

**Minutes of the 6th Meeting of
the District Facilities and Works Committee of
the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 7 November 2024 (Thursday)
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Kowloon City District Office

Present:

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

Co-opted Members: Mr KO Chung-kit, Jacky
Ms MAK Lai-kuen

Secretary: Mr FUNG Chi-nang, Ryan Assistant Executive Manager
(District Council) (4), Kowloon
City District Office

In Attendance: Mr LEE Chi-leung, Senior Executive Officer
Humphrey (District Management),
Kowloon City District Office
Mr LI Chi-him, Samson Executive Officer I (District
Management), Kowloon City
District Office

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| Ms CHUI Pui-sim, Patience | Deputy District Leisure Manager, Kowloon 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 FOK Ching-man, Ann | Senior Executive Officer (Planning)12, Leisure and Cultural Services Department |
| Ms TSE Shuk-fan, Fanny | Senior Librarian (Kowloon City), Leisure and Cultural Services Department |
| Mr LEE Kit-wai | Senior Inspector of Works (Kowloon), Home Affairs Department |
| Ms AU Yue-yan, Vicki | Senior Town Planner / Kowloon 2, Planning Department |
| Mr HUNG Chan-coung | Engineer/ Kowloon 9, Drainage Services Department |
| Mr CHEUNG Kwok-ho, Mike | Senior Engineer/ 5(East), Civil Engineering and Development Department |
| Miss LI Hok-yee, Jenny | District Engineer/ Hung Hom, Highways Department |

Attendance by Invitation:

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|--------|-----------------------------|--|
| Item 2 | Ms CHOW Wan-king, Janice | Senior Project Manager 334, Architectural Services Department |
| | Ms CHAN Man-yu, Connie | Project Manager 397, Architectural Services Department |
| | Ms CHAN Wing-chi | Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 14, Leisure and Cultural Services Department |
| | Ms FUNG Tik-man, Mandy | Executive Officer (Planning) 13, Leisure and Cultural Services Department |

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|--------|-------------------------------|---|-------------|
| | Mr CHOW Nim-sun, Nelson | Senior Director, Architects Limited | Chows |
| | Mr CHAN Sai-ho | Project Architect, Architects Limited | Chows |
| Item 3 | Mr LAM Wai-lap, Raymond | Senior Estate Surveyor/ East Kowloon (District Lands Office, Kowloon East), Lands Department | South |
| Item 4 | Ms LEUNG Cheuk-yin, Cherry | Senior Project Manager 330, Architectural Services Department | |
| | Ms CHONG Wing-chi, Celine | Project Manager 394, Architectural Services Department | |
| | Mr LEE Chiu-ming, Benny | Director, Limited | BREADstudio |
| Item 5 | Ms CHAN Wing-lam, Gwyneth | Construction Manager, Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited | Hong |
| | Ms CHENG Wing-yan, Vivian | Project Manager, Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited | Hong Kong |
| Item 6 | Mr LU Wing-chi, Kenny | Senior Estate Surveyor/ Kowloon South, District Lands Office, Kowloon West, Lands Department | |
| Item 7 | Mr LEUNG San | Property Services Manager/ Special Duties 313, Architectural Services Department | |
| Item 8 | Mr LEE Kin-kan | Manager, Development, Urban Renewal Authority | Community |

Mr MAN Ngai-yin

Manager, Works and Contracts,
Urban Renewal Authority

Mr MAK Tsun-ho

Manager, Works and Contracts,
Urban Renewal Authority

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Opening Remarks by the Chairman

1. **The Chairman of the District Facilities and Works Committee (DFWC)** welcomed all Members and representatives of departments to the sixth meeting of the DFWC.

2. **The Chairman** reminded Members to register their interests in accordance with the stipulation of Order 22 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 Members' personal interests such as property rights, profession or investment, Members should make a declaration proactively 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(1) 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 the stipulation of 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 the same agenda item and the time limit for each speech was two minutes. He also reminded the attendees to turn off their mobile phones or to turn the ringers to vibration notification to avoid causing disturbances to the meeting.

Item 1

Confirmation of Minutes of the 5th Meeting

4. **The Chairman** declared that the minutes of the fifth meeting were unanimously endorsed by the committee without amendments.

Item 2**Matter Arising: Concern about the Progress of Works on the Road Section of Hung Hom Waterfront near Harbourfront Horizon**

(DFWC Paper No. 40/2024)

5. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD), i.e. Document No. 1 tabled.

6. **Members'** views and enquiries were consolidated as follows:

- (i) would like the Department to expedite the works progress and complete the acceptance tests and handover work at the soonest so that the public could enjoy the facilities of the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront as early as possible;
- (ii) suggested the Department to adopt an “incremental approach” to partially open the completed section in the works of the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront, enabling the public to enjoy more spaces for carrying out various activities earlier; and
- (iii) enquired about the works progress of the Open Space at Kin Wan Street at present.

7. **The representative of the ArchSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) in order to minimise the impacts of the works on the use of the waterfront by the public, the works had been conducted in phases for more than two years. Among which, the first phase of the enhancement works of the waterfront had been completed. The pedestrian link passed through the waterfront had also reopened in the first half of 2023;
- (ii) enhancement works of the waterfront that involved works with more processes and tree planting work were being conducted at present. Coupled with inclement weather conditions, the underground excavation works required a longer time than expected. According to the latest works progress estimates, the remaining works were expected to be completed before the end of 2024; and

- (iii) on the premise of ensuring public safety, the Department and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) would actively study and consider the feasibility of partially opening the pedestrian link with a view to minimising the impact of the works on waterfront users.

8. **The representative of the LCSD** replied and stated that upon the completion of the works of the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront, the Department and the works departments would commence the rectification works. It was anticipated that all the works could be completed in the first quarter of 2025 and the open space would be opened for public use.

9. **The representative of the Chows Architects Limited** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the contractor had completed most of the works at the Hung Hom Promenade and was currently conducting tree planting work, which was expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024 and handed over to the LCSD for management; and
- (ii) the contractor was conducting acceptance tests for the facilities of the Open Space at Kin Wan Street at present. It was anticipated that they could be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024 as scheduled.

10. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he suggested the LCSD to consider narrowing some of the water-filled barriers for enclosure when conducting the work on acceptance tests at the Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront so that the public could have more space to carry out activities.

Item 3

Matter Arising: Concern about the Development and Management of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak

(DFWC Paper No. 42/2024)

11. **Members'** views and enquiries were consolidated as follows:

- (i) please provide the planning proposal of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak and the relevant works schedule, as well as the records of other departments for applying the use of the site;

- (ii) suggested the District Lands Office (DLO), Kowloon East to meet with nearby residents to listen to their views on the development and management of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak. The Office was suggested to provide more channels for residents to express their views on the site;
- (iii) there were hygiene problems such as sewage and accumulation of rubbish in Site 1F3 in Kai Tak. The Department was requested to step up the work on management;
- (iv) various types of testing events were currently conducted in Kai Tak Sports Park. Major events would also take place in future. The Office was suggested to remove the wire mesh enclosing Site 1F3 in Kai Tak to avoid affecting the image of the community; and
- (v) enquired about the criteria for the Office in granting the site for short-term use and suggested the Office to invite non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and business organisations to apply for the use of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak with a view to making good use of the site.

12. **The representative of the DLO, Kowloon East** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the development timetable for long-term planning uses of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak had yet to be implemented. The Office adopted an open stance regarding the suggestions on enhancing and temporarily opening Site 1F3 in Kai Tak. However, the Office was not a works department. The enhancement or temporary improvement works of the relevant site had to be carried out by the related government works departments. Upon the completion of the works, the related departments were also responsible for the management and maintenance work in future;
- (ii) in response to the views received earlier on enhancing the site, the Office had invited different government departments multiple times over the past year to consider the aforementioned suggestions or other suitable short-term uses for the remaining parts of the site. The Office had yet to receive applications from other government departments. When an application was received, the Office would consult the views of the related department and the community. If

there was no objection, the Office would grant the site to that government department for temporary use;

- (iii) the Office welcomed the public to relay their views via phone calls, emails and letters. The Office was also willing to inspect the Site 1F3 in Kai Tak on-site with Members;
- (iv) the Office had arranged for the management company to prune the weeds in Site 1F3 in Kai Tak regularly. If enquiries and complaints regarding hygiene problems were received, the Office would request the management company to follow up according to the situation;
- (v) the site had to be enclosed with wire meshes to prevent the land from being occupied illegally;
- (vi) the Office would consider accepting applications from NGOs for the short-term use of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak. Related applications had not been received so far; and
- (vii) when the Office handled applications from NGOs or business organisations, such application must first receive policy support and meet the requirements of the guidelines. The Office would also consult the related departments and bureaux for making further decisions.

13. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he suggested Members to raise more views to the DLO, Kowloon East which helped to make good use of Site 1F3 in Kai Tak.

Item 4

Works Plan on the Transformation of Public Play Spaces at To Kwa Wan Recreation Ground in Kowloon City District by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

(DFWC Paper No. 52/2024)

14. **The representative of the BREADstudio Limited (BREADstudio)** introduced the Paper through presentation slides and supplemented as follows:

- (i) after integrating the views of interviewees and the characteristics of

Kowloon City District, the design concept of the proposed public play space (PPS) would be “Ocean Adventure”, offering users with ample activity space, seats and shaded areas in order to meet the needs of people of different ages; and

- (ii) play equipment for all children was available at the proposed play space, including a slide made of stainless steel to prevent children wearing hearing aids from being affected by the malfunctioning of hearing aids due to static electricity when they were playing. A new entrance to the play space would be provided additionally near Cheung Ning Street to facilitate public access.

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

- (i) it was commendable that the design of the proposed play space considered the elements of disability inclusion, which could cater for the needs of different users;
- (ii) suggested the LCSD to conduct consultations at nearby schools in addition to public consultations when commencing other works plans on transformation in future so as to collect views more comprehensively;
- (iii) suggested providing additional swings suitable for the playing of young people and energy-saving lighting devices in the play space, as well as replacing the shell decorations in the Embankment Climbing and Slide Areas to glow-in-the-dark materials to enhance the ambience;
- (iv) were concerned that children might be injured by sharp corners when climbing the proposed Fish Tail Rock installation. The ArchSD was suggested to improve the design to safeguard the safety of children;
- (v) suggested providing additional anti-mosquito devices at the Covered Sitting Area, as well as providing additional drinking fountains and beverage vending machines;
- (vi) at present, a number of users of the recreation ground were non-Chinese individuals. It was suggested to use multiple languages

to publicise the information on the transformation of the PPS;

- (vii) enquired if first aid items and on-site personnel were available at the proposed play space to provide immediate assistance and preliminary treatment to the injured or the sick in the event of accidents;
- (viii) suggested providing additional storage facilities in the play space to facilitate the storage of users' personal belongings; and
- (ix) suggested the ArchSD to complete the inspection work prior to the commencement of works so as to expedite the work progress.

16. **The representative of the ArchSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the barrier-free design of the PPS in To Kwa Wan Recreation Ground could allow the playing of children of different ages;
- (ii) in order to safeguard the safety of children, the Department would design the Fish Tail Rock installation with round corners and lower its height. The Department would also consult the LCSD for its views on the design and request the contractor to ensure that the facility met safety standards;
- (iii) since there was a limited space in the proposed play space and the underground mainlaying works were not included in the works plan, the installation of additional drinking fountains would reduce the area of the play space and affect the time of completion. Therefore, the Department was unable to install additional drinking fountains in the play space. In addition, drinking fountains were available in To Kwa Wan Sports Centre and the nearby light refreshment kiosk for the use of the public;
- (iv) during the works period, the Department would coordinate with the LCSD and the contractor to consider publicising the works progress and related arrangements in multiple languages by the contractor, so that people of different races in the area could be informed of the latest status; and
- (v) the Department would carry out site inspection at the early stage of

the commencement of works, including inspections of underground mains and tree roots. Moreover, the 18-month construction period had included the expected time for suspending construction due to factors such as weather changes. The Department would closely monitor the works progress.

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

- (i) the BREADstudio held two workshops at a venue near To Kwa Wan Recreation Ground and S.K.H. Good Shepherd Primary School. Questionnaires were distributed to participants and primary school students in the area to conduct surveys with a view to collecting views from more stakeholders; and
- (ii) the BREADstudio could study the feasibility of using glow-in-the-dark materials as decorations and smart lighting devices on the premise that the relevant facility met the standards.

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

- (i) the Department would study the feasibility of providing additional mosquito trapping devices and storage facilities in the proposed play space; and
- (ii) first aid items were available at the nearby To Kwa Wan Sports Centre. Staff of that centre would also manage and inspect the PPS regularly. If necessary, the staff would provide assistance.

19. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he stated that Members unanimously supported this works proposal. He would like the ArchSD to ensure that the works could be completed as scheduled.

Item 5

Concern about the Retention Problem of the Hardware and Software of the “Kowloon City Themed Walking Trail” Project upon its Completion

(DFWC Paper No. 53/2024)

20. **The Vice-chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished

by the Highways Department (HyD), i.e. Document No. 2 tabled, the written reply furnished by the Kowloon City District Office (KCDO), i.e. Document No. 3 tabled, the written reply furnished by the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited (SKH), i.e. Document No. 4 tabled, the written reply furnished by the Hong Kong Tourism Board, i.e. Document No. 5 tabled and the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 6 tabled.

21. **A Member** introduced the Paper and raised the following views and enquiries:

- (i) enquired about the reinstatement deadline, funding sources and the standards for the reinstatement of facilities regarding the hardware facilities set up under the “Kowloon City Themed Walking Trail” (Walking Trail) project;
- (ii) expressed regret that some facilities were required to be removed after the project ended. The Department was suggested to retain the core content of the Walking Trail such as railings, landmarks and signage; and
- (iii) enquired about the responsibilities for the repair and maintenance of the hardware facilities of the Walking Trail.

22. **The representative of the HyD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the specially designed paving blocks and railings in the vicinity of Kowloon City District were built under the Walking Trail project subsidised by the Urban Renewal Fund (URF). The Walking Trail project was launched by the SKH in 2018 and would come to an end at the end of 2024. The relevant road facilities such as paving blocks and railings would be reinstated and relocated by the SKH upon the completion of the project;
- (ii) the Department was responsible for the work on repair and maintenance of public roads and ancillary road facilities under its purview. If the Department received suggestions on providing additional facilities with special design on the roads from other government departments or organisations, it would provide advice on the aspect of road repair; and

- (iii) the Department noted the views that Member would like to retain the facilities of the Walking Trail. The Department would study the feasibility of retaining the facilities.

23. **The representative of the KCDO** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Office had been assisting the SKH in transforming or beautifying some district facilities managed by the Office in the district through the Walk Trail project in the past few years, including rain shelters, benches and planters. As the Walking Trail project would come to an end at the end of 2024, the Office decided to accept the SKH's suggestion upon reviewing the current status of the relevant facilities that there was no need to reinstate the facilities upon the end of the project; and
- (ii) the Office would take over these facilities with local characteristics and conduct simple maintenance and repair under feasible circumstances. These facilities would only be removed or replaced with standard designs based on the circumstances until they became dilapidated or damaged. The Office would discuss the specific handover details with the SKH.

24. **The representative of the SKH** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the SKH had commissioned a consultancy earlier to send letters to five government departments on 21 August 2024 to apply for retaining and taking over the related hardware facilities. Some departments stated that they would not take over these facilities. For details, please refer to the written reply, i.e. Document No. 4 tabled. The SKH had to remove and reinstate the relevant hardware facilities upon the end of the project;
- (ii) the relocation works was anticipated to commence at the end of 2024 and be completed in the first quarter of 2025. The URF had reserved the fee for relocation; and
- (iii) the SKH would be responsible for the repair and maintenance work of the hardware facilities of the Walking Trail before 31 December 2024 and would continue to make every effort to strive for the

government departments to take over and manage the relevant hardware facilities.

25. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department had been dedicated to acquiring publications, maps, pamphlets, digitalised old photos and newspaper clippings on culture and art information with characteristics of different districts as museum collections, offering information and documents on aspects such as culture, history and community development of the local district to the public for reference; and
- (ii) the Department had acquired the community picture books of the Walking Trail as library collections for the public to borrow. The public could also read the printed version of the quarterly newsletter of the Walking Trail at Kowloon Public Library and To Kwa Wan Public Library to enhance their understanding of the conservation and urban planning in, as well as their sense of belonging to Kowloon City District.

26. **The Vice-chairman** suggested the HyD to complete the study on the feasibility of retaining the relevant hardware facilities of the Walking Trail before the project ended.

27. **The representative of the HyD** replied that the Department would study the feasibility of retaining the relevant road facilities (such as paving blocks and railings) after the meeting and reply the SKH before the end of 2024.

[Post-meeting note: The HyD stated that the relevant paving blocks and railings were specially designed. The SKH was responsible for their management, repair and maintenance at present. Since the SKH was unable to be responsible for the management, repair and maintenance of the related road facilities upon the end of the Walking Trail project, the relevant facilities would be reinstated and relocated by the SKH.]

Item 6**Enquiry about the Usage of the Temporary Car Park Site for Tourist Coaches at Wa Shun Street upon the Expiry of Contract**

(DFWC Paper No. 54/2024)

28. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
29. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the DLO, Kowloon West, i.e. Document No. 7 tabled.
30. **The representative of the DLO, Kowloon West** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
- (i) the temporary car park for tourist coaches at Wa Shun Street was currently granted under month-on-month short-term tenancies. In view of the plan by the related bureaux and departments for the integrated design and construction of an open space on the site and in the public space nearby for the enjoyment and use of the public, the relevant short-term tenancies would be terminated under the terms of the tenancy, so that the site could be handed over to the works departments for the commencement of the required works, including the enhancement works for drainage by the Drainage Services Department; and
 - (ii) in the long run, the Development Bureau (DEVB) or related departments would consider implementing the use of the site as “open space” in accordance with the Hung Hom Outline Zoning Plan No. S/K9/28.
31. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
- (i) enquired about the schedule and contents of the enhancement works for drainage;
 - (ii) enquired about the LCSD’s planning for the “proposed open space” and suggested the Department to consider providing an additional pet garden in the open space;
 - (iii) concerned whether the works could commence and be completed as

scheduled, as well as suggested the related government departments to carry out advance preparation works simultaneously, including surveys, consultation and investigation, before commencing the works; and

- (iv) enquired whether the “proposed open space” included the building for Cross Border Coach Terminus and whether the DLO, Kowloon West would zone the site for other uses.

32. **The representative of the DLO, Kowloon West** replied and stated that the duties of the Office was to keep in line with the development directions in land administration of various government departments. The Office did not have information on the related drainage works and the “proposed open space” at present.

33. **The representative of the LCSD** replied that, as stated by the representative of the DLO, Kowloon West, the DEVB or related departments were responsible for the long-term development of the relevant site. The LCSD did not have the related information at present.

34. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he suggested Members to enquire about the information on the drainage works and the “proposed open space” with the relevant departments.

Item 7

Concern about the Hygiene and Management Problems of Planters and Overgrown Weeds on Slopes in the Kowloon City Community

(DFWC Paper No. 55/2024)

35. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the KCDO, i.e. Document No. 8 tabled, as well as the written reply furnished by the ArchSD, i.e. Document No. 9 tabled.

36. **A Member** introduced the Paper and raised the following views and enquiries:

- (i) enquired about the prosecution records of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) relevant to littering in planters and planter pots. The Department was suggested to step up publicity and enforcement;

- (ii) suggested the Department to regularly inspect and clean the areas mentioned in the Paper, as well as use water pipes with lower water pressure for watering so as to prevent soil from splashing from planters and planter pots, which would affect environmental hygiene;
- (iii) suggested that wire meshes should be added to planters and planter pots to prevent the public from littering in planters and planter pots;
- (iv) there was a large accumulation of rubbish, including bicycles and beverage bottles, in the section of Fat Kwong Street off Exit A2 of Ho Man Tin MTR Station. The Department was suggested to step up the cleaning work; and
- (v) different departments were responsible for the management of planters, planter pots and slopes. Various departments should step up cooperation in maintaining environmental hygiene. Besides, Members could also assist in conveying information relevant to hygiene problems to departments.

37. **The representative of the KCDO** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Office already asked the contractor to step up cleaning of the planters and planter pots off Walker Road as well as Wuhu Street and Chatham Road North, in the vicinity of 99C Dock Street, and off Man Yue Street in Hung Hom. The Office would also step up inspections of planters and planter pots in the district, and would notify the LCSD, which was responsible for the care and maintenance of plants, as soon as any plants were found to be withering, so that pruning and replacement could be arranged;
- (ii) as regards the planters and planter pots at the aforementioned locations, the LCSD had arranged contractors to tidy up, prune as well as replace the plants. The related work was expected to be completed within November 2024;
- (iii) the Office would consider posting notices near the planters and planter pots to appeal to the public to cherish public facilities; and
- (iv) the Office would convey Members' views relevant to stepping up

enforcement work to the FEHD after the meeting. The Office would also discuss with the works section the suggestion of adding wire meshes to planters and planter pots.

38. **The representative of the ArchSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) already arranged for weeds pruning work to be carried out on six registered slopes repaired and maintained by the Department on Ping Chi Street and Chatham Road North, which was expected to be completed in early November 2024. The Department would continue to carry out regular inspection and maintenance of the aforementioned slopes, so as to maintain normal conditions of the slopes;
- (ii) the Department would convey Members' views to the managers of the venues and discuss the feasibility of posting notices; and
- (iii) the Department stated that it would carry out regular inspections of each slope three to five times a year, among which included a count of grass removal work. Besides, the Department would liaise closely with the managers of the venues and arrange for the related work upon receipt of applications for removing weeds.

39. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he suggested Members to proactively report problems relevant to the hygiene of planters and slopes overgrown with weeds to the related departments, so that the departments could handle the problems at the soonest.

Item 8

Concern about the Impacts of Works at Tak Ku Ling Road Rest Garden and Carpenter Road Park on the Environment

(DFWC Paper No. 56/2024)

40. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

41. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), i.e. Document No. 10 tabled.

42. **The representative of the URA** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) Carpenter Road Park in Kowloon City was carrying out phase one revitalisation work at present. The contractor would soon commence the work on environmental monitoring, while providing adequate hygiene management as well as dust control and noise control measures as follows:
 - (a) as regards construction waste treatment, the contractor would cover such waste with canvases and spray water once a day. Besides, a fogging water spray system would be provided at the site, and water would be sprayed at regular intervals. The skips of all dump trucks would be installed with covers, while wheel washing equipment would be provided at the site access to reduce pollution caused by dust plumes;
 - (b) the contractor would install a real-time noise monitoring system in the site in November 2024. If excessive noise on the site was detected, the contractor would set up noise insulating fabrics in the works area to reduce noise;
 - (c) wastewater in construction sites would undergo filtration and processing before being discharged from the site;
 - (d) covered rubbish bins and refuse collection areas were provided at the site. Arrangements had been made for the contractor to clear refuse at least twice a week, remove fallen leaves daily and larviciding twice a week to prevent mosquito and rodent infestation; and
- (ii) revitalisation works for Tak Ku Ling Road Rest Garden commenced in November 2024. The Authority would ensure that the contractor would implement environmental monitoring, provide adequate hygiene management as well as dust control and noise control measures. Besides, upon taking over the site, the Authority had arranged for larviciding as well as the clearing of refuse and fallen leaves to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. The contractor would also step up anti-mosquito and cleaning measures during the construction period to reduce the impact on nearby residents and the

environment.

43. **Members** enquired about the Authority's channels for the public to convey their views to the works contractor during the construction period.

44. **The representative of the URA** replied and stated that the information of the site contact person was posted on the hoardings outside the construction site. The public could call the relevant contact person to enquire about the information on works or seek assistance.

Item 9

Concern about the Management Problem of Kai Tak Avenue Park

(DFWC Paper No. 57/2024)

Item 10

Concern about the Problem of Damaged Paving Blocks at Kai Tak Station Square

(DFWC Paper No. 58/2024)

45. **The Chairman** stated that Items 9 and 10 were suggested to be discussed together as both of them were relevant to "management issue of leisure facilities at Kai Tak".

46. **A Member** introduced Paper No. 57/2024 and 58/2024.

47. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 11 and 12 tabled.

48. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) Kai Tak Station Square (KTSS), which was under the purview of the Department, was an inclusive park for pets. In line with the objective of inclusive parks for pets, which was to allow users of the parks, including pet owners and their pets, to enjoy the facilities of the parks, the Department had reminded venue staff of the KTSS and the outsourced contractors of the key points in managing the venue, and where necessary, to give reminders to the public who failed to comply with the rules of use. If repeated offenders were found, staff of the Department would take corresponding actions to strengthen the management of the park;

- (ii) as regards smoking offences near Exit D of Kai Tak Station, the Department had deployed additional professional security guards with experience in disciplined services to patrol nearby and give advice in a timely manner. The Department had also increased the frequency of cleaning at the location to keep the venue clean and hygienic. Besides, apart from routine inspections, the Department had, jointly with the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office (TACO) of the Department of Health, conducted two enforcement actions in the past six months and successfully prosecuted 21 offenders;
- (iii) as regards the situation of illegal cycling, besides arranging for security guards at the main entrances and exits of Kai Tak Avenue Park (KTAP) to stop the entry of cyclists during peak periods, the Department would also step up patrols inside the Park and give advice. Meanwhile, the Department had put up large banners and notices at the entrances and exits of the Park as well as at suitable locations to step up publicity and education with a view to reminding the public of the restrictions in using the venue. Besides, the Department had successfully prosecuted three cycling offenders in the enforcement operations in the past six months. The Department would continue to liaise with the Police to conduct joint operations to further combat the situation of illegal cycling;
- (iv) as regards the use of amplifiers and obstruction of passageways by the public, the Department had put up additional notices and banners at conspicuous locations to remind users of the Park to pay attention to the volume and that they must not obstruct the passageways. Meanwhile, the Department had stepped up inspections to ensure that all passageways were free from obstruction. If staff of the Department found the public were using amplifiers and causing nuisance to other users of the Park, they would immediately give advice and take related actions. During the Department's earlier operations, the offenders cooperated with instructions from the staff and immediately lowered the volume;
- (v) as regards the matter on maintenance of lawns in the Park, the Department had completed clearing the weeds in September 2024. The Department would arrange for the maintenance work for the lawns in a timely manner, depending on growth situation of plants.

The greening works at the KTAP were completed in late October 2024;

- (vi) as regards the problem of flooding at Exit A of Kai Tak Station, the Department had immediately arranged for the works departments to follow up. The relevant improvement works were expected to be completed in early November 2024; and
- (vii) as regards the problem of damaged paving blocks in the vicinity of Phase II of the KTSS near Exit D of Kai Tak MTR Station, the Department had arranged for the works departments to follow up. The relevant improvement works were completed on 1 November 2024.

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

- (i) as a number of works had recently been carried out at the KTAP, many heavy vehicles frequently enter and exit the KTSS, causing damages to the paving blocks. Members enquired whether the repair work completed by the Department included that area;
- (ii) enquired whether the situation of damage to the paving blocks was caused by bicycles, electric unicycles and vibrations brought about by the works carried out at the construction sites nearby;
- (iii) enquired about the periods of time and locations of the enforcement actions jointly conducted by the Department and the TACO. The Department was suggested to remove the rubbish bins at Exits A and D of Kai Tak Station or set up a dedicated smoking area nearby to prevent cigarette butts from being discarded at will;
- (iv) suggested the Department to step up enforcement actions targeting at cycling offenders and provide additional illuminated signage at night to remind the public of the restrictions in using the venue;
- (v) the GreenWay at the KTAP was not yet open at present, but the signs “To the GreenWay” had already appeared on the ground. It was suggested that the Department should cover the relevant signs temporarily to avoid causing misunderstanding to the public;

- (vi) suggested the Department to raise the illumination level of the lighting system of the children's play equipment near Kai Tak River to ensure the safety of users; and
- (vii) suggested the Department to instruct the staff at the KTSS to stop the public from feeding feral pigeons.

50. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the location with damaged paving blocks in the KTSS were an emergency vehicular access. Due to the heavier construction works recently, the large number of heavy vehicles entering the area might lead to damage to paving blocks. The Department would immediately contact the works departments to carry out repair works as soon as the situation of damaged paving blocks were found;
- (ii) the Department stated that enforcement actions were conducted twice a month in the past few months. Fixed penalty notices were issued to smoking offenders and summonses were issued to cycling offenders. The amount of fines was determined by the Court when the offenders attended Court;
- (iii) the Department stated that it had conducted enforcement actions during the midday and evening hours, and would consider conducting enforcement actions during different periods of time to combat smoking or cycling offences;
- (iv) the Department stated that it would cover the relevant sign "To GreenWay" to avoid causing misunderstanding;
- (v) the Department would examine the illumination level of the venue. The Department would raise the illumination level with works departments if lighting was found to be insufficient; and
- (vi) the Department would instruct the staff of the KTSS to advise the public not to feed feral pigeons.

Item 11**Concern about the Demand for Pet-friendly Parks in Ho Man Tin Area**

(DFWC Paper No. 59 / 2024)

51. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
52. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 13 tabled.
53. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
- (i) the Department paid a site visit to Ho Man Tin Hill Road Rest Garden with Members on 1 November 2024;
 - (ii) as there were children's play equipment and elderly fitness equipment in the venue, the Department would conduct consultation through the KCDO and report to the District Council in a timely manner; and
 - (iii) the Department would provide additional pet play equipment in the pet garden at the playground of Sheung Shing Street Park and would report the progress of the works to the District Council in a timely manner.
54. There being no further follow-up enquiries from **Members** on the item, the Chairman declared the agenda item closed.

Item 12**Request for the LCSD to Explain the Time to Fully Open the Hard Surfaced Soccer Pitch at Fat Kwong Street**

(DFWC Paper No. 60/2024)

55. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 14 tabled.
56. **A Member** introduced the Paper and suggested the LCSD to demarcate part of the area of the hard surfaced soccer pitch at Fat Kwong Street Playground as a temporary handball court.

57. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the soccer pitch at Fat Kwong Street Playground was reopened to the use of the public on 1 February 2024. As for the handball court near the slope area of the Playground, the ArchSD had earlier installed hoardings and demarcated a safe area to temporarily enclose the handball court to safeguard public safety, so that slope works could be carried out by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD);
- (ii) the Department would formulate the reopening arrangements for the handball court after the ArchSD had assessed the safety of the venue. The Department would also closely communicate with the ArchSD and the CEDD, and report to the DFWC in a timely manner on the reopening arrangements for the handball court; and
- (iii) the Department noted Members' suggestions and would assess with the ArchSD the feasibility of demarcating part of the area of the soccer pitch as a temporary handball court.

58. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he suggested the LCSD to actively communicate and exchange views with Members.

Item 13

Follow up on the Matter Regarding the Ageing Playground Facilities under the Purview of the LCSD in Kowloon City

(DFWC Paper No. 61/2024)

59. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 15 tabled.

60. **A Member** introduced the Paper and suggested the LCSD to conduct more inspections and replace damaged facilities in a timely manner to protect the safety of users.

61. **The representative of the LCSD** replied and stated that the Department had completed the repair works for the chess table and benches at Station Lane Sitting-out Area on 1 November 2024. The LCSD had also requested the works departments to replace part of the ageing mats at Winslow Street Playground at the soonest. Upon

completion of the repair, the Department would open the relevant facilities for the use of the public at the soonest. The Department would also conduct more inspections of the play equipment in the district.

62. There being no further follow-up enquiries from **Members** on the item, the Chairman declared the agenda item closed.

Item 14

Matter Regarding the Provision of Additional Awnings at Exit A of To Kwa Wan MTR Station

(DFWC Paper No. 62/2024)

63. **A Member** introduced the Paper and suggested that besides providing additional awnings over the benches, the Department should consider providing additional awnings at the two sides and back of the benches to prevent rainwater from wetting the benches and users.

64. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 16 tabled.

65. **The representative of the LCSD** replied and stated that the Department already paid a site visit to Lok Shan Road Sitting-out Area with Members and representatives of the related works departments on 1 November 2024. The Sitting-out Area was subject to constraints such as the location of trees in the venue, the usable space and the buried utilities. The Department would continue to explore feasible options with the ArchSD and report to the DFWC in a timely manner. The Department also noted Members' views on the design of the awnings.

66. There being no further follow-up enquiries from **Members** on the item, the Chairman declared the agenda item closed.

Item 15

Report on the Management of Facilities in Kowloon City District in 2024-25

(DFWC Paper No. 63/2024)

67. **The representative of the LCSD** reported the Paper.

68. **The Chairman** stated that the utilisation rates of To Kwa Wan Sports Centre had been close to saturation during both peak periods and off-peak periods, reflecting

a huge demand for recreational and sports facilities from the public in the district. The Department was suggested to refrain from converting To Kwa Wan Sports Centre for other uses.

69. **The representative of the LCSD** stated that the Chairman's views were noted and would convey them to the related departments.

70. There being no further follow-up enquiries from **Members** on the item, the Chairman declared the agenda item closed.

Item 16

Overview of the “District Minor Works Programme” of the Kowloon City District Office

(DFWC Paper No. 64/2024)

71. **The representative of the KCDO** reported the Paper.

72. **Members** raised the following suggestions:

- (i) the Office should brief Members on the works schedule and progress in a timely manner before and during the construction of “provision of a walkway cover outside Exit D of To Kwa Wan MTR Station”, so that Members could convey the related information to residents; and
- (ii) suggested the Office to beautify the stone pillars of the footbridge at Whampoa Street and provide an additional cover over Cheong Wan Road to Hung Hom MTR Station bound.

73. **The representative of the KCDO** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) as regards the “provision of a walkway cover outside Exit D of To Kwa Wan MTR Station”, the Office completed the tendering exercise in October 2024 and would sign the contract with the contractor in mid-November 2024. The contractor would soon commence the pre-construction preparatory works, including the application for excavation permit. The Office would report regularly to Members on the progress of the works;
- (ii) as regards the matter on beautification of the stone pillars of the

footbridge at Whampoa Street, the Department would seek related information from Members after the meeting for consideration; and

- (iii) as the Office was now taking forward “provision of a cover for the pedestrian walkway outside Exit D of To Kwa Wan MTR Station’, coupled with the limited resources available under the District Minor Works Programme, it was difficult to take forward the provision of a cover for another pedestrian walkway at present. The Office would, subject to the availability of resources, examine the needs for public facilities at different locations of the district in future.

74. There being no further follow-up enquiries from **Members** on the item, the Chairman declared the agenda item closed.

Item 17

Any Other Business

75. No further items were raised by **Members**.

Item 18

Date of Next Meeting

76. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would temporarily be held at 2:30 p.m. on 7 January 2025 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 18 December 2024.

77. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 7 January 2025.

The Chairman

The Secretary