(Translation)

Minutes of the Second Special Meeting of the Planning and District Facilities Management Committee (2020) of Kwai Tsing District Council

Date: 17 March 2020
Time: 3:10 p.m. – 4:38 p.m.
Venue: K&T DO Conference Room

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendee</th>
<th>Time of Arrival (p.m.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr SIN Ho-fai (Chairman)</td>
<td>Start of Meeting</td>
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<td>Mr KWOK Tsz-kin (Vice-chairman)</td>
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<td>Mr CHAN Chi-wing</td>
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<td>Mr CHEUNG Kwan-kiu, Steve</td>
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<td>Mr CHEUNG Man-lung</td>
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<td>Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman</td>
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<td>Mr HON Chun-yin</td>
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<td>Mr HUI Kei-cheung</td>
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<td>Miss KWOK Fu-yung</td>
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<td>Mr LAM Siu-fai</td>
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<td>Mr LAU Chi-kit</td>
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<td>Ms LAU Kwai-mui</td>
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<td>Mr LEUNG Chi-shing</td>
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<td>Mr LEUNG Kam-wai</td>
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<td>Ms LEUNG Kar-ming</td>
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<td>Mr LEUNG Kwok-wah</td>
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<td>Miss LO Yuen-ting</td>
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<td>Mr SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP</td>
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<td>Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren</td>
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<td>Mr TONG Ho-man</td>
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<td>Mr TSUI Hiu-kit</td>
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<td>Mr WONG Chun-tat</td>
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<td>Miss WONG Pit-man</td>
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<td>Mr WONG Tin-yan</td>
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<td>Mr WONG Yun-tat, Ivan</td>
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**In Attendance**

Mr FUNG Hon-wa, Harris  
District Leisure Manger (Kwai Tsing), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr LUI Wing-lok, Gordon  
Department District Leisure Manager (District Support)  
Kwai Tsing, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Miss YIM Yik-huen, Bonnie  
Assistant District Officer (Kwai Tsing), Kwai Tsing District Office

Ms WONG Lai-kuen, Jenny  
Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Kwai Tsing District Office

Miss HO Yin-king, Susanne  
Senior Liaison Officer (1), Kwai Tsing District Office

Miss CHANG Hiu-hung, Regin  
Executive Officer (District Council) 2, Kwai Tsing District Office

Miss YUEN Yee-lam, Kathy  
(Secretary)  
Executive Officer (District Council) 5, Kwai Tsing District Office

**Absent with Apologies**

Mr LEUNG Wing-kuen  
(Without prior notice)

Mr WONG Bing-kuen  
(Without prior notice)
Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives of government departments to the second special meeting of the Planning and District Facilities Management Committee (the Committee) (2020) of Kwai Tsing District Council (K&T DC).

Discussion Paper

Plan on the Recreational and Sports Programmes to be Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Kwai Tsing District between April 2020 and March 2021
(Proposed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department)
(PDFMC Paper No. 4/D/2020(Revision))

2. Mr FUNG Hon-wa, Harris, District Leisure Manager (Kwai Tsing) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) introduced the paper.

3. Mr HUI Kei-cheung put forth opinions as follows:
   (i) He welcomed the newly added activities such as “Beach Volleyball”, “Skateboarding Fun Day” and “Cricket”.
   (ii) He hoped that the Department could enhance the standard and safety of cricket grounds.

4. Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren put forth opinions and enquiries as follows:
   (i) He was pleased to see that the Department responded to some of the requests raised by Members.
   (ii) He agreed with the views of Mr HUI Kei-cheung and hoped that the Department could improve the standard of the facilities, such as building additional facilities at the skatepark in Tsing Yi Northeast Park to cater for the needs of advanced players.
   (iii) He enquired the reason for increasing the number of sessions of the “Healthy Elderly Scheme” to 366 and whether an instructor would be
available to provide guidance to participants or the Scheme was implemented for the sole purpose of enabling the elderly to enjoy priority in using LCSD venues. He also asked for further details about the arrangement of the activities.

5. Mr LEUNG Kam-wai hoped that the Department could report the number of activities cancelled due to the pandemic and the amount of the unspent balance to Members at every meeting.

6. Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman suggested the Department should open more of their venues to the public, such as the cricket ground on the site of Kwai Chung Park, in order to promote public health.

7. Mr FUNG Hon-wa, Harris, gave a consolidated response as follows:

   (i) The Department would continue to improve their recreational and sports facilities, for instance the soccer pitch at Yip Shing Street Playground could accommodate cricket grounds at the moment. Meanwhile, he noted the opinions of Members on improving cricket grounds.

   (ii) The “Healthy Elderly Scheme” would be organised for the elderly during non-peak hours every month. It provided venues for the elderly to do exercise. Coaches would not be available for sports activities that were less sophisticated in nature such as “Badminton Self Practice Scheme” and “Table Tennis Self Practice Scheme” but coaches would be available for sports activities like “Fitness Exercise for Fun”.

   (iii) Due to the overwhelming response of the “Healthy Elderly Scheme” and the increase in the proportion of elderly population, the number of sessions of the Scheme increased as needed.

   (iv) The number of activities cancelled due to the pandemic and the amount of the unspent balance would be reported at future meetings.

   (Post-meeting note: LCSD would report the number of activities cancelled due to the pandemic and the amount of the unspent balance at next meeting.)

   (v) LCSD venues started re-opening and the maximum user capacity of jogging
tracks increased from 150 to 200.

(Post-meeting note: LCSD advised according to the latest development of the pandemic, the jogging tracks which had been reopened on 3 March 2020, had been closed since 23 March 2020.)

(vi) The temporary cricket ground on the site of Kwai Chung Park was managed by the Cricket Hong Kong. The Department would liaise with them to learn of the availability of the cricket ground.

(Post-meeting note: LCSD pointed out that the temporary cricket ground would be open to the public from 7 am to 9 pm on weekdays. However, due to the pandemic, the venue would be closed until further notice.)

8. Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren asked why the Department did not organise a “Healthy Children Scheme” or a “Healthy Teenagers Scheme” to enable children or teenagers enjoy the same privilege as the elderly did. He saw that the “Healthy Elderly Scheme” was only concerned about granting the elderly a priority in using LCSD venues as coaches would not be always available.

9. Mr KWOK Tsz-kin asked the Department how “Track Cycling” would be organised.

10. Mr LUI Wing-lok, Gordon, Department District Leisure Manager (District Support) Kwai Tsing of LCSD gave a consolidated response as follows:

   (i) The “Healthy Elderly Scheme” was only held during non-peak hours from Monday to Friday. Coaches were available for more challenging sports activities such as “Fitness Multi-gym Play-in” and “Fitness Exercise for Fun”. The Department had also been working with district elderly centres to teach the elderly easy fitness exercise and towel exercise.

   (ii) The Department and National Sports Associations (NSAs) would jointly organise track cycling activities, where participants would be provided with professional instructions, required to use bikes that conform to safety standards and wear safety equipment. The activities would be held at Hong Kong Velodrome Park, whose facilities could meet the professional standard.
11. Mr SIN Chung-kai suggested the Department conduct a survey to find out which booking sessions are more popular among young people. He considered that the elderly had a more flexible schedule so the Department should not offer fare concessions to the elderly during those sessions.

12. Mr LAU Chi-kit put forth enquiries as follows:

   (i) He asked how the Department would use the unspent balance if activities held in March and April 2020 were cancelled due to the pandemic.

   (ii) When the Department would resume their activities.

13. Miss LO Yuen-ting suggested the Department consider organising more family activities so that residents could partake in activities with their family members.

14. Ms LEUNG Kar-ming agreed with the suggestion of Miss LO Yuen-ting and suggested the Department to reserve the weekend sessions for family use.

15. Mr CHAN Chi-wing asked whether all recreational and sports activities from April to September 2020 would be cancelled in the case that captioned proposal was not endorsed at this meeting.

16. Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren pointed out the difficulty in booking LCSD venues. And the high booking fee of basketball courts. If the Department provided certain venues to the elderly for free, the same practice should be applicable to other age groups.

17. Miss KWOK Fu-yung put forth opinions as follows:

   (i) Owing to the obstacles to information access faced by ethnic minorities, she suggested LCSD produce publicity materials in different languages.

   (ii) She suggested the Department design application forms to facilitate bookings of cricket grounds.

18. Mr LAM Siu-fai asked the Chairman whether the discussion on facilities had deviated from the agenda.

19. The Chairman replied that the discussion on facilities was related to the plan on
the recreational and sports programmes, so it did not deviate from the agenda.

20. **Mr KWOK Tsz-kin** asked whether the Department would organise road cycling activities.

21. **Mr FUNG Hon-wa, Harris**, gave a consolidated response as follows:

(i) To better utilise the recreational and sports venues, the Department organised activities for the elderly and housewives during non-peak hours, but sessions were also reserved for schools during school hours.

(ii) Considering that the elderly were mostly retired and most did not have a stable income, most of the elderly activities were free of charge.

(iii) The Department organised family activities such as “Parent-child Badminton Training Course”, “Cricket”, “Frisbee” and “Orienteering” at weekends and during summer holidays. There were also activities for young people such as “Water Sports”, “Track Cycling”, “Air-gun Shooting” and “Sport Climbing”.

(iv) LCSD had been committed to promoting “Sport for All”. Various divisions of the Department would work with NSAs, to provide them with adequate support and to jointly promote major sports events, such as Hong Kong Marathon and Hong Kong Cyclothon.

(v) There were approximately 160 activities cancelled in February and March 2020 due to the pandemic and the approximate amount involved was $900,000. The Department would report such figures to Members in detail at the next meeting and return the unspent balance to DC as early as practicable.

(vi) Activities held in early April were cancelled due to the pandemic. The Department would closely monitor the development of the pandemic and take necessary measures in a timely manner.

(vii) If the paper was not endorsed at this meeting, it would pose difficulties for residents to partake in recreational and sports activities, and for the preparatory work of the Department. He pledged Members’ support for the captioned proposal.
22. Mr LUI Wing-lok, Gordon, replied that the Department had liaised with the Social Welfare Department (SWD) to disseminate information of the activities in Chinese and English to ethnic minority organisations in the district.

23. Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren put forth opinions as follows:

(i) District Council (DC) Members were representatives of public opinion. He hoped that the LCSD would have a pre-meeting with Members before submitting their proposal next year. The LCSD should not compel Members to endorse the budget on the grounds that residents would be adversely affected if the proposal was not endorsed.

(ii) He hoped to discuss the issue of LCSD's promotion on books about sexual minorities at the next meeting.

24. The Chairman declared to put the above paper to vote. The Committee unanimously supported the activity proposals and funding applications in the above paper in principle. The actual amount of funding was subject to the endorsement by the DC.

Any Other Business

25. The Chairman asked whether Members had any comments regarding lowering the minimum number of users of Community Halls (CHs) and Community Centres (CCs) amid the pandemic, as proposed by Kwai Tsing District Office (K&TDO). He pointed out that the Secretariat had informed DC Members about the reopening of multi-purpose halls in all CHs and CCs (excluding other rooms such as conference rooms and activity rooms) since 25 February (Tuesday) by email. The number of participants of each activity was capped at 30 to ensure social distancing. Pursuant to the existing rule on the minimum number of users of CHs, the minimum number of users was set between 15 and 20, depending on the capacity of each CHs. K&TDO took account of the views of some local personalities and proposed to lower the minimum number of users to 10, so as to allow sufficient space for residents to carry out their activities.

26. Ms LEUNG Kar-ming proposed to waive the restriction on the minimum number of users.
27. Mr Rayman CHOW proposed to temporarily close CHs and reopen them when the pandemic subsided.

28. Miss WONG Pit-man pointed out that the pandemic was rapidly escalating. As users of CHs were frequently elderly people whilst many of them lacked equipment for health protection. Hence, she hoped that CHs would be closed to prevent them from gathering.

29. Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren put forth opinions as follows:

   (i) He expressed concerns about the health of frontline staff. He asked whether K&TDO had provided sufficient amount of face masks to them so that they could change their masks every 4 hours.

   (ii) He agreed with the opinion of Miss WONG Pit-man. He was worried that the elderly might have low awareness of the prevention of the pandemic. He proposed a cancellation of all activities held at CHs and closing of CHs.

30. Mr LAU Chi-kit pointed out that the government and healthcare professionals also called for suspension of mass gatherings. DC should not encourage the public to partake in community activities.

31. Mr LAM Siu-fai pointed out that whilst the Centre for Health Protection advised the public to stay at home, K&TDO chose to reopen CHs. As the pandemic had not come under control, everyone should make a concerted effort to fight the pandemic. Any mass gatherings would be highly unwanted.

32. Mr HUI Kei-cheung pointed out that they should focus on anti-pandemic measures at the moment, so as to prevent community outbreak and to alleviate the pressure on frontline staff.

33. Mr LEUNG Chi-shing put forth opinions as follows:

   (i) He opposed to the opening of CHs for group activities.

   (ii) He considered it necessary to open CHs for owners' corporations’ meetings as it was difficult for them to find a suitable meeting venue.
34. Miss YIM Yik-huen, Bonnie, Assistant District Officer (Kwai Tsing) of K&TDO, gave a consolidated response as follows:

(i) Since the outbreak of the pandemic, K&TDO had been adopting a flexible approach. Point deduction system was flexibly employed even if the organisations could not hold their activities at CHs as scheduled.

(ii) As a matter of public health, meetings of owners' corporations would have to adhere to the restriction on the maximum number of users, which was set at 30.

(iii) At the moment, frontline staff of CHs were provided with sufficient amount of face masks, which allowed them to change their masks every 4 hours.

(iv) They had enhanced sanitization of CHs. All participants were required to wear a mask and had their body temperature measured. Post-activity cleaning exercise were also conducted.

(v) If DC Members had observed non-compliance of the above-mentioned measures or doubts on the use of CHs, they were welcome to reflect their opinions to K&TDO.

(vi) She noted the opinions of Members. She would follow up with the Home Affairs Department (HAD) Headquarters after the meeting. She would keep Members informed if there were any further updates.

35. The Chairman received an extempore motion:

**Extempore motion:** “Planning and District Facilities Management Committee of Kwai Tsing District Council demanded a temporary closing of Community Halls with immediate effect, in order to halt the spread of the pandemic. When the pandemic subsided, Community Halls might be reopened after discussion at Planning and District Facilities Management Committee of Kwai Tsing District Council.”

(Moved by Mr CHOW Wai-hung, Rayman and Mr LAU Chi-kit, and seconded by Mr HON Chun-yin, Ms LAU Kwai-mui and Mr LAM Siu-fai)

36. The Chairman put the above extempore motion to vote for acceptance. Members unanimously accepted the above extempore motion for discussion.
37. **Mr TAM Ka-chun, Warren** put forth enquiries as follows:

(i) Whether K&TDO would temporarily close CHs if the extempore motion was endorsed.

(ii) How K&TDO would arrange meeting venues for owners' corporations if CHs were temporarily closed.

38. **Miss YIM Yik-huen, Bonnie** gave a consolidated response as follows:

(i) The opening of CHs was a uniform practice among 18 districts. She could not give a concrete answer to the possibility of closing CHs at the moment but she would reflect Members’ opinions to the HAD Headquarters.

(ii) If necessary, owners' corporations could liaise with Liaison Officers of K&TDO for further discussion on the meeting arrangement.

39. **The Chairman** put the above extempore motion to the vote.

40. The voting result was as follows:

- For : 15 votes
- Against : 0 vote
- Abstention : 4 votes

The extempore motion was endorsed.

**Date of Next Meeting**

41. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 21 April 2020 (Tuesday).

Kwai Tsing District Council Secretariat
April 2020