

**Sai Kung District Council**  
**Minutes of the Second Meeting in 2024**

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Date: 5 March 2024 (Tuesday)

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room of the Sai Kung District Council

**Present**

Miss MA King-fan, Kathy, JP (Chairman)	District Officer (Sai Kung), Sai Kung District Office
Ms FONG Kwok-shan, Christine	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr WANG Wen	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr WONG Shui-sang	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr LI Tin-chi	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr LI Ka-leung, Philip, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms LI Ka-yan	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAU Ka-lok	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr LAM Chun-ka	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms KI Lai-mei, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr YAU Siu-hung, Kelvin, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr YAU Ho-lun	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms YU Natasha	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms SZE Pan-pan	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms WU Suet-lin	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHEUNG Mei-hung, Chris	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHEUNG Man-tim	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAN Chi-ho	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAN Kin-chun, Ken	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAN Kwong-fai	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAN Kai-wai	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr TSANG Kwok-ka	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr WAN Kai-ming	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr WONG Wang-to, MH	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr WONG Yuen-hong	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms KAN Tung-tung	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr LAU Kai-hong	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHENG Yu-hei	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Ms TAM Chuk-kwan	Member of Sai Kung District Council
Mr CHUNG Kai-yin (Secretary)	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Sai Kung District Office

### **In Attendance**

Miss CHENG Suet-ching, Lacus

Mr CHENG Chi-wing, Ken

Ms LAM Yee-mang, Dawn

Mr NG Wai-ming

Mr HUI Chun-kwan, Simon

Miss WONG Chui-ying, Erin

Ms KONG Sze-nga, Tammy

Mr NG Wai-lung, David

Mr YEUNG Chun-po, Carmelo

Mr MAK Man-yu

Ms WAI Kar-yan, Maria

Ms WONG Kin-yan, Kian

Mr WONG Ka-lun, Brandon

Mr NG Chou-keen, Horace

Ms MAK Siu-ling, Iris

Miss SIN Kai-wai, Marie

Ms LEE Lai-sheung, Susan

Ms LAI Ka-yee, Jenny

Ms LAI Wing-sau

Ms HO Sau-ying

Mr HO Yiu-ming

Mr MAK Hon-sum, Ronnie

Mr CHOW Kin-keung

Mr LIU Hung-wai

Assistant District Officer (Sai Kung)2,  
Sai Kung District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (1), Sai Kung District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (2), Sai Kung District Office

Senior Liaison Officer (3), Sai Kung District Office

Senior Executive Officer (District Management),  
Sai Kung District Office

Executive Officer I (District Council),  
Sai Kung District Office

Senior Town Planner/Sai Kung, Planning Department

District Social Welfare Officer (Wong Tai Sin/Sai  
Kung), Social Welfare Department

District Commander (Wong Tai Sin),  
Hong Kong Police Force

District Commander (Tseung Kwan O),  
Hong Kong Police Force

Divisional Commander (Sai Kung),  
Hong Kong Police Force

Police Community Relations Officer (Tseung  
Kwan O) (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force

Police Community Relations Officer (Wong Tai Sin)  
(Acting), Hong Kong Police Force

Chief Engineer/East 1,  
Civil Engineering and Development Department

Chief Manager/Kowloon West and Sai Kung,  
Housing Department

Chief Transport Officer/Sai Kung & North,  
Transport Department

District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung),  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support)  
Sai Kung, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent  
(Sai Kung), Food and Environmental Hygiene  
Department

Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung)1,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung)2,  
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

District Lands Officer/Sai Kung, District Lands  
Office, Sai Kung

Administrative Assistant/Lands, District Lands  
Office, Sai Kung

Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza),  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

## **Absent**

Ms CHONG Nga-ting, Angel

Member of Sai Kung District Council

The Chairman said a quorum was present and the meeting commenced officially.

2. The Chairman welcomed all Members and attendees to the meeting, in particular:

- Ms Tammy KONG, Senior Town Planner/Sai Kung, Planning Department, who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr KWONG Wang-ngai, Walter, District Planning Officer/Sai Kung & Islands;
- Ms Kian WONG, Police Community Relations Officer (Tseung Kwan O) (Acting), Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr TING Ka-ho, Louis, Police Community Relations Officer (Tseung Kwan O); and
- Mr LIU Hung-wai, Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD).

3. The Chairman said that due to sickness, Ms Angel CHONG had submitted a Notification for Absence from Meeting before the meeting as required. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the application for absence concerned was approved in accordance with Order 64(5) of the Sai Kung District Council Standing Orders.

## **I. Confirmation of Minutes of the First Meeting of Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) held on 5 January 2024 and the First Special Meeting held on 6 February 2024**

4. The Chairman noted that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendment before the meeting. There being no proposed amendment at the meeting, the Chairman declared that the above two minutes were confirmed.

## **II. New Items**

(A) Market Management Consultative Committee  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 10/24)

5. Mr HO Yiu-ming, Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung)2, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) introduced Paper No. 10/24 and invited SKDC to recommend three Members to join the Market Management Consultative Committee of the public markets in the district.

6. The Chairman asked Members interested in joining the Market Management Consultative Committee to raise their hands.

7. After a headcount, the Chairman declared that Ms Christine FONG, Mr LI Tin-chi and Mr YAU Ho-lun were recommended to join the Market Management Consultative Committee.

(B) Sports Ambassadors and the Community Green Ambassador Scheme of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
(SKDC(M) Paper Nos. 11/24 and 12/24)

8. The Chairman said that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) had written to invite SKDC to nominate Members as the Sports Ambassadors and for the Community Green Ambassador Scheme, and their term of office would last until the end of December 2025. At least two Members would be required for both nominations respectively and there was no maximum number of candidates to be nominated.

9. The Chairman said that the Sports Ambassadors would represent SKDC to take part in the community sports programmes organised by LCSD, so as to help encourage the locals to actively participate in the programmes to build a healthy lifestyle. She asked Members interested in serving as Sports Ambassadors to raise their hands.

10. After a headcount, the Chairman declared that Ms Christine FONG, Ms SZE Pan-pan, Ms WU Suet-lin, Mr Chris CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang, Mr CHAN Kwong-fai, Mr CHAN Kai-wai, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr WONG Yuen-hong, Ms KAN Tung-tung and Mr CHENG Yu-hei were nominated as the new term of Sports Ambassadors.

[Post-meeting note: Upon enquiry from the Secretariat, Ms Angel CHONG indicated interest in serving as a Sports Ambassador and obtained the relevant nomination. For details, please refer to paragraph 14.]

11. The Chairman said that the Community Green Ambassador Scheme would promote the community greening and tree management work, etc. She asked Members interested in serving as Community Green Ambassadors to raise their hands.

12. Mr CHAN Kai-wai said the Community Green Ambassadors were required to participate in various activities. He hoped for keen participation of the coming appointed Community Green Ambassadors.

13. After a headcount, the Chairman declared that Ms Christine FONG, Mr Wang Wen, Mr Li Tin-chi, Mr Philip LI, Ms LI Ka-yan, Mr CHAU Ka-lok, Mr LAM Chun-ka, Ms KI Lai-mei, Mr Kelvin YAU, Ms SZE Pan-pan, Mr Chris CHEUNG, Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang, Mr CHEUNG Man-tim, Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr CHAN Chi-ho, Mr Ken CHAN, Mr CHAN Kwong-fai, Mr CHAN Kai-wai, Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, Mr TSANG Kwok-ka, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr WONG Wang-to, Ms KAN Tung-tung, Mr LAU Kai-hong and Ms TAM Chuk-kwan were nominated as the new term of Community Green Ambassadors.

14. The Chairman said that as there were no limits on the above two nominations, she requested the Secretariat to enquire if Ms Angel CHONG was interested in being nominated after the meeting. Since the commencement of the current SKDC term, there were various invitations for nominating Members for joining government committees or advisory bodies. Upon receiving the invitations, the Secretariat would notify all Members openly and would invite them to show their interest. If the number of interested Members exceeded the limit for nomination, she would make recommendations based on Members' backgrounds, expertise, interests and past positions held, etc., in order to achieve a balanced participation.

(C) Summary of District Consultation on the "Issues of Concern to Sai Kung District – Environmental Hygiene"  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 13/24)

15. The Chairman said the Secretariat had prepared a summary of the submissions made by Members in the Annex, covering 16 environmental hygiene issues that were of concern to more Members, as well as other issues put forth by individual ones. The issues were listed in the order according to the number of Members who had raised the respective issues. The order was not a priority suggested by the Sai Kung District Office (SKDO). She asked Members to express their views on which issues should be referred to the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee (FEHC) and the relevant committees, and the priorities in doing so. Then, she would discuss with relevant government departments and the Chairman of FEHC.

16. Mr WAN Kai-ming said the problems of feral pigeons and rodent infestation were acute. Given that the problem of feral pigeons had persisted and worsened over years, he would like to understand more about the progress or review report on the approach of feeding feral pigeons with contraceptive drugs. The nuisance caused by feral pigeons affected the residents at King Lam Estate, Ming Tak Estate and Hau Tak Estate near Tseung Kwan O North, and worse still, with constant pigeon droppings staining their clothes. Furthermore, the problems of rodent infestation and feral pigeons were interrelated, as the residual feed from illegal feeding of feral pigeons would lead to rodent infestation. There were even reported cases of rodents intruding residential housing units. Members had received many related requests for assistance. Since there were a considerable number of Tenant Purchase Scheme flats and private housing estates in the district, the Administration could only provide advice to affected residents.

17. Mr Chris CHEUNG opined that support for GREEN@COMMUNITY was inadequate. Even though Recycling Spots were provided in LOHAS Park, the service time was inconvenient for residents. Worse still, they were not located at the centre of LOHAS Park so many residents of the new buildings were unaware of the provision. He requested the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to discuss with the MTR Corporation Limited to provide Recycling Spots in vacant areas of the LOHAS Park mall and to launch a permanent Recycling Store at the mall in the long run. Additionally, while EPD actively promoted the installation of Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins (FWSRBs) in public housing estates, no similar arrangements were

made for the large number of private housing estates in Tseung Kwan O. The private housing estates had not actively applied for the scheme on FWSRBs, considering that municipal solid waste (MSW) charging might increase the operating expenditure. He hoped that EPD could take the initiative to explain to the housing estates about FWSRBs and other ancillary recycling services.

18. Mr Ken CHAN said that the problems of feral pigeons, rodents and mosquitoes/biting midges indeed aroused more concerns among Members, but the problem of rural drainage channels also required their attention. Given that last year's typhoon caused severe flooding, he hoped that more preparatory work could be done before the onset of the typhoon and rainy seasons.

19. Mr WONG Wang-to stated that apart from the drains in the villages, those at Tseung Kwan O Town Centre were also blocked due to the heavy rainstorms last year. As spring and summer were approaching, he hoped that government departments, especially the Drainage Services Department, could step up efforts to clear the drains. Furthermore, the problems of feral pigeons and rodents were closely related, in which the residual pigeon feed would attract rodents. As a result, the extensive greenery in the urban area of Tseung Kwan O would in turn provide a shelter for them. He hoped that FEHD could suggest ways to eliminate both the food source and the habitat of rodents.

20. Ms TAM Chuk-kwan understood that the Government attached weight to the problem of feral pigeons, by way of using contraceptive drug-coated feed and raising the penalty for illegal feeding of feral pigeons, etc. However, she opined that there was still room for improvement. The legislation on the feeding of feral pigeons did not cover private housing estates, just like the blackspots for illegal pigeon feeding in King Lam Estate and Po Lam Estate where the staff from FEHD were unable to take enforcement action. She suggested that amendments be made to the existing legislation to extend its reach to the public areas within the precincts of private housing estates. She also paid close attention to indiscriminate fouling of pets, which would leave stains everywhere despite cleaning by pet owners after them. She suggested that the Government should step up publicity and education to remind pet owners to lay something on the ground before allowing their pets to excrete.

21. Mr WONG Yuen-hong said that the Government had been strongly encouraging and taking forward the recycling work, and increasing the number of FWSRBs in public housing estates. However, many residents reflected that FWSRBs and recycling bins had not been cleared as scheduled. The prolonged accumulation of recyclables and refuse had led to rodent infestation and other hygiene problems, in particular in Sheung Tak Estate. He considered that to improve the environmental hygiene situation and to tie in with the future implementation of MSW charging, issues related to recycling should be accorded the top priority.

22. Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan stated that the problem of rodent infestation directly affected people's livelihood. Moreover, wild boars were often sighted in the rural area

where he resided. The FEHD staff cleaned up refuse diligently every day to prevent wild boars from tipping over the refuse bins for food. As the new model of refuse bins was effective in avoiding being overturned, he hoped that FEHD could arrange the replacement of the old ones successively. Although AFCD had used contraception on stray cattle, their number had not shown a significant drop. Therefore, he was doubtful as to the effectiveness of contraception on feral pigeons.

23. Ms WU Suet-lin said that Members had assisted EPD in promoting MSW charging by distributing 15-litre designated bags (DBs) to the public earlier. Such promotion had been well-received by the public, with comments that DBs were of good quality. However, some members of the public did not fully understand DBs of other capacities. She suggested that EPD provide Members with DBs of different capacities for display at their offices for public reference.

24. Ms SZE Pan-pan said that she had been assisting EPD in promoting MSW charging recently. The public made a positive response and supported the concept of environmental protection and recycling. Nevertheless, some commented that the recycling services were inadequate. In fact, due to the insufficient recycling services for GREEN@COMMUNITY, some residents in Tseung Kwan O had to store recyclables at home for up to a certain amount before taking them to Tiu Keng Leng for recycling, which was not convenient for women and the elderly. She suggested improvements be made to the recycling services before the implementation of MSW charging.

25. Ms KAN Tung-tung said that the problem of rodent infestation was very serious. Rodents are frequently found near Hau Tak Estate during the daytime, which was presumably related to the large number of ongoing construction works in the vicinity of Hang Hau. Moreover, feral pigeons were often killed after being run over by cars on roads, affecting the cityscape and could easily cause traffic accidents. She suggested fostering inter-departmental collaborations to mitigate the problem.

26. Mr TSANG Kwok-ka said the residents of Po Lam Estate reflected that their residential area was frequently intruded by many rodents due to its proximity to the public market, and the anti-rodent operations conducted by the housing estate and the public market respectively were not effective. He hoped that FEHD could assist in coordinating various stakeholders of the housing estate and public market to conduct joint anti-rodent operations to resolve the problem of rodent infestation. He believed that various stakeholders would be glad to take an active role in this matter.

27. Mr Philip LI said that some members of the public were concerned about MSW charging due to the lack of recycling services. He suggested that EPD strengthen the provision of recycling services at the district level, such as those for recycling glass containers on a regular basis. Regarding the yard waste recycling, villagers in rural areas who would have to clear fallen leaves and other yard wastes were worried that the implementation of MSW charging might add to their financial burden. He suggested setting up yard waste collection points specifically.

28. Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang enquired whether the purpose of prioritising the issues was to discuss and resolve the problems one by one or to combine them for discussion. He said that the relevant departments had received Members' suggestions at this meeting, and hoped that they could first provide a brief response to the various issues at the committee meetings. Indeed, the problems persisted for long, in which there had been previous discussions. He believed that the relevant departments having sufficient experience to address these problems for a more efficient discussion. Furthermore, he suggested that the committees establish different working groups based on the issues, in which Members who were interested in or familiar with the respective issues would join, to cooperate and share the workload so as to accelerate the problem-solving process.

29. Mr CHAN Kai-wai indicated that some FWSRBs had been rarely used and hoped that EPD could release the relevant recycling data to avoid a mismatch of resource allocation. He mentioned at the last special meeting that EPD was requested to provide FWSRBs and the promotional materials as soon as possible, but there were no further actions. "Look for Green" would suspend its service in Tiu Keng Leng and he was concerned that such arrangement could not support the recycling work.

30. Mr WONG Shui-sang said that when monkeys ate fruits on trees, tree branches and leaves would fall as in the case of a storm. On this front, he had reflected the yard waste problem arising upon the implementation of MSW charging. Besides, as the models of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cooker would vary depending on different LPG operators, it was very common for new residents to dispose of their wrongly purchased LPG cylinders at the roadside. He suggested that the Government intervene by regulating shop operators in order to facilitate members of the public to replace unsuitable LPG cylinders. As regards MSW charging, he hoped that the Government could allow time for the public to get used to the new arrangements. For the lack of recycling services in rural areas and the difficulty for elderly persons to go beyond their villages to recycle, the number of recycling bins in villages should be increased.

31. Ms KI Lai-mei said the peak period for mosquito infestation was from April to September. Since Tseung Kwan O ranked top in the territory in the mosquito infestation index, she hoped that the anti-mosquito work could be carried out promptly. FEHD had educated management companies and the public to perform anti-mosquito work, yet their efforts were scattered and mosquitoes kept appearing in different places. She hoped that FEHD could coordinate the anti-mosquito work across different locations in the district to centralise the exercise on the same day, thereby improving its efficiency.

32. Mr CHEUNG Man-tim said that the public gave positive feedback on the quality of DBs and understood the intention behind MSW charging. Concerning the feeding of feral pigeons at Po Lam Estate, he suggested that publicity efforts in the form of education be made, such as putting up posters. Further, the problem of mosquito infestation could be resolved by educating and encouraging local residents to clear



stagnant water. Giving encouragements was considered better than imposing rather harsh penalties.

33. The Chairman said that considering the meeting time of SKDC and the resources of government departments, in particular FEHD, various issues had been sorted with a view to setting priorities, as they were long-standing problems which were difficult to settle. Even though the government departments had allocated resources for cleansing and promotional work, it was still hard to eradicate the problems. Resources deployment was a main concern for choosing environmental hygiene as the issue of concern. She believed that Members also understood the fiscal position of the Government, while handling multiple issues simultaneously was not pragmatic. She thanked Members for their consultation work in bringing up local issues and providing practical views. She suggested, first discussing with the relevant government departments, including FEHD, to work on how to make effective use of the existing resources, then discussing with the Chairman of FEHC on how FEHC would handle the relevant issues. If individual Members had other suggestions, they were welcome to relay their views to her as well as the FEHD colleagues.

34. Ms LAI Wing-sau, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sai Kung), FEHD responded that FEHD would continue the pest control work even in winter. FEHD would convene the local special anti-mosquito task force meeting in March and had invited relevant government departments to attend and discuss the arrangements of the Anti-mosquito Campaign 2024, with a view to pooling resources of various departments to alleviate the mosquito and rodent problems through concerted efforts. Furthermore, apart from regularly educating the public on anti-mosquito and anti-rodent information, FEHD also provided technical advice to public housing estates, and would report the relevant work at the next FEHC meeting.

### **III. Report Items**

(A) Progress Report of the Joint Meeting of the Committees under SKDC  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 14/24)

35. Members endorsed the above report.

(B) Annual/Progress Reports of the Committees under the Sai Kung District Office  
(1) Sai Kung District Management Committee  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 15/24)

36. Members noted the above report.

(2) Tseung Kwan O (North) Area Committee  
Sai Kung District Youth Development and Civic Education Committee  
Sai Kung District Building Management Promotion Committee  
Sai Kung District Youth Community Building Committee  
Sai Kung Area Committee

Sai Kung District Fight Crime Committee  
Sai Kung District Fire Safety Committee  
Tseung Kwan O (South) Area Committee  
Youth Network of Sai Kung  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 16/24)

37. Members noted the above report.

#### **IV. Motions Raised by Members:**

(A) The 6 motions raised by Members:

**(1) Request for improvement measures for Inclusive Parks for Pets**  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 17/24)

38. The Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr CHENG Yu-hei and seconded by Mr WONG Wang-to and Mr WONG Yuen-hong.

39. Members noted the written replies from FEHD and LCSD (SKDC(M) Paper Nos. 24/24 and 25/24).

40. Mr Chris CHEUNG opined that it was necessary to balance views from all sides on the opening hours of inclusive parks, as shortening the opening hours might probably lead to opposition.

41. Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang said while he knew that LCSD had provided dog excreta collection bins and arranged for workers to clean the parks, coupled with increased frequency of cleaning on holidays, the hygiene condition at the waterfront park in Tiu Keng Leng was, however, still unsatisfactory. The urine left by pets gave off bad smell, which would then linger even after basic cleaning by pet owners. He suggested strengthening the cleaning work following the holidays, for example, on Mondays, and expected LCSD to provide a timetable for cleaning in the Inclusive Parks for Pets and explain the work details.

42. Ms Susan LEE, District Leisure Manager (Sai Kung), LCSD responded that LCSD did clean the park facilities daily. She noted the view from Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang.

43. Mr WONG Yuen-hong indicated that the noise problem arising from the parks had also affected residents nearby. There were noisy gatherings of dog owners with their dogs late at night, causing nuisance to residents in neighbouring areas, including those living in private housing estates along the waterfront, Sheung Tak Estate and Beverly Garden near Hong Kong Velodrome Park. He enquired about the actions taken by LCSD and whether the closing of the parks in late nights would be considered to reduce the opportunities to congregate therein.

44. Mr WONG Wang-to said he understood that views from various sides should be balanced on the opening hours of the parks. Despite dog owners needed some places to walk their dogs, they had to take into account the nuisance caused to other residents. Seeing that a late-night problem was an issue of public concern, he suggested that consideration be given to closing the parks from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. so that residents might have a quiet sleeping time.

45. Ms LEE of LCSD responded that LCSD had recently received public complaints about the noise nuisance caused by dog owners with their dogs in the parks at late night. Apart from the noise made by dogs, chats between dog owners would also cause nuisance to nearby residents. To tackle the problem, in particular in Hong Kong Velodrome Park, LCSD had deployed additional security personnel to give verbal advice, and noted that there were more noise nuisances between 12:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m. Dog owners were cooperative after receiving verbal advice from the guards. LCSD would continue to keep in view and consider other improvement measures where appropriate.

46. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above motion was passed. The views of SKDC would be relayed to LCSD in writing.

**(2) Request for adoption of a proactive approach to tackle the problem of “the city being surrounded by tents”**

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 18/24)

**(3) Express concern over the illegal occupation of public places by tents in Sai Kung District and suggest relevant government departments adopt practicable coping measures**

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 19/24)

47. As motions (2) and (3) were similar in content, the Chairman suggested that both be discussed together.

48. The Chairman said motion (2) was moved by Mr WONG Yuen-hong and seconded by Mr WONG Wang-to and Mr CHENG Yu-hei, and motion (3) was moved by Ms SZE Pan-pan and seconded by Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, Mr Philip LI, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr CHAU Ka-lok, Ms KAN Tung-tung, Ms KI Lai-mei and Ms Angel CHONG.

49. Members noted the written replies from FEHD, HKPF (Tseung Kwan O District) and District Lands Office, Sai Kung (DLO/SK) (SKDC(M) Paper Nos. 26/24 to 29/24).

50. Mr Simon HUI, Senior Executive Office (District Management), SKDO said, after coordinating an inter-departmental tent clearance joint operation in the vicinity of Tong Ming Street Park in February this year, SKDO would closely monitor and follow up the relevant situation.

51. Mr CHAN Kai-wai indicated that he would like to know whether the motion was a matter of street management in a public place, or an area under LCSD such as the velodrome, or on a beach. He also asked whether the people targeted were members of the public or foreign domestic helpers (FDHs).

52. The Chairman replied that the concern of the motion was a matter of street management, which required inter-departmental cooperation and actions.

53. Mr WONG Yuen-hong enquired about the number of enforcement actions taken by FEHD over the past year and the difficulties encountered in enforcement. Additionally, he asked whether it would require one working day, following a notice for clearance of tents posted by FEHD, prior to the enforcement action, and whether it would lead to enforcement difficulty and deteriorating situation. He suggested that the Government make legislative amendments.

54. Mr Chris CHEUNG hoped that the Transport Department would pay attention to the problem of illegal erection of tents at LOHAS Park Station Public Transport Interchange in the past six months. Illegal erection of tents reflected the inadequacy of open space and leisure and cultural facilities in Hong Kong. He suggested that the restored Tseung Kwan O Landfill and other places should be properly utilised as open space for use by residents as well as FDHs.

55. Mr CHONG Yuen-tung pointed out the spreading trend of illegal occupation of public places by tents in Sai Kung District, and suggested increasing the number of tent clearance operations. Street obstruction by tents might lead to environmental hygiene and public order issues. For any issues arising from procedures or legislation in prosecution, or clearance which would require assistance from SKDC Members, they would offer their full support.

56. Mr CHAU Ka-lok said illegal occupation of public places by tents had been a long-standing problem in the district, and noted the joint operations conducted by the relevant departments. From Mondays to Saturdays, some obstructive tents were occupied by FDHs who overstayed their visas and remained in the territory without work visas. They pitched tents on the roadside as temporary accommodation until being hired by the next employer, as they could find nowhere to accommodate. He suggested that the cases involved be referred to the Immigration Department (ImmD) for enforcement. Furthermore, he found that some FDHs were suspected of cooking with naked flames, or unlicensed food hawking, and requested the relevant departments to step up inspections and enforcement actions at the gathering places of FDHs. He also suggested installing closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras at the relevant blackspots to collect corroborative information.

57. Mr Kelvin YAU said he was pleased to learn that a tent clearance joint operation had been mounted in February, and suggested that the relevant departments carry out regular inspections to prevent reoccurrence of similar cases.

58. Ms Christine FONG appreciated the contribution made by FDHs to the Hong Kong community, and it was understandable for FDHs to pitch tents for gatherings during holidays. She suggested that various organisations or government departments such as LCSD provide more open space for FDHs to set up their tents, with a clear indication of permitted and prohibited locations, in addition to distribution of pamphlets in different languages for publicity among FDHs.

59. Mr Philip LI took the view that the prolonged occupation of roads by tents should be handled with priority. He suggested that joint operations be mounted after 10:00 p.m. When some tents were found on roads, enforcement actions should be taken promptly. He added that the conditions for FDHs to reside in Hong Kong were subject to stringent restrictions, under which FDHs were not allowed to stay overnight in places other than their employers' residence and so they should not stay in tents at night. Besides, enforcement priorities should be set to handle tents which had been occupying roads for a long time, followed by tents obstructing roads during holidays.

60. Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan said tents should not be used as fixed and long-term accommodation, nor could they occupy roads for a long time. It was unlawful and such tents should be cleared. There were many camping sites in Hong Kong for people to pitch tents for leisure.

61. Mr WONG Wang-to indicated that he appreciated the contributions made by FDHs to Hong Kong, and it was understandable for FDHs to pitch tents for gatherings during holidays. However, the prolonged occupation of public space by tents would affect other residents. Furthermore, cooking by naked flames was not permitted inside tents, which might incur environmental hygiene and safety problems. He would like the Government to regulate the situation and take enforcement actions, with a view to maintaining a safe environment for members of the public, so that they would not be affected in their daily lives. He also hoped that mutual understandings and optimal use of public space would be achieved.

62. The Chairman said that the Sai Kung District Management Committee (SKDMC) had coordinated an inter-departmental tent clearance joint operation to remove the tents in the vicinity of Tong Ming Street Park in February, and would keep closely monitoring the situation. The participating departments included DLO/SK, FEHD, LCSD and SKDO. SKDMC would continue to closely keep in view and follow up the situation of illegal set up of tents, such as monitoring the severity of the tent problem, whether it would cause obstruction on safety concerns to the surrounding environment, public order and environmental hygiene problems, etc. In dealing with the tent problem, departments had to consider whether joint operations should be carried out during holidays or weekdays, and whether the tents occupied public space over a prolonged period of time. Given the legislative and enforcement constraints, the tents could not be managed in the same way as disposal of general waste on streets. She welcomed Members to inform SKDO of the locations beset with the tent problem for follow-up by SKDMC.

63. Mr CHOW Kin-keung, Administrative Assistant/Lands, DLO/SK responded that section 6 of Chapter 28 of the Laws of Hong Kong stipulated that a notice period (a minimum of “one whole day”) should be given. If the Government land was still occupied illegally after the expiry of the notice period, further regulatory action would be taken. Previously, DLO/SK had participated in a number of inter-departmental joint operations coordinated by SKDMC to tackle the subject matter and would continue to do so.

64. Mr MAK Man-yu, District Commander (Tseung Kwan O), HKPF responded that HKPF had inspected the above blackspots, during which no illegal activities were found, nor had they formally received reports lodged by the public. He would remind his team to pay more attention to the illegal occupation of public places by tents, especially on holidays. In the past, HKPF participated in three joint operations, neither conflicts nor public order and security problems arose during the clearance operations.

65. Ms HO Sau-ying, Chief Health Inspector (Sai Kung)1, FEHD indicated that their instance had been set out in the written response. Inspections at the above blackspots would be stepped up and appropriate actions would be taken by law enforcement officers if there was strong evidence showing that there were illegal hawking activities in public places.

66. The Chairman added that as regards the installation of CCTV cameras, the Security Bureau and HKPF had installed CCTV cameras at some crime blackspots in the territory. As Sai Kung District was safe and secure, fewer criminal cases were reported compared to other districts. For the installation of CCTV cameras, various factors like public perception should be balanced. She also suggested that Members who were informed by citizens of illegal activities should immediately report to HKPF for action. They should also report to HKPF and inform the Labour Department or ImmD for action, if a suspected overstayer was found.

67. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above two motions were passed. The views of SKDC would be relayed to SKDO, FEHD, HKPF and DLO/SK in writing.

**(4) Express concern over the problem of feral pigeons in Sai Kung and Tseung Kwan O, and suggest relevant departments put in place enhanced coping measures to allay public worries**  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 20/24)

68. The Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr WAN Kai-ming and seconded by Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, Mr Philip LI, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Ms SZE Pan-pan, Mr CHAU Ka-lok, Ms KAN Tung-tung, Ms KI Lai-mei and Ms Angel CHONG.

69. Members noted the written reply from AFCD (SKDC(M) Paper No. 30/24).

70. Mr Chris CHEUNG said people who fed feral pigeons would hide their identity with clothing and face masks, departments had to consider how to ensure the effectiveness of the enforcement actions. He believed that only a few people were feeding feral pigeons, but such behaviour had greatly impacted the community.

71. Mr CHAN Kwong-fai said feral pigeons were usually fed by the same few people, therefore it was necessary to impose a penalty that would serve as a sufficient deterrent for those “habitual offenders”. The Government’s current approach, such as feeding contraceptive drugs to feral pigeons and educating the public, was relatively passive. He suggested adopting a more proactive approach to take prosecution actions against those “habitual offenders” with inter-departmental efforts, so as to enhance the deterrent effect.

72. Mr CHAN Kai-wai said those “habitual offenders” mentioned by Members were spotted at Hang Hau MTR station, and they claimed that they were not afraid of being penalised. He would like to learn about the latest situation.

73. Mr WONG Wang-to said many people in Hong Kong were kind-hearted, but for some, their kindness was misplaced. While penalty could have a deterrent effect, people who fed feral pigeons often refused to stop such behaviour despite repeated persuasion. Some even insisted on feeding feral pigeons after being issued a summons multiple times. In this connection, he suggested that the community service order should be introduced as penalty in addition to the fine, so that the offenders could devote their time and energy in serving the community, thereby reducing the occurrence of feral pigeon feeding.

74. Ms Christine FONG was glad to know that the Government amended the legislation to curb the feeding of feral pigeons and increased the relevant penalty to a heavier fine and even imprisonment. She hoped that the Government would enhance publicity efforts in this regard. Additionally, many residents had seen people feeding feral pigeons at Oscar by the Sea, so she asked if the videos taken by residents showing the offender scattering bird feed on the ground could be used for prosecution purposes.

75. Mr Wan Kai-ming said he understood that FEHD had made considerable efforts, such as deploying plain-clothes officers to conduct ambush operations, but due to insufficient manpower, they had been easily recognised by the offenders. Besides, as FEHD did not take enforcement actions in private and public housing estates, some started to feed feral pigeons in these areas, causing further nuisance to residents. Moreover, he asked AFCD to provide a timetable for releasing the data collected in the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Feral Pigeons. He also suggested setting up pigeon lofts at appropriate locations in the countryside and gathering kind-hearted animal lovers to give suitable bird feed to feral pigeons at suitable places, so as to reduce the population of feral pigeons in the community and the occurrence of pigeon abuse.

76. The Chairman said the Wild Animals Protection (Amendment) Bill 2023 (the Amendment Bill), which included a feeding ban on feral pigeons, was being considered by the Legislative Council. Furthermore, the Amendment Bill would broaden the scope of enforcement officers, so that apart from police officers, authorised personnel of FEHD, LCSD, the Housing Department (HD), etc. might also take enforcement actions.

77. Mr LIU Hung-wai, Senior Field Officer (Avian Influenza), AFCD responded that the Trial Programme of Using Contraceptive Drug on Feral Pigeons had concluded. The City University of Hong Kong, consultant of the Trial Programme, was currently conducting a final statistical analysis and evaluation. The results would be made public as soon as possible once available. The ambit of the Amendment Bill covered the whole territory of Hong Kong, including private places. AFCD would discuss with law enforcement agencies relevant details and guidelines after the Amendment Bill took effect. Moreover, AFCD would conduct a series of publicity and educational activities for members of the public from different strata, and to educate people who regularly fed feral pigeons about the new regulation and penalty.

78. The Chairman stated that the issue of feral pigeons would be followed up by FEHC. The Government had already proposed amendments to the existing ordinance in view of its limitations, and the Amendment Bill was being considered by the Legislative Council. After the Amendment Bill was passed, the scope of enforcement officers would be expanded. In addition to police officers, staff of FEHD, LCSD and HD might also take enforcement actions in private housing estates.

79. Mr CHEUNG Chin-pang mentioned that wild boars would be captured, relocated and sterilised under the sterilisation programme. He asked whether the same approach could be used on feral pigeons. Further, he suggested building pigeon lofts on the formed land of landfills and feeding feral pigeons with contraceptive drugs in order to control their population and relocate them to places farther from residential areas. Besides, he opined that the slogans used for publicity should be more impactful to make public education more effective.

80. Mr Chris CHEUNG said someone had been scattering bird feed for feral pigeons in an abandoned village house opposite the Tseung Kwan O Hospital. Residents did not know how to deal with the situation, and he said the problem might not be taken seriously even if it was reported via 1823. Additionally, he commented that the Police's anti-scam publicity campaign was hugely successful, and suggested that AFCD consider following such approach and set up a report hotline.

81. Mr LIU of AFCD noted Members' opinions on publicity and education. After the Amendment Bill was passed, AFCD would carry out a series of publicity and educational work. Many organisations and members of the public had also suggested that pigeon lofts should be set up. AFCD would continue to study the feasibility of the proposal, but as Hong Kong was a densely populated city, its environment was different



from that in other places/regions with pigeon lofts. All in all, AFCD adopted an open attitude towards the suggestion.

82. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above motion was passed. The views of SKDC would be relayed to AFCD in writing.

**(5) Express concern over the rodent infestation in Sai Kung District and suggest the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department adopt practicable coping measures to address the increasingly severe problem**  
(SKDC(M) Paper No. 21/24)

83. The Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr CHAU Ka-lok and seconded by Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Ms SZE Pan-pan, Mr Philip LI, Ms KAN Tung-tung, Ms KI Lai-mei and Ms Angel CHONG.

84. Members noted the written reply from FEHD (SKDC(M) Paper No. 31/24).

85. Mr LI Tin-chi said Sai Kung Old Town was plagued by a severe rodent infestation. He learnt from the meeting of the Area Committee that the survey location for the Rodent Infestation Rate (RIR) in Sai Kung was at Po Tung Road. However, considering the actual situation in Sai Kung town centre, the survey locations should be at Sai Kung Main Street, Hoi Pong Street, See Cheung Street, etc. where restaurants were concentrated. The areas between Ko Fu Building and Ko Shing Building where a lot of renovation works took place were also infested with rodents.

86. Mr WONG Yuen-hong said the RIR was an important indicator showing the severity of rodent infestation and the amount of resources deployed by the department. Yet, the RIR of the survey location at Po Ning Road in 2020 and 2022 was 0%, which obviously did not reflect the actual situation and indicated that the problem had not been improved. He suggested designating Tong Chun Street and Po Yap Road in Tseung Kwan O South as the survey locations, placing baits at different spots and using baits that were more effective in attracting rodents. Regarding the cooperation between a university and the Government earlier to improve the calculation method of the RIR, he asked when the relevant information would be released and when the improved method would be adopted.

87. Mr CHAN Kai-wai said rat guards had been installed in public and private housing estates in Tseung Kwan O in recent years, indicating that rodent infestation was severe. The situation was further aggravated by the hygiene problems at wet markets, restaurants and construction sites. A large number of takeaway containers were discarded in skips by construction workers, but they would only clear the skips once a month. As for portable toilets, desludging was arranged only once every 20 days. Therefore, he asked relevant departments to step up inspections.

88. Mr WAN Kai-ming asked FEHD for providing assistance to elderly singletons and low-income families to handle rodent intrusion. Examples are giving out rat cages and offering alternative solutions to deal with rodents that got into their homes. In addition, FEHD's new rodent trapping devices placed in Sha Tin District were quite effective, so he hoped the department would use the same devices in Sai Kung District.

89. The response of Mr HO of FEHD to Members' views was summarised as follows:

- On rodent surveillance, starting from 2024, FEHD had adopted thermal imaging cameras with artificial intelligence technology to measure rodent activities in place of the traditional survey method using baits to compile the RIR.
- The new method took a more proactive approach to record rodent activities covering more areas, including places such as Sai Kung Town and Sai Kung town centre. Relevant reports would be made available to the public every six months. FEHD would also plan future rodent control work based on the findings.
- FEHD was responsible for the rodent control work in public places, and conducted territory-wide and inter-departmental anti-rodent campaigns as well as strategic anti-rodent campaigns every year. The campaigns targeted places infested with rodents including food premises, construction sites and wet markets. FEHD would also send staff to these locations to offer technical advice to stakeholders and management companies so that they could carry out effective rodent control work.
- The first round of the anti-rodent campaign took place between 8 January and 15 March 2024. There would also be relevant publicity and promotional work.
- FEHD planned to organise publicity and promotional activities on rodent and pest control in Sai Kung District between the end of March and early April. SKDC Members would be invited to take part in the activities.
- FEHD had been exploring the use of different baits to capture rodents. Experts from the Pest Control Advisory Section of FEHD would offer advice on the choices of rodent baits. Currently, mixed baits such as sweet potatoes with barbequed pork, bread with peanut butter, etc. were used in Sai Kung District.
- As for the provision of at-home anti-rodent services for elderly singletons and low-income families, interested individuals could seek assistance from relevant government departments. On the other hand, FEHD would provide information and technical advice on rodent control.
- FEHD had already adopted new models of rodent traps such as T-shaped bait boxes and alcohol rodent trapping devices in Sai Kung District, and the results were satisfactory.

90. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above motion was passed. The views of SKDC would be relayed to FEHD in writing.

**(6) Set up permanent yard waste collection points for recycling in Sai Kung District to enhance efforts in handling fallen trees**

(SKDC(M) Paper No. 22/24)

91. The Chairman said the motion was moved by Mr Philip LI and seconded by Mr CHONG Yuen-tung, Mr CHAN Kuen-kwan, Mr WAN Kai-ming, Mr YAU Ho-lun, Ms SZE Pan-pan, Mr CHAU Ka-lok, Ms KAN Tung-tung, Ms KI Lai-mei and Ms Angel CHONG.

92. Members noted the written replies from EPD and FEHD (SKDC(M) Paper Nos. 32/24 and 33/24).

93. Mr LAU Kai-hong said the reports on tree collapse incidents in rural areas reflected a manpower shortage in the Government. Additional staff should be deployed for tree pruning and that priority should be given to the handling of large trees in public places. It was only until recently that the trees collapsed during the typhoon half a year ago had been processed. Also, after the Care Teams handled the fallen trees at a car park, they had no choice but to leave the yard waste on the roadside due to insufficient manpower, which attracted termites and affected the surrounding environment. He hoped that the Government would allocate additional manpower and resources to handle fallen trees, and encourage voluntary organisations to recycle wood. Moreover, lots of trees were growing disorderly next to the Tseung Kwan O Tunnel, which affected the cityscape and might create a domino effect, leading to pest infestation and accumulation of yard waste.

94. Ms Christine FONG said the Peach Blossom Trees Recycling Programme launched by EPD during the Chinese New Year provided 54 district collection points, yet there was no regular yard waste recycling programme. In this regard, she hoped that the department would consider expanding the scope of recycling services of the GREEN@COMMUNITY so as to reduce the amount of yard waste to be sent to landfills. She added that the residential buildings in the LOHAS Park would take wood chips from the Y-Park for planting, meaning that yard waste did have value. As regards the delayed handling of fallen trees, she noticed that AFCD would build facilities with wood boards, therefore she suggested AFCD utilise what was available by making use of the wood of the fallen trees.

95. Mr WONG Wang-to said it came to his attention that government departments would leave branches on the roadside after tree pruning, and those branches would only be removed after a month or two, during which they became the breeding grounds for pest. Hence, he suggested acquiring overseas wood shredders to process yard waste on the spot so as to alleviate the burden on landfills.

96. Mr YAU Ho-lun said the aim of the motion was to facilitate the implementation of MSW charging. Dead branches and fallen leaves often accumulated in the gardens and drains in rural villages, if all yard waste was to be discarded in DBs, the cost would be extremely high and not affordable by the elderly. Setting up permanent yard waste recycling points could convey the message to the public that yard waste was different from general waste. In view of the unique circumstances in the rural areas, the proposal could lessen the department's burden of waste handling. Even if EPD would not consider building a new Y·Park in Sai Kung District, the proposal to set up permanent yard waste recycling points was still worth exploring.

97. Mr Philip LI said yard waste accounted for 2.1% of MSW, and EPD had indeed set up Y·Park in Tuen Mun to recycle yard waste, so he questioned what EPD said in the reply that ordinary households seldom generated wood waste. Not only during the typhoon season, villagers in the rural areas of the district needed to handle a huge amount of yard waste on a daily basis, so it was not feasible for them to travel such a long distance to bring their yard waste to Tuen Mun. To reduce the burden on landfills, he proposed that yard waste recycling services should be piloted in Sai Kung District. Furthermore, he pointed out that since Y·Park did not accept small branches and leaves for recycling, he agreed that wood shredders should be acquired so that small branches could be shredded for other uses.

98. Ms KI Lai-mei said she lived in a village house and needed to handle leaves of surrounding trees fallen around/on her house and on the nearby paths every month, which would fill up four large garbage bags. After MSW charging took effect, villagers would have to dispose of such waste with DBs. Yard waste could be environmentally-friendly and turned into fertilisers, so she supported the idea to set up yard waste recycling points at different places of the district, which could bring convenience to residents and be of value. Moreover, since GREEN@COMMUNITY did not accept yard waste for recycling, there was a need to provide yard waste recycling points.

99. There being no objection from Members, the Chairman declared that the above motion was passed. The views of SKDC would be relayed to EPD in writing.

## **V. Any Other Business**

### **(A) Updated membership lists of the committees established under SKDC**

100. Members noted the updated membership lists.

### **(B) Nominations for the Secretary for Development to consider for appointment to the disciplinary board under section 5(3A) and section 11(4A) of the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123)**

101. The Chairman said SKDC was invited by the Building Authority to nominate a suitable Member for it to determine the list of candidates for the appointment of lay persons to the disciplinary board. The Secretariat had informed Members of the matter via email on 30 January 2024, and received replies from seven Members who were interested in being nominated before the deadline (i.e. 2 February). After considering Members' backgrounds, expertise, past positions held, as well as the relevant requirements set out by the Development Bureau, she declared that Mr Chris CHEUNG was nominated for appointment to the disciplinary board for the consideration of the Secretary for Development.

#### **VI. Date of Next Meeting**

102. The next full council meeting was scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on 7 May 2024 (Tuesday).

103. The meeting ended at 12:15 p.m.

Sai Kung District Council Secretariat  
May 2024