

**Summary of Minutes of the 6th Meeting of
the Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (2014-2015)**

Meeting

The Commerce, Industry and Housing Committee (“CIHC”) held its 6th meeting on 6 October 2014.

Occupation of Government Land by Altered Shopping Centre of The Link Management Limited (“The Link”)?

2. Members expressed their views and raised questions as follows: (a) they opined that the Independent Checking Unit (“ICU”) of the Housing Department (“HD”) should bear the unshirkable responsibility for this matter and hoped that the ICU would give a full account of the matter; (b) they dissatisfied with the HD’s written reply; (c) they raised objection to the HD’s reprovision of a covered walkway with public money and opined that The Link which closed the public walkway should bear the responsibility and urged The Link to submit the plan to the Lands Department (LandsD) for approval; (d) they enquired if The Link had paid the land premium for the altered shopping centre; (e) they requested the LandsD to explain if relevant documents had been received before the alteration of On Ting Commercial Complex; (f) they asked the LandsD what other documents The Link had to submit in addition to those submitted by the ICU; and (g) they said they would observe the approved works of the smoke lobby at On Ting Commercial Complex and follow up with the issue at the meetings of the Working Group.

3. The representative of the HD responded that as far as the reprovision of the covered walkway was concerned, the engineers of the HD had made two proposals: (a) reprovision of a covered walkway at the external wall of the shopping centre; and (b) reprovision of a cover to the public walkway outside the shopping centre. As investigation of underground public utilities was required for the latter, which would take a longer time to complete, it was opined that the former would be more feasible.

4. The representative of the LandsD responded that the department had been liaising and discussing with the HD and The Link, and was concerned if the area of the altered On Ting Commercial Complex exceeded its gross floor area and hoped that The Link should submit the plan for approval as soon as possible.

5. The representative of the ICU responded that when the authorised person of The Link submitted the alteration/addition plan to the ICU, which would be sent to relevant departments including the Planning Department, the District Lands Office, the Fire Services Department, etc. for comments within a statutory period before approval was granted.

6. The Chairman concluded that the Working Group on Monitoring of Alternation Works of The Link would collect replies from various departments and The Link. The CIHC would continue the discussion of this item at the next meeting.

Change of Cord-pulley Type Laundry Rack from Lateral to Vertical

7. A Member was of the view that the HD’s original intention of introducing lateral cord-pulley type laundry racks was good but the details of the scheme were neglected during its launch, thus arousing residents’ discontent. It was suggested that the HD should allow tenants (a) to retain the existing laundry pole holders; (b) to retain lateral cord-pulley type

laundry racks; or (c) to retain vertical cord-pulley type laundry racks. Another Member opined that the HD should discuss with the CIHC the commencement date of the works and the design of the laundry racks before the launch of this scheme and also consult the Estate Management Advisory Committee (“EMAC”), local District Councillors and relevant groups so that residents could understand and accept the arrangement. In addition, a Member enquired about the works schedule.

8. In conclusion, the Chairman said he still hoped that the HD would consider Members’ proposals to consult the EMAC although this scheme was about to launch. He stressed that this scheme should be user-friendly and that the HD should deal with the matter with flexibility.

Work Reports by Working Groups under CIHC

(a) Working Group on Occupational Safety and Health

9. Members noted the contents of the report of the Working Group.

(b) Working Group on Economic Development in Tuen Mun

10. A Member opined that the “Sector-specific Promotional Seminar and Job Fair” could not achieve its aim of “Unleashing Labour Force” and this activity was also similar to those job fairs organised by the Labour and Welfare Bureau (“LWB”), and hoped that the Working Group should not repeat the activities held by the LWB.

11. The convenor responded that as far as the “Sector-specific Promotional Seminar and Job Fair” was concerned, members of the Working Group had expressed their views at the meeting about their concern for the elderly care service sector and the unleashing of women’s labour force by allowing more women to join the sector. As the activity was still under planning and preparation, the Working Group would follow up on Members’ views at the next meeting.

(c) Working Group on Building Management

12. The convenor said that the Working Group had endorsed the development of a mobile application and submitted a funding application to the Finance, Administration and Publicity Committee for this project. The cost for developing the mobile application was \$137,999 while the publicity cost was \$ 12,001.

Work Report on Private Building Management in Tuen Mun District

13. Members noted the contents of the report of the Tuen Mun District Office.

Report by Buildings Department

14. The Chairman asked the ICU to provide at the next meeting the number of cases for unauthorised building works in housing estates in Tuen Mun District in addition to the figures for the “Blitz” operations.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

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