

(Translation)

Islands District Council
Minutes of Meeting of District Facilities Management Committee

Date : 10 July 2023 (Monday)
Time : 2:00 p.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 HO Chun-fai (Vice-Chairman)
Mr YU Hon-kwan, Randy, MH, JP
Mr WONG Man-hon, MH (Arrived at around 2:05 p.m.)
Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH
Mr HO Siu-kei
Ms WONG Chau-ping
Mr NG Man-kit
Mr WAN Yeung-kin
Mr KWOK Ping, Eric (Left at around 3:30 p.m.)
Mr FONG Lung-fei (Left at around 3:05 p.m.)
Ms LAU Shun-ting

Attendance by Invitation

Mr CHEUNG Ka-shing	Senior Country Parks Officer (M1), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Dr YOUNG Lau-ching, Maria	Country Parks Officer (Lantau), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr LEE Lap-man	Engineer/Islands 2, Transport Department
Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric	Chief Health Inspector (Islands)1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Ms CHING Ka-wai	Senior Project Manager 323, Architectural Services Department
Ms TAN Ka-wai, Amy	Project Manager 354, Architectural Services Department
Mr LI Siu-lung, Edmund	Senior Engineer/ Parking Project 3, Transport Department
Mr YU Chung-wah, Kelvin	Engineer/ Parking Project 7, Transport Department
Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Islands District Office
Mr YEUNG Chiu-cheong, Mark	District Secretary (Acting), Islands District Office
Mr WONG Chi-leung	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/ Southern/Islands)2, Social Welfare Department

Ms LAU Wing-chuk, Celine	Senior Librarian (Planning and Development), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Chak-chung	Senior Inspector of Works, Islands District Office
Ms CHAN Yi-sa, Yisa	Architect (Works)1, Home Affairs Department
Mr Darren LI	Design Manager, Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited

In Attendance

Ms TSE Yik-ting, Ellie	Assistant District Officer (Islands)2, Islands District Office
Ms LIM Ting-ting, Sylvia	Chief Leisure Manager (New Territories West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms HA Chung-wan, Joanne	District Leisure Manager (Islands), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine	Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Secretary

Ms KWONG Tsz-wing, Wing	Executive Officer (District Council)2, Islands District Office
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**Welcoming Remarks**

The Chairman welcomed representatives of the government departments and Members to the meeting and introduced Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine, Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), who stood in for Ms CHU Po-yee, Polly.

I. **Confirmation of minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2023**

2. The Chairman said that the captioned minutes had incorporated the amendments proposed by government departments and Members and had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

3. The minutes were confirmed unanimously without further amendments proposed by Members.

(Members who voted in favour included: the Chairman Mr Ken WONG, the Vice-Chairman Mr HO Chun-fai, Mr Randy YU, Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, Mr HO Siu-kei, Ms WONG Chau-ping, Mr NG Man-kit, Mr WAN Yeung-kin, Mr Eric KWOK, Mr FONG Lung-fei and Ms LAU Shun-ting.)

II. Question on the provision of food and beverage vending machines at the Mui Wo Mountain Bike Practice Ground  
(Paper DFMC 21/2023)

4. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEUNG Ka-shing, Senior Country Parks Officer (M1) and Dr YOUNG Lau-ching, Maria, Country Parks Officer (Lantau) of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply from the AFCD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

5. Mr Randy YU briefly presented the question.

6. Mr CHEUNG Ka-Sing added that the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) had yet to commence the repair work on the exterior wall of the toilet at the Mui Wo Mountain Bike Practice Ground and the maintenance work on the electrical facilities. As a result, the responsibility for the repair of the toilet had not yet been handed over to the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), which were responsible for the upkeep on behalf of the AFCD. In addition, the works might impact the operation of the beverage vending machines and hinder their installation.

7. Mr Randy YU noted that the AFCD had followed up on the matter. He anticipated an increase in the number of people using the Mui Wo Mountain Bike Practice Ground during the summer holidays. Considering that providing drinking water alone might not meet the users' needs, he considered it necessary for the AFCD to offer beverages in the practice ground and suggested that the Chairman should write to the CEDD to request follow-up actions to facilitate the installation of the vending machines by the AFCD as soon as possible.

8. Mr WAN Yeung-kin pointed out that many construction sites would apply for temporary power supply and suggested that the AFCD could consider this approach for installing the vending machines.

9. Mr HO Siu-kei agreed with Mr Randy YU's opinion, saying that if the toilet currently had a power supply, it should be possible to power the vending machines using electricity cables. He considered that the relevant departments should coordinate with each other to proceed with the installation as soon as possible.

10. Mr CHEUNG Ka-shing said that as the completion date for the CEDD's external wall repair work had yet to be finalised, the AFCD was currently exploring the installation of the vending machines before the completion of the repair work, and was consulting the CEDD, the ArchSD and the EMSD on this approach. The AFCD would consider the feasibility of connecting electricity cables in advance after the operator's submission of the relevant design drawings to the EMSD.

11. Mr Randy YU thanked the AFCD for its efforts and noted the AFCD's coordination with other departments on the matter. He asked the AFCD to forward the relevant emails to Members for perusal, so that they could follow up with other departments.

12. The Chairman requested the AFCD to forward the relevant emails to Mr Randy YU for follow-up and asked the Secretariat to write to the CEDD as necessary.

(Post-meeting note: The beverage vending machines inside the Mui Wo Mountain Bike Practice Ground had commenced operation on 11 August 2023. After the meeting, the AFCD understood from the CEDD that the latter still had no timetable for commencing the repair work on the external wall of the toilet.)

(Mr WONG Man-hon joined the meeting at around 2:05 p.m.)

III. Question on the addition of a ramp beside the staircases of Cheung Tung Road behind Fu Tung Estate  
(Paper DFMC 22/2023)

13. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEE Lap-man, Engineer/Islands 2 of the Transport Department (TD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written replies from the Highways Department and the TD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

14. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question.

15. Mr LEE Lap-man had no supplementary information in respect of the written reply of the TD.

16. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that many residents of Yat Tung Estate commuted to Tung Chung North by bicycle. In addition, many hikers heading to Pak Mong and Mui Wo parked their bicycles along a small path near the Tung Chung East Promenade. He opined that the TD should take into account the bicycle usage from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. and on holidays and consider adding a ramp to provide convenience to residents and hikers.

17. Mr Eric KWOK supported the aforementioned suggestion. He pointed out that there was currently no ramp at the said location and questioned why the written reply from the TD had indicated a lower bicycle or wheelchair usage in the vicinity. He considered that the TD should conduct a thorough research before providing a response.

18. Mr LEE Lap-man explained that the reference to a lower usage in the written reply did not pertain to the ramp but to a small path above the cycle track mentioned by Mr FONG Lung-fei in his question. He said that the TD had conducted an on-site inspection after receiving public suggestions on building a ramp at the aforesaid

location in March this year. As a footpath instead of a cycle track was located above the proposed ramp, the TD needed time to study the usage in the area and to consider whether adding a ramp would inadvertently encourage people to ride bicycles on the footpath.

19. Mr Eric KWOK believed that the reason for the relatively low usage rate of the abovementioned road section was the absence of a ramp, causing inconvenience to cyclists and wheelchair users. He was confident that providing a ramp would lead to an increase in usage of the section. He hence requested that the TD consider this suggestion.

20. Mr FONG Lung-fei was aware that a footpath was located above the proposed ramp. He pointed out that the cycle tracks in Tung Chung were designed to be divided into segments, requiring cyclists to dismount when reaching a footpath and push their bicycles along it. He opined that constructing a ramp would facilitate cyclists pushing their bicycles. He also pointed out the need for a ramp to connect the cycle tracks in the road section between the roundabout and the Tung Chung North Park.

21. Mr LEE Lap-man noted Members' views and would examine the proposal after the meeting.

IV. Question on the change of land use of the green area at Yu Tung Road outside Ching Yat House of Yat Tung Estate  
(Paper DFMC 23/2023)

22. The Chairman welcomed Mr YAN Ka-kit, Ric, Chief Health Inspector (Islands)<sup>1</sup> of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) to respond to the question. The written replies from the FEHD and the CEDD had been distributed to Members for perusal before the meeting.

23. Mr FONG Lung-fei briefly presented the question.

24. Mr Ric YAN updated the written reply by stating that the grass-cutting work for the aforementioned green area was currently not responsible by the LCSD. The FEHD had referred the relevant matters to the currently responsible department for follow-up actions.

25. Mr FONG Lung-fei pointed out that there were over 60 public housing tenants in Yat Tung Estate who were granted permission to keep dogs. Despite the provision of dog excreta collection bins on the streets, some pet owners did not properly handle the dog waste and soiled the streets. He noted that the CEDD would return the land upon the completion of the drainage works early next year. As the green area was currently overgrown with weeds, he expressed his view against the continuous planting of trees there by the relevant department. He suggested that the FEHD should consider providing a dog latrine or a sand pool at that location to address the issue of dog excrement polluting the streets. In addition, he suggested that the Islands District Office

(IsDO) should consider providing leisure facilities such as benches and shelters at the abovementioned location to further enhance the support facilities in the district.

26. Mr Ric YAN noted the view of Mr FONG Lung-fei regarding the provision of a dog latrine. He said that the cleaning of dog latrines was carry out by street cleaning workers. Due to operational needs, selected sites for FEHD dog latrines usually located right next to pedestrian paths.

(Post-meeting note: The IsDO had noted the view of Mr FONG Lung-fei.)

V. Latest Progress of Joint-user Complex in Area 107, Tung Chung  
(Paper DFMC 24/2023)

27. The Chairman welcomed Ms CHING Ka-wai, Senior Project Manager 323 and Ms TAN Ka-wai, Amy, Project Manager 354 of the ArchSD; Mr LI Siu-lung, Edmund, Senior Engineer/ Parking Project 3 and Mr YU Chung-wah, Kelvin, Engineer/ Parking Project 7 and Mr LEE Lap-man, Engineer/Islands 2 of the TD; Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) and Mr YEUNG Chiu-cheong, Mark, District Secretary (Acting) of the IsDO; Mr WONG Chi-leung, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Central Western/Southern/Islands)2 of the Social Welfare Department (SWD); and Ms HA Chung-wan, Joanne, District Leisure Manager (Islands), Ms KWOK Lai-kuen, Elaine, Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting), Ms LAU Wing-chuk, Celine, Senior Librarian (Planning and Development) and Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21 of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

28. Ms Selina LEUNG briefly presented the paper.

29. Mr Randy YU expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the LCSD, the ArchSD and other departments, which had a meeting and conducted an on-site inspection with Members of the Islands District Council (IDC) for the project concerned. He highlighted the significance of Tung Chung Road as the only main trunk road in the Tung Chung district, serving as an essential route of vehicular access to the Lantau Island. This, coupled with factors such as speed limits and residents' habits, might result in worsening of traffic congestion similar to the situation in Mun Tung Estate if the main vehicular access to the joint-user complex was to face Tung Chung Road. He had previously suggested redirecting the complex's main entrance to face Yu Tung Road, and noted that the ArchSD was currently considering this proposal. He requested the TD provide an additional road connection to Yu Tung Road in the related works of the Tung Chung Line Extension project to facilitate using Yu Tung Road as the main vehicular access to the joint-user complex.

30. Mr Eric KWOK expressed his views as follows:

- (a) He commended the LCSD for actively seeking input from Members on the aforementioned project multiple times and making every effort to

optimise the facilities of the joint-user complex to meet the needs of the residents.

- (b) Noticing a lack of elderly fitness facilities in Tung Chung West, he enquired whether the fitness room inside the sports centre would include fitness facilities designed for the elderly. If not, he hoped that the LCSD would consider adding such facilities.
- (c) He anticipated a population increase of about 30 000 people in Tung Chung West over the next three to five years. Currently, the Home Affairs Enquiry Centre in Tung Chung Town Centre was so busy that people had to wait for more than 30 minutes to take an oath even with a scheduled appointment. He suggested that the IsDO should establish an additional Home Affairs Enquiry Centre in Tung Chung West to accommodate the local development.
- (d) He suggested that the SWD should provide full-day childcare services in the joint-user complex to support full-time working parents.
- (e) There was a shortage of parking spaces for motorcycles in the Tung Chung district. He hoped that the joint-user complex would provide parking spaces for motorcycles to meet the local demand.
- (f) Many Members had suggested to the relevant departments that the main vehicular access to the joint-user complex should be changed from Tung Chung Road to Yat Tung Road. He requested the relevant departments to actively explore the aforementioned suggestion.
- (g) It was anticipated that there would be a considerable increase in residents (including those of Ma Wan Chung Village in Tung Chung) taking the MTR after the completion of the Tung Chung West Station in 2029, which would result in an increased traffic on Tung Chung Road. He pointed out that Mr Randy YU had suggested extending the existing footbridge to the Ma Wan Chung Village in Tung Chung (across Tung Chung Road). He was of the view that this facility would not only enhance road safety but also facilitate the public in heading to the sports centre. He hoped that the relevant departments would consider this suggestion.

31. Ms WONG Chau-ping expressed her views as follows:

- (a) She commended the relevant departments for seeking input from Members on the aforementioned project several times within a few months and actively considering the suggestion.
- (b) She considered that the Tung Chung Road had become severely oversaturated with traffic, with traffic jams extending to as far as Lung

Tseng Tau or Shek Mun Kap during peak hours. Given that the problem of traffic congestion on Tung Chung Road had not been resolved yet, she hoped that the departments would actively consider relocating the main vehicular access to the joint-use complex to Yat Tung Road.

32. Ms Selina LEUNG provided a consolidated response as follows:
- (a) She expressed gratitude to Members for providing valuable opinions during the meeting and the on-site inspection. The LCSD was currently working in conjunction with the relevant departments to study the feasibility of locating the main vehicular access on Yu Tung Road.
  - (b) There would be a fitness room in the sports centre inside the joint-user complex. The LCSD would take into account the local demand for elderly fitness facilities and choose suitable fitness equipment for the fitness room.
  - (c) She requested the SWD, the IsDO and the TD to provide supplementary information where appropriate.
33. Mr WONG Chi-leung noted the view of Mr Eric KWOK.
34. Mr Joe LEE noted the view of Mr Eric KWOK and would follow up on the suggestion to provide an additional Home Affairs Enquiry Centre.
35. Mr Randy YU considered it necessary for the TD to take into account the fact that Tung Chung Road was the main trunk road for local residents to access to and from the Lantau Island when formulating traffic measures for Tung Chung Road. He opined that data collected by sensors should not be seen as the only factor for consideration as qualitative data should also be taken into account. He reiterated that Tung Chung Road was the only main trunk road for access to and from the rural area of the Lantau Island, covering 100% of the area.
36. Mr FONG Lung-fei pointed out that there were frequent accidents on Tung Chung Road. Because of the narrow lanes on Tung Chung Road, the traffic jam would extend to Yu Tung Road in the event of an accident and block the Tung Chung Interchange. It would in turn hinder vehicular access to South Lantau, Tung Chung and the Hong Kong International Airport, and might even affect rescue operations. Despite lower vehicular traffic flow on Tung Chung Road during non-busy hours, an increase in the road's load could lead to a rise in accident rates. He urged the TD to pay attention to this issue.
37. Mr Edmund LI noted Members' views and said that the TD would cooperate with other departments' checking of feasibility of providing a vehicular access at Yu Tung Road.



VI. Report on the Services of the Public Libraries in Islands District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department between April 2023 and May 2023  
(Paper DFMC 17/2023)

38. The Chairman welcomed Ms Elaine KWOK, Senior Librarian (Islands) (Acting) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

39. Ms Elaine KWOK presented the paper.

40. Members noted the content of the paper.

VII. Report on the management of Leisure and Cultural Services Department's recreational and sports facilities in Islands District (April to May 2023)  
(Paper DFMC 18/2023)

41. The Chairman welcomed Ms Joanne HA, District Leisure Manager (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

42. Ms Joanne HA presented the paper.

43. Mr Eric KWOK pointed out that there were overgrown weeds on both sides of the sections of Yu Tung Road between Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate and between the North Lantau Hospital and Lantau North Police Station. He suspected that the contractor had not cleared the weeds regularly. Despite residents' dissatisfaction with the situation, the LCSD gave a satisfactory rating to the contractor's performance. He asked the LCSD about the standards used to evaluate the contractor's performance and considered it necessary for the LCSD to conduct on-site inspections to better understand the actual situation. He urged the LCSD to enhance monitoring of the contractor's work and clear the weeds as soon as possible.

44. Mr FONG Lung-fei said that a large number of Chinese Fan-palms were planted along the section of Yu Tung Road between Yat Tung Estate to Lantau North Police Station, but the trees lacked proper maintenance. There were hanging leaves obstructing the street lamp posts, and some branches even blocked the cycle track. He indicated that he was perplexed as to why the LCSD had given a "satisfactory" rating to the contractor's service and requested the LCSD to promptly prune the branches and leaves. In addition, he pointed out that although some trees on Yu Tung Road were under the management of the CEDD, the LCSD should assist in following up on the maintenance work. Furthermore, he mentioned that the trunks of certain trees under the management of the LCSD had started to lean due to rotten supports, hence he requested the LCSD to take follow-up actions.

45. The Chairman pointed out that there were overgrown weeds in planters on Peng Chau. He had reported the issue to the LCSD in June and the LCSD had arranged for the contractor to clear the weeds. However, he had found the problem recurring in July and the contractor had not followed up. He said that various places in the Islands

District were plagued with the same problem and questioned whether the same contractor was responsible for the horticultural work within the district. He said that Members had no responsibility to monitor the maintenance of planters and suggested that if the situation did not improve even after a deduction of the contractor's remuneration, the LCSD should consider replacing the contractor to solve the problem.

(Post-meeting note: The LCSD had instructed the contractor to carry out immediate improvement measures for horticultural maintenance. Regarding the roadside planters along the roadsides of the sections of Yu Tung Road between Yat Tung Estate and Mun Tung Estate and between the North Lantau Hospital and Lantau North Police Station, the LCSD had referred the case to the CEDD for follow-up as the said land was allocated to the CEDD by the Lands Department for ground investigation.)

46. Ms Joanne HA said that the horticultural maintenance in the Islands District was handled by the same contractor. The LCSD noted the situation and agreed that there was room for improvement for the contractor. The LCSD would continue monitoring the contractor's performance and request improvements.

47. Mr Eric KWOK said that he had written to the LCSD several times about the problem of overgrown weeds, but every time the LCSD would only follow up on the specific location mentioned in the complaint without proactively inspecting other areas. He shared the Chairman's view that monitoring work should not be Members' responsibilities. He requested the LCSD to strengthen its supervision of the contractor's performance.

48. Mr WAN Yeung-kin enquired about the LCSD's method for counting the number of beachgoers (e.g. by visual estimation) and whether the figures obtained were estimates.

49. Ms Joanne HA explained that the LCSD's on-site staff were responsible for counting the usage at their respective beaches. All individuals engaged in activities within the beach area, including those participating in beach activities and swimming, were included in the figures.

50. Mr NG Man-kit pointed out that certain sections of the Cheung Chau Sai Tai Road lacked railings, and the road surface was damaged and overgrown with weeds. He asked whether this location fell under the management of the LCSD.

51. Ms Joanne HA said that she would communicate with Members after the meeting regarding the problem of Cheung Chau Sai Tai Road and would follow up on the issue or refer the case to other departments where necessary.

(Post-meeting note: As the CEDD was currently undertaking landscape improvement works on Cheung Chau Sai Tai Road, the LCSD had referred the case to the CEDD for follow-up after the meeting.)

VIII. Utilisation and improvement works of Community Halls in Islands District  
(Paper DFMC 19/2023)

52. The Chairman welcomed Mr Joe LEE, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) and Mr Mark YEUNG, District Secretary (Acting) of the IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.

53. Mr Joe LEE presented the paper.

54. Mr Eric KWOK thanked the IsDO for its active follow-up. He was pleased to learn that the audio-visual system improvement works for the Tung Chung Community Hall would be completed to meet the residents' needs for the facility before the conclusion of the current term of office of the IDC.

55. Members noted the content of the paper.

IX. Progress report on DC-funded District Minor Works Projects  
(Paper DFMC 20/2023)

56. The Chairman welcomed Ms TSE Yik-ting, Ellie, Assistant District Officer (Islands)<sup>2</sup> and Mr CHAN Chak-chung, Senior Inspector of Works of the IsDO; Ms Selina LEUNG, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)<sup>21</sup> of the LCSD; Ms CHAN Yi-sa, Yisa, Architect (Works)<sup>1</sup> of the Home Affairs Department; and Mr Darren LI, Design Manager of Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited to the meeting to present the paper.

57. Ms Ellie TSE briefly presented the latest progress of each project and asked Members to note the content of the paper:

(i) Construction of Shelter at the Open Space next to South Lantau Rural Committee Office (IS-DMW116)

58. The IsDO had suggested to the South Lantau Rural Committee (SLRC) that they could rent the relevant open space by means of short term tenancy (STT).

(ii) Construction of canopy on the road near Cheung Chau Helipad (IS-DMW351)

59. The project was in the design stage. The tender exercise for the project was expected to take place this year if things went well.

(iii) Construction of Cheung Chau Sai Wan Forecourt (IS-DMW352)

60. The project involved relocation of trees and the IsDO would commence the project as soon as possible.

61. Members had discussions on the various projects:

(i) Construction of Shelter at the Open Space next to South Lantau Rural Committee Office (IS-DMW116)

62. Mr Eric KWOK felt perplexed as to why the project was still in the preparatory stage but had already incurred expenses exceeding \$610,000, hence he requested an explanation from the IsDO. In addition, he learned that the IsDO intended to implement the project by means of STT. He enquired whether the SLRC agreed with this approach and the timetable for the implementation of the project.

63. Vice-Chairman Mr HO Chun-fai was puzzled why the project was endorsed to obtain funding approval from the IDC despite being located within the Coastal Protection Area. He said that the SLRC and the IsDO had reached a consensus to take forward the project by means of STT. Due to the SLRC's transition to a new term of office, the District Lands Office, Islands (DLO, Is) had requested the SLRC to cancel the original STT application and re-submit the application to the DLO, Is, but the current application had not yet been approved. He expressed dissatisfaction with the Government's response, which only stated that the SLRC could attempt submitting an application. Considering that the project was to provide the only gathering place for residents of South Lantau and was not for private use, and that it had already obtained funding approval from the IDC, he was of the view that the relevant departments should provide a more definitive response regarding the approval of the STT. He pointed out that nearby projects, such as the sewage treatment plant and villa developments, had already begun, but the commencement date of this project remained uncertain. Many members of the SLRC had requested follow-up actions in this regard. He sought an explanation from the relevant departments so that he could explain the situation to the villagers.

64. Ms Ellie TSE explained that when the project initially obtained funding approval from the IDC, it was a large-scale project which involved archaeology and engagement of engineering consultants for preliminary surveys, etc. As the project was located within the Coastal Protection Area, the IsDO needed time to consult the Planning Department (PlanD) and the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO), hence the works required more time to complete. She therefore asked for understanding from Members. As it had become difficult to proceed with the works, the IsDO currently proposed advancing the project by means of STT. She was aware that the SLRC had to cancel the previous STT application and re-submit the application to the DLO, Is. She assured that the IsDO could assist Vice-Chairman Mr HO Chun-fai in reviewing the content of the application to expedite the approval process.

65. Mr Eric KWOK enquired whether the village representatives of South Lantau and the SLRC had accepted the proposal to proceed with the project through STT and whether they had re-submitted the application to the DLO, Is. He asked about the development direction of the project and considered that stakeholders should maintain effective communication to ensure a smooth implementation of the project.

66. The Chairman enquired whether the PlanD had already agreed to proceed with the project by means of STT, saying that it would otherwise be a waste of time. He hoped the IsDO could make it clear that the PlanD had supported the aforementioned approach.

67. Ms Ellie TSE said that the IsDO had consulted other departments (including the PlanD) on the aforementioned approach, and the relevant departments preliminarily had not raised any objections. She noted that the funding for this project had been approved. If the SLRC planned to undertake projects in other areas of South Lantau, they could make suggestions to the IsDO. As for the projects conducted by the PlanD in the vicinity, the IsDO was not in a position to provide a response as the projects were not under its purview.

68. The Chairman asked whether the size of the cover to be constructed under STT was consistent with the original design. He expressed concern that the PlanD might request the SLRC to significantly reduce the scale before approving the STT, or might even oppose the implementation of the project. He pointed out that the SLRC was supposed to obtain policy support from the IsDO before applying for a STT, hence he hoped that the IsDO could clearly express its support for the application; otherwise, he believed that it might be difficult for the application to be approved.

69. Vice-Chairman Mr HO Chun-fai agreed with the Chairman's opinion. He said that the SLRC had to re-submit the STT application now without a concrete commitment or clear explanation from the relevant departments regarding the application result. He said that members of the SLRC had expressed concerns about this uncertainty. He pointed out that the SLRC had been cooperating with the IsDO in taking forward the project since the project was established over a decade ago, but it seemed that the IsDO had been gradually stepping back from its role as a coordinator. He hoped that the IsDO would continue to assist in advancing the project.

70. Ms Ellie TSE said that the specifications for temporary structures could be handled through alternative channels. She pointed out that the current approach of constructing temporary structures by means of STT appeared feasible preliminarily. However, it might be difficult to proceed if permanent structures were to be constructed. Since the IsDO did not have the authority to approve a STT, it could not guarantee that the STT application would be successful. Nevertheless, the IsDO held a positive attitude towards the abovementioned approach.

71. Mr Eric KWOK understood the difficulty faced by the IsDO. He was worried that the project might be abandoned if the works could not commence within the current term of office of the IDC. He was confident that the IsDO would make every effort to assist the SLRC in advancing the project and hoped that the SLRC would actively follow up on these matters.

72. Mr Randy YU considered that while the current term of office of the IDC would soon come to an end, the term of the SLRC's chairman still had more than three years remaining, hence he was confident that the SLRC would actively follow up on

these matters. He noted that there might be changes in the composition of the District Facilities Management Committee in the IDC's next term of office, and the management of the project seemed to have shifted from the District Council level to the coordination between the SLRC and various departments such as the DLO, Is, the PlanD and the IsDO. While the IsDO could not provide a concrete commitment at present, he believed the IsDO and other departments would continue to follow up on the project. He pointed out that it had been more than 13 years since the establishment of the project, which had met with obstacles from the PlanD and the AMO during the implementation and had spent over \$600,000 on archaeological, design and drilling work. It was therefore not ideal that the works had yet to commence. While he felt responsible as a Member, he expressed confidence in the SLRC and the IsDO.

73. Mr HO Siu-kei pointed out that there had been many projects in Tai O involving cooperation between the DLO, Is and the IsDO. He noticed that the DLO, Is had been more proactive in following up on district affairs since the establishment of the new term of the SAR Government. He said that he supported the project because the addition of cover would provide a place for villagers and tourists to rest and take shelter from the rain, adding that he would continue to assist the SLRC in taking forward the project. He shared Mr Randy YU's view that the IsDO and the DLO, Is would actively follow up on the project. He also pointed out that the construction of facilities in rural areas were often obstructed by the PlanD, suggesting that the IsDO should actively discuss with various departments to understand the local needs.

(ii) Construction of Cheung Chau Sai Wan Forecourt (IS-DMW352)

74. Mr NG Man-kit said that if the consultant needed to carry out any relocation, modification or dismantling works during the construction, the Cheung Chau Rural Committee and local residents would make every effort to cooperate. He pointed out that the abovementioned project had been in the preparatory stage for many years but had yet to commence. He would like to know the implementation timetable for the project, including the commencement date, so as to explain the situation to stakeholders after the meeting.

75. Ms Ellie TSE said that as the estimate of the project was relatively high, and there were other large-scale projects in the Islands District which were set to commence soon, the IsDO needed to review the cash flow before commencing the works. She said that the project's progress would not be significantly delayed, and the details would be provided to Member after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The IsDO had reviewed the project's timetable with Mr NG Man-kit after the meeting.)

(Mr FONG Lung-fei left the meeting at around 3:05 p.m.; Mr Eric KWOK left the meeting at around 3:30 p.m.)

X. Any Other Business

76. No further business was raised by Members.

XI. Date of Next Meeting

77. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for 11 September 2023 (Monday) at 2 p.m.

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