

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of
the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee of
the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 18 March 2016 (Friday)

Time : 9:31 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 (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 LEE Hung-sham, Lothar, MH	TMDC Vice-Chairman	9:39 a.m.	12:35 p.m.
Mr SO Shiu-shing	TMDC Member	9:35 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr KWU Hon-keung	TMDC Member	9:42 a.m.	12:50 p.m.
Mr TO Shek-yuen, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHU Yiu-wah	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	10:24 a.m.
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	9:44 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms HO Hang-mui	TMDC Member	9:40 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LAM Chung-hoi	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	12:25 p.m.
Ms CHING Chi-hung	TMDC Member	9:32 a.m.	12:46 p.m.
Mr CHAN Man-wah, MH	TMDC Member	9:30 a.m.	12:32 p.m.
Ms CHU Shun-nga, Beatrice	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	9:32 a.m.	13:04 p.m.
Mr YIP Man-pan	TMDC Member	9:32 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 Members	9:30 a.m.	12:33 p.m.
Mr PAK Hon-pan	Co-opted Members	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr LEE Wai-lam	Co-opted Members	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Mr CHAN Chun-bang	Co-opted Members	9:30 a.m.	13:09 p.m.
Mr TO Teng-shu	Co-opted Members	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms KWAN Daina Ho-yin	Co-opted Members	9:30 a.m.	End of meeting
Ms LEE Wen-choi, Winnie (Secretary)	Executive Officer I (District Council)2, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department		

Absent with Apologies

Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Manwell, Leo	TMDC Member
Mr HO Kwan-yiu	TMDC Member

In Invitation

Mr WOO Tai-on, Gabriel	Chief Engineer/Land Works, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Mr WONG Kai-chung	Senior Engineer/1, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Ms HO Ngan-ling	Engineer/12, Civil Engineering and Development Department
Dr. YIP Yin, Jackie	Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Ms TSUI Wing-chi, Wing	Conservation Officer (Biodiversity)2, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Ms CHAN Wai-yan, Vivian	Senior Administrative Officer (Nature Conservation), Environmental Protection Department
Ms YIP Ying-ling	Chief Health Inspector 1, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr LEUNG Kui-cheung	Senior Health Inspector (Market Management), Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Mr FONG Wing-yu, Joe	Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South), Environmental Protection Department
Mr LEUNG Sum-cheung, Felix	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South)(Acting), Environmental Protection Department

In Attendance

Mr TSANG Hin-hong	TMDC Member
Mr LO Chun-hang, Simpson	Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun)1, Home Affairs Department
Mr LEUNG Kam-wai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr TSE Lai-chi	District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen Mun), Food and Environment Hygiene Department
Ms BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tuen Mun)2, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael	Engineer/Tuen Mun 4, Drainage Services Department
Mrs LEUNG LUK Mei-yin	Housing Manager/Tuen Mun 1, Housing Department
Mr POON Tsz-ming	Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional West)1, Environmental Protection Department
Mr TANG King-yan, Sunny	Town planner/Tuen Mun 4, Planning Department

Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl

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

Mr MOK Hing-cheung

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

I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 2nd meeting of the Environment, Hygiene and District Development Committee (“EHDDC”). She said Mr TSANG Siu-cheong, District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent (Tuen Mun) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, had retired, and Ms LEE Pui-kan, Housing Manager (1) of the Housing Department had been transferred. On behalf of the EHDDC, the Chairman thanked them for the contributions they made to the EHDDC in the past and welcomed Mr TSE Lai-chi and Mrs LEUNG Luk Mei-yin, who took over them respectively.

2. The Chairman reminded Members that any Member who was aware of a personal interest in a discussion item should declare the interest before the discussion. The Chairman would, in accordance with Order 39(12) of the Tuen Mun District Council (“TMDC”) Standing Orders, decide whether the Member who had declared the 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.

3. The Chairman added that there were fewer Members of the EHDDC than the TMDC and there were several co-opted Members. To have a relatively even number of Members on the left and right of the conference table and let the senior Members sit in the front, seats were arranged according to seniority on the left and right in turns. Therefore, Members’ seating was not exactly the same as the TMDC meeting. If Members would like to swap, they could discuss with the Members concerned and inform the Secretariat of the result.

II. Notice of Resigning from and Joining the EHDDC

4. The Secretariat reported that it had received notices from Mr CHEUNG Hang-fai and Mr. YIP Man-pan that they would resign from and join the EHDDC respectively.

III. Absence from Meeting

5. The Secretariat reported that it had not received any applications by Members for leave of absence.

IV. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

6. As there were no amendments, the Chairman announced that the minutes of

the 1st meeting (2016-2017) were confirmed.

V. Discussion Items

(A) Terms of Reference of the EHDDC (2016-2017)
(EHDDC Paper No. 1/2016)

7. The Chairman said that the terms of reference of the current EHDDC had been endorsed by the TMDC on 5 January 2016. As Members had no comments, the Chairman announced that the terms of reference were endorsed.

(B) Formation of Working Groups under the EHDDC (2016-2017)
(EHDDC Paper No. 2/2016)

8. A Member said that the three standing working groups in the last tenure, i.e. Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities, Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities and Working Group on the Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54 could deal with local matters effectively so it was agreed to continue the formation of the above working groups. The Chairman pointed out that the tenure of the above working groups was the same as that of the current EHDDC, i.e. expiring on 31 December 2017. The EHDDC agreed to the formation of the above working groups and the tenure concerned.

9. On the terms of reference, a Member suggested that the Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities should include the food safety and hygiene problems of private food premises in its terms of reference. It was also suggested that the working group should discuss such amendment. The Chairman agreed to let the working group take follow-up action on the matter. No Members offered any views to the terms of reference of the remaining two working groups.

10. For the working groups just formed, the EHDDC elected convenors as follows:

Working Group	Convenor	Nominated by	Seconded by
Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities	Mr CHAN Man-wah	Ms CHING Chi-hung	Mr SO Shiu-shing
Working Group on Markets and Illegal Hawking Activities	Mr LAM Chung-hoi	Ms CHU Shun-nga	Ms So Ka-man
Working Group on the	Mr TO	Ms SO Ka-man	Mr SO

Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54	Shek-yuen		Shiu-shing
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11. The Chairman asked the Secretary to send letters to Members inviting them to join the working groups just formed, and hoped that Members would actively participate in the work of the working groups and attend meetings concerned. Secretary

(Post-meeting note: the letters were sent on 23 March 2016)

(C)

(C) PWP Item No. 7666CL (Part) - Formation, Roads and Drain in Area 54, Tuen Mun - Phase 1 Stage 2

PWP Item No. 7681CL (Part) - Formation, Roads and Drain in Area 54, Tuen Mun - Phase 2 Stage 4B

Site Formation at Site 4A(East), Site 4A(South) and Site 5 and Associated Infrastructure Works

(EHDDC Paper No. 3/2016)

12. The Chairman welcomed Mr WOO Tai-on, Gabriel, Chief Engineer/Lands Works, Mr WONG Kai-chung, Senior Engineer/1 and Ms HO Ngan-Ling, Engineer/12 of the Civil Engineering and Development Department to the meeting. Ms HO Ngan-ling of the Civil Engineering and Development Department briefed Members on the contents of the paper with a slideshow.

13. Members made enquiries and offered their views on the above matter, which were summarised as follows:

(i) The department should have more communications with the residents affected and put up notices so residents nearby would know the arrangements of the works. In the past, some of the people affected by sites 1 and 1A and 3/4 (East) had not been rehoused properly. Some twenty households had to live in a reception centre and allocation of public housing was remote. The Civil Engineering and Development Department, District Land Office and Housing Department were asked to handle with care to avoid the people affected becoming homeless. The department was also asked to consult rural committees. Another member said the residents rehoused in the reception centre were often disturbed by staff who visited them at night. The arrangement was not appropriate;

(ii) The road and complementary transport facilities were not excellent. The scale

of development of area 54 was large but the current two-lane traffic and bus service were unable to deal with the traffic problems caused by the development. Bus routes should be properly planned, there should be light rail transit/elevated light rail transit, Road L7 should be connected, and the roundabout should be widened. The complementary facilities should be provided simultaneously with the housing development. A Member requested the department to ensure that the rise of population would not affect the traffic heading the adjacent Tuen Mun Hospital. It was also enquired whether the slip road at the roundabout of Road L54B could be used by the villagers or by the staff of pumping station only. He said that Road L54B was not able to solve the traffic problem at Kei Lun Wai. Another Member reiterated that he had been requesting an elevated footbridge connecting Tuen Mun Area 54 and the West Rail Station. If pedestrians had to go through Siu Hong Court for the West Rail Station, the residents at Siu Hong Court would be affected;

- (iii) The pipeline works in Tsing Lun Road caused obstruction to the residents in Siu Hong Court. It was worried that the works in future would cause the same problem. It was suggested that there should be temporary traffic lights in the stretch of road in Siu Hong connecting Tsing Lun Road. Another Member said that the site was enclosed, causing obstruction to pedestrians. The department was asked to reserve an access point;
- (iv) There were doubts that the works had worsened the flooding problem in rural areas. The Drainage Services Department was asked to have the drainage works properly planned;
- (v) There were worries that building two schools in site 4A was not adequate. It was requested that schools and housing development should be built at the same time to avoid school age children from going to the schools in other districts after the residents moved in. Another Member said that there should be ten schools in Area 54, Tuen Mun in the original plan. During the subsequent consultations in phases, the number of schools had been reduced and currently there were two only. The Education Bureau also said at the meeting of the working group that there would not be any schools built in the near future. The department was asked to account for the information concerned before it was published in gazette;
- (vi) It was not appropriate to conduct consultations on Area 54 in phases. The department should submit the overall and complete plan together. The representatives of the departments concerned were asked to attend a meeting and respond to Members' enquiries. Another Member said if the department would have Road L54B published in gazette, Road L7 should be published in gazette together and not separately;

- (vii) The rise of population might bring about pressure to the medical services of the Tuen Mun Hospital. The government was enquired whether resources for the Tuen Mun Hospital would be increased;
- (viii) The department was asked to build a community hall and gymnasium for the residents as soon as possible. Another Member hoped that the department would balance the complementary facilities for both rural areas and villages so the villagers could go to the community hall and gymnasium directly, and
- (ix) It was suggested that the working group should take follow-up action. The representatives of the departments concerned were asked to respond to Members' enquiries at the meeting of the working group.

14. A Member Mr Keung Kai-bong declared interest, saying that his office was situated at Tsz Tin Village. He also owned several lands within the area marked in the map attached to this paper. He said that the road which had been closed for the works caused nuisance to residents and the rubbish generated by the works was not properly disposed of. He said that the roundabout in Hong Po Road heading Yuen Long was much more congested than before. The zone bars (road barriers) set up for the works caused danger easily. The department needed to carry out improvements on the problems. He also pointed out that there was no traffic planning for the works and Hong Po Road had to be developed first before housing development. He asked the department to respect the views of the rural people.

15. Mr LO Chun-hang, Simpson, Assistant District Officer (Tuen Mun) 1 said that the project of the Civil Engineering and Development Department this time was mainly for the gazetting of Road L54B. He opined that Members' major concerns were about other complementary facilities apart from Road L54B. The construction of Road L54B could serve the current residents so it was suggested that the Civil Engineering and Development Department should provide supplementary information for Members' consideration.

16. Mr WOO of the Civil Engineering and Development Department responded to Members' enquiries and views, which were summarized as follows:

- (i) On road network, he pointed out that road L54B would connect Tsz Tin Road, the proposed site 4A (South), and site 4A (East) where schools would be built. The department hoped to upgrade the traffic and transport at site 4A (East) and site 4A (South) through the road network concerned. He added that the population at the proposed sites was projected to be some 40,000 people. The department issued contracts for the land formation works at sites 1 and 1 A and

site 3/4 (East) at the end of last year, and Road L54A would be built at the same time. Upon completion, it would connect Tsing Lun Road and Ming Kam Road. The department would also build an intersection to connect the current adjacent pavement/driveway. He pointed out that there was no adjacent driveway along Road L54B that needed to be connected. Road L7 was still at planning stage and the government had not cancelled the planning. However, according to the current traffic impact assessment, it was predicted that the traffic flow would not meet the level required for the construction of the road. The Civil Engineering and Development Department would continue planning the stretch of road actively with the Transport Department and the Planning Department;

- (ii) On traffic planning, the Transport Department was planning for buses. An intersection, two bus parking areas and one Public Light Buses (“PLB”) parking area were reserved for new bus or PLB routes in the future;
- (iii) On the impact of the works to the residents, he said that the site area involved grave yards. The department was arranging a suitable road so villagers could enter for worshipping. If the works had impact to residents, the department would be pleased to look at the issue together with contractors. Residents were welcome to reflect problems to the site officers;
- (iv) On complementary facilities, there was land reserved for the construction of a gymnasium complex and a community hall at site 4A (West). The Civil Engineering and Development Department would provide access road in Road L54A connecting the village road to site 4A (West). The Education Bureau hoped that the department would commence land formation works at site 4A (East) but the actual time of building the schools had to be confirmed;
- (v) On the rehousing of the people affected, the Civil Engineering and Development Department, Lands Department and the Housing Department would try to rehouse the people affected in a relatively tolerating manner, current mechanism permitting. The department had informed the Housing Department that they should take follow-up action on the disturbances brought to the residents at the reception centre at night.
- (vi) On the time table of the works, it was pointed out that the project contract of site 4A (West) would expire in 2019. Upon completion of the land formation works in 2017, the Civil Engineering and Development Department would hand over the land to the Architectural Services Department to continue works. On the public housing development site, the department would make arrangements for the land to be handed over to the Housing Department after the land formation works were completed in 2017, and
- (vii) On gazetting, the road planned to be gazetted at this stage covered Road L54B

only. The department hoped to have it gazetted as soon as possible to avoid affecting the progress of the works.

17. The Chairman concluded by saying that the representatives of the departments concerned would attend the meeting of the Working Group on the Development and Complementary Facilities in Area 54, so this issue would be discussed in-depth by the working group. The convenor of the working group should hold a meeting as soon as possible.

(D)

"Market Management Consultative Committee" under Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (EHDDC Paper No. 4/2016)

18. The Chairman welcomed Ms YIP Ying-ling, Chief Health Inspector 1 and Mr LEUNG Kui-cheong, Senior Health Inspector (Market Management) of the FEHD to the meeting. Mr TSE Lai-chi, Environmental Hygiene Superintendent, Tuen Mun, of the FEHD, briefed on the contents of the paper.

19. A member said that except the San Hui Market, other markets and cooked food markets were followed up by the same Market Management Consultative Committee and several local members were involved. He enquired how to decide who would be the ex-officio member of the Market Management Consultative Committee. An ex-officio member of the Market Management Consultative Committee concerned said he knew the FEHD would designate areas based on the size and location of the markets. Members of the Market Management Consultative Committee concerned would mainly show concerns about the market management and food safety problems. On this aspect, the FEHD and its management company had taken follow-up action. He opined that Members could make nominations to the committee more than the number recommended in the paper.

20. Mr TSE of the FEHD said that on the Market Management Consultative Committee for more than one market, the ex-officio member of the committee was the local Member of the market with the highest number of stalls. If necessary, members could make nominations more than the recommended number to join the committee.

21. After discussion, the EHDDC recommended the following Members to the Market Management Consultative Committee:

Market	Ex-officio Member	Member recommended by the TMDC	
San Hui Market	Mr KOO Hon-keung	Mr TO Shek-yuen	Ms SO Ka-man
Yan Oi Market, Lam Tei Market, Tsing Yeung Cooked Food Market, Kin Wing Cooked Food Market, Hung Cheung Cooked Food Market	Mr. LAM Chung-hoi	Mr TO Shek-yuen	Mr CHAN Man-wah

(E) Public Consultations on Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Hong Kong

(EHDDC Paper No. 5/2016)

22. The Chairman welcomed Dr. YIP Yin, Jackie, Senior Conservation Officer (Biodiversity), Ms TSUI Wing-chi, Conservation Officer (Special Duties) 1 of the Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”), and Ms CHAN Wai-yun, Vivian, Senior Administrative officer (Nature Conservation) of the Environmental Protection Department (“EPD”) to the meeting.

23. Ms TSUI of the AFCD briefed on the contents of the paper with a slideshow. Members made enquiries and offered their views on the matter concerned, which were summarized as follows:

- (i) With agriculture falling into decline, the Government’s consultations on this matter was too late;
- (ii) The current ecological environment in villages might change because of the villagers’ consideration on cost effectiveness. It was recommended that the department should seek advice on the direction and strategy of conservation from rural committees. The effectiveness would double if there were supports from villagers on conservation work;
- (iii) Publicity on the locations or information of ecological conservation in Tuen Mun district should be stepped up, including the butterfly valley in Siu Lang Shui, the rocks and creeks behind the Castle Peak, and Mucuna birdwoodiana tutch and other precious fauna and flora in the MacLehose Trail;
- (iv) The department should refer to the characteristics of the ecology in Hong Kong when drawing up action plans,
- (v) The government had removed Mikania micranthe because of its growth and spread but there was still a large area of Mikania micranthe in Lai Chi Wo. On the slopes in the MacLehose Trail, Mikania micranthe was imported by

- accident during maintenance works. The departments were asked to have better supervisions and coordination among themselves;
- (vi) The department was asked to show concerns about the conflicts between conservation and development. In development planning, the impact on biodiversity and its solution should be considered. It was recommended that the government should set priority on the conservation of endangered species and ecology and developments. Another Member said it had been pointed out that Chinese white dolphins would not be affected by the works during developments but the number of Chinese white dolphins was in fact decreasing. Therefore, the effectiveness of conservation and accuracy of the assessment concerned were queried. It was hoped that the experts concerned would discuss conservation plans together this time;
 - (vii) The government's work on tree conservation was inadequate. The government was asked to take follow-up action properly on the afforestation and aftercare work of hill fire; and
 - (viii) The 5-year plan was not a long-term one. The government should have a long-term outlook.
24. Ms YIP of the AFCD responded to Members' views, which were summarized as follows:
- (i) On the consultations work, public consultations were different from the more technical discussion with the expert group some time ago. Therefore, TDMC's views were treasured. She also said she used to communicate with the representatives of Heung Yee Kuk and other communities. Later on, she would collect views from village heads and Heung Yee Kuk again;
 - (ii) On the conflicts between conservation and development, focusing on conservation in development was the key note of study. To have a sustainable development in the future of Hong Kong, elements of conservation and biodiversity had to be included in the development projects planned by the Government;
 - (iii) On the handling of *Mikania micranthe*, different departments took part in the action against *Mikania micranthe*. It was expected that action plans could boost co-ordination between departments;
 - (iv) On the period of planning, it was required by the Convention on Biological Diversity that a 5-year action plan should be drawn up and the plan concerned had to be precise and specific. Upon completion of the 5-year plan, the Government would make a review and amendment and draw up a subsequent 5-year plan. Therefore, items to be followed up would be worked out first;
 - (v) On the vegetation restoration work after hill fire, the current resources of the

- AFCD focused on the work within the area of country parks; and
- (vi) On community participations, it was pointed out district councils had more opportunities to contact local organizations and had a better understanding of local characteristics. It was hoped to set up areas of action for community participation through consultations with district councils. It was suggested that local organizations and environmental organizations would use biological diversity as a theme of activity. Besides, the government's Environment and Nature Conservation Fund would grant more funding this year to provide for environmental education on biological diversity. It was expected that there would be more work on one's initiative at the local level.

25. Members did not have further enquiries or views. The Chairman asked the department to note Members' views.

(F) Enhancing Management of Roadside Skips
(EHDDC Paper No. 6/2016)

26. The Chairman welcomed Mr FONG Wing-yu, Joe, Principal Environmental Protection Officer, (Regional South) and Mr LEUNG Sum-cheung, Felix, Acting Senior Environmental Protection Officer (Regional South) 4 of the Environmental Protection Department to the meeting. Mr FONG of the EPD briefed on the contents of the paper on behalf of the Inter-departmental Joint Working Group. He added that a lot of skips which were being complained about had been left on the road side because there was no suitable space to leave them. The operators then left the laid-up skips on the road side. The root of the problem was the need for space to leave the laid-up skips. Merely relying on law enforcement could not properly solve the problem. To target at this problem, the Government planned to provide space to leave the skips, and quickly remove the skips that were causing obstruction on the road for greater deterrent effects. He believed the above two measures could effectively improve the situation of skips on the road side in the short term. He added that the site in Tuen Mun was about 8,400 square metres. It was expected that it could accommodate about 60 skips. As the amount was not great, the Transport Department opined that the leaving of skips there would not have any impact to the traffic. The Inter-departmental Joint Working Group was now drawing up the terms and conditions of tender. It was hoped that it would provide the industry with a suitable location to leave skips within this year.

27. Members offered their views on the matter, which were summarized as follows:
- (i) The provision of space to leave skips was not a matter to be handled as first priority. As the skips were not properly managed and caused obstruction to traffic, the department's prime duty was to step up law enforcement. Another

Member said that there were no marks on the skips so it was difficult for the police to enforce the law. It was suggested that the industry should be regulated with a registered number and details of laid-up time on the skips. Once they were found left on the road illegally, they should be towed away immediately. Another Member recommended setting up a complaint mechanism against roadside skips;

- (ii) It was pointed out that the industry might not need parking facilities. For example, the space behind the Tin Tau Temple was used for the parking of liquefied petroleum gas (“LPG”) and kerosene trucks in Tuen Mun but the land was resumed by the government eventually when nobody used it;
- (iii) A Member agreed with the allocation of land to leave the skips but there should be related operational arrangements and models of regulation. Another Member opined that the government should make overall consultations for the management of the roadside skips together. It could first work out the management direction for different kinds of skips for Members’ consideration;
- (iv) It was enquired about the fees arrangement for the provision of space for skips;
- (v) It was pointed out that there were a lot of heavy vehicles travelling in Lung Kwu Tan. The government was enquired whether there was any traffic assessment. Another Member asked the department to discuss with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to avoid leaving skips at Siu Lang Shui thus affecting the danas which would pass the winter there;
- (vi) A Member said the current site at a government land was a valuable resource. If the industry needed space to leave skips, they might rent other places. Another Member opined that the leaving of laid-up skips should be the responsibility of the industry. Moreover, a Member said the industry should not use skips to accumulate a large amount of construction waste, which should be removed immediately after it had been generated;
- (vii) It was enquired whether there would be spaces provided to leave the skips in other 17 districts apart from Tuen Mun district. A Member worried that once there was space provided to leave the skips, there might be requests for larger piece of land in future.

28. Mr FONG of the EPD responded to Members’ enquiries, which were summarized as follows:

- (i) It was pointed out that skips were not vehicles so they could not be parked in car parks. The Inter-departmental Joint Working Group opined that there should be open space rented to the industry to leave the laid-up skips;
- (ii) Members’ concerns about the management of roadside skips were understood. The Inter-departmental Joint Working Group was studying how to step up

management measures at the same time. As the provision of space for laid-up skips was the measure which could be implemented in the near future, it should be launched first. It was hoped that Members would show supports. Other measures would be elaborated to the TMDC after the Inter-departmental Joint Working Group completed the study;

- (iii) The Hong Kong Police Force (“the Police”) had been enforcing the law against the skips which caused serious obstruction to traffic or affected safety. As the towing of skips relied on the availability of contractors, it might not be possible to tow away skips in a short period of time. Therefore, the Inter-departmental Joint Working Group had a plan to look for fixed-term contractors to assist the Police in towing away skips quickly for greater deterrent effects;
- (iv) Communications with the industry were made. Members were told that site operation was easy. The EPD would monitor the operation of short-term lease to have an effective use of the land;
- (v) The fees to leave the laid-up skips would be worked out by the practitioners who rented the land; and
- (vi) The traffic assessment on the stretch of road at Siu Lang Shui done by the Transport Department said the site would not affect the traffic flow.

29. The Chairman suggested that the matter concerned should be passed to the Working Group on Tuen Mun Environmental Protection Activities to take follow-up action. A Member said the discussion of the matter should continue in the coming EHDDC meeting. Another Member opined that a letter should be written to the Development Bureau and the Transport and Housing Bureau to request shelving of the work on laid-up skips. The department was asked to consider how to take follow-up action on the roadside skips based on the views raised by Members at the meeting to avoid wasting resources.

30. The Chairman concluded by saying that although it was necessary to deal with laid-up skips, the department should consider the overall complementary measures for the management of roadside skips together. Members had different views on the siting. The Chairman asked the Secretary to write to the Development Bureau and the Transport and Housing Bureau to reflect Members’ views. The Secretary was asked to provide Members with the draft of the letter for perusal.

Secretary

(Post-meeting note: the letter was sent on 21 April 2016 and the EPD replied to the matter on 12 May 2016.)(G) **Request for Zoning Area 46 to Private Hospital**

Sites

(EHDDC Paper No. 7/2016)

(Written Response from the Planning Department)

31. The Proposer of the paper added that the north-western district in the New Territories was remote and the resources allocated were fewer so the quality of medical services was not good. He opined that it was necessary to have a private hospital to raise the level of public medical services. Another Member said that there was no medical complex in Tuen Mun district. The Tuen Mun Hospital had received enormous pressure so building a private hospital would act as a diversion effectively.

32. Members offered their views on the matter, which were summarised as follows:

- (i) Members agreed with the construction of a private hospital but had reservations on the siting of Area 46. It was pointed out that the user of Area 46 was not confirmed and the location was not a population concentrated area. It was recommended that the site should be at a location with higher population. Another Member suggested that the Planning Department should consider building the hospital at other locations (e.g. the quarry at Lam Tei along the Yuen Long Highway and the vicinity of Hung Shui Kiu). A Member was in favour of the siting of Area 46 in Tuen Mun district for government's consideration. If the location was not commendable, other locations could be considered. Members opined that the development direction of Area 46 was not drawn up so views should be offered to the government. As there was a quiet environment at the location, it was expected that fewer residents would object to building a hospital there;
- (ii) The Planning Department was asked to plan well before inviting a public tender;
- (iii) The building of a private hospital in Area 46, Tuen Mun would reduce the opportunity of building an obnoxious facility in that area in future; and
- (iv) There was no objection to the construction of a private hospital in Area 46, Tuen Mun but it was recommended for multi-purpose development (e.g. development of a shopping mall, holiday resort and exhibition centre), shaping it into an economic control point. It was hoped that the Planning Department would study this together.

33. The Chairman concluded by saying that Area 46 in Tuen Mun had been planned as an area for special industry. It would take some time to change the use. The Secretary was told to write to the Planning Department asking the department to look for a suitable location for the construction of a private hospital in Tuen Mun district.

Secretary

(Post-meeting note: The letter was sent on 21 April, 2016 and the Planning Department

replied on 5 May 2016.)

VI. Reporting Items

(A) Water Quality of Tuen Mun Beaches (EHDDC Paper No. 8/2016)

34. A Member said the EPD had used the E. coli count to get the grading of water quality. The department was enquired whether it would change the testing method and examine other substances such as heavy metals at the same time. Mr POON Chi-ming of the EPD replied that the department would test several indicators like physical properties from water sampling every time. E. coli count was the indicator commonly used in the world to assess whether a beach was good for swimming. It was also a relatively major indicator associated with skin and gastro-intestinal diseases.

35. Another Member enquired the department about the frequency and location of water sampling and pointed out that there were more pollutants in a depression at the Cafeteria Old Beach. The department was asked whether water sampling had been taken there. Mr POON of the EPD replied that the department would need four water sampling at the beach every month during swimming season and the samples were taken within the beach near the middle at a level above the knees (about 1 metre deep). The grading of water quality contained in the paper was the average value of E. coli from the five sampling in the past to reflect the situation of water quality at the beach. Some time ago, the department put an * as a remark in the report at the request of the EHDDC. Those dates marked with * showed the E. coli count from the sampling result on the day of sampling, ranging from 25 to 100 E. coli per 100 ml. The department also took water sampling outside the beach from time to time to examine whether the water quality at the locations concerned would affect the overall water quality of the beach.

(B) Progress Report on Major Works in Tuen Mun District (as at 15.2.2016) **(EHDDC Paper No. 9/2016)**

36. Members raised enquiries and offered their views on the works in the report, which were summarised as follows:

(i) Sports ground in Area 16, Tuen Mun (Works No: 3278RS): It was pointed out that the works were launched many years ago but the specific time table was still “under review”. The progress of the works was enquired;

(ii) Local open space in Area 6 (Leung Choi Lane), Tuen Mun (Works No:

3438RO/B): It was enquired whether the location of the seven-a-side hard surface soccer pitch had been rented to schools as a location for plant nursery;

(iii) Recreation and sports ground and adjoining land in Area 17 (Industrial City),

Tuen Mun (Works No: 3445RO): It was pointed out that the works were launched many years ago. It was enquired why the specific time table was still “under review”;

- (iv) Drainage works: the Drainage Services Department and the Environmental Protection Department were asked to communicate with villagers about the sewerage work for the construction of appropriate facilities; and
- (v) Cycle track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun (Works No: 268RS/B): the progress of the cycle track from Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun was enquired. The department took follow-up action a long time ago but there had been no progress so far.

37. Representatives of the departments responded to Members’ enquiries and views, which were summarized as follows:

- (i) On the facilities of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”), Ms CHAM Suet-ying, Cheryl of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said she would contact the LCSD after the meeting to have an understanding of the situation before accounting for it. Ms BOW Lok-sin, Rosaline of the LCSD said that it was the Planning Section of the department who would directly take follow-up action with the Civil Engineering and Development Department;
- (ii) On the drainage works, Mr CHAN Pui-shing, Michael of the Drainage Services Department said local officers in charge of the department would take follow-up action based on the contents of the contract. He would reflect Members’ views to the local officers; and
- (iii) On the cycle track, Ms CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department said the stretch from Tuen Mun to Sheung Shui was still in progress. Detailed designs for the rest had been completed pending for funding approval. The department expected that the remaining works would be launched in 2016. On the stretch of track from Tsuen Wan to Tuen Mun, the department was now discussing with a consulting firm to review the routing. It would be accounted for again when there was progress. On this, a Member opined that there had been no progress on the works for many years. The department was asked to work out specific arrangements and make regular reports on its own initiative. Ms CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department replied that when the department had a briefing on the progress some time ago, there was a promise to firstly deal with the sections of tracks that were easier to handle. The department was examining the sections of tracks concerned.

38. As the Chairman had to withdraw from the meeting temporarily, the meeting was chaired by the Vice-chairman. The Vice-chairman said he knew that Ms CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department was not in charge of the cycle track works. He asked Ms CHAM of the Civil Engineering and Development Department to reflect Members' concerns to the department and asked the department to provide more detailed information at the next meeting. On Members' concerns about LCSD's projects, Ms. BOW of the LCSD was asked to reflect to the Planning Section of the department and provide supplementary information at the next meeting.

(C) **Report of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**
(EHDDC Paper No. 10/2016)

39. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

(D) **Anti-mosquito Campaign 2016 (Phase I) in Tuen Mun by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department**

(EHDDC Paper No. 11/2016)

40. Ms YIP of the FEHD briefed on the contents of the paper and said the department showed concerns about Zika virus and Dengue fever. It had managed to get more contractors in this district in December 2015 to step up anti-mosquito work. The department also had concerns about anti-mosquito work in rural areas. In light of mosquitoes breeding at septic tanks, the department would assist in fitting meshes on the exhaust pipes of septic tanks with the consent of the villagers to reduce the breeding of mosquitoes and pests. For the private lands not accessible by the department, it would leave the meshes in letter boxes so the people concerned could fit them by themselves.

41. Members raised enquiries and offered their views on anti-mosquito work, which were summarized as follows:

- (i) The department was asked to step up supervision on contractors. The department was urged to use anti-mosquito sprays and increase the amount of spray. The department should also coordinate with the Architectural Services Department for the arrangement of clearing nullahs. Another member opined that the department should clear the drains in villages together;
- (ii) The department was asked to kill mosquitoes at the nearby private housing estates to avoid the mosquitoes and pests from entering the estates when the anti-mosquito work was being done. A member requested the department to give Members the anti-mosquito time table as soon as possible so that coordination could be done and notice be given; and

(iii) It was suggested the department should kill mosquitoes after rain fall for better effect.

42. Mr TSE of the FEHD replied to Members' enquiries and views, which were summarized as follows:

(i) It was agreed that the work of contractors should be supervised and it would be done by himself;

(ii) The department would use different ways to kill mosquitoes depending on the situations. Generally speaking, anti-mosquito spray was used to kill adult mosquitoes while marvicidal oil was used to eradicate the larvae in water. As the anti-mosquito spray might affect passers-by, its use would depend on the actual situation. Since the life span of adult mosquitoes was not long, the most effective measure to eradicate mosquitoes was to stop the breeding of larvae at the places where mosquitoes and pests bred;

(iii) It was agreed that the department should coordinate the anti-mosquito work with private and public housing estates. It would kill mosquitoes in a large area to reduce the disturbance brought by the mosquitoes and pests to the neighbourhood. The department would also submit the anti-mosquito time table as soon as practicably possible; and

(iv) It was opined that anti-mosquito and pest control work should not be ignored in rural areas. The department would hold discussion with the village representatives for the work concerned.

43. Mr TSE of the FEHD added that the department used to carry out anti-mosquito work in public places. In light of concerns about the spreading of diseases by mosquitoes, the department would actively launch and assist in fitting meshes on the exhaust pipes of private septic tanks. On this, a Member opined that septic tanks would not accumulate water and the exhaust pipes extended to high places so it was not easy for mosquitoes and pests to breed. Mr TSE of the FEHD said that a well-operated septic tanks would not accumulate water in general. But if the normal operation of septic tanks was affected owing to improper management, there were chances that mosquitoes and pests would breed there. The department had examined these conditions and opined that it was necessary to fit meshes on exhaust pipes.

44. The Chairman returned to hold the meeting and added that she had received several complaints about mosquitoes breeding at Lung Mun Station. The department was asked to take follow-up action.

(E) **Anti-rodent Campaign 2016 (Phase I) in Tuen Mun District**

(EHDDC Paper No. 12/2016)

45. A Member enquired that after the On Ting Market under the LINK REIT Asset Management Co., Ltd (“LINK REIT”) was refurbished, rats had nowhere to hide so they fled everywhere. The problem of rats became very serious at the places managed by LINK REIT and the Housing Department. The Housing Department did not know what to do. A Member opined that the FEHD had more experience in rat eradication. The FEHD was enquired whether it could prosecute the places infested with rats in the areas not managed by the department.

46. Mr TSE of the FEHD replied that the areas managed by the Housing Department would fall within the responsibility of the Housing Department in general. But the FEHD could give rat prevention advice to the department concerned. It could also send officers to inspect the places infested with rats together with the staff of the Housing Department and provide advice. For other locations within the area of LINK REIT, rat prevention work should be done by LINK REIT as they were private lands. Under the current laws, the FEHD could enforce law on the food premises (including the shops managed by LINK REIT and the Housing Department) infested with rats.

47. Mrs LEUNG Luk Mei-yin of the Housing Department said the department had carried out rat prevention measures continuously. The FEHD also assisted in providing rat poisons at the drainage covers. She promised that the department would step up the rat prevention work at On Ting Estate and Yau Oi Estate.

(F) Achievements of 2016 Year-end Cleaning Project in Tuen Mun by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

(EHDDC Paper No. 13/2016)

48. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

(G) Follow up on New Measures to Better Combat Illegal Extension of Business Area by Food Premises at Blackspots in Tuen Mun District

(EHDDC Paper No. 14/2016)

49. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

(H) Progress Report on Local Public Works and Rural Public Works as at February 2016

(EHDDC Paper No. 15/2016)

50. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

(I) Progress Report as at 29.2.2016

(EHDDC Paper No. 16/2016)

(i) Drainage Services Department's Progress Report on Works in Tuen Mun District

51. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

(ii) Report on Environmental Monitoring of Mud Pit V

52. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

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

53. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

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

54. Members noted all the contents of the paper.

VII. Any Other Business

(A) Steering Committee on the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme

55. The Chairman said the TMDC had discussion about the Revitalisation of Restored Landfill Subvention Scheme some time ago. It was resolved to nominate her to join the steering committee as a representative. She added that Members who would like to give any advice on the revitalisation of restored landfill might tell her so she could reflect it. If necessary, she would also make a progress report on the matter to the EHDDC.

(B) Sludge Treatment Facility

56. The Chairman said that it was recommended by the EHDDC in the last tenure that a visit should be paid to the sludge treatment facility. She had enquired the EPD about the condition of the facility and asked when an arrangement could be made for Members' visit. Mr. POON of the EPD replied that the sludge treatment facility would be opened officially on 19 May 2016. All TMDC Members would be invited. Besides, the Environment Education Centre there would be opened in the second half of 2016. There would be shuttle buses to pick up residents to the facility. The department would consider inviting Members to visit the facilities before its operation.

57. The Chairman asked the department to inform Members of further information.

VIII. Date of Next Meeting

58. There being no other matters, the meeting ended at 1:16 pm. The next meeting would be held on 20 May 2016.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat

Date: 12 May 2016