

**Minutes of the 7th Meeting of
the District Facilities and Works Committee of
the Kowloon City District Council**

Date: 7 January 2025 (Tuesday)
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
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

Ms CHIU Shui-man, Tabitha	District Leisure Manager, Kowloon City, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LEUNG Siu-hang, Rex	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-ye, Jenny	District Engineer / Hung Hom, Highways Department

Attendance by Invitation:

Item 2	Ms SO Yuk-yin, Rysta	External Affairs Manager, MTR Corporation Limited
	Ms WONG Suet-yin, Ishtar	Assistant Manager - External Affairs, MTR Corporation Limited
Item 3	Mr FUNG Chun-ho	Engineer / Kowloon (Headworks 2), Water Supplies Department

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 seventh 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 6th Meeting

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

Item 2

Proposal for the Provision of Additional Convenient Book Drops at Kai Tak MTR Station

(DFWC Paper No. 1/2025)

5. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

6. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) and the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), i.e. Documents No. 1 and No. 2 tabled respectively.

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

- (i) suggested the Department to provide additional convenient book drops in high-traffic MTR stations of Kowloon City District, including Ho Man Tin Station, Whampoa Station and Hung Hom Station, for residents' convenience; and
- (ii) suggested the Department to introduce a pilot scheme to provide additional convenient book drops in Kai Tak Station and collect usage data for assessing the necessity of providing additional convenient book drops.

8. **The representative of the MTRCL** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) book drop services in MTR stations were provided by the LCSD, whereas the MTRCL was responsible for coordination and provision of venue support; and
- (ii) the MTRCL would maintain close liaison with the LCSD. If the LCSD intended to provide additional book drops in Kai Tak Station in the future, the MTRCL would consider the actual circumstances and operational needs to ensure the additional provision of the relevant facility would not affect station operations and passenger safety, and that it would comply with the requirements of related legislations, such as the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance.

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

- (i) book drops were available in 71 public libraries under the purview of the Department, enabling readers to return library materials after libraries closed;
- (ii) the Department provided book drops in three major MTR interchange stations, including Central Station, Kowloon Tong Station and Nam Cheong Station. These three interchange stations served six main

commuter lines, facilitating readers taking different MTR lines. Passengers travelling on the Kwun Tong Line and East Rail Line could use the book drops in Kowloon Tong Station, while those travelling on the Island Line and Tsuen Wan Line could use the book drops in Central Station, as for those travelling on the Tuen Ma Line and Tung Chung Line, they could use the book drops in Nam Cheong Station; and

- (iii) given the current usage and cost-effectiveness of the service, the Department had no plans to extend the service to other MTR stations at this stage. The Department would maintain liaison with the MTRCL and explore adding the related facility in a timely manner based on the development of the railway network and the changes in passenger flow. The Department would also continue to pay attention to the public demand for library services and further step up library services in Kai Tak area subject to the availability of resources.

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

- (i) with the gradual completion of public and private housing in Kai Tak, the population in the area would continue to grow. Members would like the Department to consider providing additional book drops in Kai Tak Station subject to the availability of resources; and
- (ii) enquired about the usage of the three existing book drops which the Department had provided in MTR stations and suggested the Department to conduct timely reviews and consider the provision of additional book drops in more MTR stations.

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

- (i) according to the statistics in 2023, the three book drops in MTR stations had not been used to their full capacity. In planning for the provision of additional book drops in MTR stations, the Department had to consider factors such as station distribution, passenger flow, traffic arrangement and lift facilities. The Department currently had no plans to provide any additional book drop in MTR Kai Tak Station; and

- (ii) The Department noted Members' views and would explore the feasibility of providing additional book drops in other MTR stations subject to the availability of resources.

12. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he stated that the existing book drops in MTR stations could not meet the demand of the residents in Kowloon City District. On the premise of facilitating the public, he urged the Department to discuss the feasibility of providing additional book drops in more MTR stations with other departments.

Item 3

Concern about the Works Progress and Hygiene Problems of Ma Tau Wai Service Reservoir Playground

(DFWC Paper No. 2/2025)

13. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

14. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written replies furnished by the Water Supplies Department (WSD) and the Highways Department (HyD), i.e. Documents No. 3 and No. 4 tabled respectively.

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

- (i) suggested related departments to remove the litter from the construction site near Ma Tau Wai Service Reservoir Playground to avoid harbouring of rodents;
- (ii) enquired about the construction works programme and the expected completion date of the works near Ma Tau Wai Service Reservoir Playground; and
- (iii) suggested related departments to deploy staff to clean the hillside and nearby areas such as applying pesticides, placing baits and sealing off rat burrows for mosquito and rodent prevention and control.

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

- (i) the Department completed rodent prevention and control work in the areas under the WSD's purview near Ma Tau Wai Service Reservoir

on 12 December 2024. This included clearing weeds, removing litter, sealing off suspected rat burrows and installing rat guards at drainage intakes; and

- (ii) the Department had all along been conducting regular maintenance and cleaning work on the slopes near residential buildings within the areas under its purview, including clearing weeds, removing stagnant water and spraying larvicidal oil. Moreover, the Department would strengthen the aforementioned anti-mosquito and rodent prevention work after heavy rain and when the gravidtrap index was high subject to the circumstances.

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

- (i) the works for the Central Kowloon Route - Central Tunnel near Ma Tau Wai Service Reservoir mainly involved the construction of a 2.8-kilometre twin box tunnel connecting Yau Ma Tei and Ma Tau Kok. The works for the tunnel was almost completed at the moment;
- (ii) to facilitate the relevant works, the Department took the responsibility of maintaining the slopes near the reservoir and Celestial Heights during the course of the works; and
- (iii) the Department would carry out regular maintenance for slopes under its purview, which included clearance of the drains on slopes and removal of weeds. The related maintenance work was completed on 24 December 2024.

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

- (i) the Department attached great importance to the environmental hygiene of venues under its purview and would arrange a cleansing contractor to remove litter and fallen leaves in the playground daily to eliminate the food sources and harbourages of rodents; and
- (ii) the Department would engage a contractor to conduct anti-rodent work when necessary, which included placing rodenticides, sealing off rodent harbourages and conducting relevant cleaning work afterwards.

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

- (i) enquired the WSD's schedules for conducting regular slope maintenance and cleaning work;
- (ii) enquired the HyD about the completion date for the relevant works and urged the Department to remove the works machinery as soon as possible upon completion of works to prevent mosquito breeding; and
- (iii) enquired whether related departments had provided means of communications near the construction site for the public to enquire about the works information and provide feedback.

20. **The representative of the WSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (i) the Department conducted regular reviews and cleaning work for slopes in areas under its purview every one to two years and sprayed larvicidal oil on the slopes near residential buildings around eight times per year;
- (ii) the Department would step up cleaning efforts before and after rainy seasons and would pay close attention to the related situation to maintain hygiene and cleanliness; and
- (iii) the registered slopes under the Department's purview had a slope number and a plate for public enquiries.

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

- (i) the Department would supplement after the meeting the completion date of the works, the schedule for the removal of relevant works machinery and the means of communication for public enquiries about the works information; and
- (ii) upon completion of the works for the Central Kowloon Route - Central Tunnel, the management duties of the venue would be returned to the related department.

[Post-meeting note: The HyD had attached information about the works project and the contact numbers onto the water-filled barriers that were set up during the course of the works. The relevant water-filled barriers were removed on 11 January 2025 upon completion of the works.]

Item 4

Proposal for the Provision of Additional Outdoor Table Tennis Tables at Playgrounds in Kowloon City District

(DFWC Paper No. 3/2025)

22. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
23. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 5 tabled.
24. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
 - (i) regarding the extension works of Hoi Sham Park (Stage II), the Department would provide an additional outdoor table tennis table in the venue. The relevant works was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2025 for public use; and
 - (ii) the Department noted the relevant suggestion and would consider providing additional outdoor table tennis tables in suitable locations when conducting future refurbishment works for other venues in the district.
25. **Members** enquired about the factors taken into consideration by the Department when providing additional outdoor table tennis tables.
26. **The representative of the LCSD** stated that the Department would consider the needs of the residents in that district when planning for providing additional outdoor table tennis tables. Moreover, the Department had organised various types of table tennis training courses in the sports centres under its purview to provide the public with more opportunities to engage in table tennis.

Item 5**Continued Concern about the Opening Arrangements for the Facilities in Kowloon Tsai Park**

(DFWC Paper No. 4/2025)

27. **A Member** introduced the Paper.
28. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the LCSD, i.e. Document No. 6 tabled.
29. **The representative of the LCSD** gave a consolidated reply as follows:
- (i) the Department was exploring the feasibility of providing an additional floodlight system with related works departments at present. A public consultation on the additional floodlight system and the extended opening hours of Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground was launched in parallel. The relevant consultation was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2025. The Department would make timely report to the DFWC;
 - (ii) the Department had provided a 24-hour jogging track outside Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground to promote sport for all and to meet the needs of the local community. The public might consider using the relevant facility; and
 - (iii) the Redevelopment of Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool was commenced in end-2020. According to the latest project progress forecast by the Architectural Services Department, the renovation work could be generally completed in the first quarter of 2025. The Department was closely monitoring the works progress with works departments and anticipated the related works could be completed on schedule so that the pool would be open for public use in the first half of 2025.
30. **Members** raised the following views and enquiries:
- (i) suggested the Department to adjust the operating hours of the lighting system at the sports ground based on the sunshine duration of different seasons;

- (ii) enquired the works schedule of the Redevelopment of Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool and the opening date of the pool; and
- (iii) Members stated that there was room for improvement regarding the lighting system and pedestrian facilities in Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground. It was suggested that the Department could arrange for a site visit with Members in the evening to discuss how to improve the related facilities.

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

- (i) Kowloon Tsai Park was opened 24 hours a day and was equipped with an environmentally friendly and a photo-sensor controlled lighting system which would be switched on automatically in the evening or when there was insufficient light;
- (ii) the Redevelopment of Kowloon Tsai Swimming Pool was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2025. The Department was conducting various inspections and testing work with works departments. The pool was targeted to open for public use before 30 June 2025; and
- (iii) the Department was willing to conduct a site visit to Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground with Members and would contact the Secretariat for arrangement of the related matters after the meeting.

32. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he instructed the Secretary to arrange for a site visit with the LCSD.

[Post-meeting note: The LCSD conducted a site visit to Kowloon Tsai Park and Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground with Members on 27 February 2025.]

Item 6

Proposal for the Provision of Additional Chairs at Kau Pui Lung Road

(DFWC Paper No. 5/2025)

33. **A Member** introduced the Paper.

34. **The Chairman** invited Members to refer to the written reply furnished by the Kowloon City District Office (KCDO), i.e. Document No. 7 tabled.

35. **The representative of the KCDO** stated that after the Office had deployed staff for a site visit to Kau Pui Lung Road earlier, the preliminary assessment was that certain locations would be suitable for providing additional chairs for residents to rest. However, due to the narrow pavement in that section with abundant vegetation, it would be challenging to provide multiple chairs along the road as proposed in the Paper. The Office would further explore the feasibility of the works with the Works Section of the Home Affairs Department and related departments. The relevant facility would be provided additionally to meet the residents' needs subject to its feasibility.

36. **Members** suggested government departments to post additional waterproof QR codes at public facilities under their purview during the course of improvement works. This would allow the public to learn more about the related Government services and provide a channel for the public to give feedback by scanning QR codes.

37. **The representative of the KCDO** replied and stated that the Office would consider the aforementioned proposal in a timely manner.

38. **The Chairman** made a conclusion and he reminded Members to contact the KCDO anytime if they had any proposals for the District Minor Works Programme.

Item 7

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

(DFWC Paper No. 6/2025)

39. **The representative of the LCSD** reported on the Paper, which is consolidated as follows:

- (i) the Department planned to open up Kai Tak Cruise Terminal Park, Kai Tak Promenade and Shing Fung Road Park (expected to be open in the first quarter of 2025) as "Inclusive Parks for Pets". Given the proximity of the Kai Tak Promenade to residential buildings, the Department suggested that a six-month pilot scheme could be launched at that venue to continue to collect the views from various parties and make timely review to explore the feasibility of implementing "Inclusive Parks for Pets"; and

- (ii) since the existing Taiwan Acacia planted in Hutchison Park had started to reach senescence, their health and the structural conditions had been in gradual decline and might develop illnesses one after another in the near future. To safeguard the safety of park users, the Department planned to remove the 20 Taiwan Acacia in the park. In their stead, 20 Araguaney would be planted in Hutchison Park, the amenity plot at Waterloo Road / Hereford Road and Cornwall Street Children's Playground to enhance the visual appeal of the environment and to increase the biodiversity and ecological value.

40. **Members** unanimously supported the aforementioned project and urged the Department to maintain cleanliness at the "Inclusive Parks for Pets" under its purview. In addition, Members enquired about the Department's existing reporting mechanism and penalties targeting at hygiene problems at pleasure grounds.

41. **The representative of the LCSD** replied and stated that the Department would take out prosecution against offenders in accordance with the Pleasure Grounds Regulation (Cap. 132BC). The public might also report the offences to venue management, which would be followed up by the Department shortly.

Item 8

Any Other Business

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

Item 9

Date of Next Meeting

43. **The Chairman** announced that the next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 6 March 2025 and the closing date for submission of papers would be 19 February 2025.

44. **The Chairman** announced the adjournment of the meeting at 3:26 p.m.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed on 6 March 2025.

The Chairman

The Secretary

KCDC Secretariat
March 2025