

**Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the
Committees of the Tai Po District Council in 2016**

Date : 11 January 2016
Time : 9:30 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.
Venue : Conference Room, Tai Po District Council

Present:

		<u>Time of Arrival</u>	<u>Time of Withdrawal</u>
The HON CHEUNG Hok-ming, GBS, JP	Chairman	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, MH, JP	Vice-chairman	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. AU Chun-wah	Member	9:40 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Cho-leung	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHENG Chun-ping, JP	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHENG Chun-wo	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHOW Yuen-wai	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. KWAN Wing-yip	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Dr. LAU Chee-sing	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LAU Yung-wai	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Kwok-ying, BBS, MH, JP	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, MH, JP	Member	9:36 a.m.	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. TAM Wing-fun, Eric	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. TANG Ming-tai, Patrick	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WOO Kin-man, Clement	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YAM Kai-bong, Francis	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YAM Man-chuen	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YU Chi-wing, Ken	Member	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEUNG Siu-keung	Secretary, Tai Po District Council	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting

Inattendance:

Mr. SO Chek-leung, Bassanio, JP	District Officer (Tai Po), Home Affairs Department
Miss YAU Sze-wing, Swing	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po), Home Affairs Department
Mr. CHAN Hoi-ming, Peter	Senior Liaison Officer (1)/Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr. CHAN Hon-kwan, Harris	Senior Liaison Officer (2)/Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Miss LEE Ho-ye, Trazy	Executive Officer I (District Council)/Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department

I. Opening remarks by the Chairman of the Tai Po District Council

The Chairman welcomed Members to the first meeting of the five committees of the fifth-term Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”). He announced that he would chair the meeting to elect the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the five committees in accordance with section 35(2) of the Standing Orders of the Tai Po District Council (“Standing Orders”).

2. The Chairman pointed out that being a member of the District Facilities Management Committee, he was entitled to vote in the election of its chairman and vice-chairman, if an election was necessary. He remarked that he would request Mr. Bassanio SO, the District Officer (Tai Po) (DO(TP)), to perform the work of vote counting and validation for him so as to avoid any doubts over the fairness and justice of the said election. He said that the arrangement would be applicable to the elections of all TPDC Committees to ensure consistency.

II. Election of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the TPDC Committees

3. The Chairman announced that pursuant to the resolution passed by the TPDC at its meeting on 4 January 2016, the elections of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the five committees of the TPDC would be conducted in the same way the TPDC elected its chairman and vice-chairman (i.e. according to the “Procedures for Electing the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Tai Po District Council” issued by the Secretariat and the voting procedures set out in Schedule 5 to the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547). He then asked the Secretary to brief Members on the procedures for electing the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the TPDC Committees.

4. The Secretary briefed Members as follows:

(i) Procedures for electing the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the TPDC Committees

- According to Section 35(1) of the Standing Orders, the posts of chairman and vice-chairman of the TPDC Committees shall be held by TPDC Members.
- The nomination period of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the TPDC Committees had expired an hour before this meeting (i.e. at 8:30 a.m. this morning).
- If there was only one nominee for the chairman/vice-chairman of any of the TPDC Committees, the nominee shall be deemed elected.
- If an election was necessary, the chairman would be elected first followed by the vice-chairman. The Secretariat would hand out to each Member of each TPDC Committee attending this meeting a ballot paper and a plastic board with a chop bearing a “✓” attached to it. The front of the ballot paper bore the names of the candidates with valid nomination while its back bore the chop of the Tai Po District Office (TPDO).
- The elections would be conducted by secret ballots. The time limit for each round of voting was 15 minutes or until the last Member had voted, whichever was earlier.
- Any Member attending this meeting before the elections ended could vote. A Member who arrived at the conference room after the announcement by the Chairman of the TPDC the end of a round of election could not vote in that round of election. However, if another round of election was necessary, he could still vote.
- At the end of each round of elections, the DO (TP) would count the number of valid votes each candidate got in front of Members by calling out the name marked on each ballot paper. All Members present could ask for an examination of the ballot papers but not touch them. The decision of the DO (TP) on the validity of a ballot paper shall be final.
- The candidate who got the majority of votes (more than half of the valid votes, excluding the abstention votes) shall be elected the chairman/vice-chairman.
- If there were two candidates running for chairman/vice-chairman and they got the same number of votes, another round of election would be conducted. In case the two of them still got the same number of votes in the second round of election, the winner would be chosen by drawing lots.

(ii) Points to note when casting votes

- Ballot papers given out by the Secretariat were valid ballot papers.
- The Secretariat would give out ballot papers according to the list of members of the various TPDC Committees tabled at this meeting. Members should voice out if the ballot papers were given out wrongly.
- Members could mark their ballot papers in their seats or in the voting compartment in the conference room. They must use the chop bearing a “✓” provided by the Secretariat to indicate their choice. They should do so by affixing the chop in the box to the right of the name of the candidate of their choice. Only one candidate could be chosen. If more than one candidate was chosen or other means were used to mark the ballot paper, it would be rendered invalid. (Note: The Secretariat used a projector to show Members some samples of valid and invalid ballot papers.)
- If Members made any mistakes in marking the ballot paper, they must return it to the Secretary in exchange for a new one.
- After marking the ballot paper, Members shall fold it with the marked side inside. The chop of the TPDO should be seen on the back of the folded ballot paper.
- Before putting the ballot paper into the ballot box, Members should show to the staff of the Secretariat, who was watching over the ballot box, the chop of the TPDO on the back of the ballot paper for verification. After voting, they should return the plastic boards and chops to the staff.

(iii) Examples of counting votes

- The Secretariat had prepared a paper citing some examples of counting votes, which was tabled for Members’ reference.

5. Mr. KWAN Wing-yip asked whether the chop bearing a “✓” should be affixed in the centre of the box next to the name of the candidate chosen on the ballot paper to avoid the identity of the voter being found out.

6. The Secretary replied that as long as the chop was affixed in the prescribed box, the ballot paper would be considered valid. However, he suggested Members to affix the chop in the centre of the box.

7. Members raised no other questions or comments on the voting procedures.

8. The Chairman announced the commencement of the voting procedures and the conduct of the elections of the chairmen and vice-chairmen of the TPDC Committees in the following order:

- (1) Social Services Committee (SSC)
- (2) Environment, Housing and Works Committee (EHWC)
- (3) District Facilities Management Committee (DFMC)
- (4) Agriculture, Fisheries, Commerce, Industries, Tourism and Recreation Affairs Committee (ATRC)
- (5) Traffic and Transport Committee (TTC)

Election of the chairman of the SSC

9. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Mr. Francis YAM and Mr. Eric TAM (for the former, the nominator was Mr. KWAN Wing-yip while the seconders were Mr. YAM Man-chuen and Mr. LAU Yung-wai; for the latter, the nominator was Mr. CHAN Cho-leung while the seconders were Mr. Ken YU and Mr. Rex LI).

10. The Chairman announced as follows before Members started voting by secret ballots:

- Members must use the chop bearing a “✓” to mark the ballot paper by affixing it in the box to the right of the name of the candidate of their choice. They could not use other means to mark the ballot paper or else it would be rendered invalid;
- The time limit for this round of election would be 15 minutes or until the last Member in attendance had voted, whichever was earlier;
- If a Member had to leave the conference room before casting his vote, he had to return the unmarked ballot paper given out to him to the Secretary, who would then make a record of this. If he wanted to vote, he had to return to the conference room within the prescribed voting time slot to take back his ballot paper. He could neither take back his ballot paper nor vote if he returned to the conference room after the prescribed voting time slot.

11. The voting results were as follows:

Mr. Francis YAM	6 votes
<u>Mr. Eric TAM</u>	<u>11 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>17 votes</u>

12. The Chairman announced that Mr. Eric TAM was elected chairman of the SSC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the vice-chairman of the SSC

13. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Mr. LAU Yung-wai and Mr. LO Hiu-fung (for the former, the nominator was Mr. YAM Man-chuen while the seconders were Mr. Francis YAM and Mr. KWAN Wing-yip; for the latter, the nominator was Dr. LAU Chee-sing while the seconders were Mr. LI Kwok-ying and Mr. Clement WOO).

14. Members then voted by secret ballots and the voting results were as follows:

Mr. LAU Yung-wai	6 votes
<u>Mr. LO Hiu-fung</u>	<u>11 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>17 votes</u>

15. The Chairman announced that Mr. LO Hiu-fung was elected vice-chairman of the SSC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the chairman of the EHWC

16. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen and Mr. AU Chun-wah (for the former, the nominator was Ms. WONG Pik-kiu while the seconders were Mr. Patrick TANG and Mr. LI Kwok-ying; for the latter, the nominator was Mr. LAU Yung-wai while the seconders were Mr. KWAN Wing-yip and Mr. Francis YAM).

17. Members then voted by secret ballots and the voting results were as follows:

Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen	12 votes
<u>Mr. AU Chun-wah</u>	<u>6 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>18 votes</u>

18. The Chairman announced that Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen was elected chairman of the EHWC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the vice-chairman of the EHWC

19. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Mr. Rex LI and Mr. YAM Man-chuen (for the former, the nominator was Mr. Ken YU while the seconders were Mr. Patrick TANG and Mr. Eric TAM; for the latter, the nominator was Mr. LAU Yung-wai while the seconders were Mr. KWAN Wing-yip and Mr. Francis YAM).

20. Members then voted by secret ballots and the voting results were as follows:

Mr. Rex LI	12 votes
<u>Mr. YAM Man-chuen</u>	<u>6 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>18 votes</u>

21. The Chairman announced that Mr. Rex LI was elected vice-chairman of the EHWC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the chairman of the DFMC

22. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received only one valid nomination form by the end of the nomination period and the nominee was Mr. CHAN Cho-leung (the nominator was the Chairman himself while the seconders were Dr. LAU Chee-sing and Mr. Patrick TANG). He announced that as there was only one nominee, according to Article 5 in Schedule 5 to the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547), Mr. CHAN Cho-leung was elected chairman of the DFMC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the vice-chairman of the DFMC

23. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received only one valid nomination form by the end of the nomination period and the nominee was Mr. Patrick TANG (the nominator was Dr. LAU Chee-sing while the seconders were Mr. LI Kwok-ying and Mr. LO Hiu-fung). He announced that as there was only one nominee, according to Section 5 in Schedule 5 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547), Mr. Patrick TANG was elected vice-chairman of the DFMC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the chairman of the ATRC

24. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received only one valid nomination form by the end of the nomination period and the nominee was Mr. Ken YU (the nominator was Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen while the seconders were Mr. CHAN Cho-leung and Mr. Rex LI). He announced that as there was only one nominee, according to Section 5 in Schedule 5 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547), Mr. Ken YU was elected chairman of the ATRC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the vice-chairman of the ATRC

25. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received only one valid nomination form by the end of the nomination period and the nominee was Mr. LI Kwok-ying (the nominator was Mr. Patrick TANG while the seconders were Dr. LAU Chee-sing and Mr. Ken YU). He announced that as there was only one nominee, according to Section 5 in Schedule 5 of the District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547), Mr. LI Kwok-ying was elected vice-chairman of the ATRC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the chairman of the TTC

26. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Dr. LAU Chee-sing and Mr. KWAN Wing-yip (for the former, the nominator was Mr. LI Kwok-ying while the seconders were Mr. CHAN Cho-leung and Mr. Eric TAM; for the latter, the nominator was Mr. Francis YAM while the seconders were Mr. YAM Man-chuen and Mr. LAU Yung-wai).

27. Members then voted by secret ballots and the voting results were as follows:

Dr. LAU Chee-sing	12 votes
<u>Mr. KWAN Wing-yip</u>	<u>6 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>18 votes</u>

28. The Chairman announced that Dr. LAU Chee-sing was elected chairman of the TTC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

Election of the vice-chairman of the TTC

29. The Chairman announced that the Secretariat had received two valid nomination forms by the end of the nomination period and the nominees were Mr. Clement WOO and Mr. CHOW Yuen-wai (for the former, the nominator was Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen while the seconders were Mr. Rex LI and Mr. CHAN Cho-leung; for the latter, the nominator was Mr. KWAN Wing-yip while the seconders were Mr. Francis YAM and Mr. YAM Man-chuen).

30. Members then voted by secret ballots and the voting results were as follows:

Mr. Clement WOO	12 votes
<u>Mr. CHOW Yuen-wai</u>	<u>6 votes</u>
<u>Total:</u>	<u>18 votes</u>

31. The Chairman announced that Mr. Clement WOO was elected vice-chairman of the TTC, with a term of office until 31 December 2019.

III. Dates of next meeting of the TPDC Committees

32. The Secretariat announced the dates of next meeting of the TPDC Committees as follows:

SSC	9:30 a.m. on 13 January 2016
EHWC	2:30 p.m. on 13 January 2016
DFMC	9:30 a.m. on 14 January 2016
ATRC	9:30 a.m. on 15 January 2016
TTC	2:30 p.m. on 15 January 2016

33. The meeting ended at 10:40 a.m.