(Translation)

Islands District Council Minutes of Meeting of District Facilities and Works Committee

Date : 22 October 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Islands District Council Conference Room, 14/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong

Present

<u>Chairman</u> Mr YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP

Vice-Chairman

Mr HO Chun-fai

Members

Mr HO Siu-kei Mr NG Man-kit Mr NG Choi-wah Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, SBS, MH Ms KWOK Wai-man, Mealoha Mr WAN Yeung-kin Mr WONG Man-hon, MH Mr YIP Pui-kei Mr LAU Chin-pang Ms LAU Shun-ting

Co-opted Member

Ms ZHANG Wan-hei

Attendance by Invitation

Mr CHAN Kin-fung, Keith Ms CHAN Fung-ping, Inness Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe

Ms HAU Lok-yiu, Cordelia Mr CHAN Chak-chung Senior Engineer/Walkability 4, Transport Department Engineer 9/Walkability, Transport Department Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Islands District Office District Secretary, Islands District Office Senior Inspector of Works, Islands District Office

In Attendance

III / Ittenuance	
Ms AU YEUNG Wing-sum, Livia	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 CHUNG Chi-yuen, Candy	Senior Librarian(Islands),
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEUNG Wai-nga, Viola	Senior Manager(New Territories South) Promotion,
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAM Shuk-man, Mandy	Senior Executive Officer(Planning)21,
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms WONG Hoi-ming, Helen	Architect (Works)4, Home Affairs Department
Mr YEUNG Che-yuen, Patrick	Senior Engineer/1 (Lantau),
-	Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr WAN Chi-kin, Vincent	Engineer/Lantau5, Drainage Services Department
Mr WONG Chi-hung, Philix	Engineer/Islands(3), Highways Department
<u>Secretary</u>	
Ms LAM Long-ching, Christine	Executive Officer (District Council)2,
	Islands District Office

Welcoming Remarks

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of government departments and Members to the meeting and introduced Ms LAM Shuk-man, Mandy, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21 of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), who succeeded Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina.

I. <u>Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 20 August 2024</u>

2. <u>The Chairman</u> 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. Members did not propose any further amendments, and the minutes were confirmed unanimously.

II. Question on the progress of the construction of escalators in Cheung Kwai Estate (DFWC Paper No. 38/2024)

4. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr CHAN Kin-fung, Keith, Senior Engineer/Walkability 4 and Ms CHAN Fung-ping, Inness, Engineer 9/Walkability of the Transport Department (TD) to the meeting to respond to the question. The written reply of the TD had been distributed to Members for reference before the meeting.

5. <u>Ms Mealoha KWOK</u> briefly presented the question.

6. <u>Members</u> believed that the captioned project would provide convenient access for the residents of Cheung Kwai Estate, Pak She San Tsuen and the nearby areas, especially the elderly. Members noted that the project had been proposed for over twenty years and the residents nearby were very concerned about its progress. Therefore, Members hoped that the TD would proceed with the project as soon as possible.

7. <u>Mr Keith CHAN</u> responded that the TD had conducted initial screening, shortlisting and prioritisation of 114 proposals for hillside escalator system projects in accordance with the assessment mechanism for Hillside Escalator Links and Elevator Systems (HEL) revised in 2019. Following the integrated scoring and ranking process, 11 projects with evident benefits had been selected for implementation. The Department would, in a timely manner, follow up on and evaluate the other proposed projects that had not been selected in accordance with the relevant assessment mechanism, taking into account factors such as the progress of the selected projects and the allocation and availability of resources.

- 8. <u>Members</u> expressed their views as follows:
 - (a) Members understood that since the captioned project had not been included in the 11 selected projects for advancement, the related works might not commence in the short term. In light of this, Members suggested that the TD and the Housing Department (HD) should consider implementing short-term and medium-term measures to facilitate the access of the residents of Cheung Kwai Estate, such as using ambulances, fire engines, residential care home vehicles and golf carts to provide transport services for the residents.
 - (b) Members enquired about the implementation timetables of the aforementioned 11 projects and asked the TD to explain the reasons for not proceeding with the captioned project for so many years.

9. <u>The Chairman</u> asked the TD whether the aforementioned 11 selected projects would be consolidated into a single agenda item for the consideration of the Legislative Council and whether the projects had been officially initiated.

10. <u>Mr Keith CHAN</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) HEL projects generally involved complex engineering techniques, landrelated issues and gazettal procedures, among other matters. As a result, a longer period of time would be required for completing a HEL project.
- (b) Since the aforementioned 11 projects were still at the preliminary planning stage, the TD was unable to provide the relevant implementation timetables for the time being.
- (c) Regarding the proposal to provide transport services for the residents of Cheung Kwai Estate, the TD would assist the HD or other relevant organisations in applying for the necessary permits.

11. <u>The Chairman</u> expressed his understanding that it might not be possible for the captioned project to commence in the short term. Therefore, he hoped that the departments concerned would actively consider implementing short-term and mediumterm measures to facilitate the access of the residents of Cheung Kwai Estate. He requested the Secretariat to arrange for Members to have an informal meeting with the TD, the HD and the Social Welfare Department after the meeting to discuss feasible measures and to report the outcome of the discussion at the next meeting.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The Secretariat had arranged for Members to have an informal meeting with the relevant departments on 21 November this year.)

III. <u>Report on the Services of the Public Libraries in Islands District by the Leisure and</u> <u>Cultural Services Department between July 2024 and August 2024</u> (DFWC Paper No. 34/2024)

12. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms CHUNG Chi-yuen, Candy, Senior Librarian (Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

13. <u>Ms Candy CHUNG</u> presented the paper.

14. <u>Members</u> thanked the LCSD for actively following up on Members' previous suggestion of relocating the mobile library's service stop at Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung to a location with higher pedestrian flow in the estate. Members added that they were currently waiting for the HD to conduct the coordination work regarding the relocation matter. In this regard, Members requested the Secretariat to assist in enquiring with the HD about the progress of the relevant work.

15. <u>Ms Candy CHUNG</u> said that the HD was still considering the said relocation works, therefore the works had not yet commenced. The LCSD would continue to follow up on the matter with the HD.

16. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that the LCSD should report on the progress of the

matter at the next meeting.

IV.Report on the management of Leisure and Cultural Services Department's recreational
and sports facilities in Islands District (July to August 2024)
(DFWC Paper No. 35/2024)

17. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms Joanne HA, District Leisure Manager(Islands) of the LCSD to the meeting to present the paper.

18. <u>Ms Joanne HA</u> presented the paper and requested Members to approve the naming of the two recreational venues and the no-smoking arrangements.

19. <u>The Chairman</u> pointed out that many residents of Tai O, amongst them who were smokers, would watch the Cantonese Opera for Appeasing Gods at Tai O Yim Tin Square. In this regard, he asked whether the LCSD could set up a small smoking area at the venue.

20. <u>Ms Joanne HA</u> responded that the venue was not large and smokers could smoke outside the venue. Therefore, she recommended maintaining the no-smoking arrangement at the venue.

21. <u>Members</u> voted unanimously by a show of hands to approve the naming of the relevant venues and the no-smoking arrangements.

V. <u>Utilisation of Community Halls in Islands District</u> (DFWC Paper No. 36/2024)

22. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Mr LEE Sun-fu, Joe, Senior Executive Officer (District Management) and Ms HAU Lok-yiu, Cordelia, District Secretary of the Islands District Office (IsDO) to the meeting to present the paper.

- 23. <u>Mr Joe LEE</u> presented the paper.
- 24. <u>Members</u> noted its contents.

VI. <u>Overview of projects under the District Minor Works Programme of the Islands District</u> <u>Office</u> (DFWC Paper No. 37/2024)

25. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Ms AU YEUNG Wing-sum, Livia, Assistant District Officer (Islands)2 and Mr CHAN Chak-chung, Senior Inspector of Works of the IsDO to the meeting to present the paper.

26. <u>Ms Livia AU YEUNG</u> presented the paper.

27. <u>Members</u> pointed out that the vegetation along South Lantau Road blocked the sightlines of pedestrians and motorists and therefore asked the IsDO whether its temporary grass-cutting projects would cover the locations concerned. Members also enquired whether the IsDO would be responsible for the subsequent repairs and maintenance of projects such as sitting-out areas, rain shelters and pavilions after their completion.

28. <u>Mr CHAN Chak-chung</u> provided a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) In general, the IsDO carried out temporary grass-cutting within a onemetre area on both sides of village footpaths and would closely monitor the vegetation growth at the locations concerned. The grass-cutting work on South Lantau Road was carried out by the Highways Department (HyD) and the LCSD.
- (b) The subsequent repairs and maintenance of projects initiated by the IsDO, such as sitting-out areas, rain shelters and pavilions, were generally undertaken by the IsDO.

29. <u>Members</u> said that the overgrowth of tree branches and weeds along South Lantau Road posed potential hazards to pedestrians and motorists, affecting road safety. Therefore, they suggested that the LCSD should step up the grass-cutting work within a one-metre area on both sides of the footpaths along South Lantau Road.

30. <u>Ms Joanne HA</u> said that grass-cutting work involved different departments and the LCSD would check with Members after the meeting on the locations of the plants concerned so as to liaise with the relevant departments to follow up on the matter.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The LCSD had contacted the Members concerned after the meeting and would conduct an on-site inspection at the locations concerned with Members and relevant departments in December this year for further follow-up.)

31. <u>The Chairman</u> suggested that Members should follow up on the grass-cutting work along South Lantau Road after the meeting and liaise with the HyD and the LCSD to conduct on-site inspections at the locations concerned.

(<u>Post-meeting note</u>: The HyD had completed the grass-cutting work at the locations along South Lantau Road as identified by Members.)

VII. <u>Any Other Business</u>

32. No further issues were raised by Members.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

33. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:13 p.m. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 16 December 2024 (Monday).

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