

Summary of Minutes of the 5th Meeting of Tuen Mun District Council
(2012-2015)

Meeting

The Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) held its fifth meeting on 3 July 2012.

Calling for Deployment of Fireboats at Castle Peak Bay Typhoon Shelter during Traditional Festivals of Fishermen

2. The TMDC discussed the above item at its 3rd meeting and subsequently wrote to Secretary for Security, Director of Fire Services and Legislative Council Panel on Security to express its aspiration. Since the Fire Services Department (FSD) replied on 15 May, the DC was unable to follow up the issue at its fourth meeting. In June this year, a fire broke out at Castle Peak Bay Typhoon Shelter, Tuen Mun involving death of a person. The incident had aroused the concern of Members who then invited representative of the FSD to attend the meeting again. At the meeting, the representative from FSD reiterated that locations of deployed fireboats were primarily determined by the division of the waters of Hong Kong and the integrated sea risk assessment. During fish moratorium, FSD had stepped up patrol along waterways in the vicinity of the Castle Peak Bay Typhoon Shelter and increased fire safety publicity, arranged fire safety seminars and marine fire drills to increase the awareness of vessel owners. On receiving fire reports, FSD would immediately send land-based firemen and fireboats to the scene to carry out rescue without delay in time and procedures.

3. Members raised opinions and made enquiries. Views included request for clear information about the safety criteria of typhoon shelters set by the government so as to enable Members to have an understanding about the fire safety equipment required, allocation of more resources as well as manpower, introduction of a new fireboat and before purchase of the new fireboat, a brief on short-term fire-fighting measures and strategies in response to the latest review. Members also asked about the cost of the new fireboat. The representative duly responded.

4. After discussion, TMDC agreed unanimously to write to Security Bureau (SB) to

strongly request for enhancement of sea safety of Castle Peak Road Typhoon Shelter and purchase of a fireboat to be stationed in the vicinity of the Castle Peak Typhoon Shelter.

[Post-meeting notes: The letter was sent on 5 July. The secretariat received a reply from SB informing that it was noted that the Legislative Council had allocated fund to FSD for purchase of a high efficient fireboat that was expected to be put into service at the end of 2014. The FSD planned to deploy the new fireboat to Tuen Mun Fireboat Station to enhance the marine fire rescuing service of the northwest waters. In addition, FSD was now studying the possibility of dispatching speedboats to the typhoon shelter at night during fish moratorium with a view to providing speedy fire-fighting rescue service.]

Calling for Clarification of Apportionment of the Management and Maintenance Fees of the Six Footbridges above Tuen Mun West Rail Station and Yan Ching Street

5. Members raised opinions and made enquiries about the issue. They requested relevant departments to actively clarify the matter relating to apportionment of the management and maintenance fees of the six footbridges above Tuen Mun West Rail Station and Yan Ching Street. They also requested relevant authorities to identify new locations for public car parking lots which were phased out to give way to property development above Tuen Mun West Rail Station. Members also asked the authorities to make every effort to solve the congestion problem due to lack of parking lots along Yan Ching Street. They also opined that the relevant departments should duly modify the contents of the Deed of Mutual Covenants (DMC) of the building and suggested that the authorities should require the developer to set out various clauses clearly in sales brochures to protect buyers.

6. The representative from Lands Department said that according to the clause laid down in the lease, owners of the lots should be responsible for the construction, management and maintenance fees of footbridges FB1, FB2 and FB 6 above the Tuen Mun West Rail Station and the new road section covering previous Yan Ching Street. Moreover, owners of the lots should also be responsible for the braced structures of

FB3, FB4 and FB5, however, the owners were not held responsible for the construction and maintenance of these three footbridges. At present, the Legal Advisory Office of Lands Department was processing the draft DMC of the building, which had incorporated clauses concerning responsibilities over the footbridges and the previous Yan Ching Street, submitted by the developer. In addition, the developer should set out clearly matters relating to the apportionment of the management and maintenance fees of the above in the DMC of the building in advance and should not commence pre-sales of the uncompleted flats until Lands Department issued Consents to Sell and Approval of DMC.

Secretariat, Tuen Mun District Council

31 July 2012