

(Translation)

Minutes of the 14th Meeting of Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)
under the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Date: 3 May 2022 (Tuesday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

Chairman

Mr CHUM Tak-shing

Members

Mr HO Kwan-chau, Leo

(Left at 10:57 a.m.)

Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH

(Left at 10:57 a.m.)

Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay

Mr MAK Wai-ming

(Arrived at 10:27 a.m., left at 10:57 a.m.)

Ms NG Mei, Carman

(Arrived at 10:20 a.m., left at 10:57 a.m.)

Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet

Mr YUEN Hoi-man, Ramon

In Attendance

Mr WONG Yan-yin, Paul, JP

District Officer (Sham Shui Po)

Miss TSE Yi-lam, Gloria

Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 1

Mr CHAU Chi-chung, Joseph

Senior Liaison Officer 1, Sham Shui Po District Office (Acting)

Ms CHAN Siu-ping, Daphne

Senior Liaison Officer 2, Sham Shui Po District Office

Miss LAU Sze-nga, Vivicia

Senior Liaison Officer 3, Sham Shui Po District Office

Mr TAM Kin-fai, Simon

Senior Liaison Officer 4, Sham Shui Po District Office

Ms MAK Siu-ling, Iris

Chief Manager/M (KWS), Housing Department

Mr YU Wai-yip, Ricky

District Social Welfare Officer (Sham Shui Po), Social Welfare Department

Mr NG Lok-chun, Jim

District Commander (Sham Shui Po District), Hong Kong Police Force

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| Mr TSE Yu-ngai, Patrick | Police Community Relations Officer (Sham Shui Po District), Hong Kong Police Force |
| Mr TSE Kong-wai, Eric | Chief Transport Officer/Kowloon 1, Transport Department |
| Mr CHAN Sze-ho | Engineer/Sham Shui Po, Transport Department |
| Mr KWAN Chung-wai, David | Chief Leisure Manager (HKE), Leisure and Cultural Services Department |
| Ms SHING Lai-kam, Goldie | District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po), Leisure and Cultural Services Department |
| Mr HUI Chi-ping, Edwin | District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Sham Shui Po), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department |
| Mr LUI Sai-tat | Chief Health Inspector (Sham Shui Po) 3, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department |
| Mr YEUNG Chong-tak, Clarence | Chief Engineer/S1, Civil Engineering and Development Department |
| <u>Secretary</u> | |
| Ms HO Kam-ping, Jennifer | Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Sham Shui Po District Office |

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the fourteenth meeting of the Sham Shui Po District Council (“SSPDC”). He welcomed Ms Iris MAK, Chief Manager/M (KWS) of the Housing Department, to attend the meetings from now on in place of Ms LING Kuk-yi, who had been transferred out. To reduce the risk of the spread of the epidemic, the attendees had scanned the QR code with the “LeaveHomeSafe” mobile application, checked their temperatures and registered their names before entering the Conference Room. Moreover, the public gallery would not be opened for public attendance.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 13th meeting held on 11 January 2022

2. The minutes of the above meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Agenda Item 2: Matters for discussion

(a) Follow up on the noise problem caused by illegal motor racing, illegal modification of vehicles, etc., within Sham Shui Po District (SSPDC Paper 7/22)

3. Ms Janet NG introduced Paper 7/22.
4. Mr Ramon YUEN added that he opined that the Average Speed Camera System (“ASCS”) could effectively tackle the problem of illegal motor racing. He hoped that relevant departments could give an account of the timetable for installation of the said system in the district.
5. Mr Jim NG responded that one of the operational priorities of the Police was to safeguard road safety. The Police had all along adopted “zero tolerance” attitude towards contraventions such as illegal motor racing and illegal vehicle modification, and would promptly follow up on relevant reports. According to Section 55 of the Road Traffic Ordinance (“RTO”), any person who promoted or took part in a race or trial of speed on any road between vehicles without the written consent of the Commissioner of Police committed an offence and was liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000, incurrence of 10 points, disqualification from driving for twelve months and imprisonment for twelve months. According to Section 37 of the RTO, a driver participated in illegal motor racing could also be charged with dangerous driving by the Police, and the maximum penalties were a fine of \$25,000, incurrence of 10 points, disqualification from driving for six months in the case of a first conviction and imprisonment for three years. The Police would continue to collect intelligence in relation to illegal motor racing, set up road blocks and conduct speed detection operations at suitable locations under the premise of protecting the safety of the public and police officers. Random patrols would also be carried out by unmarked police vehicles equipped with ASCSs and police cars to intercept

speeding vehicles. As for the enforcement figures of the Kowloon West Regional District, the Police issued 48 493 and 17 544 fixed penalty tickets in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively for the offences of speeding and failure to comply with traffic signals. A total of 501 and 130 court summons were issued by the Police in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively for the offences of careless driving and driving in excess of speed limit by more than 45 kilometres per hour. As for serious traffic offences such as dangerous driving and driving without a licence, the Police arrested 86 and 7 people in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively. The Police also conducted 1 292 and 298 operations on illegal motor racing in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively. He then said that according to the RTO, all first-registered vehicles in Hong Kong had to comply with the relevant Noise Control Regulation, and the prescribed noise emission standards had been stated in the ordinance. Under Section 80 of the RTO, if a police officer had reason to believe that excessive noise was produced by a vehicle, he could direct the driver to drive the vehicle to a vehicle examination centre for examination, and the Police would prosecute the driver for contravention of ordinance. During the operations against illegal modification of vehicles conducted by police officers from Kowloon West Regional District, a total of 337 and 128 cases of vehicles being towed to vehicle examination centres were recorded by the Police in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively. There were 439 and 90 vehicle examination notices issued in the first quarter of 2021 and 2022 respectively. Apart from ongoing review of the existing strategies, the Police was also examining the implementation of various new measures targeted at traffic offences. For instance, the recent launch of “Project PROVE” application on the social media platform “WeChat” for the public to report non-emergency traffic offences by uploading photos or video clips as evidence. It was believed that it would help the public report cases of illegal motor racing.

6. Mr CHAN Sze-ho introduced Response Paper 7a/22.

7. Mr Ramon YUEN said that the problem of illegal motor racing was particularly serious during weekends or early hours of long holidays. The Police had to conduct targeted enforcement operation at specific hours. Besides, relevant departments had conducted technical testing of ASCS on site in the district. He enquired whether only data was collected during testing period and no enforcement action would be taken for the time being. He hoped that the relevant system could be implemented as soon as possible.

8. Mr Jay LI said that a resident organisation had conducted a survey, and the result revealed that the noise had affected the daily routines and sleep of residents of Hoi Tat Estate. Some residents also needed to close windows at all times, indicating that the noise problem was serious. Besides, traffic noise slightly higher than the noise standard at night-time on weekdays was recorded by residents of Hoi Tat Estate. He hoped that remedial measures could be provided to affected residents.

9. Ms Janet NG said that residents near West Kowloon Corridor reflected that the noise from illegal motor racing had affected their daily routines, and closing windows at all times would also cause nuisance to their lives. Therefore, she hoped that the Police could step up enforcement and install ASCSs at blackspots in the district as soon as possible.

10. Mr Jim NG gave a consolidated response by saying that ASCS could effectively combat offences such as driving in excess of speed limit and illegal motor racing, etc. The Police was now examining the test result of ASCS with the Transport Department (“TD”) and would provide relevant information and report implementation details to SSPDC in due course. Besides, in respect of the illegal motor racing problems at West Kowloon Corridor and Kwai Chung Road sections, the Police would continue to step up intelligence collection and conduct targeted operations.

11. Mr CHAN Sze-ho gave a consolidated response and said that TD was now examining the implementation arrangements of ASCS with the Police and would announce the plan to the public in due course.

12. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he hoped that departments could provide the timetable for the installation of ASCS as soon as possible.

13. Ms Janet NG said that noise barrier could not be installed at Kwai Chung Road flyover due to technical problem. She hoped that departments could examine the installation of acoustic fibreboards made with light material to alleviate the traffic noise of that road section.

14. The Chairman concluded that he hoped that departments could install ASCSs at relevant road sections in the district as soon as possible for combating traffic offences such as driving in excess of speed limit and illegal motor racing so as to minimise the impact to residents.

(b) Complaint against the Pioneer Management Limited, the consultant for the Tai Hang Sai Estate Redevelopment Project, for coercing the residents of Tai Hang Sai Estate to sign the “Declaration of Eligibility Assessment” by immoral and intimidating practices (SSPDC Paper 8/22)

15. Mr Jay LI introduced Paper 8/22.

16. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had contacted the Hong Kong Settlers Housing Corporation Limited (“HKSHCL”) before the meeting, yet the parties concerned had indicated that they would not send any representatives to attend today’s meeting. He

asked Members to refer to the written response from HKSHCL (Paper 8a/22).

17. Mr Jay LI opined that HKSHCL did not fulfil the additional condition imposed by the Metro Planning Committee of the Town Planning Board in approving the redevelopment application to enhance communication with the residents on the redevelopment and rehousing package. He was disappointed that HKSHCL did not attend the meeting and respond to complaints. He requested that HKSHCL attend meetings and communicate actively with residents' representatives in future.

18. Ms Janet NG regretted that HKSHCL did not respond in detail to the residents' complaints against Pioneer Management Ltd. ("Pioneer") and considered the performance of the two companies dissatisfactory. She suggested issuing a letter to request HKSHCL to follow up on the residents' complaints.

19. The Chairman concluded that the written response from HKSHCL was not comprehensive and said that HKSHCL should dismiss the untrue claims of Pioneer and explain the redevelopment and rehousing package to the residents as soon as possible. He suggested that a letter be issued to HKSHCL in the name of SSPDC expressing regret that it failed to attend the meeting and requesting HKSHCL to actively participate in meetings held by residents' organisations in future.

[Post-meeting note: The Secretariat issued a letter in the name of SSPDC to HKSHCL on 23 May.]

(c) Request for implementing the option of online meetings at once as the operation of the District Council is seriously affected by the COVID-19 epidemic situation (SSPDC Paper 9/22)

20. Mr Ramon YUEN introduced Paper 9/22 and enquired about the progress of the study on online meetings conducted by SSPDC.

21. Assistant District Officer 1 responded that as the local situation of the fifth wave of the epidemic was very severe, the Home Affairs Department ("HAD") had asked DCs to postpone their meetings in order to reduce the risk of spreading the epidemic in the community as far as practicable and to tie in with the overall anti-epidemic measures and work arrangements of the Government. Regarding the proposal to conduct SSPDC meetings online, HAD thought that its validity should be further examined.

22. Mr Ramon YUEN enquired how to hold valid SSPDC meetings online and whether the Secretariat would provide support services for online meetings if the epidemic situation worsened again or if the Council had urgent matters to deal with.

23. Ms Janet NG said that the epidemic had made it difficult to hold meetings as scheduled, but the Secretariat still maintained close communication with Members and Members were able to reflect their views to the Government through the Secretariat. However, Members were unable to have meetings with representatives of government departments to directly reflect the difficulties encountered by frontline staff. It was expected that the Government would attach more importance to communication with members of the local communities in future.

24. The Chairman added that the civil servants had been standing fast at their posts during the epidemic and the Sham Shui Po District Office (“SSPDO”) had also consulted Members about different policies and measures, which showed that SSPDO attached importance to local consultation. Yet, discussion in the Council was more conducive to two-way communication and hence online meetings were worth considering. He hoped that HAD would provide a specific timetable based on the study as soon as possible, so that SSPDC could have room for online discussion.

25. The District Officer responded that the views of Members would be conveyed to HAD. The Secretariat had informed Mr YEUNG Yuk, the former Chairman of SSPDC, and all Members in writing on 10 June 2021 of the amendments to the Sham Shui Po District Council Standing Orders regarding online meetings and therefore would not repeat them. In addition, when there were urgent matters to be dealt with, the Secretariat could consult Members by papers’ circulation, such as the reprovisioning of school premises in the district earlier, which was also handled by circulation. This showed that there was a mechanism in place for handling urgent matters.

26. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he disagreed with the way the reprovisioning of school premises in the district had been handled earlier, and considered that the consultation by circulation of papers was of limited effectiveness. He hoped that HAD would explain in more detail the circumstances under which holding online meetings would be invalid.

27. The District Officer responded that the study of online meetings was still in progress, and how to determine the validity of the meetings was the core issue of the study. He could not address Members’ concerns until a conclusion was reached.

28. The Chairman enquired about the circumstances under which online meetings would be valid and whether it was within the scope of HAD’s study.

29. The District Officer responded that the Assistant District Officer had just mentioned that HAD considered that it was necessary to consider whether holding SSPDC meetings online would affect their validities. It was the core issue of the study.

30. Mr Ramon YUEN said that he was disappointed with HAD's response to the online meetings and thought that the department had not actively followed it up.

31. The Chairman concluded that it was not the first time that SSPDC proposed to hold online meetings during the epidemic, and other DCs also shared the same view. Many advisory bodies held online meetings as well. He hoped that HAD would complete the study as soon as possible to specify the circumstances that would affect the validity of the meetings and make reference to the practices of other advisory bodies, so that SSPDC could conduct online meetings as early as possible.

(d) Flaws in the Vaccine Pass when recovered persons encountered problems in producing proof

32. The District Officer said that he had informed the Chairman of SSPDC by email before the meeting that as the Government considered that agenda item 2(d) was not a district affair, the discussion of the paper was inconsistent with the functions of DC as specified in the District Councils Ordinance. He would walk out of the meeting together with the representatives of the government departments present and the Secretariat would not provide support services.

Agenda Item 3: Any other business

(a) Invitation for the Sham Shui Po District Council to be the supporting organisation for the 2022/23 Integrity Activities in Sham Shui Po District (SSPDC Paper 10/ 22)

33. The Chairman said that the Independent Commission Against Corruption ("ICAC") had invited SSPDC to be the supporting organisation for the 2022/23 Integrity Activities in Sham Shui Po District.

34. Mr Ramon YUEN said that ICAC had sent staff to introduce the activities at SSPDC meetings in the past and asked if arrangements could be made for ICAC representatives to answer his enquiries concerning the activities in the coming year.

35. The Secretary responded that SSPDC was only asked to agree to be the supporting organisation for the above activities. The expenditure for the whole programme was borne by ICAC and no funding from SSPDC was involved. The Secretariat would convey Members' opinions to ICAC and suggested that the paper be circulated for endorsement later.

36. The Chairman enquired whether any activities organised by ICAC in the past had involved funding from SSPDC.

37. The Secretary responded that no SSPDC funding had been involved in past activities organised by ICAC.

38. Mr Ramon YUEN suggested that ICAC representatives could give a briefing on the programme at the District Facilities and Community Affairs Committee (“DFCAC”) meeting.

39. The Chairman reminded that if the ICAC representatives had explained, circulation of papers would be arranged as soon as possible to avoid delaying the ICAC’s programme.

[Post-meeting note: The ICAC representatives gave a briefing on the programme at the DFCAC meeting on 12 May and the Secretariat arranged for the circulation of papers on 24 May.]

(b) Invitation from the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme for nominating a District Council Member for the Panel for the Selection of Target Buildings (SSPDC Paper 11/ 22)

40. The Chairman said that the Independent Checking Unit of the Transport and Housing Bureau had invited SSPDC to nominate a District Council Member to serve on a Panel for the Selection of Target Buildings. He went on saying that as Mr KONG Kwai-sang had vacated the office, Members were asked to make a nomination.

41. Mr Ramon YUEN nominated Ms Janet NG and it was seconded by Mr Jay LI.

42. Ms Janet NG accepted the nomination.

43. The Chairman announced that Ms Janet NG would be a member of the Panel.

(c) Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health - the 13th “Quit to Win” Smoke-free Community Campaign (SSPDC Paper 12/ 22)

44. The Chairman said that the Hong Kong Council on Smoking and Health (COSH) hoped that SSPDC would support the 13th “Quit to Win” Smoke-free Community Campaign and agree to use SSPDC’s logo on promotional materials, hence becoming a district partner to promote the smoke-free message to the residents in the district. He continued to ask Members to consider the above suggestions.

45. The Chairman announced that SSPDC had unanimously agreed to the use of SSPDC’s logo by COSH and supported participation in the above campaign.

46. Ms Janet NG said that some residents considered that the mobile specimen collection stations at the Hard-surfaced Soccer Pitch of Lai Chi Kok Park Stage I did not occupy much space and hoped that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) could consider relocating the mobile specimen collection stations to the open area outside Mei Foo Sun Chuen Post Office (i.e. the entrance to Lai Chi Kok Park) and reopening the hard-surfaced soccer pitch.

47. The Chairman asked whether the Department had received any complaints about the mobile specimen collection stations being located at Exit D of MTR Mei Foo Station (i.e. the entrance to Lai Chi Kok Park).

48. Ms Goldie SHING responded that the Department did not receive any complaints, but the entrance to Lai Chi Kok Park was narrow and could not accommodate multiple mobile specimen collection stations, while the Hard-surfaced Soccer Pitch of Lai Chi Kok Park Stage I was more spacious and could accommodate more residents for testing. She added that the Department would consider the above proposal with the relevant departments.

[Post-meeting note: LCSD advised that the mobile specimen collection stations originally set up at the Hard-surfaced Soccer Pitch of Lai Chi Kok Park Stage I had been relocated to Exit D of MTR Mei Foo Station from 7 May and the hard-surfaced soccer pitch had been opened to the residents for use.]

49. The Chairman said that the Department was expected to review the location of the mobile specimen collection stations in a timely manner.

Agenda Item 4: Date of next meeting

50. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 28 June 2022 (Tuesday).

51. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:08 a.m.

District Council Secretariat
Sham Shui Po District Office
June 2022