

Minutes of the 4th Meeting in 2025
of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee
of Tai Po District Council

Date: 10 July 2025 (Thursday)
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 10:36 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 Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting

In Attendance

Mr. FUNG Hon-wa, Harris	District Leisure Manager (Tai Po) / Leisure and Cultural Services Department (“LCSD”)
Ms. CHAN Wing-ye, Pion	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-ye, May	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD
Mr. WONG Hoi-ming, Hyman	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 4th meeting in 2025 of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee (“CCRC”), and Mr. WONG Hoi-ming, Hyman, Senior School Development Officer (Tai Po) 3 of EDB, who would be attending future CCRC meetings in place of Ms. CHAN Lai-tak.

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd meeting in 2025 of the CCRC on 8 May 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. Leisure and Cultural Services Department – Report on the phase one reopening of Tai Po Civic Centre

3. The representative of LCSD reported as follows:

- (i) Tai Po Civic Centre (“TPCC”) had commenced its phase one reopening on 23 June 2025, and the reopening included facilities such as outdoor areas, a foyer, a box office, barrier-free access and two function rooms.
- (ii) The department and the Architectural Services Department (“ArchSD”) arranged a guided tour to the venues in TPCC for the District Officer (Tai Po) and TPDC

Members on 5 June 2025. Briefing sessions for schools in the district would be held on 15 July.

- (iii) The department would invite other groups in batches to tour the TPCC facilities based on the progress of the remaining works of TPCC.
- (iv) The reopened outdoor areas were open to the public around the clock. Most the original enclosing walls had been demolished to connect with Tai Po Arts Centre, and landscaping design had been used to create an open space with a vibrant cultural and artistic ambience.
- (v) The expanded foyer featured an enquiry counter, a URBTIX box office, male and female toilets, accessible toilets, a universal toilet and a baby care room. An electronic display screen had also been added to showcase programmes being held at TPCC. The box office would open to provide service daily at 10:00 a.m. and was equipped with a self-service ticketing kiosk for purchasing and collecting tickets.
- (vi) At present, the barrier-free access and related facilities at the foyer included tactile guide paths, a braille and tactile floor plan, automatic doors at entrances/exits, an accessible service counter, accessible toilets, and the audio and visual fire alarm system.
- (vii) The two reopened function rooms, measuring 135 and 194 square metres respectively, could accommodate 45 and 65 persons respectively. They could be used for conducting rehearsals and holding hobby classes, talks, seminars or meetings, etc. Members of the public might apply to book the venues through the Booking Office of TPCC, with standard rates of \$210 and \$300 per hour respectively.
- (viii) Based on the current works progress, the department anticipated that TPCC would officially open in the fourth quarter of this year, and members of the public were expected to be able to apply for booking the Auditorium and the Black Box Theatre (“BBT”) in the third quarter of 2025.
- (ix) The Auditorium and BBT would have approximately 650 and 130 seats respectively, details of which would then be published on the TPCC webpage and letters would be issued to TPDC Members, schools in the district and local groups.

4. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) It was suggested that a movie screening, with the theme of “The 80th Anniversary of the Victory in the War of Resistance”, be held when TPCC was fully open to the public.

- (ii) They asked whether the department had clear guidelines to ensure that hirers would comply with relevant legislation concerning the safeguarding of national security.
- (iii) They asked about the current booking status of the two function rooms at TPCC.
- (iv) They asked whether the works for the Auditorium and BBT could be completed ahead of schedule.

5. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) Based on the current works progress, the department anticipated that an open day for TPCC would be held in early 2026, inviting TPDC Members, local residents and other local groups to attend the event. The department had taken note of Members' suggestion of holding a movie screening, and would inform Members should there be further information available.
- (ii) Applicants had to read the specified hiring conditions set by the department prior to the hiring of TPCC facilities, and the details regarding compliance with relevant legislation concerning the safeguarding of national security had also been clearly stipulated.
- (iii) The works were currently proceeding on schedule and were expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2025. The department would maintain close communication with the ArchSD, with a view to enabling members of the public to enjoy TPCC facilities as soon as possible.
- (iv) Currently, there were still unbooked sessions of the function rooms available. Members were welcome to assist in promoting it to increase the utilisation rate.

6. Members' comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) It was suggested that the department hold celebration events at TPCC during the celebrations of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day ("HKSAR Establishment Day") and the National Day.
- (ii) They asked whether flagstaffs had been installed at TPCC for displaying the national and regional flags.
- (iii) It was suggested that the department take the initiative to organise celebration events or collaborate with local groups to hold activities during the HKSAR Establishment Day and the National Day to strengthen efforts in national education.
- (iv) It was suggested that the flagstaffs be installed at the position near the rear of the

bus stop at On Cheung Road.

- (v) They asked about the current patronage of TPCC and whether it was possible to hire the remaining time slots of the function rooms.
- (vi) They asked whether the department had sufficient manpower to handle situations of “soft resistance”.
- (vii) They hoped that the department and TPDO would provide more venues for local groups to hold activities.
- (viii) It was hoped that the department would strictly monitor the usage by hirers to maintain social stability.
- (ix) It was suggested that the audio equipment in community halls (“CHs”) be upgraded to facilitate use by hiring groups.
- (x) In view of the frequent breakdown of the LED screen at Tung Cheong Street CH, it was suggested that the department follow up on this matter actively and consider changing the supplier as well as expedite the replacement of the LED screen.
- (xi) It was suggested that the department reserve time slots in TPCC for holding events in celebration of the HKSAR Establishment Day and the National Day, and invite local groups to apply for the said time slots to hold events, thereby helping to boost the sense of national identity.

7. The Chairman concurred that TPCC had to install flagstaffs to display the national and regional flags, and enquired whether the department would install a display screen outside of TPCC for publicity purposes.

8. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) The department had taken note of Members’ views on the reservation of the venues and would examine its feasibility.
- (ii) Due to space constraints, it was not possible to install flagstaffs at TPCC. The department was in the course of exploring with the ArchSD the feasibility of mounting angled flagstaffs along the wall. Members would be informed should there be any further information available.
- (iii) The current average weekday attendance at TPCC was approximately 350 persons, with around 500 persons during weekends or public holidays.
- (iv) There were still unbooked time slots of the two function rooms available for booking. Members might contact the department if they needed to hire these facilities.

- (v) The department had clearly stipulated the legislation and codes that applicants had to comply with in the hiring conditions, and would vet each application carefully to ensure that the hirer met such conditions.

9. The representative of TPDO responded as follows:

- (i) Members might browse through the HAD website for perusal of guidelines on eligibility, criteria for assessing applications and rules and regulations pertaining to the use of community centres (“CCs”) and CHs in Tai Po District.
- (ii) The TPDO was aware of the issue of the LED screen at Tung Cheong Street CH, and would follow up by enhancing regular maintenance work.
- (iii) At present, CCs and CHs allocated venues by means of ballot. The TPDO would study the suggestion of reserving venues for designated purposes.

10. The Chairman hoped that the department would consider revising the terms of hire based on the principle of fairness to facilitate promotional activities that suited local needs.

11. CCRC noted the above report.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the maintenance and repair of the LED screen at Tung Cheong Street CH, the TPDO had been liaising with relevant departments on an ongoing basis to follow up on the repair work and had conveyed Members’ views to the department. Recently, the relevant department had conducted an inspection in July 2025 again and anticipated to carry out another urgent repair in August 2025, followed by a large-scale repair to be carried out once spare parts were delivered after September 2025. The TPDO was also in the course of reviewing the audio equipment in other CCs/CHs within Tai Po District in conjunction with relevant departments, with upgrading works to be arranged in a timely manner.

The existing arrangements for applying to use the CC/CH facilities had proved effective, enabling numerous eligible groups, organisations and government departments to fairly hire/borrow venues and facilities for various community relations building activities. The TPDO would review these arrangements in a timely manner.)

III. Leisure and Cultural Services Department – Report on the participation in community activities held between May and June 2025 and proposed community activities to be held in July and August 2025 in Tai Po District

(TPDC Paper No. CCR 7/2025)

12. The representative of LCSD reported on Appendix I to the captioned paper, outlining the attendance report of cultural programmes held and sponsored by the department in Tai Po District between May and June 2025, as well as the proposed activities to be held in July and August 2025, details of which were set out in Annexes I and II respectively for Members' reference.

13. 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 and the utilisation of libraries in May and June 2025 respectively and Annex III set out the extension activities proposed to be held in July and August 2025 for Members' reference. Furthermore, the department was thankful to the Secretariat for its assistance and to Members for their participation in the extension activities for the "Hong Kong Reading for All Day" on 23 April.

14. The representative of LCSD introduced the programmes of "Sport For All Day 2025" as follows:

- (i) The department would hold the "Sport For All Day" on 3 August 2025, adopting the slogan "Stay Active, Healthy and Happy!" to encourage the public to cultivate the habit of engaging in regular sports and physical activities.
- (ii) The theme of this year's event was "Coalescing together for the National Games", aiming at fostering community spirit in support of the 15th National Games, and the 12th National Games for Persons with Disabilities and the 9th National Special Olympic Games to be co-hosted for the first time by Guangdong Province, the HKSAR and the Macao Special Administrative Region.
- (iii) In addition to promoting focal sports items at designated sports centres across the 18 districts on that day, a series of free recreation and sports programmes would also be offered for members of the public to share in the enjoyment of sports.
- (iv) The Tai Po District Leisure Services Office would host a series of free programmes at Tung Cheong Street Sports Centre from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on 3 August 2025, which included Health Talk, Fencing Demonstration and Play-in, Parent-child AI Physical Fitness Station, Fitness (Multi-gym) Play-in, Indoor Lawn Bowls Play-in, Floor Curling Play-in and Floorball Play-in, etc. Members were welcome to join the public in participating in these programmes by then.

15. CCRC noted the above report.

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

16. The representative of EDB said that the schools in the district had been in normal operation

in general since the last meeting. Schools were now entering their summer vacation break and commencing preparations for the next school year. Regarding the parking issues at schools within the district raised by Members at the last meeting, the bureau had relayed the concerns to relevant departments and was following up on the issue.

17. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) There was a serious shortage of secondary school places in Tai Po District, resulting in some students therein having to attend schools in Kowloon or the Southern District.
- (ii) It was suggested that a survey on secondary school places be conducted in Tai Po District, with the problem of insufficient school places be dealt with according to the survey findings.
- (iii) The bureau had provided assistance to cross-district students in finding places in the district, but the number of places available fell short of demand.
- (iv) A Member considered that students having to cross districts to attend school in the Southern District was an isolated case, but agreed that a survey on secondary school places should be conducted to find out the availability of school places.
- (v) Some students who had recently moved in Fu Tip Estate had to commute to schools in other districts as they could not get admitted to schools within the district in the middle of a school term. It was suggested that the bureau consider giving priority to arranging for students in the district to attend secondary schools within the district.
- (vi) The creation of additional school places involved policy and resource considerations, and it was necessary to ensure that there were enough students in the district to fill these increased places. It was hoped that the bureau would work out suitable solutions.
- (vii) They asked whether the bureau would have the number of places available for admission of students in the middle of a school term in secondary schools within the district so as to facilitate Members to handle related enquiries from parents.

18. The representative of EDB responded as follows:

- (i) Parents looking for school places might make enquiries with the EDB New Territories East Regional Education Office, to which the schools belonged.
- (ii) The bureau had taken note of Members' views and would closely monitor changes in the number of students across the territory.

19. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) Members would conduct a questionnaire survey on the issue of secondary students in Tai Po District having to commute to schools in other districts, in order to understand the situation in the district. It was hoped that the bureau would actively follow up on this issue.
- (ii) It was suggested that the bureau consider setting up temporary classrooms in schools to provide additional short-term places for students to admit in the middle of a school term, thereby alleviating the problem of students having to commute to schools in other districts.

20. The Chairman said that the issue of students having to commute to schools in other districts had persisted for years, and hoped that the bureau would take Members' views into consideration.

21. A Member suggested that following the completion of the survey on secondary school places in the district, the survey findings could be discussed with the Tai Po District Association of Secondary School Heads. As existing secondary schools in the district might not have sufficient resources to increase places, it was hoped that the survey findings would help address the problem of insufficient places in the district.

22. The Chairman said that the issue of school places had to be handled flexibly with reference to the resources of schools. He hoped that the bureau would assist in following up on the issue and would take further follow up action once Members had completed the survey.

23. CCRC noted the above report.

V. Any other business

24. Members raised other items as follows:

- (i) They asked whether Tung Cheong Street Swimming Pool would undergo maintenance works commencing 1 September 2025.
- (ii) It was suggested that the LCSD postpone its swimming classes to 9:00 a.m. to facilitate diversion of swimming pool users.
- (iii) They asked whether representatives of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department would be invited to discuss the problem of egret droppings.

- (iv) They thanked the LCSD for its assistance in repairing the planter fences in the vicinity of Tai Po Central Bus Terminus.

25. The Chairman requested the department to follow up with Members on the matter related to Tung Cheong Street Swimming Pool after the meeting, whereas the problem of egret droppings would be referred to the Food, Environment and Hygiene Committee for follow-up.

VI. Date of next meeting

26. The date of the next meeting was to be confirmed.

(Post-meeting note: The next meeting was rescheduled to be held at 2 p.m. on 9 October 2025 (Thursday).)

27. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
August 2025