

Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of  
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee of  
the Tuen Mun District Council

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Date : 21 July 2017 (Friday)

Time : 9:30 a.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

<u>Present</u>		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Departure</u>
Ms LUNG Shui-hing, MH (Chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KAM Man-fung (Vice-chairman)	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEUNG Kin-man, BBS, MH, JP	TMDC Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, BBS, MH	TMDC Vice-Chairman	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TO Shek-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:34 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KONG Fung-yi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr NG Koon-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms WONG Lai-sheung, Catherine	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	10:32 a.m.
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:31 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms SO Ka-man	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr MO Shing-fung	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YIP Man-pan	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr Yeung Chi-hang	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr YAN Siu-nam	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr TAM Chun-yin	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KEUNG Kai-pong	Co-opted Member	11:43 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Wai-lam	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Chun-bang	Co-opted Member	9:43 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KWAN Daina Ho-yin	Co-opted Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms CHU Kit-wa, Tracy (Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council) <sup>2</sup> , Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

Absent with Apologies

Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member
Mr PAK Hon-pan	Co-opted Member

By Invitation

Mr CHAN Man-kin	Engineer/New Territories West (Distribution 2), Water Supplies Department
Mr WONG Kin-san, Ricky	Engineer/Consultants Management 12, Water Supplies Department
Mr TSE Kit-chun, Jacky	Assistant Resident Engineer, AECOM CDM Joint Venture
Mr LUI Ka-ching, Ken	Senior Inspector of works, AECOM CDM Joint Venture
Mr WONG Kwok-shui, David	Resident Engineer, Black & Veatch HK Ltd
Mr TO King-ho	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Food Waste Management)2, Environmental Protection Department
Mr WONG Wai-yuen	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)3, Environmental Protection Department
Miss LEE Sin-man	Senior Housing Manager (Management Control), Housing Department
Mr MUI Tung-king, Tony	Senior Landscape Architect/VM (New Territories), Highways Department
Mr WONG Cheuk-him, Jason	Landscape Architect/VM (Special Duties), Highways Department
Ms NG Wan-ki, Maye	Engineer 2/UAP, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LIU Hugh-kwan, Grant	Landscape Architect/Headquarters 5, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr LIN Weijie, Jack	Resident Engineer/Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited
Ms MOK Lai-shan, Teresa	Public Relations Officer/Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited

In Attendance

Mr CHEUNG Hang-fai	TMDC Member
Miss CHAN Hoi-ting, Gillian	Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)1 (Acting), Home Affairs Department
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEE Kam-ho, Edwin	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen Mun), Food and Environment Hygiene Department
Ms BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Teun Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael	Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department

Mrs. LEUNG LUK Mei-yin

Mr POON Tsz-ming

Miss WU Ho-kei, Maggie

Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl

Mr MOK Hing-cheung

Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 1, Housing Department

Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)1,  
Environmental Protection Department

Town Planner/Tuen Mun 4, Planning Department

Engineer/15 (New Territories West), Civil Engineering and  
Development Department

Administrative Assistant/Lands (District Lands Office, Tuen  
Mun), Lands Department

## **I. Opening Remarks**

The Chairlady extended welcome to all attendees attending the 10th meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”) and to all departmental representatives in attendance.

2. The Chairlady reported that the former secretary, Ms LEE Wen-choi, Winnie, took up another posting and left the Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat at the beginning of this month. On behalf of the EHDDC, she extended welcome to Ms CHU Jit-wah, the new secretary and expressed thanks to Ms LEE for her past contributions to the EHDDC.

3. The Chairlady reminded Members that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. She would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the TMDC Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared an interest might speak or vote on the matter, might remain in the meeting as an observer, or should withdraw from the meeting. All cases of declaration of interests would be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

## **II. Absence from Meeting**

4. The Secretariat had not received any application for leave of absence from Members.

## **III. Confirmation of Minutes of the 9th Meeting on 26 May 2017**

5. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes of the 9th meeting of the EHDDC (2016-2017), the Chairman announced that the minutes were confirmed.

## **IV. Matters Arising**

- (A) **Strong Request for Comprehensive Inspection and Replacement of Underground Water Mains in the Tuen Mun Pier Area**  
**Request for a Full Investigation into the Causes of a Number of Underground Water Main Burst Incidents in Tuen Mun and Improvement to the Notification Mechanism on Emergency Temporary Water Suspension**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 24/2017)**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 26/2017)**  
**(Paras. 44-50 of the minutes of the 9th meeting of EHDDC in 2016-2017)**

6. The Chairlady welcomed Mr CHAN Man-kin, Engineer/NTW (Distribution 2), Mr WONG Kin-san, Ricky, Engineer/ Consultants Management 12 of the Water

Supplies Department; Mr TSE Tsun-kit, Assistant Site Engineer, Mr LUI ka-ching, Senior Works Supervisor of AECOM CDM Joint Venture; and Mr WONG Kwok-sui, Site Engineer of Black & Veatch Hong Kong Limited, to the meeting. She reported that the captioned agenda item was discussed in the last meeting of the EHDDC, in which Members had made enquiries about the replacement of the aged water mains in the district, the solution to the water main bursts and the present arrangement for water supply. The EHDDC then resolved to invite representatives of the Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) to this meeting to continue the discussion.

7. The first proposer of EHDDC Paper No. 26/2017 made the following enquiries:

- (i) The progress of the rehabilitation of the water mains in the pier area;
- (ii) If the bursting of water mains recurred, how the relevant department liaised with the relevant District Councillors and stakeholders concerning the bursting and its rehabilitation progress;
- (iii) Whether it was illegal for the residents and shop owners to flush the toilets with fresh water; and
- (iv) If the bursting of sea water mains lasted for several days, for which the residents had to use fresh water to flush toilets, would the residents be reimbursed with the money spent on the fresh water for flushing toilets.

8. Other Members also gave comments on the captioned matter, the details were summarised below:

- (i) In respect of the bursting or seepage of water mains, a request was made for reviewing and improving the notification mechanism and the one-stop liaison mechanism of the WSD. It was hoped that through WSD’s better communication with the relevant District Councillors, the impact of the water main damage on the citizens could be reduced. In this regard, it was suggested that the department assign dedicated staff to notify Members about the situation of water main burst and the rehabilitation progress. It was also suggested that the department provide a means of instant communication (such as mobile phone or Whatsapp) and a contacting method after office hours so that Members could directly and instantly understand and follow up on an emergency incident. The liaison staff of the department must be clear about the situation of the incident and be able to provide accurate information

and appropriate response;

- (ii) A Member asked if all the aged water mains in the Tuen Mun pier area had been replaced and if the department had carried out routine checking of the water mains;
- (iii) A Member asked if the department had taken the initiative to survey areas other than the pier area;
- (iv) A Member requested to have all the aged water mains of the suburban areas replaced as soon as possible;
- (v) A Member enquired whether the water mains installed in the section of road from Mei Lok Lane to Wu Chui Road had been replaced, and if not, what the reasons were;
- (vi) After the occurrence of water seepage from the water mains in Southeastern Tuen Mun at the end of June, the task of locating the source of water seepage was assigned to the Gas Company and the WSD. A Member enquired why it took 4 days to handle it. If similar incidents recurred, how the department avoided delays and speeded up the rehabilitation;
- (vii) A Member enquired whether the department could notify the estate management office about a water main burst so that it might timely inform the affected residents and hence reduce the impacts to them;
- (viii) A Member requested the department to take the initiative to survey for the leakage of underground water mains in Tuen Mun District with advanced equipment and to study methods of improving the technology of locating the source of water leakage, in order to raise the competency and efficiency in locating water seepage;
- (ix) A Member enquired on the estimated completion date of the water mains replacement works for the area between On Ting to Siu Lun Court, and requested the department to tackle the traffic jams caused by the works;
- (x) A Member would like to see an enhancement on the management of the works for connecting new and old water mains, to prevent the bursting of the old water mains during the process of pipe connection;

- (xi) A Member complained that the front-line staff were impolite and that they had not completely cleared the sand and rocks off the ditches, which caused blockage and flooding in the ditches; and
- (xii) A Member enquired why 40% of the water mains in the district were not included in the replacement project.

9. With respect to the enquires of Members on the progress of the rehabilitation works for water mains, Mr WONG of WSD responded as follows:

- (i) After considering the aging condition and construction materials of the mains, the possibility of their bursting and the possible impacts created by the bursting, the department classified the water mains in Tuen Mun District into Phase 4 of the Replacement and Rehabilitation Programme of Water Mains. The total length of the water mains in Tuen Mun District was 516 km and the length that had been rehabilitated or replaced was 192 km, which was 37% of the total. This proportion was higher than the average proportion (about 30%) of replaced water mains in other districts in Hong Kong;
- (ii) The works of laying new water mains in Tuen Mun District was more or less complete and the phases 3 and 4 of the replacement of the sea water mains were already completed;
- (iii) The connection works for the new and old water mains of the district was partially complete, the remaining works would begin at the end of July. In the connection works for the new and old water mains, the road sections concerned were situated at Wu Chui Road, Lung Mun Road, Heung Sze Wui Road and Tsing Chung Koon Road;
- (iv) The department had located the spot for connecting the branch water mains with the old water supply system at Wu Chui Road;
- (v) The department would conduct routine inspection of the network of water mains and would immediately carry out rehabilitation works if an abnormality was discovered, to reduce the impact on the users. Generally speaking, the department would not make any compensation for the suspension of sea water supply. Any user demanding compensation could make an application to the Director of Water Works in writing; and
- (vi) The replacement of the water mains and the connection of the fresh water

pipes at Heung Sze Wui Road were complete. The connection works for the sea water pipes would start in August. The department was concerned with the impact on the traffic caused by the connection of the fresh water pipes and had taken the appropriate measures (such as opening some road sections) to ease the traffic.

10. With respect to Members' enquiries, Mr CHAN of the WSD provided supplementary information as follows:

- (i) The department took the initiative to carry out quarterly surveys in the Tuen Mun pier area. The replacement works for water mains was mostly completed, but a few sections would require further surveying;
- (ii) The department would try to locate the source of seepage at Lung Mun Road (the section between the Light Rail Depot and Wu Chui Road) and would thereafter carry out rehabilitation works;
- (iii) The gate at the entrance of Hung Lau had to be replaced in order to improve the supply of sea water to the pier area. The department was now applying for an excavation permit, the relevant works were expected to commence at the beginning of August;
- (iv) The section of aged asbestos water mains between Mei Lok Lane and Wu Chui Road had not been replaced. The department was now applying for an excavation permit and exploring ways to reduce the impact of the works on the traffic; hopefully, the section of water mains at Mei Lok Lane could be replaced in 2018 if the excavation permit would be issued soon;
- (v) The new water supply system of the Lok On Pai Salt Water Pumping Station was undergoing tests now and a study was conducted about using it to supply sea water for most parts of the Tuen Mun District;
- (vi) Regarding the notification mechanism, the 24-hour hotline of the department was responsible for the coordinating work in respect of the bursting of water mains and leakage incidents in all the districts in Hong Kong. In case an incident occurred, the staff of the department would directly notify the hotline headquarters, which would then disseminate the information to the public through the hotline and mobile phone app. If necessary, the hotline officers would directly enquire of the staff on site about the latest development of the incident;



- (vii) The department had already assigned a dedicated staff to liaise with the relevant District Councillors concerning water main bursts and leakage incidents during office hours. The customer service officer would timely inform the relevant District Councillors of any suspension of water supply. As the “one-stop” liaison officers were not present at the scene of an incident, they had to rely on the site staff for the supply of information for forwarding to the relevant District Councillors. In addition, the situation at the scene of incident was continuously changing, which would cause delays or variations in the information to be disseminated; the department certainly would not delay the dissemination of information or provide varied information.
- (viii) Regarding Members’ request for a dedicated staff to follow up on the situation of water main burst and leakage after office hours, Mr CHAN would reflect it to his superior and review the present arrangement;
- (ix) At the request of the Gas Company, the water supply in some areas of Tuen Mun was suspended between 25 and 30 June of this year so that the staff of the company and the department could look for the source of water leakage and make repairs;
- (x) Regarding the issue of whether it was illegal for users to flush the toilets with fresh water when there was no supply of sea water, he would check the relevant ordinance after the meeting and report back to the EHDDC later;
- (xi) Currently, the department detected the source of water leakage mainly by sounding inspection. The department conducted sounding inspection every year for the whole Tuen Mun District. In 2016, five spots of water leakage were detected by sounding inspection, proving that the method was effective. The department had permanently installed the water leakage surveillance equipment under Tuen Mun Road, but the traffic noise rendered the result of the detection inaccurate. Although the department introduced foreign detection technology to Hong Kong from time to time, it did not suit Hong Kong since the geographical environment of Hong Kong was different from the foreign places;
- (xii) The contractor would be especially instructed to remove all the debris upon completion of the water mains rehabilitation works; and
- (xiii) Some of the water mains in the suburban areas were located in Old Schedule Lots and the department must obtain the consent of the land owners before it

could commence the replacement works. As it took time to obtain the consent of the landowners, the relevant works might be delayed.

11. Miss CHAN Hoi-ting, Gillian, Acting Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun) 1, responded to Members' comments on the "one-stop" liaison service. She said that the bursting of water mains were usually emergency incidents entailing uncertainties which might cause discrepancies in the information provided by the department, so she suggested the WSD to review its internal communication system with the goal of empowering the dedicated staff to obtain the most accurate and latest information for forwarding to the District Councillors.

12. The Chairlady concluded that as the representatives of the WSD were unable to fully answer Members' questions regarding the "one-stop" liaison service and the notification mechanism, the EHDDC resolved to discuss this issue again in the coming meeting and requested the department to send suitable representatives to the coming meeting.

**(B) Request the Government to Completely Solve the Food Waste Problem**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 25/2017)**

**(Paras. 51-54 of the minutes of the 9th meeting of EHDDC in 2016-2017)**

13. The Chairlady welcomed Mr TO King-ho, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Food Waste Management)<sup>2</sup>, Mr WONG Wai-yuen, Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Waste Reduction & Recycling)<sup>3</sup> of the Environmental Protection Department ("EPD"); and Miss LEE Sin-man, Senior Housing Manager (MC) of the Housing Department ("HD"), to the meeting. She reported that the EHDDC had discussed this issue in the last meeting, but no representative of the EPD was present to answer Members' questions concerning food waste recovery, so the EHDDC resolved to discuss this item again in this meeting. After the last meeting, the EPD informed the Secretariat that the food waste recycling trial scheme in public housing estates was carried out by the HD and suggested the Secretariat to invite the representatives of the HD to attend this meeting.

14. The first proposer of the paper made the following comments and enquiries:

- (i) He/she viewed that the Government had not provided sufficient support or ancillary facilities for the recycling business and took a passive attitude by just letting the market dictate the food waste recovery business. He/she pointed out that one third of the urban refuse was food waste, which weighed over 3000 tonnes per day, and queried why South China Reborn Resources (Zhongshan) Co., Ltd. ("SCRR") was faced with the problem of insufficient

quantity of food waste collected;

- (ii) He enquired on the latest progress of HD's food waste recycling trial scheme in public housing estates and pointed out that some citizens were unable to participate in the scheme because the estates in which they lived in did not provide the relevant facilities. He/she suggested the HD to provide the food waste recovery facilities in housing estates, to encourage citizens to participate in the recovery scheme and to increase the quantities of food waste recovered by the collectors; and
- (iii) He/she enquired whether the Government would include the concept and the facilities of food waste recovery in the design of new housing estates.

15. Other Members also gave comments on the captioned matter, the details were summarised below:

- (i) Citizens and merchants had to pay the food waste recovery collectors for the recovery service they provided, which would reduce their motivation in participating in food waste recovery. The food waste recovery industry could not develop well if it was run as a business; the EPD must provide support and subsidies to the industry, encourage collectors and recyclers, families, large housing estates and shops to participate in waste recycling through award schemes and install food waste collecting equipment in large housing estates or family-type collecting equipment for family residents.
- (ii) It was suggested to step up the promotion and education of the public and to provide them with knowledge about the operation and benefits brought by food waste recovery;
- (iii) A Member requested the HD to reserve space in the new public housing estates for installing food waste recovery equipment and for facilitating the subsequent promotion of food waste recovery; and
- (iv) A Member enquired the EPD in what ways it could assist the waste collectors and recyclers to open up the local and overseas markets for recycling products derived from food waste.

16. Mr WONG of the EPD responded to Members' enquiries as follows:

- (i) In 2006, with the support of the DCs, the department obtained funding from

the Legislative Council to develop the EcoPark, which provided the recycling industry with long-term land lease with basic utilities at affordable rent with a view to encouraging their investment in advanced technologies and value-added recycling processes. The department had also provided a series of support to the tenants, including the management of the Park, the liaising with government departments and various sectors of the community in matters of licence application and waste collection, the assistance in promoting and educating the public, etc., so that the tenants could start the collection and recycling business in line with commercial principles. At the same time, the department monitored the operations of the tenants closely and offered them with the appropriate assistance;

- (ii) The mode of operation of SCRR was mainly collecting food waste from the industrial and commercial sectors and then converting the waste into fish food for sale. The processing volume of SCRR had increased from over 10 tonnes per day in the first year of operation in 2015 to over 20 tonnes per day at present. According to the contract, SCRR undertook to process 100 tonnes of food waste per day starting from the 3rd year; since it had been failing to achieve the target, the department had issued several warnings to it. In addition, the department had taken the initiative to understand the operational difficulties of SCRR to help it raise the processing volume;
- (iii) The department learnt that SCRR charged its customers service fees varying from a few hundreds to over 1000 dollars per tonne of food waste depending on different commercial considerations, such as operation costs, etc. The existing customers of SCRR were satisfied with its services, but probably due to the requirement of service fees, some companies and housing estates were not motivated to participate in food waste recovery;
- (iv) The department had suggested SCRR to improve the procedures of food waste processing and fish food production and had helped the company to strengthen publicity and increase the number of customers, such as organising open days on which SCRR explained its operation to the potential customers. The department reckoned that initial success had been achieved through the above assistances and would continue to monitor the situation of SCRR; if SCRR failed to reach the target eventually, the department would consider terminating its tenancy; and
- (v) The fish food produced by SCRR were all supplied to local fish farmers. In future, should the local fish farmers not able to absorb the increased supply of SCRR's fish food, SCRR planned to ship the food to the mainland for sale

through its network there.

17. With respect to Members' enquiries, Mr TO of the EPD provided supplementary information as follows:

- (i) The department had sent its written reply to the EHDDC in May this year, which already clearly answered Members' questions;
- (ii) The Government had allocated 60 million dollars to the Environment and Conservation Fund in 2011 for launching the "Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates". The Owners' Corporations or building management offices of private housing estates and home ownership schemes might apply for the funding offered in the projects to organise education programmes on source separated food waste and food waste reduction and acquire food waste recovery equipment. The Fund had already approved 32 million dollars for 32 estates to carry out their food waste recovery programmes; the estates included Grand Pacific View, Grand Pacific Heights, Aegean Coast, and Hong Kong Gold Coast in Tuen Mun District;
- (iii) The department had organised four seminars in the last four years for the projects and had invited estates that had carried out their programmes successfully to share their experience in the seminars with a view to encourage more estates to participate in the projects; and
- (iv) The Government would follow the "A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022" published in 2014 to build a network of organic resources recovery centre in phases, the facilities for the first phase would be completed by the end of this year. Apart from converting food waste into renewable energy, the recovery centre would also produce compost, which would be used by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and other government departments in planting and greening the urban areas. Any excess of compost could be taken by the citizens free of charge or supplied to other markets.

18. Ms LEE of the HD responded to Members' enquiries as follows:

- (i) The department supported the policy of food waste reduction and had organised the food waste recovery programme "Green Delight in Estates" in 2012-2014 in 14 public housing estates. One of the estates was able to continue with the food waste recovery work after the programme ended since

its conditions permitted, but the other 13 estates did not have the chance to continue with the work. The department said that the food waste recovery programme was merely a trial programme, and through which it had come to realize that reducing waste at source was more important; therefore, after the programme ended, the department began to focus on the work of waste reduction at source;

- (ii) The HD followed the Government policies and timetable regarding food waste and yard waste, and was currently focusing on food waste recovery for industrial and commercial organisations; and
- (iii) In planning the design for new public housing estates, the department would discuss with the EPD about the installation of facilities for recovery of urban waste or food waste.

19. The Chairlady thanked the representatives of the EPD for attending the meeting and for their replies to the enquiries.

## **V. Discussion Items**

### **(A) Latest Development of the EcoPark (EHDDC Paper No. 35/2017)**

20. The Chairlady invited the representative of the EPD to introduce the paper. Mr WONG of the EPD introduced the paper and the latest developments of the Ecopark by powerpoint (Annex 1).

21. No Member raised any question about the paper. Upon invitation from the EPD, the Chairlady replied that the EHDDC might pay a visit to the Ecopark at the end of this year.

EPD

### **(B) Request for Replanting of Trees in the Vicinity of Tuen Hing Road Interchange (EHDDC Paper No. 36/2017)**

22. The Chairlady welcomed Mr MUI Tung-king, Tony, Senior Landscape Architect /VM(NT), Mr WONG Cheuk-him, Jason, Landscape Architect/VM(SD) of Highways Department; Ms NG Wan-ki, Maye, Engineer 2 /UAP, Mr LIU Hugh-kwan, Grant, Landscape Architect / HQ 5, of Civil Engineering and Development Department; Mr LIU Huiqiang, Site Engineer, and Ms MOK Lai-shan, Public Relations Manager of Mannings (Asia) Consultants Limited, to the meeting.

23. Mr MUI of the Highways Department said that there were 8 artificial slopes

at Tuen Hing Road that were under the maintenance of the Highways Department. Mr WONG of the Highways Department introduced the slope enhancement programme in the vicinity of the Tuen Hing Road interchange by powerpoint (Annex 2).

24. Other Members gave comments on the captioned matter, which were summarised below:

- (i) The first proposer of the paper said the department must harmonise the beauty of landscape of the surrounding areas of Tuen Hing Road (the section from Castle Peak Road to Heung Sze Wui Road) by matching the replanting of trees with the maintenance works undergoing at the footbridge there. He/she requested the department to timely report the work progress to the EHDDC and to submit the replanting plan for consultation by the EHDDC. He/she suggested to consider replanting the area with *Tabebuia chrysantha* and Purple Magnolia; and
- (ii) A Member requested the department to immediately replant the trees once they withered.

25. The Chairlady summarised that the department should timely report the work progress to the EHDDC at regular intervals and carry out consultation with the EHDDC on the replanting programme.

(Post-meeting note: Highways Department said that after the meeting, the first proposer of the paper agreed that the department could submit the replanting programme directly to the relevant District Councillors for consultation in the future, in order to speed up the work progress.)

(At this juncture, the Secretariat received a notification by telephone that Mr PAK Hon-pan, a Member of the EHDDC, was unable to attend the meeting.)

## **VI. Reporting Items**

### **(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches** **(EHDDC Paper No. 37/2017)**

26. Members noted the report. A Member enquired on the water quality of the beaches of Tuen Mun District, the details were summarised below:

- (i) He/she pointed out that the water quality of certain beaches (such as Castle Peak Beach, Butterfly Beach, and Cafeteria Old Beach) in June was grade 4 -

the lowest quality, so he enquired on the causes of the poor quality and ways to improve it; and

- (ii) He/she pointed out that the water quality sample in June for some beaches, such as Butterfly Beach and Cafeteria Old Beach, showed that the count of Escherichia coli reached over 300 per 100 ml. of sea water, which was poor; he/she enquired on the causes of it and the improvement measures to be taken. In addition, he/she enquired on the time table and mechanism of taking and analysing water quality samples, and the publishing of the results of analysis. He/she hoped that the department could publish the results of water quality analysis the same day that the water sample of a beach was analysed.

27. Mr POON of the EPD responded to Members' queries as follows:

- (i) According to the present mechanism, the staff of the EPD would go to the various beaches in the morning to take water samples and then, it took more than half day to analyse a water sample. The department would forthwith inform the Leisure and Cultural Services Department of the results of analysis, the latter would in turn inform the public and take the relevant follow up actions (such as posting warning signals at the relevant beaches and publishing the relevant information on the official website). If the analysis indicated that the water quality of the beach was poor, the department would go to the beach again the next day to take samples and would then monitor the water quality closely. He emphasized that the grading of the water quality of a beach was not determined by the result of analysis of a single day, but was determined by the number of Escherichia coli found in the last 5 water samples;
- (ii) He would reflect Members' opinions to the responsible officer and examine if the time taken for extracting water samples and for analysis might be shortened so as to inform the public about the beach water quality the same day that it was analysed;

(Post-meeting note: the EPD reported that due to the long process of culturing and analysing Escherichia coli, the minimum time required to publish the result of water quality analysis was one day, which was also the shortest period required internationally.)

- (iii) The heavy rain in summer would flush the sediments from the hills to the beaches and contaminate the water. The department suggested citizens not to swim in the beaches within three days after a heavy rain; and



(iv) There were two streams on the hills that could flush the contaminants into the Butterfly Beach; to the knowledge of the department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, Buildings Department and Drainage Services Department were finding a solution to the problem.

**(B) Report of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 38/2017)**

(The Chairlady left the meeting at this juncture and the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chairman.)

28. Members noted the report.

**(C) Anti-rodent Campaign 2017 (Phase II) in Tuen Mun**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 39/2017)**

29. Members noted the report.

**(D) Progress Report of Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at**  
**June 2017**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 40/2017)**

30. Members noted the report.

**(E) Reports of Working Groups under EHDDC**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 41/2017)**

(i) Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities

31. Members noted the report.

(ii) Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities

32. Members noted the report.

(iii) Working Group on the Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54

33. Members noted the report.

34. As Members did not give other comments, the EHDDC endorsed the captioned three reports.

**(F) Progress Report as at 25.6.2017**  
**(EHDDC Paper No. 42/2017)**

(i) Drainage Improvement Works in Tuen Mun District by Drainage Services Department

35. Members noted the report.

(ii) Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V

36. Members noted the report.

(iii) Report on Water Seepage Problems at Buildings in Tuen Mun District

37. Members noted the report.

(iv) Progress Report of Water Main Laying Works in Tuen Mun District

38. Members noted the report.

(G) **Air Quality Health Index of Tuen Mun Air Quality Monitoring Station (EHDDC Paper No. 43/2017)**

39. Members noted the report.

**VII. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting**

40. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:03 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 22 September 2017.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 13 September 2017