

Minutes of the 6th Meeting in 2018
of the Agriculture, Fisheries, Commerce, Industries, Tourism and
Recreation Affairs Committee of Tai Po District Council

Date: 9 November 2018 (Friday)
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:44 a.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”)

<u>Present</u>	<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Withdrawal</u>
<u>Chairman</u>		
Mr. YU Chi-wing, Ken	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Vice-chairman</u>		
Mr. LI Kwok-ying, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Members</u>		
Mr. AU Chun-wah	10:04 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHOW Yuen-wai	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Dr. LAU Chee-sing	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LAU Yung-wai	9:38 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. TAM Wing-fun, Eric, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. TANG Ming-tai, Patrick	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WOO Kin-man, Clement	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YAM Kai-bong, Francis	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YAM Man-chuen	9:39 a.m.	End of the meeting
<u>Co-opted Members</u>		
Mr. LAM B	Beginning of the meeting	10:43 a.m.
Mr. MO Ka-hung, Joseph	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting

Secretary

Ms. NG Wing-yan, Sophie Beginning of the meeting End of the meeting
Executive Officer (District Council) 2 /
Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) /
Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)

In attendance

Ms. CHAN Hau-man, Eunice, JP	District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Mr. CHAN Lap-wai	Senior Assistant Shipping Master / North / Marine Department (“MD”)
Ms. LUK Pui-man	Senior Health Inspector (Cleansing and Pest Control) 1 / Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (“FEHD”)
Mr. HUNG Sze-sik	Deputy District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) 1 / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Mr. NG Chi-keung, Barry	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD
Mr. LEUNG Cheuk-ming, Rico	Senior Manager (New Territories East) Promotion / LCSD
Ms. WOO On-ting, Amy	Agricultural Officer (Agricultural Extension) / Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (“AFCD”)
Ms. TSOI Wing-yan, Connie	Fisheries Officer (Aquaculture Management) 2 / AFCD
Mr. LEE Yu-sau, Terence	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. LEE Ching-ye, Patty	Senior Liaison Officer (1) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. LEUNG Lai-king, Heidi	Liaison Officer (3A) / TPDO / HAD

Absent

Mr. KWAN Wing-yip	Member
Mr. LO Chi-ping	Co-opted Member

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed participants to the Agriculture, Fisheries, Commerce, Industries, Tourism and Recreation Affairs Committee (“ATRC”) meeting and announced the following:

- (i) He welcomed Ms. CHAN Hau-man, Eunice, District Officer (Tai Po) of the HAD to attend this meeting.

- (ii) Mr. KWAN Wing-yip and Mr. LO Chi-ping were unable to attend this meeting due to other commitments. They had submitted their notice of absence to the Secretariat. Pursuant to Order 51(1) of the TPDC Standing Orders (“Standing Orders”), the District Council (“DC”) would only give consent to a DC Member’s application for absence from meeting filed on grounds of sickness, jury service, attendance at another meeting or activity on behalf of the DC, attendance at a Legislative Council (“LegCo”) or Executive Council meeting, confinement or paternity leave. Pursuant to the above requirements, their applications were not approved

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 5th meeting in 2018 of the ATRC on 14 September 2018
(TPDC Paper No. ATR 52/2018)

2. The Chairman reported that the Secretariat had not received any proposed amendments prior to the meeting. As no Members proposed any amendments at the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed.

II. Report on the assistance provided for the agricultural industry by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and matters concerning the mariculture industry in September and October 2018
(TPDC Paper No. ATR 53/2018)

(1) Assistance provided for the agricultural industry by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

3. Ms. WOO On-ting, Amy reported that between September and October 2018, the AFCD had provided a total of 160 free farm machinery lending services and organised five technical seminars for farmers. In response to Typhoon Mangkhut that ravaged Hong Kong on 16 September 2018, the department had activated the Emergency Relief Fund (“ERF”) and had received a total of 1 649 applications.

4. Mr. YAM Kai-bong, Francis said that Typhoon Mangkhut had caused damages on various fronts in Hong Kong and destroyed many facilities. And the farmers in Tai Po District might be faced with the afore-mentioned difficulties and had suffered losses, he would like to know what support the AFCD could offer the affected farmers apart from providing loans.

5. Ms. Amy WOO responded that apart from the low-interest agricultural loans Mr. Francis YAM had just mentioned, farmers could also apply for a grant of up to \$30,000 from the AFCD

under the Farm Improvement Scheme for purchasing farming tools and reconstructing or enhancing the farming facilities, etc.

6. Mr. TANG Ming-tai, Patrick expressed his concerns as regards the presence of wild pigs at the villages in the district. He had worked with the AFCD on many occasions, but the problem remained unresolved. Wild pigs would not only damage the crops, but also scavenge for food from rubbish bins and endanger the safety of workers collecting rubbish. He pointed out that as the AFCD had to pay due regard to animal rights and take it into consideration, it could only suggest informing the FEHD to cover the rubbish bins properly to avoid attracting wild pigs. In view of the escalating problem of wild pigs, he hoped that the AFCD could review the said practice in a vigilant manner, and suggested the department sterilise wild pigs in order to control their population, reduce the damage caused by wild pigs in the rural area and safeguard public safety.

7. Ms. Amy WOO responded that the department had been reviewing and studying the long-term management of wild pigs since 2017, and stopped the operation of “civilian hunting teams” in the same year. At this stage, the department was still carrying out a review and expected to announce the review outcome in early 2019. The department could then report to Members again.

8. Dr. LAU Chee-sing’s comments were as follows:

- (i) Residents in his constituency had also told him about the presence of wild pigs. About a year ago, there were wild pigs affecting the residents getting in and out of villages. The wild pigs would knock over rubbish bins, spilling the rubbish all over the place while scavenging for food at night. They would even drag some of the rubbish to the middle of the road and affected the drivers’ safety. After the residents had sought help from the AFCD, the AFCD tranquilised the wild pigs and sent them back to country parks. The FEHD also co-operated by setting up racks for rubbish bins, so as to prevent wild pigs from knocking over the rubbish bins. As wild pigs would not enter villages if they could not find any food, the AFCD had appealed to the residents not to feed them. However, the said approach would only make wild pigs go to another village for food. As a result, he was told by the residents of another village that about a dozen of wild pigs were looking for food in their village at night. Therefore, he informed the AFCD again, but the AFCD only asked the residents not to feed the wild pigs so that the wild pigs would know that there was no food and would leave on their own. Owing to the scavenging nature of wild pigs, the said approaches could not completely prevent the presence of wild pigs. As the wild pig issues in villages

had been deteriorating, thus affecting the personal safety of residents getting in and out of villages, he urged the AFCD to follow up on the matter.

- (ii) A resident complained to him about an application for agricultural structure. He indicated that the resident concerned had submitted an application to the AFCD, but the AFCD responded that the application would be forwarded to Tai Po District Lands Office for approval. He would like to know whether the application concerned had to secure the approval of the AFCD first.

9. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung said that wild pigs were highly reproductive and very common in villages. He believed that the Government had also noted the situation concerned, and opined that the Government had to address the issue of wild pigs threatening the personal safety of members of the public. He indicated that at the TPDC meeting several days ago, he informed the Planning Department of the issue of villagers setting up car parks with wire fences temporarily as the planning for car parks in villages had not been approved. As the refuse collection points in villages had also been fenced up, wild pigs could not look for food from the rubbish bins inside the refuse collection points. As a result, they had entered the villages looking for food, thus increasing the likelihood of villagers coming face-to-face with the wild pigs on the village roads. He pointed out that wild pigs with tusks might be fiercer than tigers, and those with piglets were even more dangerous. However, many members of the public did not know the danger and the situation was worrying. He pointed out that the population of wild pigs had been increasing, and suggested the AFCD liaise with organisations such as the rural committees, etc., to organise seminars for village representatives in the district to learn more about the department's handling of wild pigs.

10. Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex said that recently, village residents were highly concerned with the issue of wild pigs looking for food from rubbish heap, and he had also received pictures from residents as regards the presence of wild pigs in villages in the past couple of weeks. He said that the wild pig issue was more serious in the areas of Sai Kung North, Che Ha Village, Tseng Tau and Yung Shue O. Some residents were even attacked by wild pigs in Che Ha Village and the incident was also covered by newspapers. In the past two weeks, the AFCD had been carrying out the "tranquillise and release" operation on wild pigs in Che Ha Village with the participation of veterinarians. He hoped that the department could increase the number of the said operation.

11. Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen said that he and several other fellow DC Members of the rural areas had received many complaints about wild pigs. Signs of wild pigs were found in Wong Yi Au Village as well. He said that wild pigs were highly destructive and, as mentioned by Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, those with tusks might even attack humans. There used to be hunting teams shooting and killing wild pigs to control their population. However, no new measures were in place after hunting was prohibited. About ten years ago, the Society for the Prevention

of Cruelty to Animals (“SPCA”) worked with the TPDC to capture and sterilise stray dogs and cats, and release them back to the wild afterwards. It had successfully controlled the number of stray dogs and cats. He pointed out public views as regards hunting were polarised. Those living in the urban area found it cruel, while those living in villages agreed that it could help alleviate the problems brought by wild pigs quickly. He opined that the issue of wild pigs was not a trivial matter and urged the AFCD to take public opinions and Members’ comments into account.

12. Mr. Francis YAM said that the FEHD had put rubbish bins at the junction of Tung Leung Road and Tung Leung Lane, i.e., at the hillside next to Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital near China Holiness Church Living Spirit College. He had received complaints about the presence of wild pigs there. He indicated that while the pedestrian flow at that location was not high, there were still a lot of people travelling to and from the hospital as well as students walking by, while the wild pigs usually appeared at the early evening at about 6 p.m. He hoped that the AFCD could take the said situation into account and study ways to control the wild pigs’ population, so as to prevent wild pigs from extending their presence to the urban area and reduce the likelihood of members of the public being injured.

13. The Chairman said that there were wild monkeys in his constituency. He indicated that these monkeys were not afraid of humans and would wander in the area of Wan Tau Tong. He opined that wild animals were aggressive and would bring about potential risk of disease to members of the public. Therefore, he urged the AFCD to implement policies to tackle the issue concerned.

14. Ms. Amy WOO responded as follows:

- (i) She would forward Members’ comments above to the relevant divisions of the department.
- (ii) If farmers would like to build an agricultural structure on private farmland, they would have to submit an application to the Lands Department (“Lands D”) for approval. The rights to approve the applications vested with the Lands D. The AFCD would carry out a preliminary assessment upon receiving the farmers’ application to consider whether the application was necessary, and then recommend the application to the Lands D for approval. Therefore, whether the application would succeed or not depended on the Lands D instead of the AFCD.

15. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung suggested the AFCD’s division in charge of managing wild pigs attend the next ATRC meeting to discuss the issue of wild pigs.

16. The Chairman agreed with the suggestion above and indicated that many Members were concerned about the presence of wild animals in the district.

17. Ms. WOO said that she had limited knowledge about the topic concerned and therefore could not answer all the questions raised by Members. Had she known beforehand that Members would like to talk about the issue of wild pigs at this meeting, she would have asked the officers concerned to accompany her to the meeting.

18. Dr. LAU Chee-sing suggested adding the said agenda item for the next ATRC meeting.

19. The Chairman invited the AFCD officers concerned to attend the next ATRC meeting to answer the questions raised by Members on wild pigs and wild monkeys.

(2) Matters concerning the mariculture industry

20. Ms. TSOI Wing-yan, Connie introduced Appendix II to the captioned paper and reported as follows:

- (i) Between September and October 2018, the AFCD had inspected a total of 24 fish culture zones (“FCZs”) where 12 of which were located in Tai Po District.
- (ii) The AFCD did not receive any fish disease report from the FCZs in Tai Po District during the above period.
- (iii) The AFCD did not receive any red tide report in the waters of Tai Po District during the above period. However, since late October 2018, the department had discovered low concentration of *Karenia mikimotoi* at Yim Tin Tsai FCZ. It was suggested by the literature that such algae could produce toxin which was harmful to fish. The department immediately stepped up the monitoring at the FCZ concerned and communicated with the fishermen. So far, it did not notice any formation of red tide by the algae concerned, and there had been no report on abnormal fish activity either. The department informed the fish farmers of the FCZ concerned of the latest situation through text messages and would continue to closely monitor the situation.
- (iv) Since the programme was launched, there were a total of 118 accredited fish farms in Hong Kong, and 31 of them were located in Tai Po District. As at September 2018, the total sales volume of quality fish products (“QFPs”) sold by the Fish Marketing Organisation had exceeded 520 000 catties, and the sales volume of QFPs in September was approximately 9 000 catties.

21. The first round of comments and questions raised by Members was as follows:

- (i) Dr. LAU Chee-sing said that there were two to three fish farms in Tai Po District. He would like to know whether there were any fish farmers that had been affected by Typhoon Mangkhut and had applied for the ERF from the AFCD, and enquired whether the department had any information on the losses suffered by the fish farmers in the district due to Typhoon Mangkhut.
- (ii) Mr. CHAN Cho-leung said that there were not many fish farmers in Tai Po District. He enquired whether the AFCD had organised any seminars or taken any other measures to encourage fish farmers to develop fishery. He said that fish farmers might have suffered substantial losses and lost the motivation for fish farming because of red tides. He knew that some fish farmers had stopped fish farming after the previous red tide. Without the encouragement or motivation by the department, fish farmers might find it difficult to resume fish farming.

22. Ms. Connie TSOI responded as follows:

- (i) As regards the ERF, after Typhoon Mangkhut, the department had received 257 and 478 applications from fishermen and mariculturists respectively. The department was processing the applications concerned at the moment and would deliver the approved grant to the eligible applicants gradually.
- (ii) Every year, the department would organise training seminars or courses for fishermen, and visit fish farms on a regular basis to learn about their latest situation and provide them with technical support. The department had also set up the Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund, and fish farmers were welcome to put forward new ideas on the development of fish rafts to the department if there was any. The department hoped to foster the development of the aquaculture industry through the various initiatives above.

23. The second round of comments and questions raised by Members was as follows:

- (i) As regards the 200 or so applications from the fishermen, Mr. CHAN Cho-leung enquired the AFCD about the approximate amount of grant available for fishermen whose sampans had sunk after typhoon.
- (ii) Dr. LAU Chee-sing would like to know whether the application figure mentioned by Ms. TSOI above was for the entire territory or Tai Po District only.

24. Ms. Connie TSOI responded as follows:

- (i) The ERF was a grant under the Social Welfare Department (“SWD”) and its implementation guidelines was also available on the SWD website. The AFCD would carry out independent assessment for each application. After the sampan owners had applied for the ERF, the department would verify and validate their application information, and deliver the approved grant to the eligible persons in accordance with the implementation guidelines. Therefore, she could not tell the actual amount of grant for the case mentioned by Mr. CHAN Cho-leung.
- (ii) Among the afore-mentioned 257 applications made by fishermen, 127 were from Tai Po District.

III. Report on the quantity of refuse collected from Tolo Harbour in September and October 2018 by the Marine Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
(TPDC Paper Nos. ATR 54/2018 and ATR 55/2018)

25. Mr. CHAN Lap-wai reported that the MD contractors collected 27 tonnes and 22.1 tonnes of floating refuse at the inner waters of Tai Po District in September and October 2018 respectively.

26. Ms. LUK Pui-man reported that the FEHD collected 31.992 tonnes and 58.119 tonnes of coastal refuse in Tolo Harbour in September and October 2018 respectively.

27. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) Dr. LAU Chee-sing said that the captioned report showed an increase in the quantity of refuses, which might be related to Typhoon Mangkhut. He thanked the FEHD and its contractors for deploying workers to clean the coastal refuse immediately after typhoon.
- (ii) Mr. WOO Kin-man, Clement thanked the FEHD workers for sparing no efforts in carrying out cleaning work recently. He pointed out that a substantial amount of refuse had been accumulated at the shore near Yuen Chau Tsai Tai Wong Yeh Temple after the typhoon, and some of them had even been washed onto the roads by high tide. Even though most of the refuse had been cleaned, he knew that there was still some outside the railings and at the shore as of last week. He hoped that the FEHD would continue to follow up on the matter.
- (iii) Mr. CHAN Cho-leung thanked the FEHD and Ms. LUK in particular for their proactive action. He pointed out that the refuse on Yu On Street had been cleaned promptly after he had reflected the situation to the FEHD. However, there were still bits and pieces near Yu On Street Fish Market that made the environment dirty.

He said that the site was near people's homes and where the fishermen walked past during their work. He enquired whether the FEHD could somewhat cover the remaining refuse with green hoardings for the time being, and hoped that the FEHD could take follow-up action and improve the environment there.

28. Ms. LUK Pui-man responded as follows:

- (i) She thanked Members for noticing the departments' relief work after the passage of typhoon. The department would continue its review in pursuit of improving the environmental hygiene of the district.
- (ii) The department also noted that the pebble beach off the railings of Yuen Chau Tsai Park had an accumulation of coastal refuse that had been washed there. The department had been arranging for contractors to clean the refuse there. However, a substantial amount of refuse had accumulated there and the amount kept increasing. The department would continue to follow up on the cleaning work there.
- (iii) The department could inspect Yu On Street Fish Market with the DC Member concerned later and discuss the suitable improvement measures for following up on the refuse problem there.

29. The Chairman said that the FEHD proactively cleaned the refuse brought by Typhoon Mangkhut and the effort was commendable. He hoped that Ms. LUK could forward Members' appreciation to the FEHD, while Members could inform the FEHD if they found any room for improvement.

30. Mr. Rex LI indicated that after the passage of Typhoon Mangkhut, the area of Tap Mun Pier and the coastal area near Ko Lau Wan were covered with refuse. He thanked the Pollution Control Unit of the MD for quickly cleaning the coastal refuse there within a week.

IV. Report on the response to community activities held in September and October 2018 and the planned community activities to be held in November and December 2018 in Tai Po by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

(TPDC Paper No. ATR 56/2018)

31. Mr. HUNG Sze-sik introduced Appendix I to the captioned paper and reported as follows:

- (i) The LCSD organised 207 activities in September and October 2018 with a total of 7 314 participants.

- (ii) The LCSD planned to organise 154 activities in November and December 2018 with an estimated number of 23 913 participants. The activity categories included dancing, fitness training, Tai Chi, yoga, ball games, Go, various ball games competitions, orienteering, various types of carnivals (targeting at children, elderly people and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (“CSSA”) recipients, etc.), activities for the elderly and people with disabilities, hiking, horse riding, golf and horticulture activities (such as horticulture seminars and school garden programme, etc.)
- (iii) The 7th Hong Kong Games (“HKG”) would be held soon. This biannual event would begin on 28 April 2019 (Sunday) and end on 2 June 2019 (Sunday). There would be eight sports disciplines in this HKG, namely athletics, swimming, badminton, table tennis, tennis, basketball, volleyball and futsal. A Cheering Team Competition for the 18 Districts would also be held on 24 February 2019 (Sunday). The department had written to invite a total of 78 secondary schools, primary schools and kindergartens to participate in the competition. However, only Tai Po Baptist Public School had expressed its interest in participating in the competition on behalf of Tai Po District after the deadline. Tai Po Sports Association (“TPSA”) would like to sponsor \$50,000 to subsidise Tai Po District in organising the events for the 7th HKG, and the District Working Group (Tai Po District) of the HKG had endorsed to accept the said sponsorship.

32. Mr. LEUNG Cheuk-ming, Rico introduced Annexes A to E of Appendix II to the captioned paper and added that the relatively low usage rate of Black Box Theatre in September 2018 was because of the sudden cancellation of confirmed booking by two organisations. As the rental period involved covered up to 10 days, the overall usage rate of that month had been affected.

33. Mr. NG Chi-keung, Barry introduced Annexes 1 to 3 of Appendix III to the captioned paper. He reported that between September and October 2018, the LCSD had organised 69 promotional activities in Tai Po Public Library with 52 282 participants in total.

34. Mr. LAU Yung-wai's comments were as follows:

- (i) As regards the low usage rate of Black Box Theatre, he believed that the sudden cancellation of booking mentioned above had to do with Typhoon Mangkhut. He enquired the LCSD about the ways it would deal with the rental payment in the event of sudden cancellation of booking, and whether it would penalise the organisations concerned.

- (ii) As regards the “Fitness Carnival for Elderly” in Annex 2 of Appendix I to the captioned paper, its expected number of participants was 3 000 per section and the total number of sections was “2”. However, there was only one date and one location provided in the Annex. He would like to know the details of the aforementioned activity.
- (iii) He had earlier attended the “Football Fun Day” organised by the department at Tin Hau Temple Fung Shui Square and noticed that the promotional banner of “Winter Carnival” had been put up at the venue’s entrance. However, as the banner did not specify the date and location of the carnival, he for once was mistaken that he was attending the “Winter Carnival” that day. He learnt from Annex 2 of Appendix I to the captioned paper that the “Winter Carnival” would be held at Tai Po Waterfront Park instead of Tin Hau Temple Fung Shui Square. He would like to know more about the department’s publicity efforts for this kind of large-scale activity, and suggested that improvement was necessary.
- (iv) There was a misprint, probably due to clerical mistake, in the item of “Fitness Exercise Training Course” in the captioned paper, and he would like the department to be aware of it.

35. Mr. Rico LEUNG thanked Members for the comments and responded that the organisations that had suddenly cancelled the booking of Black Box Theatre had made the payment in full. Under these circumstances, the department would not refund them.

36. Mr. HUNG Sze-sik responded as follows:

- (i) As regards the publicity efforts for the “Fitness Carnival for Elderly”, the department would proactively promote similar types of activities to the elderly centres in the district as well as the participants of other elderly activities organised by the department. Based on experience, the elderly centres would arrange for coaches to send the elderly to the venue or ask them to go there on their own, and the activities also accepted on-site enrolment. There were numerous events in this large-scale activity, such as various game booths, lawn bowling and gateball games, etc., and the activities would be held at the Amphitheatre, bowling greens and gateball court of Tai Po Waterfront Park respectively, so as to provide a great diversity of games and physically interactive activities to attract the elderly.
- (ii) The department would put up banners at the recreational venues in the district to promote activities where necessary, and might also put up banners of the activities to be organised at the same venue or other venues for extensive promotion.

37. Mr. LAU Yung-wai suggested the LCSD specify the date and location of the activity on the promotional banner.

38. Mr. HUNG Sze-sik responded that he had noted Mr. LAU Yung-wai's comments above and would follow up with the department's division concerned to enhance the effectiveness of the activities' promotional efforts.

V. Revised allocation of DC Funds to the ATRC in 2018/19

(TPDC Paper No. ATR 57/2018)

39. The Chairman reported that at the meeting on 1 November 2018, the TPDC approved the revised funding allocation of \$9,298,576 to the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year. Details of the funding allocation had been set out in TPDC Paper No. ATR 57/2018.

40. Members did not have any comments or questions.

VI. Reports of working groups

41. Mr. TAM Wing-fun, Eric, Chairman of the Working Group on Promotion and Publicity, reported as follows:

- (i) The Working Group convened its third meeting in 2018 on 25 October 2018.
- (ii) As regards the activities for the promotion of local economy, the Working Group did not receive any official funding applications, but endorsed using the remaining funding allocation under the "Promotion of the Local Economy" to produce promotional materials.
- (iii) At the meeting, the Working Group endorsed applying for DC Funds of \$462,900 to produce reusable bags, hiking poles, first-aid kits, and eco-friendly food containers and cutlery to promote the TPDC. He invited Members to support the application concerned.
- (iv) The TPDC's large hanging calendars and medium-sized lai-see packets for 2019 had been produced and delivered as scheduled, and they were being distributed to the local residents free of charge to promote TPDC.
- (v) To make good use of the remaining promotional souvenirs produced by the Working Group in the past, the Secretariat had invited DC Members to obtain the items concerned, and had finished distributing the six items produced earlier on,

including reusable bags, lai-see packets and umbrellas, etc. It would again invite DC members to obtain the other remaining materials, which included a total of five such as manual rechargeable torches, stationery bags, stylus pens, mobile phone stands with card holder and fanny packs, in the same way.

42. Members did not have any comments or questions.

43. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, Chairman of the Working Group on Review of Guideline on Allocation of District Council Funds, reported as follows:

- (i) The Working Group convened its first meeting on 29 October 2018 to gather Members' comments on the existing Guideline on Allocation of District Council Funds ("Guideline"), while the Secretariat had also shared with Members the difficulties it had encountered while dealing with DC Funds applications in the past year.
- (ii) The Working Group had to discuss several proposed amendments at the next meeting again, and would put forward the proposed amendments endorsed by the Working Group at the next ATRC meeting, so as to allow the ATRC to submit the revised Guideline to the TPDC for endorsement at the meeting in March 2019.

44. Members did not have any comments or questions.

VII. Applications for DC funds

(TPDC Paper Nos. ATR 58/2018 and ATR 59/2018)

45. The Chairman welcomed Ms. LEUNG Lai-king, Heidi, Liaison Officer of the TPDO to the meeting for the discussion of this agenda item.

46. The Chairman reported that at the meeting on 1 November 2018, the TPDC approved to allocate a total of \$268,900 to the account of "Promotion and Publicity Activities" under the ATRC to cater for one funding application that was pending approval.

47. The Chairman indicated that if Members were satisfied that the 18 DC Funds applications for the activities in 2018/19 and the 15 funding applications for co-organising activities with Tai Po Chinese New Year Programmes Organising Committee ("Organising Committee") submitted to this ATRC meeting for vetting fell within the ambit of DC Funds, they could consider endorsing the applications.

48. The Chairman asked the Secretary to introduce the arrangement on interest declaration.

49. The Secretary reported as follows:

- (i) Pursuant to Orders 48(9) and 48(10) of the Standing Orders, a Member had to declare interests if he found that he had direct personal interests, pecuniary interests or other interests in an application for DC Funds under consideration, or had links with the benefitted party or the potential benefitted party.
- (ii) The Secretariat had compiled a declaration form (see Annex) based on the information collected. It had set out the links between Members and the hosting, partnering or co-hosting organisations concerned as indicated by means of different colours as to whether Members held a substantive or non-substantive position. She asked Members to check the information contained in the declaration form and make amendments or give supplementary information where necessary. In addition, apart from having links with the hosting, partnering or co-hosting organisations of activities, she asked Members to declare interests if they had any direct personal interests, pecuniary interests or other interests in the applications for DC Funds under consideration.

50. Members agreed with the information contained in the declaration form.

51. The Chairman asked the Secretary to introduce the arrangement on Members who had declared interests.

52. The Secretary reported that for Members who had declared their links with the hosting, partnering or co-hosting organisations of activities, if they held non-substantive positions in the organisation without involving any pecuniary interests or other interests, it was suggested that they could participate in the discussion and resolution in connection with the funding applications concerned. If they held substantive positions in the organisations concerned without involving any pecuniary interests or other interests, it was suggested that they were not required to withdraw from the meeting while the funding applications concerned were being examined, but had to remain silent during the discussion and abstain from resolution or voting in connection with the funding applications concerned. However, the Chairman could ask them to provide supplementary information where necessary.

53. Members agreed with the afore-mentioned approach.

54. The Chairman indicated that the TPDC Paper No. ATR 58/2018 and part of the revised appendix to TPDC Paper No. ATR 59/2018 had been placed on the meeting table for all Members. The content of the revision would be introduced later.

(1) **Three funding applications submitted by Tai Po Primary Schools Area Committee of Hong Kong Schools Sports Federation**

55. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$6,876 to the captioned organisation for organising “Tai Po District Inter-Primary Schools Basketball Competition”.
- (ii) allocate \$8,444 to the captioned organisation for organising “Tai Po District Inter-Primary Schools Athletics Competition”.
- (iii) allocate \$11,240 to the captioned organisation for organising “All Hong Kong Inter-Area Primary Schools Football Competition”.

56. As regards the “All Hong Kong Inter-Area Primary Schools Football Competition”, the Secretary added that in Appendix III to the captioned paper, the funding for the activity came from the applicant organisation instead of the fees charged, while the amount of DC Funds applied for remained unchanged.

57. The Chairman reported that the expenditure for the afore-mentioned activities would be listed under “District Schools Sports Activities” of the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year.

(2) **Three funding applications submitted by Tai Po District Arts Advancement Association**

58. The Chairman reminded that Mr. CHAN Cho-leung and Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, who were shown holding substantive positions in the hosting organisation in the declaration of interests form, had to remain silent during the discussion and abstain from resolution or voting. The ATRC, however, could ask them to provide supplementary information where necessary.

59. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$42,920 to the captioned organisation for organising the “38th Tai Po District Inter-Schools Dancing Competition Prize Presentation Ceremony cum Dancing Performances”, and to waive the funding ceiling for the expenditure items marked ❶, ❷ and ❸ in Appendix IV to the paper.
- (ii) allocate \$27,870 to the captioned organisation for organising “Relaxing Sound of Music 2019”, and to waive the funding ceiling for the expenditure items marked ❶ in Appendix V to the paper.

- (iii) allocate \$62,284 to the captioned organisation for organising “Tai Po District Primary and Secondary Schools Drama Competition 2018-2019”, and to waive the funding ceiling for the expenditure items marked ❶ and ❷ in Appendix VI to the paper.

60. The Chairman reported that the expenditure for the afore-mentioned activities would be listed under “District Arts and Cultural Activities” of the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year.

(3) One funding application submitted by the Working Group on Promotion and Publicity

61. The ATRC resolved to allocate \$462,900 to the Working Group on Promotion and Publicity to pay for the expenditure for the “production of reusable bags, hiking poles, first-aid kits, and eco-friendly food containers and cutlery for the TPDC”.

62. The Chairman reported that the expenditure for the afore-mentioned activity would be listed under “Promotion and Publicity Activities” of the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year.

(4) 11 funding applications submitted by local groups

63. Mr. Francis YAM’s comments and questions regarding “Fu Shin Celebrative Carnival” were as follows:

- (i) The afore-mentioned activity would be held on 16 February 2019, i.e., the 12th day of the first lunar month. Pursuant to Section 13 of the Guideline, if the nature of an activity was similar to that of the Chinese New Year Programme activities, it should be regarded as a Chinese New Year Programme activity as well. Even though the name of the afore-mentioned activity did not include wordings such as “Chinese New Year Celebration”, it was a carnival held during the period specified in Section 13 of the Guideline.
- (ii) He understood that the Organising Committee would promote the Chinese New Year Programme, such as producing promotional materials and uploading the activity information onto the website, etc. He would like to know whether the afore-mentioned activity should apply for funding as an activity co-organised with the Organising Committee. Otherwise, the applicant organisation would have to use its additional funding application quota for the afore-mentioned activity.

64. Citing Section 13(a) of the Guideline, the Secretary indicated that “from the Opening Ceremony (generally speaking, the 28th day of the twelfth lunar month) to the Closing Ceremony (generally speaking, the 15th day of the first lunar month) of the Chinese New Year Programme, the District Council would not accept any funding application submitted by local groups for carnival or integrated celebration activity that belonged to the same category as the Chinese New Year Programme to avoid repetition”. She also added as follows:

- (i) The afore-mentioned activity was not a Chinese New Year Programme activity co-organised with the Organising Committee. Also, the organisation concerned did not specify in the funding application submitted to the Secretariat that the nature or purpose of the activity was to celebrate Chinese New Year. Therefore, the activity’s theme did not cover Chinese New Year celebration.
- (ii) The funding application quota of a local group would be used if the group was the hosting organisation of the activity. As the local group was the hosting organisation of the Chinese New Year Programme activity while the Organising Committee was just the partnering organisation, the local group that had applied for hosting a Chinese New Year Programme activity also had to use its funding application quota when submitting the application.

65. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$20,820 to Tai Po District Federation of Women for organising the “Celebration of International Women’s Day cum All-inclusive Art Show 2019”.
- (ii) allocate \$68,750 to Tai Po Tsat Yeuk Village Office for co-organising the “11th Tai Po Tsat Yeuk Football Tournament” with Friends of Tai Po Tsat Yeuk Football Association.
- (iii) allocate \$4,570 to the Owners’ Corporation of Casa Marina II for organising “Poolside Christmas Gala 2018”.
- (iv) allocate \$9,090 to the Owners’ Corporation of Casa Marina I for organising “Christmas Carnival”.
- (v) allocate \$12,000 to Kwong Lai House Mutual Aid Committee for organising “Chinese Opera and Songs Entertainment @ Kwong Wang”.
- (vi) allocate \$17,400 to Shin Mei House Mutual Aid Committee for organising “Lau Fau Shan and Hong Kong Wetland Park Day Tour”.
- (vii) allocate \$17,420 to the Owners’ Corporation of Fu Shin Estate for organising “Fu Shin Celebrative Carnival”.

- (viii) allocate \$3,480 to Kwong Yee House Mutual Aid Committee for organising “Chinese New Year Good Luck Walk 2019”.
- (ix) allocate \$4,140 to the Resident Association of Yat Nga Court for co-organising “Chinese New Year Good Luck Walk 2019” with the Owners’ Corporation of Yat Nga Court and the Owners’ Corporation of Tak Nga Court.
- (x) allocate \$3,480 to Kwong Shung House Mutual Aid Committee for organising “Hong Kong Day Tour 2019”.
- (xi) allocate \$12,000 to Sui Cheung Wing Cantonese Opera for organising “the World of Cantonese Opera”.

66. The Chairman reported that the expenditure for the afore-mentioned activities would be listed under “Application for Other Activities” of the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year.

(5) **Amendments to two activities that had secured the funding approval of Tai Po District Council**

67. The Secretary reported the following amendments to two activities that had secured the TPDC’s funding approval:

- (i) The TPSA had written to change the activity dates of the “17th New Territories Inter-District Tennis Competition” from 2, 9, 16 and 23 September 2018 to 2, 9 and 23 September and 17 October 2018.
- (ii) Shap Sze Heung Youth Club had written to change the activity date of “Shap Sze Heung Christmas BBQ Gala” from 8 December 2018 to 16 December 2018.

68. Members noted the afore-mentioned amendments.

(6) **15 funding applications submitted by local groups and Tai Po Chinese New Year Programmes Organising Committee for co-organising Chinese New Year Celebration activities**

69. The Chairman said that the Organising Committee had set the proposed amount of funding earlier as regards the applications for organising Chinese New Year Programme activities in different areas. He invited Members to consider the funding amount concerned while vetting the funding applications set out in TPDC Paper No. ATR 59/2018.

70. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$50,000 to Wo Nga Wai Yin Association for co-organising “Tai Wo Po Nga Chinese New Year Celebration 2019” with the Organising Committee.
- (ii) allocate \$18,480 to the Owners’ Corporation of Ting Nga Court for co-organising “Ting Nga Chinese New Year Celebration 2019” with the Organising Committee.
- (iii) allocate \$42,280 to Kwong Ping House Mutual Aid Committee for co-organising “Kwong Wang Chinese New Year Celebration 2019” with the Organising Committee.

71. As regards “Kwong Wang Chinese New Year Celebration 2019”, the Secretary added that the unit price of “rental for foldable stool”, which was the 7th expenditure item in Appendix III to the paper, had been changed to \$12 and 150 stools had been rented, while the total amount of \$1,800 remained unchanged.

72. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$16,500 to the Owners’ Corporation of Ming Nga Court (Block A, B, C) for co-organising “Lion Dance Carnival to Celebrate Chinese New Year” with the Organising Committee.
- (ii) allocate \$33,958 to Wan Tau Tong Community Activity Association for co-organising “Wan Tau Tong Chinese New Year Fun Day 2019” with the Organising Committee.

73. The Chairman reminded that Mr. LI Kwok-ying, the Vice-chairman, who was shown holding a substantive position in the hosting organisation; and Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, who was shown holding a substantive position in the co-hosting organisation in the declaration of interests form, had to remain silent during the discussion and abstain from resolution or voting. The ATRC, however, could ask them to provide supplementary information where necessary.

74. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$50,000 to Tai Po Market Chinese New Year Celebration Organising Committee for co-organising “Tai Po Market and Tai Po Kau Area Chinese New Year Celebration Holistic Activities 2019” with the Organising Committee.
- (ii) allocate \$33,000 to the Owners’ Corporation of Tai Po Elegance Garden for co-organising “Tai Po Elegance Garden Chinese New Year Celebration” with the Organising Committee.

- (iii) allocate \$16,188 to the Owners' Corporation of Tai Po Plaza for co-organising "Joyful Celebration in the Year of Pig" with the Organising Committee.
- (iv) allocate \$34,000 to the Owners' Corporation of Evergreen Court for co-organising "Tai Woo and Old Market Chinese New Year Fun Day" with the Organising Committee.
- (v) allocate \$33,910 to Kau Lung Hang Village Office for co-organising "Kau Lung Hang, Yuen Leng, Tai Wo Chinese New Year Fun Fair" with the Organising Committee.
- (vi) allocate \$50,000 to Lam Tsuen Village Office for co-organising "Lam Tsuen Chinese New Year Fun Day" with the Organising Committee.
- (vii) allocate \$34,000 to Tai Hang Village Office for co-organising "Tai Hang Village Chinese New Year Celebration Fun Day 2019" with the Organising Committee.

75. As regards "Tai Hang Village Chinese New Year Celebration Fun Day 2019", the Secretary added that the "beverage and refreshments", which was the 15th expenditure item in Appendix XII to the paper, was to serve approximately 80 guests and volunteers.

76. The ATRC resolved to:

- (i) allocate \$24,000 to Sam Mun Tsai New Village Residents Association for co-organising "Sam Mun Tsai New Village Chinese New Year Carnival" with the Organising Committee.
- (ii) allocate \$24,000 to Ting Kok Village Office for co-organising "Chinese New Year Singing Fellowship Gala" with the Organising Committee.
- (iii) allocate \$24,000 to Luen Yick Fishermen Village Office for co-organising "Luen Yick Fishermen Village Chinese New Year Celebration Singing Gala" with the Organising Committee.

77. The Chairman reported that the expenditure for the afore-mentioned activities would be listed under "Chinese New Year Celebration Activities" of the ATRC in the 2018/19 financial year.

VIII. Schedule of meetings of the ATRC in 2019

(TPDC Paper No. ATR 60/2018)

78. The Chairman reported that the TPDC had endorsed the meeting timetable of the ATRC in 2019 at the meeting on 1 November 2018. He asked Members to note the afore-mentioned timetable.

IX. Any other business

(i) **Invitation to organisations from the 18 districts to perform at the 53rd Hong Kong Brands and Products Expo**

(TPDC Paper No. ATR 61/2018)

79. The Chairman said that the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong ("CMAHK") had sent an invitation letter to the TPDC to arrange for performance units to participate in the 18 District group performances at the 53rd Hong Kong Brands and Products Expo to be held at Victoria Park from 15 December 2018 to 7 January 2019, so as to strengthen the liaison between the CMAHK and the districts and display harmony among the 18 districts. The CMAHK would also provide a \$3,000 subsidy for the performing groups.

80. The Chairman said that for the past few years, the ATRC had accepted the invitation and Tai Po District Chinese Orchestra performed on behalf of Tai Po District. If Members did not have other opinions, he suggested accepting this year's invitation as well, and authorising Tai Po District Chinese Orchestra to perform on behalf of the district as in the past.

81. Members agreed with the Chairman's suggestion above.

(ii) **Meeting-cum-luncheon between Legislative Council Members and TPDC Members – proposed discussion items**

82. The Chairman said that the LegCo would hold a meeting-cum-luncheon with TPDC Members on 19 March 2019. According to the resolution at the TPDC meeting on 1 November 2018, the ATRC had to come up with one discussion item for the meeting. After a decision had been made at this meeting, information concerning the discussion item would be circulated to seek the approval from the ATRC Members. If all Members agreed, the discussion item and its information concerned would be submitted to the TPDC meeting on 3 January 2019 for the DC's approval.

83. The Chairman proposed “Promoting recreational fishing in Tai Po” as the discussion item of the ATRC.

84. Mr. CHAN Cho-leung supported the Chairman’s suggestion. He said that although the Government had been facing constraints in implementing recreational fishing under the current system, he opined that recreational fishing would not only benefit fishermen, but also be appealing to the general public. Therefore, he agreed that recreational fishing was worth promoting.

85. The ATRC approved to adopt the subject discussed above as the discussion item during the meeting with the LegCo Members.

X. Date of next meeting

86. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 11 January 2019 (Friday).

87. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.