

(Translation)

Minutes of the 15th Meeting of Sham Shui Po District Council (6th Term)
under the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Date: 28 June 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

Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH (Left at 10:40 a.m.)

Mr LI Ting-fung, Jay

Mr MAK Wai-ming (Arrived at 9:45 a.m., left at 10:25 a.m.)

Ms NG Mei, Carman (Arrived at 9:40 a.m., left at 10:35 a.m.)

Ms NG Yuet-lan, Janet (Arrived at 9:35 a.m.)

In Attendance

Mr WONG Yan-yin, Paul, JP

District Officer (Sham Shui Po)

Miss CHIN Wai-sheung, Doris

Senior Liaison Officer 1, Sham Shui Po District Office

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

Miss YEUNG Ka-wai

Senior Housing Manager/KWS1, Housing Department

Mr YU Wai-yip, Ricky

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

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

Ms SHING Lai-kam, Goldie

District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms TSENG Chieh, Elsa

Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) District Support, Leisure and Cultural Services

Mr HUI Chi-ping, Edwin	Department 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
Mr TAO Kwok-kei, Angus	Engineer (6), Home Affairs Department
Mr CHAN Kwok-wai, Albert	Senior Estate Surveyor/Land Enforcement/Kowloon, Lands Department
Mr MOK Wai-hai, Sam	Chief Estate Officer/Kowloon West, Lands Department

Secretary

Ms HO Kam-ping, Jennifer	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Sham Shui Po District Office
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Absent with Apologies

Member

Mr YUEN Hoi-man, Ramon

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Members and representatives from government departments to the fifteenth meeting of the Sham Shui Po District Council. He said that Miss YEUNG Ka-wai, Senior Housing Manager/KWS1 of the Housing Department, would attend today's meeting in place of Ms MAK Siu-ling, Iris; Mr Patrick TSE, Police Community Relations Officer (Sham Shui Po District) of the Hong Kong Police Force would attend today's meeting in place of Mr NG Lok-chun, Jim, and Ms Goldie SHING, District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department would attend today's meeting in place of Mr KWAN Chung-wai, David. 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.

2. The meeting noted the leave application of Mr Ramon YUEN.

Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of minutes of the 8th meeting held on 16 March 2021 and the 14th meeting held on 3 May 2022

3. The minutes of the above meetings were confirmed without amendment.

Agenda Item 2: Matters for discussion

(a) Revitalise Mission Hill (Ex-Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir) for conservation of the monument (SSPDC Paper 14/22)

(b) Develop Mission Hill for public enjoyment (SSPDC Paper 15/22)

4. The Chairman said that as the above two papers were similar in nature, he suggested discussing them together. Members raised no objection.

5. Ms LAU Pui-yuk introduced Paper 14/22. She then said that the ascending road sections of Mission Hill were mainly made up of roads and steps built by residents. She hoped that the Government could strengthen the safety measures and enhance its accessibility.

6. Mr Jay LI introduced Paper 15/22.

7. The Chairman said that before the meeting, the Secretariat had invited the Water Supplies Department ("WSD") and the Antiquities and Monuments Office ("AMO") to the meeting but the parties concerned could not send representatives to attend the meeting.

He then asked Members to refer to the written response of WSD (Paper 14a/22).

8. The District Officer reported with the aid of PowerPoint presentation. He said that as some parts of Mission Hill involved the acts of illegally erected structures and unlawful occupation of government land, the Sham Shui Po District Management Committee had posted notices at relevant locations in mid-May, appealing the concerned persons to demolish the illegal structures.

9. Mr Sam MOK introduced Response Paper 15a/22. He added that the Lands Department (“LandsD”) would post notices at relevant locations in accordance with the Land (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap 28) in due course, requesting relevant persons to remove illegal structures and miscellaneous articles, etc. by a specified date as required by the ordinance. Otherwise, the Government would remove the items in accordance with the relevant ordinance.

10. The District Officer said that in view of the increasing flow of people in the vicinity of Mission Hill, the Sham Shui Po District Office (“SSPDO”) planned to provide benches at the pavilion on the hill for visitors to take a rest, and build cobbled footpath near the entrance of Berwick Street for morning walkers to use. However, there were still some illegal structures and miscellaneous articles at the relevant locations. If the concerned persons did not remove those items by themselves, the Government would post notices pursuant to the power conferred by law and requested the persons to remove the items before a deadline. If no progress was made upon the deadline, enforcement actions would be carried out to facilitate the works.

11. Ms Goldie SHING reported with the aid of PowerPoint Presentation. She said that the Department intended to provide more fitness equipment in the elderly fitness corner at Tong Yam Street Hillside Sitting-out Area for use by residents.

12. The District Officer added that as some ascending road sections had been damaged due to prolonged lack of maintenance, SSPDO was now conducting technical feasibility study. It might make reference to the previous beautification and improvement works, and the existing ascending road sections would be rebuilt as a morning trail under the district minor works project to safeguard residents’ safety. Besides, he also clarified that residents doing morning exercises would not be affected after the removal of illegal structures and miscellaneous items, on the contrary, it would help improve the surrounding environment for the public to enjoy the natural scenery on the hill.

13. Mr Jay LI was disappointed that AMO did not send representatives to the meeting and relevant department did not provide a concrete conservation proposal. He said that

the Sham Shui Po Service Reservoir (“Service Reservoir”) had been accorded Grade 1 historic building. He hoped that the Secretariat could help to enquire with AMO whether the procedure of assessing the Service Reservoir as a declared monument had commenced and when the result would be announced. Besides, he agreed that the shrine on the hill posed higher potential risks and should be handled as soon as possible. However, other facilities built by residents themselves should be kept for visitors’ use. He also enquired about the completion date of the above works.

14. Ms Janet NG said that even though the illegal structures built by residents on the hill posed safety concerns, they were the works by residents. She hoped that the Government would understand their feeling and examine whether there were suitable locations on the hill for provision of more facilities. Besides, as the above works might take more time for completion, she hoped that the Government would consider handling facilities built at different locations on the hill progressively instead of dealing with them in one go.

15. Ms LAU Pui-yuk hoped that SSPDO would provide safe and suitable facilities on the hill for visitors’ use. She also suggested that when formulating conservation proposal, the Government should make plans for the vicinity of Mission Hill and the Service Reservoir together so that the overall development would be more comprehensive. Besides, she enquired whether SSPDO would consider converting the scaffold on the hill into a pavilion and install benches to provide comprehensive amenities. She continued to enquire about the details of converting the ascending road sections into a morning trail, including the work schedule and arrangements, etc. She also advised the Government to consult residents more on the works and post notices on site to alleviate public concerns.

16. The District Officer said that the Secretariat would relay the views on the grading of historic building and the overall conservation proposal to relevant departments.

17. Ms Goldie SHING said that upon the approval of relevant funds, the improvement works at Tong Yam Street Hillside Sitting-out Area was expected to take about seven months.

18. The District Officer responded that SSPDO was open-minded towards the conversion of two ascending road sections into a morning trail and would consider views. Upon the completion of the design of the advance works and feasibility study, SSPDO would carry out works in phases and make adjustment taking into account actual circumstances, and it was expected that the works would take about six months. Moreover, considering that the Service Reservoir was not easily accessible and might pose safety threat, SSPDO would also explore the provision of footpath for travelling between the Service Reservoir and the morning trail to enhance its accessibility. He also

concurred with Ms LAU Pui-yuk's view that SSPDO should talk to residents more often and explain in details the relevant improvement works. Regarding the suggestion of converting the scaffold on the hill into a pavilion, he pointed out that there was originally a pavilion built by SSPDO at the said place, the scaffold and canvas were added by residents later. Therefore, SSPDO would continue to keep the pavilion and provide benches as planned. Besides, he said that the illegal structures built on the government land on the hill might pose safety threat, it would be difficult to ascertain which party should be responsible if someone got hurt while using them. He reiterated that SSPDO would continue to proceed with the proposed works.

19. Mr Sam MOK thanked Members for their suggestions. He reiterated that the District Lands Office, Kowloon West would co-operate with other departments and follow up on the issue through inter-departmental operations, including taking enforcement action in accordance with relevant ordinance in due course.

20. Ms Janet NG said that even if the Department planned to provide fitness equipment in Tong Yam Street Hillside Sitting-out Area, there was still quite a distance from that location to Mission Hill. Members of the public also used to do exercise on the hill. She hoped that the Department would examine whether there were suitable places on the hill to provide fitness equipment.

21. Mr Jay LI said that residents built the facilities on the hill with dedication, and suggested the Government seek relevant stakeholders' views when formulating conservation proposal on Mission Hill.

22. The Chairman concluded that Mission Hill was on a government land, and he agreed that departments should handle illegal structures and miscellaneous articles on the hill in due course to protect public safety. He also advised the Government to carry out local consultation if the planning for Mission Hill would be amended in the future and explain the works boundary and works period to residents in due course with a view to easing concerns. Besides, he opined that the provision of facilities on the hill should be kept to the minimum to avoid destroying the natural environment and affecting hikers. He then said that he hoped that the Government could speed up the planning process so that Mission Hill and the Service Reservoir could become the new landmarks in the district.

23. The District Officer reiterated that the Government had the responsibility to handle issues involving unlawful occupation of land and illegal structures. He then clarified that the proposed works were intended to provide facilities for residents, and were not compensation for the removal of illegal structures. Besides, he said that the building of illegal structures involved acts of tree-cutting and cultivation on land, which

had already damaged the environment. Therefore, the department would try to complement the natural environment and maintain its original status as far as practicable when carrying out works.

(c) Concern over the brainwashing marketing traps in Cheung Sha Wan District again (SSPDC Paper 16/22)

24. The Chairman introduced Paper 16/22.

25. The Chairman said that before the meeting, the Secretariat had invited the Customs and Excise Department to the meeting but they could not send representative to attend. He asked Members to refer to the written response (Paper 16b/22).

26. Mr Ricky YU introduced Response Paper 16a/22. He said that the Social Welfare Department had contacted the 16 subvented elderly centres in the district and advised the centres to strengthen publicity to members, so as to raise their anti-deception awareness.

27. Mr Patrick TSE responded that the Police was aware of the concerned situation and would carry out publicity work with the Crime Prevention Bureau (“CPB”) through different channels. The Police would appeal to the elderly to be aware of unscrupulous business practices and avoid falling into consumption traps.

28. Mr Leo HO said that brainwashing marketing practices had existed for years, with the pecuniary loss suffered by the elderly ranging from several thousand to tens of thousand dollars. However, the number of fraud cases reported to the department every year was small. He then said that the Government would soon disburse the second phase of consumption vouchers and hoped that relevant departments could step up the enforcement and publicity.

29. The Chairman said that it was hard for the departments to take enforcement action as they did not receive any request for assistance from members of the public. He hoped that relevant departments could step up the publicity on various kinds of anti-deception and appeal to the residents to heighten vigilance.

30. Mr Patrick TSE responded that CPB and the Police Community Relations Office would step up the publicity on anti-deception to combat and prevent fraud.

31. The Chairman concluded that he hoped that the department would note the existence of brainwashing marketing practices in the district and step up public education.

Agenda Item 3: Reports from Committees under the District Council

(a) Report from the District Facilities and Community Affairs Committee (SSPDC Paper 17/22)

(b) Report from the Environment, Hygiene and Housing Affairs Committee (SSPDC Paper 18/22)

(c) Report from the Planning Development and Transport Affairs Committee (SSPDC Paper 19/22)

32. The meeting noted and endorsed the content of the aforesaid reports.

Agenda Item 4: Any other business

(a) Nomination of a District Council Member for the Management Committee of the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre (SSPDC Paper 20/22)

33. The Chairman said that the meeting needed to nominate a Member to join the Management Committee, and asked Members to make nominations.

34. Mr Jay LI said that the Management Committee of the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre had ceased operation and was now reformed as Project Development Committee.

35. Ms Janet NG nominated Mr Jay LI and the Chairman seconded the nomination.

36. Since no Member voted against it or abstained from voting, the meeting unanimously agreed to appoint Mr Jay LI to join the Project Development Committee of the Jockey Club Creative Arts Centre.

Agenda Item 5: Date of next meeting

37. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 6 September 2022 (Tuesday).

38. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:43 a.m.