

**Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Finance and Vetting Committee (FVC)  
under the Southern District Council (2020-2023) (SDC)**

Date : 23 June 2020  
Time : 12:00 noon  
Venue : SDC Conference Room

**Present:**

Mr LO Kin-hei (Chairman of SDC and Chairman of FVC)  
Mr YU Chun-hei, James (Vice-Chairman of FVC)  
Mr CHAN Hin-chung  
Mr CHAN Ping-yeung  
Ms CHAN Yan-yi  
Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo  
Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin  
Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH  
Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun  
Ms LI Shee-lin  
Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael  
Mr POON Ping-hong  
Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus  
Mr YIM Chun-ho  
Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany

**Secretary:**

Mr CHAN Lok-yiu, Morris Executive Officer (District Council)1,  
Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

**In Attendance:**

Mr CHENG Kong-chung, District Officer (Southern),  
Francis, JP Home Affairs Department  
Miss CHENG Wai-sum, Sum Assistant District Officer (Southern),  
Home Affairs Department  
Ms YIP Wai-see, Priscilla Senior Executive Officer (District Council),  
Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department  
Ms CHAN Kit-ming, Grace Senior Liaison Officer (1),  
Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department

Miss CHOW Shuk-ye, Jessica	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department	} for agenda } item 2
Ms CHAN Kam-wan, Alice	Officer-in-charge (Youth Programme), Southern District Office, Home Affairs Department	

**Opening Remarks:**

The Chairman welcomed members and departmental representatives to the meeting.

2. The Chairman made the following remarks:

- (i) In view of the latest situation of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), this meeting was not open to the public in order to reduce the risk associated with group gatherings. Moreover, members and departmental representatives were advised to bring their own face masks and drinking water. Before entering the venue, all persons were required to have their body temperature checked with the assistance of the staff of the Southern District Office (SDO), complete a health declaration form and declare whether he/she was under the 14-day compulsory quarantine;
- (ii) To avoid adjournment of meeting in the absence of a quorum, if members wished to leave earlier, they should inform the Secretariat staff as early as possible. The proposed duration of the discussion of various categories of funding applications was set out at Reference Information 1. It was expected that this meeting would finish no earlier than 5:45 p.m.;
- (iii) The Secretariat had uploaded a summary of the declarable interests (Reference Information 2) disclosed by members before the meeting to the SDC website. Before considering the funding applications placed later on the agenda, he would ask members whether there was a need to provide updates or supplementary information on their declarable interests; if so, they could raise their hands, otherwise he would make rulings based on such information as set out at Reference Information 2; and

- (iv) Each member would be allotted a maximum of two three-minute slots to speak in respect of each agenda item. Members were reminded to speak as concisely as possible. The electronic timer in the venue would beep when it reached two minutes 30 seconds and three minutes of each speaking slot respectively.

### **Part I – Items Discussed**

**Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of the Draft Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> FVC Meeting  
Held on 25 February 2020  
[12:06 p.m.]**

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3. There being no amendment proposals raised by members, the Committee confirmed the draft minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> FVC meeting held on 25 February 2020.

**Agenda Item 2: Application for SDC Funds: Festive Lightings for 2020-21  
(FVC Paper No. 10/2020)  
[12:07 p.m. – 12:10 p.m.]**

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4. The Chairman said that no member had declared interests in this funding application before the meeting. He asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

5. The Chairman said that every year, SDC would put up festive lightings in the district across the period spanning Christmas through the Lunar New Year to share the joy with residents. SDC had set aside \$1.4 million to finance the provision of festive lighting decorations in 2020-21. He invited Ms CHAN Kam-wan, Alice, Officer-in-charge (Youth Programme) of SDO, to brief members on the content of the paper.

6. Ms CHAN Kam-wan, Alice briefed members that festive lightings were proposed to be put up at a number of locations in the Southern District in the period between November 2020 and February 2021, which included Aberdeen Promenade and its immediate waterfront, Ap Lei Chau Wind Tower Park and its immediate waterfront, the front of the SDC landmark at the junction of Wong Chuk Hang Road and Ocean Park Road, the open space in front of Tai Wong Ye Temple adjacent to MTR Wong

Chuk Hang Station, Stanley Waterfront Mart and the “bar” street, as well as other suitable places, if any. A grant of \$1.2 million was being sought from SDC to meet the expenditure on festive lightings, including design fee, expenses for the installation, dismantling and routine maintenance of lightings, electricity charges and insurance premium.

7. The Chairman asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

8. Members did not give any views.

(Ms CHAN Kam-wan, Alice left the meeting.)

9. The Chairman asked members whether they would endorse the funding application concerning the “Festive Lightings for 2020-21” for a grant of \$1.2 million and the recommendation as set out in paragraph 4 of the paper. He then invited SDO to contact SDC members to discuss the related arrangements in a timely manner.

10. Members did not raise objection.

11. The Committee endorsed the above funding application and the recommendation as set out in paragraph 4 of the paper.

**Agenda Item 3:      Application for SDC Funds: Production of Calendars for  
2021 and Promotional Items for Lunar New Year  
(FVC Paper No. 11/2020)  
[12:10 p.m. – 12:13 p.m.]**

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12. The Chairman said that no member had declared interests in this funding application before the meeting. He asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

13. The Chairman said that at its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on 7 May 2020, SDC had endorsed a provision of \$711,000 for “Production of publicity materials (including Lunar New Year publicity items)”. Upon discussion on the “Production of Calendars for 2021 and Promotional Items for Lunar New Year” during the workshop on 8 June 2020, members

had agreed to produce the following monthly calendars and Lunar New Year promotional items with a budget of \$350,000:

- (i) 11 700 pieces of single-sided monthly calendars;
- (ii) 880 000 pieces of *lai see* packets (one version);
- (iii) 9 000 pieces of diamond-shaped *fai chun* inscribed with the Chinese character “福” denoting good fortune; and
- (iv) 9 000 sets of rectangular-shaped *fai chun* to be hung vertically (two-version set).

When compared to the previous year, the respective quantities of promotional items were reduced by approximately 10%. It had also been recommended that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of FVC would be authorised to follow up and decide on such matters.

14. The Chairman continued that it was now proposed that the SDC monthly calendars would be distributed by SDC members’ ward offices and SDO at the end of 2020 first, while the *fai chun* items and *lai see* packets would be distributed in early 2021. He also said that owing to environmental concerns, a SDC member had suggested replacing transparent plastic bags with other packaging products (such as paper strips) for packing *lai see* packets.

15. The Chairman asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

16. Members did not give any views.

17. The Chairman asked members whether they would endorse the funding application concerning the “Production of Calendars for 2021 and Promotional Items for Lunar New Year” for a grant of \$350,000 and the recommendations as set out in paragraph 3 of the paper, as well as agree to adopt alternative packaging products, such as paper strips, for packing *lai see* packets.

18. Members did not raise objection.

19. The Committee endorsed the above funding application and the recommendations as set out in paragraph 3 of the paper, as well as agreed to adopt alternative packaging products, such as paper strips, for packing *lai see* packets.

**Agenda Item 4:      Other Applications for SDC Funds**  
**(FVC Paper No. 12/2020)**  
**[12:13 p.m. – 7:38 p.m.]**

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20. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received a total of 44 funding applications, and the Application Overview and funding applications were set out at Annex 1 and Annexes 2 to 7 to the paper respectively. In addition, according to the approved funding allocation for 2020-21, there was currently sufficient funding for the above applications under each sub-item. If all 44 funding applications were approved, the total amount would be \$3,049,849.

21. The Chairman continued that at the workshop on 8 June 2020, members had a detailed discussion on the approval arrangements. The meeting would discuss the funding applications in the order of Reference Information 1. At the workshop, members had agreed to 11 funding applications for District CI projects related to festive activities and two funding applications for Cantonese operatic/pop song-oriented activities. Applicant organisations were not required to attend the briefing session of the meeting and response to members' questions.

22. Members had no objection to the said arrangements.

**(I)      Dedicated fund for Southern District Joint Schools Conference**  
**(Four Applications)**

23. The Chairman said that no members had made declaration of interests regarding these four funding applications before the meeting. He asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

24. The Secretary said that the Southern District Joint Schools Conference (SDJSC) had submitted four funding applications and the total applied amount was \$169,000, with details as follows:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>
1	Southern District Kindergartens Parade cum Education Path 2020	\$63,594	\$31,797
2	Southern District Primary Schools Parade 2020-2021	\$20,000	\$10,000
3	Southern District Secondary Schools Parade 2020-2021	\$30,000	\$15,000
4	Hong Kong Island Outstanding Students Award 2020	\$55,406	--
	<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$169,000</b>	

(Ms CHENG Kit-ching, Ms YEUNG Ying-lai, Ms KWOK Fung-ni, Mr PANG Chi-chun and Mr CHAN Siu-wing joined the meeting.)

25. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives to the meeting:

- (i) Ms CHENG Kit-ching, Senior Manageress, AKA Social Service Community Centre;
- (ii) Ms YEUNG Ying-lai, Social Worker, AKA Social Service Community Centre;
- (iii) Ms KWOK Fung-ni, Manageress, AKA Social Service Jockey Club Integrated Service Centre;
- (iv) Mr PANG Chi-chun, Social Worker (I), AKA Social Service Jockey Club Integrated Service Centre; and
- (v) Mr CHAN-Siu-wing, Executive Director, Hong Kong Island School Heads Association.

26. Ms CHENG Kit-ching briefed members that the “Southern District Primary Schools Parade 2020-2021” was jointly organised by the AKA Social Service Community Centre and SDJSC and they had co-organised the activity for many years. The activity consisted of two parts: talks and school visits. The main purpose of the activity was to provide parents with information on the allocation of school places so that they could prepare their children for primary school admission. As for the “Southern District Kindergartens Parade cum Education Path 2020”, it was divided into three parts: school exhibitions, booths and student talent shows.

27. Ms KWOK Fung-ni briefed members that the “Southern District Secondary Schools Parade 2020-2021” was jointly organised by the AKA Social Service Jockey Club Integrated Service Centre and SDJSC. They had co-organised the activity for many years for Primary Five and Primary Six students and their parents. The purpose of the activity was to help students and their parents learn more about the schools they wish to attend and to help them choose suitable schools. The activity was divided into three parts: talks, school visits and school exhibitions.

28. Mr CHAN-Siu-wing briefed members that “Hong Kong Island Outstanding Students Award 2020” would invite schools and their students from the four districts of Hong Kong Island to participate. The purpose of the activity was to commend students who had made commitments and contributions to their schools and the society, recognising their efforts and help them equip themselves. Successful students would be given leadership training opportunities in different sectors to enhance their understanding of the world. The activity also aimed to bring together outstanding students to serve the community and achieve the goal of passing on the torch.

29. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

30. The Chairman thanked the representatives for attending the meeting.

(Ms CHENG Kit-ching, Ms YEUNG Ying-lai, Ms KWOK Fung-ni, Mr PANG Chi-chun and Mr CHAN-Siu-wing left the meeting.)

31. The Chairman asked members whether they would endorse the four aforesaid funding applications submitted by SDJSC, including their respective applied amounts and advance payments set out as follows:

<b><u>Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Applied Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Advance Payment</u></b>
1	Southern District Kindergartens Parade cum Education Path 2020	\$63,594	\$31,797
2	Southern District Primary Schools Parade 2020-2021	\$20,000	\$10,000
3	Southern District Secondary Schools Parade 2020-2021	\$30,000	\$15,000
4	Hong Kong Island Outstanding Students Award 2020	\$55,406	--
	<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$169,000</b>	

32. Members had no objection.

33. The Committee endorsed the four aforesaid funding applications, including their respective applied amounts and advance payments.

**(II) Sports promotion activities - Southern District Recreation and Sports Association (Seven Applications)**

34. The Chairman said that no members had made declaration of interests regarding the above seven funding applications before the meeting. He asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

35. The Secretary said that the Southern District Recreation and Sports Association (SDRSA) had submitted a funding application for the “Southern District Youth Football Team Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)” together with an application for exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval. The total applied amount was \$333,500.

<b><u>Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Applied Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Advance Payment</u></b>
5	Southern District Youth Football Team Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)	\$333,500	--

36. The Secretary continued that SDRSA had also submitted six funding applications for other sports activities with a total applied amount of \$294,730. The application details were listed below. The applicant organisation had also submitted an application for exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval regarding the “Southern District Distance Run Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)”, and an application for exemption of quotation regarding the “Southern District Gateball Invitation Tournament 2020”.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>
6	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 4 to 9)	\$28,080	\$14,040
7	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 10 to 15)	\$31,220	\$15,610
8	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 16 or above)	\$29,880	\$14,940
9	Southern District Cross Country Run 2020	\$40,570	\$20,285
10	Southern District Distance Run Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)	\$135,720	--
11	Southern District Gateball Invitation Tournament 2020	\$29,260	\$14,630
	<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$294,730</b>	

(Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP joined the meeting.)

37. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP, Chairman of SDRSA, to the meeting.

38. Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP briefed members that SDRSA had planned to continue to organise regular activities in 2020, including the “Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020”. Due to venue constraint, the competition would be divided into three groups by age: Age 4 to 9, Age 10 to 15 and Age 16 or above. The Southern District Distance Run Training Programme with a history of more than 20 years regularly conducted training sessions every week. Due to the epidemic, the “Southern District Cross Country Run 2020” was the only running activity left to be organised. In addition, SDRSA had also planned to organise the “Southern District Gateball Invitation Tournament 2020”, which was suitable for the elderly to participate.

Regarding the “2020 Southern District Youth Football Team Training Programme” (SDYFTTP), there were nine age group teams, namely U6, U8, U10, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16 and U18 under the Southern District Football Club (SDFC) and elites players were chosen to represent Southern District to take part in competitions every year.

39. The Chairman said that “Kwoon Chung Southern” under SDFC was the only district football team competing in the Hong Kong Premier League (HKPL) and had achieved outstanding results. He enquired about the results of SDYFTTP, especially the number of players who had taken part in HKPL through participating in SDYFTTP.

40. Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP responded that before Kwoon Chung Southern was advanced to HKPL, only about 100 students had participated in SDYFTTP. Ever since Kwoon Chung Southern gained entry to HKPL, the number of people who joined the summer recruitment had increased by over a thousand each year. After many rounds of selections, around 20 people from each group would ultimately be chosen to represent Southern District to participate in the competition. He continued that SDYFTTP was extremely successful and this could be seen from the results of U18 winning the FA Cup for the past two years and even became a double champion by winning the league in 2019. In the bridging aspect, five to six U18 footballers had been selected as apprentices in the past two years to train together with Kwoon Chung Southern. In addition, he said that the training of different groups of the football club, including Kwoon Chung Southern, used unified teaching materials for training and were coached by the experienced Director and UEFA Pro Licence holder, Mr REHMAN.

41. The Chairman thanked Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHAN Man-chun, JP left the meeting.)

42. The Chairman asked members whether they would endorse the seven aforesaid funding applications submitted by SDRSA, including their respective applied amounts and the relevant applications for advance payments, exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval. Details were listed as follows:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
5	Southern District Youth Football Team Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)	\$333,500	--	- An application was submitted for exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval.
<b>Southern District Youth Football Team Training Programme (Total amount)</b>		<b>\$333,500</b>		
6	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 4 to 9)	\$28,080	\$14,040	--
7	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 10 to 15)	\$31,220	\$15,610	--
8	Southern District Karatedo Age Group Competition 2020 (Age 16 or above)	\$29,880	\$14,940	--
9	Southern District Cross Country Run 2020	\$40,570	\$20,285	--

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
10	Southern District Distance Run Training Programme 2020 (from July to December)	\$135,720	--	- An application was submitted for exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval.
11	Southern District Gateball Invitation Tournament 2020	\$29,260	\$14,630	- An application was submitted for exemption from quotation.
<b>Other sports activities (Total amount)</b>		<b>\$294,730</b>		

43. Members had no objection.

44. The Committee endorsed the seven aforesaid funding applications, including their respective applied amounts and the relevant applications for advance payments and exemption from quotation, open recruitment and covering the insurance expenditure incurred prior to funding approval.

**(III) District Community Involvement (CI) Projects (11 Applications)**

45. The Chairman proposed processing the funding applications for Items No. 14 to 24 on festive activities first as the representatives of applicant organisations in respect of the funding applications for Items No. 12 “Life is Fun for the Elderly” and No. 13 “Hong Kong Southern District Fishing Village Cultural Tour” had not arrived yet. Details were listed as follows:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>
14	Variety Show in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Ka Lung Court	\$30,000	\$15,000
15	Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival 2020	\$30,000	\$15,000
16	Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Aberdeen Centre 2020	\$30,000	\$15,000
17	Carnival in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival	\$30,000	\$15,000
18	Carnival in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Yue On Court 2020	\$26,580	--
19	Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at South Horizons 2020	\$19,900	--
20	Celebration on the Day after Mid-Autumn Festival	\$23,480	\$11,740
21	Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Ap Lei Chau Main Street 2020	\$30,000	\$15,000
22	Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at Wah Yu House	\$27,900	\$13,950
23	Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival 2020	\$30,000	--
24	Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at Lei Tung Estate 2020	\$30,000	\$15,000
	<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$307,860</b>	

46. Members had no objection.

47. The Chairman said that a declaration of interests was received before the meeting. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung declared that he was the Treasurer of the Incorporated Owners of Lei Tung Estate, the applicant organisation of Item No. 24 “Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at Lei Tung Estate 2020”.

48. The Chairman asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make for the declarations of interests in relation to the 11 funding applications. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

49. The Chairman said that in view of Mr CHAN Ping-yeung's declaration of interests, he proposed processing the ten funding applications for Items No. 14 to 23 first. The funding application for Item No. 24 "Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at Lei Tung Estate 2020" would be processed afterwards.

50. Members had no objection to the said arrangement.

51. The Chairman said the ten funding applications for Items No. 14 to 23 were submitted by various organisations, applying for a total amount of \$277,860. Most of the projects were related to the celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival with the amounts involved ranging from \$19,900 to \$30,000.

52. The Chairman invited members to raise comments or enquiries on the funding applications.

53. Mr CHAN Hin-chung proposed that the ten funding applications should be voted on in turn by open ballot.

54. The Chairman agreed to Mr CHAN's proposal, but considered that the ten funding applications could be discussed together.

55. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that, regarding the funding application for Item No. 19 "Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival at South Horizons 2020", the applicant organisation had requested for a funding of \$30,000 for the same project in the past applications, but the funding requested in this year's application was \$19,900. He would not speculate on whether it was due to the requirement under the Guidelines on Application for SDC Funds (the Funding Guidelines) that "a grantee which had been granted SDC Funds exceeding \$20,000 is required to invite SDC member(s) to be the guest(s) of the project". He requested for an evaluation of the project.

56. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to follow up the matter.

57. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus said that the project under the funding application for Item No. 16 "Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Aberdeen Centre 2020" had been held for years and often had noise problems. Despite the applicant organisation had already earmarked an expenditure for the item on "noise monitoring", it could not rule out the possibility of a noise impact on the

residents. He requested to give a notification to the applicant organisation that any noise complaints received on the day of the event would be put on record as a reference for the vetting of its funding applications in the future. Furthermore, as quite a large amount of funding was requested for Expenditure Item 4(b) “Printed Matters” and Item 10 “Fees to professional performers, artists and/or allowance to voluntary performing groups”, he proposed a reduction to the amount of the funding, and requested the applicant organisation to provide details on the Expenditure Item 18 “Miscellaneous”. He also pointed out that as the person in charge of the project had a special standing as a former SDC member, the incumbent DC members would be put in an awkward position when they granted a funding to a former DC member. He suggested that it would be more appropriate if the applicant organisation changed the person in charge for the event in the future applications.

58. The Chairman asked members for the range of reduction regarding Mr WONG Yui-hei Angus’s proposal on reducing the funding for Expenditure Item 4(b) “Printed Matters” and Item 10 “Fees to professional performers, artists and/or allowance to voluntary performing groups”.

59. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus said that for Item 10, a SDC funding of \$9,000 was requested in the application for an estimated expenses totalling \$12,000 for the performances by three groups of performers. He opined that the expenses per group could be reduced by \$1,000 respectively. As for Item 4(b) “Printed Matters”, the applicant organisation should set out the quantity required instead of writing down “a batch”. He understood that there was a need to print posters, admission tickets and game coupons, but the printing of leaflets, invitation cards and programme booklets should be minimised. According to past experience, putting up promotional materials in the minibuses, at building lobbies and places where residents frequently visited were effective ways of promoting the activities. He proposed reducing the expenses for “Printed Matters” for a range between \$500 and \$1,000.

60. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that regarding the funding application for Item No. 15 “Celebration for the Mid-Autumn Festival 2020”, although the applicant organisation was Tin Wan Kai-fong Federal Association, the person in charge of the project was the same as that of the funding application for Item No. 16 while the contents of both applications were much the same. If members agreed to reduce the funding for some items in the funding application for Item No. 16, they should also make a corresponding adjustment to the funding application for Item No. 15.

61. The Chairman pointed out that the estimated expenses for printed matters in the two funding applications were apparently different, and they might not be handled in a generalised way. If the unit cost for the item “Fees to professional performers, artists and/or voluntary performing groups” were to be reduced to \$3,000 in both applications, the funding requested from SDC for Item No. 15 would be adjusted from \$10,500 to \$9,000 while the funding requested for Item No. 16 would remain unchanged at \$9,000. He asked if members agreed to make a corresponding adjustment to the funding application for Item No. 16 according to the adjustment ratio for the funding application for Item No. 15.

62. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus agreed with the Chairman’s proposal.

63. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that despite the applicant organisations had not set out the lists of guests to be invited in their applications, he suggested that the Committee should reject those funding applications if they were to invite representatives of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (CPGLO) or the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) affiliated institutes to the activities.

64. Mr YIM Chun-ho supplemented the comments of Mr CHAN Ping-yeung by pointing out that the aim of residents groups in organising the activities was to have fun with fellow residents and such activities were neutral in nature. He considered that politics should not be involved in the activities. Representatives from all political organisations, CPGLO or CCP affiliated institutes were unsuitable participants of the activities. He suggested that requirements should be set out in the application form that any organisations applying for SDC Funds, especially those relying on DC funds as the main source of funding, should not invite representatives from the above parties to the activities.

65. The Chairman added that, apart from CPGLO, applicant organisations should not invite ambassadors or representatives from any consulates of foreign countries to the activities either. Mr YIM Chun-ho agreed with the view of the Chairman.

66. The Chairman said that if the funding applications for Items No. 15 and 16 were endorsed, some members proposed reducing the amount of funding for the expenditure items under them with details as follows: (i) For Item No. 15: the funding for Expenditure Item 4(b) “Printed matters” would be \$500, which was the same as the amount requested; as for Expenditure Item 10 “Fees to professional performers,

artists and/or voluntary performing groups”, a unit cost of \$3,000 should be sufficient, and thus the funding would have a downward adjustment from \$10,500 to \$9,000; and (ii) For Item No. 16: there were members proposing a reduction of funding for a range between \$500 and \$1,000 for Expenditure Item 4(b) “Printed matters”, but no exact amount of reduction had been proposed.

67. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH said that the vetting procedure for funding applications adopted by the current DC was different from the past practice. She considered the current practice procedurally unfair and easily causing confusion. She opined that a set of uniform vetting criteria should be adopted for all the funding applications, especially those belonging to the same category, rather than cutting the funding for some particular items of individual applications which were in question.

68. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus considered that the principle of proper use of public funds should be adopted in the vetting of all funding applications. Thus, every item of estimated expenditure in the funding applications must be carefully studied, and it was neither a waste of time nor a cause of confusion. As for the Expenditure Item 4(b) “Printed matters” under funding application Item No. 16, he proposed that the funding should be reduced by \$500 and the applicant organisation be encouraged to minimise the quantity of printed leaflets, invitation cards and programme booklets.

69. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany considered that the Committee should vet the background of individual applicant organisations, and every item of estimated expenditure and other details in their applications should be examined one by one. Organisations which were granted the DC funds were not under the purview of DC. However, it would easily give residents a false impression that the daily operations of those organisations which were frequently granted the DC Funds were also funded by the DC. She opined that, long-term speaking, other organisations in the district should be encouraged to apply for the DC Funds for organising a diversity of activities. She stressed that members had a duty to honour their election pledges to their voters, and they must monitor closely the projects funded by the DC.

70. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH expressed her understanding of the views raised by other members, and considered that the principle of fairness could be upheld if the funding applications were vetted one by one. She pointed out that funding request had also been made for the Expenditure Item “Fees to professional performers, artists and/or allowance to voluntary performing groups” in such applications as Item No. 20

“Celebration on the Day after Mid-Autumn Festival” and Item No. 23 “Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival 2020”. If the unit cost of the funding should be adjusted to \$3,000 as proposed by members, all funding applications should be reviewed instead of targeting at some particular applications with a view to making such corresponding adjustments to the relevant funding requests.

71. The Chairman said members should have an understanding that there had only been one way of vetting of the funding applications, which was by way of open discussion of the comments that had been raised by members at FVC meetings. In other words, the Committee would not discuss any estimated expenditure items of funding applications if they had not been put forth by members. He stressed that if a set of uniform criteria was adopted for the processing of every estimated expenditure items of all funding applications, the workload involved would be substantial. He considered such arrangement unnecessary at the current stage.

72. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP responded as follows:

- (i) he noted members’ concern on the estimated expenditure items under the funding applications, and reminded members of the importance of the principles of fairness and impartiality in the vetting of funding allocations. The Committee should explain on any adjustment decided on certain items of the funding applications made by some particular applicant organisations to avoid giving them a perception of the Committee acting in violation of the principles of fairness and impartiality;
- (ii) regarding members’ proposed addition of vetting criteria for the DC Funds applications, such as representatives of CPGLO, foreign consuls and representatives of political organisations were not to be invited to the activities, he pointed out that such criteria were not among the requirements in the Funding Guidelines. Moreover, the organisations held the activities for the purpose of promoting social harmony, and in the past, SDC had respected the organisations in inviting suitable persons as their guests of the activities. In this regard, the Committee should consider whether imposing such restrictions were reasonable, and whether it would be in violation of the principles of fairness and impartiality; and

(iii) he opined that members' attempt to define CPGLO as a political organisation was arguable. CPGLO was an office set up by the Central People's Government in Hong Kong, and its main functions included liaising with various sectors of the community of Hong Kong to enhance exchanges between the Mainland and Hong Kong. Therefore, CPGLO was fulfilling its duties through attending the activities and ceremonies upon invitations in Hong Kong. The Home Affairs Department (HAD) had also explained the above to other DCs, and hoped that members would critically review such requirement to avoid violating the principles of fairness and impartiality.

73. The Chairman noted the comments of District Officer (Southern), and said that the Central and Western District Council (C&WDC) had also raised comments on not inviting representatives of CPGLO to the activities which were granted DC Funds. In view of District Officer (Southern)'s concern on members' intention to reject the funding applications for activities which intended to invite representatives of CPGLO, he proposed holding an additional special meeting on which representatives from applicant organisations would be invited to answer enquiries in turn on whether they would invite representatives of CPGLO to their activities.

74. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP responded that it was up to the Committee's decision on whether to invite individual organisations to the meeting.

75. The Chairman said that whether to grant a funding to an organisation was the business of DC. HAD could revoke DCs' funding decisions, but it could not obstruct the rejection of funding applications by DCs. He stressed that DCs could reject the provision of funding to applicant organisations for many reasons, and it was indeed unnecessary to cite the intention to invite representatives of CPGLO to the activities as a reason. The Chairman continued that an additional special meeting would be held for vetting the funding applications for Items No. 14 to 24.

76. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany firmly opposed what the District Officer (Southern) said, and considered that it was impossible for CPGLO to participate in district activities in a non-political capacity. The news reports in Wen Wei Po and Ta Kung Pao made it very plain about the political positioning of CPGLO. She said that the Government's stance was clear, and agreed with the Chairman's proposal on inviting representatives of applicant organisations to FVC meeting to answer enquiries in turn on whether representatives of CPGLO or CCP affiliated institutes

would be invited to their activities. She emphasised that it was a fulfilment of the expectation of the voters and not to let them down.

77. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung pointed out that the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (the Basic Law) stipulated that the Central People's Government was only responsible for the defence and diplomatic affairs while Article 22 of the Basic Law stated that "No department of the Central People's Government and no province, autonomous region, or municipality directly under the Central Government may interfere in the affairs which the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region administers on its own in accordance with this Law." Therefore, participation of the community activities ought to be a matter within the limits of the autonomy under "One country, Two systems", and he criticised that the comments of District Officer (Southern) were tantamount to tearing up the Basic Law, disregarding the principle of "One country, Two systems remained unchanged for 50 years" laid down by Mr Deng Xiaoping. HAD vetted the funding applications on the basis of promoting social harmony. If residents perceived the presence of representatives of CPGLO in the activities as a disruption to social harmony, HAD would have to spare extra efforts in reviewing the appropriateness of the grant of funding time and again.

78. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that there was no direct correlation between the fulfilment of the functions of CPGLO and SDC's decisions on the grant of funding. He emphasised that SDC was not under a duty to provide a funding to assist CPGLO in performing its duties. CPGLO was a large and financially independent organisation which was perfectly self-sufficient in performing its duties. In addition, in order to meet the requirements of the Funding Guidelines, he opposed granting DC funds to applicant organisations with political backgrounds. Thus, he opposed the presence of representatives of CPGLO at the community activities, and stressed that HAD had no power to interfere with SDC's decisions on the grant of funding. Moreover, he asked the Chairman whether the processing of funding applications for Mid-Autumn festivities would be postponed until the next meeting.

79. The Chairman replied that the funding applications for Mid-Autumn festivities would not be processed in this meeting. In consideration of the time needed by the applicant organisations in organising the festivities, a special meeting would be held as soon as possible to process the applications.

80. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael said that since the comments of District Officer (Southern) had stripped the disguises away, he would talk straight without civilities. Both Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH and Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH were members of The Hong Kong Southern District Community Association Ltd. (HKSDCA). The members of HKSDCA also came from the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions. HKSDCA was considered as a “red” organisation collaborating with the pro-establishment camp, “pro-government camp” and the Hong Kong communist regime. He was dissatisfied with the District Officer (Southern)’s comments that CPGLO was not a political organisation. It was mentioned in the webpage of CPGLO that “CPGLO (originally the Xinhua News Agency (Hong Kong Branch) has all along been carrying out the duties imposed by the Central Government since its establishment and in various historical moments from revolution to development and reformation.” He considered that the “duties” as referred to above were political duties. It was ridiculous that the District Officer (Southern), as an Administrative Officer, would say that CPGLO was not a political organisation, and this manifested his lack of political common sense. To his knowledge, the District Officer (Southern) would give special consideration to a particular discussion item related to Stanley, which had been put forward by him in the SDC meeting. He reminded that if anyone worked against the people’s delegates, he would fight to the end. Lastly, he said that from now on, he would reject all applications for DC funds submitted by the “red” organisations and wished to have his decision recorded.

81. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that as an elected DC member, he strongly condemned such government officials as the District Officer (Southern) for making thoughtless remarks on the handling of matters by SDC. He pointed out that if these officials wanted to silence members or make them follow the Government’s directions in the handling of matters, it would merely be their wishful thinking, and they would never succeed. The aim of implementing the CI Projects was to promote social harmony. If the applicant organisations wanted to invite organisations with political backgrounds like CPGLO to their activities, it was most likely that their participation would bring chaos to the activities and upset the harmony in society. As members had a better understanding of society than the government officials, he urged the government officials to take the opinions of members seriously.

82. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus agreed that CPGLO did assume a political role. If any applicant organisations stated that they would invite representatives of CPGLO or other political bodies to their activities, he would reject their funding applications.

As an elected DC member, he would stick to the principle in the vetting of funding applications. Regarding his proposed reduction of the “Fees to professional performers, artists and/or allowance to voluntary performing groups” under the funding application for Item No. 16 “Evening Party in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Aberdeen Centre 2020”, he explained that reference was made to the same kind of activity under the funding application for Item No. 14 “Variety Show in Celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival at Ka Lung Court”, which gave an estimated cost of just \$11,000 for a performance by six performers/performing groups. However, the one under Item No. 16 had to spend \$12,000 for a three-hour performance while no information was given on the number of performers/performing groups to be engaged. He said members had been following the Funding Guidelines when vetting the funding applications. As the opinions of members also reflected the expectations of the voters, he hoped SDO would respect the functions of SDC and the voices of members.

83. The Chairman said that as representatives of some applicant organisations had not been invited to this meeting, a special meeting was required for the vetting of the mentioned funding applications. He expressed regret for this, and considered that there was no alternative to the arrangement.

84. Mr CHENG Kong Chung, Francis, JP stressed that, as the Controller of the DC Funds for CI Projects, the Director of Home Affairs had a duty to ensure that all applications fell within the ambit of the funds, were handled in a fair and just manner and would be implemented in a timely manner. He reminded members that if they insisted on carrying on with the above way of handling, he did not rule out the possibility that HAD would review some of the contentious decisions made in respect of the funding applications.

85. The Chairman said he would not be intimidated by HAD. He pointed out that HAD did not make an application for judicial review against the vetting decisions made by the C&WDC either. Moreover, he considered that if a politically appointed official demanded that his political stance must be adhered to for everything and restated his stance over and over again, it would do more harm than good to society and waste the time of the DC.

**(IV) Cantonese operatic/pop song-oriented activities (Two Applications)**

<b><u>Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Applied Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Advance Payment</u></b>
25	Cantonese Operatic Song Winter Concert	\$12,000	\$6,000
26	Cantonese Operatic Song Appreciation Programme	\$12,000	\$6,000
	<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	

86. The Chairman said that as the applicant organisations of the above two “Cantonese operatic/pop song-oriented activities” were not invited to the meeting, which was the same case as all the funding applications related to Mid-Autumn festivities, the two funding applications would not be processed in this meeting but the special meeting instead.

87. Members had no objection.

**(V) District CI Projects (Two Applications)**

**No 12. Life is Fun for the Elderly**

88. The Chairman said that no members had declared interests in this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

89. The Secretary said that the Hong Kong Elderly Support Association Limited submitted a funding application for “Life is Fun for the Elderly” with the applied amount of \$25,990.

(Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike joined the meeting.)

90. The Chairman welcomed Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike, Project Secretary of the Hong Kong Elderly Support Association Limited, to the meeting.

91. The Chairman invited Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike to brief members on the funding application.

92. Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike briefed members on the project's aim to allow the elderly who were less likely to go out during the epidemic to return to having fun and engaging in physical activities through booths and fitness exercises. Under the themes of balanced diet and health, the booths provided the opportunity to do fitness exercises as well as simple body check, including blood pressure checking, to enhance the elderly's awareness of the importance of physical health. Also, the project was intended to be held at a basketball court in the district. Leaflets would be posted up and distributed at various non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and buildings in the district to publicise the project.

93. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

94. The Chairman thanked Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike for attending the meeting.

(Mr LAU Tsz-kiu, Mike left the meeting.)

95. The Chairman enquired members whether they would endorse the above funding application with the applied amount of \$25,990.

96. Members had no objection.

97. The Committee endorsed the above funding application.

### **No 13. Hong Kong Southern District Fishing Village Cultural Tour**

98. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

99. The Secretary said that Seayou Explorer Travel Limited (SETL) submitted a funding application for the "Hong Kong Southern District Fishing Village Cultural Tour" for an allocation of \$28,315. The applicant organisation had also submitted the declaration of interests and an application for exemption from competitive quotations. The organisation applied for funding for CI Projects from SDC for the first time.

100. The Chairman said that the average project cost per participant was \$283 as calculated based on the total applied amount. Nevertheless, the website of SETL

showed that the fees for an adult to participate in similar activities organised by them with duration of 60 minutes and 90 minutes were \$150 and \$188 respectively.

(Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan joined the meeting.)

101. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan, Director of SETL to the meeting.

102. The Chairman invited Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan to brief members on the funding application.

103. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan briefly introduced the content of the application, saying that the major purpose of the funding application was to organise an in-depth tour related to the fishing village culture of Aberdeen, comprising an audio guide tour introducing the history of the Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter and a visit to the dwelling boats of the fishermen. This project was mainly organised for the residents of the Southern District free of charge, with a view to enriching the knowledge of Southern District residents of the fishing village culture of the district. He added that the project would be held in collaboration with Aberdeen Boating Limited (ABL).

104. Ms LI Shee-lin asked whether SETL would continue to organise the project if their funding application was not endorsed.

105. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that they would organise the project by themselves on another day if the funding application was not endorsed.

106. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH was worried that it was difficult to ensure the attendance of the enrolled residents since the project was free of charge. Moreover, the one-day project would be conducted in five sessions and two vessels would be rented, so she enquired about the actual number of hours the vessels were rented and the duties of assistants regarding the expenditure item "Allowance for assistants". In addition, she pointed out that the fees for the same kind of tours set out on SETL's website were lower than the fees set out in this funding application, so she asked the applicant organisation to provide justification.

107. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that the activity would start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. It would be divided into five sessions, with each session lasting for an hour (excluding preparation time). The volunteers and project staff would board the vessels two hours in advance for preparation. He clarified that the rental fees for

sampans and dwelling boats set out in the funding application were already lower than the market prices, the project cost per head had been reduced from \$200 to \$140 after discussion with the service company. Furthermore, he was not worried about meeting the target number of 100 participants as the project in this funding application was free of charge, and believed that it should be able to attract Southern District residents to learn more about the fishing village culture of Aberdeen.

108. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung indicated that the estimated expenditure for the item “Film rolls, photofinishing, photography and video-recording” was \$6,000, and considered that the expenditure was too high, which accounted for more than one-fifth of the total applied amount. In addition, since SETL was a profit-making commercial company, he was worried that the company would use the photos and videos taken for promotion of the company’s business and solicit business by taking advantage of their co-operation with SDC.

109. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that the estimated expenditure of \$6,000 for “Film rolls, photofinishing, photography and video-recording” was appropriate, and stressed that he would ask for a quotation from the service provider. He also indicated that it was a rare opportunity to organise the project, he wished to record the project highlights. If the Committee did not endorse the relevant estimates of expenditure, they could make alternative arrangements.

110. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung continued to ask how the applicant organisation would handle the photos and video clips of the project and whether they would promote the company’s business by taking advantage of their co-operation with SDC.

111. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that the major purpose of the project was to allow residents of the Southern District to join the Aberdeen Fishing Village Cultural Tour for free so as to promote and conserve the fishermen culture and attractions in the Southern District. Therefore, they would not promote the company’s business by taking advantage of their co-operation with SDC.

112. Ms CHAN Yan-yi enquired about the estimated expenditure for the “Five-hour Rental Fee for Aberdeen Dwelling Boats” and whether there were already boat dwellers that were willing to undertake the relevant service.

113. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that sampan ride had been provided by SETL all along, and the company had already contacted the relevant boat dweller in charge

regarding the visit to Aberdeen dwelling boats. The market prices of the two items above were \$20,000 in total, but the company enjoyed a concessionary price of \$14,000 only, which was set out as two items of estimated expenditure on the application, namely “Rental Fee for Sampan Boats” at \$9,000 and “Five-hour Rental Fee for Aberdeen Dwelling Boats” at \$5,000.

114. Ms CHAN Yan-yi continued that the estimated expenditure for the “Five-hour Rental Fee for Aberdeen Dwelling Boats” was \$5,000, which was quite expensive. She asked whether the price could be lowered by negotiating with the relevant boat dwellers.

115. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that the market price for joining a sampan ride and a visit to dwelling boats in Aberdeen was \$20,000. The current estimated expenditure of \$14,000 was already a concessionary price.

116. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that the applicant organisation was a profit-making commercial company, and asked SETL to further explain the potential conflicts of interests in organising the project, including whether they had business connections with the company to be co-operated with them. Also, he pointed out that the estimated expenditure for some items was quite high, including the item “Posters”, the printing of 15 posters would require a unit cost of as much as \$80 per poster. He continued that the project included a rich variety of activities, and suggested the applicant organisation consider whether they would charge certain fees.

117. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that he was not certain about the market price for printing “Posters” and hence set a higher estimated expenditure. He stressed that reimbursement for the expenses would be made on an accountable basis. In addition, he said that SETL was a commercial company and sampan ride was a commercial product of SETL, while the company for rental of sampan boats and dwelling boats in Aberdeen was their regular working partner with genuine business connections. Yet, he emphasised that SETL could rent the vessels at a concessionary price.

118. Mr YIM Chun-ho asked whether the applicant organisation would consider turning the project into a fee-charging project.

119. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that they could consider turning the project into a fee-charging project but the actual fees would have to be decided after the Committee had endorsed this application.

120. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael emphasised that DC was not a fund-raising platform, DC funds came from the money of taxpayers, members were obliged to ensure that every single cent taken from the community was used on the community. The applicant organisation fully revealed its commercial nature on its website, and he was concerned whether the project could satisfy the needs of the community. He continued that the estimates of expenditure of some items were indeed on the high side, and the applicant organisation should not prepare a rough budget because they were not certain about the market price. He reiterated that DC funds were public money, and the applicant organisation should convince the Committee that they could make good use of the funding instead of requesting the Committee to co-operate with the applicant organisation.

121. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan noted members' comments.

122. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that according to the applicant organisation's declaration of interests, Miss YUEN Wing-chi, Jenny, one of its directors, was also the sole shareholder and director of ABL. Therefore, the applicant organisation and the company running the sampan ride business were not merely working partners. As a matter of fact, the two companies had the same director. He criticised that the conflict of interests involved was unacceptable, and hence he objected to the funding allocation. Moreover, he was worried that as long as a precedent was set, DC funds would provide a platform for private companies to source funding for their own business operation.

123. Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan responded that the conflict of interests involved was undeniable, therefore he had declared interests in the application. He continued to explain the reason for the co-operation between the applicant organisation and ABL. He pointed out that the applicant organisation was a yacht booking platform, and ABL was engaging in the business of organising fishing port tours (including boat rental and guided tour service). The co-operation would bring mutual benefits to both parties, as the applicant organisation could promote fishing port tours, while ABL could provide service at a concessionary price. He continued that if members considered the arrangement inappropriate, he would withdraw the declaration of interests and the application for exemption from competitive quotations.

124. The Chairman thanked Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHAN Tsz-kwan left the meeting.)

125. The Chairman asked whether members endorsed the above funding application, including the amount of allocation and the application for exemption from competitive quotations, and whether or not members accepted its declaration of interests.

126. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that having regarded both the introduction by the applicant organisation and the information in the application, he opined that the applicant organisation was sourcing working capital for its own business from SDC funds. Therefore, he objected to the funding allocation.

127. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH said that the project had strong commercial elements, therefore she objected to the funding allocation.

128. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that given the interests declared by the applicant organisation concerning its close relationship with the project partner ABL, it seemed that the applicant organisation genuinely hoped to promote the fishermen culture of Aberdeen. However, the interests declared would give rise to negative public perceptions, and members could hardly give an account to the public if the funding was endorsed.

129. The Chairman asked if members endorsed the above funding application.

130. The Committee rejected above funding application under opposition of a majority of members.

131. The Chairman concluded that the above funding application was rejected because the project had strong commercial elements.

**(VI) Sports promotion activities – Other sports training programmes and promotional activities (Three Applications)**

132. The Chairman said that regarding the Sports promotion activities – Other sports training programmes and promotional activities, the Secretariat had received four funding applications, among which three were for football activities and the other was for basketball. As the applicant organisation of the latter was the same as that of the two applications for Activities to promote community inclusion, care and

rehabilitation, the application concerned was suggested to be processed later. The three applications about football activities would be processed first.

133. The Chairman asked members whether they objected to the said arrangement.

134. Members had no objection.

### **No 27. The 21st Bauhinia Cup Football Invitation Competition**

135. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH declared that she was the Deputy Managing Director of HKSDCA, and would withdraw from the meeting during the discussion of the application concerned.

136. The Chairman said that two declarations of interests were received before the meeting. Apart from Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH's declaration as the Deputy Managing Director of HKSDCA, Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun also declared that he was a Member of HKSDCA.

137. The Chairman asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

138. The Chairman said that according to the "Mechanism of Declaration of Interests in Vetting Fund Applications" of SDC, the declarations of interests of Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun were under Tier 2. He asked the two members to keep their silence during the discussion of the application concerned and abstain from decision-making or voting for the application concerned. The Chairman added that Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun chose to withdraw from the meeting.

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun withdrew from the meeting.)

139. The Chairman invited the Secretary to brief members on the funding application.

140. The Secretary said that HKSDCA submitted a funding application for an amount of \$97,282 for "the 21st Bauhinia Cup Football Invitation Competition" (Football Invitation Competition) together with an application for exemption from quotations and open recruitment.

(Mr CHAN Sze-chun joined the meeting.)

141. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Sze-chun, Event Planner of HKSDCA, to the meeting.

142. The Chairman invited Mr CHAN Sze-chun to brief members on the funding application.

143. Mr CHAN Sze-chun said that he, a former professional football player and a serving football coach, assisted the applicant organisation in organising the activity concerned. He also briefed members on the funding application, stating that the matches in the Football Invitation Competition were divided into teenager, youth, senior and open categories. Children in the Southern District would be arranged to have matches and exchange with children from other districts.

144. The Chairman asked members to raise comments or enquiries.

145. The Chairman said that HKSDCA was a highly political organisation in nature. Media reports before the 2019 DC Election revealed that its work was to ensure candidates who loved the country and Hong Kong could be successfully elected, thus he regarded the HKSDCA as a political organisation. He asked how the representative of the applicant organisation would define the positioning of HKSDCA. He understood that Mr CHAN Sze-chun was simply a football coach, but was attending the meeting as the only representative of the applicant organisation, the question could only be put to Mr CHAN.

146. Mr CHAN Sze-chun responded that he was simply the planner of the Football Invitation Competition dedicated to the promotion of football sports. He was not a member of HKSDCA, therefore he was unable to respond to the question about its positioning on behalf of HKSDCA. He also said that sports should not involve politics.

147. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael opined that HKSDCA was a highly political organisation in nature, he might not support the allocation of funds. He expressed great respect for the spirit and thinking of the coach at the meeting, yet he was discontented that the applicant organisation deliberately sent an enthusiastic person without political stance to attend the meeting to become a scapegoat. This situation was similar to an earlier meeting in which doctors were sent by the Hospital Authority

to discuss the epidemic. He believed that members of HKSDCA should attend this meeting.

148. Mr YIM Chun-ho noted that the coach at the meeting had organised football activities for many years with abundant experience, but he opposed the funding allocation to HKSDCA. He therefore suggested the coach at the meeting contact other organisations in the district or organisers of football activities to continue to hold activities of this kind, so that they could submit further funding applications to SDC in the future. Mr YU Chun-hei, James concurred with the above comment.

149. Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo expressed great support for football competitions, and asked the coach at the meeting whether the Football Invitation Competition would still be organised in case funding approval was not granted.

150. Mr CHAN Sze-chun responded that even if the Football Invitation Competition was not granted funding approval, he would still organise the competition, but might have to collect a registration fee. He said that the children of the football club were very much looking forward to the annual Football Invitation Competition as they could represent the Southern District to take part in matches, which would in turn give a sense of pride to those children who were growing up in the Southern District. He shared the same feelings as he also grew up in the Southern District.

151. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that due to the background of the applicant organisation, he tended to vote against the funding application. He expressed great appreciation to the coach at the meeting who would try his best to organise the Football Invitation Competition for the sake of the wellbeing of children despite that the activity might not be granted funding approval. He continued that he highly supported the activities with the aim of serving the community, and suggested members provide support for the activity, such as participating in the fun category competition.

152. Mr CHAN Sze-chun thanked members for their active participation and said that the DC members well-known in the community could give colour to the activity. He also pointed out that the atmosphere of the Football Invitation Competition would be exuberant, apart from children, many parents would come to the activity to show support, and there were more than 200 participants every time. Even if DC members

could not participate in the competition, they were welcomed to join as guests for presentation of prizes.

153. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany agreed with the views of members. She appreciated the efforts made by the coach at the meeting for children in the Southern District to grow healthily and happily. As a sports ambassador of the Southern District, she would actively participate in the activity.

154. Ms LI Shee-lin said that she strongly supported the coach at the meeting for his enthusiasm in nurturing children in the district and persistence in organising the match even though funding approval might not be granted. She continued that the coach at the meeting could contact SDC for promoting football activities in the future. She asked whether SDC could provide assistance in this regard.

155. The Chairman responded that it would depend on the situation.

156. The Chairman thanked Mr CHAN Sze-chun for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHAN Sze-chun left the meeting.)

157. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP believed that the funding application would not be approved based on the comments just given by members. He reminded that the reasons had to be provided to the applicant organisation if the funding application was not endorsed. Furthermore, HKSDCA had been organising activities with DC funds for years. If members rejected the application by clarifying the organisation as a political association, it might lead to the situation that the organisation would not be granted DC funds in the future, and the impact would be far-reaching. The representative from the applicant organisation was not able to give explanations at the meeting on behalf of HKSDCA. For the sake of procedural fairness, he suggested that consideration be given to providing an opportunity to the applicant organisation to explain and respond.

158. The Chairman said that the Committee had already given HKSDCA an opportunity to explain and respond. There was no limitation on the number of representatives from the applicant organisation, but the applicant organisation decided to simply assign a football coach to attend the meeting. HKSDCA might make another application for DC funds. If the HKSDCA had turned over a new leaf without getting involved in politics by then, the Committee would consider its application afresh rather than giving a final word on this matter. In his opinion, the

applicant organisation was not granted funding approval because of its political nature. In the past elections, the applicant organisation had publicly support candidates from an individual camp.

159. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany was dissatisfied with the remarks of District Officer (Southern) that the veto of the funding application was in violation of procedural justice. She questioned that District Officer (Southern) had a stance on vetting funding applications and came to the defence of individual applications. Moreover, she clarified that the Committee did not give a final word that funding approval would never be granted to HKSDCA. The current problem of HKSDCA was that its political values were detrimental to Hong Kong. She was not against any individuals or organisations. If HKSDCA and Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH proclaimed that they supported genuine universal suffrage and agreed that Communist China was eroding “One Country, Two Systems” in Hong Kong, she would very much welcome their funding applications.

160. Mr YIM Chun-ho pointed out that any associations, regardless of their stance, would fail to comply with the criteria for DC funds if they had expressed political stance. They should uphold the basic principle of political neutrality in organising activities.

161. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung opined that HKSDCA had all along been a political association. He queried that District Officer (Southern) had previously allowed the approval of the funding applications concerned. In the past, SDC was controlled by the pro-establishment members so that HKSDCA was successful in their funding applications. He pointed out that members were to restore things to order and to plug the loopholes at present.

162. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael described District Officer (Southern) as “pugnacious” at this meeting with his motive and stance. He went on to say that if District Officer (Southern) continued to act this way, or HAD would even interfere with SDC by any means in future, he would complain to the Office of The Ombudsman. He would never compromise on principle issues.

163. The Chairman said that the Committee would handle funding applications indiscriminately. Regardless of the political associations of the pro-establishment camp or the pan-democratic camp, their applications would be rejected across the board. He clarified that the Committee did not target at the political stance of

HKSDCA, but any organisations of strong political nature should not be granted funding approval. He hoped that DC funded activities would not involve political nature or political organisations. Political associations referred to the organisations active in politics which had expressed their stance in supporting the candidates running for election, which he hoped to put it on record. The past terms of SDC had their own practice, but the current term SDC would not adhere to past practices by approving funds to the organisations which had been successful in their funding applications before, otherwise it would be meaningless to set up the Committee to vet funding applications.

164. The Chairman asked whether members endorsed the above funding application, including the funding amount, exemption from quotations and open recruitment.

165. The Chairman concluded that the funding application was not endorsed for the reason given at the above discussion.

166. Mr CHAN Hin-chung asked whether the project was voted by open ballot. He had requested voting by open ballot in the vetting of all funding applications.

167. The Chairman responded that to his understanding, members suggested voting by open ballot in the vetting of funding applications for Item Nos. 14 to 23. Accordingly, he did not make arrangement for voting by open ballot in the vetting of subsequent funding applications, and members unanimously agreed with the arrangement in voting earlier.

168. Mr CHAN Hin-chung requested voting by open ballot in the vetting of all funding applications.

169. The Chairman acceded to the member's request for voting by open ballot.

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun returned to the meeting.)

### **No 29. Southern District Young Elites Football Training Scheme 2020**

170. The Chairman suggested vetting the funding application numbered 29, i.e. "Southern District Young Elites Football Training Scheme 2020", first.

171. Members had no objection.

172. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

173. The Secretary said that Beauty Pool Football Union (BPFU) submitted a funding application for an amount of \$100,000 for “Southern District Young Elites Football Training Scheme 2020” (the Football Training Scheme) together with an application for exemption from quotations and open recruitment.

(Mr LAU Kim-fung joined the meeting.)

174. The Chairman welcomed Mr LAU Kim-fung, Chairman of BPFU, to the meeting.

175. The Chairman invited Mr LAU Kim-fung to brief members on the funding application.

176. Mr LAU Kim-fung briefed members that with the funding support from SDC, BPFU had run the Football Training Scheme for six years, under which football talents had been successfully nurtured and got recruited by different football clubs every year, including the SDFC. Among them, three young talents had successfully joined the U12 National Futsal Team. He continued that students’ participation in the Football Training Scheme had a positive impact on their academic performance. The trainees would only participate in football training after seriously finishing their homework and revising their knowledge. Therefore, their parents fully supported the Football Training Scheme. Moreover, he was delighted to know that many of them had been admitted to Raimondi College and St. Paul’s College in 2020, and even been selected for school teams. Apart from supporting elite sports, BPFU wished to conduct training for children from the age of five, so as to encourage those children in the Southern District to exercise more often. As a small football club, BPFU was committed to helping children grow up healthily and happily.

177. Members raised no comments or enquiries.

178. The Chairman thanked Mr LAU Kim-fung for attending the meeting.

(Mr LAU Kim-fung left the meeting.)

179. The Chairman asked whether members endorsed the above funding application, including the funding amount, exemption from quotations and open recruitment. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

180. The Committee endorsed the above funding application, including the funding amount, exemption from quotations and open recruitment, with 15 votes in favour (namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Mr YIM Chun-ho and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany), zero against and zero abstention.

**No 28. Southern District Youth Football Training Programme 2020 cum Football Summer Carnival for the Family 2020**

181. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

182. The Secretary said that Apleichau Young Men's Athletic Association (AYMAA) submitted a funding application for an amount of \$100,000 for "Southern District Youth Football Training Programme 2020 cum Football Summer Carnival for the Family 2020" (the Football Training Programme cum Carnival) together with an application for an advance payment of \$50,000, exemption from quotations and open recruitment.

(Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex and Mr CHAN Hau-ming joined the meeting.)

183. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex, Honorary President of AYMAA, and Mr CHAN Hau-ming, Chairman of AYMAA, to the meeting.

184. The Chairman invited the representatives of the Applicant Organisation to brief members on the funding application.

185. Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex briefed members that the project aimed to empower trainees to learn football and team building skills, as well as how to communicate and establish rapport with peers through professional training. He also

briefly introduced the qualifications of Mr CHAN Ho-yin, a potential candidate for the position of coach of the the Football Training Programme, who was an Asian Football Confederation (AFC) “A” Licence Coaching Certificate holder. Moreover, all potential candidates to fill an assistant coach vacancy and six coaching assistant vacancies were AFC “C” Licence Coaching Certificate holders. Age-appropriate training would be provided to trainees aged between six and 12 recruited under the Football Training Programme cum Carnival. The entire project consisted of seven sessions, including a graduation ceremony.

186. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that the expenditure on the item “promotional posters” was estimated at \$6.5 per piece, which was pretty steep. He opined that adjustment had to be made. He continued to ask how the trainees felt after participating in the Football Training Programme and the study pathway options available to them.

187. Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex responded that AYMAA had run the Football Training Programme for three years, and that the number of participants had been increasing every year with the support from residents. The trainees had indicated that they had developed teamwork skills through the programme. Moreover, they had not encountered any obstacles in pursuing further studies.

188. The Chairman thanked Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex and Mr CHAN Hau-ming for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHEUNG Hon-fan, Alex and Mr CHAN Hau-ming left the meeting.)

189. The Chairman asked members whether they would endorse the above funding application, including the applied amount of \$100,000 as well as the application for an advance payment of \$50,000, exemption from quotation and open recruitment. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

190. The Committee endorsed the above funding application, including the funding amount, the application for an advance payment as well as exemption from quotations and open recruitment, with 11 votes in favour (namely Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James and Mr YIM Chun-ho), four against

(namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany) and zero abstention.

**(VII) Activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation  
(Four Applications)**

191. The Chairman said that six funding applications for activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation were received by the Secretariat. As the applicant organisation for two applications, namely “Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition” and “Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth”, was the same as that of an application under Sports promotion activities - Other sports training programmes and promotional activities, it was suggested that the applications be processed together afterwards. The other four applications would be processed first.

192. No members raised objections to the above arrangement.

**No 30. Good Neighbourhood - Caring and Sharing Activity**

193. The Chairman said that no members had declared interest on this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

194. The Secretary said that the Christian and Missionary Alliance Lei Fook Neighbourhood Elderly Centre (NEC) submitted a funding application for an amount of \$36,500 for “Good Neighbourhood - Caring and Sharing Activity”. This was the first time NEC applied for funding of CI project with SDC.

(Mr TANG Chi-kong and Ms LEE Man-lee joined the meeting.)

195. The Chairman welcomed Mr TANG Chi-kong, Officer, and Ms LEE Man-lee, Social Worker, of NEC for attending the meeting.

196. The Chairman invited the representatives of NEC to brief members on the funding application.

197. Ms LEE Man-lee briefed members on the content of the application form. She said that NEC was planning to contact at least 18 different organisations, including private companies, public organisations, Government departments, voluntary agencies, schools and churches, in September 2020 to recruit at least 80 volunteers and arrange professionals to teach them about epidemic prevention knowledge. Subsequently, NEC planned to conduct two rounds of large-scale visits during the “Elderly Month” in November 2020. Covering mainly Ap Lei Chau Estate and South Horizons, the visits targeted at singleton elders, doubleton elders, hidden elders, elders receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) and elders with special needs. In view of the lack of anti-epidemic supplies for the elderly people during the epidemic outbreak, NEC hoped that funds could be granted for the purchase of anti-epidemic supplies, such as handrub, face masks and disinfectant wipes, to cater for the needs of the elders in the coming year. In addition, as the weather would turn cold in November, NEC was planning to hand out anti-epidemic soup packs to the elderly. She pointed out that the activity would be held continuously, and the goal was to build a caring community through on-going participation of volunteers in voluntary services for the elderly.

198. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun enquired about the details of the anti-epidemic soup packs.

199. Mr TANG Chi-kong replied that taking into account the epidemic and the fact that elders were physically weaker, NEC was going to distribute healthy vegetarian soup packs to the elderly for building up good body immunity.

200. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun continued to ask whether the anti-epidemic soup packs contained Chinese medicines against the virus, or they were just non-medicinal soup packs.

201. Ms LEE Man-lee replied that NEC would procure anti-epidemic soup packs recommended by Chinese medicine practitioners, and their ingredients would include ganoderma, Fritillariae Cirrhosae Bulbus and ophiopogon root. She also emphasised that soups packs suitable for elders of all types of constitutions would be purchased.

202. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that the applicant organisation indicated on the application form it was anticipated that there would be 200 participants. He asked whether there was a list of the participating elders or the applicant organisation was still recruiting applicants.

203. Mr TANG Chi-kong replied that NEC had a membership of about 650, among which 136 were singleton elders, 145 were doubleton elders, 36 were hidden elders and more than 60 were elders receiving CSSA. Thus, he believed that the activity could enlist the participation of 200 elders, and emphasised that the consent of the participants would be obtained before paying visits.

204. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that he had reached out to quite a number of singleton elders and found that they were not very willing to go out to attend talks. Thus, he asked the applicant organisation to elaborate on the format of the health talks.

205. Ms LEE Man-lee replied that the target participants of the health talks were not elders but the volunteers of the visits. After attending the talks, the volunteers would design leaflets for distribution to elders during the visits to remind them to avoid gathering, wash hands frequently with proper steps, etc. She emphasised that the purpose of the visits was to share anti-epidemic knowledge with the elderly in addition to distributing anti-epidemic materials to them.

206. The Chairman said that DC funds should be utilised properly. The applicant organisation mentioned in its brief that the visits were scheduled for the “Elderly Month” in November. By that time, the epidemic situation might have improved already, hence a drop in the demand for anti-epidemic materials such as face masks. He suggested making the visits earlier.

207. Mr TANG Chi-kong replied that taken into account the high consumption of face masks and the health experts’ estimation that the epidemic would last for a considerable period of time, NEC planned to make the visits and distribute the anti-epidemic materials in November to match the theme of “Elderly Month”. NEC had been providing anti-epidemic materials for elders but the resources had been limited. Thus, it was hoped that DC funds could be secured to sustain the support for the elderly.

208. Ms LEE Man-lee noted the comments of the members and indicated that NEC could consider making the visits earlier.

209. The Chairman thanked the representatives of NEC for joining the meeting.

(Mr TANG Chi-kong and Ms LEE Man-lee left the meeting.)

210. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH added that in regards the declaration of interest, she was the Chairlady of the Hong Kong Southern District Women's Association Limited (HKSDWAL), which was one of the voluntary organisations the applicant organisation intended to contact for recruiting volunteers. She only knew the situation when reading the contents of Annex 1 to the application form, and was not aware that the applicant organisation planned to work with HKSDWAL.

211. The Chairman said that according to the contents of the application form, the applicant organisation planned to invite 18 voluntary organisations, including HKSDWAL, to participate in caring visits in September 2020. He was unsure whether HKSDWAL was a co-organiser in nature.

212. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH clarified that HKSDWAL was not a co-organiser of the activity.

213. The Chairman said that based on Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH's declaration of interest, she should withdraw from the meeting to avoid conflict of interest.

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH withdrew from the meeting.)

214. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that whether or not Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH was withdrawing from the meeting was not the focus. It was her ignorance about the affairs of HKSDWAL, of which she was the Chairlady that aroused doubt. She suggested that the funding should not be endorsed before clarifying if there was any misunderstanding, and expressed grave concern over the conflict of interest involved.

215. The Chairman said that he was not sure about the communication between the applicant organisation and HKSDWAL. However, according to experience, the applicant organisation might have included HKSDWAL as an organisation to be contacted without informing it because they had been co-operating from time to time in the past. He suggested members should scrutinise the contents of the application forms before vetting funding applications and declare interest in a timely manner in the future.

216. The Chairman asked if members endorsed the above funding application at \$36,500. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

217. The Committee rejected the above funding application with one vote in favour (Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun), five votes against (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany) and eight abstentions (including Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr YIM Chun-ho and Mr YU Chun-hei, James).

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH returned to the meeting.)

### **No 31. “Worry-free” Life Planning Workshop**

218. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

219. The Secretary said that Community Development Initiative Limited (CDI) submitted a funding application for the “Worry-free” Life Planning Workshop for an amount of \$50,000, together with an application for exemption from quotations. The organisation applied for funding for CI projects from SDC for the first time.

220. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH said that in the earlier discussion of the funding application “Good Neighbourhood – Caring and Sharing Activity”, she was not aware of Annex I to the application, namely, the voluntary agencies the applicant organisation intended to contact included HKSDWAL, in which she was the Chairlady. She apologised for causing any impact on members.

221. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to remind applicant organisations to state clearly the information of other collaborating organisations in the application other than the co-organiser and participating organisations if possible to facilitate the declaration of interests by members.

222. The Chairman welcomed Mr SHUM Chi-shing, Chief Executive Officer and Mr LAM Tsz-kin, Project Manager, of CDI to the meeting.

223. The Chairman invited the representatives of CDI to brief members on the funding application.

224. Mr SHUM Chi-shing said that CDI was a charitable body which was exempt from tax under Section 88 of Inland Revenue Ordinance and had organised different community activities before, including guided tours.

225. Mr LAM Tsz-kin said that the proposed project aimed at encouraging participants to face the end of life journey with an open and positive attitude, and to make early planning for after-death arrangements. The project covered two parts. The first part was an outdoor workshop conducted by means of Plant Jamming, which was a new form of art therapy, to provide life and death education to the elderly and terminally-ill patients in the Southern District. The second part was an indoor workshop, participants would learn about the information on hospice services, ranging from distribution of estate, will drafting process and methods of handling dead bodies, such as green burial, charity burial, etc. to help singleton elderly and terminally-ill patients to know after-death arrangements. He continued that their tutors would encourage non-singleton elderly to discuss the matter with family members to ease the family's worries.

226. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun asked whether the applicant organisation had organised the project in other districts, and whether the project activities were the same.

227. Mr LAM Tsz-kin responded that the applicant organisation had applied for funding from other DCs to organise similar projects, but adjustments were made to the project activities subject to the applied amount. As the ceiling set by SDC on the applied amount for the "Activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation" was \$50,000, abundant resources would be available so that the proposed workshops would be more comprehensive. As the applied amount for projects was lower in other DCs, only seminars were organised to provide information to participants.

228. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that after comparing the funding applications submitted to other DCs by the applicant organisation, he found that Plant Jamming was an item exclusive for the Southern District. He asked whether CDI would continue to organise the relevant part of activity if the allocation was not approved in full.

229. Mr LAM Tsz-kin responded that CDI was a charitable body with limited internal resources, the project activities would be adjusted subject to the allocation.

He quoted the example that similar activities endorsed by other DCs (excluding Plant Jamming) were not fee-charging because the allocation was sufficient to meet estimated expenditures of the activities. However, higher costs would be incurred in Plant Jamming, which involved transportation fee and the activity fee of \$150 per head charged by the service contractor, therefore the applicant organisation intended to charge \$50 per participant to meet some expenditures. If the approved allocation was grossly inadequate, cancellation of some activities would be unavoidable.

230. Ms CHAN Yan-yi asked whether the applicant organisation would meet other expenditures from their own resources other than DC funds and enrolment fees. In addition, she asked whether Plant Jamming had to be held in Botanic Union and whether other venues would be considered due to resource constraints.

231. Mr LAM Tsz-kin responded that after deducting SDC allocation and enrolment fees, the shortfall in expenditures would be absorbed by their own resources. For the activity venue, the organisation had initially obtained a quotation, having regard the capacity of the activity venue and the activities available, the service charges of Botanic Union were lower among the contractors of similar services, some service contractors produced plants in glass containers at a charge of as much as \$300 to \$400 per head, which would not be cost-effective. Other venues were not considered because they were located in Kowloon and not easily accessible. After comparison, Botanic Union could provide a comfortable outdoor activity venue which could better tie in the topics on life and death education.

232. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that the estimated expenditure for hiring “Speaker: Life and Death Education Expert” was high at a total of \$16,000 for 19 hours of service, and an application for funding of \$6,000 was made to SDC. He asked whether the applicant organisation had selected any candidates, and if so, what the qualifications and background of the candidates were.

233. Mr LAM Tsz-kin responded that two speakers would be hired for the project. Among them, the candidate for “Speaker: Registered Social Worker/Counsellor” had been identified, and the candidate was also willing to provide voluntary service. For the other candidate for “Speaker: Life and Death Education Expert”, the organisation had identified a preferred candidate who published a number of books related to life education and was invited as seminar speaker very often. The details could be provided later.

234. Mr YIM Chun-ho considered that as calculated based on the total applied amount of the applicant organisation, the average cost per participant funded by SDC was high, which was higher than that funded by SDC in general, the Committee might not endorse the applied amount in full. If so, he asked how the applicant organisation would adjust the expenditures.

235. Mr SHUM Chi-shing explained that a rich variety of activities were included, therefore the average cost per participant funded by SDC was comparatively higher. If there was a shortfall in the applied amount, the organisation would modify the activities, but hoped to continue to organise the project as far as possible.

236. Mr LAM Tsz-kin provided supplementary information on the qualifications of one of the life and death education experts to be hired. The preferred candidate was Ms Leila CHAN. As an independent journalist, she had carried out in-depth study in the relationship between hospice care and patients, and showed concerns to hospice services. She had been awarded Hong Kong Book Prize and her publications included 《死在香港：見棺材》 and 《死在香港：流眼淚》，《香港好走》 book series, etc.

237. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun appreciated the overall concept of the project, but was concerned that the average cost per participant funded by SDC was higher than the general level. He pointed out that the participants of the project were estimated to be 120, but the application did not include the selection process or confirm whether the target number of participants could be met. In addition, he was worried that the project could not promote life and death education to persons other than the participants, and asked whether the applicant organisation would consider organising more seminars. He said that SDC would attach importance to cost-effectiveness in vetting funding applications, and asked whether the applicant organisation could modify the activities to benefit more people.

238. Mr SHUM Chi-shing responded that the number of participants for the entire project were set at 120 because of the restriction on the number of participants for Plant Jamming. As far as the venue permitted, the participants of seminars could exceed 120. He continued that activity highlights would be uploaded onto the Internet to promote the information to the public. He also emphasised that the organisation was dedicated to the promotion of life and death education in Hong Kong and planned to apply for funding from other DCs.

239. Ms LI Shee-lin said that the estimated expenditure for Plant Jamming accounted for a higher ratio of the total expenditures, and suggested the applicant organisation consider replacing it with other activities which could achieve the same result to lower the project expenditures, so that members could re-consider whether to endorse the funding application.

240. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH asked the reasons for organising workshops of as long as 19 hours and the activity details.

241. Mr LAM Tsz-kin responded that due to limited venue size at Botanic Union, only 60 to 65 participants could be accommodated every time. When Plant Jamming was held, the organisation could only arrange a session for about 60 participants, therefore the outdoor workshop would be carried out in two days, while the 19-hour workshops would include two-day outdoor workshop and an indoor workshop.

242. Mr SHUM Chi-shing said that the estimated expenditure for Plant Jamming was \$19,500, the average cost per head would be around \$150 as calculated based on 130 participants, which was similar to a local day trip and he considered the applied amount reasonable. He also considered that the activity was important, other than enriching the entire project, participants were also allowed to obtain in-depth knowledge of life and death education. Yet, he accepted members' proposal that the activities would be modified if the allocation was not approved in full, and would consider seeking other sponsorship.

243. Mr LAM Tsz-kin added that the service contractor for Plant Jamming would charge \$150 per head, but as the participants were elderly persons and terminally-ill patients, the organisation would charge an enrolment fee of \$50 per head having considered the financial conditions of the parties concerned so as not to deter interested persons from participation due to price concern. He emphasised that art therapy in the form of Plant Jamming would alleviate the psychological pressure of participants towards death to make the project on life and death education more comprehensive and help establish community relationship, which was different from delivering the information to participants unilaterally by organising seminars only.

244. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael made supplementary declaration of interests, saying that he was a member of the Executive Committee of CDI, and he would withdraw from the meeting.

245. The Chairman decided that Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael should withdraw from the meeting.

(Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael withdrew from the meeting.)

246. The Chairman reminded members to make declaration of interests timely.

247. The Chairman said that as the applicant organisation intended to hire Ms Leila CHAN as speaker, he reminded them to follow the procurement procedures set out in the Funding Guidelines, which included obtaining the required number of quotations, and to apply to SDC for exemption from quotations if necessary.

248. Mr LAM Tsz-kin clarified that, in the hiring of speakers, the required number of quotations would be obtained or open recruitment would be carried out in accordance with the requirements, and Ms Leila CHAN was one of the speakers under consideration only. The organisation would make a decision after considering various factors but hoped that the party concerned had experience in the study of hospice services.

249. The Chairman thanked the representatives of CDI for attending the meeting.

(Mr SHUM Chi-shing and Mr LAM Tsz-kin left the meeting.)

250. The Chairman asked whether members endorsed the funding application, including the allocation, advance payment and the application for exemption from quotations, with a total allocation of \$50,000. The Chairman asked members to vote by open ballot.

251. The Committee endorsed the above funding application, advance payment and the application for exemption from quotations, with 13 votes in favour (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Mr YIM Chun-ho and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany), zero against and one abstention (Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH).

(Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael returned to the meeting.)

### **No 32. Hair-cutting Service at Lei Tung and Ap Lei Chau Estates**

252. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

253. The Secretary said that Societas Linguistica Hongkongensis (SLH) submitted a funding application for the “Hair-cutting Service at Lei Tung and Ap Lei Chau Estates” (“Hair-cutting Service”) for an allocation of \$50,000 with advance payment of \$25,000. The organisation applied for funding for CI Projects from SDC for the first time.

(Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew and Ms LEE Lok-sze, Nicole joined the meeting.)

254. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew, Chairman and Ms LEE Lok-sze, Nicole, Community Organiser, of SLH to the meeting.

255. The Chairman invited the representatives of SLH to brief members on the funding application.

256. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew explained the reasons for organising the project. He said that elderly people seldom went out in view of the COVID-19 epidemic, many social and welfare organisations had suspended their services, which might affect supporting services for the elderly. SLH had visited elderly people earlier and found that the hair of many elderly people had been growing too long. Some of them were unable to wash their hair quite often because of impaired mobility, which had caused hygiene problems and even made elderly people unpleasant. He continued that SLH also found that elderly people did not have proper knowledge on epidemic prevention, such as washing and re-use of single-use face masks. In view of this, SLH intended to cater for the elderly’s needs by arranging household visits and hair-cutting service for interested elderly people to make reservation through the list of singleton elderly collected from public housing estates and NGOs in the district and publicity leaflets. The volunteers would also measure the temperature of elderly people and distribute health questionnaires to them before hair-cutting as well as sanitise hairdressing tools with alcohol and increase the use of disposable products.

257. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that as far as he understood, SLH mainly promoted the use of Cantonese language, he had doubts about a project unrelated to its objectives of establishment, but considered that there was no harm in doing so. He was also concerned with the demand for hair-cutting service by singleton elderly. Based on his observation and experience, some elderly people were not willing to cut their hair. If the hair-cutting service would only be arranged upon the registration of elderly people on their own initiative, he considered that it would be difficult to meet the target number of project participants. In addition, elderly people were generally reluctant to read written materials, therefore he queried the effectiveness of printing 3 000 sets of publicity leaflets.

258. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that in addition to in-person registration by elderly people, SLH would also accept registration made by the family members of the elderly on their behalf. He continued that clear and simple design would be adopted for publicity materials, there was no need to complete any registration form, and registration could be made by telephone to provide convenience to the elderly.

259. Mr CHAN Hin-chung pointed out that the presentation materials of the applicant organisation contained errors, the correct Chinese characters should be “謬誤”. He said that the applicant organisation had been granted funding approval by the C&WDC for organising “Central and Western District Stories” Cantonese Essay Programme, and asked why similar project was not organised in the Southern District.

260. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew apologised for the errors in the presentation materials. In addition, SLH attempted to develop a diversity of projects and had established a community centre in Sham Shui Po to organise projects not limited to the promotion of Cantonese language. At the same time, SLH was interested in organising Cantonese Essay Programme in the Southern District.

261. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that while she expected the applicant organisation to organise projects similar to “Central and Western District Stories” Cantonese Essay Programme, she agreed that they could expand their scope of services to show concerns to other issues and reach out to the community, such as submission of a funding application for recording oral history by conducting interviews with the elderly in future through the elderly network developed under this project. For the design of publicity materials, she believed that the applicant

organisation could produce publicity materials designed to be easily readable by the elderly.

262. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that some members of SLH lived in the Southern District and were enthusiastic in serving the elderly in the district, therefore they hoped to organise the “Hair-cutting Service”. SLH also hoped to organise Cantonese Essay Programme in the Southern District in future.

263. Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that the main service users of the “Hair-cutting Service” were the persons with disabilities and singleton elderly, but most of these groups of people were not willing to go out. It would be difficult for them to know the project details. She asked whether the applicant organisation had other means of publicity and contact with the service users.

264. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that he was aware that singleton elderly would not go out very often. Hence, other than posters and leaflets, SLH would conduct door-to-door publicity. Furthermore, they would cooperate with an organisation formed by enthusiastic residents in the district to assist in the publicity activities in public housing estates. As the organisation had not been registered as a society, it was not set out as the co-organiser in the application form.

265. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that although the applicant organisation would accept registration made by the family members of the elderly on their behalf, some target service users most required the service were isolated and helpless without family assistance. He was worried that the applicant organisation would eventually have difficulty in reaching out to the target service users successfully. He emphasised that he did not object to the project rationale, but was concerned that the applicant organisation did not have the list of singleton elderly in the district, rendering it difficult to implement the project.

266. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew agreed that it was difficult to reach out to the target service users successfully, but SLH would conduct door-to-door publicity as far as practicable to get in touch with more service users, and engage more residents to participate in the project through the neighbourhood network of the elderly and the disabled.

267. Mr YU Chun-hei, James suggested that the applicant organisation should consider co-operating with NGOs which served the elderly at Ap Lei Chau Estate or

Lei Tung Estate. It was likely that the relevant organisations had already established a relatively more comprehensive community network, which would help the applicant organisation to reach out to more target service users.

268. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that SLH would work with local organisations, but the objective might not be achieved on the strength of their community network. In other words, they might fail to reach out to 520 elders and persons with disabilities to provide them with hair-cutting service. Therefore, SLH would get in touch with more service users through other means, including household visits and word of mouth among neighbours.

269. Mr POON Ping-hong said that the objectives of the applicant organisation stated on its website deviated substantially from the aims of this project, among which there was even a statement that “the organisation has no comment on issues unrelated to language, literature and culture”. In this connection, he suggested that should there be any changes in its work direction, the applicant organisation should revise its objectives accordingly. Besides, he pointed out that the applicant organisation organised the project for the first time. If there was a concern that the target number of participants could not be met, it should reduce the target number of participants and adjust the amount applied accordingly. He asked whether the applicant organisation would accept a reduction in the allocation for the project.

270. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that the sentence “the organisation has no comment on issues unrelated to language, literature and culture” included in the objectives of SLH indicated that it was not a political association. However, he agreed with members’ views and intended to include the item “incorporating Cantonese culture into community activities” in the new constitution. He continued that if members considered that it was difficult to recruit 520 participants for the project, SLH could adjust the number of participants and the applied amount of allocation, while reimbursement for the expenses paid for the project would be made on an accountable basis.

271. Ms LI Shee-lin said that she appreciated the applicant organisation’s rationale of providing doorstep hair-cutting service for the elderly. If the approved allocation was insufficient, she suggested the applicant organisation work with local organisations or hairdressers providing voluntary hair-cutting service. In addition, she asked whether it would consider expanding the scope of the project to other areas

in the Southern District in case it failed to recruit 520 elders or persons with disabilities at Ap Lei Chau Estate or Lei Tung Estate.

272. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that if the approved allocation was insufficient, SLH would consider co-operating with organisations holding voluntary hairdressing service in the district. Nevertheless, due to the epidemic, the hairdressers had to purchase extra protective equipment and disposable tools. Thus, SLH hoped to pay a higher service fee to the hairdressers through funding application. If the number of participants recruited in Ap Lei Chau Estate or Lei Tung Estate could not meet the target, they would consider recruiting participants from other public housing estates in the Southern District.

273. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that SDC would regard the applicant organisation as a working partner after a grant of funds and hoped that they could make the project a success. Their future funding application would be subject to the effectiveness of this project. He frankly pointed out that the applicant organisation had not seriously considered whether 520 participants could be recruited. Hence, he advised the applicant organisation to lower the target number of participants to about 200 to 300 and reduce the amount of funding applied accordingly.

274. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that SLH had confidence in recruiting 300 participants and also accepted the suggestion of adjusting the amount of funding applied accordingly.

275. Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH agreed with the project rationale but reminded the applicant organisation that many people were afraid of virus infection under the epidemic so they did not want to be visited by external parties. Based on her observation, the elders who were more active would go to hair salons for hair-cutting on their own initiative and there were other voluntary hair-cutting services available in the district, so she was worried that it was difficult for the applicant organisation to provide hair-cutting service for 520 target service users within two months.

276. Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew responded that SLH would provide doorstep hair-cutting service for the participants only after obtaining their consent.

277. The Chairman said that members had great interest in the language-related activities organised by the applicant organisation previously and hoped that elements of fishermen culture in the Southern District (e.g. studies on Tan Ka dialect and

Cantonese) could be incorporated into the projects. They also hoped that the applicant organisation could organise some language-related activities in the Southern District in the future.

278. The Chairman thanked the representatives of SLH for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHAN Lok-hang, Andrew and Ms LEE Lok-sze, Nicole left the meeting.)

279. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that providing hair-cutting service was not an intended objective of the applicant organisation but considered that the organisation could give it a try. Nevertheless, he believed that members did not have much confidence in the said project as NGOs were gradually resuming their services at that moment and other organisations in the district also provided voluntary hair-cutting service. If the Committee supported in principle the allocation of funding to the applicant organisation, he suggested discussing whether to cut the amount of allocation for some of the items.

280. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun believed that the applicant organisation was keen on organising the project, but some of its responses were satisfactory probably because providing hair-cutting service was not in line with the intended objectives of the organisation. Given that the applicant organisation had the confidence to recruit 300 participants, he suggested that the Committee should cut the amount of funding applied for “Hairdressers’ fee” based on the unit cost of \$60 per participant, and members could also consider whether to cut publicity expenses.

281. Mr YU Chun-hei, James suggested that the amount of allocation for the items “Hairdressers’ fee”, “Project Officer”, “Temporary Executive” and “Miscellaneous expenses” be reduced proportionately. Nevertheless, as members were worried that the applicant organisation might not be able to reach out to the target service users, he opined that it was not necessary to adjust publicity expenses, otherwise the effectiveness of publicity would be affected to a greater extent. Besides, he had no comment on the estimated number of participants.

282. The Chairman said that according to paragraph 1.3(a) of the funding guidelines, “an amount of not more than 25% of the approved project fund may be used to cover staff costs directly and specifically incurred on the project”. Given that the items “Project Officer” and “Temporary Executive” were staff costs, if the total amount of allocation was reduced, the allocation for these two items should be reduced accordingly. Based on an estimated number of 300 participants at a unit

cost of \$60 per participant in the calculation, the allocation for “Hairdressers’ fee” would be reduced to \$18,000, and the total amount of allocation applied would be reduced to \$36,800. In other words, the staff costs should not exceed \$9,200.

283. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus said that new organisations should be given the opportunity to serve the residents in the Southern District, and believed that this project would enhance the popularity of the applicant organisation in the Southern District and help attract more residents to participate in the essay programme and other language promotion activities in the future. He agreed that if adjustment was made to the target number of participants, the amount of allocation should also be reduced proportionately. He also enquired whether the amount of “Miscellaneous expenses” would be reduced.

284. The Chairman said that Mr YU Chun-hei, James had proposed cutting the allocation for the items “Hairdressers’ fee”, “Project Officer”, “Temporary Executive” and “Miscellaneous expenses”, and further discussion was required to determine the specific amounts. He reminded once again that the items “Project Officer” and “Temporary Executive” were staff costs. The total allocation for these two items could only account for 25% of the entire project fund.

285. The Chairman asked if members agreed to reduce the scale of the “Hair-cutting Service” project.

286. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun agreed to it, and opined that the project scale would be the key to the effectiveness of the project. He suggested reducing the target number of participants to 300 and cutting the staff costs accordingly.

287. Mr YIM Chun-ho suggested reducing the total amount of allocation proportionately, and that the Secretariat should follow up with the applicant organisation on the budget items.

288. The Chairman agreed to reduce the total allocation proportionately, and the funding application after adjustment of budget items would require the endorsement of the Committee again.

289. Mr YIM Chun-ho asked whether the matter could be referred to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee for handling.

290. The Chairman said that the Committee had decided to convene a special meeting, he suggested that the funding application for the “Hair-cutting Service” after budget adjustment could be discussed together at that meeting.

291. The Chairman continued to ask whether the total allocation would be reduced by \$13,200 accordingly if the target number of participants was reduced from 520 to 300.

292. Mr YIM Chun-ho proposed reducing the total allocation by \$20,000.

293. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun agreed to the above proposal.

294. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that based on an estimated number of 300 participants at a unit cost of \$60 per participant in the calculation, “Hairdressers’ fee” would be reduced to \$18,000. Assuming that the fees for “Printing and design of posters” and “Printing and design of leaflets” remained unchanged (i.e. \$2,500), together with the same premium for “Public liability and accident insurance” (\$1,800), under the condition that the total allocation was reduced to \$30,000, staff costs would be significantly cut. However, the computation was very complicated, he was unable to work out the actual figure for the time being.

295. The Chairman asked whether members initially supported the funding application, and agreed that the applicant organisation had to adjust the amount applied to \$30,000, and the Committee would vet the funding application after budget adjustment at the next special meeting. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

296. The Committee initially supported the above funding application with 15 votes in favour (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Mr YIM Chun-ho and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany), zero against and zero abstention, and agreed that the applicant organisation had to adjust the amount applied to \$30,000, and the Committee would vet the funding application after budget adjustment at the next special meeting.

297. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to follow up the budget adjustment in the funding application after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: SLH adjusted the budget in the funding application to \$30,000, and the Committee endorsed the funding application after adjustment at the 1st special meeting on 16 July 2020.)

**No 33. Southern District Alcohol-based Handrub Sharing Scheme for Grassroots in Tenement Buildings**

298. The Chairman said that no members had declared interest on this funding application before the meeting. He asked members if there were any updates or supplementary information. No members raised updates or supplementary information on the declaration of interests at the meeting.

299. The Secretary said that the Build and Wish Voluntary Team (Voluntary Team) had submitted a funding application for “Southern District Alcohol-based Handrub Sharing Scheme for Grassroots in Tenement Buildings” (the Scheme) at \$50,000. This was the first time that this organisation applied for SDC Funds for CI Project.

(Mr POON Kwok-hin, Mr CHIU Wai-kit, Ms LEUNG Ka-man, Ms CHAN Wai-ching and Ms LUK Kit-mei joined the meeting.)

300. The Chairman welcomed the representatives of the Voluntary Team to the meeting:

- (i) Mr POON Kwok-hin, Chairman (Voluntary);
- (ii) Mr CHIU Wai-kit, Director (Human Resources);
- (iii) Ms LEUNG Ka-man, Internal Director (Voluntary);
- (iv) Ms CHAN Wai-ching, Administrative Officer (Voluntary); and
- (v) Ms LUK Kit-mei, Area Officer, Southern District (Voluntary).

301. The Chairman invited the representative of the Voluntary Team to brief members on the funding application.

302. Mr POON Kwok-hin used PowerPoint slides to brief members on the funding application, and applied for funding from SDC for the procurement of alcohol-based handrubs. He expressed that the Scheme was to manage and refill the alcohol-based handrub dispensers installed in tenement buildings in the district on a regular basis.

The Voluntary Team had installed alcohol-based handrub dispensers in many tenement buildings located in Tin Wan, Aberdeen and Ap Lei Chau, and had contacted three local tea restaurants to act as “filling stations” for handrubs. Volunteers who lived in the tenement buildings would assist in obtaining handrub from the “filling stations” on a regular basis and refill the handrub dispensers in the buildings. He continued to brief on the main procedures of the relevant services and pointed out that the Voluntary Team had already provided services for over 1 800 tenement buildings in Hong Kong. He hoped that the Scheme could give play to the spirit of mutual assistance in fighting against the epidemic in the district. At this stage, one volunteer would assist in the liaison work for each tenement building, and there were already more than 130 “filling stations” in the 18 districts of Hong Kong.

303. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung enquired about how the Voluntary Team could maintain the operation of the three existing “filling stations” in the Southern District, given limited resources and the absence of recurrent funding, and whether the alcohol-based handrub dispensers were cleansed on a regular basis.

304. Mr POON Kwok-hin responded that early in the end of February 2020, the Voluntary Team implemented the Scheme in a rush with the aim to provide anti-epidemic facilities for residents of tenement buildings. During that time, over 300 hundred tenement buildings were installed with alcohol-based handrub dispensers within two weeks. As the Voluntary Team had been focusing on anti-epidemic work, no consideration was given to long-term plans at the time. Thus, it was hoped that SDC funding could be obtained to extend the Scheme for at least half a year. As for the hygiene problems of the alcohol-based handrub dispensers, the Voluntary Team had already taken into account of conditions such as people maliciously spitting into the dispensers. To avoid contamination, the dispensers were designed in such a way that they had to be opened with keys. Fortunately, no complaints regarding hygiene issues were received so far. He stressed that even if there were issues with the alcohol-based handrub dispensers or relevant procedures, volunteer groups of about 30 to 40 people in each district could liaise with the residents of the building immediately to enquire about the situation and provide assistance.

305. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that the funding being applied for would only be sufficient for operation for about seven months. He asked how the alcohol-based handrub dispensers would be handled if funds could not be raised in the future. In addition, he asked the Voluntary Team about the calculation method of the estimated expenditure on alcohol-based handrub, the average monthly consumption of handrub

for the buildings installed with dispensers in the Southern district, and the source of handrub supply.

306. Mr POON Kwok-hin replied that the Voluntary Team would deploy volunteers to remove the alcohol-based handrub dispensers and reinstate the site if the Scheme could no longer sustain due to insufficient resources in the future. The Voluntary Team was sponsored by the Shih Wing Ching Foundation for carrying out the preliminary work in the early stage of the Scheme. Moreover, the Voluntary Team was able to secure the supply of a safety-certified handrub with tea tree oil and skin-care ingredients from a local brand, “everyBody Labo”, at a lower-than-market price, i.e. \$200 per 5 litres. He continued to point out that the average monthly consumption of alcohol-based handrub of each building was about one to two litres. If granted SDC’s funding, the procurement process would be conducted in accordance with the relevant requirements.

307. Ms CHAN Yan-yi asked whether the Voluntary Team had received any complaints from residents since the launch of the Scheme; the source of funding for providing services for other districts; and how the Voluntary Team would solve the funding problem if the funding application was not approved.

308. Mr POON Kwok-hin replied that only one resident’s enquiry about whether the Scheme was fee-charging was received so far, and the Voluntary Team had explained that the Scheme was not fee-charging. The Voluntary Team received praises on the Scheme from quite a number of residents and thank you cards signed by residents expressing gratitude for the contribution of the volunteers in Sha Tin, reflecting that the Scheme could foster the spirit of mutual care among neighbours. He continued to point out that the Scheme targeted its service at grassroots family and mainly covered tenement buildings where the grassroots, including tenants of subdivided flats, resided. The Voluntary Team planned to apply for funding with the DCs of 18 districts in Hong Kong, and had introduced the Scheme to the Central and Western District Office. It was considered that, at the district level, DC’s support for the Scheme could better highlight the spirit of mutual assistance among residents of a district, and that the value of the Scheme lied in its ability to sustain through attracting the support of various organisations.

309. Ms LEUNG Ka-man added that, apart from residents of Sha Tin, residents of Shek Pai Wan had also expressed gratitude to the Voluntary Team for providing alcohol-based handrubs via a post on the “Southern District Buddies” Facebook page.

310. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said with regard to the prior permission required for installing alcohol-based handrub dispensers at buildings, there should be little problem with implementation in buildings with owners' corporations (OCs). However, quite a number of tenement buildings were "three-nil buildings" (i.e. those without OCs, residents' organisations or property management companies). Thus, he asked the Voluntary Team on how the legal issues were handled. He pointed out that SDC did not consider it advisable to install the alcohol-based handrub dispensers forcibly in the tenement buildings without prior permission.

311. Mr POON Kwok-hin replied that the above issues had been considered in the early stage of the Scheme. In buildings where OCs or owners' committees (OComm) had been set up, the Voluntary Team would post notices. In "three-nil buildings", as quite a number of owners had rented out their properties, obtaining the consent of all owners would be impractical. Thus, the Voluntary Team would gain the consent of at least one resident of each building concerned before installing the dispensers. If complaints were received after installing the dispensers, the Voluntary Team would remove them immediately. Fortunately, no complaints had been received so far. He added that if SDC's funding was granted, the Voluntary Team would display publicity materials next to the alcohol-based handrub dispensers to indicate that the handrub refill was sponsored by SDC.

312. Ms LI Shee-lin expressed support for products made in Hong Kong, but reminded the applicant organisation that quotations should be invited in accordance with the requirements if DC funds were approved, and that designating a specific brand of handrub for procurement would arouse public suspicion. She enquired whether the Scheme would still be taken forward if the procurement of the above brand of handrub was not approved. She pointed out that members of the public generally recognised that washing hands frequently was more important, and coupled with the excess supply of alcohol-based handrubs at present, the provision of free handrubs might be a waste if the demand decreased substantially following the improvement of the epidemic situation. In this connection, she enquired of the applicant organisation about the contingency plan.

313. Mr POON Kwok-hin responded that this Hong Kong-branded handrub had been specifically procured for the Scheme all along because its ingredients were proven safe and in compliance with the requirements. In addition to its moisturising benefit, it offered good value for money. Subject to SDC's funding approval,

tendering procedures for procurement would be carried out in accordance with the requirements. The Scheme had not seen any abuse cases so far, and the consumption of handrub was moderate and similar across the 18 districts. As regards the problem of theft, which was a concern at the early stage, about six handrub dispensers had been reported stolen. In addition, given that some residents attached greater importance to hygiene, the demand for handrub would persist even if the epidemic situation was improved. The installation of handrub dispensers could remind the public to observe hygiene practices as well. Currently, no contingency plan had been devised to cope with a drastic decrease in demand for handrubs, but the matter would be studied further.

314. Mr YU Chun-hei, James enquired of the applicant organisation whether it would be acceptable if SDC financed only the expenditure on handrubs for buildings which had obtained the consent of their OCs or OComms for installing the alcohol-based handrub dispensers, while the applicant organisation sought other sources of funding, e.g. the Shih Wing Ching Foundation, to meet the operating expenditure for the alcohol-based handrub dispensers in “three-nil buildings”. Under such arrangement, SDC could avoid possible legal issues.

(Mr YIM Chun-ho withdrew from the meeting.)

315. Mr POON Kwok-hin responded that the Scheme targeted mainly at “three-nil buildings”, but tenement buildings with OCs or OComms were also covered. If SDC funds were given only to buildings with proper management, and no assistance was rendered to those without proper management, the purpose of the Scheme would be defeated. He agreed that legal issues were involved in the scheme, and in order to facilitate the installation of alcohol-based handrub dispensers in “three-nil buildings”, the promotional materials might include a statement that all legal liabilities would be handled and borne solely by the Voluntary Team. Besides, the Voluntary Team could put up posters with such messages as “thank your neighbour for refilling the handrub dispenser every day” in the buildings to show that residents’ consent had been obtained. Contact telephone number could also be added on the posters for the residents to make enquiries. Mr POON said that based on past experience in the installation of alcohol-based handrub dispensers for about 1 800 buildings, no legal issues had arisen upon implementation of the above measures. Only one complaint call from a resident was received, but the caller did not complain anymore after knowing that the handrub was provided for free.

316. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun enquired whether it would be acceptable to SDC if the applicant organisation included a statement on its promotional materials that all legal liabilities would be borne solely by the Voluntary Team to the effect that possible legal issues related to “three-nil buildings” could be avoided. If it was not acceptable to members, further discussion in this direction would be unnecessary.

317. The Chairman responded that whether the funding application would be rejected because of the legal risks involved in the Scheme mainly hinged on the stance of SDO instead of SDC. In this connection, the Chairman invited the District Officer (Southern) to respond.

318. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP responded that the legal issues involved in the Scheme were relatively complicated, and it would not be easy to sort out the legal liabilities involved in the funding application. Therefore, members should give due consideration with regard to this situation. Members might also consider whether SDC would support the Scheme by other means.

319. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that members were glad to help residents of “three-nil buildings”, but he wished that the applicant organisation would take into account SDC’s legal responsibilities. He enquired the applicant organisation whether it was acceptable if SDC only provided funding for the expenditure on handrubs for buildings which had obtained the consent of their OCs or OComms to install handrub dispensers.

320. Mr POON Kwok-hin responded that positive response was received from the District Officer (Central and Western) (DO(C&W)) in an earlier meeting, and the Voluntary Team also planned to implement the Scheme in the 18 districts across the territory. He explained that the Scheme would only seek funding from SDC for the expenditure on the procurement of alcohol-based handrubs, while the installation of handrub dispensers would be carried out by the Voluntary Team itself. In case there was public opposition against the dispensers, the responsibilities of SDC would be relatively indirect. He hoped that this would ease members’ concern.

321. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus said that he understood residents of “three-nil buildings” were in need of social assistance, but legal issues must be addressed before sponsoring the Scheme with SDC funds. He proposed that the consent of all owners should be sought by the applicant organisation before installing alcohol-based handrub dispensers in “three-nil buildings”.

322. Mr POON Kwok-hin responded that regarding members' concern, in addition to the above measures, the Voluntary Team could take the initiative to inform owners of "three-nil buildings" about the Scheme through letter boxes. In case objection was raised to the installation of alcohol-based handrub dispensers, his team would be available for further communication. He reiterated that no complaints had been received from the residents in the past, and he undertook to follow up on the removal and repair work of the handrub dispensers. He also considered the Scheme, which had already attracted over 1 000 volunteers, very meaningful and did not wish to see members backing away in view of the problems that might arise.

323. The Chairman said that he was not very concerned about the legal issues of the Scheme, but he was worried that even if SDC endorsed funding for the Scheme, SDO would refuse reimbursement for the expenses incurred upon implementation.

324. Mr POON Kwok-hin said that he did not worry that SDO would refuse reimbursement for the expenses incurred upon implementation despite SDC's funding approval for the Scheme. He only wished to promote the spirit of mutual help in the neighbourhood through applying for funding for the Scheme from DCs of the 18 districts.

325. The Chairman thanked the representatives of Voluntary Team for attending the meeting.

(Mr POON Kwok-hin, Mr CHIU Wai-kit, Ms LEUNG Ka-man, Ms CHAN Wai-ching and Ms LUK Kit-mei left the meeting.)

326. The Chairman asked members whether they initially supported the application for funding at the amount of \$50,000. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

327. The Committee initially supported the above funding application with 11 votes in favour (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany), zero vote against and three abstentions (including Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH and Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun).

328. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP said that he understood members' intention of supporting this funding application, and the Secretariat had to go through the related administrative procedures properly before issuing the letter of approval formally. SDO would sort out the legal issues involved in the funding application as soon as practicable to make sure that the Scheme could be launched lawfully.

329. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany asked how long it would take SDO to seek legal advice on this funding application and whether there was any timetable. To her understanding, the said procedure took a long time. For example, advice was sought with the related departments about Internet live broadcast of DC meetings, and after half a year, no replies had been received.

(Mr YIM Chun-ho returned to the meeting.)

330. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP replied that he noted the timelines of the Scheme and SDO would consult the Department of Justice (DoJ) about the funding application as soon as possible.

(Post-meeting note: SDO has sought advice from DoJ. The applicant organisation has signed an indemnity statement and revised the application. The Committee has approved the application by circulation.)

331. The Chairman said that according to the applicant organisation, the Scheme had received positive response from DO(C&W). He asked whether HAD noted the matter concerned.

332. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP replied that HAD did not review individual applications, but SDO would inform HAD with regard to seeking advice from DoJ about the funding application.

333. The Chairman said given that the applicant organisation had expressly made its commitment to bear all the legal liabilities, disapproval of funding for the organisation would be a contravention on the part of HAD of its principle of supporting the "three-nil buildings" and a reflection of its outright hypocrisy.

334. Ms LI Shee-lin said that HAD had cut the funding for the CI Programmes of SDC earlier and held that funding had to be earmarked for anti-epidemic work. At

the same time, HAD had also been saying that they would provide assistance for the residents of “three-nil buildings”. She urged that HAD should make good use of the funding through open application by organisations with passion so as to provide assistance for the residents of the “three-nil buildings”.

335. The Chairman asked SDO to take note of the above views.

**(VIII) Activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation (Two Applications) and**

**(IX) Sports promotion activities – Other sports training programmes and promotional activities (One Application)**

336. The Chairman said that no members had declared interests for these three funding applications before the meeting. He asked members whether they had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

337. The Secretary said that Southern Arisen (SA) had submitted three funding applications with a total applied amount of \$174,672, and that it was the first time SA had sought funding under the SDC’s CI Project Fund. The application details were as follows:

<b><u>Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>Applied Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Advance Payment</u></b>
34	Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition	Activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation	\$50,000	\$25,000
35	Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth	Activities to promote community inclusion, care and rehabilitation	\$50,000	\$25,000
36	Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest	Sports promotion activities - Other sports training programmes and promotional activities	\$74,672	\$37,336

(Mr LEUNG Man-chun and Ms YEUNG Pui-ching joined the meeting.)

338. The Chairman welcomed Mr LEUNG Man-chun and Ms YEUNG Pui-ching, Project Assistants of SA, to the meeting.

339. The Chairman invited Mr LEUNG Man-chun to brief members on the funding applications.

340. Mr LEUNG Man-chun said that mainly comprised of residents in the Southern District, SA aimed to plan and organise activities relevant to issues and items of its members' concern, including community publishing and advocacy of district-based policies. He continued to introduce the funding applications: (i) "Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition": the objective was to disseminate the message of community care through Christmas cards with unique designs; (ii) "Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth": the event would not adopt the format of the television programme "City Forum". The dialogue themes would include environmental protection, love relationship, the cyberspace and the future of Hong Kong, with the aim to achieving community harmony and inclusion through conversation between participants of all ages in the Southern District; and (iii) "Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest": given that the majority of ball games in the district were open to players in teams, it was hoped that an event could be organised for people of all ages in the Southern District or those who were not able to participate in team competitions. As compared with traditional basketball competitions, the three-point goal contest was suitable for different age groups given the relatively low requirements for physical fitness and athletic ability, thereby encouraging a wider participation.

341. The Chairman said that the three funding applications would be combined for discussion, and asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

342. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that as a first-time applicant for SDC's CI Project Fund, SA had already submitted three funding applications with a total applied amount exceeding \$170,000. The applicant organisation's track record in organising projects was not available for members' reference, while SDC had seldom approved a substantial amount of grants in one go to a first-time applicant. Thus, he suggested

that the applicant organisation should consider reducing the number of or downscaling its projects under application, and that consideration would be given to scaling up the projects only after SDC had evaluated the cost-effectiveness of the projects organised by the applicant organisation in practice.

343. Ms YEUNG Pui-ching responded that despite that SA was a relatively new organisation in the Southern District, the team behind the proposed projects was indeed an experienced event management agency who had organised a wide range of projects with focus on commercial and district-based activities, etc. She hoped that members could further elaborate the assessment criteria for funding approval: whether approval would be granted based on the applied amount or an applicant organisation's track record in organising projects.

344. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that first-time applicants used to apply for a relatively small grant from SDC for organising projects. Only after evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the projects, SDC would consider whether the applicant organisations could apply for a relatively large grant to scale up their future projects. He understood that the organisation concerned had experience in organising a wide range of activities but had never organised SDC-funded projects. Given the different project nature, it was not possible to carry out an evaluation. Therefore, he suggested that the applicant organisation should reduce the number of or downscale its projects under application.

345. Ms YEUNG Pui-ching responded that if necessary, information on past projects organised by SA could be provided for members' reference.

346. The Chairman said that according to Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, first-time applicants were recommended to first make funding applications for smaller-scale projects, and thereafter, with proven success in the existing projects, they could gradually increase the applied amount for scaling up future projects after earning the trust of SDC in their ability to organise projects. He pointed out that even if the applicant organisation could provide information on its past projects, it was not possible to fully address members' concerns; nevertheless, the applicant organisation could still provide information on its past projects for members' reference.

347. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that the amount applied by the organisation concerned would bear relevance to the vetting criteria to be adopted by members, including the types of reference information required and the trustworthiness of the

organisation. He pointed out that members would adopt a more prudent approach in vetting applications for a relatively large grant in the hope of having a better understanding of project details and viability.

348. Mr LEUNG Man-chun responded that regardless of the applied amounts, SA would abide by the principles of organising projects with prudence and spending within its means. He hoped that members could consider the reasonableness of particulars of the funding applications or propose areas for improvement. He continued that although it was the first time SA had applied for SDC Funds for organising three projects with different applied amounts, it was committed to consistently organising all these projects with available resources in a conscientious and reasonable manner.

349. Mr YU Chun-hei, James considered that the three funding applications contained excellent project ideas. He pointed out that as members were concerned about the ability of the applicant organisation to organise three projects concurrently, the Committee wished to obtain information on the estimated number of staff involved in project organisation and its organisational size from the organisation concerned, so as to facilitate further assessment and vetting of the funding applications.

350. Mr LEUNG Man-chun responded that SA had six to 10 core members who assumed responsibility for different project management functions, while there were about 20 to 30 volunteers from the Southern District. For the three projects under application, a portion of the proposed funds had been set aside for hiring part-time project co-ordinators. Besides, subject to approval of funding for the three projects, the organisation concerned would recruit additional volunteers through online platforms or various media to ease the burden on its over-worked members, with a view to ensuring that the three projects could be run successfully.

351. Mr CHAN Hin-chung was aware of members' concerns. However, he pointed out that according to the respective implementation timetables, the "Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition" was scheduled between September and December 2020, and publicity activities and collection of card designs would be carried out between September and November; the "Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth" was scheduled between November and December 2020 whereas the "Best Shooter - The 1st Southern

District Three-point Goal Contest” was scheduled between October and November 2020. He was of the view that the organisation concerned only needed to concentrate efforts on two projects at the same time, believing that this would not unduly stretch the existing manpower. Besides, he pledged full support for the three aforesaid funding applications with innovative ideas. Given that SDC-funded projects of similar nature had rarely been seen in the past, he agreed that the organisation concerned could provide information on its past projects for members’ reference. He recommended that members gave favourable consideration and support.

352. Mr POON Ping-hong said that it was estimated that 100 players would compete in the “Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest”, but the organisation concerned had intended to procure 50 basketballs at a cost of over \$10,000, and coupled with the fact that SDC would not recover that batch of basketballs upon conclusion of the project, he enquired of the applicant organisation about the disposal of that batch of basketballs. Besides, he enquired about the breakdown of the 10 contest prizes at a total estimated cost of \$10,000.

353. Mr LEUNG Man-chun explained the reasons for procuring basketballs in the requested quantity. According to contest rules, players would be required to shoot a basketball from different spots along the three-point line within the shortest period of time, thus it was necessary to place a certain number of basketballs at different fixed spots. The basketballs in the requested quantity had nothing to do with the estimated number of contestants. In addition, SA intended to organise an annual three-point goal contest in the Southern District in the future. The basketballs procured for this edition could be reused in similar projects in the future. At an estimated total cost of \$10,000, the 10 prizes would be awarded to the champion, the first runner-up, the second runner-up and a certain number of merit prize winners.

354. Mr POON Ping-hong asked about the types of prizes the applicant organisation intended to procure at a cost of \$10,000.

355. Mr LEUNG Man-chun responded that considering that the project concerned was a sports event, sporting goods or sports-related gift vouchers would mainly be procured as prizes. The decision on the choice of prizes would depend on the quotations received, and market prices would be used as a basis for appraising these quotations. If necessary, supplementary information might be provided later on.

356. Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that despite the availability of attractive prizes for the “Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest”, considering that SDC might not be able to approve the grants in full for these three projects owing to scarcity of resources, she enquired of the applicant organisation whether consideration would be given to charging contestants a fee to recover part of the project costs.

357. Mr LEUNG Man-chun responded that actually SA had considered charging the contestants a fee; nonetheless, as some of them were students, charging a fee might dampen their enthusiasm for sports activities. Therefore, no fees would be charged. Should there be a need to recover part of the project costs by charging a fee, consideration might be given to charging contestants in the open category. Yet, he stressed that basically, entry to the contest should be free or merely charge a nominal fee, in order to achieve the objective of increasing participation in sports. He did not wish to dampen the public’s interest in participating in the event by charging an entry fee. Furthermore, as this was a debut project, it was hoped that free entry to the contest could encourage a wider participation.

358. Mr YU Chun-hei, James enquired of SA about the minimum number of basketballs required for the preliminary round. Also, while he understood that the number of basketballs required might have been determined after taking into account the possibility of holding future contests, given that the scale of similar projects to be organised in the future might be different, it was only necessary to determine the funding requirements for a one-off event under the current application. If the project was well received, funding approval might further be sought from SDC in the future, and the applied amount could be adjusted having regard to actual needs. Also, given the uncertainty of the epidemic outbreak, he enquired of the applicant organisation about the availability of anti-epidemic measures for contestants, e.g. providing alcohol-based handrub to contestants for sanitising their hands before competition.

359. Mr LEUNG Man-chun responded that it had been estimated that a total of 50 basketballs would be required for the preliminary round and final, and all of them would be cleansed and disinfected after use. The competition format would be similar to the National Basketball Association’s Three-point Contest, whereby five shooting spots would be set along the three-point line while another two shooting spots would be set further away. Five basketballs would be provided at each shooting spot to facilitate contestants’ shooting, which meant that a total of 35 basketballs would be required for seven shooting spots, and the remaining 15 basketballs be reserved in the light of anticipated replacement need. SA would, in

response to the epidemic situation, make disinfectant products available for the use of contestants. He added that SA staff had experience in producing alcohol-based handrub, and that closer attention would be paid to the disinfecting and cleansing work at competition venues.

360. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun pointed out that the project titles contained words such as “Christmas Celebration for All” and “Dialogue with You and Understanding”, and asked the applicant organisation whether it was worried that clashes or unpleasant incidents would occur when participants came across people with different political stances or opposing political views during such events. He also wished to know the precautionary measures to be adopted by the applicant organisation to deal with the situation.

361. In response, Mr LEUNG Man-chun opined that whether the words “With You” and “With Understanding” involved political ideology was a matter of subjective personal feelings. The project title “Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth” contained two specific words “you/understanding”. While the former represented “you” as in “you and me”, the latter represented “rationality” (the homonym for “understanding” in Cantonese). The project did not aim to provoke a fierce debate, but to provide a public platform for rational communication, with a view to achieving a positive outcome. He queried whether the title would convey the meaning of “Communist Party” and “you” if part of the Chinese title was changed from “和你” to “共你”. He opined that as everybody would have his/her own interpretation of the project title, it would be difficult to completely avoid arguments. He stressed that the project did not involve any political manipulation. As for the possible occurrence of unpleasant or even violent incidents during the contest, he supplemented that for the time being, there were plans to hire a government venue for holding the contest, and about a dozen of volunteers would assist in maintaining order at the exhibition gallery during the project period. Moreover, given the availability of security guards at the government venue, he believed that even if the security guards were not intended for providing assistance in event management, proper venue management measures would still be put in place during the contest.

362. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun said that whether the project involved any political agenda was not the prime concern, and stressed that the granting of funding approval would depend on the chance of success of the project. He understood that the applicant organisation would deploy staff to maintain order; nonetheless, in view of

the community inclusion nature of the project, it was necessary to draw up measures to address any foreseeable scenarios. However, relevant measures had yet to be drawn up so far. He continued that this project was costly, in particular the expensive prizes. Given that SDC Funds were actually public money, every penny of it should be prudently spent. While he understood that the applicant organisation wished to encourage public participation in the project with attractive prizes, if the project was sufficiently appealing in its own right, the value of prizes would not influence people's decision to participate in the project. As such, he enquired of the applicant organisation about the possibility of conducting an expenditure review on the project based on the principle of spending within its means, so as to achieve cost savings.

363. Mr LEUNG Man-chun expressed understanding of members' concerns on the expenditure on prizes, and said that consideration would be given to accepting the suggestion of charging contestants. He further pointed out that due to resources and spatial constraints, an entry quota would be imposed on two projects, namely the "Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest" and the "Dialogue with You - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth". As far as the latter was concerned, SA estimated that each dialogue session could accommodate some 20 participants, and that during registration, the organiser would clearly indicate that the activity was intended for exchange of views and participants were required to observe specific codes. While he was aware of the current social tension, it was considered that the themes of the dialogue sessions (including environmental protection, love relationship, cyberspace, etc.) would not stir up public controversies. At the same time, he promised to conduct a prudent risk assessment of the projects to ensure the safety of participants and avoid the occurrence of public safety incidents.

364. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany expressed her full support for the series of projects proposed by the applicant organisation. She asked the District Officer (Southern) whether the applicant organisation would be denied reimbursement in the end on the ground that it failed to achieve the prescribed objectives because the approved SDC-funded projects had been prevented from proceeding smoothly, successfully and orderly. This would be tantamount to giving a blank cheque. She continued that based on previous experience, in all cases, violent incidents and clashes had broken out when police officers stirred up unrest upon arrival at the scene. Therefore, should the above situation happen, the organiser was not to be blamed. In

this connection, she asked the District Officer (Southern) to give an undertaking or make a clarification in this regard.

365. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP responded that some members had expressed concerns on the potential safety risks associated with the projects proposed by the applicant organisation. In response to the applicant organisation's intention to use government venues for holding its projects as specified in the application form, he clarified that the Government would not deploy any security guards to assist the applicant organisation in maintaining order at community halls, and stressed that it should assign its own staff to ensure the maintenance of order during any activities at government venues. He also shared a member's view that harmony was a key element of the project. Given that the main objective of CI projects was to promote and facilitate community inclusion and harmony, this principle also applied to all applications for SDC Funds. The Government looked forward to the successful conclusion of all projects endorsed by SDC, so as to disseminate the message of social harmony across all strata of society. He continued that there would not be a one-size-fits-all approach to deal with activities involving unpleasant incidents. Nevertheless, he reminded the applicant organisation that if there were any deviations from the original proposals and relevant objectives in practice during project implementation, or proper arrangement was not in place to deal with unpleasant incidents, in the worst-case scenario the applicant organisation might be denied reimbursement and be required to refund the advance payments. As such, he encouraged the applicant organisation to take precautionary measures to avoid the above undesirable outcomes.

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH withdrew from the meeting.)

366. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany continued to ask whether the applicant organisation would be denied reimbursement if it had exercised due diligence in making proper arrangements for activities and drawing up project plans, e.g. deploying a sufficient number of stewards and putting in place comprehensive security measures. She stressed that some accidents had not been caused by applicant organisations. As such, she asked the District Officer (Southern) to give an unequivocal response.

367. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that he did not have a clear idea of what the District Officer (Southern) had said. For instance, previously an organisation had organised a demonstration outside the ward office of the SDC member of the South Horizons

constituency. He enquired whether SDO would deny reimbursement on the ground that the project could not be successfully concluded as a result of vandalism by the demonstrators, even though the applicant organisation had fully complied with the prescribed requirements and met the performance standards during project implementation but its plans had been thwarted in circumstances beyond its control. Owing to concerns about the above possible outcome, he wished to know where to draw the line and to clarify the evaluation criteria, so as to avoid any future disputes.

368. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP responded that it was hard to draw any hard and fast rules on denial of reimbursement claims. The funding guidelines concerned had clearly set out the principles and requirements. Based on previous experience, the vast majority of organisers had received reimbursements. However, in individual cases of reimbursement claims, deductions had been made because the organisers had failed to meet the prescribed requirements or for other reasons. He stressed that a wide range of factors had to be taken into account, e.g. whether an organiser had, under foreseeable circumstances, exercised due diligence in taking reasonable measures to ensure the smooth implementation of its project. When necessary, reference might be made to relevant guidelines promulgated by the HAD or other cases in order to decide on an appropriate handling method.

369. Mr LEUNG Man-chun thanked SDO for reminding him of the potential pitfalls and noted the comments. He pointed out that as the “Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition” was an art creation activity, the submissions might feature different wordings and formats to convey specific messages, and that the winning entries would be selected by professional adjudicators. Besides, he enquired of SDO about the possibility of reimbursement denial if certain words or messages appeared in the submissions, or whether this would constitute a breach of law upon the passage of The Law of the People’s Republic of China on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (the National Security Law). He wished to get a definite answer, so that SA could take appropriate measures, including the provision of clear guidelines (such as the use of prohibited words or graphics, etc.) on the application form, in order to avoid attributing criminal liability to participants, which would in turn ensure smooth implementation of the project.

370. Mr CHENG Kong-chung, Francis, JP reminded the applicant organisation that all SDC-funded projects should comply with the laws of Hong Kong, such as the Places of Public Entertainment Ordinance, the Copyright Ordinance, the Trade

Descriptions Ordinance and the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. As for the question of whether any project particulars would constitute a breach of law upon the passage of the National Security Law, the applicant organisation had to carry out a risk assessment on its own. Regarding the issues associated with Christmas card designs, he considered that if the applicant organisation and the adjudicators genuinely take achieving social harmony and inclusion as the objective and assessment criteria, supposedly the designs should not stir up any public controversies.

371. The Chairman was aware of the applicant organisation's concerns and considered that the issues associated with Christmas card designs had stemmed from a prevailing tendency toward self-censorship in the community under the existence governance mechanism. Indeed, it was likely that the organisation concerned might be denied reimbursement from SDO or might even have to face other consequences as a result of the design-related issues. Moreover, as full details of the National Security Law had yet to be released, he believed that SDO was unable to either respond to the question concerned or give an undertaking.

372. The Chairman thanked Mr LEUNG Man-chun and Ms YEUNG Pui-ching for attending the meeting.

(Mr LEUNG Man-chun and Ms YEUNG Pui-ching left the meeting.)

373. The Chairman asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

374. Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun reiterated his objection to the approval of a large grant to the applicant organisation who had sought funding approval from SDC for organising three projects for the first time.

375. The Chairman asked members whether they shared Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun's view.

376. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany held a different view from Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun, and considered that funding approval could be granted to the Applicant Organisation for organising the three projects.

377. Mr YU Chun-hei, James suggested that the three funding applications should be put to vote in one go, and that any member's proposal on separate vote might be subject to a further decision.

378. No members raised objection.

379. The Chairman asked whether members supported the three aforesaid funding applications, including their respective applied amounts and advance payments with details below. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied Amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>
34	Christmas Celebration for All - Southern District Christmas Card Design Competition and Outstanding Design Exhibition	\$50,000	\$25,000
35	Dialogue with You and Understanding - Southern District Dialogue Activity for the Elderly and the Youth	\$50,000	\$25,000
36	Best Shooter - The 1st Southern District Three-point Goal Contest	\$74,672	\$37,336

380. The Committee endorsed the above three funding applications with respective applied amounts and the request for advance payments with 13 votes in favour (namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, Mr YIM Chun-ho and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany), one against (Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun) and zero abstention.

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH returned to the meeting.)

**(X) Large-scale CI projects (One Application)**

**No. 37 Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020**

381. The Chairman said that no member had made declaration of interests for this funding application before the meeting. He asked whether members had further updates or addition to make. Members had no further update or addition for the declaration of interests.

382. The Secretary said that Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race Committee (ADBRC) submitted a funding application for “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020” for an allocation of \$603,000.

(Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH joined the meeting.)

383. The Chairman welcomed Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH, Vice Chairman of ADBRC, to the meeting.

384. The Chairman invited Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH to brief members on the funding application.

385. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH briefly introduced the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020”, saying that in view of the epidemic outbreak, the event originally scheduled for June 2020 in celebration of the Tuen Ng Festival would be postponed to 11 October 2020. To prevent the spread of the infectious disease, the organiser intended to distribute face masks to members of the audience and appeal to participants to avoid mass gatherings.

386. The Chairman asked members to raise comments or enquiries.

387. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung asked whether project success would be undermined if the applicant organisation did not invite officials from the CPGLO to attend the event.

388. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that in the past, the organiser had invited officials from the CPGLO to attend the event, as well as a Government official to officiate at the event.

389. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung continued to ask whether project success would be significantly affected if officials from the CPGLO were not invited to attend the event.

390. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that he would relay the member’s view to Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race Organising Committee (the Organising Committee) for consideration.

391. The Chairman invited the applicant organisation to note that earlier at the meeting, members had strongly objected to applicant organisations’ practice of inviting officials from the CPGLO to attend their events, while the District

Officer (Southern) had expressed strong disapproval of their views, thus triggering a heated debate on this issue.

392. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus said that the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020” would take place in a venue smaller in size than that of the “Shatin (Tuen Ng) Dragon Boat Race 2020”, but some of its expenditure items to be covered by SDC Funds would require a relatively large funding amount, e.g. the total funding required for “erection and dismantling of scaffold” and “watercourse and boom-line works” amounted to \$290,000, but the same expenditure items for the “Shatin (Tuen Ng) Dragon Boat Race 2020” required more than a hundred thousand dollars only. As such, he wished to know the breakdown of the expenditure items concerned. He continued that a comprehensive plan for implementing anti-epidemic measures during the event to be staged in Sha Tin had been drawn up, and that as this was a matter of grave concern to members and residents, it was hoped that the applicant organisation would provide relevant supplementary information.

393. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that the current budget had been prepared based on the actual expenditure incurred in the previous year, and the actual expenses on individual items were subject to confirmation upon receipt of quotations, and that “erection and dismantling of scaffold” and “watercourse and boom-line works” would not be carried out by a single contractor. In addition, he explained that given that the event would take place in the relatively narrow waterfront area in Aberdeen, the erection and dismantling of scaffold would pose greater challenges for the contractor. Besides, as the courses for the dragon boat race would overlap with the navigation channel in Aberdeen Typhoon Shelter, there was no other option but to carry out watercourse and boom-line works on the race day. However, the “Shatin (Tuen Ng) Dragon Boat Race” was a different story because the associated works could be carried out at Shing Mun River Channel which was not a major navigation channel several days before the event. In view of the factors above, not many contractors would be willing to take up works projects concerning the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race”, thus driving up the costs. Details of anti-epidemic measures could be provided after the meeting.

394. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that some residents had reflected that in the past, after signing up for the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race” and paying registration fees before the deadline, they had been denied the right to compete in the race by the organiser citing interpersonal issues. He urged the applicant organisation to pay attention to the above case.

395. The Chairman clarified details of the case, saying that the residents had been denied the right to compete in the race because they did not see eye to eye with the organiser's staff. He asked the applicant organisation to respond.

396. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH asked whether registration fees had been refunded to the residents concerned.

397. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung supplemented that the residents concerned had received the refund.

398. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH said that he had to retrieve the record before responding to the case. However, as far as he knew, in view of a sizeable quota, the organiser had not refused entry into the races in the last two years, except for HKSDWAL who had missed the registration deadline.

399. The Chairman asked the applicant organisation to respond to the member's enquiry after looking into the case.

400. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that every year, SDC provided substantial financial support to organise the project which had become its annual flagship event. Moreover, judging from the fact that the Organising Committee had comprised quite many SDC members in the past, he enquired of the applicant organisation whether the current-term SDC members, especially those from the local constituencies concerned, would be invited to serve on the Organising Committee. Under this proposed arrangement, apart from enhancing the transparency of the project, SDC members of the local constituencies concerned could also effectively assist in addressing conflicts between local residents with divergent views on the project. Moreover, he reflected that some residents had complained about the shortage of admission tickets. As such, he enquired about the arrangements for ticket distribution and availability of improvement measures.

401. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that he would convey the member's request to serve on the Organising Committee to the latter. He continued that owing to the relatively small spectator stand, admission tickets in limited quantity would be distributed to the public at the Southern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre. In view of this, sun umbrellas would also be erected along Aberdeen waterfront to shield spectators from the sun during the race.

402. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael enquired about the composition of ADBRC. In response to the applicant organisation's earlier claim that it would respond after discussing with the "Organising Committee", he asked whether the "Organising Committee" referred to an organisation to be set up in July 2020, or the Organising Committee for the "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2019", or just another shadow organisation. Besides, he enquired about details of ticket allocation.

403. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that Southern District Dragon Boat Racing Committee (SDDBRC) was the co-organiser of the "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020". It was a standing committee responsible for preparatory work prior to the formation of the Organising Committee. For the upcoming event, the Organising Committee would be set up in July 2020. He continued that 100 admission tickets would be distributed to the public at the Southern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre on a first-come, first-served basis.

404. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael enquired about the composition of SDDBRC in the hope of ascertaining the identities of its members and their community affiliations.

405. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that the requested membership lists would be provided after the meeting.

406. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael opined that the "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020" was heavily imbued with political overtones, and was worried that relevant core members of the applicant organisation had a close relationship with political parties and district-based organisations. He originally intended to give further consideration after scrutinising the composition of SDDBRC to find out whether the project had political overtones or not, but relevant information was unavailable at the meeting. Therefore, he had reservations about endorsing the funding request for this project.

407. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that political affiliations of its members were not a consideration in forming SDDBRC purely for the sake of bringing like-minded individuals who had the experiences and were interested in dragon boat racing together.

408. Ms LI Shee-lin enquired about the respective numbers of admission tickets for the "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020" and the "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2019".

409. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that about 600 admission tickets would be available each year, some of which be reserved for SDC members, district-based organisations, contestants and sponsors.

410. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus enquired about the number of admission tickets reserved for SDC members, and requested to obtain a list of district-based organisations to which tickets would be allocated. He pointed out that some residents had reflected that even though spectators could watch the race along Aberdeen waterfront, they still wished to obtain admission tickets for watching the race from a close distance at the spectator stand.

411. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that by making reference to past experience, admission tickets would be allocated to organisations based in the Southern District, such as the Area Committees and the Southern District Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education.

412. Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that the estimated expenses on “publicity and public relations fees” of the project amounting to \$70,000 was exorbitant. In this connection, she enquired about the breakdown of the expenditure item concerned. Besides, she shared a member’s view that SDC members were obliged to serve on the Organising Committee for monitoring its discussions and the implementation of the SDC-funded project involving substantial funding in the amount of over \$600,000. She requested the applicant organisation to respond on the spot whether SDC members would be invited to serve on the Organising Committee, failing which she had reservations about endorsing the funding request for this project.

413. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that in the past, extensive publicity campaigns including advertising had been launched to promote the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race” thereby generating positive media coverage. Relevant information could be provided after the meeting. He continued that pending the formation of the Organising Committee, he was unable to respond on behalf of other ADBRC members to the question of whether SDC members would be invited to serve on the Organising Committee.

414. The Chairman added that based on past experience, SDC members would be invited to be Advisors to the Organising Committee, whom were not vested with the executive authority. In the past, he had declined the invitation to save him the bother

of having to declare his personal interests. Regarding members' desire for deeper involvement in the project on the ground that SDC provided substantial financial support to organise the project every year, he invited the applicant organisation to seriously consider the suggestion concerned, with a view to addressing members' concerns about the organiser as being a "small circle" organisation.

415. Mr POON Ping-hong said that regarding the sources of income, it was indicated in the application form that the income generated from "Sponsorship & donation" amounted to \$641,760. He requested to obtain a list of the sponsors concerned.

416. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that the income generated from "Sponsorship & donation" was an estimate only. Since the organiser had yet to embark on the project, invitation to sponsorship had been put on hold for the time being.

417. The Chairman asked whether past projects had secured commercial sponsorship, and whether such information had been provided to the SDC Secretariat for record.

418. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that past projects had secured commercial sponsorship.

419. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus was dissatisfied that the applicant organisation had not provided the list of sponsors for its past projects.

420. Ms YIP Wai-see, Priscilla said that according to paragraph 6.6.4 of the Funding Guidelines, applicant organisations should indicate in the income and expenditure statement the amount of sponsorship and donations received on completion of the project.

421. The Chairman enquired about the availability of records of sponsorship and donations for past projects.

422. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that a list of sponsors and donors would be submitted to the SDC Secretariat upon completion of the project every year. As far as he could remember, the list of sponsors and donors for 2019 included MTR Corporation Limited, Hongkong Electric Company, Limited, CK Asset Holdings

Limited, Herbalife International of Hong Kong Limited, Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited, Tsui Wah Group, Aberdeen Siu Shun Village Cuisine and Aberdeen Hsin Kuang Banquet Hall, etc.

423. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that some residents had reflected that there had been an undersupply of admission tickets for the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race”. As only 100 admission tickets were available for distribution to the public at the Southern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre, she questioned that the remaining ones were reserved for internal allocation. She requested the applicant organisation to solve the problem of shortage of admission tickets, otherwise members could hardly be accountable to the residents. While emphasising her respect for traditional culture and support for dragon boat racing, she was worried that due to unfair ticket allocation, the admission tickets would eventually be passed into the hands of sponsors and district-based organisations, without benefiting residents. She continued that it was indicated by the applicant organisation in the application form that the project would be financed by “internal resources” and “sponsorship and donation” if the funding application was rejected or the approved project fund was less than the proposed amount under application. She enquired about the implications on project success if the funding application concerning the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020” was rejected. In particular, she noticed that a publicity stunt had been launched on a website (<http://www.dragonboathk.com/>) promoting the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race 2020” to be held on 11 October 2020, suggesting that the project had reached the point of no return.

424. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that since the amount of sponsorship and the number of race teams were still not known, details of ticket allocation would be supplemented after the meeting. He added that SDC members had assisted in distributing some of the tickets in the past. Furthermore, he stressed that given the substantial cost to be incurred, the event was very unlikely to happen if there was a serious shortfall in funds in terms of the grant approved or sponsorship secured. He appealed to SDC to approve the funding application.

425. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that the “Aberdeen Dragon Boat Race” was a long-term endeavour over the past years, and quite a number of local residents were used to watching the race since childhood. He certainly hoped that the event could continue to take place in the future. The applicant organisation had indicated that a response would be given later on or after the meeting when the Committee put forward a number of enquiries on project details, including the question of whether officials

from CPGLO would be invited to be the guests of the event, the arrangements for ticket distribution and the question of whether members of the Committee or SDC members of local constituencies would be invited to serve on the Organising Committee, etc. Given that this funding application involved the use of public money amounting to over \$600,000, he could hardly decide at this stage whether support should be given to it as he had to be accountable to the electoral base. He hoped that the representative of the applicant organisation could give specific answers to the above enquiries.

426. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that regarding the invitation of guests and SDC members, the Organising Committee had in the past invited SDC members to be Advisors of the project. However, pending the formation of the Organising Committee, he was not able to provide a list of potential guests, including the officiating Government officials. Therefore, it was not possible for him to make a promise or respond to the arrangements and suggestions concerning guest invitation.

427. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung requested the applicant organisation to answer unequivocally whether it could promise not to invite officials from CPGLO to attend the event, regardless of whether the officials concerned would officiate at the event.

428. The Chairman said that in response to the enquiries concerned, the applicant organisation had repeatedly pointed out that it was not possible to give an answer for the time being. Therefore, he deemed it unnecessary for the applicant organisation to further respond to the enquiries concerned.

429. The Chairman pointed out that Mr LAU Kong-wah, JP, the former Secretary for Home Affairs, had once said that if District Councils blocked funding requests for dragon boat-related activities, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) would provide the necessary funding support. He enquired of the applicant organisation whether HAB had been approached about the matter concerned.

430. Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH responded that the applicant organisation had not approached HAB about the project.

431. The Chairman thanked Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH for attending the meeting.

(Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH left the meeting.)

(Ms LAM Yuk-chun, MH left the meeting.)

432. The Chairman said that two options were available for members to deal with this funding application: first, to simply put it to a vote at this meeting; and second, to deal with it at the coming special meeting after the applicant organisation had provided the relevant supplementary information.

433. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that the special meeting concerned would mainly deal with applications concerning festive events, but the Organising Committee for the dragon boat race had yet to be set up in due course. Again, it would not be possible to address the above issues, leaving this funding application unhandled.

434. Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus shared Mr YU Chun-hei, James' view. As the special meeting concerned was tentatively scheduled for early July 2020, he was worried that a similar situation would occur again pending the formation of the Organising Committee, which meant that the applicant organisation would still be unable to answer members' enquiries. It would be just a waste of time. Also, given that the project was a major event involving substantial public funding, he asked whether SDC still needed to settle the expenses in case the project could not take place as scheduled amid the epidemic outbreak upon funding approval.

435. The Chairman said that the special meeting concerned would mainly deal with applications concerning festive events. He envisaged that the above applicant organisation would be able to unequivocally respond to the enquiry on guest invitation in due course. He added that based on previous experience in handling SDC-funded projects, applicant organisations were required to return the advance payment to SDC in case their projects could not take place as scheduled or had to be cancelled. However, SDC might, having regard to the epidemic situation, consider endorsing partial reimbursement of expenses already incurred in the preparation/implementation of such projects. A recent example was the cancellation of festive events in celebration of the Lunar New Year amid the epidemic outbreak.

436. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that this meeting did not intend to deal with applications concerning festive events because members had previously resolved during the workshop that it was not necessary to invite the relevant applicant organisations to answer questions at the meeting. But this funding application was a different story. He pointed out that the applicant organisation's inability to answer members' enquiries was a result of inadequate preparation, and considered that this funding application should be put to a vote at this meeting.

437. The Chairman said that if members were unable to reach a consensus, consideration might be given to deciding whether to put the above funding application to a vote at this meeting first.

438. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael said that as Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH and Mrs CHAN LEE Pui-ying holding key positions at ADBRC were former SDC members who had served multiple terms, they were supposed to be well aware of the procedures for processing applications for SDC Funds. He was of the view that the application organisation's inability to answer the enquiries was a result of inadequate preparation; thus, he did not expect that it was able to further respond to members' enquiries in the future. In view of this, the Committee should not waste time waiting for responses from the applicant organisation.

439. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that given that this funding application involved substantial funding, Mr CHAN Fu-ming, MH, a former SDC member who had served multiple terms, was supposed to properly prepare for this meeting. He considered that instead of asking the applicant organisation to provide a list of potential guests for the event, members had enquired whether it could promise not to invite certain persons to attend the event. As no reply had been given despite members' repeated enquiries, he opined that the funding application should be put to a vote at this meeting.

440. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that despite that members had repeatedly enquired about the composition of the Organising Committee and the arrangements for guest invitation, the applicant organisation had given the same answer time and again. She was not convinced that the application organisation found it difficult to give a response pending the formation of the Organising Committee. Given that the event was a long-term endeavour over the past years, the composition of the Organising Committee should remain unchanged. Conceivably these questions were not unanswerable. Even if the application for SDC Funds was rejected at the current stage, it was suggested by the website concerned that the project would go ahead. In addition, it was indicated by the application organisation in the application form that the project would be financed by other sources of income such as sponsorship regardless of whether or not the funding application was approved. She pointed out that SDC should instead provide funding support to other applicant organisations who really expressed a sincere interest in applying for SDC Funds, and opined that this funding application should be put to a vote at this meeting without further ado.

441. The Chairman said that in view that the majority of members considered that the funding application should be put to a vote at this meeting, he asked members if they would endorse the above funding application, including the applied amount of \$603,000 and advance payment. The Chairman asked members to take a vote by open ballot.

442. The Committee rejected the above funding application with one vote in favour (Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun), 13 against (namely Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus, Mr YIM Chun-ho, Mr YU Chun-hei, James, and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany) and zero abstention.

443. The Chairman concluded that the funding application concerning the above project was rejected because the applicant organisation had been unable to unequivocally answer members' enquiries due to inadequate preparation.

**(XI) Arts and Cultural Promotion Activities – Southern District Arts and Culture Association (Seven Applications)**

444. The Chairman said that no members had declared interests for these seven funding applications before the meeting. He asked members whether they had anything to update or add. Members did not provide any updates or supplementary information on their declarable interests.

445. The Secretary said that Southern District Arts and Culture Association (SDACA) had submitted seven funding applications with a total applied amount of \$605,000. The application details were as follows:

<b><u>Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Applied amount</u></b>	<b><u>Advance Payment</u></b>	<b><u>Remarks</u></b>
38	Training Programme for Southern District Youth and Children's Choir and Dance Training 2020 (7-12/2020)	\$137,000	--	● Applicant submitted application for exemption from quotation, open recruitment and expenses prior to SDC approval
39	Training Programme for Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra 2020 (7-12/2020)	\$197,000	--	● Applicant submitted application for exemption from quotation and open recruitment
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$334,000</b>		

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Applied amount</u>	<u>Advance Payment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
40	Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra Exchange Concert 2020	\$60,000	30,000	● Applicant submitted application for exemption from quotation and open recruitment as well as acceptance of declaration of interests
41	Southern District Youth & Children's Choir Christmas Concert 2020	\$48,500	24,250	● Applicant submitted application for exemption from quotation and open recruitment
42	The 24 <sup>th</sup> Southern District Youth and Children Singing Contest	\$58,000	29,000	--
43	Cantonese Opera Excerpts in Classics of TANG Ti-sheng	\$44,500	22,250	--
44	Ballroom Dance Night and Countdown on 2021 New Year's Eve	\$60,000	30,000	--
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$271,000</b>		

(Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH, Ms POON Wan-tak, Mr TO Tsang-cheung, Miss LAM Chee-lan, Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH and Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH joined the meeting.)

446. The Chairman welcomed the following representatives of SDACA to the meeting:

- (i) Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH, Chairlady;
- (ii) Ms POON Wan-tak, Vice Chairlady;
- (iii) Mr TO Tsang-cheung, Public Relations;
- (iv) Miss LAM Chee-lan, Conductor of Choir, Southern District Youth and Children's Choir;
- (v) Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH, Director of Choir, Southern District Youth and Children's Choir; and
- (vi) Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH, Director of Orchestra, Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra.

447. The Chairman invited the representatives of SDACA to briefly introduce the funding applications.

448. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH briefly introduced the “Training Programme for Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra 2020 (7-12/2020)” and “Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra Exchange Concert 2020”. He said that having been established for 19 years, Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra had now over 100 members. Mr LAM also briefed members on the training arrangements and how the Orchestra members' standards could be enhanced through performances in concerts.

449. Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH briefly introduced the “Training Programme for Southern District Youth and Children's Choir and Dance Training 2020 (7-12/2020)”, “Southern District Youth and Children's Choir Christmas Concert 2020” and the “24<sup>th</sup> Southern District Youth and Children Singing Contest”. He said that having been established for 24 years, Southern District Youth and Children's Choir had now over 100 members. Mr WONG also briefed members on the training arrangements and the details of concert performances. He said that the Choir aimed to engage young people who were interested in developing an art career as instructors such as Miss LAM Chee-lan, who had been a member of the Choir since her childhood. Miss LAM Chee-lan provided detailed supplementary information of the programmes of the Choir.

450. Mr TO Tsang-cheung briefly introduced “Cantonese Opera Excerpts in Classics of TANG Ti-sheng”. He said that the programme mainly comprised performances of the classics and Cantonese opera excerpts of Mr TANG Ti-sheng. The activity aimed to enhance the residents' knowledge of and interest in the traditional arts by promoting Cantonese operas.

451. Ms POON Wan-tak briefly introduced “Ballroom Dance Night and Countdown on 2021 New Year’s Eve”. She said that the activity had been held for about 10 years and comprised social dances and group dance performances. It aimed to promote and popularise social dances and bring New Year festive joy to residents who loved dancing. It was hoped that the activity would continue to be funded by SDC.

452. The Chairman invited members to raise comments and enquiries.

453. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung enquired about the numbers of times that Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra and Southern District Youth and Children’s Choir had participated in exchanges outside Hong Kong and performances and requested a list of the most representative performances.

454. Miss LAM Chee-lan responded that Southern District Youth and Children’s Choir normally would participate in at least two major performances every year. At Christmas in the past two years, the Choir was invited to give outdoor performances in Stanley. The performance in 2019 even lasted for three consecutive days. Besides, it had also participated in performances with showbiz artistes, including a performance with Eman LAM and SIS in Tai Kwun in 2019. In 2019, the Choir had also participated in studio recording. The Choir members and their parents were satisfied with the achievements.

455. Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH responded that the Choir had also participated in an outdoor performance in Stanley in 2020, where they had gained a sense of achievement by facing the public directly. The most memorable performances were the annual concerts in Sheung Wan Civic Centre, in which several local instructors would participate in programme creation and the Choir members would convey messages of the young people. These were valuable experiences for the Choir members and instructors alike.

456. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH responded that Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra attached great importance to enhancing the skills and extending the horizon of its members through exchange performances so that they could learn with a modest heart. The Orchestra organised two exchange concerts in 2019 and exchanged with the orchestra of Canadian International School and a youth philharmonic orchestra from Guangzhou. The most memorable event was to join a tour led by Hong Kong Youth Symphonic Orchestra to the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing and

participate in an exchange performance with the choirs from Beijing, Nanjing and other places. However, the fund granted by SDC could only afford the staging of one concert. Without extra resources to support exchange performances outside Hong Kong, the Orchestra could only rely on outside sponsorship.

(Mr Jonathan LEUNG Chun left the meeting.)

457. Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin said that the applied amounts for the Training Programme for Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra in the past were around \$160,000, while the applied amount this time was nearly \$200,000, representing an increase rate of over 20%. He enquired which item had increased expenditure.

458. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH responded that the increased expenditure included the insurance premium. Taking into account the inflation rate, the Orchestra considered it necessary to increase the allowances paid to the professional conductors and instructors. He hoped that members could understand that the applied amount in fact could not cover all expenses and the Orchestra still had to rely on other sponsorship. It would be a loss of the Orchestra if the professional conductors and instructors left because of insufficient allowances.

459. Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that SDACA applied for SDC fund to organise Ballroom Dance Night and Countdown on New Year's Eve every year. She enquired how the tickets were distributed openly in the past.

460. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH responded that in the past the tickets for Ballroom Dance Night and Countdown on New Year's Eve were distributed openly to Southern District residents via South Horizons Neighbourhood Community Centre and Southern Home Affairs Enquiry Centre.

461. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that among the existing SDC allocation for CI projects, a large portion was earmarked for SDACA. A member had suggested deploying a SDC representative to join the Executive Committee of SDACA to discuss and make decisions on the programmes organised by SDACA, or even designating the Orchestra/Choir under SDACA as a "district team" subsidiary to SDC so as to enhance the transparency and enable SDC to give an account to the public. He invited SDACA to respond to the suggestion.

462. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH responded that Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra had been established for 19 years. The Orchestra was established for the benefit of the Southern District rather than to pursue private interests. He hoped that development of the Orchestra could be sustained. He agreed that a SDC representative should be invited to participate in the meetings of SDACA, as this could enable SDC to deepen its understanding of SDACA's efforts made in promoting arts and popularising music in the Southern District. The previous Chairman of SDACA had also extended such an invitation to SDC. But the suggestion had to be further discussed and considered by SDACA. Regarding the suggestion of designating the Orchestra/Choir under SDACA as a "district team" subsidiary to SDC, it required a detailed and specific study. Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra under SDACA was going to organise a concert in November 2020. Members were invited to attend the concert to have an idea about the orchestra members' standards under professional instruction.

463. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH responded that owing to the epidemic, SDACA had not held any meeting in the past few months. It was expected that SDACA would resume its meeting in July 2020. She kept an open mind on inviting SDC representatives to the meetings of SDACA and considered that SDC could deploy one or two representatives to the meetings of SDACA to give advice on its operation rather than participate in making decisions directly. But the suggestion had to be further discussed and considered by SDACA.

464. Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH responded that Southern District Youth and Children's Choir was a platform for passing the knowledge of music from the older generations to the youngsters. He kept an open mind on inviting SDC representatives to participate in the activities and meetings of the Choir.

(Mr LAM Ho-por, Kelvin left the meeting.)

465. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that there should be a single person serving as the instructor of the training programme and the concert conductor. He enquired why the allowances for the training programme and the concerts were different. Besides, as it was hard for local people engaging in arts and culture to make a living, he hoped that SDACA would accord priority to employing local conductors and music instructors. He also thanked Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH for serving as the Director of Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra voluntarily over the years. But the Orchestra could not solely rely on his voluntary contribution. To promote the long-term development of

the Orchestra, to pass on the heritage and to ensure neutrality, he hoped that SDO or SDC could assist in the management of SDACA as soon as possible.

466. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH responded that Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra was not led by a single conductor. The wind orchestra, string orchestra and philharmonic orchestra each had its own conductor. There were also different instructors for different musical instruments to enhance the overall standards of the Orchestra. Professor LU Xiaoyi, who was responsible for conducting, was a permanent resident of Hong Kong, like other conductors and instructors of the Orchestra. Professor LU was also a conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra of Nanjing University. The existing standard that had been attained by the Orchestra was attributable to the contribution of Professor LU. He considered that some members had placed too much emphasis on the issue of Mainland-Hong Kong relationship. Mr LAM continued that members need not worry too much about his retirement. He opined that it was difficult to find a person who was willing to serve as the Director of the Orchestra on a voluntary basis. This was also why Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra was one of the few orchestras among the 18 districts that could continue operation. Compared with Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra which spent \$100 million every year, it was due to the selfless contribution of certain zealous persons and instructors that the Orchestra could continue operation with the limited funds granted by SDC. He also invited members interested in music and the Orchestra to discuss co-management of the Orchestra with him.

467. Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH responded that the funds granted by SDC to SDACA were limited. The training programme was conducted continuously on a weekly basis, while the expenses of each concert were calculated individually. Owing to the resources required, the instructors' allowances for the training programme and the concerts were different. Besides, in 1996 when he was a District Councillor, the then SDC members participated actively in the activities of the Choir, which could enable SDC members to understand the operation of the Orchestra better and ensure successful organisation of the programmes. Being a district choir, the Choir aimed to benefit the children in the Southern District and promote arts development. He was of the view that in the long run, it was a reasonable arrangement that the Choir was subsidiary to SDC.

468. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that since the paper only showed the amounts of SDC funds applied by the organisation, it seemed that it had not clearly listed the details

of other income sources and that was why he raised the previous enquiry. He now understood SDACA's arrangements for the instructors' allowances.

469. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung enquired whether SDACA would invite officers of CPGLO to its activities.

470. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH responded that irrespective of their background, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of SDACA would be invited to the activities. Representatives of the relevant Government departments would also be invited. If SDACA was granted with SDC funds, SDC members would be the major officiating guests of the activities. Owing to the epidemic, SDACA had not held any meetings to discuss the details of inviting guests yet. She would discuss the comments raised by members with the Executive Committee members of SDACA and then report to SDC.

471. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH said that Hong Kong Southern District Orchestra had once invited a deputy division head of CPGLO to its concert. He pointed out that when inviting Mainland orchestras such as the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Central Conservatory of Music to attend exchange concerts, it had to solicit assistance from CPGLO in the relevant procedures and formalities. In this case, SDACA would normally invite CPGLO representatives to the activities to show respect and the organisations attending the exchanges would also be honoured. He thus considered it necessary to invite CPGLO representatives to the activities. He said he did not hope that the issue would become politicised. Since Hong Kong was a part of China, it was reasonable that a representative of an office of the Central People's Government in Hong Kong attended the concert if he/she was interested in doing so.

472. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany raised an enquiry on the rules of order and said that the discussion on this agenda item proceeded slowly. She asked the Chairman whether a time limit on the supplementary responses of the applicant organisations could be set to expedite the discussion.

473. The Chairman responded that normally he would not limit the speaking time. He hoped that the applicant organisations would respond as succinctly as possible and complete their responses within one minute.

474. Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH said that he had nothing else to add.

475. Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH responded that the officiating guests invited by Southern District Youth and Children's Choir normally included representatives of the assisting departments such as the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The Opera seldom solicited assistance of Mainland organisations and so seldom invited CPGLO representatives as officiating guests.

476. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that in the previous discussion it was already mentioned that the current term of SDC objected to inviting CPGLO representatives to any activities funded by SDC. She hoped that the SDACA representatives could convey this message clearly to other Executive Committee members and its ordinary members. Otherwise, the Committee would object to granting funds to all the activities. She pointed out again that the discussion on this agenda item proceeded too slowly.

477. Ms LI Shee-lin said that she appreciated the instructors' efforts in nurturing the talents of the students in the Southern District. Graduating from a school that attached importance to music, she understood that these were valuable experiences. She hoped that the Choir and Orchestra could nurture more local elites in future and become representative teams of the Southern District. Apart from local development, international development was also a possible direction. SDO and SDC could provide more assistance in this direction.

478. The Chairman said that the political composition of the current term of SDC was different from that of the previous terms. The attendees should understand and get used to this situation. When vetting the funding applications at the meeting, members had discussed for several times whether CPGLO representatives would be invited to activities funded by SDC. These included discussion among members as well as discussion between members and the applicant organisations and District Officer (Southern). The issue was not politicised by its very nature. But everything relating to CPGLO was politicised. The Chairman emphasised that the Committee had a clear standpoint. If an organisation would invite CPGLO representatives to its activities, then it would not be granted with SDC funds. If an applicant organisation provisionally promised that it would not invite CPGLO representatives to its activities in order to secure the funds but then failed to honour its promise, then SDC would no longer cooperate with that organisation. This was an issue of integrity and mutual trust. He thus reiterated the standard set by the Committee to avoid any future argument. He said District Officer (Southern) need not clarify the Government's standpoint again.

479. Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH noted members' comments and said that SDACA would give an account to SDC after it held a meeting in July 2020.

480. The Chairman thanked the SDACA representatives for attending the meeting.

(Ms CHEUNG Sik-yung, MH, Ms POON Wan-tak, Mr TO Tsang-cheung, Miss LAM Chee-lan, Mr WONG Che-ngai, MH and Mr LAM Kai-fai, MH left the meeting.)

481. Mr YIM Chun-ho said that this situation was similar to that of "Aberdeen Dragon Boat Races 2020" discussed just now. But SDACA assumed a more open attitude and was willing to give an account to SDC after internal discussion. He was of the view that SDACA could be allowed more time.

482. Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany said that it was not known whether fellow members would vote immediately or vote after SDACA gave a response. She enquired whether SDC could refuse to reimburse the advance expenses if the application was voted upon and approved immediately but SDACA invited CPGLO representatives to its activities in violation of SDC's instruction after securing the funds.

483. Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael said that the SDACA representatives had not definitely stated that CPGLO representatives would not be invited to their activities. Since this was an issue of principle, he did not agree to grant approval to SDACA's applications.

484. Mr CHAN Ping-yeung said that his view was similar to that of Mr YIM Chun-ho. According to what the SDACA representatives said, one could see that different members of the organisation had different standpoints. He thus suggested making decisions after SDACA discussed the issue.

485. Ms LI Shee-lin suggested considering the applications after SDACA discussed the issue and gave an account to SDC.

486. Mr CHAN Hin-chung said that it was the fault of the SDACA representatives that they held different views without a consensus among themselves. He said the SDACA representatives should have known that their applications would be considered at the meeting. The Committee should not delay making decisions pending SDACA's reply. He suggested casting a vote directly at this meeting.

487. Mr YU Chun-hei, James enquired whether the counting of the votes was based on the number of attending members and the applications were approved if there was a simple majority of votes for them. He hoped that the applications would be voted upon at a special meeting so that members could obtain more information before making the decisions.

488. Concurring with the views of Mr YIM Chun-ho and Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi said that since the SDACA representatives held different views, the Committee could make decisions after SDACA discussed the issue.

489. The Chairman asked whether members supported the seven funding applications should be decided upon at the upcoming special meeting.

490. The Committee endorsed that the seven funding applications should be decided upon at the upcoming special meeting, with seven votes in favour (including Mr CHAN Ping-yeung, Ms CHAN Yan-yi, Ms LI Shee-lin, Mr LO Kin-hei, Mr POON Ping-hong, Mr YU Chun-hei, James and Mr YIM Chun-ho), five against (including Mr CHAN Hin-chung, Mr LAM Andrew Tak-wo, Mr PANG Cheuk-kei, Michael, Mr WONG Yui-hei, Angus and Miss YUEN Ka-wai, Tiffany) and zero abstention.

491. The Chairman asked members to supplement the reason for rejecting the funding application for “Good Neighbourhood - Caring and Sharing Activity” made by NEC.

492. Mr YU Chun-hei, James said that the development of the COVID-19 was unpredictable. The applied fund was mainly used for purchasing epidemic prevention supplies which would then be distributed to the elderly in the district. It was not a suitable arrangement that the activity was sponsored by SDC fund.

493. The Chairman said that the aforesaid funding application would be rejected on this ground if other members had nothing to add.

494. Members had no objection.

**Agenda Item 5:      Any Other Business**  
**[7:38 p.m. – 7:39 p.m.]**

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**Evaluation Report for Project Financed by District Council (DC) Funds**

495. The Chairman said that upon discussion on the “Evaluation Report for Project Financed by DC Funds” during the workshop on 8 June 2020, members had agreed to add a new item “duration of the evaluation visit” to the Evaluation Report, which would serve as a useful reference. After amending the Evaluation Report on members’ recommendation, the Secretariat now tabled the amended version for members’ perusal.

496. The Chairman asked members to raise comments and enquiries.

497. Members did not give any views.

498. The Chairman asked members whether they would approve the amended version of the “Evaluation Report for Project Financed by DC Funds” for the change to be applied to funding applications approved on or after the date of this meeting.

499. Members did not raise objection.

500. The Committee approved the amended version of the “Evaluation Report for Project Financed by DC Funds” for the change to be applied to funding applications approved on or after the date of this meeting.

**Part II – Items for Information**

501. The Chairman asked members to note the “Financial Statement of Community Involvement Projects Funded by SDC in 2020-2021 (as at 8.6.2020)” as set out in FVC Paper No. 13/2020.

**Date of Next Meeting**

502. The Chairman advised the meeting that the next FVC meeting would be rescheduled, and the Secretariat would announce details as soon as practicable.

503. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Secretariat, Southern District Council  
September 2020