carpark at a Traffic and Transport Committee meeting. However, the Transport Department replied that it did not support the proposal. He therefore submitted an application to convert the vacant site into a temporary community garden until the completion of the sports centre and community hall in Area 107. It would not only make good use of the land, but also satisfy members of the public who were interested in gardening, and allow them to enjoy family activities. He added that photos 3 to 5 showed the temporary gardens of the LCSD.
- 66. <u>Ms WONG Chau-ping</u> said that Mr Eric KWOK's proposal was constructive, but consultation should be conducted first as the location was very close to the villages in the vicinity.
- 67. <u>The Chairman</u> said that District Minor Works proposals should be initiated by the DC first and then referred to the relevant departments for preliminary review and feasibility study, so it was too early to talk about consultation.
- 68. <u>Ms WONG Chau-ping</u> said she understood the situation but reiterated that the relevant location was too close to the villages in the vicinity, so she hoped that the departments would conduct sufficient consultation after project initiation.
- 69. <u>The Chairman</u> asked Members to vote by a show of hands whether they agreed to refer the works in Annex I to the relevant departments for preliminary review, except item 7 titled "widening the road from Sha Lo Wan Tsuen to Sham Shek Tsuen".
- 70. Members voted by a show of hands. The proposal was endorsed unanimously.

X. <u>Progress report on DC-funded District Minor Works Projects</u> (Paper DFMC 29/2021)

71. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms KONG Yuen-fan, Bonnie, Architect (Works)5 of the Home Affairs Department; Ms LEUNG Tin-yee, Christy, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 of the IsDO; Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21 of the LCSD; Ms CHAU Cheung-ling, Liaison Manager and Mr TANG

Siu-fai, Senior Architect of Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited to the meeting to present the paper.

- 72. <u>Ms Christy LEUNG</u> briefly presented the paper.
- 73. Mr Eric KWOK enquired about the progress of the feasibility study for the "Conversion of Cycle Parking Area adjacent to Tung Chung Road Soccer Pitch into Children's Play Area and Elderly Fitness Corner" (IS-DMW-370) and whether the relevant site could be converted into a children's playground after completion of the study.
- 74. Mr TANG Siu-fai said that the feasibility study of the project had just commenced recently. The preliminary work included topography survey, tree root assessment and trial pit works, etc. The relevant work and study would commence shortly. The consultant would seek advice in writing from government departments and report to the Committee in due course after completion of the relevant work and study.

XI. Any Other Business

75. Mr Randy YU announced that in order not to interrupt Members' schedules, he had informed the participants by email in the morning that the Islands Healthy City and Age-friendly Community Working Group meeting at 2:30 p.m. would be rescheduled to 12:00 noon. He asked the Working Group's members to stay behind to attend the meeting if they agreed.

XII. Date of Next Meeting

76. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon. The next meeting would be held at 10:30 a.m. on 21 September 2021 (Tuesday).

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