

**Summary of Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the District Facilities Management Committee (2014-2015)**

**Meeting**

The District Facilities Management Committee (“DFMC”) held its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting on 2 December 2014.

**Requesting Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) to Recruit More Beach Lifeguards**

2. The representative of the Aquatic Venues Section of the LCSD attended the meeting and explained to Members that the LCSD had introduced or would introduce the following improvement plan for this item:

- (i) The LCSD would employ seasonal lifeguards during the peak swimming season in addition to those appointed on full-year contract terms. Following a review over the past three years, the LCSD had increased over 160 additional lifeguard positions at the existing swimming pools and beaches in different sessions, involving an additional funding of about \$14,000,000 a year. In 2013, the LCSD set up a working group consisting of both management and staff representatives. Subsequently, a total of 42 additional lifeguard positions had been created for the existing swimming pools and beaches according to the working group’s recommendations;
- (ii) The LCSD planned to introduce a series of specific measures to increase the provision of lifeguards in the short term. First, the pay of a newly recruited seasonal beach lifeguard in 2015 would be \$700 higher than that of a swimming pool lifeguard in order to attract more qualified persons to join the workforce of seasonal beach lifeguard;
- (iii) The LCSD planned to introduce a pilot scheme early next year for training seasonal beach lifeguards. Anyone possessing a lifeguard award was eligible for direct entry to the post of seasonal beach lifeguard; and
- (iv) Upon expiry of their contracts, full-time seasonal lifeguards might be employed directly as part-time lifeguards until the new swimming season.

3. As to the proposal of advancing the lifeguard service hours for beaches by three hours, the LCSD indicated that if the lifeguard service hours were advanced by three to four hours, the lifeguards’ working hours would be prolonged as they had to report for duty at 5 or 6 am every day. Prolonged working hours might cause stress to the lifeguards mentally and physically, thus their working efficiency and reactions to emergencies would be affected. In addition, as the sky was grey in the early morning with a relatively low visibility, the lifeguards could not have clear observations of the sea. Therefore, it would be difficult for them to provide efficient lifeguard services under such circumstances. To cater for the needs of morning swimmers, the Tuen Mun Swimming Pool and Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool with heated pool facilities currently opened at 6:30 am.

#### **Proposal on LCSD's Free Regular Cultural and Entertainment Programmes in Tuen Mun District (2015-2016)**

4. The DFMC supported the LCSD's application to the District Council ("DC") for a funding of \$1,058,800 for organising free regular cultural and entertainment programmes from March 2015 to February 2016. The application was subsequently approved by the Finance, Administration and Publicity Committee ("FAPC") and would be submitted to the full council of the DC for confirmation at its meeting on 6 January 2015.

#### **LCSD's Recreational and Sports Activities Plan for Tuen Mun District from April 2015 to March 2016**

5. The DFMC supported the LCSD's application to the DC for a funding of \$6,494,644 for organising recreational and sports activities from March 2015 to February 2016. The application was subsequently approved by the FAPC and would be submitted to the full council of the DC for confirmation at its meeting on 6 January 2015.

#### **Extension Activities Programmes of Public Libraries in Tuen Mun District from April 2015 to March 2016**

6. The DFMC supported the LCSD's application to the DC for a funding of \$71,429 for organising extension activities programmes of the public libraries in Tuen Mun District from March 2015 to February 2016. The application was subsequently approved by the FAPC.

#### **Funding Application for the Pilot Scheme of Extension of Opening Hours of Community Halls/Centres**

7. This project had all along been undertaken by the Steering Group on Community Halls and Community Centres in the Tuen Mun District and the District Office ("DO"). As the Steering Group no longer existed during the current term, the DFMC agreed that the related follow-up work and funding applications be passed to the Working Group on Community Involvement for discussion and follow up in future before the applications were submitted to the DFMC for confirmation. In addition, the existing venue booking arrangements for community halls/centres would be reviewed at the next meeting of the Working Group on Community Involvement.

8. The DFMC endorsed the funding application for \$385,440 for the Pilot Scheme of Extension of Opening Hours of Community Halls/Centres. The application was subsequently approved by the FAPC and would be submitted to the full council of the DC for confirmation at its meeting on 6 January 2015.

#### **Request for Provision of Recreational and Sports Facilities on the Footpath adjacent to Lung Mun Road, Tuen Mun**

9. The DFMC hoped that the LCSD would handle this request with flexibility and optimise the use of the space under the footbridge. No Members raised objection to this project proposal at the meeting. Therefore, the LCSD would continue following up on the work.

#### **Report of Working Group on Community Involvement**

10. The DFMC endorsed the report of the Working Group and noted that the LCSD had originally planned to put in place the proposed special house rules for Tuen Mun Park first. However, considering that the noise nuisance was more serious at Tsing Tin Playground in the evening and there were more complaints against the playground, the Working Group asked the LCSD to examine if a higher priority could be accorded to Tsing Tin Playground for implementation of its house rules. In addition, the Working Group had reviewed the booking arrangements for the partitioned areas of the hall and conference room of Lung Yat Community Hall. In view of the relatively low usage rate of the partitioned areas and to optimise the use of the venue resources, the Working Group agreed that the partitioning arrangement be reduced from two days to one day per week with effect from the second quarterly balloting exercise of next year. The arrangement would be subject to review in due course.

#### **Report of Working Group on Facilities and Works**

11. The DFMC endorsed the report of the Working Group and noted that the Working Group had conducted a site visit on 1 December 2014 for the Breakwater Beautification Works in Area 27 and Phase I of the Construction of Covered Walkway (Po Tin Section). The Chairman asked the Secretariat to invite representatives of the Territory Development Department (“TDD”) and the District Lands Office (“DLO”) to attend the next meeting of the Working Group on Facilities and Works to discuss the follow-up work on the removal of weeds and the provision of a warning on the rock mound at the end of the breakwater and a fence along the rock-mound breakwater. In addition, the Chairman also asked the DLO to use its internal resources to remove the weeds and report on the progress of the situation at the next meeting of the Working Group.

#### **Report of Working Group on Tuen Mun District Organising Committee for the Fifth Hong Kong Games (“HKG”)**

12. The DFMC endorsed the report of the Working Group and agreed that with the authorisation of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”), the Working Group’s co-organiser could display the TMDC’s logo on the uniforms of the Tuen Mun District Cheering Team for the HKG and that this proposal should be endorsed by the TMDC at its meeting on 6 January 2015.

#### **Report of Working Group on Tuen Mun Large Scale Festive Displays and Lighting Decorations (2014-2015)**

13. The DFMC endorsed the report of the Working Group and noted that the Working Group had made comments on the lighting decorations and displays for this year at its meeting on 6 November 2014. In addition, the Working Group would conduct a site visit on 16 December 2014 at 6 pm for the progress of the lighting decoration works.

#### **Report of Working Group on Tuen Mun Greening**

14. The DFMC endorsed the report of the Working Group. The Chairman asked the Secretariat to search the minutes of previous meetings in order to know exactly the location of the greening works to be carried out by the TDD on the breakwater in Area 27 according to the “Greening Master Plan for Tuen Mun”.

### **Greening Promotion Stall at Hong Kong Flower Show**

15. The DFMC supported the participation in the Hong Kong Flower Show 2015 organised by the LCSD.

### **Early Spring Garden Tour**

16. The DFMC noted that an early spring garden tour would be organised by the DO with an allocation from the DFMC at an open area in Tsing Yin Street from 9 February to 8 March 2015. Details of the activity were similar to those of the tours organised before. The tendering procedure of the garden tour had been completed by the DO earlier on and the successful tenderer was Ching Chung Koon.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

Date: 9 December 2014

Ref: HAD TM DC/13/30/ DFMC/2