

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting in 2025
of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
of Tai Po District Council

Date: 8 May 2025 (Thursday)
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:48 a.m.
Venue: Conference Room, Tai Po District Council (“TPDC”)

Present

Time of Arrival

Time of Withdrawal

Chairman

Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
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Vice-chairman

Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne, BBS, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
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Members

Mr. LEE Man-kit	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YU Chi-wing, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEE Hon-cheung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WU Cheuk-him	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Tsz-kin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. CHAN Kin-kwan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Yung-wa	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Siu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MAK Shing-ho, Gary	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WAN Koon-kau	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WONG Wai-tung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, SBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. YIP Yan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHENG Sze-wang	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting

Secretary

Miss CHAN Yin-ning, Elaine Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
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In Attendance

Mr. KWOK Chun-chai, Johnny	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. FUNG Hon-wa, Harris	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Ms. CHAN Wing-yee, Pion	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Tai Po / LCSD
Ms. LAU Fung-yi, Connie	Manager (New Territories East) Marketing & District Activities and Senior Manager (New Territories East) Promotion (Atg.) / LCSD
Miss LEE Mei-yee, May	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD
Ms. CHAN Lai-tak	Senior School Development Officer (Tai Po) 3 / Education Bureau (“EDB”)
Ms. HUEN Lai-yan, Sara	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO / HAD
Ms. WONG Sze-man, Queenie	Senior Liaison Officer (2) / TPDO / HAD

Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed participants to the 3rd meeting in 2025 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (“CCRC”), and Mr. KWOK Chun-chai, Johnny, Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) (“ADO(TP)”) of TPDO, to be in attendance of the meeting.

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 2nd meeting in 2025 of the CCRC on 6 March 2025

2. The Chairman reported that as the Secretariat did not receive any proposed amendments prior to the meeting, and no Members on the floor had put forward any amendments, the captioned minutes therefore were confirmed.

II. To Po District Office – Half-yearly report on initiatives under the Community Involvement Programme (October 2024 to March 2025)

(TPDC Paper No. CCR 5/2025)

3. The representative of TPDO reported on the captioned paper.

4. CCRC noted the above report.

III. Leisure and Cultural Services Department – Report on the overview of community activities held between October 2024 and March 2025, participation in community activities

held between March and April 2025, and proposed community activities to be held in May and June 2025 in Tai Po District
(TPDC Paper No. CCR 6/2025)

5. The representative of LCSD reported on Appendix I to the captioned paper which summarised the recreation and sports activities organised by the department in Tai Po District in 2024-2025, details of which were set out at Annex I for Members' reference.
6. The representative of LCSD reported on Appendix II to the captioned paper which summarised the attendance report of cultural programmes held and sponsored by the department in Tai Po District between February and April 2025, as well as details of the proposed activities to be held in May and June 2025 were set out in Annexes I and II respectively for Members' reference. A full-year report on the community involvement programmes held by the department from October 2024 to March 2025 was at Annex III.
7. Members' comments and questions were as follows:
 - (i) They asked about the reopening of Tai Po Civic Centre ("TPCC").
 - (ii) They asked about the current booking situation of community groups or schools.
 - (iii) They asked whether the department would plan to organise opening events to inform the public of the facilities already opened in TPCC.
8. The representative of LCSD responded that the department would report on the latest arrangements for the reopening of TPCC under "Any other business" and responded to Members' enquiries as well.
9. Members requested the department to assist in reflecting views on the SmartPLAY system, hoping to simplify the page for searching event information to facilitate the public in submitting applications during the enrolment period.
10. The representative of LCSD said that Members' views would be reflected to the relevant sections.
11. The representative of LCSD reported in connection with Appendix III to the captioned paper that Annexes I and II set out the attendance at extension activities of Tai Po Public Library and the utilisation of libraries in March and April 2025 respectively, Annex III set out the extension activities proposed to be held in May and June 2025, and Annex IV set out the library extension activities organised in Tai Po District in 2024-2025 for Members' reference.

12. CCRC noted the above report.

IV. Education Bureau – Report on the education matters in Tai Po District

13. The representative of EDB said that the schools in the district had been in normal operation in general since the last meeting. As the bureau had yet to issue class approval letters to secondary schools, the number of secondary school places in Tai Po District for this year would be provided later.

14. A Member suggested that the problem of traffic congestion caused by vehicles of parents for picking up and dropping off their children in international schools in the district be rectified, and hoped that the bureau could co-ordinate with the Transport Department (“TD”) and Hong Kong Police Force to improve the situation.

15. The representative of EDB responded that Members’ views would be reflected to the responsible sections, suggesting that schools remind parents and hoping that Members would assist in giving opinions to the TD and the Police.

16. The Chairman suggested that schools divert after school hours for students to reduce the pressure on the roads. He also suggested that Members give their views to the relevant departments through the Traffic and Transport Committee.

17. CCRC noted the above report.

V. Any other business

18. The Chairman said that the TPDO planned to collect, through schools, the drawings of primary and secondary school students in the district for use in the design of the 2026 calendar, and hoped to set up a calendar design assessment panel to assist in the selection of suitable entries for use as calendar illustrations. Interested Members were welcome to join the panel and the Secretariat would announce the details to Members in due course.

19. Members raised other items as follows:

- (i) They asked whether it was possible to use other resources to supply heated water to the Jacuzzi at Tung Cheong Street Swimming Pool (“TCSSP”).
- (ii) They would like to follow up on the environmental hygiene problems of Kwong Fuk Road and Wan Tau Kok Lane caused by egret droppings.

- (iii) They would like to learn about the enrolment situation of kindergartens in the district and their difficulties in operation.
- (iv) They suggested erecting a walkway cover at Kwong Fuk Road to resolve the problem of egret droppings, but consideration had to be given to how to clean the cover.

20. The representative of EDB responded that she had not received any news of kindergartens ceasing operation for the time being and could talk with Members after the meeting to find out the situation.

21. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) They suggested inviting environmentalists to discuss the issue of egrets with a view to identifying suitable ways to solve the problem of egret droppings.
- (ii) It was suggested that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD") be consulted on ways to relocate the egrets.
- (iii) They suggested organising activities to invite the public to give their views on solving the problem of egret droppings. Soft promotion could also be conducted to enable public understanding of the difficulties involved.
- (iv) It was suggested that tree branches without nests be inspected and pruned by professionals so that egret droppings could be dropped on the soil as a temporary relief. It was also suggested that the World Wide Fund for Nature be consulted on the pruning of tree branches or the construction of birdhouses.
- (v) As the AFCD had knowledge about the habits of egrets, it was suggested that studies on the construction of birdhouses be conducted to guide the relocation of egrets.
- (vi) It was suggested that the District Lands Office, Tai Po ("TPDLO") and AFCD assist in clearing the Pueraria and Mikania from the trees on nearby slopes to provide a suitable environment as the habitat for egrets.

22. The Chairman said that pruning of tree branches by the TPDLO would be the quickest solution. The supply of heated water at TCSSP and the provision of walkway cover along the pavement of Kwong Fuk Road would be referred to the District Facilities and Works Committee for discussion at its next meeting.

23. The Chairman reminded Members that the Marine Safety (Alcohol and Drugs) Ordinance had taken effect on 1 January this year, and hoped that Members would help remind the public to comply with the relevant legislation when participating in dragon boat racing or related water

activities.

24. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) They suggested that the LCSD post prominent notices at water sports centres to remind the public of the above Ordinance.
- (ii) They asked about the major venues where the LCSD would set up decorative lighting for the Mid-Autumn Festival this year in the New Territories East.
- (iii) It was suggested that publicity leaflets could be obtained from the Police for Members to distribute them at their ward offices or street counters.

25. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) The department would reflect this to the Aquatic Venues Section to step up publicity and remind venue users of the relevant legislation.
- (ii) Members would be informed of information on the major venues for the Mid-Autumn Festival in due course.

26. The representative of LCSD reported on the reopening arrangements of TPCC as follows:

- (i) The TPCC would be reopened in phases starting from the second quarter of 2025, with the phase one reopening commencing from 23 June, including outdoor areas, a foyer, a box office and two functions rooms which could accommodate a maximum of 45 and 65 persons respectively.
- (ii) The department would accept booking applications for the two function rooms for the time slot of July to December 2025 from March 2025 onwards, and would accept booking applications for hiring the function rooms for the period from 23 to 30 June 2025 from 1 April to mid-May 2025.
- (iii) The TPCC was expected to be fully reopened in the fourth quarter of 2025 (estimated to be in end-December), including the Auditorium and Black Box Theatre ("BBT") with a seating capacity of about 650 and 130 seats respectively. Currently, it was expected that the public could apply for hiring in the third quarter of 2025, but was still subject to confirmation by the Architectural Services Department ("ArchSD") on the progress of the phase two of the works.
- (iv) The department was in the course of arranging with the ArchSD a site visit and briefing for DO(TP), TPDC Members and the relevant committee members in early June 2025, which would include the first viewing of the Auditorium and BBT subject to confirmation of safety by the ArchSD.

- (v) Upon formal completion and testing of all the facilities, the department would separately invite district groups as well as schools and performing arts groups in the district to attend the relevant briefings and visits to the venue facilities.

27. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) They asked about the booking fees for the Auditorium and BBT.
- (ii) They suggested that kindergartens as well as primary and secondary schools in the district be given priority in hiring the venues.
- (iii) It was asked whether an opening ceremony would be held on 23 June.
- (iv) It was asked whether the outdoor areas of TPCC would be open for public use prior to 23 June.
- (v) It was asked how the department would inform the public of the reopening and hiring arrangements of TPCC.

28. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) The department was examining the detailed fee-charging arrangements for the hiring of facilities. Once the details were finalised, the department would publish details of the booking application on the TPCC website, issue letters to inform schools and local groups in Tai Po District, and disseminate information on hiring of facilities to TPDC Members and the relevant committee members through the TPDO.
- (ii) The department understood that there was a strong demand from schools in the district for hiring of the Auditorium, but applications from organisations for hiring of the venue had to be considered on the basis of the prescribed booking arrangements and conditions of hire, as well as the factors to be taken into account.
- (iii) The department would invite schools in the district to attend relevant briefings and visit the venue facilities, as well as reflect Members' views in this regard.
- (iv) The phase one of TPCC would be officially opened on 23 June, by then external water-filled barriers would be removed to allow the public to enjoy the outdoor areas and use the facilities on the ground floor of TPCC during opening hours.
- (v) During the full reopening in the phase two, the department planned to hold an opening ceremony cum fun day in the Auditorium and BBT in late 2025 or early 2026.
- (vi) To celebrate the reopening of TPCC, the department would arrange a series of activities and performances for public participation and enjoyment. The exact

date was subject to confirmation by the ArchSD on the completion date of phase two, by then TPDC Members and relevant committee members would be invited to participate in the opening activities.

VI. Date of next meeting

29. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 10 July 2025 (Thursday).

30. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
May 2025