

**Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting in 2023 of the District Facilities Management  
and Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee  
of the Tai Po District Council**

Date: 14 July 2023 (Friday)

Time: 9:31 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Time of arrival</u></b>	<b><u>Time of withdrawal</u></b>
<b><u>Chairman</u></b>		
Mr. MO Ka-chun, Patrick	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<b><u>Members</u></b>		
Mr. HO Wai-lam	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LAU Yung-wai	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. TAM Yi-pui	9:52 a.m.	End of the meeting
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>		
Miss LO Tin-wai, Tiffany	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office / Home Affairs Department		
<b><u>In attendance</u></b>		
Mr. YEUNG Nicholas	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po), Home Affairs Department	
Mr. CHU Ka-chun, Gordon	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po), Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Mr. YAU Wan-po, Wallace	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Tai Po, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Miss WONG Mei-lin, Rita	Senior Executive Officer (Planning)23, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Ms. WONG Chit-hei, Heidi	Executive Officer (Planning) 23, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	
Ms. LAU Fung-yi, Connie	Manager (New Territories East) Marketing & District Activities, Leisure and Cultural Services Department	

Miss LEE Mei-ye, May	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) , Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr. TSUI Chun-sing	Administrative Assistant/Lands (Atg.) (District Lands Office, Tai Po), Lands Department
Mr. WONG Wilson	Architect (Works)10, Home Affairs Department
Miss CHAN Sui-king, Madeline	Senior Executive Officer (District Management), Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr. SO Wing-kai	Senior Inspector of Works, Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr. LAU Chun-ming	Inspector of Works (3), Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Miss YIP Lisa	Liaison Officer (7), Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr. Marcus LEUNG	Administrative Service Intern, Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Miss NG Ka-yue, Yui	Executive Officer (District Council)2, Tai Po District Office, Home Affairs Department
Mr. LING Kin-man, Kevin	Senior Architect / Associate Director, Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited
Mr. HAU Cho-wing	Senior Project Manager, WCWP International Limited
Ms. LI Fong-chi, Chilli	Architectural Assistant, WCWP International Limited

### **Absentees**

Mr. AU Chun-ho

Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, MH

### **Opening remarks**

The Chairman welcomed Members and departmental representatives to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the District Facilities Management and Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee (“DFMC”) in 2023, and indicated that the Secretariat had not received any notification of leave from Members so far.

#### **I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting in 2023 of the DFMC on 12 May 2023 (TPDC Paper No. DFM 17/2023)**

2. The Secretariat had not received any proposed amendments to the minutes prior to the meeting. The Chairman asked if Members would like to put forward any amendments.
3. Members did not put forward any proposed amendments, the captioned minutes were thus confirmed.

II. **Government Departments and Term Consultants — Position of the District Minor Works Funds and progress report on the approved District Minor Works Projects**  
(TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/2023)

4. The Chairman requested that Members note the position of the District Minor Works Funds and the progress report on the approved District Minor Works (“DMW”) Projects. He reported that the DFMC currently had an approved project estimates of \$71.94 million, of which around \$20 million was for 2023/24 and approximately \$51.94 million for 2024/25 and thereafter.

5. The Chairman asked representatives of the term consultant, Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”) to report the progress of projects, and welcomed Mr. LING Kin-man, Kevin, Senior Architect / Associate Director of Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited, Mr. HAU Cho-wing and Ms. LI Fong-chi, Chilli, Senior Project Manager and Architectural Assistant of WCWP International Limited respectively, as well as Mr. WONG Wilson, Architect (Works)<sup>10</sup> of Home Affairs Department (“HAD”) to attend the meeting for the discussion of this item.

(A) **DMW projects with the term consultant Ho & Partners Architects Engineers & Development Consultants Limited and WCWP International Limited as works agent**  
(Items (1) to (18) in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/2023)

6. Mr. Kevin LING reported the progress of project items as follows:

- (i) Project Item (1) “TP-DMW231 Provision of a Sitting-out Area in Care Village, Tai Po”: The project contractor was dealing with matters concerning the relocation of underground pipes.
- (ii) Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”: The foundation works had completed. The project contractor was preparing the ground works. Since water pipes and other underground pipes had been identified within the project area during the works, Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) was currently arranging for the relocation of the underground pipes. Completion of the project was expected to defer to August 2023.
- (iii) Project Item (3) “TP-DMW241 Provision of sitting-out area at San Wa On Lane, Tai Po Tau, Tai Po”: The project contract had commenced in June 2023 and the works at the construction site had already commenced on 28 June. LCSD, HAD (Works Section) and the term consultant had explained the application for temporary traffic and road closure measures to the follow-up Member of the constituency concerned, Mr. LAU Yung-wai, on-site respectively on 6 June and 7 July 2023.
- (iv) Project Item (4) “TP-DMW242 Provision of sitting-out area at San Uk Tsai, Lam

Tsuen, Tai Po”: The term consultant had submitted a revised tree replanting proposal to LCSD on 9 May 2023, which was approved on 29 May, now awaiting TPDLO’s approval of the site allocation application. Tender invitation was expected to take place in the third quarter in 2023.

- (v) Project Item (5) “TP-DMW255 Provision of covered walkway at Tai Po Road Yuen Chau Tsai Section near Kwong Fuk Estate, Tai Po”: The project contract had commenced on 21 June 2023 and the project was expected to complete in late March 2024.
- (vi) Project Item (6) “TP-DMW263 Provision of fitness equipment and elderly facilities near the morning trail at Wan Tau Tong, Tai Po”: The project contract had already commenced in July 2023.
- (vii) Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po”: Members opined that the location of this project item was unhygienic and cramped, coupled with the site’s being a gambling black spot, it was not suitable for the provision of elderly fitness equipment. LCSD had reviewed the project in this connection. The department had received the suggestion from members of the public requesting that a remote-controlled model car play area be provided. The suggestion concerned had been supported by Members at the DFMC meeting on 12 May 2023. Hence, the department would cancel this project item to provide elderly fitness equipment and set up a new project item to look into the feasibility of providing a play area for remote-controlled crawlers beneath the flyover behind Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court.
- (viii) Project Item (8) “TP-DMW266 Provision of rainshelter near Wan Tau Tong Estate at Fung Wan Road, Tai Po”: Works to construct the pillars and foundations of the rainshelter at the bus terminus were being carried out. The project was expected to complete in late September 2023.
- (ix) Project Item (9) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”: The term consultant had conducted tender invitation on 6 April 2023, which was closed on 12 May. HAD (Works Section) had submitted the tender analysis report to TPDO in mid-June 2023. The project contract was expected to commence in the third quarter in 2023.
- (x) Project Item (10) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”: The term consultant was working on the detailed design and seeking views from departments.
- (xi) Project Item (11) “TP-DMW296 Provision of a sitting-out area at Cheung Muk Tau Tsuen”: CLP Power Hong Kong Limited expected to relocate the underground cables between September and October 2023.
- (xii) Project Item (12) “TP-DMW309 Construction of Shelter at Chuen On Road near Tai

Po Hospital, Tai Po”: The term consultant had already obtained an excavation permit and would make arrangements for temporary traffic and road closure measures and so on. TPDO had arranged for the term consultant and HAD (Works Section) to explain on-site to the follow-up Member of the constituency concerned, Mr. HO Wai-lam, and Tai Po Hospital on 14 June 2023 the arrangements for temporary traffic and road closure, enclosure area of the project and so on.

- (xiii) Project Item (13) “TP-DMW322 Provision of Rainshelter at Tai Po Tai Wo Road near the lay-by outside Yata Department Store, Tai Po”: The term consultant had already obtained an excavation permit and would make arrangements for temporary traffic and road closure measures and so on. TPDO had arranged for the term consultant and HAD (Works Section) to explain on-site to the follow-up Member, Mr. AU Chun-ho, on 26 June 2023 the arrangements for enclosure area of the project and so on.

7. Mr. HAU Cho-wing reported the progress of project items as follows:

- (i) Project Item (14) “TP-DMW337 Construction of rainshelters at Tai Po Tau and Tai Wo (Serenity Villa, Serenity Park II and Tai Po Government offices)”: The term consultant and HAD (Works Section) had explained the arrangements for temporary traffic and road closure measures to Mr. LAU Yung-wai on-site respectively on 6 June and 7 July 2023. The term consultant was working on the detailed design, consulting relevant departments and preparing the tender invitation which was expected to take place in July 2023.
- (ii) Project Item (15) “TP-DMW338 Provision of Rain Shelter at Wan Tau Square, Tai Po”: The term consultant was working on the detailed design, consulting relevant departments and preparing the tender invitation which was expected to take place in July 2023.
- (iii) Project Item (16) “TP-DMW349 Provision of rainshelters at Pak Shek Kok, Tai Po (Chong San Road, Fo Yin Road and Fo Chun Road)”: The trial pit works had completed. The term consultant was seeking views from relevant departments and working on the feasibility study report and so on.
- (iv) Project Item (17) “TP-DMW351 Provision of rainshelter at Po Heung Street near Tai Po Community Centre, Tai Po”: The term consultant was working on the detailed design, consulting relevant departments and preparing the tender invitation which was expected to take place in July 2023.
- (v) Project Item (18) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Block 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”: Funding allocation for the preliminary stage works had already been approved by LCSD in June 2023. The term consultant was conducting the feasibility study.

8. Miss Lisa YIP indicated in connection with Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po” that LCSD would cancel this project to provide elderly fitness equipment, hence, this project item would be removed from the progress summary of projects.

9. The Chairman raised the following views and questions:

- (i) As regards Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po”, DFMC had at the last meeting agreed to cancel the project to provide elderly fitness equipment at the said site. Should the department intend to provide a remote-controlled model car play area instead, it should make use of its resources to carry out a feasibility study as quickly as practicable.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”, the works area was rather vast and the Highways Department (“HyD”) would carry out improvement works at the pedestrian crossing near the roundabout. He wished to know if the term consultant had communicated with the department in this connection, and to learn about the current progress of the consultation. In addition, some residents of nearby housing estates had reflected that the road surface outside the construction site was dirty, he asked the term consultant to pay attention to the cleaning up of the road surface upon completion of the project.

10. In connection with Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po”, Mr. LAU Yung-wai recommended that the department first submit a concrete proposal of the new project item to DFMC before removing this project item from the progress summary of projects, since doing so would not only respect the proponent of the original project item, but also ensure Members’ discussion on the basis of the old project item in the event that the new project item could not be launched.

11. The Chairman raised the following questions:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”, before relocating the underground pipes, old water pipes would need to be separated first while claiming of the ownership of such pipes was pending, he wished to know if the current progress of the project was satisfactory.
- (ii) As regards Project Item (4) “TP-DMW242 Provision of sitting-out area at San Uk Tsai, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”, after the term consultant had discussed with the village representative, it was hoped that some of the trees within the works area could be retained. He asked if the said matter would have any impact on the overall project

progress.

12. Mr. Wilson WONG responded that as far as Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po” was concerned, apart from a WSD water pipe of which the relocation was being arranged for, all other underground pipes had already been removed with the consent of villagers, other departments and public utility companies. Putting aside the influence of rainy weather, it was expected that the project could still complete in late August.

13. Mr. Kevin LING responded that as regards Project Item (4) “TP-DMW242 Provision of sitting-out area at San Uk Tsai, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”, the term consultant had conducted an on-site inspection with the follow-up Member, LCSD, Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”) and HAD on 23 February 2023 where the village representative had voiced his opinions on the arrangement of trees, hence, the term consultant had submitted a tree re-planting proposal to LCSD on 9 May and the proposal concerned was approved on 29 May.

14. Miss Lisa YIP responded that as far as Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po” was concerned, LCSD had repeatedly reported to DFMC that the said site was not suitable for the provision of elderly fitness equipment, and hence recommended that the project item be removed. In order not to waste the space and to respond to public request for the provision of a remote-controlled model car play area at the said site, the department had kept studying and following up on the feasibility of the aforesaid public request for months. Regarding Mr. LAU Yung-wai’s suggestion that the department should remove the original project item only after having a concrete proposal for the provision of a remote-controlled model car play area, she pointed out that it was not a matter of “one-for-one replacement” of project items. The said site was not suitable for the provision of elderly fitness equipment while the department was actively following up on the suggestion to provide a remote-controlled car play area, as such, the department wished to remove this project item from the progress summary of projects and to report the progress of the new project item at the next meeting.

15. Ms. WONG Mei-lin, Rita supplemented that as regards Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po”, the project number “TP-DMW264” was exclusive for the project item concerned. For clarity’s sake, it was recommended that the project item concerned be removed from the progress summary of projects. LCSD would continue looking into the provision of remote-controlled model car play area.

16. Mr. LAU Yung-wai enquired if keeping the project number concerned would have any impact on the department’s study of the new project item. If not, he opined that the department should remove the old item only after reporting the progress of the new item to DFMC.

17. The Chairman indicated that at the last meeting, most Members had agreed to remove the project item concerned. In addition to the space beneath the flyover mentioned above, the

department opined that adjacent space might also be included in the planning, hence, it would render the planning more flexible if the original project item was removed. He understood that Members were concerned about the progress of the project, so he asked LCSD to report at the next meeting.

18. Mr. LAU Yung-wai was of the view that the old project item should be removed only after the new one was finalised.

19. The Chairman asked Members to take a vote on the removal of Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po” from the progress summary of projects. Members agreed to vote by open ballot, and the voting result was as follows:

For:	0 vote	
Against:	1 vote	Mr. LAU Yung-wai
Abstain:	3 votes	Mr. HO Wai-lam, Mr. LI Yiu-ban and Mr. TAM Yi-pui
Present without voting:	1 vote	Mr. MO Ka-chun, Patrick, the Chairman
<u>Absent without voting:</u>	0 vote	
Total:	5 votes	

20. The Chairman announced that the resolution was not passed. Project Item (7) “TP-DMW264 Provision of elderly fitness equipment near Hing Wo House, Po Nga Court, Tai Po” would not be removed from the progress summary of projects.

21. Mr. LAU Yung-wai said that the department could remove the old project item from the progress summary of project once there was any progress with the new item, for instance, application for funding.

22. DFMC noted the above report.

**(B) DMW projects reported by TPDO**

(Items (19) to (35) in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/20235)

23. Mr. LAU Chun-ming reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (20) “TP-DMW184 Provision of rainshelters at Ma Po Mei, Chai Kek and San Tong, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po”: For the provision of rainshelter at San Tong, TPDO had already granted a temporary site allocation on 26 January 2023. The works were expected to commence on 26 July 2023 and complete in December.

- (ii) Project Item (22) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”: The Works Section would arrange for Mr. Patrick MO, the Chairman, Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, Mr. LAU Yung-wai and relevant persons to have an on-site inspection with the project contractor on 17 July 2023 to explain the construction arrangements.
- (iii) Project Item (24) “TP-DMW324 Improvement to access road at A Shan, Tai Po”: After the on-site inspection by the village head, the works area had to be expanded to about 30 metres long and 1.8 metres wide. The total project cost would increase from the initial amount of \$800,000 to \$900,000. The project had commenced on 14 June 2023 and was expected to complete in November.
- (iv) Project Item (33) “Provision of sitting-out area at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po”: The Works Section had completed trial pit works, land surveying and tree assessment works and so on. The findings indicated that no tree would need to be removed or relocated while no underground pipe facilities had been identified.
- (v) Progress of Project Items (19), (21), (23), (25) to (32) and (34) to (35) had already been enumerated in the progress summary of projects for Members’ reference.

24. The Chairman enquired in connection with Project Item (22) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po” if the department would carry out the works in phases, or transport the materials to the site in one go. He worried that the project might be delayed by the rainy weather.

25. Mr. LAU Chun-ming responded that the contractor was arranging the transportation of wood for the construction of stairs. Transportation of the material in phases was expected to commence in late July 2023 in light of the project progress.

26. The Chairman said that he would have an on-site inspection with Mr. LAM Yick-kuen and Mr. LAU Yung-wai on the following Monday, and invited Members who were interested to join them.

27. DFMC noted the above report.

**(C) DMW projects followed up by the Tai Po District Leisure Services Office of the LCSD (Items (36) to (41) in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/2023)**

28. Mr. YAU Wan-po, Wallace reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (36) “TP-DMW319 Improvement Works at Kwong Fuk Bridge

Garden”: The project was expected to complete in the fourth quarter in 2023.

- (ii) Project Item (37) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”: LCSD would arrange for the contractor to install the last set of children’s play equipment as quickly as practicable.
- (iii) Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”: LCSD was conducting a feasibility study with works departments and relevant sports associations.
- (iv) Progress of Project Items (38) to (40) had already been enumerated in the progress summary of projects for Members’ reference.

29. The Chairman enquired in connection with Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park” if the department had consulted any groups, and wished to know when updates would become available.

30. Mr. Wallace YAU responded that the department had already contacted relevant sports associations to exchange views on the design, and would continue to inspect the venue to study how the project could be implemented. The works division was applying for funding and it was hoped that the project could commence as soon as practicable.

31. Mr. LAU Yung-wai enquired when Project Item (37) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground” was expected to complete.

32. Mr. HO Wai-lam indicated that regarding Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, there had been media reports that skateboard grounds which the department had constructed in other districts had received complaints owing to the faulty specifications, and had to be demolished and rebuilt. As such, he asked the department to step up inspection and exchanges with other departments and groups with relevant experience to avoid the design ending up being faulty. Besides, there was a lack of skateboard grounds in Tai Po District, he hoped that the department would launch the project item as soon as possible.

33. The Chairman said he noted that the department was applying for funding in connection with Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, he wished to know how long it would take. In addition, he would like to have information about the sports associations the department had consulted.

34. Mr. Wallace YAU responded as follows:

- (i) As regards Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, the department was discussing the design and conducting the feasibility study with the works department of ArchSD while funding in connection with the project

costs was being applied for, and the project was expected to commence next year. The department would ensure that the venue would meet relevant sports specifications and obtain safety certification before opening it for public use. He would provide the names of relevant sports associations to Members after the meeting.

- (ii) As far as Project Item (37) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground” was concerned, the department anticipated that the last set of children’s play equipment would arrive in Hong Kong end of this year, installation of which would be arranged for as quickly as practicable.

35. Mr. TAM Yi-pui indicated that an artist had followed up on the rest facilities for staff of parks in Tai Po District earlier and found that neither air-conditioner nor fan was available. He was aware that the situation had already improved. Regarding Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, he wished to know if the department would have on-site staff and if yes, whether or not rest facilities for staff would be planned for in advance and fans would be installed for frontline staff to use.

36. The Chairman raised the following views and questions:

- (i) The matter which Mr. TAM Yi-pui had raised had little to do with this agenda item, hence, he recommended that it be raised under Any Other Business instead. Given the location of the extreme sports facility concerned being in Tai Po Waterfront Park, he believed that on-site staff would share the existing rest facilities.
- (ii) Delivery of components of children’s play equipment had been delayed owing to the epidemic earlier and replacement of damaged parts had been affected. As regards Project Item (37) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”, he enquired if the department had reserved sufficient delivery time for the components of children’s play equipment to avoid delaying the project.

37. Mr. Wallace YAU responded as follows:

- (i) The department would review the repair progress of children’s play equipment at venues under its management and most of the repairs could complete within one month, which was satisfactory. The department would urge the term contractor to pay attention to the delivery speed and schedule with the works department to complete installation as quickly as practicable.
- (ii) In connection with Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park”, the department supplemented that it would consult Hong Kong Federation of Roller Sports And Skateboarding.

38. The Chairman indicated that individual play facilities were more damage-prone, which would take longer to repair, he recommended that Members pay more attention to the wear and tear of facilities and reflect to the department.

39. DFMC noted the above report.

**(D) DMW projects followed up by the Cultural Services Branch of the LCSD**  
**(Items (42) to (44) in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/2023)**

40. Miss LEE Mei-ye, May reported that the progress of Project Item (42) “To set up a 24-hour self-service library station at Yuen Shin Park”, Project Item (43) “To set up a 24-hour self-service library station at Tai Po Old Market”, and Project Item (44) “To set up a 24-hour self-service library station at Tai Wo MTR station lobby” had already been enumerated in the progress summary of projects for Members’ reference, with no further updates for the time being. In addition, she thanked the Chairman and Mr. LAU Yung-wai for their views on Project Item 44) “To set up a 24-hour self-service library station at Tai Wo MTR station lobby” put forward at the Working Group on District Works and Facilities Management (“WGDWFM”) meeting. Apart from exploring new library systems, the department was looking into new service terminals at self-service library stations (“SSLs”) with the contractor to replace the existing ones, only upon completion of which the department would consider providing further SSLs. The department would maintain close liaison with relevant divisions and report at meetings as soon as practicable should there be any updates.

41. Mr. LAU Yung-wai enquired about the date when the department would hold a meeting in connection with SSLs recently. He said that even if no meeting was held recently, he asked the department to write to personnel of the unit responsible to relay Members’ request for the provision of 24-hour SSLs in the district.

42. Miss May LEE reported that she did not have relevant information, however, the department maintained close liaison with the unit responsible, and would check the progress with relevant units monthly. The department would report at the meeting with no delay should there be any updates.

43. DFMC noted the above report.

**(E) DMW projects followed up by the Planning Section of the LCSD**  
**(Item (45) in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 18/2023)**

44. Ms. Rita WONG reported in connection with Project Item (45) “TP-DMW374 Provision of Inclusive Playground near Tai Po Swimming Pool” that as far as relocation of bicycle parking

spaces was concerned, LCSD, HAD (Works Section), the term consultant, TPDO, Transport Department (“TD”), HyD and the project proponent Mr. LAU Yung-wai had conducted an on-site inspection on 6 June 2023. TPDLO and Civil Engineering and Development Department had replied earlier that no departmental management or repair and maintenance records of the bicycle parking spaces concerned were available. On the day of the on-site inspection, TPDLO had indicated that the existing bicycle parking spaces within the project area was located on unallocated government land, whereas TD had also stated that it was not responsible for the bicycle parking spaces concerned, but recommended that some of the bicycle parking spaces be relocated. In accordance with Mr. LAU Yung-wai’s suggestions regarding the location and number of bicycle parking spaces to be relocated, TD and HyD had reached a preliminary consensus with LCSD, and agreed to be responsible for the management, repair and maintenance of the bicycle parking spaces to be relocated in the future. Mr. LAU Yung-wai had indicated during the on-site inspection that he agreed to the aforesaid arrangement. The area of this project was approximately 860 square metres and the overall estimated project cost was \$14.8 million (including consultants’ costs, resident project supervisors’ fees at construction sites and geological prospecting survey fees etc.), of which about \$10.81 million was the project cost and \$1.9 million being preliminary stage works cost.

45. Mr. LAU Yung-wai thanked the departments for taking part in the on-site inspection in connection with Project Item (45) “TP-DMW374 Provision of Inclusive Playground near Tai Po Swimming Pool” and for having reached a consensus. He hoped that the project item concerned would complete as soon as practicable.

46. The Chairman indicated that progress of many project items had been affected by the arrangement of bicycle parking spaces while the usage rate of many bicycle parking spaces was not high. He recommended that the departments consider the necessity to provide bicycle parking spaces in future planning.

47. DFMC noted the above report.

**III. Leisure and Cultural Services Department — Report on the participation in community activities held between May and June 2023 in Tai Po and proposed community activities to be held in July and August 2023 in Tai Po**  
**(TPDC Paper No. DFM 19/2023)**

48. Mr. Wallace YAU reported in connection with Annex I to TPDC Paper No. DFM 19/2023 that LCSD had organised 146 recreational and sports activities in May and June 2023 in Tai Po District, and the number of participants was 2 960. 254 recreational and sports activities were proposed to be held in July and August 2023 in Tai Po District, and the expected number of participants was 5 340. Details of the above were contained in Appendices I and II respectively

for Members' reference.

49. Ms. LAU Fung-yi, Connie reported in connection with Annex II to TPDC Paper No. DFM 19/2023 as follows:

- (i) Attendance report of cultural programmes held and sponsored in Tai Po District in May and June 2023, and details of programmes proposed to be held in July and August 2023 were contained in Appendices I and II respectively for Members' reference.
- (ii) To provide even more comprehensive cultural facilities and services, Tai Po Civic Centre ("TPCC") had been closed since 1 November 2021 to carry out facility upgrading works, and was expected to provide service with a completely new look in the first quarter in 2025.

50. Miss May LEE reported in connection with Annex III to TPDC Paper No. DFM 19/2023 that Appendices 1 and 2 contained the situation of library extension activities of public libraries and the usage situation of mobile library service points in Tai Po District in May and June 2023 respectively, while Appendix 3 contained extension activities proposed to be held in July and August 2023 for Members' reference.

51. The Chairman enquired when the facility upgrading works at TPCC would complete and when TPCC would be open for public hiring of venue.

52. Ms. Connie LAU said that the facility upgrading works at TPCC was expected to complete in the second half of 2024 and TPCC would be open for public use again in the first quarter in 2025. The department would begin to accept applications six months before the date for which a venue would be hired, in other words, acceptance of applications was expected to begin in mid-2024.

53. The Chairman enquired if the progress of facility upgrading works at TPCC was satisfactory, and recommended that the department arrange for Members to inspect the works progress and voice their views.

54. Ms. Connie LAU indicated that the works progress at the current stage was satisfactory. With the permission of ArchSD, LCSD could arrange for a visit/inspection for Members who were interested.

55. The Chairman said that competition was keen for available venues in the district. He asked the department to notify Members as soon as practicable when venues at TPCC became available for booking.

56. DFMC noted the above report.

**IV. Report of working group - Working Group on District Works and Facilities Management**

57. The Chairman reported as follows:

- (i) The WGDWFM had held its third meeting in 2023 on 16 June 2023, and had followed up on the progress of approved DMW projects.
- (ii) Members had noted the report by TPDO on the management of community centre / community halls in March and April 2023, and spot-checked the income and expenditure statements of five of the fee-charging activities held in April 2023 in community centre / community halls. Members had also noted the airing of programmes on LED display panels at Tai Po Community Centre.
- (iii) Members had taken note of LCSD's report on the management of recreational and sports facilities in Tai Po District in March and April 2023.

58. DFMC noted the above report.

**V. Any other business**

**(A) Matters concerning rest facilities for staff of outsourced contractors at government venues**

59. Mr. TAM Yi-pui said that he was very concerned about labour rights and wished to know if LCSD would plan for rest facilities for staff in advance for the newly planned projects in the district (such as Football-cum-Rugby Pitch with Public Vehicle Park in Area 33, Tai Po) to address the root cause of the problem to avoid controversy or public opinion arising in the society.

60. Mr. CHU Ka-chun, Gordon responded that the consent and approval of Government Property Agency ("GPA") were required for facilities and ancillary facilities of government venues. From GPA's perspective, staff of outsourced contractors were not any staff of the Government, provision of ancillary package at work should be the responsibility of the outsourced contractors. LCSD recognised GPA's principle of optimising government resources, hence, it hoped to enhance the provision of suitable ancillary package to the staff of contractors through communication with contractors. As regards existing venues, the department would provide suitable rest facilities to the staff of outsourced contractors, such as modular housing etc. as far as practicable, subject to availability of space at the venues.

61. Mr. Wallace YAU responded as follows:

- (i) LCSD was very concerned about the occupational safety and health (“OSH”) of staff, and would provide them suitable rest facilities, be it government or outsourced contractor staff. Generally speaking, at venues where there were on-site staff, the department would provide suitable ancillary equipment (such as fans, lamps, microwave ovens, drinking fountains and so on) to staff of outsourced contractors. Last year, the department had already provided its staff with cooling equipment such as cool towels, portable hanging waist fans etc., and wide brim hats were provided to the staff where necessary this year. The department would set up a good working environment at venues even for staff of contractors in light of the work condition to accommodate their need as far as practicable.
- (ii) As regards Project Item (41) “Provision of Skating Facility at Tai Po Waterfront Park” in Annex 2 to TPDC Paper No. DFM 19/2023, since the facility concerned would be provided in Tai Po Waterfront Park, staff would share existing facilities in the park. For other newly planned venues (such as Football-cum-Rugby Pitch with Public Vehicle Park in Area 33, Tai Po), the department would strive to provide rest facilities for staff at venue offices where necessary.

62. Mr. HO Wai-lam said that after the incident had aroused controversy among the public, the department had responded accordingly and the situation had already improved. When staff of outsourced term contractors worked at venues of the department, staff of the department would think that the space and rights, for which they were eligible, were exploited. While the contractor was responsible for providing its staff rest facilities, if failing to do so, the department should request during the discussion of contract terms that the contractor should provide space for resting to its staff.

63. Mr. TAM Yi-pui indicated that improvement to the situation was already seen, and thanked the department for the effort made. He was pleased to hear that the department attached great importance to labour rights and provided new facilities to staff of outsourced contractors. He hoped that the department would urge outsourced term contractors to provide their staff suitable space and equipment, and wished to maintain liaison with the department regarding relevant subjects in the future.

64. Mr. LAU Yung-wai recommended that ways to supervise outsourced term contractors’ provision of supplies be enhanced, for instance, remuneration and supplies required to be provided to staff should be stipulated in the tender document, in particular temperature-related supplies, or the department would have the right to terminate the contract or impose corresponding punishment/penalty, so as to minimise outsourced term contractors’ exploitation of junior staff. Besides, he considered GPA’s practice unreasonable and not people-oriented, and recommended that DFMC write to GPA to express the hope that the newly planned project items could provide

suitable facilities to the staff, for instance, to provide storage rooms in toilets to store cleaning tools, so as to safeguard the rights of outsourced staff.

65. The Chairman said he believed that the department had already noted Members' opinion and would draw up terms to protect labour rights when inviting tenders in the future.

66. Mr. Gordon CHU supplemented as follows:

- (i) LCSD would do its best to communicate with GPA in the hope that government resources would be used to achieve maximum effectiveness, while the needs of frontline staff would also be taken care of at the same time.
- (ii) Staff of outsourced contractors in general had reservations about sharing rest facilities with government staff. Hence, the department would negotiate as far as practicable with the contractors to provide them modular housing, and would in the future arrange for provision of ancillary facilities for staff of outsourced contractor in advance prior to the opening of venues, which should be the simplest and most effective approach.

67. The Chairman indicated that as he had worked for the Government in the past, he had drafted tender invitation documents, which GPA had repeatedly asked him to revise. Hence, he understood LCSD's situation. He too supported the suggestion of writing to GPA in the hope that it would take into consideration actual operational needs to make forward-looking planning for newly built facilities in Tai Po District in the future, and to reserve various space for unexpected uses while relaxing the restrictions where appropriate. In addition, the department should also examine the feasibility of providing modular housing at existing venues to improve the working environment for staff.

68. Mr. LAU Yung-wai enquired if the department currently included the provision of modular housing among the terms and conditions when inviting tenders, and whether it would handle the cases in light of individual situations.

69. Mr. Gordon CHU responded that when drafting contracts, the department would consult its contract unit to conform with relevant legislation and to balance the rights of contractors and staff. As the manager of venues, the department would set up relevant ancillary facilities in advance at newly built venues in the future as far as practicable to provide suitable space for staff of contractors to rest.

70. Mr. LAU Yung-wai considered it not difficult to include the requirement to provide modular housing among the terms for contract renewal, and the Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work implemented by the Labour Department could be used as a basis. He hoped that the department personnel would relay to the head office the request to provide shades to frontline

outsourced staff.

71. Mr. Gordon CHU responded that in connection with external concern about rest area for contractors' staff, the department had already reviewed the rest space for staff of outsourced contractors at all venues in Tai Po District. The department would provide relevant ancillary facilities at suitable locations as far as practicable. He thanked Members for their suggestions and would carefully examine contract requirements for contractors in the future. In any case, the department would work together with the contractors to provide reasonable and comfortable space for frontline staff to rest as far as practicable.

72. The Chairman indicated that when inviting tenders, the Government would in general invite contractors on the Government's supplier list to provide quotations. After previous non-compliance records of contractors had been checked by departmental personnel, the cases would be handled by various divisions. Hence, there was little room for altering the contracts. He asked the department to note Members' opinions to fight for reasonable treatment for outsourced staff and improve the working environment.

73. Mr. LAU Yung-wai said that he considered it very reasonable for the Labour Department to implement the Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work, and hoped that LCSD personnel would communicate with the head office seriously to understand the situation.

74. Mr. HO Wai-lam was in favour of writing to GPA. In recent years, the Government had been very concerned about OSH and launched the Guidance Notes on Prevention of Heat Stroke at Work, but without corresponding support. He thanked LCSD for meticulously solving the problem, while other departments should also consider providing suitable rest space for staff.

75. The Chairman said that he would discuss the content of the letter with the Secretariat after the meeting, and hoped that the department would take into account actual operational needs when planning or reviewing existing venue manpower and arrangement in the future to offer more flexibility, such that the overall staff treatment would meet the requirements of labour legislation.

## **VI. Date of next meeting**

76. The next meeting would be held at 9:30 a.m. on 15 September 2023 (Friday).

77. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.