

(Translation)

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee of  
Sham Shui Po District Council (7th Term)

Date: 21 March 2024 (Thursday)

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Sham Shui Po District Council

Present

Chairman

Mr CHAN Wai-ming, BBS, MH, JP

Vice-Chairman

Ms CHUM Pik-wa

Members

Mr HO Kwan-chau

Ms WU Wanqiu

Mr LEE Wing-man, MH

Mr LAM Ka-fai, Aaron, BBS, JP

Mr LAM Wai-man, Raymond

Ms WU Sze-wan

Mr CHEUNG Tak-wai

Mr LEUNG Ping-kin

Ms KWOK Yin-lai, MH

Mr CHAN Kwok-wai, MH

Ms CHEN Lihong

Mr WONG Chun-hung, Hanson

Ms LAU Pui-yuk, MH

Ms CHUNG Ching-may, MH

Dr PONG Chiu-fai, MH

In attendance

Miss FUNG Yi-ching, Janice	Assistant District Officer (Sham Shui Po) 2
Miss LUI Miu-ling, Prudence	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Sham Shui Po District Office
Mr LEUNG Fu-on, Adrian	Executive Officer I (District Management), Sham Shui Po District Office
Miss YIN Shuk-han, Charlie	Liaison Officer (District Facilities Management Committee and Lai Chi Kok) 2, Sham Shui Po District Office
Mr LEE Kit-wai	Senior Inspector of Works (Kowloon), Works Section, Home Affairs Department
Mr LAM Ho-yiu, Tom	Contract Project Coordinator / 11 (South), Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LII Kin-chiu	Engineer/Kowloon 7, Drainage Services Department
Mr SIU Kin-keung	Engineer/Kowloon (Distribution 2), Water Supplies Department
Mr YIP Pui-lam, Paul	District Engineer / Sham Shui Po, Highways Department
Mr WONG Man-wong	Chief Leisure Manager (Hong Kong East), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms HO Po-chu	District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAM Pui-ling	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) District Support, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr WAH Kwan-ping	Assistant District Leisure Manager (Sham Shui Po) District Support, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHAN Siu-kuen, Catalina	Senior Librarian (Sham Shui Po), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LAI Hoi-yan, Snowy	Assistant Leisure Manager I (Tree) Kowloon 2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms HO Wai-yan, Vivian	Senior Project Manager (Technical Section), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr LEE Chi-lung	Project Manager 1 (Project Team), Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Irene CHENG	Architectural Design Director, HIR Studio
Ms LEUNG Ho-wai	Architectural Designer, HIR Studio

Secretary

Ms LEE Hei-tung, Mandy	Executive Officer (District Council) 3, Sham Shui Po District Office
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Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the second meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) of the seventh term of the Sham Shui Po District Council (“SSPDC”).

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the District Facilities and Works Committee

2. The Committee confirmed the above meeting minutes without amendment.

Item 2: Transformation Project on Public Play Spaces of Shun Ning Road Recreation Ground in Sham Shui Po District by Leisure and Cultural Services Department (DFWC Paper No. 4/2024)

3. Mr LEE Chi-lung introduced Paper 4/2024.
4. Ms Irene CHENG introduced the Transformation Project on Public Play Spaces of Shun Ning Road Recreation Ground with a slide presentation.
5. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) commended the Department for transforming public recreation grounds in recent years. This project would include ethnic minority cultural elements and barrier-free facilities, as well as provide parent-child activity spaces, to help promote community inclusion. It was hoped that other recreation grounds in the district would be transformed one by one in the future; (ii) concerned about the safety of rope courses and suggested adding fences or soft mats around the perimeter; (iii) due to the outdoor location of the play equipment, enquired about the materials of the rope course, the frequency of regular maintenance, daily safety measures and manpower support; (iv) the cleanliness of the pavilions and toilets near the recreation ground was poor, and there was also occasional accumulation of rubbish on the roof of the pavilions. It was suggested that beautification and improvement works should be carried out at the same time for the two facilities to tie in with the theme of the recreation ground; (v) suggested adding more seats for parents to rest; and (vi) the recreation ground was located near Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, and it was suggested that the Department add historical and cultural elements to the design theme of “Cultural Patchwork”.
6. Ms Irene CHENG responded that sufficient space had been reserved around the rope courses to lay safety mats for adequate protection. The rope courses were designed for

children to climb slowly from the bottom to the top, preventing them from jumping from the highest point to the ground.

7. Mr LEE Chi-lung gave a consolidated response: (i) the Department would conduct annual maintenance and arrange for staff to conduct daily inspections. If any damage was found, replacement would be made as soon as possible, and parts that were prone to wear and tear would be kept stock to shorten the repair time; (ii) in terms of equipment safety, the Department would require the contractors of the play equipment to provide relevant safety certificates to prove that the equipment complied with safety standards; qualified playground safety inspectors would also be hired to certify the equipment and materials, ensuring the safety of the play equipment and the surrounding environment; (iii) in terms of equipment materials, more durable materials were selected as far as practicable, but the use of heat-susceptible materials (such as metal) in structural locations was inevitable. Therefore, warnings would be displayed and protective devices would be installed where possible, such as installing protective devices at structural connection points to prevent children from getting injured; (iv) in terms of venue cleansing, on-site staff would regularly clean and disinfect the venue according to the flow of people and the usage of equipment to ensure cleanliness and hygiene; (v) collaboration would be made with relevant works departments to study the design of the pavilions and toilets, and regular cleaning would be arranged to ensure hygiene; and (vi) study would be conducted to incorporate historical and cultural elements into the design of the recreation ground.

8. Ms HO Po-chu added that this project mainly focused on transforming the play equipment, and the budget did not include the cost of improving nearby auxiliary facilities such as toilets and pavilions, so further study with relevant works departments was necessary.

9. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) the close proximity of the toilets and the play equipment could easily cause environmental hygiene problems, and users of the basketball court nearby also frequently used the toilets. It is suggested that the toilets should be relocated; and (ii) suggested adding water dispensers to the recreation ground.

10. Mr LEE Chi-lung responded that as the resource allocation for this project mainly focused on transforming the play equipment, study would be made with relevant works departments to see how the pavilions and the toilets could be optimised.

11. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted and welcomed the Transformation Project on Public Play Spaces of Shun Ning Road Recreation Ground, and it was hoped that the safety and cleanliness of the play equipment would be ensured, water dispensers be added,

adjacent toilets and pavilions be optimised, and that incorporation of historical and cultural elements into the design would be considered. The Committee looked forward to the gradual transformation of other play spaces in the district in the future.

Item 3: Concern About the Uneven Surface of Slab-paved Pavements (DFWC Paper No. 5/2024)

12. A member introduced Paper No. 5/2024.

13. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had invited the Tree Management Office to attend the meeting prior to the meeting, but the Office replied that it was unable to send representatives to attend the meeting. Members were asked to refer to Response Paper No. 5c/2024.

14. Ms Snowy LAI introduced Paper No. 5a/2024.

15. Mr Paul YIP introduced Paper No. 5b/2024.

16. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) although the Highways Department (“HyD”) regularly inspected footpaths and carried out repairs when necessary, the surface of many of the slab-paved roads in the district was still uneven for a long time, affecting residents’ usage; (ii) the surface of the slab-paved roads at the bus stop at Hoi Tat Estate, Sham Mong Road, Hoi Tak Court, and in the vicinity of Tonkin Street West near Sai Chuen Road was uneven. HyD recently replied that they would re-pave the roads near Hoi Tat Estate. The Department was expected to inspect the situation of Hoi Tak Court and Tonkin Street West near Sai Chuen Road after the meeting; (iii) the uneven surface of the slab-paved roads in the vicinity of Po On Road near Hing Wah Street had caused residents to trip and fall, and get injured; there had been loose tiles and exposed tree roots at the junction of Tai Hang Tung Road and Woh Chai Street for a long time. The situation at these two locations had not improved despite after the Department’s handling. Therefore, members enquired about the progress of the follow-up work and suggested that the Department should still conduct regular inspections after repairing the road surface or consider repaving the relevant road sections; (iv) there was also a similar problem with the manhole covers near the Chak On Estate minibs stop and Pei Ho Street Market. Members enquired how HyD would repair roads involving public facilities; (v) there was also uneven surface of slab-paved roads in the vicinity of Lai Chi Kok Road near Lai On Estate and Lai Kok Estate; (vi) enquired about the schedule of recent pavement inspections; (vii) suggested that the Department should reserve time to apply

for necessary permits from the Police when planning pavement maintenance works; (viii) the pavements in the district were relatively narrow, many elderly and visually impaired people were prone to falling and getting injured on uneven road surface. Members suggested adding fences around trees or planting tree roots in sand pits to provide appropriate space for the trees to grow; and (ix) the fruits of Tree Cotton and Candlenut Tree were relatively heavy and could hit passers-by when falling. Therefore, members enquired about the factors to consider in selecting tree species.

17. Mr Paul YIP gave a consolidated response: (i) upon receipt of cases involving uneven surface of slab-paved roads of a large area, or where repair could not be carried out immediately at the relevant location, depending on the situation, the Transport Department and relevant road users would be contacted to arrange repairs as soon as possible; (ii) if the relevant locations were affected by the protrusion of tree roots, and therefore unable to repave the road, feasible measures would be discussed with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) to expand tree pits or pave the road with other materials depending on the circumstances to prevent the slabs from protruding and ensure pedestrian safety; and (iii) road sections with uneven surface mentioned by members were noted and follow-up would be made with the maintenance section.

18. Ms Snowy LAI gave a consolidated response: (i) if a case of protruding slabs caused by tree roots was received, staff would be dispatched to inspect and expand the tree pit depending on the situations; (ii) active follow-up was being made with HyD on the exposed tree roots on the road at the junction of Tai Hang Tung Road and Woh Chai Street; and (iii) the Tree Cotton and Candlenut Tree were planted as as the 1960s and 1970s. According to the latest tree planting guidelines from the Development Bureau, these two types of trees would no longer be planted. Due to the narrow road surface in the district, the Department preferred to choose tree species with finer structures and avoid planting species with thick roots.

19. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) loose slabs were also found at the staircase entrance of footbridge KF32 on Cheung Sha Wan Road. Therefore, members enquired whether HyD was responsible for the maintenance of the footbridge; and (ii) enquired if the trees within public housing estates were under the purview of LCSD. It was suggested that the Department should regularly clear the fruits of Tree Cotton and Candlenut Tree.

20. Mr Paul YIP responded that footbridge KF32 on Cheung Sha Wan Road was maintained and repaired by HyD. Members and the public were welcome to call 1823 or HyD’s 24-hour hotline 2926 4111 to provide the location and details of the road section that

required repair to facilitate the Department's follow-up.

21. Ms Snowy LAI responded that trees within the area of public housing estates were managed by the estate offices of the Housing Department ("HD").

22. The Chairman concluded that the surface of some sections of the slab-paved pavements in the district had long been uneven. It was hoped that the Department would follow up on the suggestions raised by members and repair or repave the road surface in due course. It was also suggested speeding up the repair procedures to provide a safe walking environment for the public.

Item 4(a): Leisure and Cultural Services Department Report on Recreational and Sports Facilities Management in Sham Shui Po District (DFWC Paper No. 6/2024)

23. Ms LAM Pui-ling introduced Paper No. 6/2024.

24. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) the utilisation rate of the table tennis facilities at Cornwall Street Squash and Table Tennis Centre was high. It was suggested that part of the squash courts be designated as table tennis courts during the construction period of the centre; (ii) supported the establishment of "lap swimming lanes" in the indoor secondary pool of Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool, and enquired whether other swimming pools in the district had added "lap swimming lanes", especially during peak periods; (iii) followed up on the progress of installing an electronic display screen at the football pitch at Tai Hang Tung Estate Playground No. 1; (iv) residents had reported poor ventilation and occasional odours at Tung Chau Street Park Squash Centre; (v) enquired about the factors considered by the Department when selecting locations for greening works, and suggested carrying out greening works in the vicinity from MTR Nam Cheong Station to Hoi Lok Court; (vi) enquired about the parks involved in the horticultural beautification for major parks in Sham Shui Po District; (vii) enquired about the progress of maintenance and expected opening date of the water play facilities in Sham Shui Po Park; (viii) enquired about the replanting programme and responsible department for the trees originally planted at Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar located at No. 373 Lai Chi Kok Road; and (ix) hoped that the works of adding toilets to Nam Cheong Park would be commenced as soon as possible.

25. Ms LAM Pui-ling gave a consolidated response: (i) the Department would try its best to adjust the activity arrangements at Cornwall Street Squash and Table Tennis Centre, and keep track of the usage of relevant facilities to ensure that the public could continue to book

the rest of the table tennis facilities during the maintenance period when part of the facilities were temporarily closed; (ii) the feasibility of installing an electronic display screen at the football pitch at Tai Hang Tung Estate Playground No. 1 had been confirmed with the works department, and the works would be commenced as soon as possible; (iii) the situation of occasional odours at Tung Chau Street Park Squash Centre was noted and follow-up would be taken; (iv) the Department would inspect parks and playgrounds in the district from time to time to see if there was a need for greening works. The suggestion of carrying out greening works in the vicinity from MTR Nam Cheong Station to Hoi Lok Court was noted and follow-up would be made with relevant departments; (v) the horticultural beautification for major parks in Sham Shui Po District would cover parks such as Cornwall Street Park, Lai Chi Kok Park, Tung Chau Street Park, Sham Shui Po Park, and Shek Kip Mei Park, and the beautification works would be carried out in conjunction with different festivals or seasons throughout the year; (vi) the water play facilities in Sham Shui Po Park was expected to be open for public use in the second quarter of the year; and (vii) the tree replanting programme for Yen Chow Street Temporary Hawker Bazaar located at No. 373 Lai Chi Kok Road would be arranged by HD in accordance with existing guidelines.

26. Ms HO Po-chu added that “lap swimming lanes” were available at all three swimming pools in the district. In addition to the main and secondary pools at Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool, “lap swimming lanes” were also available at the main pools of Sham Shui Po Park Swimming Pool and Lei Cheng Uk Swimming Pool.

27. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the content of the report.

Item 4(b): Leisure and Cultural Services Department Report on Utilisation of Public Libraries in Sham Shui Po District (DFWC Paper No. 7/2024)

28. Ms Catalina CHAN introduced Paper No. 7/2024.

29. The Chairman concluded that the Committee noted the content of the report.

Item 5: Any other business

30. The views raised by members were consolidated as follows: (i) suggested adding seats to the rain shelter near Route No. 75M minibus stop on Cheung Sha Wan Road for those in need to rest; (ii) rubbish accumulated in some amenity plots under the purview of LCSD in the district, and it was hoped that the Department would arrange for cleaning; and (iii) withered

trees were found in the vicinity of Sham Mong Road, and the Department was expected to pay attention to the matter.

31. Miss Prudence LUI responded that the exact locations of the relevant suggestions would be ascertained and follow-up work would be considered after the meeting.

32. Ms LAM Pui-ling responded that the situations of rubbish accumulation in amenity plots and withered trees on Sham Mong Road were noted, follow-up would be made with relevant departments.

Item 6: Date of next meeting

33. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 16 May 2024 (Thursday).

34. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 11:00 a.m.

District Council Secretariat  
Sham Shui Po District Office  
April 2024