Summary of the Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Sha Tin District Council (2013 Session)

The 4th meeting of the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) (2013 session) was held on 25 July 2013. The major issues discussed are summarised below:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 23 May 2013

- 2. The Fire Services Department proposed to amend paragraph 67(f).
- 3. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael proposed to amend paragraph 22.
- 4. As eight members were absent when voting on the provisional motion took place, Mr CHAN Nok-hang proposed to amend paragraph 45 to "The participants unanimously passed the provisional motion in paragraph 44."
- 5. With a vote of 11 in favour and 26 against, Mr CHAN Nok-hang's proposed amendment was rejected.
- 6. The proposed amendments to the minutes of 23 May 2013 mentioned in paragraphs 2 and 3 above were confirmed by a vote of 31 in favour and 6 abstentions.

Visit of Director of Lands (D of L)

- 7. D of L briefed members on the work of the Lands Department.
- 8. Replies of D of L to members' questions and proposals were as follows:
 - (a) The Sha Tin Lands Office (STLO) would provide members with information in due course regarding the pieces of government land disposed of for specific purposes. As for government land under planning, the Lands Department would provide members with copies of papers on the studies conducted by various government departments in due course.
 - (b) The STLO would convey members' request for more parking space/car parks to the Planning Department and Transport Department.
 - (c) Views of local communities were considered in renewing the tenancy for the vehicle detention centre of the Customs and Excise Department (C & S). The terms of tenancy would be three years, and two years after the renewal, the C & S was required to return part of the land to the government.

- (d) The Lands Department would handle the numerous cases on control of government land according to priority.
- (e) The Lands Department welcomed the proposal of making the best of space under flyovers. Enquiries about the renting of space under flyovers could be made at District Lands Offices.
- (f) Regarding the management of enclosed government land, besides regular patrols and devegetation, the Lands Department would review the anti-mosquito arrangements and consider collaboration with various government departments.
- (g) The STLO had followed up on the mistaken removal of publicity materials on the street, and had apologised to the members concerned. The Lands Department would consider a more flexible approach to the handling of illegal display of publicity materials if members deemed it necessary.
- (h) The Development Bureau would continue to fight for resources to resume development of certain village expansion areas as soon as possible.
- (i) Compassion compensation would be given to registered squatter huts that were acquired for development purposes. As for squatter huts that were in contravention of the law, the government had to take enforcement action but would discretionarily allow more time for demolition of illegal structure, and no compensation would be given to the households affected.
- (j) Regarding illegal columbaria on government land, the Lands Department would review the current arrangements. As for illegal columbaria on private land, the Lands Department could only take follow-up action after the legal proceedings ended. To discourage the public from partronising illegal columbaria, the government revealed the names of these columbaria, and would review the effectiveness of this initiative.
- (k) The Lands Department would give written replies on individual cases brought up by other members.

STDC Matters

Updated Member Lists of the STDC Committees

9. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

Funding Application of the Planning Committee on Festive Lighting in Sha Tin for "2013/2014 Sha Tin Festive Lighting – Installation and Demolition of Lighting"

10. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

<u>Funding Application of the Working Group on Mid-Autumn Festival for "Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration Night"</u>

11. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

Progress of the Signature Projects Scheme

- 12. Members were informed that three representatives from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, two from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and three from the Hong Kong Institute of Architects would act as honorary consultants.
- 13. The Council noted the above paper.

Reports of the STDC Committees

14. The Council noted the reports of the District Facilities Management Committee, the Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee, the Education and Welfare Committee, the Development and Housing Committee, the Traffic and Transport Committee, the Health and Environment Committee, and the Finance and General Affairs Committee.

Financial Account of the STDC as at 16 July 2013

15. The Council noted the above paper.

Crime Brief of Sha Tin District for the First Half of 2013

- 16. Replies of Deputy District Commander (Shatin) to the members' questions were as follows:
 - (a) The police noted the upward trend in some offences and had analysed the underlying causes.
 - (b) Regarding serious gambling offences and street gambling offences, close monitoring by the police had kept the situation in Sha Tin under control.
 - (c) The upward trend in the number of youth offenders arrested was caused by

strengthened enforcement action against youth drug offences and adoption of an intelligence-led approach.

(d) To combat juvenile crimes, the police would step up publicity and education, and strengthen law enforcement during the summer vacation. The police would also arrange for irregular patrolling at black spots of young drifters. Moreover, actions were taken against recruitment of young people into triad societies.

Report of the District Management Committee

- 17. The Transport Department was discussing the provision of cycle parking space near the MTR Tai Wai Station with the MTRC. Site inspection by engineers and members would be arranged. Acting DO (Sha Tin) added that Sha Tin District Office would take follow-up action after the inspection, and would consider the feasibility of the proposed erection of notices in the parking area.
- 18. The Council noted the above paper.

Member List of the Sha Tin Arts and Culture Promotion Committee

19. The Council noted the above paper.

Next Meeting

20. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 p.m. on 26 September 2013.