# Minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (2024-2027) of the Tuen Mun District Council

Date : 26 November 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:32 p.m.

Venue : Tuen Mun District Council (TMDC) Conference Room

## Present

Mr MO Shing-fung (Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr FUNG Pui-yin (Vice Chairman)	TMDC Member
Mr TSUI Fan, MH	TMDC Member
Mr WAN Tin-chong, MH	TMDC Member
Mr KAM Man-fung	TMDC Member
Mr LI Chiu-hung	TMDC Member
Mr LAM Tik-fai	TMDC Member
Ms CHAN Mang-yi, Vincci	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Ho-ting, Mac	TMDC Member
Ms MAK Mei-yee, Pamela	TMDC Member
Mr CHUI King-hang	TMDC Member
Mr TSANG Hing-chung	TMDC Member
Mr YIP Kat-kong, Kenneth	TMDC Member
Mr TSOI Shing-hin	TMDC Member
Ms TSE Yuk-ling	TMDC Member
Mr KWONG Man-tik	TMDC Member
Mr CHAN Sik-kwan	Co-opted Member
Mr WONG Cheuk-ngai	Co-opted Member
Miss LAM Hau-yi, Natalie (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)3,
	Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department

### In Attendance

Ms CHAN Yin-ling, Cannes	Senior Liaison Officer (3), Tuen Mun District Office,
	Home Affairs Department
Mr LAM Lok-hang, Kelvin	Liaison Officer i/c (District Facilities),
	Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr FOK Tsz Hin, Geoff	Liaison Officer i/c (North East),
	Tuen Mun District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr CHENG Hon-fai	Senior School Development Officer (TM)1, Education
	Bureau
Ms LEUNG Fung-shan, Alice	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support)
	Tuen Mun, Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms NG Wing-tung, Chris	Assistant District Leisure Manager (District Support)
	Tuen Mun, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms CHUNG Kan-hei	Senior Manager (New Territories West) Promotion,
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms LEE Wing-yee	Manager (New Territories West) Marketing & District
	Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Miss CHEUNG Yuet-ming	Senior Librarian (Tuen Mun), Leisure and Cultural
	Services Department

## I. Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all present to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (CICRC) (2024-2027).

## II. Absence from Meeting

2. The Secretary said that no applications for leave of absence had been received from Members.

## III. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

3. As Members proposed no amendments to the minutes of the last meeting, the Chairman announced that the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CICRC (2024-2027) were confirmed.

## IV. Matters Arising

 (A) Proposal for Enhancing Education on Waste Separation for Recycling in the Tuen Mun District alongside the Construction of Waste-toenergy Facilities (CICRC Paper No. 14/2024)

(Written Response from the Environmental Protection Department)

- Members suggested devoting more resources to owners' corporations, recognising their crucial role in waste treatment, which was particularly vital for environmental protection and waste reduction;
- (b) Members suggested that the Department consider sending a representative to building management meetings to further promote relevant knowledge and report progress;
- (c) Members asked about the Green Outreach programme's feasibility, establishment and manpower for organising events such as 400 school recycling educational seminars;
- (d) Members asked for the number of primary and secondary schools visited by the Department in the Tuen Mun District in the last year;
- (e) Members asked about the allocation of time and resources by the Green Outreach for organising events in the Tuen Mun District;

- (f) Members asked why the Department had no plans to expand environmental education to kindergartens, and suggested doing so;
- (g) Members asked about the criteria for assessing the effectiveness of activities and whether the long-term effectiveness review took into account the level of environmental consciousness among students and teachers;
- (h) Members said that schools often planned their calendars for the next year at the end of the current year, and suggested that the Department notify schools about future activities in advance to allow them to make necessary arrangements;
- (i) Members asked when T·PARK would resume accepting group visit applications; and
- (j) Members asked about the publicity and promotional programmes for I·PARK and I·PARK2 in the Tuen Mun District.

5. The Chairman concluded by asking the Secretariat to convey Members' comments and enquiries to the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for response, as the EPD did not send any representatives to the meeting.

[Post-meeting note: The EPD emailed the above information to Members through the Secretariat on 20 January 2025.]

### V. Discussion Items

 (A) Proposal to Organise Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day (CICRC Paper No. 16/2024)
(Written Response from the Education Bureau)
(Written Response from the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service)

6. The first proposer of the paper provided the following additional information:

(a) After communicating with the Hong Kong Red Cross (HKRC) Blood Transfusion Service, he learnt that they were happy to help;

- (b) He had explained to the HKRC that he expected the blood donation day in the Tuen Mun District to be held annually at regular intervals, rather than as a single event; and
- (c) He suggested collaboration among various stakeholders in the district, including District Council members, school heads associations and the wider community, to further discuss arrangements such as the manner of implementation and event coordination details.

7. The Chairman suggested that the CICRC first discuss a date or month for "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" and then coordinate with the HKRC on specific arrangements. In this regard, he asked whether the Tuen Mun District Office (TMDO) might help by providing a venue for the event.

8. Ms Cannes CHAN of the TMDO suggested discussing event implementation details, such as time and venue, during the meeting. If the event was to be held at community halls, the time availability of the community hall must be considered. She also suggested holding the event at one of the schools in the district to make it easier to secure venue support. She welcomed feedback from Members who were also school principals.

- To address the growing demand for blood and inadequate publicity efforts, Members suggested making the "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" an annual event and hosting it at various locations to enhance civil awareness, promote a culture of giving blood in the district, and cultivate the habit of blood donation;
- (b) Members suggested utilising venues such as clinics, schools and community centres in the Tuen Mun District to hold a "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" on weekends or holidays. To ensure that blood donation events ran smoothly, venues must be easily accessible and hygienic;
- (c) Members suggested adjusting promotional strategies to increase public awareness of blood donation and publicity campaign coverage, such as providing more information about blood donation on public transportation to reach more members of the public during their daily commutes;

- (d) Members asked about blood donation criteria and processes, as well as the conditions for reserving mobile blood donation vehicles, including site requirements;
- (e) Members suggested that relevant departments provide District Council members with additional blood donation posters and promotional materials for distribution to residents in the district;
- (f) Members reported a lack of blood donor centres in the Tuen Mun District, with only one in Yuen Long in the Northwest New Territories. To encourage residents in the Tuen Mun District to participate in blood donation campaigns, Members hoped that the "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" would be held on a regular basis or that temporary blood donor centres would be set up;
- (g) To encourage more residents in the Tuen Mun District to regularly donate blood at the Yuen Long Donor Centre, Members suggested organising a "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" and publicising the location of the centre;
- (h) Members requested that "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" not coincide with World Blood Donor Day, which took place in June;
- Members suggested holding blood donation campaigns at different places at the same time on weekends to encourage more residents to donate blood;
- Members suggested that District Health Centres provide venues to encourage blood donation, which could enhance the utilisation of centre services;
- (k) Members suggested using the "Blood Donation Week" or "Blood Donation Month" models to host events at multiple venues simultaneously while incorporating civic education, health and hygiene education, and Tuen Mun elements;
- In order to make targeted improvements to publicity and educational campaigns, Members suggested understanding the views of teachers and students on blood donation, in addition to holding blood donation campaigns;

- (m) Members suggested giving blood donors little gifts and blood donation pins on "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" to encourage participation; and
- (n) Members asked if the Education Bureau (EDB) had promoted courses related to blood donation in order to encourage secondary school students to take part.

10. In response to Members' comments, Mr CHENG Hon-fai of the EDB gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (a) The EDB did not keep statistics on blood donations by schools in the Tuen Mun District from 2019 to 2023. However, schools could encourage students to develop healthy lifestyles and proper values by organising blood donation campaigns, which was also one of the learning objectives of school education;
- (b) Schools could teach students about blood donation through learning activities in lessons such as moral education and life education lessons;
- (c) Prior to the pandemic, some schools in the district had worked with the HKRC to organise blood donation campaigns in school halls. Parental consent forms were properly managed to ensure the smooth operation of the blood donation campaigns; and
- (d) To accommodate the demand for blood donation venues, the EDB might offer help in hiring venues by contacting government or aided schools in the district if necessary. In terms of venue hire dates, schools often performed major maintenance during the summer holiday, making it more difficult for them to hire out suitable premises for blood donation campaigns. Furthermore, it would be more difficult for schools to loan venues if "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day" and World Blood Donor Day were held on separate days to avoid competing with the same day in June, which was close to the dates of summer vacations or school examinations. If school facilities were required, blood donation campaigns might be organised in other months. The EDB would strive to coordinate and support schools' publicity and education work in the district.

11. In conclusion, the Chairman said that the CICRC welcomed the suggestion of organising a "Blood Donation Day" or "Blood Donation Week" in Tuen Mun, and suggested that the TMDO discuss with the TMDC Chairman to determine the exact date of the blood donation campaigns. The Chairman also asked the EDB and the TMDO to help secure venues such as community halls and schools. He suggested that if the HKRC had sufficient manpower, blood donation campaigns be conducted concurrently in Tuen Mun East, West and North areas. Furthermore, the Chairman suggested soliciting secondary school students' support through school heads associations, as well as having the CICRC take the lead in organising the campaigns and liaise with the HKRC to finalise the cooperation arrangements in order to encourage more Tuen Mun residents to donate blood while facilitating community participation.

[Post-meeting note: On 14 January 2025, the HKRC emailed Members information regarding the mobile blood donation service arrangements through the Secretariat, stating that they would continue to consult with representatives from the TMDO to follow up on the organisation of the "Tuen Mun Blood Donation Day".]

 (B) Proposal to Further Promote Patriotic Education and History Education by Using the Memorial Monument for Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group as Teaching Material (CICRC Paper No. 17/2024)
(Written Response from the Education Bureau)

12. The first proposer of the paper provided the following additional information:

- (a) He hoped that patriotic and history education courses would sufficiently educate primary, secondary and kindergarten students about the history of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (War of Resistance) in the captioned item; and
- (b) In order to facilitate the planning of student study tours, promote patriotic education and enhance students' understanding of the history of the War of Resistance, he asked if the EDB would incorporate the item into school-based curriculum and discuss it with principals of primary and secondary schools, as well as kindergartens in the Tuen Mun District.
- 13. In response to Members' comments, Mr CHENG Hon-fai of the EDB gave a consolidated reply as follows:
- (a) The teaching materials produced by the Bureau in the past had introduced to students the details of the history of the War of Resistance and the

contributions made by the Dongjiang Column during Japanese occupation of Hong Kong;

- (b) Relevant sections would actively consider compiling the stories of Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group into teaching materials;
- (c) To enhance students' understanding of the history of the War of Resistance, schools could organise visits to the Memorial Monument for Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group, building on the experience of schools in other districts that organised visits to the Cenotaph for Martyrs in Wu Kau Tang and the Hong Kong Sha Tau Kok Anti-war Memorial Hall; and
- (d) Regarding the course arrangements for Chinese History subjects at the junior and senior secondary levels, schools were encouraged to use afterschool time to extend learning by taking students to the Memorial Monument for Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group through life-wide learning activities.

- (a) In addition to the introductory signboard next to the memorial monument, Members suggested that the EDB collect stories and related written materials about Liu Chunxiang to create easy-to-understand promotional materials for distribution to students during visits to facilitate outdoor education by teachers;
- (b) Members suggested upgrading and installing road signs at Tuen Mun Ferry Pier and other urban areas to provide clear directions for publicity purposes;
- (c) Members suggested inviting descendants of Liu Chunxiang and anti-Japanese aggression organisations to help with elaboration during outdoor learning. This would allow students to engage in face-to-face exchanges with veterans of the War of Resistance or their descendants, enhancing their historical knowledge and emotional recognition;
- (d) Nothing that the Historical Research Programme of the Lingnan University (LU) had participated in the monument unveiling ceremony and

that the participating professors had conducted extensive research on the history of the War of Resistance, Members suggested inviting the LU to contribute relevant information to the compilation of teaching materials;

- (e) Members suggested that kindergartens organise parent-child visits to encourage joint participation by both parents and children;
- (f) Members asked if the EDB could provide professional guided tours for teachers to better help students understand history;
- (g) Members suggested organising field trips with professors and students from the two post-secondary institutions in the Tuen Mun District;
- (h) Members suggested connecting history learning to real-world settings through guided tours to help students understand the plans and strategies used in the operations to resist Japanese aggression;
- (i) Members asked about the EDB's specific measures to promote patriotic education;
- (j) Members suggested inviting students to engage in essay writing competitions or artistic creation after visits; and
- (k) Members suggested conducting a survey to assess students' understanding of anti-Japanese war heroes following visits and learning, and adjusting teaching direction accordingly.

15. The Chairman suggested that the Bureau actively encourage schools to participate in relevant activities, citing the Memorial Monument for Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group as the first monument in Hong Kong to honour anti-Japanese aggression martyrs on the List of Anti-Japanese Martyrs and Heroic Groups.

- 16. In response to Members' comments, Mr CHENG Hon-fai of the EDB gave a consolidated reply as follows:
- (a) While individual schools could arrange their own classroom learning activities for Chinese History subjects, students were required to learn about the history of the Japanese invasion of China and the War of Resistance, including facts about the Hong Kong War of Resistance, such

as the contributions made by the Dongjiang Column during Japanese occupation of Hong Kong;

- (b) To support the teaching of the history of the War of Resistance, the Bureau held teacher training courses and thematic seminars, as well as encouraged schools in the Tuen Mun District to arrange student visits to the memorial monument. As far as he knew, on exchange tours to the Mainland, individual schools had made arrangements for their students to visit the Dongjiang Column Memorial Hall;
- (c) The Bureau could share views with schools in the Tuen Mun District to make a more effective use of the memorial facilities of the War of Resistance in the district, such as incorporating relevant teaching resources into the teaching of the history of War of Resistance at the Secondary 3 level;
- (d) Members' suggestions, including the provision of designated docents, brochures, guided tours, collaboration with professional organisations to develop teaching materials and support for docent services, would be forwarded to the relevant sections for follow-up;
- (e) The Bureau encouraged schools to provide more activities outside the classroom to enhance national education through life-wide learning;
- (f) The Bureau suggested that schools in the district utilise the Memorial Monument for Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group and other facilities to organise activities;
- (g) To raise student awareness of the Dongjiang Column's contributions during Japanese occupation of Hong Kong and the stories of the Liu Chunxiang Anti-Japanese War Heroic Group, the Bureau would further discuss with secondary school principals in the district and provide relevant information and guidance on planning relevant events; and
- (h) The Bureau would line up relevant professional associations, experts and scholars to collaborate on the development of teaching materials to enhance the content of teaching materials about the history of the War of Resistance.

17. Ms Cannes CHAN of the TMDO said that road sign installation must be discussed with relevant departments for professional comments.

[Post-meeting note: Regarding the erection of road signs, the Secretariat referred the issue to the Transport Department and the works section for further consideration on 31 December 2024 and 3 January 2025 respectively.]

18. Members' second round of comments and enquiries were as follows:

- Members suggested that the EDB establish clear benchmarks to guide patriotic education in schools and encourage students to write reports to deepen their understanding;
- (b) Pointing out that patriotic education for the younger generation had been inadequate for the past 20 years or so, Members said that further guidelines and directions were needed to allow schools to recognise the importance of visiting historical sites; and
- (c) To increase incentives for participation, Members suggested that the Bureau include visits to the memorial monument in the terms and conditions of grant applications when developing district-based or schoolbased programmes.

19. Mr CHENG Hon-fai of the EDB noted the suggestions for the creation of specific guidelines and indicators, such as the number of visits organised by schools annually to the memorial monument and the requirement that schools use the appropriate grants to fund such visits, as well as the addition of specific provisions to the relevant grants to assist schools in better planning for memorial monument visits, such as the percentage or amount of the grants that must be allocated to the visits and the hiring of coaches. He said that these suggestions would be forwarded to the relevant sections for consideration.

20. The Chairman asked the Department to note Members' comments and assist in the follow-up.

 (C) Proposal to Enhance the Facilities and Services of Public Libraries in Tuen Mun District (CICRC Paper No. 18/2024)
(Written Response from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department) 21. The first proposer of the paper asked whether the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)'s decision not to consider extending the current opening hours of the Butterfly Estate Public Library was due to a lack of strong community demand or underutilisation.

22. Miss CHEUNG Yuet-ming of the LCSD said that extending opening hours required careful consideration of various factors, including resources and cost effectiveness. She pointed out that the Butterfly Estate Public Library was a small library that played a supplementary role to the structure of public library services in Hong Kong, and that all relevant factors were considered and weighed before determining the current opening hours for the library. On the other hand, the Department was actively developing information technology to improve library facilities and online library services, mitigating the impact of time and location constraints. Furthermore, the public libraries would meet the needs of residents through outreach services, providing more appropriate and diverse services.

- (a) Members asked about the necessary manpower, expenses and costeffectiveness of extending the opening hours;
- (b) Members asked about the usages of the three public libraries in Tuen Mun, including the number of visits per year and its trend, as well as the age distribution of users;
- (c) Members asked about the use of book lending services, including the number of loans, reading volume, and the use of computers;
- (d) Members conveyed residents' opinions on the Tai Hing Public Library, pointing to issues such as a stifling atmosphere and unclear book classification labels on shelves. Members suggested installing additional water dispensers in the library to better suit the needs of library users; and
- (e) Citing the difficulties students encountered in finding a seat in the Tuen Mun Public Library students' study room during examination periods, Members asked about the library's backup plan for busy times such as examination and quiz weeks to ensure adequate study space for students during examination periods.

24. In response to Members' comments, Miss CHEUNG Yuet-ming of the LCSD gave a consolidated reply as follows:

- (a) To allow the Butterfly Estate Public Library to open for an additional hour, extra manpower and other supporting resources were necessary to keep it open during its noon closing hours, which were 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Department would continue to provide value-added library services to the public in more economical ways in response to the needs of the residents;
- (b) Regarding the utilisation rates of the public libraries in the Tuen Mun District, the Department would provide a bi-monthly report to the District Facilities and Works Committee on the usage data for both static and mobile libraries in the district;
- (c) In response to the air-conditioning problem at the Tai Hing Public Library, further inspections had been arranged following public feedback, and the Librarian would also closely monitor the operation of the air-conditioning system;

[Post-meeting note: According to the information provided by the LCSD after the meeting, no anomalies were identified during the additional air-conditioning system check conducted in December 2024.]

- (d) The Tai Hing Public Library had been established for over 40 years. Additional water dispensers could not be installed at the moment due to architectural limitations and the necessity for modifications and connections to water pipes. The LCSD libraries would consider installing water dispensers when planning to build new libraries or renovate libraries in the future;
- (e) The library would actively follow up on the suggestion of affixing additional book classification labels to bookshelves; and

[Post-meeting note: According to the information provided by the LCSD after the meeting, the Tai Hing Public Library completed attaching additional book classification labels to adult bookshelves in December 2024.]

- (f) Application arrangements for students' study room admission cards were in place at the public libraries during examination season, which ran from 1 March to 7 May of each year, to meet the needs of students and self-study users.
- 25. Members' second round of comments and enquiries were as follows:
- Members said that according to Hong Kong's planning standards, every 200 000 people should have access to a district library. With a population of over 500 000 people, the Tuen Mun District should have three district libraries. Given that the Butterfly Estate Public Library was a small library, Members asked if there were enough libraries at the moment, as well as the Department's grading system and planning standards;
- (b) Members asked about the staff deployment at the Butterfly Estate Public Library during closing hours from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.;
- (c) In the light of the growing population in the Tuen Mun District, Members asked if the LCSD had any plans to build new libraries, including the possibility of providing one as part of the San Hing Road development project in Tuen Mun; and
- (d) Members suggested installing power outlets in each seat of the Tuen Mun Public Library students' study room during future renovations or other plans, citing the fact that today's students primarily used tablet computers and smart phones, and that not all seats had power outlets, causing inconvenience for their learning.

26. In response to Members' comments, Miss CHEUNG of the LCSD gave a consolidated reply as follows:

 (a) According to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG), the Tuen Mun District currently had one major library (Tuen Mun Public Library), one district library (Tai Hing Public Library), one small library (Butterfly Estate Public Library), and ten mobile libraries, serving around 540 000 residents. Overall, appropriate library facilities were provided for the Tuen Mun District in accordance with the guidelines for facilities provided in the HKPSG;

- (b) The Butterfly Estate Public Library had two types of supporting staff, namely Clerical grade staff who provided clerical and counter services, and Cultural Services Assistants who maintained library order and upkeep. Library staff were scheduled to work on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, with lunch between 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. during the library's closing hours. This staffing arrangement allowed the library to run efficiently. On the other side, the Tuen Mun Public Library required two shifts of staff to meet its operational needs during opening hours;
- (c) Regarding the provision of new libraries, the LCSD would continue to keep reviewing the population development and demands in the Tuen Mun District, and actively consider providing a new library as part of the San Hing Road development project; and
- (d) Patrons could use power outlets on levels other than the Tuen Mun Public Library students' study room, which had over 40 power outlets. The LCSD libraries had taken note of Members' opinions and would provide relevant facilities for enhanced library services following a review, subject to future resource availability.

27. The Chairman asked the LCSD to note Members' comments and assist in the follow-up.

#### VI. Item for Information

- (A) Half-yearly Report for Projects Implemented under Community Involvement Programme of Tuen Mun District Office for 2024/25 (April to September 2024) (CICRC Paper No. 19/2024)
- 28. Members noted the content of the captioned report.
- (B) Leisure and Cultural Services Department Report on Cultural Programmes Organised in Tuen Mun District and Applications for Venue Sponsorship at Tuen Mun Town Hall (CICRC Paper No. 20/2024)
- 29. Members noted the content of the report.
- (C) Leisure and Cultural Services Department Report on Extension Activities Organised by Public Libraries in Tuen Mun District

#### (CICRC Paper No. 21/2024)

- 30. Members noted the content of the report.
- (D) Leisure and Cultural Services Department Report on Recreation and Sports Programmes organised in Tuen Mun District (CICRC Paper No. 22/2024)
- 31. Members noted the content of the report.

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

32. There being no other business, the Chairman announced the meeting closed at 4:05 p.m. The next meeting would be held on 24 January 2025 (Friday) at 2:30 p.m.

Tuen Mun District Council Secretariat Date: December 2024 File Ref: HAD TMDC/13/25/CICRC/24