

Minutes of the 5th Meeting in 2024
of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
of Tai Po District Council

Date: 5 September 2024 (Thursday)
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:23 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. CHAN Cho-leung, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Vice-chairman</u>		
Ms. LEE Sai-yin, Jeanne, BBS, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Members</u>		
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
<u>Secretary</u>		
Miss CHAN Yin-ning, Elaine	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)		

In Attendance

Mr. FUNG Hon-wa, Harris	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Mr. YAU Wan-po, Wallace	Deputy District Leisure Manager (District Support) Tai Po / LCSD
Ms. OR Hiu-man, Stella	Senior Manager (New Territories East) Promotion / LCSD
Ms. LAU Fung-yi, Connie	Manager (New Territories East) Marketing & District Activities / 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. SING Hoi-shan, Wendy	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 5th meeting in 2024 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (“CCRC”), as well as Messrs. CHENG Sze-wang and YIP Yan, the co-opted members, to attend future CCRC meetings.

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 4th meeting in 2024 of the CCRC on 4 July 2024

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. Proposed construction of an additional water sports centre or water sports facilities at Tai Po Waterfront Park

(TPDC Paper No. CCR 7/2024)

3. A Member went through the captioned paper.

4. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) It was suggested that the department provide an additional water sports centre at Tai Po Waterfront Park (“TPWP”) for holding activities such as kayaking and rowing for participation by the youth in the district.
- (ii) Compared with Sai Kung District, Tai Po District had more space and resources for developing water sports. It was believed that the captioned proposal could help boost the local economy.
- (iii) It was suggested that the department invite the relevant groups to organise water sports activities at TPWP and provide the relevant equipment and facilities.
- (iv) Dragon boat races were held in Tai Po every year. If a water sports centre and a pier were to be constructed, they could be used as the temporary boarding/alighting point.
- (v) It was suggested that the department consider organising more family water sports activities so that Tai Po District would be full of tourism features and attract tourists, thereby further boosting the local economy.

5. The Chairman thanked Members for their views, and suggested that their views be relayed to the departments concerned for information and consideration.

6. The Chairman said that only representatives of the LCSD were present at the meeting who could not give an effective response to the matters, which might involve the comments of departments such as the Marine Department (“MD”), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and Marine Police (“MP”). The Secretariat could relay the views to the departments concerned for information and consideration.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had conveyed Members’ views to the MD, MP, Civil Engineering and Development Department (“CEDD”) and District Lands Office.

The MD stated that the department was mainly responsible for matters relating to vessels and their safe navigation within Hong Kong waters, and the planning of the water sports centre was not within its purview. If the captioned planning was to set the scope of different water sports or if there were other concrete suggestions, the department would be pleased to provide advice on safety of maritime navigation.

The Marine North Division stated that although there was no regular ferry service at Tai Po Waterfront Pier, it was located near the estuary of Lam Tsuen River and there was a lot of marine traffic in that area. As such, it was recommended that a designated area be established if circumstances permitted so as to restrict and segregate water sports activities in the waters near Tai Po Waterfront Pier to prevent accidents and provide extra safety to all related parties.)

7. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) The project of relocating the shoreline for the construction of a jetty might involve the CEDD.
- (ii) It was suggested that the matter be further followed up at the CCRC meetings.
- (iii) It was suggested that Members incorporate the proposed construction of a water sports centre in the proposal on the Policy Address.
- (iv) It was considered that there was a consensus among Members to support the construction of a water sports centre at TPWP so as to promote tourism in the areas of Tolo Harbour and Sam Mun Tsai. Members might consider expressing their views via the Legislative Council and Policy Address.
- (v) It was suggested that the departments concerned consider providing additional venues for public yacht clubs and unmanned aircraft training, and conducting research on marine and air pollution at the proposed water sports centre.

8. The Chairman hoped that Members would give their views on the Policy Address, and asked the departments concerned to take note of their views.

III. Discussion on the design of Tai Po District Office and TPDC monthly calendar 2025

9. The Chairman said that the TPDO was planning to print the 2025 monthly calendar ("Calendar") for distribution by District Council ("DC") Members, and the names and logos of TPDO and TPDC would be printed thereon. He asked the Secretary to supplement on this.

10. The Secretary said that the TPDO produced monthly calendar annually for public distribution. As there was a change of DC term last year, the 2024 monthly calendar could only be printed in the name of TPDO, while the Calendar could be printed in the names of TPDO and TPDC. The drawings of primary students in the district were used as the design of 2024 calendar, while the tourist attractions and famous local specialties of Tai Po District drawn by secondary students in the district were taken as the design theme of 2023 calendar. It was hoped that Members would give advice on the design of the Calendar.

11. The Chairman said that as time was tight, he suggested that the Secretariat reflect Members' views to the TPDO, which would report the design options to Members after consolidating the comments.

12. The Secretary said that the graphic design had to be confirmed by November 2024. As such, the final design could be confirmed at the next meeting, and the design direction would be

determined at this meeting to facilitate preparation by the Secretariat.

13. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) It was suggested that useful telephone numbers of government departments in Tai Po District, such as TPDO, Tai Po Police Station and Water Supplies Department, etc., be printed on the back of the Calendar for the public to call for enquiries or assistance.
- (ii) It was suggested that the dates of Meet-the-Public Scheme be displayed on the corresponding date compartments for publicity purpose.
- (iii) It was suggested that the telephone numbers of DC Members' ward offices be printed on the Calendar.
- (iv) It was suggested that the characteristics of Tai Po District be used as the theme of the Calendar.
- (v) The previous desktop calendar had fancy design. It was suggested that simple and plain design be adopted.
- (vi) It was suggested that reference be made to the wall calendars and calendar cards on sale to incorporate tips for taking leave.
- (vii) It was suggested that the date of the National Security Education Day (15 April) be displayed on the Calendar for publicity purpose.
- (viii) It was suggested that the dates on which activities with local characteristics were held in Tai Po District be displayed on the Calendar.

14. The Chairman hoped that the representative of TPDO would take note of and take into account Members' views.

IV. Leisure and Cultural Services Department — Report on the participation in community activities held between July and August 2024 in Tai Po and proposed community activities to be held in September and October 2024 in Tai Po
(TPDC Paper No. CCR 8/2024)

15. The representative of LCSD reported on Appendix I to the captioned paper. The attendance report of cultural programmes held and sponsored by the LCSD in Tai Po District between June and August 2024, as well as details of the proposed activities to be held in September and October 2024 were set out in Annexes I and II respectively for Members' reference.

16. The representative of LCSD reported in connection with Appendix II to the captioned paper that Annexes I and II set out the attendance at extension activities of Tai Po Public Library (“TPPL”) and the utilisation of mobile library service points (“MLSPs”) in July and August 2024 respectively, while Annex III set out the extension activities proposed to be held in September and October 2024 for Members’ reference.

17. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Some residents of Fu Heng Estate had reflected that there was a reduction in mobile library services and some damage to the mobile library van (“MLV”). It was hoped that the department would pay attention to the situation.
- (ii) They asked about the opening hours of the MLSP at Fu Tip Estate.

18. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) Due to mechanical breakdown of the MLV earlier, the service of the MLSP at Fu Heng Estate had been affected on 26 July and 29 July 2024. The department would monitor closely the condition of the MLV to ensure the safety of road users, staff on board and pedestrians.
- (ii) The department was in the course of identifying a site for setting up the MLSP at Plover Cove, and would keep a close eye on sites in the vicinity that were suitable for parking a MLV, and made visit to Fu Tip Estate in due course to inspect and study the feasibility of parking the MLV there.

19. A Member said that only eight persons attended the drama workshop held in July and asked about the details of attendance rate.

20. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) The attendance of “School Performing Arts in Practice Scheme (“SPAPS”) 2023/24 — Kim Sum Cantonese Opera Association — ‘Cantonese Opera at Schools’ Cantonese Opera in Practice Project — Cantonese Opera Training Workshop” and “SPAPS 2023/24 — Prospects Theatre — ‘Education of Love: From Textbook to Stageplay VI’ Drama in Practice Project — Drama Workshop” were the actual number of workshop participants. As some students dropped out halfway through the workshops, there were fewer people in attendance.
- (ii) The attendance of “SPAPS 2023/24 — Kim Sum Cantonese Opera Association — ‘Cantonese Opera at Schools’ Cantonese Opera in Practice Project — Community Performance” was the number of audience watching the

performance. The department would reflect the views to the Cultural Presentations Section and step up publicity for the relevant event.

(Post-meeting note: Upon completion of the training courses in schools under the “Students’ Performance for the Community”, arrangements would be made for students to perform at and visit a social welfare organisation located in their respective community, so as to provide opportunities for the local community to appreciate Cantonese opera and, at the same time, develop students’ sense of caring to the community among them. As the event was arranged to be held at Tai Po Multi-service Centre for Senior Citizens, the audience was limited to the elderly in the centre and no special promotion would be made by the arts group to people outside the centre.)

21. Members’ questions and comments were as follows:

- (i) They asked whether there was a correlation between the enrolment requirements and fees of the cultural programmes and the number of attendees.
- (ii) They asked about the average monthly attendance of TPPL and its number of books borrowed per month. It was hoped that the department would provide the relevant information in tabular form.

22. The representative of LCSD advised that the daily attendance of TPPL was about 1 700 and the average number of library items on loan per day was about 1 100.

23. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) It was suggested that the department provide the relevant information in tabular form at the next meeting so that Members could have an in-depth understanding of the utilisation of the library, and give their views on increasing the number of participants of cultural programmes and optimising the facilities, as well as the district library could be completed expeditiously.
- (ii) They asked about the utilisation of TPPL in the past for comparison and reference.
- (iii) They asked whether a book corner on national security education (“NSE”) would be provided at TPPL.

24. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) The average daily attendance of TPPL was about 1 700 in 2023 and the number was slightly higher in 2024. The average number of library items on loan per day in 2023 and 2024 was similar, at about 1 100.

- (ii) The department had taken note of the comments on the establishment of an area for display of NSE books. There would be regular promotion of printed and electronic books on national security on its website. Exhibitions and events on Chinese culture and history would also be organised from time to time. For instance, the department organised Get to Know Dr Sun Yat-sen Workshops in August 2024, and would organise War of Resistance in Hong Kong Model Making and Colouring Workshops in October 2024 to promote Chinese culture and enhance public understanding of national security.

25. The Chairman said that Members hoped that a NSE books and information zone would be provided in the library, and hoped that the department would take note of the comments.

26. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) It was hoped that books on national security and technological achievements would be placed collectively in the library.
- (ii) The MLSP at Kwong Fuk Estate was located around Kwong Yau House near the fire services access, which was prone to obstruction. It was suggested that the MLSP be relocated to somewhere near Kwong Yan House. It was hoped that the department would liaise with Members to discuss the arrangement after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the suggestion of setting up a books corner for NSE resources at TPPL, preparations were underway. In addition, the LCSD had liaised with the relevant Members after the meeting to explore the feasibility of relocating the parking site of the MLV at Kwong Fuk Estate.)

27. The representative of LCSD said that under the SPAPS, experienced tutors would be invited to conduct arts training activities in schools to enhance students' knowledge of arts. As such, students had to enroll in the scheme through their schools. For the Cantonese Opera Training Workshop from October 2023 to July 2024, the fee would be \$600 per person. For the workshop of Drama in Practice Project from November 2023 to July 2024, the fee would be \$500 per person.

28. CCRC noted the above report.

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

29. The representative of EDB said that the schools in the district had been in normal operation in general since the last meeting. The 2024/25 school year had commenced and schools had a

smooth start.

30. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) Quite a number of parents of Fu Tip Estate had pointed out that their children could not study in Tai Po District and had to spend longer time on transportation to go to schools, which had caused inconvenience to school children and worries to the parents. As such, it was hoped that the bureau would consider increasing the number of places at junior secondary level in Tai Po District in the next school term.
- (ii) Parents of Fu Tip Estate were notified that there were no more places at junior secondary level in Tai Po District. School children had to commute to schools in other districts, and The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited had also introduced additional extra early departures to cater for the traffic demand of students going to the urban areas specifically. It was hoped that the bureau would consider relaxing the cap of secondary school places in Tai Po District for school children to study in the district.
- (iii) In addition to residents of Fu Tip Estate, there were also other school children in the district who sought school places in the district for interim admission. As such, it was hoped that the EDB would re-examine secondary school places in Tai Po District.
- (iv) Ever since the commencement of the 2024/25 school year, the traffic in the district had been extremely congested. There were long queues on bus route 71K, and the newly added GMB route 24 could hardly address the traffic problem in Kwong Fuk Estate. It was hoped that the bureau would write to the Transport Department ("TD") to enhance the bus service of short-haul circular routes in the district, so as to reduce the number of private vehicles during peak hours and avoid affecting other bus routes and road traffic in the district.

31. The representative of EDB responded as follows:

- (i) Although public sector secondary school places at junior level in the New Territories East (including Tai Po, Sha Tin and North District) were filled at present, there remained places in other districts for students admitted in the middle of a school term. The bureau suggested that parents consider applying for their children to study in schools of their choice in other districts. The bureau would also provide information on the schools concerned for general enquiries and information on enrolment arrangements.
- (ii) She thanked Members for their suggestions on school places in the district, and

would reflect their views to the bureau.

- (iii) A Member had reflected earlier that a large number of private vehicles were parked outside the entrances of some schools. The bureau had maintained on-going communication with the schools and encouraged them to appeal to parents to use public transport for picking up and dropping off their children as far as possible. It was believed that the TD would continue to scrutinise the traffic problems during peak hours with a view to improving the overall traffic conditions in the territory. The bureau would also liaise with Hong Kong Association of the Heads of Secondary Schools (“HKAHSS”) and urge them to discuss the matter with the TD.

32. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) HKAHSS had been maintaining close liaison with the EDB. In the past year, the bureau would contact secondary schools in the district as soon as possible upon receipt of applications for school places in the district, thereby constantly filling up the vacant places throughout the year.
- (ii) In the past second school term, the number of applications for places received by secondary schools in the district had increased by several times when compared to that of last year. As such, all places had been filled in the past school term.
- (iii) The road traffic in Tai Po District was exceptionally congested at the beginning of each school year. It was believed that the situation would be improved later.
- (iv) It was hoped that the bureau and HKAHSS would discuss again and improve the issue of school places in the district.
- (v) They asked about the background information of students admitted in the middle of a school term in the district. Among which, some of them might be children of talents who came to Hong Kong under the Top Talent Pass Scheme. Student population in the district might thus increase. If more data could be obtained, the bureau could analyse future education needs more effectively and the DC could provide more appropriate services to the public.

33. The representative of EDB said that the Tai Po District School Development Section did not have background information on newly-arrived school children. The bureau had processed admission applications of new arrivals and newly-move-in residents during the past summer holiday, and the situation was similar to previous years.

34. CCRC noted the above report.

VI. Any other business

35. Members did not raise other business.

VII. Date of next meeting

36. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 7 November 2024 (Thursday).

37. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
October 2024