

**Summary of the Minutes of
the 2nd Meeting of the Sha Tin District Council (2014 Session)**

The 2nd meeting of the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) (2014 session) was held on 20 March 2014. The major issues discussed are summarised below:

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 23 January 2014

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

Visit of Director of Planning

3. Director of Planning briefed members on the work of the Planning Department.

4. Replies of Director of Planning to members' questions and views are summarised below:

- (a) The planning of leisure and cultural services (LCS) facilities at the district level was based on demographic characteristics. The Planning Department would also assist in the planning of territory-wide LCS facilities, such as West Kowloon Cultural District.
- (b) While requiring the developer to provide parking facilities or reserving land for development of car parks, the Planning Department hoped to slow down the growth of private cars through land use planning.
- (c) Proposal on increase of the plot ratio would be forwarded to the Town Planning Board only after assessment of the condition of each site.
- (d) According to the current Outline Zoning Plan, both sides of the river valley as well as the foot of Ma On Shan would be retained as green zones.
- (e) Regarding the land released after relocation of Shatin Sewage Treatment Works, the STDC and the residents would be consulted during the planning process.
- (f) To cope with the growth of population, the government had to identify sites for housing development. Besides the long-term development plan of Kwu Tung North/Fanling North and Lantau Island, short to medium term development plans would also be considered.

- (g) Regarding the suggestion of diverging tourists, the government had planned to construct large shopping malls in Kwu Tung North.
- (h) Regarding the suggestion of developing underground space, research was focused on busy districts at the present stage. Feasibility of connecting with railway stations and access roads would be considered. Urban areas would be considered first because underground railway facilities already existed.
- (i) The Planning Department would regulate the height and spacing of newly constructed buildings according to the latest standard, so as to avoid impediment of air circulation.
- (j) The government could not mandate the creation of particular types of jobs in a free market like Hong Kong, but could reserve or facilitate the use of appropriate land for development purposes through planning.

5. Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas, seconded by Mr WONG Yue-hon, moved the provisional motion below:

“The Sha Tin District Council requests the government to plan anew and examine expeditiously the current criteria used by the government in setting the proportion of population to recreational, cultural and community facilities, so as to keep abreast of the rapid development of society, and to ease the pressure on community facilities caused by population growth. Sufficient facilities should be provided to meet public needs, including general clinics, dental clinics, child care centres, man/woman health centres, city halls, libraries, rest parks, etc.”

District Social Welfare Officer (Sha Tin) of the Social Welfare Department advised that the Chinese name of child care centres was not correct. Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas agreed to make amendment accordingly, and the amended provisional motion was passed by the Council unanimously.

STDC Matters

2014-2015 Draft Estimates for the STDC

6. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

Updated Member Lists of the STDC Committees

7. The Council endorsed the above paper unanimously.

The STDC to Serve as Supporter of Events

8. The Council unanimously endorsed the STDC serving as supporter of “RBC Race for the Kids 2014” to be held in November 2014, which was organised by The Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs Association of Hong Kong.

Proposed Recreation and Sports Activities from April 2014 to March 2015 Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Sha Tin District

9. The Chairman explained that as the amount exceeded \$1M, the application was recommended to the STDC for consideration.

10. The Council unanimously endorsed the funding application.

Reports of the STDC Committees

11. 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 11 March 2014

12. The Council noted the above paper.

Sha Tin District Police Action Plan for 2014 and Crime Brief for 2013

13. Replies of Deputy District Commander (Sha Tin) to members’ questions and views are summarised below:

- (a) To avoid misunderstanding, police officers would be careful with their choice of words in mediating disputes.
- (b) To combat and prevent crimes effectively, more uniformed officers would be deployed. Moreover, the police would flexibly deploy plain clothes officers and task forces to conduct anti-crime operation. As for education and publicity, meetings and talks on burglary would be organised for building management companies or residents’ committees, and it was hoped that relevant messages would be disseminated through district councillors.

- (c) Burglary cases in Sha Tin this year had decreased as compared with the previous year, but slight increase was recorded in individual housing estates. The police had launched a scheme known as “Project MegaSafeguard”, and stepped up education and publicity, as well as increased the frequency of patrolling in village areas.
- (d) Whether anything was stolen or not, any break-in case would be regarded as burglary.
- (e) Regarding sex crimes in Sha Tin, increase in the number of cases in 2013 was a result of strengthened education and publicity. Immediate reporting by the victims helped the police solve some of the cases.

2014-2015 Work Plan of the Sha Tin District Office

14. The Council noted the above paper.

Report of the District Management Committee

15. A member suggested that the full text of minutes of meeting of the District Management Committee should be provided for members’ reference. The Chairman thought that efficiency might be compromised if the full text of minutes was to be provided. District Officer (Sha Tin) responded by saying that more detailed information would be provided for members in the next meeting for reference, and that members could contact the Sha Tin District Office for information on individual topics.

16. The Council noted the above paper.

Next Meeting

17. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 22 May 2014.