

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of
the Sha Tin District Council in 2016**

Date : 7 January 2016 (Thursday)
Time : 2:30 pm
Venue : Sha Tin District Council Conference Room
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of joining the meeting</u>	<u>Time of leaving the meeting</u>
District Officer / Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora, JP Sha Tin District Office : (Presiding at the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sha Tin District Council)	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Chairman : Mr HO Hau-cheung, BBS, MH	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Vice-Chairman : Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas, SBS, JP	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Members : Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	(2:30 pm)	(5:50 pm)
Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James	(2:30 pm)	(5:29 pm)
Ms CHAN Man-kuen	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	(2:30 pm)	(6:25 pm)
Mr CHENG Tsuk-man	(2:30 pm)	(5:46 pm)
Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	(2:30 pm)	(6:45 pm)
Mr CHIU Chu-pong, Sunny	(2:30 pm)	(5:50 pm)
Mr CHIU Man-leong	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick	(2:30 pm)	(5:50 pm)
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	(2:30 pm)	(6:11 pm)
Ms LAM Chung-yan	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin	(2:30 pm)	(6:44 pm)
Mr LEUNG Ka-fai, Victor	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr LI Sai-hung	(2:30 pm)	(5:47 pm)
Mr LI Sai-wing	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	(2:30 pm)	(5:47 pm)
Mr MAK Yun-pui	(2:30 pm)	(6:27 pm)
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr NG Kam-hung	(2:30 pm)	(6:23 pm)
Ms PONG Scarlett Oi-lan, JP	(2:30 pm)	(6:28 pm)
Mr PUN Kwok-shan, MH	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr SIU Hin-hong	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	(2:30 pm)	(6:21 pm)
Mr TONG Hok-leung	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Ms TSANG So-lai	(2:30 pm)	(6:25 pm)
Ms TUNG Kin-lei	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	(2:30 pm)	(6:24 pm)
Mr WONG Fu-sang, Tiger	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr WONG Hok-lai	(2:30 pm)	(6:24 pm)

Present

	<u>Time of joining the meeting</u>	<u>Time of leaving the meeting</u>
Mr WONG Ka-wing	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Ms WONG Ping-fan, Iris	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr WONG Yue-hon	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr YAU Man-chun	(2:30 pm)	(5:46 pm)
Mr YIP Wing	(2:30 pm)	(6:28 pm)
Mr YIU Ka-chun	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Ms YUE Shin-man	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael	(2:30 pm)	(7:20 pm)
Secretary : Mr YUEN Chun-kit, Derek	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) Sha Tin District Office	

In Attendance**Title**

Mr WONG Tin-pui, Simon
Ms CHENG Ka-po, Theresa
Ms WAN Siu-ling, Emily

Assistant District Officer / Sha Tin District Office
Chief Liaison Officer / Sha Tin District Office
Senior Liaison Officer (West) / Sha Tin District Office

Action**Opening Remarks**

Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora, District Officer/Shan Tin District Office welcomed members to the first meeting of the fifth-term Sha Tin District Council (STDC) in 2016. She looked forward to joining hands with members in serving the residents of the Sha Tin District. She informed the meeting that some media representatives and members of the public, being present as observers, were taking photographs and making video and audio recordings.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the STDC

2. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that this meeting was convened in accordance with section 62 of the District Councils Ordinance (Chapter 547) (Ordinance) for the purpose of electing Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the STDC in compliance with the procedure set out in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. She would preside at the meeting until Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the new term of the STDC were elected.

3. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora informed the meeting that the fifth-term STDC was comprised of 39 members, of which 38 were elected members and one was an ex-officio member. All members present were entitled to vote at the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Senior Executive Officer (District Council)/Sha Tin District Office had confirmed that all members were present. The number of members present met the quorum of the meeting of not less than half of the total number of STDC members.

4. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that the Secretariat had served the notice of the first meeting, together with the nomination form for the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman and election procedure, on members on 29 December 2015. All members had acknowledged the receipt of the above documents in written or verbal form before 5 January 2016. The deadline of nomination for the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman was 1:30 pm, one hour prior to the commencement of the meeting. She said that the election of Chairman would be conducted first, followed by the election of Vice-Chairman.

5. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that before the end of the nomination period, the Secretariat had received two nomination forms for the office of Chairman. The details were as follows:

Candidate (1)	Mr CHING Cheung-ying
Nominator	Mr CHAN Nok-hang
Subscribers	Mr NG Kam-hung Mr TING Tsz-yuen

Candidate (2)	Mr HO Hau-cheung
Nominator	Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin
Subscribers	Mr MOK Kam-kwai Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas

She first confirmed that the above candidates consented to the nomination and acceptance of the office of Chairman if elected. The nominators and subscribers also gave their confirmation. She then explained the details of the election procedure to the meeting.

6. Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James opined that members might not know the personality and conduct of candidates, including whether they had any criminal records. He suggested the candidates give a self-introduction and respond to questions. He also worried that members might not be able to vote for their preferred candidate at will when members cast their votes at their seats.

7. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael agreed with the proposal of requesting the candidates to give a self-introduction and a presentation of their election platform, and enquired about the time limit for voting, arrangements for replacing and returning ballot papers, the handling of the case where the number of ballot papers in the ballot box was different from the number of members present, and the meaning of absolute majority of votes. He also suggested showing the sample ballot paper on the projector screen.

8. Mr MAK Yun-pui, Chris agreed with the proposal that candidates give a self-introduction and a presentation of their election platform. Regarding casting votes by members at their seats, he pointed out that there had been news reports on suspected “vote trading” in the election of District Council (DC) Chairman, which might fall under the purview of the Independent Commission Against Corruption.

9. Mr WONG Hok-lai opined that the nature of the election of DC Chairman was different from that of DC election. The public should be informed of members’ voting intention at the election of DC Chairman. He asked whether voting intention must be kept confidential. He agreed with the proposal of requesting the candidates to give a self-introduction and a presentation of their election platform.

10. Mr YAU Man-chun enquired about the approach in handling the case where two candidates received an equal number of votes.

11. The consolidated reply from Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora was as follows:

- (a) Whether to accept the proposal of giving a self-introduction and a presentation of election platform should be the choice of the candidates. Past records

showed that in 2000 and 2004, two candidates were arranged to present their election platform at the election of the office of Chairman of the STDC with their consent;

- (b) According to the procedure stipulated in Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman was to be conducted by secret ballot held amongst those present and entitled to vote at the election, with an objective to protect the voting privacy of voters. The standardised arrangement to distribute ballot papers to members at the meeting table and allow members to stamp the ballot papers in a voting booth or at the table was in line with the provisions of the Ordinance and standardised the procedure for the election of Chairman and Vice-chairman of 18 District Councils (DCs). It was the decision of individual members to disclose their voting intention. The Secretariat had set up a number of voting booths in the venue. Members could choose their voting method as necessary;
- (c) The circumstances in which members were nominated as candidates or were disqualified from nomination and membership, including those involving criminal and bankruptcy records, were expressly stipulated in the Ordinance;
- (d) She would announce the start of timing when the voting commenced. The Secretariat's staff responsible for timing would ring the bell as a reminder three minutes and one minute before the close of the 15-minute voting time respectively. If she considered extension of voting time necessary under exceptional circumstances, she would explain the arrangement for the extension of voting time;
- (e) Since members had the right to abstain from voting, the number of ballot papers in the ballot box might be different from the number of ballot papers distributed;
- (f) Any members requiring a replacement ballot paper should make the request to her. The Secretariat's staff would give the member concerned a replacement ballot paper and destroy the original ballot paper immediately;
- (g) An absolute majority of votes meant that the candidate received more than half of the valid votes cast after invalid votes were screened out; and
- (h) According to Schedule 5 to the Ordinance, if two candidates received an equal number of votes, a further ballot was to be held. If a further ballot was held and the candidates still received an equal number of votes, the candidates drew lots to determine which candidate was elected.

12. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora asked the two candidates whether they were willing to give members a self-introduction and a presentation of their election platform. Mr CHING Cheung-ying indicated his willingness to do so and enquired about the time for introduction and arrangement for question time. Mr HO Hau-cheung said that he was willing to give members an introduction to his election platform.

13. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora proposed to follow the practice adopted in 2000 and 2004. At that time, each candidate was given four minutes to present his election platform according to the Sha Tin District Council Standing Orders (Standing Orders) and the order of presentation was arranged in accordance with candidate number. Both candidates agreed with Ms HO's proposal.
14. Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James proposed setting the question time to one hour.
15. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora pointed out that the question time was neither part of the procedure as in past experience in the Sha Tin District nor included in the procedure for the election of 18 DC Chairmen and Vice-chairmen laid down by the Home Affairs Department (HAD) for this election. In this connection, she hoped that all members of the STDC would vote on whether question time would be added for further consideration.
16. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora announced that the voting result was 19 votes for, 19 votes against and one abstention. Since the voting result could not reflect mainstream views, candidates' choice should be respected.
17. Mr CHING Cheung-ying considered that as long as the election process was not affected, sufficient time should be reserved for asking and answering questions, and suggested setting the question time to 10 minutes.
18. Mr HO Hau-cheung expressed his disagreement with question time to avoid impeding the progress of the meeting.
19. Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick considered that Mr HO Hau-cheung had given up the right to answer questions. Mr MAK Yun-pui, Chris, Mr CHAN Nok-hang and Mr SIU Hin-hong opined that candidates had the right not to respond to questions. Mr YIP Wing and Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James said that there should be question time.
20. Mr LI Sai-hung proposed to allow the candidate who was not willing to answer questions to speak freely during question time so that both candidates would have an equal opportunity of exposure. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael was of the opinion that refusal to answer questions by candidates was similar to giving up asking the second round of questions at meetings by members. Therefore, the candidate who would only present his election platform should not participate in question time.
21. Mr YAU Man-chun asked whether other members could still have the right to ask the candidate questions if he gave up the opportunity to answer questions. Mr NG Kam-hung considered that members should have the right to ask candidates questions and they should give answers.
22. Mr WONG Yue-hon asked whether there was statutory timeframe for the whole election process and whether the candidate had the right not to answer questions. Mr WONG Ka-wing suggested the pro-establishment and pan-democratic camps each ask a question and the two candidates be given 10 minutes to answer questions.
23. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that as she presided at the meeting, she had the responsibility to ensure that the election could be completed within a reasonable timeframe under Schedule 5 to the Ordinance. Taking into account members' views and the failure of

achieving an absolute majority of votes in scheduling question time, as well as the unwillingness of a candidate to answer questions, she suggested that each candidate should first be given four minutes to explain their election platform and four minutes for question time in which the candidate would be free to choose to answer questions or not. The question time would last for eight minutes.

24. Members unanimously supported the proposal of Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora.

25. Mr CHING Cheung-ying presented his election platform as follows:

- (a) If he was elected as the Chairman of the STDC, he would chair the meeting in an impartial manner based on the rules of procedure and his council experience so as to ensure that the meeting would be held smoothly, in particular in terms of discussions, questions and motion debates. He would make improvements over the arrangements in the last DC term;
- (b) He would lead the STDC to work closely with the Sha Tin District Office (STDO) to develop a healthy working relationship while avoiding excessive intervention in district work; and
- (c) He considered that the visits by the directorate officers in government departments to DCs were not conducive to enhancing the role of DCs in relaying views to government departments. The Chairman of the STDC should enhance communication with government departments through other channels as appropriate, while not imposing too much intervention in the work of certain government departments.

26. Mr MAK Yun-pui, Chris asked Mr CHING Cheung-ying's stance on "Internet Article 23" and his views on repeated amendments to motions in the last DC term.

27. Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James asked Mr CHING Cheung-ying whether his proposals would be negated because of his relationship with the Democratic Party.

28. Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick asked Mr CHING Cheung-ying's views on the alleged cross-boundary law enforcement by Mainland public security bureau officials in Hong Kong.

29. Mr CHING Cheung-ying gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) He did not agree to the legislative amendments to "Internet Article 23";
- (b) In view of the repeated amendments to the motions of members in the past, appropriate measures should be taken to make improvement;
- (c) If he was elected as the Chairman of the STDC, he would chair the meeting in a fair manner and disseminate information from government departments to members; and
- (d) The main function of DCs was to discuss district issues. If DCs had any views on security policies, their views would be relayed to the Government through another channel. If the subject was involved in members' questions

and considered appropriate by members, the Security Bureau would be invited to send a representative to give response at DC meetings.

30. Mr HO Hau-cheung introduced his election platform as follows:

- (a) He hoped that the STDC of the new term would have a district structure of genuine people-based administration under his leadership so as to turn Sha Tin into the most liveable community in Hong Kong. He would strive to support government policies while protecting the interests of local residents. The STDC would focus on transforming Tai Wai, developing Fo Tan and monitoring the developments at Sha Tin Town Centre and Ma On Shan in future;
- (b) He would continue to take forward the Government's policy objective of "addressing district issues at the local level and capitalising on local opportunities". The role of the STDC in district administration would be strengthened under the framework of the Basic Law. For instance, the Signature Project Scheme (SPS) projects at Sha Tin would be implemented as soon as possible. Furthermore, the participation and support of District Management Committees (DMCs) would be enhanced so that the STDC would have more power and influence in co-ordinating and making decisions on district issues;
- (c) He would uphold the pragmatic and rational tradition of the STDC and foster its culture to accept differences in harmony and work towards the well-being of people. He would also observe procedural justice and put democracy into practice as well as respect different views and advocate the balanced participation in district affairs; and
- (d) He supplemented that no question time was included in the election procedure announced and the candidates had not made any preparation, the question time was considered to be non-compliant with procedural justice. However, he attached great importance to the questions and views from members, he would try to give response as far as possible in future.

31. Mr WONG Yue-hon asked Mr HO Hau-cheung how he would ensure the smooth operation of the STDC if he was elected as the Chairman.

32. Mr YAU Man-chun asked Mr HO Hau-cheung the improvements to be made over the situation that other members were allowed to amend the motions he had moved, such that the motions were changed to be moved by such other members and endorsed when he was the Chairman of the STDC of the last term.

33. Mr WONG Hok-lai asked the Chairman how he would ensure that the STDC would not blindly support government policies and how he would monitor the implementation of the SPS projects at Sha Tin.

34. Mr CHENG Tsuk-man opined that if Mr HO Hau-cheung did not respond to the questions, it would be difficult for members to understand his working philosophy under his chairmanship.

35. Mr CHAN Nok-hang asked Mr HO Hau-cheung how he would safeguard the image of the STDC if he was elected as the Chairman.

36. Mr NG Kam-hung asked Mr HO Hau-cheung how he would lead the STDC to honour his election platform if he was elected as the Chairman.

37. After members had asked their questions, Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora declared that the voting commenced.

38. After the vote, Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that the Secretariat had distributed 41 ballot papers and collected two spoilt ballot papers, which were destroyed at the scene. After a count, there were 39 ballot papers in the ballot box. The voting result was as follows: Mr HO Hau-cheung received 20 votes and Mr CHING Cheung-ying received 19 votes. She declared that Mr HO Hau-cheung was elected as the Chairman of the STDC with an absolute majority of votes. She extended congratulations to him.

39. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora announced that the election of the Vice-Chairman was held. She said that the Secretariat had received two nomination forms for the office of Vice-Chairman by the nomination deadline as follows:

Candidate (1)	Mr WAI Hing-cheung
Nominator	Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James
Subscribers	Mr LI Sai-hung Mr WONG Hok-lai

Candidate (2)	Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas
Nominator	Mr MOK Kam-kwai
Subscribers	Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin Mr HO Hau-cheung

She first confirmed that the above candidates consented to the nomination and acceptance of the office of Vice-Chairman if elected. The nominators and subscribers also gave their confirmation.

40. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora stated that the procedure for the Vice-Chairman election was the same as that for the Chairman election. After confirming that members had no questions on the procedure, she announced the commencement of voting.

41. After the vote, Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora said that the Secretariat had distributed 39 ballot papers and collected no spoilt ballot paper. After a count, it was found that 39 ballot papers were in the ballot box. The voting result was as follows: Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas received 20 votes and Mr WAI Hing-cheung received 19 votes. She declared that Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas was elected as the Vice-Chairman of the STDC with an absolute majority of votes. She extended congratulations to him.

42. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora announced that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman elections for the STDC for 2016 to 2019 were completed. While extending congratulations to the two

elected members again, she also expressed her sincere hope that they would lead the STDC in maintaining close cooperation with various departments in the Sha Tin District to serve residents in Sha Tin. She invited Mr HO Hau-cheung, the new Chairman, to chair the meeting.

43. The Chairman thanked members for their earnest participation in the Chairman and Vice-Chairman elections of the STDC of this term and expressed gratitude to members who supported him. For those who did not show their support this time, he looked forward to working with them as well as other members to promote the STDC's work and build a more beautiful and harmonious community. Besides, he thanked the media present at the meeting for their interest in the elections, as well as the staff of the STDO and the Secretariat for their efforts.

Appointment of Secretary of the STDC

44. The Chairman said that according to Section 69(1) of the Ordinance, the post of the Secretary of a DC should be held by a public officer appointed by the DC. He asked members if they agreed that the post of the Secretary should be held by Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of the STDO.

45. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael pointed out that the STDC had used its funds to hire contract staff in the past, giving rise to the problem of different pay for the same job and a reduction in funds available for community use. He enquired whether the STDC would still have to use its funds to hire contract staff instead of replacing their positions with those on the permanent establishment of Government in the coming year.

46. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora responded that she believed that the Finance and General Affairs Committee (FGAC) to be formed later would, in accordance with the established procedures, assess whether the STDC funds were used in a cost-effective manner and offer advice on financial and related matters to the STDC. The activities organised by the STDC were of a short-term nature in general and the number of activities varied from year to year. For more flexible use of resources, it was therefore reasonable to employ staff on non-civil service contract (NCSC) terms to handle the related work. To better cope with the increasing volume of community work, the STDO could probably create an additional Executive Officer I post on the permanent establishment later and employ two NCSC Administrative Assistants, who might be assigned to share the workload of the Secretariat if considered necessary.

47. The Council unanimously endorsed the appointment of Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of the STDO as the Secretary of the STDC. Besides, it was agreed that the seating arrangements for the last DC term should be followed, i.e. seats were first arranged according to the political party backgrounds of members and then in alphabetical order of the surnames of members from the same political party.

48. The Chairman indicated that an electronic voting system had been installed in the conference room of the STDC. He suggested a trial use of the system before the start of the next meeting in order to familiarise members with it.

49. In response to the enquiry of Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael on the electronic voting system, Mr YUEN Chun-kit, Derek, Senior Executive Officer (District Council) of the STDO

explained that the Secretariat would input data on seating arrangements into the system before a meeting started and, with its vote recording function for both open and secret ballots, the system could cater for the preferences of the Council. Before a vote, if a member requested with the support of four other members that the vote should be conducted by open ballot, the control room would be instructed to activate the recording function for open ballot, so that the voters' names would be displayed.

50. The Council unanimously agreed that a trial of the electronic voting system be conducted 15 minutes before the start of the next meeting.

Discussion Items

Amendment of the STDC Standing Orders (Paper no. STDC 1/2016)

51. The Chairman said that the HAD had issued sample District Council Standing Orders to all DCs of the new term, with amendments made mainly to the section on declaration of interests and the related forms as well as incorporation of the Code of Conduct for Members of a District Council or Its Committees. As the FGAC had yet to commence operation, he suggested that the Council endorse the said amendments first so that the section on declaration of interests could be made available for public inspection as soon as possible. Any further amendments proposed in the future would be passed to the FGAC for follow up.

52. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael enquired whether the HAD allowed DCs to amend the rules on declaration of interests, whether declarations of interests should be filed to the Secretariat for public inspection, and how members should handle their acceptance of gifts of a value exceeding \$500. In addition, he noticed that there was no Appendix IX in the STDC Standing Orders in 2012 and said that Appendix IX should contain new provisions introduced by the HAD.

53. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora responded that the HAD had made amendments to the section on declaration of interests in the sample registration form for DC members with reference to the layout and format of LegCo's registration form to set out the registrable interests of DC members. The Registration Form on Members' Interests would be uploaded to the STDC's website for public inspection. Appendix IX of the Standing Orders also set out how members should handle gifts/souvenirs received in official capacity, including documentation of receipt. In addition, the Code of Conduct for Members of a District Council or its Committees, as annexed to Paper no. STDC 1/2012, was incorporated into the Standing Orders in the form of an appendix. The HAD had arranged two briefing sessions to explain rules and guidelines to the new-term DC members. As regards whether the STDC would further tighten the criteria for declaration of interests, she suggested the matter be referred to the FGAC for further discussion in future.

54. The Chairman said that the FGAC could further discuss the issue of declaration of interests in future and express the views to the HAD.

55. The Council unanimously endorsed the amendment proposals set out in Paper no. STDC 1/2016.

STDC Budgetary Procedures and the Procedures and Rules of Application for STDC Funds
(Paper no. STDC 2/2016)

56. The Chairman asked members to consider endorsing the STDC Budgetary Procedures and the Procedures and Rules of Application for STDC Funds currently in place.

57. The Council unanimously endorsed the STDC Budgetary Procedures and the Procedures and Rules of Application for STDC Funds currently in place.

Formation of Committees under the STDC
(Paper no. STDC 3/2016)

58. The Chairman said that Order 32(2) of the amended Standing Orders set out that a maximum of seven committees under the STDC was allowed. By drawing reference to the experience of the operation of the last-term STDC, the Secretariat suggested adopting the arrangements of setting up seven committees as in previous term, as well as their names and terms of reference. The term of office of all committees ran from 7 January 2016 to 31 December 2019.

59. The Council unanimously endorsed the term of office of all committees and adopting the arrangements of setting up seven committees as in previous term, including their names and terms of reference.

60. The Chairman said that from past experience, the first committee meeting would be held within one week of the first STDC meeting for election of Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen, and the time period for signing up for committees and the nomination period of Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen would also be decided with reference to the first committee meeting date.

61. Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin suggested the first committee meeting be scheduled for 27 January 2016 at 2:30 pm to give members more time to consider signing up for committees and allow sufficient time for election of Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen.

62. Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael was worried that there might be delay in addressing livelihood concerns if the first meeting was held on 27 January. Coupled with the approaching of the lunar year end, members might not be able to attend the meeting because of other activities.

63. Mr WAI Hing-cheung remarked that other members that had left the meeting were not aware of the discussion at this meeting of the date of another meeting, and they might have scheduled for another meeting on 14 January well ahead of this meeting. He was also worried that it would be too late to hold the first committee meeting on 27 January.

64. The Chairman said that it had never been mentioned in the meeting paper that the first committee meeting would be held on 14 January. He suggested the members present vote on the meeting date.

65. The Chairman announced that there were 14 votes for, 8 votes against and one abstention, and endorsed convening the first committee meeting on 27 January 2016.

66. In respect of the nomination of Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen, the Chairman finally suggested the Secretariat issue a committee membership enrolment form to members on 8 January, and the enrolment deadline was 15 January at 5:30 pm. The Secretariat would issue the lists of committee members on the following working day by means of circulation for members' confirmation. The Secretariat would also issue the Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen Nomination Form to members and the deadline for nomination would be one hour before the commencement of meeting. Each committee would hold its first meeting on 27 January from 2:00 pm onwards for election of Committee Chairmen and Vice-chairmen.

67. The Council agreed to the proposal of the Chairman.

Schedule of Meetings of the STDC for 2016
(Paper no. STDC 4/2016)

68. The Council unanimously endorsed the schedule of meetings of the STDC for 2016.

The Latest Financial Position of the STDC and Confirmation of the Community Involvement Projects to be Held from January to March 2016 as Approved by the STDC 2012/2015
(Paper no. STDC 5/2016)

69. The Chairman said that under the guidelines of the HAD, the last-term STDC could endorse the activities to be carried out in the first three months of the current-term STDC, but those activities would only be implemented after confirmation by the current-term STDC. He asked members to consider endorsing the activities included in the paper.

70. The Council unanimously endorsed that the activities included in the paper be confirmed.

Meet-the-Public Scheme of the STDC
(Paper no. STDC 6/2016)

71. The Council unanimously endorsed the resumption of "Meet-the-Public Scheme" since March 2016 and the existing arrangements, including the time, venue and appointment method, as well as placing posters of "Meet-the-Public Scheme" at 12 community halls in addition to the notice boards of the STDC to step up publicity.

Funding Applications

Employment of NCSC Staff by the STDC Secretariat
(Paper no. STDC 7/2016)

72. As a quorum was not present, the Chairman declared that the meeting was suspended for 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, the Chairman declared that a quorum was present and the meeting would resume.

73. The Council unanimously endorsed the above funding application.

Funding Applications for the STDC
(Paper no. STDC 8/2016)

74. The Chairman asked members to consider whether the funding applications for printing the posters for “Meet-the-Public Scheme” and STDC Diary 2016 would be endorsed. Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora supplemented that information on bus routes, useful telephone numbers of government departments, contact information of STDC members and so on would be enclosed in the diary.

75. Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas opined that the proposal for printing the posters for “Meet-the-Public Scheme” could be taken forward. Nevertheless, the first STDC meeting was held in 2016. The STDC could draw reference from past experience in diary distribution after the new year, which was not quite appealing to the public. To support environmental protection, he suggested that no STDC diary be printed this year, but the funding be allocated to produce a short video on the STDC in the form of CD-ROM for distribution to members. In this connection, Ms HO Lai-sheung, Cora further suggested uploading the short video onto the STDC’s website for members to click on the hyperlink for viewing.

76. The Chairman concluded that the funding of \$40,000 allocated for printing STDC Diary 2016 could be used for producing a short video on the STDC. He asked the Secretariat to collect information and give a report at a future STDC meeting.

Any Other Business

77. The Chairman said that in order to provide convenience to members to carry out district work as soon as possible, the HAD would organise two briefing sessions on DC work. The first session was scheduled for 8 January 2016 at 2:30 pm at Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre and the other session was scheduled for 12 January at 2:30 pm at Tsuen Wan Princess Alexandra Community Centre. The HAD would give a briefing on various manuals and guidelines. The Secretariat had earlier written to all members to encourage their attendance at the briefing to take the opportunity to know the members of other DCs for further exchange.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

78. The next meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 18 February 2016 (Thursday).

79. The meeting ended at 7:20 pm.

Secretariat, Sha Tin District Council
STDC 13/15/15/1

February 2016