Sha Tin District Council Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee in 2020

Date : 29 April 2020 (Wednesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Sha Tin District Council Conference Room

4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<u>Present</u>	<u>Title</u>	Time of joining the meeting	Time of leaving the meeting
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson (Chairman)	DC Member	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr CHENG Chung-hang (Vice-Chairman)	,,	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr CHING Cheung-ying MH	DC Chairman	2:30 pm	6:43 pm
Mr WONG Hok-lai, George	DC Vice-Chairman	2:46 pm	5:58 pm
Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	DC Member	2:30 pm	6:40 pm
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	"	3:00 pm	6:44 pm
Mr CHAN Pui-ming	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr CHAN Wan-tung	"	2:30 pm	6:40 pm
Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong	"	2:30 pm	6:00 pm
Mr CHOW Hiu-laam, Felix	,,	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr CHUNG Lai-him, Johnny	"	2:30 pm	6:17 pm
Mr HUI Lap-san	"	2:30 pm	5:02 pm
Mr HUI Yui-yu	"	2:48 pm	3:41 pm
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	"	5:11 pm	6:28 pm
Mr LI Chi-wang, Raymond	,,	2:45 pm	6:41 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr LIAO Pak-hong, Ricardo	,,	2:57 pm	6:15 pm
Mr LO Tak-ming	"	2:30 pm	6:16 pm
Mr LO Yuet-chau	"	3:19 pm	4:22 pm
Mr LUI Kai-wing	"	2:30 pm	6:41 pm
Ms LUK Tsz-tung	"	2:30 pm	6:15 pm
Mr MAK Tsz-kin	"	2:48 pm	6:48 pm
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	"	2:30 pm	3:35 pm
Mr NG Kam-hung	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Ms NG Ting-lam	"	2:30 pm	4:36 pm
Mr SHAM Tsz-kit, Jimmy	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr SHEK William	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	"	2:30 pm	6:39 pm
Mr TSANG Kit	"	2:48 pm	6:14 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr WONG Ho-fung	"	2:49 pm	6:48 pm
Ms WONG Man-huen	"	2:30 pm	6:48 pm
Mr YAU Man-chun	"	2:30 pm	6:14 pm
Mr YIP Wing	"	2:30 pm	4:56 pm
Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael	,,	2:30 pm	6:48 pm

Ms WONG Hei-lam, Helen (Secretary) Executive Officer (District Council)2,

Sha Tin District Office

<u>In Attendance</u> <u>Title</u>

Ms LEE Po-yi Senior Integrity Education Officer,

Independent Commission Against Corruption

Ms YEW Suet-yi, Mary Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Sha Tin)3,

Social Welfare Department

Ms LEE Mei-yee Senior Librarian (Sha Tin), Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHAN Siu-kin, Ester Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Sha Tin,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms TAM Yuen-fun, Betty Senior Manager (New Territories East) Promotion,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr LAU Ching-kong, Vincent Senior School Development Officer (Shatin)1, Education Bureau

Ms CHENG Siu-ling, Katy Chief Liaison Officer, Sha Tin District Office

Ms LEUNG Wai-shan, Cecilia Senior Liaison Officer (West), Sha Tin District Office

Mr YUEN Chun-kit, Derek Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Sha Tin District Office

In Attendance by Invitation Title

Ms WONG Sau-kuen, Joe District Leisure Manager(Sha Tin),

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mrs WONG KWOK Kin-wai Deputy District Leisure Manager (Sha Tin)1,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr NG Sik-hay, Eddie Senior Executive Officer (Planning)34,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms LEUNG So-ping, Selina Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr CHEUNG Hang-yiu, Galax Executive Officer (Planning)21B,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms SAM Fung-mei, Esther Manager (NTE) Marketing & District Activities,

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms CHAN Wing-yee, Winnie Liaison Officer i/c (YP), Sha Tin District Office

Ms YIP Man-wai, Bowie Executive Assistant (District Council)4, Sha Tin District Office

Ms FOK Wai-yin, Emily Senior Property Manager (Project Division)1,

Government Property Agency

<u>Absent</u> Title

Dr LAM Kong-kwan
Mr CHENG Tsuk-man

DC Member
(Application for leave of absence received)
(No application for leave of absence received)

Ms TSANG So-lai "

Action

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the meeting.

Application for Leave of Absence

2. <u>The Chairman</u> said that application for leave of absence in writing had been received from the following member:

Official commitment

3. Members unanimously approved the application for leave of absence submitted by the member above.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27 February 2020 (CSCD Minutes 2/2020)

4. Members unanimously endorsed the above minutes of the meeting.

Discussion Items

2020-21 Leisure and Cultural Services Department Annual Work Plan - Progress of Capital Works Projects Related to Leisure and Cultural Services Facilities in Sha Tin (Paper No. CSCD 13/2020)

- 5. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed representatives of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to the meeting.
- 6. <u>Ms Selina LEUNG, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)21, Leisure and Cultural Services Department</u>, briefly introduced the content of the captioned paper.
- 7. Mr TING Tsz-yuen opined that the progress of the Ma On Shan Area 103 Complex project had been slow since 2004 when the project was discussed and several papers on the proposed facilities had been submitted to the last-term Sha Tin District Council (STDC) for discussion. He considered the progress of the project slow and enquired about the arrangements for temporary parking spaces. He said that the projects left by the former Regional Council (RC) had been delayed for 20 years and the progress was unsatisfactory.
- 8. Mr CHING Cheung-ying said that most of the projects in the paper were construction projects proposed by the former RC between 1996 and 1999, and had been delayed for 20 years. He hoped that the Department would give a clear account of the progress of the projects in the current term STDC. He enquired about the night-time parking arrangements for the Stadium Complex in Sha Tin Area 24D as there was a high demand for parking spaces in the vicinity due to the serious problem of illegal parking. He also said that some residents of Sun Tin Wai Estate had reflected to him that the lights of the rooftop garden had affected them. He hoped to invite the Department to conduct a site visit later and follow up the matter.
- 9. Mr Johnny CHUNG enquired about the parking arrangements for the Ma On Shan Area 103 Complex project as it was one of the few car parks for commercial vehicles in the centre of Ma On Shan. He suggested that additional public service facilities should be provided to non-profit making organisations for renting as social service units and that additional facilities such as a market should be provided, and enquired whether and how long it would take for the Department to apply to the relevant departments for relaxing the plot ratio restriction.
- 10. Mr CHAN Pui-ming said that the demand for parking spaces in Ma On Shan was increasing and the rents of parking spaces in the district were high. He enquired how the future open space project in Ma On Shan Area 90 would compensate for the existing number of parking spaces in Site B for use as a car park, which would otherwise aggravate the problem of illegal

parking and shortage of parking spaces. He suggested that the Department should review the distribution and planning of these sites when planning for the open space projects.

11. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the paper indicated that the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Home Affairs had been consulted on the pre-construction stage of the integrated facilities building project in Area 103, Ma On Shan, and it was proposed that the project be submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) for consideration. He enquired about the progress of the project at the PWSC, as funding approval by the Finance Committee (FC) was still required after the project had been endorsed by the PWSC, but some Council meetings had been suspended due to the epidemic situation;
- (b) he said that the Government had not consulted the STDC on the project to redevelop the cooked food market in Fo Tan, Sha Tin as a sports centre. He said that at present, Fo Tan was not purely an industrial area but included residential projects, and enquired whether the STDC would be consulted in the review of multiple use of land;
- (c) he enquired about the use of Site B of the Area 90 Open Space project in Ma On Shan as a short-term tenancy car park and suggested that additional car parks could be considered in the development of the project; and
- (d) he enquired about the progress of the projects of the Whitehead Sports Centre, the Sports Centre in Area 111 of Ma On Shan, the Sports Centre in Area 34 of To Shek and the library in Tai Wai which had been lagging behind. He was dissatisfied that the development of livelihood-related facilities had lagged behind after the dissolution of the former RC.
- 12. <u>Mr WAI Hing-cheung</u> said that the completion of the Stadium Complex in Sha Tin Area 24D had been delayed several times and he enquired about the reasons. He also said that the paper indicated that the facilities of the Stadium Complex were expected to be opened in phases by mid-2020 and he enquired about the reasons for the "phased opening" of the project.
- 13. <u>The Chairman</u> informed the participants that the mass media were taking photographs, making video and audio recordings at the public gallery.
- 14. Mr Billy CHAN expressed concern about the Sha Tin Public Library extension project and considered that the paper was not much different from that submitted to the last-term DC in that it showed problems with the air-conditioning and electricity supply systems, etc. He enquired about the progress of the project and the reasons for the slow progress. He opined that the papers were just annual verbatim reports and he hoped to see the progress of the project during his term of office.
- 15. Mr Felix CHOW expressed concern about the project to develop a new cooked food market in Fo Tan, Sha Tin and said that the population in Fo Tan would increase with the completion of Chun Yeung Estate while the corresponding community facilities would take as long as 10 years to complete. He said that it was difficult to identify suitable venues in the

district for organising the event and hoped that there would be more community facilities to meet the needs of the population, and asked for a clear explanation on the planning timetable. He also enquired about the difference between the development mode of "multiple-use" and that of the past, and whether the progress of the project could be expedited. He considered it necessary for the Government to fully consult the affected stalls on the redevelopment of the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market and provide them with appropriate support, and try its best to meet the needs of the community in terms of planning.

- 16. Mr Jimmy SHAM said that with the completion of Chun Yeung Estate, the population in Fo Tan had increased. He proposed to redevelop the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market project. He said that he would like to see the inclusion of community facilities such as self-study rooms and community halls, and was interested in the planning of the Fo Tan area.
- 17. Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa said that the population in Tai Wai was very high and with the completion of more residential projects, he supported the project of building a library in Tai Wai. However, he was worried that the construction of a small library might not be able to meet the demand of the public, as Tai Wai currently only had a mobile library and a self-service library. He suggested that consideration be given to repositioning the project as a district library.
- 18. Mr LUI Kai-wing said that the residents of Fo Tan had been lacking community facilities for many years and they had to travel to Sha Tin town centre to use the library facilities. He said that the residents hoped that the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market development project would not only provide a library, but also a community hall, a self-study room and a multi-storey car park. He said that the facilities would directly benefit the residents of Fo Tan, Sui Wo and Tsun Ma districts, and that the DC Members of these three districts would like to discuss the facilities arrangements with the relevant departments of the project.
- 19. <u>Mr George WONG</u> said that after 20 years, there were still a lot of outstanding projects and he would like to know the timetable of the projects. He asked the Sha Tin District Office (STDO) about the progress of planning for the construction of a library in Tai Wai and whether the STDO had liaised with the LCSD on the project.
- 20. The views of Mr MAK Tsz-kin were summarised below:
 - (a) he said that there was a lack of community, recreational and sports facilities in Fo Tan, and residents of Fo Tan and Sui Wo needed to go to Lek Yuen and Wo Che to use the sports centre facilities. He considered that with the increase in population in Fo Tan, the Department should speed up the works progress, or else the supply would sooner or later be unable to meet the demand. He requested the departments concerned to formulate a development blueprint as soon as possible and consult the STDC on the timetable for the development;
 - (b) as the problem of illegal parking and traffic congestion in the area was serious, he enquired whether consideration would be given to converting the nearby dilapidated car park into a car park with more space after its resumption, as the problem of illegal parking was closely related to the provision of parking spaces; and
 - (c) he asked how the Department would relocate the affected cooked food stalls in

the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market, such as whether they would be given priority in moving in and be offered reasonable compensation.

- 21. Ms LUK Tsz-tung expressed concern about the development of open space in Area 11, Sha Tin and said that the project plan in the paper was similar to that in 2014 when Shek Mun Estate Phase 2 had not yet been completed. She said that the progress of the project was slow and the facilities at the Shek Mun Riverside Garden had not materialised as many of the facilities proposed at that time, and enquired about the timetable for the development of the open space in Area 11.
- 22. Mr NG Kam-hung enquired about the timing for the redevelopment of the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market and hoped that the Government Property Agency (GPA) could explain the project in detail. He suggested that the relevant departments should review the car park arrangements when planning the project. He enquired whether the Lands Department (LandsD) had granted approval for the extension works of the Sha Tin Public Library, the space between the Sha Tin Town Hall and the Marriage Registry, and whether the use of the site had been approved. He also enquired whether the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) had encountered any difficulties in constructing additional air-conditioning and electricity supply systems. He suggested that upward extension of the project could be considered.
- 23. <u>Mr WONG Ho-fung</u> enquired about the timetable for the construction of a library in Tai Wai and opined that the existing mobile libraries were not able to provide facilities such as study rooms and multi-media and could not replace the functions of a formal library. He hoped that the project would be completed as soon as possible for the benefit of Tai Wai residents.
- 24. Mr CHENG Chung-hang said that the proposed facilities at Whitehead Sports Park were not shown in the paper with a clear timetable and progress, and he would like to be provided with the exact timetable of the project in the paper.
- 25. Mr CHAN Nok-hang enquired about the opening schedule of the Sports Centre in Sha Tin Area 24D. He enquired about the progress of the construction of the library in Tai Wai as the recent epidemic situation had aroused the interest of many people in reading, and he hoped that the allocation of resources could be improved after the completion of the library so that some small districts could have mobile library vans to improve their community facilities.
- 26. The views of <u>The Chairman</u> were summarised below:
 - (a) he suggested that in addition to e-books, the Sha Tin Public Library could make reference to libraries in Finland or other Nordic countries and incorporate more designs and services, such as environmental concepts or local elements;
 - (b) he considered that the projects of the Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 111 and Whitehead Sports Park in Ma On Shan were lagging behind, and hoped that the Department would expedite the progress and consult the residents and stakeholders in the vicinity; and
 - (c) he expressed concern about the parking situation in Ma On Shan and hoped that the Ma On Shan Area 103 Complex project could provide more parking spaces

and increase the variety of vehicles that could be parked. He suggested that consideration could be given to constructing the car park underground to meet the plot ratio restriction.

- 27. Mr LI Sai-hung said that when the issue of the Shing Mun River 5-a-side Football Pitch was dealt with in the last-term STDC, the public was worried that the 7-a-side Football Pitch in Tai Wai Playground would be resumed after the construction of the football pitch, and both the STDO and LCSD at that time claimed that there was no such a plan, but the public felt cheated when they later wanted to resume the site of Tai Wai Playground for the construction of the complex. He requested the STDO to fully consult the public on the project of constructing the complex, as the public was still dissatisfied.
- 28. The responses of Ms Selina LEUNG were summarised below:
 - (a) she said that LCSD had been following up with the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) on the progress of the Sha Tin Indoor Recreation Centre project in Area 24D. The main reasons for the delay were rain, geological conditions and the superstructure works being more complicated than expected. In addition, the production and delivery of some materials were delayed due to the epidemic outbreak in recent months. Nevertheless, the LCSD understood that the public had been waiting for the project for a long time, and therefore it planned to open some of the facilities first, and would reflect to the ArchSD the views on the nighttime rooftop lighting;
 - (b) regarding the Ma On Shan Area 103 Complex project, she said that after consultation with the STDC in 2017 and 2018, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) had issued the project definition letter and the technical feasibility study of the ArchSD had been approved. The HAB consulted the LegCo Panel on Home Affairs on the pre-construction stage of the project on January 20 this year. The Department was also striving to secure funding within the current term Legislative Council. Subject to funding approval, the ArchSD expected to commence the pre-construction works in the fourth quarter of this year, and would consult the STDC again upon completion of the design;
 - regarding the Ma On Shan Area 103 Complex project, she said that the Transport Department (TD) had initially planned to provide about 400 parking spaces, including about 300 for private cars, about 65 for commercial vehicles and some motorcycles, but the actual number of parking spaces could only be confirmed after the design of the project was finalised;
 - regarding the proposal to provide a market in the complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan, she pointed out that the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) had clearly stated that there would not be a public market in the project. Moreover, the height limit for the project was eight storeys, and the proposed facilities listed in the consultation papers with the STDC and the Legislative Council had already reached height limit of the building;
 - (e) site A of the Ma On Shan Area 90 Open Space project had been developed under the District Minor Works Programme and site B was being used as a short-term

- tenancy car park. In taking forward the project, the Department would discuss with the TD on the development of the project and consult the STDC on the proposed facilities of the project;
- she pointed out that the project to redevelop the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market had been included as one of the six multi-use projects in this year's Budget. Regarding the comment that the LCSD had not consulted the STDC before making the request to the GPA for a stadium and a small library, she said that the GPA was working with the relevant bureaux and departments to work out the best combination of facilities to come up with a proposal for the site, and that since the site was originally reserved for a stadium, the request for the stadium had been made to the GPA first; and that in the past few years, GPA had listened to the views of residents of the Sha Tin District and the STDC, who had expressed their desire for a library and had therefore also submitted relevant requests to the GPA for consideration;
- regarding the project on open space in Area 11, Sha Tin, she said that at present, the LCSD had already constructed On Muk Street Garden and Shek Mun Riverside Garden on the part that could be developed, and the remaining land was being used for other temporary uses, including Kitchee Football Training School, the storage yard of the Hong Kong and China Gas Company Limited and the road facilities of the MTR Corporation Limited, and therefore no other sites was available for development at the moment;

 (Post-meeting note: the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) would construct a leisure facility adjacent to the proposed public housing at On Muk Street. The project would be handed over to the LCSD for management upon completion.)
- (h) she said that the Whitehead Sports Park was a relatively large recreational facility and the project was in the early planning stage. The Government would engage a consultant to conduct a comprehensive planning study. As the study would take time and the specific timetable for taking forward the project had yet to be confirmed, the Department would consult the STDC on the proposed facilities for the project in due course; and
- she said that the STDC had prioritised the projects in Sha Tin and these projects would be implemented progressively. As Whitehead Sports Park was a key recreation and sports project, it had been included in the five-year plan for sports and recreation facilities. Upon completion of the higher priority projects, the Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 111, Ma On Shan and the Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 34, To Shek would be taken forward in phases.
- 29. <u>Mr Eddie NG, Senior Executive Officer (Planning)34, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, gave the responses as follows:</u>
 - (a) the LCSD would proceed with the preliminary planning work for the expansion of the Sha Tin Public Library in accordance with the priorities set out in the paper. Upon completion of the project, the LCSD would seek funding to implement the project;

- (b) regarding the land use of the Sha Tin Public Library extension project, as the development of the project was under the management of the LCSD, the Department would coordinate with the LandsD and relevant departments to make appropriate land use arrangements in taking forward the project;
- (c) he said that as the Sha Tin Public Library expansion project was a capital project, funding approval from the LegCo was required before it could be implemented. The Department would consult members on the scope of development of the project later and then draft a project definition statement to facilitate the ArchSD's feasibility study on the project; and
- (d) he said that the library in Tai Wai would be part of the facilities in the Complex. The HKHA was conducting an engineering feasibility study on the scope of works for the complex, and the STDO was also conducting an assessment on the traffic in the vicinity through a consultancy study. The LCSD had provided relevant information on the scope of development of the small library to the Housing Department (HD). He noted that the STDO, together with other joint-user departments of the Complex, would consult the STDC on the planning of the Complex in due course.
- 30. Ms LEE Mei-yee, Senior Librarian (Sha Tin), Leisure and Cultural Services Department, added that the LCSD took note of Members' views and would take them into account in examining the project facilities with the relevant departments.
- 31. <u>Ms Joe WONG, District Leisure Manager(Sha Tin), Leisure and Cultural Services Department, gave a consolidated response as follows:</u>
 - (a) the Department was actively procuring fitness equipment and installing a computer booking system for the Sha Tin Sports Centre Area 24D (Che Kung Temple Sports Centre), which was scheduled to open in phases in mid-2020. As the transport arrangements for some of the projects had been delayed due to the epidemic situation, the Department would like to open the main arena and function rooms first to provide facilities such as ball games and table tennis tables, before opening the fitness room and children's play equipment later. Regarding the lighting of the rooftop garden, the Department would work with the ArchSD to adjust the brightness and angle of the lights so as to reduce the impact on residents nearby; and
 - (b) the Che Kung Temple Sports Centre was equipped with a 24-hour car park with 17 parking spaces for private cars and 2 for motorcycles. The Department would try to meet the needs of nearby residents and continue to provide car park services after the closure of the Centre.
- 32. <u>The Chairman</u> expressed his wish that the Government would consult Member of the concerned constituency on the redevelopment of the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market and conduct comprehensive consultation on other projects.
- 33. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- regarding the complex project in Area 103, Ma On Shan, he pointed out that at present, the PWSC was still scrutinising the project endorsed by the Panel on Home Affairs on 9 December last year, while the FC was still scrutinising the project endorsed by the PWSC on 19 June last year at its meeting on 8 May this year. Therefore, the LCSD hoped to secure funding for the project within this year. He considered the projection unrealistic and requested the Department to give a more realistic date. He considered that, judging from the present progress, it was expected that funding would not be secured by this day next year; and
- (b) he said that the Department should exchange views with new Members on the facility arrangements for the complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan and the redevelopment of the Sha Tin Fo Tan Cooked Food Market.
- 34. Mr TING Tsz-yuen enquired about the expected completion date of the complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan. He enquired whether the technical feasibility study for the project included a study on the connection of the footbridge to Sunshine City. He suggested that the footbridge could be extended by a spur line to connect On Shing Street Garden with the Ma On Shan Telephone Centre and across Ma On Shan Road to the Indoor Recreation Centre, or lifts could be built on both sides of NS183 to facilitate the movement of residents. He said that the TD could be invited to attend the next meeting for discussion of the project to respond to the traffic arrangements.
- 35. Mr Billy CHAN enquired about the progress of the study with relevant departments on the expansion of the Sha Tin Public Library over the past few years and what had actually been done. He was worried that the extension project of the Sha Tin Public Library might be pending for many more years as the projects which were higher on the priority list had yet to be funded.
- 36. Mr CHAN Nok-hang said that the STDO had proposed in the last term of the STDC the construction of a joint-user complex at the football pitch opposite to the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Sin Chu Wan Primary School, while the Tai Wai library project could only be taken forward after the completion of the former. He said that the complex project had been pursued by a pro-establishment group for many years, but it was not mentioned again after last year's election. He asked the STDO whether the complex was designed for the pro-establishment group or Sha Tin residents. He said that the STDO had to provide the relevant papers before the LCSD could take forward the construction of the library in Tai Wai. Mr CHAN Nok-hang asked the STDO for an update on the progress of the complex.
- 37. The Chairman invited the Secretariat to take note of the views on inviting representatives of the TD to attend the meeting to respond to Members' questions if the complex project in Area 103, Ma On Shan was to be discussed in future. He said that the LCSD could invite Ma On Shan DC Members to a meeting to study the car parking spaces of the project at an appropriate time. He hoped that the progress of the various projects could be expedited.
- 38. The responses of Ms Selina LEUNG were summarised below:
 - (a) she said that after consulting the STDC and completing the project definition statement, technical feasibility study and other necessary procedures, the Department consulted the LegCo Panel on Home Affairs on the complex project

- in Area 103, Ma On Shan and arranged for its submission to the PWSC for consideration. At present, the project was pending submission to the PWSC for consideration. The Bureau and the Department aimed to submit the project to the PWSC and the FC for consideration within the current legislative session; and
- (b) regarding the accessibility of the complex in Area 103,Ma On Shan, she said that the ArchSD would conduct a traffic impact assessment to assess the number of users and pedestrian flow of the project as well as the usage of the nearby facilities, and examine the need to improve the relevant facilities before submitting it to the TD for consideration.
- 39. Mr Eddie NG thanked Members for their valuable views. The LCSD would actively review the scope of development of the Sha Tin Public Library, including the applicability of the latest facilities in libraries around the world, with a view to drawing up a project definition statement for the project in consultation with the STDC.
- 40. <u>Ms LEE Mei-yee</u> said that LCSD would actively explore with the relevant departments how to minimise the impact on the services of the Sha Tin Public Library in taking forward the Sha Tin Public Library extension project, and would consult the DC in due course.
- 41. <u>Ms Katy CHENG, Chief Liaison Officer of the STDO</u> said that the ArchSD was conducting traffic impact assessment on the Tai Wai Complex project and the Department was communicating with the HD on the progress of the project. She said that the preparatory work for the project was in progress.
- 42. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he would be available for further exchange of views with the department on various facilities later. He asked the LCSD to take follow up action after listening to members' views.
- 43. Mr Felix CHOW indicated that he would move a provisional motion.
- 44. <u>The Chairman</u> agreed to deal with the provisional motion moved by Mr Felix CHOW, and asked members if they agreed to deal with the provisional motion.
- 45. Mr Felix CHOW proposed the following provisional motion:

"Due to the upcoming gradual intakes of housing estates such as Chun Yeung Estate, Choi Wo Court, Yuk Wo Court, the population of Fo Tan will surge in a few years. Yet, the community facilities in the community are seriously insufficient. The Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee of the Sha Tin District Council hence requests that:

- 1. the relevant government departments complete the preliminary planning of the Fo Tan Complex as soon as possible, and consult the residents about the project
- 2. the Government provide more public parking spaces in the Complex to solve the problems of insufficient parking spaces and illegal parking in the Fo Tan area
- 3. the Government prioritise consulting affected tenants when considering relocating the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market, and compensate their losses under feasible circumstances. Upon the completion of the Complex, the relevant

government departments should offer them preference of priority tenancy."

Mr MAK Tsz-kin and Mr LUI Kai-wing seconded the motion.

- 46. Mr Michael YUNG said that apart from Chun Yeung Estate, Choi Wo Court and Yuk Wo Court, there was also a residential development project in the vicinity of the MTR Fo Tan Station, which would lead to an increase in population in Fo Tan. In addition, he said there was a lack of welfare facilities as well as inadequate community facilities in Fo Tan, and he was worried that it would cause inconvenience to children and the elderly. He said that when reprovisioning the cooked food market in Fo Tan, consideration should be given to the impact of the cooked food market on the nearby commuters who work in the area or members of the public. He suggested that the mover consider the above factors.
- 47. The Chairman asked departmental representatives to take note of members' views.
- 48. Mr Felix CHOW proposed the following amended interim motion:

"Due to the gradual intakes of Chun Yeung Estate, Choi Wo Court, Yuk Wo Court and other private housing estates, the population of Fo Tan will surge in a few years. Yet, the social welfare facilities in the community are seriously insufficient. The Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee of the Sha Tin District Council hence requests that:

- 1. the relevant government departments complete the preliminary planning of the Fo Tan Complex as soon as possible, and consult the residents about the project
- 2. the Government provide more public parking spaces in the Complex to solve the problems of insufficient parking spaces and illegal parking in the Fo Tan area
- 3. the Government prioritise consulting affected tenants when considering relocating the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market, and compensate their losses under feasible circumstances. Upon the completion of the Complex, the relevant government departments should offer them preference of priority tenancy."

Mr MAK Tsz-kin and Mr LUI Kai-wing seconded the motion.

- 49. <u>Mr LO Yuet-chau</u> asked whether the housing estates mentioned in the first sentence of the motion were in the course of intake or were ready for intake.
- 50. Mr Felix CHOW said that gradual intake of the housing estates would take place soon.
- 51. Mr LO Yuet-chau suggested that the word "upcoming" or "soon" could be added to the motion to enhance clarity of the chronology.
- 52. <u>Mr Felix CHOW</u> amended the motion as follows:

"Due to the upcoming gradual intakes of Chun Yeung Estate, Choi Wo Court, Yuk Wo Court and other private housing estates, the population of Fo Tan will surge in a few years. Yet, the social welfare facilities in the community are seriously insufficient. The Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee of the Sha Tin District Council hence requests that:

- 1. the relevant government departments complete the preliminary planning of the Fo Tan Complex as soon as possible, and consult the residents about the project
- 2. the Government provide more public parking spaces in the Complex to solve the problems of insufficient parking spaces and illegal parking in the Fo Tan area
- 3. the Government prioritise consulting affected tenants when considering relocating the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market, and compensate their losses under feasible circumstances. Upon the completion of the Complex, the relevant government departments should offer them preference of priority tenancy."

Mr MAK Tsz-kin and Mr LUI Kai-wing seconded the motion.

- 53. Members unanimously endorsed the provisional motion in paragraph 52.
- 54. Ms Katy CHENG said that the STDO, together with the relevant departments, was following up on the Tai Wai Complex project. It was expected that the STDC would be consulted in the latter half of this year upon completion of the traffic impact assessment.

<u>Election of Sha Tin District Council Members to be Members of the Kitchee Shatin Consultative Committee</u>

(Paper No. CSCD 14/2020)

55. The Chairman advised that the General Manager of Kitchee had written to the Chairman of the DC, inviting the STDC to nominate two DC Members to serve as a member of the Kitchee Sha Tin Recreation and Sports Advisory Group to promote football in the community. He said that as at the end of the nomination period, two nominations had been received by the Secretariat, namely:

CandidatesNomineeSeconderMr Ricardo LIAOMr LO Yuet-chauMr CHAN Wan-tungMr SHEK WilliamMr CHENG Chung-hangMr Felix CHOW

- 56. The Chairman said that in respect of the nomination of Mr SHEK William, the seconder, Mr Felix CHOW, had not become a member of the CSCD before the closing date of nominations. However, as there was no specific requirement in Kitchee's invitation letter, it was opined that members might consider accepting the nomination.
- 57. Members raised no objection to the nominations.
- 58. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that Mr Ricardo LIAO and Mr SHEK William were elected ipso facto as Members of the Kitchee Sha Tin Sports and Recreation Advisory Group. Their term of office would expire at the end of December 2023.

Nomination of Members as Sports Ambassadors (Paper No. CSCD 15/2020)

59. The Chairman said that the LCSD was inviting the STDC to nominate two DC Members as the new "Vitality Commissioner" of Sha Tin District to participate in sports activities organised by the Community Sports Committee and the LCSD to help encourage DC Members

and the local community to actively participate in sports activities, with a view to building a healthy lifestyle. He said that as at the end of the nomination period, the Secretariat had received nominations of two candidates, namely:

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Mr SHEK William	Mr Raymond LI	Mr WONG Ho-fung
Ms WONG Man-huen	Mr LUI Kai-wing	Mr MAK Tsz-kin

- 60. Members raised no objection to the nominations.
- 61. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that Mr SHEK William and Ms WONG Man-huen were automatically elected as Vitality Commissioners for the Sha Tin District for the new term until the end of December 2021.

Nomination of Member of the 8th Hong Kong Games Organising Committee (Paper No. CSCD 16/2020)

- 62. The Chairman said that the 8th Hong Kong Games (HKG) would be held in 2020-2021. To assist in the planning, the Chairman of the 8th HKG Preparatory Committee (PC) invited the STDC to nominate a representative from DC Members to be a member of the PC. As no member had submitted any nomination form to the STDC Secretariat before the deadline for nomination, he suggested that he, as the Chairman of the CSCD, together with the Vice-Chairman, recommend a member to join the PC. He said that he had been approached by Ms WONG Man-huen, who expressed her interest in taking up the post. He said that the post was very important and quite a lot of practical work had to be done. He asked if members had any other views.
- 63. Mr TING Tsz-yuen considered the post very important and suggested that it should be filled by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the CSCDC.
- 64. The Chairman said that Ms WONG Man-huen was an outstanding sportswoman and he considered her suitable for the post after discussion with the Vice-Chairman of the CSCDC. He welcomed members' discussion and considered that the post was an important one and invited the LCSD to give a brief introduction.
- 65. Ms Ester CHAN, Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Sha Tin, Leisure and Cultural Services Department, said that members of the Organising Committee included representatives from the 18 DCs, and their main duties were to review the competition events, competition procedures and rules. She said that members of the Organising Committee were required to attend its meetings, and the Games would be held from May this year onwards, including the selection for athletes from all districts, competition, opening and closing ceremonies, etc.
- 66. The Chairman said that the Secretariat was notified by the Organising Committee Secretariat yesterday afternoon that the first meeting originally scheduled for 6 May 2020 would be postponed to 20 May 2020. The Organising Committee Secretariat would inform members of the detailed operation and arrangements for participation in the video conference in due course.

- 67. Mr Ricardo LIAO enquired about the part of the paper on the organizational structure of the HKG as shown in the Annex which indicated that the Chairman was Mr LAU Kong-wah, former Secretary for Home Affairs. She asked who was holding the post now.
- 68. <u>Ms Ester CHAN</u> said that as the invitation letter was issued on 6 April this year and the then Secretary for Home Affairs was Mr LAU Kong-wah, the Chairman of the Committee should be the then Secretary for Home Affairs.
- 69. Mr Michael YUNG said that the invitation letter indicated that the reply slip had to be completed by 24 April, and he asked whether there would be any impact on the late submission of the reply slip. He also pointed out that the date on the discussion paper was wrong and it should be 29 April instead of 24 April. He opined that instead of listing the name of the person who held the post, it would be better for the department to list the post in the paper, and the letter drafter was not aware that Mr LAU Kong-wah would be removed from the post. He mentioned that in the past, Mr LAU Kong-wah had made some remarks that attacked the Chairman of the Mutual Aid Committee of Jat Min Chuen for his physical incapability, and this might have left a bad impression.
- 70. Ms Helen WONG, Executive Officer (District Council)2, STDO, apologised that the date on the paper was a typo. Moreover, she had communicated with the LCSD about the need to reply to them before 24 April as mentioned in the paper, and informed them that because of the meeting schedule, the issue could only be discussed at the meeting on 29 April.
- 71. Ms WONG Man-huen indicated that she was interested in joining the Organizing Committee, but she had not been able to enrol in time. She said that she had applied to be the "Vitality Commissioner" and had asked the Chairman if there were any other members who were interested in serving as a member of the Organizing Committee before considering whether she could join as a member. She was aware that the work was demanding, and said that she had represented the Sha Tin District in the HKG 10 years ago. She hoped that she could take this opportunity to promote sports for all and fulfill her aspirations.
- 72. <u>The Chairman</u> said that after discussion with the Vice-Chairman, it was proposed that Ms WONG Man-huen be invited as a member of the Organizing Committee of the 8th HKG.
- 73. Mr CHING Cheung-ying, Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa and Mr Ricardo LIAO seconded the motion.
- 74. Ms WONG Man-huen indicated her willingness to accept the nomination.
- 75. The Chairman announced that Ms WONG Man-huen was elected as a member of the 8th HKG Organising Committee and invited her to attend the first meeting of the HKG Organising Committee tentatively scheduled for 20 May this year.

Formation of Working Groups under the Committee (Paper No. CSCD 17/2020)

76. Members unanimously approved the establishment of the two Working Groups as proposed in the document and their terms of reference.

- 77. The Chairman proposed the following procedure for the election of convener of the Working Groups: the convener of the Working Group must be a District Councillor; each candidate must be nominated by a member and seconded by at least two other members. If only one candidate was nominated as the convener of the Working Group, that candidate would be deemed to be elected ipso facto. If more than one candidate was nominated, the convener would be elected on a first-come-first-served basis and the candidate who obtained an absolute majority of votes would win.
- 78. Members unanimously agreed to the above procedure for the election of the conveners of the Working Groups.
- 79. <u>The Chairman</u> invited nominations for the convener of the Working Group on Recreation and Sports Development.
- 80. Mr TING Tsz-yuen nominated Mr SHEK William as the convener of the Working Group.
- 81. Mr CHAN Nok-hang and Mr CHEUNG Hing-wa seconded the nomination.
- 82. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that Mr SHEK William was elected ipso facto as the convener of the Working Group on Recreation and Sports Development.
- 83. <u>The Chairman</u> invited members to nominate the convener of the Working Group on Culture, Festivals and Bazaar Activities.
- 84. Mr CHAN Nok-hang nominated Mr CHIU Chu-pong as the convener of the Working Group.
- 85. Mr TING Tsz-yuen, Mr NG Kam-hung and Mr CHAN Wan-tung seconded the nomination.
- 86. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that Mr CHIU Chu-pong was elected ipso facto as the convener of the Working Group on Culture, Festivals and Bazaar Activities.
- 87. Mr CHING Cheung-ying said that the two working groups should consider whether it was intended to include non-DC Members and consider the number of members. He said that the subject matter would also be considered by the Finance and General Affairs Committee. He considered that it would be more appropriate for DC Members to act as members of the "Working Group on Recreation and Sports Development", while the "Working Group on Culture, Festivals and Bazaar Activities" might include non-DC Members.
- 88. <u>The Chairman</u> said that there had been different exchanges among committee members on the two working groups. He considered that the two working groups, under the leadership of the convener, should incorporate different views, including those of professionals and elites from both inside and outside the Council. He hoped that more different views would be heard at future meetings of the working groups.

<u>Special Arrangements for Local Organisations' Funding Applications of 2020/2021 Due to the Coronavirus Outbreak</u>

(Paper No. CSCD 29/2020)

- 89. <u>The Chairman</u> said that in order to reduce the risk of the spread of the COIVD-19 and to protect public health, this CSCD meeting was to discuss the special arrangements for local organisations seeking funding for the year 2020/2021.
- 90. Members unanimously approved the above special arrangements for local organisations' funding applications for the year 2020/2012 in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

Funding Applications

Proposed Estimates under Expenditure Head 1 (Cultural Affairs) of 2020/2021 (Paper No. CSCD 18/2020)

91. Members unanimously approved the proposed budget as set out in the document.

Proposed Estimates under Expenditure Head 6 (Recreation and Sports) of 2020/2021 (Paper No. CSCD 19/2020)

92. Members unanimously approved the proposed budget as set out in the above documents.

Proposed Estimates under Expenditure Head 8 (Festival Celebration) of 2020/2021 (Paper No. CSCD 20/2020)

93. Members unanimously approved the proposed budget as set out in the above documents.

<u>Proposed Estimates under Expenditure Head 10 (Community Development) of 2020/2021</u> (Paper No. CSCD 21/2020)

94. Members unanimously approved the proposed budget as set out in the above documents.

Proposed Estimates under Expenditure Head 11 (Community Organisations) of 2020/2021 (Paper No. CSCD 22/2020)

95. Members unanimously approved the proposed budget as set out in the document.

<u>Funding Application of the Sha Tin Arts and Culture Promotion Committee</u> (Paper No. CSCD 23/2020)

- 96. <u>The Chairman</u> invited members to declare their interests, stating that members of the Sha Tin Arts and Culture Promotion Committee (STACC) did not have voting rights on the funding application but were allowed to attend the meeting.
- 97. <u>The Chairman</u> said that as he was the Chairman of the CSCDC this year, he became an ex-officio member of the STACC. He said that he would not vote on the funding application

and would continue to chair the meeting if there was no objection from members. In addition, he said that the Chairman of the Sha Tin Rural Committee, Mr MOK Kam-kwai, was also an ex-officio member of the STACC.

- 98. Ms Winnie CHAN, Liaison Officer i/c (YP), STDO said that 10 funding applications would be submitted and a briefing session was held on 24 April to seek members' support for the funding applications.
- 99. Mr Michael YUNG said he would like to move a motion to postpone the discussion to the next CSCDC meeting, as a provisional motion had been passed at the STDC meeting on 24 April to invite Mr TSUI Ying-wai, Caspar, Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA), to explain to the DC why the funding for the STDC was cut by \$550,000 while the funding for the promotion of arts and culture was increased by \$220,000 against the market trend. He said he had asked the Assistant District Officer (Sha Tin) whether the Home Affairs Department (HAD) was aware of the STDC's response to the funding application on Monday, and asked the SHA to explain why the funding was cut on the one hand because it was called an anti-epidemic measure, but on the other hand, the funding for activities was increased to create a peaceful atmosphere. In his view, the STDO were dragging their feet and treating the STDC as a rubber stamp. He was dissatisfied that the STDC Chairman said at that time that \$550,000 could be taken out from the reserve to make up for the cut in funding. He asked whether the then District Officer (Sha Tin), who said he was confident that he could get the funding of the previous year, had given an account of the cut in funding to the Chairman later on. He said that he did not understand why the STDO insisted on submitting the funding cuts to the CSCDC for approval when he had already expressed his dissatisfaction at the briefing session. He considered it necessary to the invite SHA to explain clearly the funding criteria to the STDC first, and therefore he suggested that the funding application be held in abeyance.
- 100. Mr Felix CHOW asked why funding for the promotion of culture, which was not the most important in the anti-epidemic period, was increased when funding for the whole STDC was cut. He said that there were priorities and he did not consider the promotion of cultural activities the most important thing at present. He said that at this stage, it was not known how long the restriction on gathering should be extended, and that such funding applications should be postponed, and he asked the Government to explain the criteria for funding arrangements.
- 101. Mr TING Tsz-yuen said that there should be fairness in the vetting of funding applications submitted to the STDC and projects which did not fall within the criteria might not be approved. He said that hundreds of thousands of dollars could be saved if projects which did not meet the criteria were excluded from the funding applications. If the funding could not be postponed, it was proposed that several hundred thousand dollars be deducted from the non-compliant items to compensate for the reduction in the STDC's funding.
- 102. <u>The Chairman</u> said that he respected members' views and would leave it to them to decide on the arrangements for the funding application. He also said that he would not comment on the funding application. He stated that if a department wished to submit a paper to the CSCDC for discussion, he would respect all members' views and decisions, and believed that it would be more appropriate to table the paper for members' discussion at the meeting.
- 103. Mr Billy CHAN said that Mr TING Tsz-yuen had calculated that \$456,000 was a non-compliant item and if STDO insisted on submitting the paper, he suggested that this amount of

funding could be excluded. He agreed to postpone the funding application to a later date as he was worried that there would be crowds of people gathering at the events applied for, which would be difficult to arrange under the epidemic situation. He asked for an answer from the STDO as to the necessity of holding these gatherings.

104. The views of Mr CHAN Pui-ming were summarised below:

- (a) he asked about the insurance liability and asked how participants would be compensated if they violated the gathering restriction or contracted COVID-19 during the event;
- (b) he requested that the slides from the presentation be placed on the STDC's website:
- (c) he enquired about the duration of the study on the Dongjiang Column to be conducted under the funding application. He said that the Dongjiang Column was established by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China in 1943. He proposed that the name of the Dongjiang Column group in Hong Kong be changed to the Hong Kong and Kowloon Independent Battalion of the Dongjiang Column of the Communist Party of China (the Hong Kong and Kowloon Battalion); and
- (d) he said that there were many groups operating in Hong Kong in those years, including the Service Corps of the British Army and the National Government's Military Manpower Bureau, etc. He suggested expanding the scope of the study and postponing the discussion to the next meeting.

105. The views of Mr Jimmy SHAM were summarized below:

- (a) he said that he was torn between mixed feelings about the funding application and considered that members' objections to the funding application were mainly due to the Government's failure to enforce its policies. He hoped that the funding would be approved because the funding application involved many school activities which provided grassroots students with opportunities to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, and he did not wish to see that postponing the funding approval would make students suffer as a result of the Government's enforcement of its policies;
- (b) he said that he believed that the Government would take the timing of the activities into account when restricting gatherings, as there was flexibility in the timing of the activities in the application; and
- (c) considering that the first activity was to print books and was not affected by time, he suggested that the funding for the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Project be postponed by approving the activity involving the participants first to show dissatisfaction with the HAD.
- 106. Mr Johnny CHUNG said that Sha Tin was not one of the six squadrons of the Hong Kong Garrison and the closest place to Sha Tin was Sai Kung. He opined that there might not be

much history and culture of the Dongjiang Column in Sha Tin for research and asked whether the research was conducted in line with the patriotic history of the rulers. He suggested that apart from the Dongjiang Column, there were many other places in Sha Tin which could be studied, such as the Ma On Shan Mine, Sha Tin Airport, Spirit of Sha Tin, etc. He suggested that the Government should provide resources to support the universities in studying the history of Sha Tin. Therefore, he agreed to postpone the activities of the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Project and to approve other funding applications first.

107. The views of Mr NG Kam-hung were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the fourth activity in the paper, that is, a large-scale performance and guided tour, would be held until October 2020. He considered that the timetable of schools was already very tight under the epidemic situation and there might not be too many students or schools participating in it. He said that he was surprised that the application amounted to \$600,000 for the event in question, but it was only a tentative event;
- (b) he said that the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Programme involved "Sha Tin Mutual Aid Association Cultural Research". He enquired whether such an organisation would be set up and who would be invited to join it. He opined that unless Dr TING Sun-pao, Joseph could be invited to conduct the research, he did not agree to use the large sum of funding to set up a provisional association to conduct the research. According to his understanding, the battle area of the Dongjiang Column was mainly at Wu Kau Tang while Sha Tin was the history of the British Army's citadel at Shing Mun; and
- (c) he asked for an explanation on the provision of \$600,000 for the Mega Performance and Guided Tours (tentative name) and the provision of about \$100,000 for the "Sha Tin Mutual Aid Association Cultural Research" under the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Project. He agreed that the funding for school activities could be dealt with first.

108. The views of Mr CHING Cheung-ying were summarised below:

- (a) he said that the STDC passed a provisional motion on 24 April, requesting the HAD to account for the funding arrangements, and that follow-up actions should be taken;
- (b) regarding members' concern about activities held during the epidemic, he reminded members that the parameters and requirements for STDC-funded activities under the epidemic had been addressed in the discussion paper on the special arrangements for local organisations seeking funding in the context of the COVID-19 for the year 2020/2021, and he also believed that organisers would not take the risks in organising activities;
- (c) he said that the current funding application was in the form of a dedicated, earmarked fund for a specific purpose; and
- (d) he said that the activities of the STACC were mainly in the form of appreciation

and were widely accessible to students in the district to engage in high quality activities, which could not be done by a single school. He said that these activities encouraged students to appreciate different areas of the arts. Therefore, he agreed to approve the funding first to allow the activities to commence, otherwise they would be delayed due to the meeting schedule.

109. The views of Mr George WONG were summarised below:

- (a) he said that if these activities were to be approved on the same basis as funding to local organisations, some of them would not be funded. He considered that it would be unfair to local organisations if funding was to be granted; and
- (b) he said that in the history of the war against Japan, Sha Tin was an important position in the defence of Gin Drinkers Bay. He suggested that the monuments of some of the forts in Sha Tin could be considered in the historical research.

110. The responses of Ms Winnie CHAN were summarised below:

- (a) she said that HAD had been providing funding for the promotion of arts and cultural activities on a dedicated and earmarked basis since the establishment of the STACC in 2013, and that it was up to the HAD to decide on the increase or decrease of the funding, and that the work of the STDO aimed to use the funding to implement their activities;
- (b) she said that a study on the Dongjiang Column had commenced in the previous year, and in the current year, it was only to prepare a research report on the study. As regards members' suggestion to study the history of other historical issues in Sha Tin, she would convey the suggestion to the STACC for consideration. She said that the historical research was mainly concerned with the events and cultural life of the residents of Sha Tin District, rather than an extensive historical study;
- she said that the arrangements for the activities in the event of an epidemic would follow the guidelines of the Department of Health (DH) and that no activities would be held under the restriction on gathering. She said that the preparation work for the activities needed to be carried out at this stage;
- (d) regarding the expenditure on projects that did not meet the criteria, she said that there were some contingency plans this year under the epidemic situation, such as holding webcasts, which were normally approved by the STDC in the past; and
- (e) regarding the large-scale performance and guided tours, she said that the most important feature of the event was that it would involve going into schools for training and conducting large scale performance and guided tours, inviting renowned orchestras to conduct training and then leading students to participate in the grand concert. As such, there was a relatively large demand for funding, and the event was welcomed by many schools.

- 111. <u>The Chairman</u> asked members concerned about their request for uploading the notes of the briefing session onto the STDC website.
- 112. Ms Winnie CHAN said that it was okay.
- 113. Mr Michael YUNG said that the STACC's membership included a number of former local personalities, including Ms CHAN Man-kuen, Mr CHAN Tan-tan, Mr CHIU Man-leong, Mr CHONG Yiu-kan, Ms LEE Ying-kit, Mr NG Kai-tai, etc. He said that the Committee was set up by the STDO and these members were appointed by the Sha Tin District Officer. He said that he would support the memberss if they were leaders in their field, but he did not agree that public funds should be used to support these former local personalities. He considered that members present should have the courage to express their objection to the HAB and ask the SHA to explain why such funding was increased against the market trend.
- 114. Mr NG Kam-hung opined that the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Project should not be funded again this year as funding had already been allocated for conducting relevant research in the previous year. Besides, he said that the Department had not responded to the question on the large-scale performance and guided tours by asking how many schools in Sha Tin had orchestras and which orchestras would be invited for the event. He said that although the event was popular last year, not many schools might participate this year. He considered that an amount of about \$700,000 should be excluded from the above two provisions.
- 115. Mr CHAN Pui-ming said that when approving the Sha Tin Sports Association Limited's activities relating to dragon boat races at the last CSCDC meeting, he had asked the Association about the epidemic prevention arrangements and the Association provided the relevant information afterwards. As the paper indicated that training programmes had been conducted since May/June, he was worried that this would increase the risk of virus transmission. He enquired about the arrangements for insurance or compensation if participants were infected because of these activities.
- 116. Mr Jimmy SHAM asked where the contents of the research and publicity programmes on Sha Tin culture could be viewed. Regarding the STACC, he considered the appointment of members and the reason for organising these activities questionable, but said that the problem might not be improved within a short period of time and considered it important to hold activities for students to participate in. He said that schools might have to keep making up classes after class resumption, and asked whether the department had consulted the schools on the availability of students for these activities.
- 117. Mr TING Tsz-yuen said that if funding was to be considered on the same basis as district organisations, it could be considered on an item-by-item basis and could be vetoed if there was a political need to take action against the STDO. However, he also recognised the need for some grassroots students to participate in activities. He therefore suggested that the two applications for the Sha Tin Cultural Research and Publicity Project and the large-scale performance and guided Tours could be vetoed in favour of other funding applications.
- 118. Mr Billy CHAN asked when the first phase of the study on the Dongjiang Column under the cultural studies would be conducted. He asked the Chairman to consider whether the funding application should be voted on an application-by-application basis or postponed.

119. Ms Winnie CHAN gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) she said that the members of the STACC were appointed by the Sha Tin District Officer, and that the members comprised more than 20 local stakeholders, including local people, representatives of non-profit-making organisations, school principals, resident groups and people with cultural backgrounds, and that the criteria for appointment were that these members were interested in community arts and cultural activities, could give advice in this regard and promote community engagement to bring about synergy;
- (b) she said that a study on the Dongjiang Column had been conducted between 2019 and 2020 when a research team was engaged to lead students to conduct field trips and interviews with people related to the Dongjiang Column, and a research report would be produced under Phase II based on the research data in Phase I; and
- (c) she said that for orchestral training, orchestras would be invited to eight schools to conduct orchestral training for students. However, due to the impact of the epidemic, training might be conducted online. As for other activities, they might be conducted online subject to the circumstances.

120. <u>Ms Cecilia LEUNG, Senior Liaison Officer (West), STDO</u> gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) she said that the Government was not normally required to take out insurance from insurance companies in respect of the activities to be implemented. As regards the arrangements in the event of an epidemic, the Department would make reference to the recommendations of the DH, and no large-scale arts and cultural activities would be held during the period of restriction on gathering;
- (b) she said that she was briefed on the views expressed by members on that day, and the Sha Tin District Officer had responded to the questions at the DC meeting on the same day. As to why the funding application was still on the table for discussion, she said that the application was submitted in accordance with the funding procedures of STDC and the timetable for funding approval by the CSCDC. The funding application was part of the work of the Secretariat of STACC, and they had started preparing the 10 funding applications in March for members' consideration at today's meeting;
- she said that the part on "Sha Tin Mutual Aid Association Cultural Research" actually included many items, such as interviews, visits, video production and report writing, etc. She said that in view of the epidemic, online activities might be organised, and physical activities would also be organised if circumstances permitted. She said that in view of the epidemic, online activities might be held, and physical activities would also be held if circumstances permitted; if online activities were held, the actual expenditure might be reduced;
- (d) she said that the visits to veterans and the production of the film had been

completed under the cultural studies and that for the funding estimate, the project would need to be split into two phases, the second of which would involve the production of a book of the research report;

- (e) she said that large-scale performances of the previous year and the year before had also involved an expenditure of about \$600,000, including a drum performance with the Chinese Orchestra and an erhu performance, which was a grand affair and featured well-known musicians. These professionals seldom accepted invitations to perform in open-air community venues in the past, and it was rare for them to come to Sha Tin to meet the public in person at open-air venues in the past, which was a valuable performance. The cost of hiring these professional performing teams was higher than that of other community cultural activities. As regards school activities, the teams would arrange professional instructors to teach in schools, as well as stage performances and exchanges, involving an expenditure of \$600,000 for the activities;
- (f) she said that students had been bored at home for a long time under the epidemic and considered that the programme could make use of online teaching to promote arts and culture. She understood that schools had a lot of administrative work to do and the activities of the STDO would help reduce the time schools had to spend on organising such activities;
- (g) she said that the funding sought for the event was a block vote and it would be difficult to hold the event if members had to consider each item on a case-by-case basis and approve only part of the funding. She hoped that members would consider approving a block grant or at least a feasible budget;
- (h) she said that the first phase of the Study on the Living Culture of the Anti-Japanese Guerrilla Force of the Dongjiang Column in Sha Tin District (Dongjiang Column) was completed in the year 2019-2020; and
- she said that STACC members were mainly local people who were interested in participating in these activities to promote arts and culture in the community. She said that in the past, people from different political spectrums had been invited to participate in the work of the Committee, but they were not interested and were not re-appointed. She said that the Committee was purpose-oriented in its promotional activities and endeavoured to identify suitable candidates to participate in its promotional work.

121. The responses of Ms Katy CHENG were summarised below:

(a) she said that SHA was invited to explain that the funding arrangements and the implementation of STDO's activities could be handled separately. She said that DO aimed at the well-being of the community in implementing their activities, and it would take time to prepare for the activities, as it might not be possible to complete the work under the tight schedule if the activities were prepared after the problems had been dealt with one by one. She said that STDC and STDO had their own considerations and there was no contradiction between them;

- (b) she said that under the epidemic situation, there were different ways of handling such activities, e.g. web-based activities would follow the Government's guidelines in handling such activities under the epidemic situation; and
- (c) she said that the funding was earmarked and dedicated, and she hoped that the STDC would consider different needs of the community in processing the funding applications.
- 122. Mr CHAN Pui-ming requested the STDO to set out clearly the epidemic prevention arrangements and related expenses in the funding application documents. He also asked why funding from the STDC instead of the STDO was used for government activities.
- 123. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarized below:
 - (a) he asked whether the Chief Liaison Officer meant that members would be ignoring the well-being of Sha Tin residents if they did not approve the funding;
 - (b) he was dissatisfied that while STDO had earlier claimed that they had not submitted the LCSD's funding papers to the CSCDC for discussion at its meetings because of the epidemic outbreak, they hastily approved this funding application for arts and cultural promotion activities which was unrelated to the epidemic, and that the HAD had not mentioned in the papers the arrangements for activities under the epidemic; and
 - (c) he asked whether the STDO had conveyed to the SHA the dissatisfaction of members at the briefing sessions and the passing of a provisional motion at the STDC meeting to invite him to explain the funding arrangements.
- 124. Mr TSANG Kit said that the Police had recently rejected various applications for processions and assemblies on the grounds of the epidemic and he therefore saw nothing wrong with members rejecting or requesting postponement of the funding applications on the grounds of the epidemic and restriction on gathering etc. and the event could be postponed until the epidemic was over.
- 125. Mr Johnny CHUNG said that he had expressed his views on the funding application at the briefing session for consideration by the Assistant District Officer or District Officer but unfortunately none of them was present at today's meeting. As such, he considered that members might not be able to make a decision on the funding application.
- 126. Mr Billy CHAN said that the response from the STDO would not affect members because members were elected representatives of the people and the funding was taxpayers' money. There was no compelling reason to approve the funding. He hoped that the Chairman would consider whether the funding could be postponed, only part of the activities could be funded, or items that did not meet the criteria could be excluded.
- 127. Mr Ricardo LIAO said that the STDO had pointed out in their response that the considerations of the STDC and STDO were different and asked whether the STDO were accusing STDC Members of putting politics before everything else. He said that if members had doubts about the funding application, they would certainly raise them at the meeting, and

that STDO should anticipate the consequences if they continued to submit the application despite the fact that there were many doubts in the briefing session. He asked if the STDO would revise its funding application, otherwise he suggested whether it should be rejected.

- 128. Mr Jimmy SHAM admitted that he had no choice but to be soft on the public, and that he would not tolerate a total rejection of funding because they were short of resources. He said that he had seen the membership list of the STACC and found that most of the members belonged to the pro-establishment camp, with a high proportion of political reward. He suggested that the STDO arrange a special meeting in early May to discuss the paper in order to avoid affecting the well-being of the residents, but on condition that the District Officer and the SHA attended the meeting.
- 129. Mr CHENG Chung-hang said that these activities were to give back to the public; many freelancers were unemployed in the epidemic and they would also participate in these activities. Pointing out that many activities were held in April and May, he was worried that the CSCDC might not be able to ascertain the progress of the epidemic and agreed to meet again to decide on the funding arrangements. He asked if funding applications could be considered on an individual basis.
- 130. The Chairman said that in his capacity as the Chairman of the CSCD, he was an exofficio member of the STACC. He considered the promotion of culture and the arts as a means to serve the public, and therefore agreed to join the Committee. As far as he was aware, the Committee had invited members of the pro-democracy camp to join the Committee, but now he was one of the very few democrats in the Committee. He said that this year's term of office was not a new term but an extension of last year's two-year term. New members joined the Committee just because there was a new chairperson of the CSCDC. He believed that consideration should be given to inviting personalities of the arts and cultural sector and representatives of public opinion to join the committee.

131. The responses of Ms Cecilia LEUNG were summarised below:

- (a) she said that a list of anti-epidemic arrangements for the event would be provided to members in the form of an annex;
- (b) she said that STDC-funded activities could be undertaken by both government departments and NGOs. Activities organised by the STDO fell under the category of activities carried out by government departments and did not require insurance coverage, whereas activities carried out by NGOs could opt for insurance coverage;
- she said that as the funding for the promotion of culture and the arts was a dedicated earmarked fund allocated by the HAD to the STDC, government departments were also required to submit funding applications to the STDC. This would also enable government departments to know about the local needs through the views provided by members in discussing the funding applications, which would help improve the planning of future activities;
- (d) she said that the provisional motions passed by Members at the STDC meeting did not fall within her terms of reference and therefore she could not give a

response; and

- (e) she said that the activities would be organised in accordance with the instructions issued by the DH and the Government, and hence there might be a chance for the activities to be cancelled and they would be processed in accordance with the relevant procedures.
- 132. Mr Johnny CHUNG enquired whether the activities would be funded directly by government departments or from other sources in the coming year, instead of seeking funding from the STDC again.
- 133. Ms Cecilia LEUNG stated that the dedicated fund had been allocated by the HAD to the STDC for application by their respective committees since 2013. She was unable to give a response today on the arrangements for the coming year, but took note of Members' views. On the other hand, she said that from the DO's standpoint, while she certainly hoped that the activities could be held according to the original schedule, it was up to the STDC to decide whether the funding application would be voted on in batches, and she would welcome it if the preparatory work of some of the activities could start after funding had been approved.
- 134. Ms Katy CHENG said that the STDO had all along adopted a community-based approach in organising activities and considered how the community could be benefited. She clarified that the response just given was only to express the original intention of the STDO.
- 135. <u>The Chairman</u> considered it important that funding for arts and culture should be allocated for the benefit of the public. He hoped that the overall funding policy could be maintained and funding for these arts and cultural activities could continue to be scrutinised and monitored by the STDC in future.
- 136. Mr Michael YUNG asked the STDO what the funding for the relevant earmarked items were in the budget of the LegCo. He said that the committees under STDO had to obtain the funding through the STDC because the STDO also had to comply with the principle of obtaining funding in the LegCo. He said that the STDO had not explained in the paper the arrangements for activities under the epidemic, and members had expressed many views on certain items, asking whether the STDO would take the initiative to withdraw the funding application and make amendments, and requesting the relevant representatives to attend the meeting to give an explanation so that members could consider when to process the funding application again; otherwise, the Committee would adopt its own way of handling the funding application.

137. Ms Cecilia LEUNG gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) regarding the epidemic prevention measures for the event, she said that she would submit an annex to Members. As the items in the funding application had been set out in detail in the paper, she said that she did not wish to withdraw the funding application due to a lack of information on epidemic prevention measures. She hoped that the Committee would continue to consider the funding application; and
- (b) in response to Members' comments on Annexes I and IV, she considered that the contents of the funding applications were up to standard and therefore she

did not wish to withdraw the applications. If any decision was to be made by Members, the STDO would follow up the matter according to the outcome of the meeting.

- 138. <u>The Chairman</u> said that at present, there were four options in processing a funding application, namely, to support the funding, to reject the funding, to split the application for activities, or to postpone the discussion of the funding application.
- 139. <u>The Chairman</u> agreed to deal with the provisional motion proposed by Mr Michael YUNG and asked members if they agreed to deal with the provisional motion.
- 140. Mr Michael YUNG moved the following provisional motion:
 - "Mr TSUI Ying-wai, Caspar, the newly appointed Secretary for Home Affairs, did not attend the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to explain to Members why this year's funding for the STDC has been reduced whereas the designated funding for the Sha Tin Arts and Culture Promotion Committee (STACPC) has been increased. Due to these considerations, the Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee (CSCDC) of the STDC has suspended the funding application submitted by the STACPC to the CSCDC until Mr TSUI attends the STDC to set out the reasons for the adjusted amount of funding."

Mr CHAN Pui-ming seconded the motion.

- 141. Mr CHAN Pui-ming wished to add in the provisional motion "the Sha Tin District Office has not mentioned preventive and anti-epidemic arrangements for the activities, failing to guarantee the safety of the participants", and to add "as well as the anti-epidemic arrangements for the activities" at the end of the motion.
- 142. Mr Michael YUNG read out the amended provisional motion as follows:

"Mr TSUI Ying-wai, Caspar, the newly appointed Secretary for Home Affairs, did not attend the Sha Tin District Council (STDC) to explain to Members why this year's funding for the STDC has been reduced whereas the designated funding for the Sha Tin Arts and Culture Promotion Committee (STACPC) has been increased. Besides, the Sha Tin District Office has not mentioned preventive and anti-epidemic arrangements for the activities, failing to guarantee the safety of the participants. Due to these considerations, the Culture, Sports and Community Development Committee (CSCDC) of the STDC has suspended the funding application submitted by the STACPC to the CSCDC until Mr TSUI attends the STDC to set out the reasons for the adjusted amount of funding as well as the anti-epidemic arrangements for the activities."

Mr CHAN Pui-ming seconded the motion.

- 143. <u>The Chairman</u> stated that as he was a member of STACPC, he would abstain from voting on the above provisional motion to show his neutrality.
- 144. Members voted on the above provisional motion, and the provisional motion in paragraph 142 was passed with 25 affirmative votes, 2 dissenting votes and 1 abstention vote.

- 145. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the provisional motion clearly indicated Members' wish to postpone the processing of the funding application. However, as the motion itself had no legal validity, he recommended that a vote be taken on the application.
- 146. Mr TING Tsz-yuen considered that a postponed motion had already been passed on the agenda and there was no need to vote on the application again.
- 147. Mr WAI Hing-cheung said that the message from the Council was clear and there was no need to add anything else.
- 148. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the processing of the funding application would be postponed as members had passed the provisional motion.
- 149. Mr Jimmy SHAM hoped that the funding application could be processed in early May. He hoped that both the District Officer and the SHA would attend the meeting, and he requested the STDO to make an arrangement.
- 150. Mr Ricardo LIAO said that Members had made their position very clear that the funding application would not be processed if SHA did not attend the meeting to give an explanation. For the interests of the Sha Tin residents, he hoped that SHA would attend the meeting soon.
- 151. Mr Michael YUNG said that the new SHA said that he would like to exchange views with DC Members, and the DC had had passed two provisional motions to invite him to attend the meeting. If he did not attend the meeting and the STDO still submitted the funding application at the next CSCD meeting, there was nothing he could do. He requested the STDO to inform SHA and the District Officer of the decision to deal with the relevant provisional motions.
- 152. Mr LI Sai-hung hoped that SHA would attend the STDC meeting as soon as possible for the benefit of the community in Sha Tin.

Questions

Question to be Raised by Mr WAI Hing-cheung on the Closure of Public Libraries (Paper No. CSCD 24/2020)

- 153. The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarized below:
 - (a) he stated that for the past three years, the number of users and the number of books borrowed had been the highest in each of the past three years from May to August, and he enquired about the reasons for this seasonal phenomenon;
 - (b) he said that the number of visits to and loans from libraries in Sha Tin and other districts had decreased in each of the past three years. He enquired about the Department's views and analysis on this, and whether this trend would affect the Department's future development policy;

- (c) he said that there had been a rising trend in the use of e-books over the past three years and he asked whether this indicated an increasing popularity of e-books or whether it was due to an increase in the stock of e-books in libraries;
- (d) he asked why the Department was unable to provide data for March this year and whether it was related to the Government's special working arrangements made earlier;
- (e) he asked why the library had reopened for a short period of time in March. He did not quite agree with such an arrangement as there was still a risk of virus transmission at that time:
- (f) he enquired how the Department would increase the number of e-books, whether it considered the number of e-books sufficient, and what the proportion of e-book stock was; and
- (g) he enquired about the opening hours of the toilets at the Sha Tin Public Library near Sha Tin Park.
- 154. Mr Billy CHAN opined that the drop in the number of books borrowed from libraries was due to the fact that some books were difficult to borrow or unavailable. He enquired whether the Department would increase the number of books of interest to the public, e.g. novels by Louis CHA. He said that members of the public could check the collection online and it would take time to reserve books and a fee would be charged. He asked whether the LCSD would increase the number of e-books of these popular books and improve the e-book system with the Innovation and Technology Bureau to encourage the public to use the service. He also enquired about the epidemic prevention arrangements for the reopening of the library.
- 155. Mr CHAN Nok-hang enquired about the progress of the installation of UV disinfectors in the Sha Tin District Library where viruses could be attached to books, and asked if the Department had installed the disinfectors.
- 156. The responses of Ms LEE Mei-yee were summarised below:
 - (a) the Sha Tin Public Library had installed book sterilizers and other libraries in Sha Tin would gradually install sterilizers, some of which were awaiting delivery. At present, all returned books would be sterilized before they were put back on the shelves for borrowing by readers;
 - (b) she said that there were seasonal differences in the number of users of library services, with more students and parents visiting the library during summer holidays or school holidays, and hence the number of users and utilisation rate would increase in the relevant months;
 - (c) she said that there had been a decline in the numbers of users of library services and loans. With the increasing popularity of technology such as smart phones, the Internet and tablet computers, which had changed the reading patterns of the public, the library would continue to develop a "mixed" collection that was balanced and covered both document books and electronic resources to meet the

needs of different members of the public;

- (d) as at the end of 2019, the Hong Kong Public Libraries had a collection of more than 15 million items and 11 e-books, with about 330 000 e-books in their collections. The Department would continue to step up its efforts in acquiring e-books, with a particular preference for locally published e-books;
- (e) she said that as the paper was submitted in early April, data for March was not available at that time and the Department could provide such data after the meeting;

 [Post-meeting note: The total e-book consumption (i.e. the number of e-books

[Post-meeting note: The total e-book consumption (i.e. the number of e-books viewed, including online reading, borrowing, downloading and trial) for March 2020 was 287 686.]

- (f) she said that to complement the Government's surveillance of the epidemic and implementation of infection prevention measures at that time, the LCSD would gradually provide more public services. In this connection, from 11 to 22 March this year, the Hong Kong Central Library and six major libraries (including the Sha Tin Public Library) partially opened and resumed their services to meet the needs of their patrons, and implemented a series of epidemic prevention measures, including shortening the opening hours and staggering the opening hours (by about one hour per session), controlling the flow of people, measuring body temperature and requiring children under the age of 12 to be accompanied by adults, etc. In addition, the number of seats in the library had been reduced and the seats were separated, and only the adult and children's libraries were open for borrowing and returning of books during the session;
- (g) she said that members might have seen from news reports the long queues on the first day of the reopening of the Sha Tin Public Library, which were in fact members of the public who had already obtained a chip number waiting for admission before the opening, and they had entered the library smoothly within a few minutes after the opening and queueing on the following days were not too serious;
- (h) she said that with effect from 6 May, the Hong Kong Central Library and six major libraries (including the Sha Tin Public Library) would be partially reopened again, and that the Department would continue to monitor the epidemic development and review its preventive measures; and
- (i) the opening hours of the Sha Tin Public Library's restrooms would coincide with the opening hours of the library or student study rooms for readers' use.
- 157. The Chairman said that it was already 6:32 p.m., which was the scheduled time for cleaning and it would take about half an hour. It was proposed that the meeting be ended at 6:45p.m. as far as possible. He hoped that members would grasp the time to finish the remaining agenda items.
- 158. Mr NG Kam-hung said that he had searched for a certain type of books in the library but could not find them in the computer system because he had forgotten the titles of the books.

He opined that the Department might consider improving the book search function.

159. Mr Billy CHAN said that public examinations were now in progress. He asked whether study rooms could be made available for candidates to study as he had the impression that the utilisation rate of study rooms was quite high.

160. The views of Mr WAI Hing-cheung were summarised below:

- (a) he said that he had received complaints from members of the public about people using the library for reasons other than reading, and asked whether the higher utilisation of the library from May to August was due to people entering the library for the enjoyment of air-conditioning;
- (b) he enquired about the percentage of books in electronic format in the collection. He enquired whether the increase in the number of e-versions was due to the greater popularity of locally published books;
- (c) he welcomed the provision of the March figures to members after the meeting;
- (d) he said that he had received complaints from the public about the worries about the epidemic caused by the reopening of libraries in March; and
- (e) he said that during the epidemic outbreak, the toilets outside the Sha Tin Public Library were closed, which was contrary to the Government's publicity to encourage the public to wash their hands frequently.

161. The responses of Ms LEE Mei-yee were summarized below:

- (a) she said that the opening toilets outside the Sha Tin Public Library were subject to the opening hours of the library, i.e. from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm on Thursdays; and from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sundays and public holidays; and as the study room was open until 10:00 pm on Mondays to Fridays, it would also be open until 10:00 pm;
- (b) she said that as the seating capacity of the study rooms was relatively high, the Department would review the situation in the light of the epidemic, and as users generally stayed in the study rooms for a longer period of time, the Department would not consider opening them for the time being, and would review the opening arrangements in due course;
- she said that some members of the public might go to the library to enjoy the air-conditioning, but the LCSD would not enquire about the purpose of their visits, and that the facilities of the library were provided for the use of all members of the public, and hoped that the public could make good use of the various facilities therein; and
- (d) she said that there were about 330 000 books in the electronic version of the book collection and that priority would be given to the purchase of electronic

versions of books published locally as they were more popular.

Question to be Raised by Ms NG Ting-lam on the Progress of the Fo Tan Complex Project (Paper No. CSCD 25/2020)

162. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Ms NG Ting-lam was not present at the meeting, but she had authorised in writing Mr Felix CHOW to ask questions.

163. The views of Mr Felix CHOW were summarized below:

- (a) he enquired about the differences in the form and efficiency of implementing the 'multiple-use" approach for the development of the Fo Tan Complex and the LCSD's implementation of public works projects, and whether it would facilitate the construction of a complex with more facilities;
- (b) he asked if members would be consulted again on the arrangements for the facilities at the Fo Tan Complex to include more facilities to suit the needs of the community;
- (c) he enquired whether the Government would redevelop the Fo Tan Cooked Food Market, how it would support the existing operators, and whether they would be given priority in rental of the new cooked food centre; and
- (d) he asked whether the STDO would provide a community hall or activity room in the project for the community to organise activities.

164. Ms Emily FOK, Senior Property Manager(Project Division)1, Government Property Agency, gave the responses as follows:

- she said that this project was one of the first batch of six "multiple-use" projects mentioned in this year's Budget. As the project was a pilot scheme, the GPA could not guarantee that this mode of development would be completed sooner than if the complex were to be implemented by a single department. The "multiple-use" projects jointly implemented by the Development Bureau, Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau and the GPA would integrate and provide more GIC facilities and make more effective use of land resources;
- (b) she said that the Development Bureau had collected members' views at the CSCDC meeting in September last year. Facilities in the project included a sports centre and a small library, and the STDO had also made a request for a community hall. The Department had also liaised with the SWD and the FHB to discuss the proposed facilities to be provided in the project, and had approached the TD to ascertain the feasibility of providing an additional public car park in the Complex;
- (c) she said that the project was still at the planning stage and the floor area requirements of the various facilities and the special operational needs of the department still needed to be studied, and that no concrete proposals were available at this stage, but it was hoped that the STDC could be consulted on the

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initial combination of facilities by the end of this year;

- (d) she said that interested members were welcome to maintain communication with the GPA on the project proposals, and the Department would continue to discuss with the relevant departments on the proposed combination of facilities; and
- (e) she said that the FEHD was examining the utilisation of the cooked food market and would follow up the matter with the FEHD in due course.

Information Papers

Report and Plan by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Cultural Activities and Utilisation of Facilities in Sha Tin District (1st and 2nd Quarters of 2020) (Paper No. CSCD 26/2020)

165. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Report and Plan by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on Organisation of Recreation and Sports Activities and Management of Facilities in Sha Tin District (1st and 2nd Quarters of 2020)

(Paper No. CSCD 27/2020)

166. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Report and Plan on Public Libraries Promotion Activities Organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in Sha Tin District (1st and 2nd Quarters of 2020)
(Paper No. CSCD 28/2020)

167. Members unanimously endorsed the above paper.

Date of Next Meeting

168. The Chairman announced that the meeting ended at 6:48 p.m. and the next meeting would be held on 2 July 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat STDC 13/15/45

June 2020