

**Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of
the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee of
the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 12 March 2024 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

Chairman: Mr TING Kin-wa
Vice-chairman: Mr KWAN Ho-yeung
Members: Mr CHO Wui-hung, MH
Mr LEE Chiu-yu
Mr NG Fan-kam, MH
Mr NG Po-keung, MH
Mr HE Huahan
Mr LAM Pok
Mr LAM Tak-shing, MH
Mr CHAN Chi-wah
Mr CHEUNG King-fan
Ms WONG Man-lei, Vivian
Mr WONG Man-kong
Mr WONG Chi
Ms FUNG Mo-kwan
Ms LAU Yuen-yin
Mr PUN Kwok-wah, JP
Mr LAI Yin-chung

Secretary: Miss WONG Man-kei, Kate Executive Officer (District Council)
3, Kowloon City District Office

Absent:

Members: Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting

In Attendance: Ms SIU Wai-ping, Paulina Senior Liaison Officer (District
Liaison) 2 (Acting), Kowloon City
District Office
Ms CHIU Shui-man, District Leisure Manager (Kowloon
Tabitha City), Leisure and Cultural Services
Department

Ms WONG Chung-tai, Ann	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kowloon City, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss CHAN Chi, Alice	Senior Manager (Kowloon West), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TSE Shuk-fan, Fanny	Senior Librarian (Kowloon City), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHAN Pik-mei, Meimei	Manager (Kowloon West) Marketing, Programme and District Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms TSOI Yuen-ting	Senior School Development Officer (Kowloon City) 4, Education Bureau

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Opening Remarks by the Chairman

1. **The Chairman of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (CICRC)** welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the second meeting of the CICRC.

2. **The Chairman** reminded Members that in accordance with Order 19 of the Kowloon City District Council Standing Orders (the Standing Orders), if the matters to be discussed had any connection or potential conflict of interests with their personal interests such as property rights, profession or investment, they should make a declaration at the meeting so that he could make a decision in accordance with the Standing Orders.

3. **The Chairman** stated that in accordance with Order 80 of the Standing Orders, the quorum at any meeting of a committee shall be half of the total number of members of the committee. If the quorum was not present at the commencement of the meeting or in the course of the meeting, he would direct the Secretary to summon the absentees. If the quorum was still not present 15 minutes thereafter, he would adjourn the meeting. According to Order 13 of the Standing Orders, he then set out that each attendee was allowed to make a maximum of three speeches during a discussion on an agenda item and the time limit for each speech was two minutes. He also reminded the attendees to turn off the ringers on their mobile phones or to switch

the phones to vibration mode to avoid causing disturbances.

4. **The Chairman** remarked that prior to the meeting, the application for absence from Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting using the notification form in Appendix IV in accordance with Order 64(1) of the Standing Orders to the CICRC was received. Her reason for absence was “respiratory tract infection”. The application for absence from Ms LEUNG Yuen-ting was approved by other Members.

Item 1

Concern over the Proposal of Promoting Smart Technology in Sports

(CICRC Paper No. 1/2024)

5. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 1/2024.

6. **The representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)** responded that the Department was considering the design proposal for the provision of smart fitness facilities at Kowloon Tsai Park with relevant works departments. The relevant works were anticipated to commence in mid-2024 and be completed in the first quarter of 2025.

Item 2

Request for the LCSD to Organise Flower Appreciation Activities in Kowloon City District

(CICRC Paper No. 2/2024)

7. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 2/2024.

8. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department had launched a website to facilitate flower appreciation. The content of the website included “Blossoms Around Town” and “Flower Express”. In addition, the “LCSD Plusss” Facebook page was also available to offer the public with information on different plant species, flower appreciation hotspots and the best timing for flower appreciation, including photos and relevant locations of recent flower blooming in Kowloon City District. The relevant information would be updated weekly with a view to facilitating flower appreciation of the public; and

- (ii) in line with the “Shining City Project” raised in the 2023 Policy Address, the Department would implement landscaping improvement works at the central dividers and flower beds at roundabouts of major roads during major festivals, including the plantation of various themed flowers and colourful plants at Sheung Hing Street Roundabout Amenity Plot and the suitable venues or planters in the district so as to beautify the environment.

9. **Members** would like the Department to provide the public with information on the flower appreciation spots in Kowloon City so that mobility impaired persons could also appreciate flowers in the community where they live, thereby benefitting more members of the public.

10. **The representative of the LCSD** responded that the Department would plant more flowers for public appreciation subject to availability of resources.

Item 3

Strong Request for Resuming Lantern Displays at Ko Shan Road Park during Festivities

(CICRC Paper No. 3/2024)

11. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 3/2024.

12. **The representative of the LCSD** replied that the lantern displays in 2018 were jointly organised by the Kowloon City District Office (KCDO) and the Kowloon City District Council. The representative of the LCSD was not informed if the KCDO would organise lantern displays again.

13. **The representative of the KCDO** noted the Member’s proposal and had relayed the views to the Cultural Services Branch of the LCSD for follow-up.

14. **Members** raised the following enquiries and views:

- (i) Members would like the KCDO to collaborate with the LCSD and prepare for the resumption of lantern displays in the long run at Ko Shan Road Park during festivities; and

- (ii) Members requested the LCSD to study the feasibility of organising lantern displays in different locations across Kowloon City District during major festivals so as to enliven the festive mood.

15. **The Chairman** concluded and would like the relevant department to actively consider the resumption of lantern displays in Kowloon City District during festivities so that the public could share the joy of festivals.

Item 4

Call for Free Admission to Museums for Elders so that Elders in Kowloon City District could Enjoy More Cultural and Recreational Activities as well as to Boost the Utilisation Rate of Museums

(CICRC Paper No. 4/2024)

16. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 4/2024.

17. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the LCSD stated that the permanent exhibitions of the 13 museums managed by the LCSD were currently opened to the public free of charge while the permanent exhibitions of the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum were opened to the public free of charge on Wednesdays; and
- (ii) the Department stated that elders aged 60 or above could enjoy a 50 per cent discount on the tickets to the permanent exhibitions of the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum, as well as the fee-charging special exhibitions of all museums. Visit groups of 10 or more from non-profit making organisations or charitable organisations could even apply for a waiver of admission charges from museums.

18. **Members** raised the following enquiries and views:

- (i) Members would like the Department to extend the free admission period for elders in all museums from Wednesdays at present to Mondays to Sundays, thereby allowing more elders to visit museums for free; and

- (ii) Members stated that if the Department was unable to arrange free admission for the elders during peak hours, the Department could consider making relevant arrangement during non-peak hours.

19. **The representative of the LCSD** noted Members' views and would relay relevant views to the offices of museums managed by the LCSD.

Item 5

Request for Organising More Community Activities to Promote Reading, Providing Round-the-clock Self-service Library Stations as well as Installing Self-service Ultraviolet Book Sterilisers in Kowloon City District

(CICRC Paper No. 5/2024)

20. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 5/2024.

21. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) in order to cater to the reading needs of readers at different ages in Kowloon City District and encourage reading, the Department regularly organised different types of promotional activities in the district, including book displays, subject talks, Reading Programme for Children and Youth, Storytelling for Children, Parent-child Reading, Storytelling Workshops and Cultural Diversity Workshops, with an aim to encouraging the public and students to make good use of library resources and foster a culture of reading;
- (ii) starting this year, the Government had designated 23 April every year as the Hong Kong Reading for All Day. To tie in with this event, the Department organised the Hong Kong Reading Week 2024 and shared the joy of reading with the public via a series of online and offline activities;
- (iii) at present, the LCSD set up one Self-service Library Station at each of the three locations, namely Lei King Wan on Hong Kong Island, Tsim Sha Tsui in Kowloon and Tai Wai in the New Territories. These stations were located at convenient locations with heavier pedestrian flow but far from existing libraries, rendering round-the-clock services, such as borrowing, return, payment and pickup of reserved books;

- (iv) to enhance the overall library services, the LCSD was currently developing the “Smart Library System”, which would include a full application of radio frequency identification (RFID) technology to enable the development of more diversified and user-friendly self-service facilities. The Department would also carry out refurbishment works for the library stations in phases and install new book dispensers, book drops and multi-functional kiosks to replace existing facilities, thereby dovetailing with the development of the new system and enhancing various facilities of library stations; and
- (v) at present, the LCSD had set up book sterilisers at every static library for public use. The Department would closely monitor the usage of book sterilisers and review the number of book sterilisers where necessary and subject to availability of resources.

22. **Members** held the following views:

- (i) Members stated that there were only one round-the-clock Self-service Library Stations each on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and in the New Territories, which were insufficient to meet the public needs in borrowing books. Members suggested the Department to set up more round-the-clock Self-service Library Stations at different locations across the district and increase the number of opening days;
- (ii) Members requested to increase the number of mobile library stations, such as the provision of a mobile library station in the long run at the vacant premises of the Mutual Aid Committee in Kai Tak, as well as increase the number of opening days and extending the opening hours so as to facilitate more working people and families in the district;
- (iii) Members proposed the installation of self-service ultraviolet book sterilisers at the round-the-clock Self-service Library Stations so that the public could use library facilities and read books with greater safety;
- (iv) Members suggested the Department to actively discuss with organisations in the district on leasing the premises as community libraries to promote the culture of reading; and

- (v) Members stated that reading electronic books online had become increasingly popular and suggested the Department to offer audiobooks for public use.

23. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department had been actively seeking collaboration with different organisations to jointly establish community libraries. The Department had set up 21 community libraries in Kowloon City District. The Department would continue to liaise with community organisations in the hope of establishing more community libraries to facilitate the public;
- (ii) the Department had applied the RFID technology at the existing Self-service Library Stations and would continue to enhance their services and set up Smart Library Stations. The Department would timely review the number of Self-service Library Stations again with reference to the available resources could be deployed at the time; and
- (iii) the LCSD stated that e-book collections were available at 17 existing libraries with a total of about 510 000 e-books. E-databases were also available for public use. Elders could even listen to the audio of Jin Yong's martial arts novels at the newly launched "Nowbook Digital Library".

Item 6

Proposal to Publicise and Educate the Public on the Correct Use of Pet Gardens and Proper Handling of Pet Excrement

(CICRC Paper No. 6/2024)

24. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 6/2024.

25. **Members** raised the following enquiries and views:

- (i) Members suggested that besides educating pet owners on the correct use of pet gardens, the Department should step up enforcement to enhance the deterrent effect so as to improve the situation of pet fouling public places;

- (ii) Members asked the number of prosecutions had the Department taken out against unlawful pet owners in the Inclusive Park for Pets and the number of complaints received on pet fouling in the past;
- (iii) Members enquired about whether pet dropping collection boxes and pet washing facilities were available in the Inclusive Park for Pets at Phases I and II of Kai Tak Station Square (KTSS);
- (iv) Members stated that there was often odour emanating from the Inclusive Park for Pets and enquired the number of times the Department cleansed the Inclusive Park for Pets in a week and the cleansing procedures; and
- (v) Members stated that foreign domestic helpers often walked the dogs in the Inclusive Park for Pets and suggested the Department to use English in its publicity materials.

26. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department understood the importance of public education and publicity and had hung publicity banners at conspicuous locations in the KTSS to remind the public to observe the Users' Code for Inclusive Park for Pets and would put up large display boards at the Inclusive Park for Pets in mid-March to step up publicity;
- (ii) the Department carried out large-scale inspections from February to March this year, during which leaflets on the Users' Code for Inclusive Park for Pets would be distributed to dog owners to remind dog owners to properly manage their dogs and maintain environmental hygiene. The Department would only consider taking out prosecutions if the situation did not improve;
- (iii) the Department stated that it did not have relevant statistics on the numbers of prosecutions taken out against unlawful use of pet gardens and complaints about pet fouling public places at present and would supplement Members with relevant information after the meeting; and

- (iv) the Department replied that there were 10 pet dropping collection boxes at the KTSS and toilets in the park for the public to do cleaning.

27. **Members** raised further enquires and views as follows:

- (i) Members stated that there were children using the facilities in the Inclusive Park for Pets and enquired whether the detergent the Department used to clean the ground might be hazardous to other users or pets in the park. Members suggested the Department to put up notices in the park to remind park users; and
- (ii) Members stated that the Department was understaffed and pointed that the staff at the KTSS failed to effectively prevent pets from fouling the Inclusive Park for Pets.

28. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:

- (i) the Department stated that cleansing staff would immediately be arranged to cleanse the park once filth was discovered. However, the chemicals in the detergent used might be hazardous to pets. Therefore, the Department would give priority to using high-pressure water jets for cleansing;
- (ii) the Department would step up publicity and education efforts to remind pet owners on how to use the pet garden properly and increase the frequency of inspections; and
- (iii) the contractor would cleanse the ground of the park daily and perform deep cleansing once a week.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had referred the number of complaints and warnings on, as well as prosecutions taken out against dogs affecting the hygiene at the KTSS from January to March 2024 by the LCSD to Members on 8 April 2024.]

Item 7**Call for Resolving the Problem of Illegal Cycling in Kai Tai Area as well as Promoting the Right Places for Cycling in Kai Tai Area**

(CICRC Paper No. 7/2024)

29. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 7/2024.
30. **Members** raised the following enquiries and views:
- (i) Members enquired about the definition of “no improvement after advice has been given” in the document tabled by the Department and suggested the LCSD to collaborate with the Police to step up enforcement and focus its efforts on combating irregularities of bicycles for delivering takeaway in the district;
 - (ii) Members suggested the LCSD to provide staff of the parks in Kai Tak area with “multifunctional traffic wands” to enhance their work efficiency;
 - (iii) Members reflected that a member of the public expressed that the publicity against illegal cycling by the Department was ineffective and non-complaint incidents frequently occurred. That member of the public said he or she was once hit by a bicycle for delivering takeaway;
 - (iv) Members suggested to demarcate a path for riding bicycles for delivering takeaway in the KTSS and erect railings to segregate cyclists from pedestrians; and
 - (v) Members asked for the statistics of the LCSD in taking out prosecutions against illegal cycling.
31. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:
- (i) the Department said that it would furnish Members with the statistics on taking out prosecutions against illegal cycling after the meeting;

- (ii) the Department would step up the publicity on the banning of riding bicycles in the parks and the KTSS area as well as strengthen co-operation with the Police in combating illegal cycling;
- (iii) the Department would consider purchasing “multifunctional traffic wands” for use by LCSD staff on duty; and
- (iv) the Department noted the proposal to demarcate a path for riding bicycles for delivering takeaway in the KTSS and would study the feasibility of erecting railings.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had referred the number of complaints and warnings on, as well as prosecutions taken out against illegal cycling in the KTSS from January to March 2024 by the LCSD to Members on 8 April 2024.]

Item 8

LCSD’s Report on the Sports and Physical Recreation Activities Organised in Kowloon City District

(CICRC Paper No. 8/2024)

32. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced Paper No. 8/2024.

33. There being no comments and enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the discussion on this item ended.

Item 9

LCSD’s Report on the Proposed Sports and Physical Recreation Activities Organised in Kowloon City District in 2024-25

(CICRC Paper No. 9/2024)

34. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced Paper No. 9/2024.

35. There being no comments and enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the discussion on this item ended.

Item 10**LCSD's Report on District Arts and Cultural Activities and the Use of Cultural Facilities in 2023-24 as well as the Proposed District Arts and Cultural Activities in 2024-25**

(CICRC Paper No. 10/2024)

36. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced Paper No. 10/2024.
37. **Members** raised the following enquiries and views:
- (i) Members stated that activities introduced by the Department were mostly related to music and would like the Department to organise a more diverse range of activities;
 - (ii) Members enquired about the Department's partnership programme with the Kai Tak Sports Park upon its completion;
 - (iii) Members suggested the Department to organise arts and cultural activities in the playgrounds of the district as well as publicise the activities organised on multiple fronts so that the public in the district would be aware of and sign up for the activities; and
 - (iv) Members suggested the Department to collaborate with other organisations, such as universities and Cattle Depot Artist Village, to attract more members of the public to participate in arts activities.
38. **The representative of the LCSD** replied with the main points as follows:
- (i) the LCSD stated that the arts and cultural activities organised at the district level were mainly performing arts. The activities of the 18dArt - Community Arts Scheme of Kowloon City District in 2024/25 would adopt the musical theatre training by the Arts' Options as the content of the full year programme. The Department would consider a number of factors in selecting arts groups. The Department had commissioned a university to conduct a study in the past. The results showed that the public in the district preferred music-related activities. Besides, other programmes offices organised a diverse range of activities; and

- (ii) the LCSD noted the views on organising activities in different venues and enhancing collaboration with other organisations and would convey relevant views to programmes offices.

Item 11

The Proposed Public Library Promotion Activities of the LCSD in Kowloon City District between April 2024 and March 2025

(CICRC Paper No. 11/2024)

39. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced Paper No. 11/2024 and recommended Members to participate in relevant activities, take photos and send the photos to the LCSD. The Department would upload the photos onto its website for public access.

40. There being no comments and enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the discussion on this item ended.

Item 12

LCSD's Report on Public Library Promotion Activities in Kowloon City District

(CICRC Paper No. 12/2024)

41. **The representative of the LCSD** introduced Paper No. 12/2024.

42. There being no comments and enquiries from Members, **the Chairman** declared the discussion on this item ended.

Item 13

Any Other Business

43. There being no further items raised by Members, **the Chairman** declared the discussion on this item ended.

Item 14

Date of Next Meeting

44. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 21 May 2024 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 3 May 2024.

45. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 21 May 2024.

The Chairman

The Secretary

KCDC Secretariat
May 2024