

(Translation)

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the
6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (Full Council)**

Date: 7 January 2020 (Tuesday)
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Kwun Tong District Office,
Unit 05-07, 20/F Millennium City 6, 392 Kwun Tong Road,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon

<u>Present</u>	<u>Arrival Time</u>	<u>Leaving Time</u>
Mr TSE Ling-chun, Steve, JP (Chairing the election of the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the KTDC)	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHOY Chak-hung (Chairman)	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr MOK Kin-shing (Vice-chairman)	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr BUX Sheik Anthony	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHAN Chris Ka-yin	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHAN Man-kin	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHAN Yik-shun Eason	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHAN Yiu-hung, Jimmy	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHENG Keng-ieong	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Man-fung	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr FUNG Ka-lung	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr HSU Yau-wai	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr HUNG Chun-hin	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr IP Tsz-kit	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr KAN Ming-tung, MH	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr KUNG Chun-ki	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms LAI Po-kwai	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr LAM Wai	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr LEE Kwan-chak	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms LEUNG Jannelle Rosalynne	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr LEUNG Tang-fung	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms LEUNG Yik-ting Edith	2:35 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr LI Ka-tat	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr LI Wai-lam William	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms LI Wing-shan	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.

Mr LUI Tung-hai, MH	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr NGAN Man-yu	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr OR Chong-shing Wilson, MH	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr PANG Chi-sang	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mrs POON YAM Wai-chun Winnie, BBS, MH	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr SO Koon-chung Kevin	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr TAM Siu-cheuk	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr TANG Wai-man Raymond	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms TSE Suk-chun	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr WAN Ka-him	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr WANG Wai-lun	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr WONG Chi-ken	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Ms WONG Ka-ying	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr WONG Kai-ming	2:30 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
Mr KO Choar-que, Keith (Secretary)	Acting Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Kwun Tong District Office	

In Attendance

Miss CHOI Gi-lam, Britney

Mr WONG Sing-hung, Hansel

Miss KAM Yuen-ching

Miss LEUNG Yin-ping, Pammy

Mr CHAN Hoi-ming, Peter

Miss CHOW Tak-sum, Amy

Job Title

Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)1

Assistant District Officer (Kwun Tong)2

Senior Liaison Officer (1),
Kwun Tong District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (2),
Kwun Tong District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (3),
Kwun Tong District Office

Senior Executive Officer (District Management),
Kwun Tong District Office

Absent

Ms FU Pik-chun

Mr Steve TSE, District Officer (Kwun Tong) (DO), welcomed all the Members to the first meeting of the Full Council (FC) under the 6th Term Kwun Tong District Council (KTDC).

Item I – Nomination and Election of Chairman of KTDC

2. The DO introduced the requirements of and procedure for election of Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of District Councils laid down in Schedule 5, the District Councils Ordinance (the Ordinance). He remarked that the provisions and nomination form had been sent to all the Members by email on 27 December 2019.

3. The DO said that he had received a nomination form before the nomination period ended (i.e. an hour before the meeting). The details of the nomination were as follows:

Candidate: Mr CHOY Chak-hung
Nominator: Mr Man-kin
Seconders: Mr MOK Kin-shing, Mr WANG Wai-lun

4. As only one nomination had been received, the DO announced that Mr CHOY Chak-hung was elected as the Chairman of the 6th Term KTDC.

Item II – Nomination and Election of Vice-chairman of KTDC

6. The DO said that he had received a nomination form before the nomination period ended (i.e. an hour before the meeting). The details of the nomination were as follows:

Candidate: Mr MOK Kin-shing
Nominator: Mr Kevin SO
Seconders: Mr Raymond TANG, Mr CHOY Chak-hung

7. As only one nomination had been received, the DO announced that Mr MOK Kin-shing was elected as the Vice-chairman of the 6th Term KTDC.

(The meeting was subsequently held by the new Chairman of the KTDC,
Mr CHOY Chak-hung.)

Item III – Any Other Business

Appointment of Secretary of KTDC

8. The Chairman related that according to Section 69, the Ordinance, the KTDC was required to appoint a secretary to undertake the work of organising meetings. He announced that the officer currently and from time to time served and acted as Senior Executive Officer (District Council) was appointed as the Secretary of the present term of the KTDC, and the officer who had currently been acting in that post was Mr Keith KO.

Extempore Motion

9. The Chairman said that he had received an extempore motion moved by Mr WAN Ka-him, and seconded by Mr WANG Wai-lun, Ms WONG Ka-ying, Mr LEE Kwan-chak, Ms LI Wing-shan, Mr William LI, Mr LI Ka-tat, Mr HUNG Chun-hin, Mr Anthony BUX, Mr CHAN Man-kin, Mr Eason CHAN, Mr Chris CHAN, Mr MOK Kin-shing, Mr CHEUNG Man-fung, Ms Edith LEUNG, Ms Rosalynne LEUNG, Mr WONG Chi-ken, Mr WONG Kai-ming, Mr FUNG Ka-lung, Mr IP Tsz-kit, Mrs Winnie POON, Mr Raymond TANG, Mr CHENG Keng-ieong, Ms LAI Po-kwai, Ms TSE Suk-chun, Mr Kevin SO, Mr KUNG Chun-ki and the Chairman himself, requesting the following items:

- i) the KTDC should observe a moment of silence in tribute to victims having passed away in the “anti-extradition to China” incident;
- ii) discussion on amendments to the Standing Orders, including cancellation of proxy votes and co-opted members, and establishment of a security and constitutional affairs committee;
- iii) discussion on the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade; and
- iv) discussion on smart lampposts.

10. Since the above contents were about local residents’ aspirations, the Chairman said that he agreed to discuss the motion in the meeting.

11. Mr HUNG Chun-hin presented the paper.

12. Mr Wilson OR remarked that he respected the Chairman’s decision to pass the motion, and suggested that Members observe a moment of silence in tribute to victims having passed away in the entire social movement. The Chairman agreed with that suggestion and asked all the Members to stand up and observe a moment of silence.

(All the Members stood up and observed a minute of silence.)

13. Regarding discussion on amendments to the Standing Orders, including cancellation of proxy votes and co-opted members, and establishment of a security and constitutional affairs committee, Members raised views as follows:

- 13.1 Mr Kevin SO expressed his support to the establishment of the Security and Constitutional Affairs Committee (SCAC), which could be made a communication platform between the KTDC and related disciplined services. Besides, the SCAC would also correspond to the Fight Crime Committee and District Fire Safety Committee on the district level.
- 13.2 Mr WONG Chi-ken supported the establishment of the SCAC. He also said that many law enforcement problems in the district (e.g. the illegal parking problem) had not been addressed squarely, and there was a lack of an effective communication channel for voicing views to enforcement departments. Moreover, communication with the Police Community Relations Office was not regular. Therefore, he hoped that the Police could make reports on local security issues to the KTDC regularly after the establishment of the SCAC.
- 13.3 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong related that in the meeting minutes of the previous term of the KTDC, only the meeting minutes of the FC had recorded names of Members who spoke in the meetings. He suggested the meeting minutes of all the committees record names of Members who spoke in the meetings.
- 13.4 Mr Eason CHAN expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He also opined that apart from security issues, the constitutional development was also important. The establishment of the SCAC could strengthen district consultation work. He also hoped that the SCAC could relay views to the Legislative Council (LegCo) from the district after collecting them.
- 13.5 Ms Edith LEUNG supported the establishment of the SCAC. She also hoped that the SCAC could assist in collecting cases and video clips of the Police's use of force for discussion and follow-up actions. In addition, the SCAC could also follow the example of the approach of public hearings of the LegCo and invite the public to express views on individual cases or issues.
- 13.6 Ms Rosalynne LEUNG supported the establishment of the SCAC. She also considered the Police's enforcement actions selective. Apart from her own experience, some residents of the district had also said that the Police had not handled problems of illegal parking and motorcycle disposal in Yuet Wah Area.

She hoped that the SCAC could follow up on that situation.

- 13.7 Mr Chris CHAN expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He also said that problems of on-street prostitution and illegal parking were serious in Hong Lok Area, and there had been a lack of patrols by police officers in the area. He opined that the Police had the responsibility and ability to solve the problems. Therefore, he wished that the SCAC could be established so that the SCAC could follow up on the Police's work on dealing with residents' livelihood.
- 13.8 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He also remarked that some local residents had relayed that the number of patrols by police officers had decreased in the recent half a year. Besides, the illegal parking problem was very critical from areas around Hiu Lai Area to the industrial area of Kwun Tong.
- 13.9 Mr IP Tsz-kit supported the establishment of the SCAC. He also stated that the illegal parking problem was acute in Lam Tin Area, especially in areas around Pik Wan Road. He opined that Members could discuss the problem and find solutions to it through the SCAC. Concerning the constitutional development, he was of the view that the reform consultation had been inadequate in the past. Since District Councils were effective channels for hearing public views, he hoped that the SCAC could voice residents' views on the constitutional framework.
- 13.10 Ms LI Wing-shan expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. She also hoped that the SCAC could discuss problems such as the Police's use of force and indiscriminate arrests, etc. Through the SCAC, Members could also ask the Police face to face about the Police's manpower deployment. Moreover, she agreed to cancel the system of co-opting members. She also suggested inviting consultants of different fields to meetings of the various committees to provide advice.
- 13.11 Ms WONG Ka-ying expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. She opined that the establishment of that committee could make district affairs smoother. She also said that the illegal parking problem in areas around Sin Fat Round and Kai Tin Road was serious, requesting the Police to step up their patrols and enforcement actions. Furthermore, there was a problem of begging near Exit A, Lam Tin MTR Station and near Kai Tin Market, causing inconvenience to members of the public when they used the roads. She

requested the Police to follow up on that situation.

- 13.12 Ms LAI Po-kwai said that the illegal parking problem was acute at Choi Hing Court near Choi Shing Lane and Choi Hing Road while there had been burglary cases at Infinity Eight at 8 Clear Water Bay Road and Ping Shek Estate. Moreover, different kinds of frauds (e.g. “end game gangsters” and “spiritual blessing gangsters”) often happened. Therefore, she hoped that the SCAC could be established so that the SCAC could follow up on security problems of various areas.
- 13.13 Mr HUNG Chun-hin expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He opined that the problems relayed by Members indeed reflected that the manpower of the Police would unavoidably be dispersed when they dealt with various confrontations, and they had not fulfilled their duties either. Therefore, he hoped that the establishment of the SCAC would enable Members and the Police to communicate more directly.
- 13.14 Mr Anthony BUX expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He related that the illegal parking problem had repeatedly been discussed in the Traffic and Transport Committee under the past terms of the KTDC, but no improvement had been made. Consequently, he was of the view that the SCAC could provide one more channel for Members to express their views. In addition, he hoped that through the SCAC, he could request the Police to give an account on the confrontation incident between the Police and the public happening at Richland Gardens on 24 August the previous year.
- 13.15 Mr TAM Siu-cheuk suggested the Chairman collect Members’ views on problems of local security and the Police’s enforcement. He also said that he supported the establishment of the SCAC in the hope of seeking ways to restore law and order and peace in society.
- 13.16 Mr WONG Kai-ming expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He also opined that the definitions of security issues and constitutional development were comparatively wide, and issues on the constitutional development would involve rather high-level discussion. He hoped that the Chairman could lead Members to have effective and adequate discussion in the SCAC.
- 13.17 Mr CHAN Man-kin supported the establishment of the SCAC. He also remarked that some local residents had relayed that police officers patrolled

the district infrequently. The Police should give an account to Members through the SCAC on how they handled local security problems.

- 13.18 Mr LI Ka-tat supported the establishment of the SCAC for so as to discuss local security issues. By this, he hoped the focus of the manpower of the Police could be drawn back to the community, thereby handling various local security problems, including on-street prostitution and illegal parking. Furthermore, he agreed to cancel the system of co-opting members, saying that he did not think that co-opted members should be authorised to vote. He also agreed to cancel the system of proxy voting, considering participation in discussion a district councilor's responsibility.
- 13.19 Mr Raymond TANG expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He was of the view that the SCAC could provide a platform for the Police to respond to enquiries on the Police's manpower deployment. He also said that local residents were worried about the situation that the Police did not patrol the district adequately at present. Besides, he also agreed to cancel the systems of co-opting members and proxy voting.
- 13.20 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong remarked that the Police's enforcement was closely related to district problems and the Police's manpower deployment was involved. He hoped the Police would assign officers to meetings of the SCAC to respond to Members' enquiries. As regards the constitutional development, he suggested inviting academics and impartial people in society to discuss issues on the constitutional reform and advise the Government.
- 13.21 Mr WAN Ka-him expressed his support to the establishment of the SCAC. He was of the view that the Police's enforcement actions affected the community very significantly. At present, when he made enquiries to the Police, replies given by the Police Community Relations Office were usually unsatisfactory. Therefore, he hoped that the Police could communicate with Members more effectively through the SCAC.
- 13.22 Mr FUNG Ka-lung supported the establishment of the SCAC in order to review problems of local security and the Police's power and manpower. The Police's manpower deployed for enforcement in the district had currently been inadequate, the way of their patrols was different from that in the past, and there were also often changes to the Police General Orders, to name but a few. Those problems could probably be discussed in the SCAC. Moreover, he also agreed to cancel the systems of co-opting members and proxy voting.

14. The Chairman concluded that the majority of the Members were in support of the cancellation of the systems of co-opting members and proxy voting, as well as the establishment of the SCAC. In regard to the above suggestions, the Chairman decided to make decisions by votes.

- i) Cancellation of the proxy voting system: 38 votes in favour, zero against and zero abstention.
- ii) Cancellation of co-opted members: 28 votes in favour, zero against and 10 abstentions.
- iii) Establishment of the SCAC: 38 votes in favour, zero against and zero abstention.

15. The Chairman announced that all the above three suggestions were endorsed. Regarding Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong's suggestion of recording names of Members who spoke in meetings in the meeting minutes of the committees, the Chairman decided to pass the issue to the related committees to be set up in the future.

16. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to draft papers for the establishment of the SCAC, and send a letter to all the Members to collect their views on local security problems to facilitate discussion and transfer to the Police for their follow-up actions during the meetings.

Extempore Motion: Requesting the Government to Give an Account on the Contract Details of the Construction of the Music Fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade

17. The Chairman said that he had received an extempore motion moved by Mr WONG Chi-ken and seconded by Mr WAN Ka-him, Mr WANG Wai-lun, Ms WONG Ka-ying, Mr LEE Kwan-chak, Ms LI Wing-shan, Mr William LI, Mr LI Ka-tat, Mr HUNG Chun-hin, Mr Anthony BUX, Mr CHAN Man-kin, Mr Eason CHAN, Mr Chris CHAN, Mr MOK Kin-shing, Mr CHEUNG Man-fung, Ms Edith LEUNG, Ms Rosalynne LEUNG, Mr WONG Kai-ming, Mr FUNG Ka-lung, Mr IP Tsz-kit, Mrs Winnie POON, Mr Raymond TANG, Mr CHENG Keng-ieong, Ms LAI Po-kwai, Ms TSE Suk-chun, Mr Kevin SO, Mr KUNG Chun-ki and the Chairman himself. Since the motion was about an issue that local residents were concerned about, the Chairman decided to agree to discuss the motion.

18. Mr WONG Chi-ken presented the motion.

19. Regarding the motion, Members raised views as follows:

19.1 Mr Anthony BUX said that in the previous term of the KTDC, government

departments had reported to Members of the District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC) under the KTDC on the progress of the project by way of pre-meetings, but not many Members had attended the meetings. At that time, he had already realised that the departments would make significant changes to the design of the music fountains, but he had not had a chance to discuss that all along. Therefore, he hoped that the KTDC could call a halt to the construction and invite government departments to the KTDC to explain and brief Members on the current progress of the works.

19.2 Ms Edith LEUNG hoped that related departments could calculate and disclose the amount of liquidated damages required to be paid after the contract was terminated. If the amount was reasonable, the unexpended balance of the works should be allocated to the KTDC for other uses. If the amount was too large, the Government could on the contrary consider changing the contents of the works on the premise that residents would be provided with convenience. However, before making any decision, the district should be consulted adequately. For instance, local residents and organisations should be invited to voice their views on works expenditures of signature projects of the district.

19.3 Mr LI Ka-tat remarked that aim of constructing of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade was to boost the tourism industry. Yet, traffic congestion in Kwun Tong was critical. If the fountains managed to attract more tourists, the traffic congestion would be exacerbated. Moreover, the project had been endorsed in 2013, which was quite a long time before, and therefore public opinions might have changed. In view of that, he thought the construction might need to be suspended. Besides, he opined that if the construction was cancelled, the unexpended balance could be used for other purposes. If the amount of damages to be paid for the termination of the construction was too large, the Government should on the contrary consider changing the use or design of the project.

19.4 Mr WANG Wai-lun related that a substantial number of public housing and private housing estates had been completed in Yau Tong in recent years, but the area still lacked basic facilities, such as clinics, markets, libraries, etc. Therefore, he was strongly dissatisfied that the previous term of the KTDC had still endorsed the construction project. He hoped government departments could give accounts on the contents of the contract and tender of the project to the KTDC and the public.

19.5 Mr WONG Kai-ming stated that the project had been a relatively large-scale

water fountain during the proposing and discussion stages. At that time, he had already pointed out that the repair and maintenance cost after the completion of the project, as well as the usable life of the fountain, should be taken into account.

- 19.6 Mr CHENG Keng-ieong said that since 2015, he had all along received requests from residents that the construction should be discussed again in the KTDC. Yet, those requests had not yet been addressed. He opined that the result of the election of the present term of the KTDC was a reflection of public opinions. He hoped the construction could be suspended, and the funds for the project would be used to help residents of the district. Besides, a task force could be set up or a mobile phone application could be used to speed to up the consultation process.
- 19.7 Mr CHEUNG Man-fung opined that the cost of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade was too high. In addition, if more tourist facilities were constructed in the district, the traffic capacity of the district might not be able to afford the traffic flows. If the construction could be terminated, the unexpended balance could be allocated to the community, such as for providing medical and dental services, so that the result of “using what was taken from the people in the interests of the people” could be achieved. Moreover, residents also hoped that the Government would make the present expenditures of the project known to the public so that residents could know the uses of the funds.
- 19.8 Mr LEE Kwan-chak said that he had interviewed residents the previous year and found that some of the residents had still been unaware of the project. He was also of the view that according to the guidelines, if there were changes to the contents of the construction project, government departments should consult the KTDC.
- 19.9 Ms Rosalynne LEUNG agreed to withdraw the construction. She opined that if the works needed to continue, government departments should clarify if the KTDC needed to shoulder the repair and maintenance cost. Kwun Tong was one of the old districts in Hong Kong, and therefore the funds for the construction could be used for clinics and medical facilities for the benefit of local residents, or improvement of the present facilities at the promenade.
- 19.10 Mr William LI emphasised that residents of Laguna City had not supported the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade. He also

opined that the Government's consultation efforts were not comprehensive enough, making many local residents know little about the project. He was of the view that Kwun Tong Promenade was a popular spot for families to spend their weekends at present, and therefore more parent-child facilities should be provided at that project location. In addition, he supported the linkage between Cha Kwo Ling Promenade and Kwun Tong Promenade so that residents could enjoy a better view. Concerning the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade, if the amount of liquidated damages was too high, government departments could consider reducing the scale of the construction and using the unexpended balance to improve the facilities at the promenade. If the entire amount of funds could be allocated back to the KTDC, the KTDC could on the other hand consider using the funds to improve the medical facilities of United Christian Hospital.

19.11 Mr FUNG Ka-lung remarked that the findings of previous public opinion polls held by various organisations regarding the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade were quite different. Therefore, he opined that the construction should be suspended first and the Government should subsequently consult local residents again. If the amount of liquidated damages for the termination of the contract was too high, government departments should seek local residents' opinions about the construction (e.g. to continue with the construction, to change the contents of the construction, etc.).

19.12 Mr HUNG Chung-hin related that the cost of the construction was unreasonable and did not understand why the previous term of the KTDC had endorsed the project. He also said that quite many visitors visited Kwun Tong Promenade at present. As the construction would further reduce the usable space at the promenade, he deemed the construction unnecessary.

19.13 Mr IP Tsz-kit opined that incomes of residents of Kwun Tong District were comparatively low in general. Many residents were in need of the Government's relief measures, particularly in terms of medical services. He pointed out that according to a public opinion poll held by the Democratic Party (DP) in 2018, over 90% of the respondents had disapproved of the construction, and believed that the funds should be used to improve medical services. Therefore, he hoped that Government would give accounts on the current financial position of the project, and that the unexpended balance would be allocated to local residents with medical needs.

19.14 Mr Eason CHAN said that the proportion of the population to the number of

hospitals in Kwun Tong was the highest (670 thousand people with only one hospital). He opined that the duties of the KTDC were to enhance local residents' living quality. Therefore, the funds should be allocated to strengthen local medical facilities. He also deemed the Government's district consultation efforts unsatisfactory.

19.15 Ms WONG Ka-ying remarked that in view of the condition of the road surface of Kwun Tong Promenade, there were not enough spaces for parking coaches. Consequently, she considered Kwun Tong Promenade unsuitable to be developed into a large-scale tourist spot. Moreover, many residents enjoyed the present quiet environment of Kwun Tong Promenade. Therefore, she did not want the music fountains to be constructed. In addition, if the construction could come to a halt, she hoped that the unexpended balance could be used to provide various additional facilities for the elderly. On the other hand, materials bought could be allocated to non-governmental organisations, avoiding wasting the resources. She also opined that in the contract with the contractor, there should be terms and conditions for termination of the contract and clear calculation methods for the damages.

19.16 Mr WAN Ka-him related that the per capita income of Kwun Tong District was lower than those of other districts. Nevertheless, some of the other districts had also used their funds for signature projects for projects that would improve residents' livelihood. He hoped that government departments could make the current financial position and the amount of liquidated damages of the project known to the public, and call a halt to the construction as soon as possible so that the funds could be used in project that would truly improve residents' livelihood. Furthermore, he said that district councilors' responsibility was to get hold of public opinions and speak for members of the public. When there were changes to public opinions, district councilors would have the responsibility to relay the views to the Government.

19.17 Mr Raymond TANG opined that a signature project should contain a vision. It should also promote the image of Kwun Tong District. He deemed the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade unable to achieve those goals. A signature project should be used to construct facilities that the community really needed, such as barrier-free facilities at Sau Mau Ping Area or other recreational and sports facilities. Besides, he asked about the amount of the maintenance cost of the project, and whether the cost would be shouldered by the Leisure, Cultural and Sports Department or the KTDC.

- 19.18 Mr LI Ka-tat remarked that Kwun Tong District was a relatively underprivileged district with a very keen demand from local residents for public medical services. He was astonished that the KTDC could not be informed of the financial position of the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade and the details of the related contract. Moreover, as regards collection of public opinions, the KTDC could make use of a mobile phone application or other means to collect views extensively.
- 19.19 Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong related that he respected the decision made by the previous term of the KTDC. He was also of the view that government departments should give accounts on the details of the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade.
- 19.20 Ms LI Wing-shan said that the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade had made many local residents disappointed and angry. She also opined that the previous term of the KTDC had not given enough space and time for the discussion on the project.
- 19.21 Mr CHAN Man-kin reiterated that he had not supported the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade back then. He also related that some of the members of the DP had supported construction of fountains in the sea at that time, but they had already known that the related design could not be adopted due to technical problems. The previous term of the KTDC had had no chances and space to discuss that construction either.
- 19.22 Mr WONG Chi-ken related that the construction project had been endorsed for many years. There had been changes to the current situation. Members of the public generally liked the present quiet environment of Kwun Tong Promenade. The project had also been controversial all along. As time went by and the environment had changed, the Government should respect public opinions. In pre-meetings of the DFMC of the previous term of the KTDC, departments had only briefly introduced changes to the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade, without any updates on the progress afterwards. Consequently, he hoped that the KTDC could invite related departments to explain the present situation and future planning.

20. The Chairman said that with a view to relaying the KTDC's concerns, he suggested the construction of the music fountains at Kwun Tong Promenade be incorporated in the regular agenda items of the meetings of the FC of the KTDC until the progress of that item reached a satisfactory level.

21. Mr Steve TSE, DO, replied that if the motion was passed, he would relay Members' views to related government departments.

22. After deliberations and voting, the motion was passed with 28 notes in favour, zero against and nine abstentions.

Discussion on Matters about Smart Lampposts

23. The Chairman understood that local residents were highly concerned about the privacy problems brought by smart lampposts, but he also understood that the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer was arranging Members to participate in a briefing session about smart lampposts. Therefore, the FC would discuss the issue again after the briefing session had been held.

Any Other Matters

24. Mr CHEUNG Pui-kong remarked that the Secretary for Transport and Housing had said in a blog entry dated 5 October 2019 that a "special project" would be implemented under the Universal Accessibility Programme to expedite the construction of additional elevators at pedestrian walkways of different types of public housing. At present, the stairlift of the footbridge linking Sau Mau Ping Estate to Sau Mau Ping Central often broke down. The latest repair for the failure of the stairlift would take about half a year, according to the department's reply. That would cause enormous inconvenience to the disabled. He hoped that the new term of the KTDC could conduct consultation on the issue, and suggested the KTDC write to the Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) to request expedition of the consultation of the "special project".

25. The Chairman agreed to write to the THB to request related departments to speed up the consultation of the "special project".

(Post-meeting note: the letter was sent on 26 February 2020.)

26. Mr WONG Chi-ken said that new district councilors often faced difficulties when renting offices. Except for constituencies with more private housing, for some of the constituencies where the proportions of public housing were higher, the Housing Department (HD) had often failed to rent related offices to new district councilors at the beginning of their terms of office on the ground that the offices had not been restored to their original states. He hoped that the HD would provide practical measures to help the related district councilors, such as designating areas in estates to the district councilors as their temporary offices, so that both local residents and the district councilors could be benefited.

27. Mr CHEUNG Man-fung remarked that his constituency mainly comprised private housing and housing of the Home Ownership Scheme, and therefore he hoped that he could rent an office with a lower rent, such as a vacant room on the ground floor of a housing estate, so that he could be exposed to more residents and gain a better understanding of their needs.

28. Mr PANG Chi-sang related that the related department had not yet given any reply on the location of an office that could be rented. He said that he would provide services for residents by way of having an on-street stop before he found any office to rent.

29. Mr WANG Wai-lun brought out that some of the offices of mutual aid committees were used for storage of materials, which was an unsatisfactory situation.

30. Ms LAI Po-kwai said that no place had been provided as a district councilor's office in Ping Shek Area. The location currently designated as a district councilor's office was rented by a legislator, and the HD had said that it would look for another place for a district councilor's office. Yet, that would take at least half a year. During this period, she would need to serve residents by way of a mobile office or an on-street stop, which was very inconvenient. Therefore, she hoped the procedure of opening an office could be expedited.

31. Mr WONG Chi-ken related that some of the offices mutual aid committees were used for storage of materials. Since the mutual aid committees were under the purviews of the Kwun Tong District Office (KTDO) and HD, he hoped those related government departments could review the situation so that places of housing estates could be utilised more fairly.

32. Mr LI Ka-tat remarked that his constituency mainly comprised private housing, and therefore the rent of his office was relatively high and far from the rents of offices in public housing estates. At present, all the Members received the same amount of remuneration. If the rent of a Member's office was higher than those of other Members' offices, the amount of the Member's remuneration that could be used in other services would be unavoidably lower. He opined that there was a need to change the system and the Government should formulate policy on Members' remuneration that suited the current situation.

33. Ms Rosalynne LEUNG stated that she hoped the KTDO could relay to the related bureaux/departments the difficulties Members faced when renting offices and the problems on their remuneration.

34. The Chairman said that the Home Affairs Bureau had set up the Independent Commission on Remuneration for Members of the District Councils of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to carry out periodic reviews of the remuneration package for

Members of District Councils. Members could relay their views to that commission as and when necessary.

35. Mr LAM Wai related that the East Kowloon Line (EKL) had been discussed for a long time. The traffic congestion was very serious after the recent intakes of the public housing estates of Anderson Area. Since it took about an hour to travel from areas around Anderson Road to Kwun Tong Town Centre, he hoped that the KTDC would discuss the EKL so that the traffic predicament of Anderson Road, and even as far as that of Kwun Tong District, could be solved.

36. Mr CHEUNG Man-fung remarked that the traffic burden between Sau Mau Ping and Kwun Tong was too heavy. Residents of Hiu Lai Area were not able to take public transport during commuting hours because buses or minibuses were fully loaded. Moreover, new housing estates had been completed progressively. He hoped that the Transport Department, Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited and operators of minibuses could attend meetings of the KTDC in order to explore solutions.

37. The Chairman said that the issues would be transferred to the related committee for follow-up actions. For relatively urgent issues, the committee could also set up a task force to deal with them more efficiently.

38. Mr FUNG Ka-lung remarked that in view of the outbreak of Covid-19 cases, he suggested inviting related government departments to meetings so as to explain the current situation of the epidemic and measures and plans for controlling the situation.

39. The Chairman said that he would transfer the issue to the related committee for follow-up actions.

40. Ms Edith LEUNG enquired about the discussion scope of “Any Other Business”.

41. The Chairman replied that since the present meeting was the first meeting of the FC under the 6th Term KTDC, he had allowed Members to speak for various issues. Meetings of the KTDC would be handled in accordance with the KTDC Standing Orders in future.

Item IV – Date of Next Meeting

42. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 p.m. on 14 January 2020. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 17 March 2020.

Kwun Tong District Council Secretariat
January 2020