

(Translation)

Minutes of the 10th Meeting of the Planning Development and Transport Affairs Committee
of Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)

Date : 27 July 2021 (Tuesday)
Time : 9:30 a.m.
Venue : Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

Chairman

Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet

Members

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|------------------------|------------------------|
| Mr CHUM Tak-shing | (Arrived at 9:37 a.m.) |
| Mr HO Kwan-chau, Leo | (Arrived at 9:31 a.m.) |
| Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH | |
| Mr MAK Wai-ming | (Left at 10:15 a.m.) |
| Ms NG Mei, Carman | (Arrived at 9:32 a.m.) |
| Mr YUEN Hoi-man, Ramon | |

Co-opted Members

Ms LIN Wai-kwan

In Attendance

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| Mr LEE Wai-yin, Brett | Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 1 |
| Miss HO Yuen-ching, Jessica | Senior Town Planner/Sham Shui Po, Planning Department |
| Mr WONG Chi-tak, Keith | Senior Transport Officer/Sham Shui Po, Transport Department |
| Mr CHAN Sze-ho | Engineer/Sham Shui Po, Transport Department |
| Ms LAW Ming-chu, Cecilia | Engineer/Planning West 1, Transport Department |
| Mr YU Chung-him | District Engineer/Sham Shui Po, Highways Department |
| Mr LEE Kwan-hon, Ricky | District Engineer/Lai Chi Kok, Highways Department |
| Mr YUNG Chung-pui | Deputy Officer in-charge of District Traffic Team, Sham Shui Po District, Hong Kong Police Force |

Secretary

Miss CHUNG Kit-nam, Mandy

Executive Officer (District Council) 3, Sham Shui Po
District Office

Absent

Members

Mr LEE Man-ho, Leos

Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay

Co-opted Member

Ms LAM Tsz-kwan

Opening Remarks

Ms Janet NG said that since the office of the Chairman of the Planning Development and Transport Affairs Committee (“PTAC”) was left vacant at present, she suggested that with reference to Order 33(7) of the Sham Shui Po District Council Standing Orders (“Standing Orders”), in the absence of the chairman, members of the Committee should elect a member who was also a member of that District Council (“DC”), by a simple majority of votes, as the temporary chairman to preside at the meeting. She invited members to make nominations.

2. Mr Ramon YUEN nominated Ms Janet NG as the temporary chairman.
3. The Committee unanimously agreed that Ms Janet NG would be the temporary chairman.
4. The Chairman announced that the meeting would be adjourned for five minutes to review and decide whether the agenda and papers of the meeting should be endorsed. She said that the endorsed agenda and papers would be distributed to members before resuming the meeting.

[The meeting was adjourned for five minutes.]

5. The Chairman announced that the meeting was resumed and welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the tenth meeting of PTAC of the sixth term of the Sham Shui Po District Council.

Agenda Item 1: Matters for discussion

(a) Enquiry about the plan of provision of covers and waiting facilities for bus stops at Tai Hang Tung Road (PTAC Paper 60/21)

6. Mr CHUM Tak-shing introduced Paper 60/21.
7. Mr Keith WONG responded that the Transport Department (“TD”) had to consider factors such as the number and the needs of waiting passengers at the concerned bus stops, underground facilities at the concerned locations, whether nearby shop operators would be affected, etc. In general, covers were unnecessary for bus stops mainly for passengers to alight. He further said that the locations mentioned in the paper were mostly situated between Tai Hang Tung Road, Nam Shan Estate and Tai Hang Tung Estate, and only bus route numbers 203C of Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited (“KMB”) and 702 of New World First Bus Services Limited (“NWFB”) would pass by. The Department agreed that installing covers at bus stops which fulfilled the above conditions could bring

convenience to nearby residents. According to the written response from KMB, the company had already adopted the proposal of installing covers at Nam Tai House Bus Stop, and seats and display panels would be installed subject to circumstances. Besides, since the lift retrofitting works was being carried out near the bus stops at Tung Fai House and Nam On House, the Department would closely monitor whether the works would obstruct the installation of bus stop covers. He further said that since Man Hing House Bus Stop had a lower usage for being located opposite to Tai Hang Tung Bus Terminus, its priority of the provision of cover would be lower. Regarding the provision of cover at Tung Fai House Bus Stop, since it was the return trip for bus route number 203C with only one remaining station afterwards, KMB would not consider such proposal; as for bus route number 702 heading to Hoi Lai Estate, NWFB might consider the concerned proposal subject to circumstances. The Department would relay members' views to the bus companies and ask them to consider retrofitting the concerned facilities as soon as possible.

8. The Secretary added that according to Order 33(9) of the Standing Orders, any person who was not a committee member appointed by DC should not attend meetings of the concerned committee unless otherwise agreed by the chairman. Since the office of the chairman was left vacant, approval was not granted to invite the bus companies to this meeting.

9. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he understood the special circumstances of this meeting. He suggested that the discussion paper should be included under "Matters arising" in the next meeting and the bus companies should then be invited to the meeting.

10. The Chairman agreed to continue the discussion of the paper in the next meeting.

11. Mr CHUM Tak-shing said that he requested NWFB to submit a feasible proposal of installing covers at Tung Fai House Bus Stop in the next meeting.

12. The Chairman concluded that regarding the plan of installing covers at Nam Tai House Bus Stop, she hoped that KMB could provide the schedule. She also asked NWFB to follow up on the proposal of installing covers at the Tung Fai House Bus Stop and submit a feasible proposal in the next meeting.

(b) Concern over the provision of transport services connecting the City University of Hong Kong and the vicinity of Cornwall Street and Tat Hong Avenue (PTAC Paper 61/21)

13. Mr Ramon YUEN introduced Paper 61/21.

14. Mr Keith WONG responded that the hostels of the City University of Hong Kong ("CityU") and the campus were separated by Cornwall Street and Shek Kip Mei Park and connected by a covered footbridge. Pedestrians could also cross Cornwall Street by

making use of the signalised pedestrian crossings, and the distance was only around ten minutes on foot. He further said that apart from the bus routes mentioned in the paper, bus routes which passed by Cornwall Street also included number 86C. Most part of its route headed to busy districts, for example, the vicinity of MTR Sham Shui Po Station. For passengers going to Prince Edward and Mong Kok, they could walk for around five minutes to the bus stop at Chak On Estate in Nam Cheong Street and take bus route number 87B. He pointed out that TD calculated the frequency by combining the routes: the headways for bus route numbers 2F and 2B were around 20 and 30 minutes respectively and that for number 86C was around 25 to 30 minutes, meaning a total of eight trips to MTR Shek Kip Mei Station, Sham Shui Po Station or Lai Chi Kok Station per hour, and on average, there was a trip in every seven minutes. The Department would pay attention to the demand after the completion of the new hostel and make adjustments after the discussion on the bus route planning programme with the bus companies in due course.

15. Mr CHUM Tak-shing enquired whether TD would consider the minibus route mentioned in the paper which passed by Cornwall Street, since the travelling time would only increase by around three to five minutes.

16. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he understood that bus routes could hardly be diverted and he enquired whether minibus routes would be more flexible to cater for the transport needs of students.

17. Ms Carman NG said that the patronage of the minibus route from Chak On Estate to Mong Kok had always been low. She opined that publicity should be stepped up to attract students to ride and she hoped that TD could help integrate the information on the transport in the vicinity of CityU hostels.

18. Mr Keith WONG responded that the journey distance would be lengthened if the minibus passed by Tat Hong Avenue. If it was impossible to increase the number of minibuses, the frequency would have to be reduced and current services would be affected. The extended journey would also increase additional travelling time and cause inconvenience to original passengers. He further said that there were advanced pedestrian facilities in the vicinity of CityU hostels, and students would not stay long in hostels during holidays and long vacations, leading to an unstable number of passengers. The Department would discuss with the bus and minibus companies when appropriate on the passengers' demand brought by the new hostel.

19. The Chairman concluded that TD was asked to study whether the minibus route could be extended and integrate information on transport in the vicinity of CityU hostels for students' reference. She further said that the discussion of this item would be continued in the next meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Follow-up matters

(a) List of follow-up actions for matters of discussion at PTAC meeting (PTAC Paper 62/21)

20. Ms Carman NG said that TD and the Highways Department (“HyD”) were asked to communicate and take follow-up actions in due course on item 8 of the paper regarding the progress of the works for provision of covers for the footpath in Woh Chai Street.

21. Mr Ramon YUEN enquired about the commissioning date of the public car park involved in the commercial developments in Cheung Shun Street on page seven of Annex I of the paper.

22. Mr CHAN Sze-ho responded that HyD would inform TD, the Road Management Office of the Hong Kong Police Force and DC Members about the temporary traffic and transport arrangements for the works for provision of covers for the footpath from Exit A of MTR Shek Kip Mei Station in Woh Chai Street to Mei Leong House of Shek Kip Mei Estate, and would also arrange site inspection and briefing when necessary.

23. Ms Cecilia LAW responded that the land lease conditions only listed that the public car park involved in the commercial developments in Cheung Shun Street had to be completed by the end of this year and information on its commissioning date was not available at the moment.

24. Mr CHUM Tak-shing enquired whether the scope of the joint operation in item 12 of the paper included the whole Sham Shui Po District, and whether there would be a fixed operation schedule.

25. Mr Ramon YUEN enquired about the department principally responsible for the developments in Po Lun Street on page nine of Annex I of the paper.

26. Ms Cecilia LAW responded that regarding the development projects in Po Lun Street, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) was expected to submit the traffic impact assessment report to TD at the end of this year, and TD would provide its views regarding the traffic to LCSD.

27. Assistant District Officer 1 responded that the District Office (“DO”) was responsible for the coordination of joint operations of handling abandoned vehicles at roadsides, parking spaces, footpaths and public transport interchanges. He pointed out that joint operations were conducted around two to three times a month currently, and the locations of operations would be updated from time to time according to the places advised

by other departments and the public. There was no ending date for the concerned plan at present.

28. Mr Ramon YUEN said that after reviewing the detailed information of the planning application no. A/K5/836 in Annex II of the paper, he generally supported the concerned development proposal. He enquired whether the footbridge in the proposal would be calculated separately while dealing with the application of increase in plot ratio. He further said that it had been proposed to install covers for the footpath outside Laford Centre, but TD had said that it was unfeasible back then due to the erection of signs at that location and other fire safety problems. He enquired about the views from TD towards the proposal on the provision of footbridge this time. Besides, he was concerned about the provision of the additional MTR station exit mentioned in the application and was worried that MTR would charge high fees, leading to the shelving of proposal in the end. He hoped that TD could coordinate as the additional exit could bring convenience to passengers with mobility difficulties or those in need to access the MTR station with elevator. He said that the land lease of Liberte did not stipulate that the mall passageway should be open 24 hours for public use, causing the public unable to access the MTR station through the passageway beyond the business hours of the mall. He opined that the developer had been receptive to good advice from nearby residents and hoped that the Committee could support the application.

29. Miss Jessica HO responded that the planning application no. A/K5/836 would be considered in the meeting of the Town Planning Board (“TPB”) Sub-Committee on 27 August this year tentatively. The deadline for collection of public views would be 6 August, and Members were welcomed to directly submit their views to the TPB Secretariat so that the views could be incorporated into the concerned papers. She further said that the concerned development was submitted in accordance with the policy on revitalisation of industrial buildings and therefore a 20% increase in the plot ratio could be applied. Planning application no. A/K5/836 listed the information concerning the earlier approved application and the new application, and also listed the plot ratio of the proposed footbridge. The Planning Department (“PlanD”) had already circulated the concerned information to relevant departments and consultation was still underway at present.

30. Ms Cecilia LAW responded that TD had just received the information provided by PlanD, and would convey relevant views regarding the traffic to PlanD for coordination. TD supported in principle the development project being directly connected to the MTR station and also the three proposed footbridges, since the usage of above-ground facilities could be reduced and traffic could be diverted. The concerned application also proposed to change the road markings at that location and move the large road sign affected towards Cheung Lai Street. After the calculation on the change in pedestrian flow on the ground and the traffic assessment, TD had initially agreed to move the road sign. Besides, the

concerned developments would have a certain degree of setback and the section of footpath nearby would therefore be widened after the project was completed.

31. Ms LAU Pui-yuk said that serious illegal parking was found in the four streets including Pei Ho Street (“Pei Ho Four Streets”) and the section of Nam Cheong Street between Lai Chi Kok Road and Ki Lung Street with many vehicles parking at roadsides to conduct hawking activities. She hoped that combating against illegal parking and obstruction in that area could be strengthened.

32. Mr YUNG Chung-pui responded that the Police had all along attached great importance to the situation in the above locations. Summons actions with video recording and regular inspections had been conducted from time to time; enforcement figures could not be provided at the moment.

33. Mr Ramon YUEN enquired about the current status of the planning application no. A/K4/74.

34. Miss Jessica HO responded that since the views provided by departments had to be dealt with for the planning application no. A/K4/74, the applicant had applied for a deferral of consideration of the application. PlanD had just received the further information submitted by the applicant, and would circulate it to departments for consultation; the tentative meeting date for considering the application would be 10 September this year. Public views received regarding the application mainly involved the impact on traffic, environment, noise and air quality and the concerns over the removal of trees. The Department was still handling the further information at the moment and it would consider whether another public consultation was necessary depending on the content and the amendments involved in the information.

35. The Chairman said that she understood that the Police had handled the situation in Pei Ho Four Streets, but there was no prominent improvement yet and she hoped that the Police could step up enforcement. She further said that residents were concerned about the development status of Po Lun Street and it was hoped that the progress of the projects could be reported regularly on a quarterly basis. She thanked the developer of application no. A/K5/836 for responding to the public views and she hoped that the progress would continue to be reported in the meeting. Besides, she suggested deleting the completed actions in the paper and asked members to raise their views.

36. Mr Ramon YUEN suggested deleting item 2.

37. Mr CHUM Tak-shing suggested deleting item 10.

38. The Chairman suggested deleting items 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 16. She asked members to report to DO if abandoned vehicles were found. She said that complaints regarding illegal road racing and traffic noise had reduced recently and she thanked the Police for handling proactively.

39. The Committee agreed to delete the aforementioned items.

40. Mr Ramon YUEN enquired about the speed enforcement situation in the area of the West Kowloon Corridor.

41. The Chairman said that speed enforcement could effectively combat speeding and hoped that it could be extended to other roads.

42. Mr YUNG Chung-pui responded that relevant enforcement figures were not available yet.

43. Mr Ramon YUEN hoped that the Committee could support the application no. A/K5/836.

44. The Chairman said that the Committee supported the application no. A/K5/836.

(b) Project items and schedules of district traffic improvement works completed, under construction or under planning within the past two months by the Transport Department/Highways Department (PTAC Paper 63/21)

45. The Committee noted the report concerned.

Agenda Item 3: Reports from Working Groups under the Committee

(a) Report from the Working Group on Public Transport Services (PTAC Paper 64/21)

46. The Committee noted and endorsed the above report.

Agenda Item 4: Any other business

47. Members did not raise any other business.

Agenda Item 5: Date of next meeting

48. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 21 October 2021 (Thursday).

49. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:45 a.m.

District Council Secretariat
Sham Shui Po District Office
August 2021