

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting in 2024
of the District Facilities and Works Committee
of the Tai Po District Council

Date: 6 March 2024 (Wednesday)
Time: 9:31 a.m. – 11:44 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>		
Ms. WONG Pik-kiu, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Vice-chairman</u>		
Mr. LI Wah-kwong, Rex, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Members</u>		
Mr. YU Chi-wing, MH	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LEE Man-kit	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. WU Cheuk-him	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Siu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. MUI Ching-hung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Tsz-kin	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Cho-leung, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Ms. CHAN Kin-kwan	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Siu-kuen, MH, JP	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. CHAN Pok-chi, JP	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. LOK Siu-luen	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Mr. LO Hiu-fung	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
<u>Secretary</u>		
Miss LO Tin-wai, Tiffany	Beginning of the meeting	End of the meeting
Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Tai Po District Office (“TPDO”) / Home Affairs Department (“HAD”)		

In Attendance

Miss YU Wing-lam, Phoebe	Assistant District Officer (Tai Po) / HAD
Mr. CHU Ka-chun, Gordon	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. WONG Mei-lin, Rita	Senior Executive Officer (Planning) 23 / LCSD
Miss LAM Ka-foo, Tiffany	Executive Officer (Planning) 22A / LCSD
Miss LEE Mei-yee, May	Senior Librarian (Tai Po) / LCSD
Mr. TSUI Chun-sing	Administrative Assistant / Lands / District Lands Office, Tai Po / (“TPDLO”) / Lands Department (“LandsD”)
Ms. LEUNG Shing-mei, Angela	Architect (Works)1 / HAD
Mr. WONG Wilson	Architect (Works)10 / HAD
Ms. SING Hoi-shan, Wendy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) / TPDO / HAD
Mr. LI Ka-lun	Senior Inspector of Works / TPDO / HAD
Mr. LAU Chun-ming	Inspector of Works (3) / TPDO / HAD
Miss MAN Fung-yee, Stella	Liaison Officer (7) / TPDO / HAD

Absent

Mr. LAM Yick-kuen, MH

Opening remarks

The Chairman welcomed participants to the 2nd meeting in 2024 of the District Facilities and Works Committee (“DFWC”) and announced as follows:

- (i) Ms. LEUNG Shing-mei, Angela, Architect (Works)1 of HAD, would attend future DFWC meetings in place of Ms. CHAN Yi-sa, Yisa.
- (ii) Mr. LI Ka-lun and Miss MAN Fung-yee, Stella, Senior Inspector of Works and Liaison Officer (7) of TPDO respectively, would attend future DFWC meetings in place of Mr. SO Wing-kai and Miss YIP Lisa.
- (iii) Miss LAM Ka-foo, Tiffany, Executive Officer (Planning) 22A of LCSD, was attending the DFWC meeting in place of Ms. WONG Chit-hei, Heidi.
- (iv) Mr. LAM Yick-kuen was unable to attend the meeting due to other commitments and had submitted a notice of absence to the TPDC Secretariat (“Secretariat”). Pursuant to Order 64 of the TPDC Standing Orders (“Standing Orders”), the District Council (“DC”) would only give consent to a Member’s application for absence from a meeting filed on the grounds of sickness, attendance at a meeting or an activity on behalf of the DC or other reasons considered reasonable by the meeting (e.g. confinement, assumption of paternal care, fulfilment of civic obligations

required by the law, serious illness or injury, attendance at a meeting or an activity, etc. of the Legislative Council or an advisory body or organisation appointed by the State or the Government). Pursuant to the Standing Orders, the DFWC gave consent to Mr. LAM Yick-kuen's application for absence.

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the 1st meeting in 2024 of the DFWC on 9 January 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. Position of District Minor Works Projects in Tai Po District
(TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024)

3. The Chairman asked Members to be aware of the position of District Minor Works Projects in Tai Po District as set out in TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024, and asked the HAD, TPDO and LCSD representatives to report on the project progress.

(1) Works Projects reported by the HAD (Works Section)
(Items (1) to (14) in Annex to TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024)

4. The representative of HAD said that the progress and estimated works progress of Project Items (1) to (14) had been enumerated in the Annex for Members' reference.

5. Members' comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (3) "TP-DMW241 Provision of a sitting-out area at San Wa On Lane, Tai Po Tau, Tai Po", the site had been fenced off for some time but construction had yet to commence. They would like to know about the progress of the project.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (5) "TP-DMW255 Provision of a covered walkway at Tai Po Road Yuen Chau Tsai Section near Kwong Fuk Estate, Tai Po", the project was near completion. They asked about the materials selected for the cover.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (14) "TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po", they asked about the completion date of the feasibility study report ("FSR") and hoped that arrangements could be made to conduct a site visit for Members. In addition, some residents reflected that they had missed a step on the stairs in the pet garden. Members asked the department concerned to be aware of the issue.

6. The representative of HAD responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (3) “TP-DMW241 Provision of a sitting-out area at San Wa On Lane, Tai Po Tau, Tai Po”, the project was currently carried out on schedule. The HAD (Works Section) would continue to follow up and update Members on the progress.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (14) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”, the HAD (Works Section) was discussing with the TD on the reprovisioning of bicycle parking area. He could discuss the project design and progress with Members after the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The HAD (Works Section) added that discussions with the TD on the location and requirements of the reprovisioning of bicycle parking area were underway in conjunction with the term consultant.)

7. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of a sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”, the project was completed earlier. The department inspected the site with some Members and the village head on 8 February 2024. The relevant persons said that they did not hope that the facility would be opened as an Inclusive Park for Pets. The department opened the new venue for public use on that day. Meanwhile, members of the public were not allowed to enter the venue with pets according to the general venue arrangement.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (14) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”, Members said that some residents had missed a step on the stairs in Tai Po Central Sitting-out Area next to the proposed pet garden. The department would send staff to the site to examine the facility.

8. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of a sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”, the village head and other users had indicated that the facilities were ideal and appropriate, such as the provision of a cover for elderly fitness equipment. They hoped that the department would make reference to the project design when providing similar facilities in the future.

- (ii) Regarding Project Item (7) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, they learnt from Link Asset Management Limited (“Link”) that the covered walkway could not be fully connected to Tai Wo Plaza due to a land lease issue. As such, they asked whether the departments concerned could communicate with Link to solve the said problem together to prevent the design of the completed cover from being unsatisfactory.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW337 Construction of rain shelters at Tai Po Tau and Tai Wo (Serenity Villa, Serenity Park II and Tai Po Government Offices)”, it was hoped that the department would conduct a site visit with Members before opening up the facilities.
- (iv) Regarding Project Item (12) “TP-DMW349 Provision of rain shelters at Pak Shek Kok, Tai Po (Chong San Road, Fo Yin Road and Fo Chun Road)”, they asked about the project details.
- (v) Regarding Project Item (14) “TP-DMW381 Provision of a Pet Garden at the Open Space near Blocks 10 and 19 of Tai Po Centre, On Pong Road, Tai Po”, they hoped that the department would conduct a site visit with Members before opening up the facility.
- (vi) They asked whether Members could propose other works projects, and give comments in the future.

9. The representative of HAD said that for Project Item (5) “TP-DMW255 Provision of a covered walkway at Tai Po Road Yuen Chau Tsai Section near Kwong Fuk Estate”, the perforated sheets used for the walkway cover were light-transmitting, and this could be further discussed with Members after the meeting.

10. The representative of HAD responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (2) “TP-DMW232 Provision of a sitting-out area at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po”, he thanked Members for their comments and compliments. The elderly fitness equipment in Project Item (3) “TP-DMW241 Provision of a sitting-out area at San Wa On Lane, Tai Po Tau, Tai Po” were also provided with covers.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (7) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, as Tai Wo Plaza was situated on the private land of Link, no project could be carried out there.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (10) “TP-DMW337 Construction of rain shelters at Tai Po Tau and Tai Wo (Serenity Villa, Serenity Park II and Tai Po Government Offices)”, the tenders were being vetted for approval and the project had been handed over to the TPDO for follow-up.

11. A Member said that for Project Item (7) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, he suggested that the department should coordinate and discuss with Link on the provision of free-standing cover/tent at the passageway between Tai Wo Plaza and the bus stop to reduce pedestrians’ exposure to the sun and rain.

12. The Chairman said that for Project Item (7) “TP-DMW270 Provision of shelters at Po Nga Road connecting Tai Wo Plaza, Tai Po”, she suggested that the department discuss with the Link.

(Post-meeting note: The TPDO relayed Members’ suggestion of providing free-standing cover/tent to Link on 18 March 2024, which indicated that it would consider actively the suggestion and arrange for a feasibility study to be conducted.)

13. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (8) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”, they would like to know about the actual progress of the project and actual location of the park.
- (ii) A Member had suggested that the TPDO construct a rain shelter adjacent to Uptown Plaza near Nam Wan Road and opposite to Classical Gardens Phases 2 and 4. They hoped that the department would continue to follow up on the suggestion.

14. The representative of TPDO said that for Project Item (10) “TP- DMW337 Construction of rain shelters at Tai Po Tau and Tai Wo (Serenity Villa, Serenity Park II and Tai Po Government Offices)”, the TPDO had received the tender recommended by HAD (Works Section) and would, subject to the financial position, arrange for the signing of contract with the contractor as soon as possible.

15. The representative of HAD said that for Project Item (12) “TP-DMW349 Provision of rain shelters at Pak Shek Kok, Tai Po (Chong San Road, Fo Yin Road and Fo Chun Road)”, it was initially planned to carry out the project at four locations. As one of them was infeasible for the project, rain shelters would only be provided at three locations. He added that Members could refer to the FSR endorsed at the 5th meeting in 2023 of the District Facilities Management and Culture, Recreation and Sports Committee of the last DC.

16. The representative of HAD said that for Project Item (8) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”, the term consultant was working on the detailed design and consulting the departments concerned, and would provide information of the project site in due course.

17. The representative of LCSD said that for Project Item (8) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”, the project site was located at the open space between The

Graces - Providence Bay and MayFair By The Sea.

18. A Member said that the start date was not mentioned in the meeting paper for Project Item (8) “TP-DMW295 Provision of a sitting-out area at Pak Shek Kok”, and thus hoped that the department would invite Members and the relevant persons to conduct a site visit.

19. The Chairman suggested that the lead departments of the projects arrange for Members to inspect the above works projects that were of concern to Members after the meeting.

20. DFWC noted the above report.

(2) **Works Projects reported by the TPDO**

(Items (15) to (27) in Annex to TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024)

21. The representative of TPDO reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (21) “TP-DMW388 Reconstruction of the access road leading to Tseng Tau Tsuen”: Survey and trial pit works had been completed and the detail design was underway. The department would apply for temporary land allocation from the LandsD in due course.
- (ii) Project Item (25) “Provision of a sitting-out area at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po”: Survey and trial pit works had been completed, and the department conducted a site visit with Members and discussed project details with them on 1 March 2024.
- (iii) The progress of Project Items (15) to (20), (22) to (24) and (26) to (27) had been enumerated in the summary of works progress for Members’ reference.

22. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (16) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”, during a site visit with the TPDO (Works Section) earlier, it was found that the works at the road section of Yuk Sau Fung had been completed. The railings near the road section of Nam Hang remained damaged, and there was soil erosion at the stairs. The residents nearby were worried that there might be the risk of collapsing trees. It was hoped that the department would pay attention to the situation during site visits.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (19) “Improvement of the road junctions of Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen and Yung Shue O, Sai Sha Road”, some Members had earlier written to the TD and Water Supplies Department (“WSD”) respectively. For the junction at Nga Yiu Tau Tsuen, the HyD had assisted in laying and repairing the concrete road surface,

but the uneven slabs at the entrance/exit would pose a danger to motorists. As such, they hoped that the TD would give a reply and remedy the situation. For the junction at Yung Shue O Tsuen, the WSD replied that it could conduct a site visit with Members and remedy the situation.

- (iii) Regarding Project Item (20) “TP-DMW387 Improvement of the drainage system and landscaping works right in front of Lam Tsuen Fong Ma Po Tin Hau Temple”, as the project site was in front of Tin Hau Temple, they had to give an account of the situation to Lam Tsuen Valley Committee and thus hoped that the department would provide the project details.
- (iv) Regarding Project Item (23) “Improvement of the access road and drainage facilities at Wai Ha Village, Tai Po”, as the department had indicated that it had plans to carry out improvement works of the access road, they thus asked about the project progress.
- (v) Regarding Project Item (24) “Construction of drainage channel and channel cover at San Tau Kok Tsuen”, as the project had not yet commenced, they hoped that the department would expedite the progress.
- (vi) Regarding Project Item (25) “Provision of a sitting-out area at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po”, the works site was in the vicinity of Nai Chung Sitting-out Area under LCSD. However, some villagers in Sai O had indicated that the area was the agricultural land resumed by the Government and thus hoped that the place would be renamed as “Sai O Sitting-out Area”. They also suggested naming the works project as “Provision of sitting-out area at Sai O, Sai Kung North, Tai Po” to minimise disputes among residents.

23. The representative of TPDO responded as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (16) “TP-DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”, the TPDO (Works Section) would conduct a site visit with Members later to find out the conditions of soil erosion and broken railings near the road section of Nam Hang.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (20) “TP-DMW387 Improvement of the drainage system and landscaping works right in front of Lam Tsuen Fong Ma Po Tin Hau Temple”, a preliminary survey was underway, and Members would be contacted for a site visit upon completion of the survey and design.
- (iii) Regarding Project Items (23) “Improvement of access roads and drainage facilities in Wai Ha Village, Tai Po” and (24) “Construction of drainage channel and channel cover at San Tau Kok Tsuen”, the works were under planning and the actual works schedule would be subject to resources.
- (iv) Regarding Project Item (25) “Provision of a sitting-out area at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po”, the TPDO was aware of the comments on the change of the project

name.

(Post-meeting note: The TPDO had conducted a site visit with DFWC on 25 March 2024 for Project Item (16) “TP- DMW267 Improvement works of Wilson Trail Section 8 (near Hong Lok Yuen), Tai Po”).

24. The Chairman said that most of the works projects reported by the TPDO (Works Section) were in rural areas. The two Rural Committees (“RCs”) in Tai Po hoped that the naming of works projects would be related to villages so as to retain local history and give it a sense of continuity. She suggested that apart from inspecting the projects with Members, the TPDO could also invite the village heads and village representatives to take part as well.

25. DFWC noted the above report.

(3) Works Projects reported by the Tai Po District Leisure Services Office of LCSD
(Items (28) to (31) in Annex to TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024)

26. The representative of LCSD reported the progress of projects as follows:

- (i) Project Item (28) “TP-DMW319 Improvement Works at Kwong Fuk Bridge Garden”: The works were completed in February 2024. The department reopened Kwong Fuk Bridge Garden for public use on 8 February 2024 and designated the venue as an area with total ban on smoking.
- (ii) Project Item (29) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”: Two sets of elderly fitness equipment, children’s play equipment (parent-child swings) and children’s multi-play equipment were opened to the public on 15 February 2023, 14 March 2024 and 29 January 2024 respectively.
- (iii) Project Item (30) “TP-DMW321 Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area in Area 24”: The department would invite Members to a site visit in due course.
- (iv) Project Item (31) “Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park”: The department and works departments were consulting the relevant national sports associations (“NSAs”) and studying the design of the project.

27. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Regarding Project Item (29) “TP-DMW320 Improvement Works at Tai Po Tau Playground”, they thanked the department for the arrangement. They had inspected the venue earlier and found that the conditions of the refurbished facilities

satisfactory. They hoped that the department would provide photos of the facilities for Members' reference.

- (ii) Regarding Project Item (30) "TP-DMW321 Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area in Area 24", they hoped that the department would arrange a site visit for Members as soon as possible.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (31) "Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park", they thanked the department for implementing the works project to meet the demand of the district. They hoped that the department would expeditiously study the design and invite Members to a site visit later, and asked about the actual location of the project. Apart from skateboarding rinks, they hoped that the department would explore the feasibility of providing additional venues for other new sports at the same time, and provide photos for Members' reference.

28. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) He thanked Members for their comments, and said that the department would continue its efforts to improve venue facilities.
- (ii) Regarding Project Item (30) "TP-DMW321 Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area in Area 24", the department would invite the follow-up Member for a site visit in mid-March 2024 to explain the plan.
- (iii) Regarding Project Item (31) "Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park", it was initially planned to construct a skateboarding rink at Formal Garden, which was relatively spacious and flat. The department was learning about the requirements of skateboarding rink from the relevant NSAs, and would furnish Members with the relevant information when the works department had conducted a site survey and conceived the layout plan. The department by then would invite Members to a site visit and seek their comments.
- (iv) Noting Members' wish to have photos of facilities for reference, the department would furnish Members with the project details in a timely manner.
- (v) The department would inspect the site in a timely manner and consider carrying out improvement works at suitable locations in the future to promote the development of new sports. In fact, members of the public could book the arena of Fu Heng Sports Centre in the district for new sports activities at present.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding Project Item (30) "TP-DMW321 Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area in Area 24", the LCSD had invited the Chairman of DFWC to a site visit on 24 April 2024.)

29. The Chairman's comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Members conducted a site visit to the selected site of "Provision of fitness equipment at Kwong Fuk Sitting-out Area in Area 24" earlier. The department had refurbished the venue with new covers, seats and signs, which were praised by the accompanying Members.
- (ii) Regarding Item (31) "Provision of Skatepark at Tai Po Waterfront Park", Members supported the construction of venue and asked the department whether lockers could be provided for park users to store their personal belongings.

30. DFWC noted the above report.

(4) **DMW projects followed up by the Planning Section of LCSD**
(Item (32) in Annex to TPDC Paper No. DFW 2/2024)

31. The representative of LCSD reported that for Project Item (32) "TP- DMW374 Provision of Inclusive Playground near Tai Po Swimming Pool", the project was at the stage of applying for project cost funding. The vetting and approval would be subject to the financial position of the year. The progress would be reported to Members in a timely manner.

32. DFWC noted the above report.

III. **Leisure and Cultural Services Department — Report on the management of facilities in Tai Po District**
(TPDC Paper No. DFW 3/2024)

33. The representative of LCSD reported as follows:

- (i) The utilisation of recreational and sports facilities in Tai Po District from December 2023 to January 2024 had been enumerated in Annex I to TPDC Paper No. DFW 3/2024 for Members' reference.
- (ii) The greening works and enhancement of leisure facilities in Tai Po District had been enumerated in Annexes II and III to TPDC Paper No. DFW 3/2024 respectively for Members' reference.

34. Members' comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) The squash courts at Tai Po Sports Ground – Squash and Tennis Centre had low usage

rate of about 50% only. They learnt that the department planned to convert a squash court into a bouldering gym during an on-site inspection with the department earlier, and thus asked about the project progress as well as whether the department had considered that the use of squash courts could be changed in the future.

- (ii) They asked, apart from Fu Heng Sports Centre, whether the department would study to open up the squash courts at Tai Po Sports Ground – Squash and Tennis Centre for users for other sports.
- (iii) A Member had received complaints earlier that the trees outside Ting Nga Court were being invaded and bored by termites. He was worried about the risk of tree falling and asked about the follow-up action.
- (iv) The department had just refurbished Kwong Fuk Football Ground (artificial grass pitch) not long ago but the pitch had already been worn-out. They opined that the rate of wear and tear of the facility was too fast and considered it a pity.
- (v) They asked about the works progress of Football-cum-Rugby Pitch in Area 33, Tai Po and hoped that the departments concerned would take forward the project as soon as possible.
- (vi) At present, there were only 11 greening spots in the district, which could not meet the greening need of the entire community. It was suggested that priority be given to enhancing greening work in the area of MTR Tai Po Market Station and Pak Shek Kok, and hoped that the department would strengthen its efforts in monitoring the growth of plants.
- (vii) Tai Po Tau Playground had been refurbished but the greening there was far from satisfactory. It was suggested that the department plant additional flowering plants and plants with longer life cycle to step up greening work and beautify the environment.
- (viii) They asked about the details and progress of the refurbishment of the 7-a-side hard-surface football pitch at Tai Po Tau Playground, facility upgrading of Tai Po Civic Centre (“TPCC”) and refurbishment of Fu Shin Sports Centre.
- (ix) They suggested the department strengthen greening at Tai Po Waterfront Park near Tai Po Industrial Estate.
- (x) They asked about the utilisation rate of the bowling greens at Tai Po Waterfront Park, and whether the department would consider providing additional similar facilities in the district.
- (xi) As lockers were currently provided at Mui Shue Hang Playground and Tai Po Lung Mei Beach, it was suggested that the department consider providing additional lockers as well when refurbishing facilities in the district (especially outdoor pitches/courts).

- (xii) Members of the public had to bring their own padlocks for the lockers at Tai Po Waterfront Park at present. It was suggested that the department review the future arrangement of lockers to avoid prolonged occupation by venue users.
- (xiii) Some members of the public had reflected that many planter fences fell into disrepair and the angle irons used for fixation were protruding, making them susceptible to accidents. It was suggested that the department consider improvement proposals, such as using plastic materials to fix the planters, and hoped that the department would keep an eye on the surrounding environment and hygiene when designing greening works.
- (xiv) They asked whether the department had outsourced the greening works by adopting “the lowest bid wins” principle, as well as whether it would monitor the services of contractors. It was hoped that the department, when engaging contractors in the future, would consider not only the price but also the quality of service so as to improve green environment in the district effectively.
- (xv) Some members of the public had reflected that it was weedy in the vicinity of Buddhist Tai Kwong Chi Hong College. They were worried that this would pose a danger to women going home late at night and hoped that the department would keep an eye on this.

(Post-meeting note: Regarding the termite infestation of trees outside Ting Nga Court (item (iii) above), the LCSD had referred the case to the HyD. The Landscape Division of HyD had conducted an on-site inspection and applied pesticides to eradicate the termites on trees.)

35. The representative of LCSD responded as follows:

- (i) There were six squash courts at Tai Po Sports Ground – Squash and Tennis Centre, with an average utilisation rate of about 50%. To tie in with the recommendation to promote urban sports in the Policy Address, the department planned to convert one of the squash courts into a bouldering gym, and was carrying out detailed design and preparation of tender documents. It was expected that tendering would take place in the second quarter of 2024 and the project would be completed in the second quarter of 2025. The bouldering gym would become the first sport climbing facility in Tai Po District under the LCSD.
- (ii) The department had been actively promoting greening in the district and would report the progress to the DFWC bi-monthly. The department would carry out greening work at parks and roadside planters in need depending on the actual circumstances.
- (iii) He noted the comments on greening work. The department would monitor the services of the contractor on a regular basis, make reference to Members’ comments to select evergreens and multi-coloured plants as far as possible, and send staff for

inspections to improve the community environment if necessary.

- (iv) Kwong Fuk Football Ground (artificial grass pitch), which was a standard 11-a-side football pitch as well as a standard hockey ground, was refurbished with third-generation artificial turf. The department would keep a close eye on the use of the venue by the two sports. Apart from refurbishing the football pitch, the department had also engaged a contractor to maintain the artificial turf every month and would repair any wear and tear as soon as possible if any.
- (v) In 2023, the department had proposed to refurbish Tai Po Tau Playground, and had planned to convert the 7-a-side football pitch at the playground into three 5-a-side football pitches cum handball courts. However, upon subsequent receipt of comments from residents and relevant organisations that they would like to retain the 7-a-side football pitch, the department was now revising the proposal. The works department was preparing to lay a new floor surface and would repaint the boundary lines upon completion. The 7-a-side football pitch would accommodate two 5-a-side football pitches cum handball courts. The project was expected to be completed in June 2024.
- (vi) In addition to indoor lockers, the department also provided lockers at outdoor sports venues where users could bring their own padlocks to avoid theft. The department would ask the works department to explore the provision of additional lockers when resources and circumstances permitted.
- (vii) Fu Shin Sports Centre was undergoing a large-scale renovation works, under which the flooring of the arena would be replaced. The activity rooms and toilets would be repainted and damaged facilities would be replaced, details of which would be provided to Members in due course.

36. The representative of LCSD said that regarding the works of Football-cum-Rugby Pitch in Area 33, Tai Po, the government departments concerned had completed the technical feasibility study. The TD and LCSD would continue to take forward the works project and consult the DFWC and relevant stakeholders on the design of the project in a timely manner.

37. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) Regarding details of the facility upgrading of TPCC, Members could make enquiries to the representatives of the departments concerned at the meetings of the Community Involvement, Culture and Recreation Committee.
- (ii) They complimented the department for carrying out greening work at Tung Sau Square, bringing about a clean and decent environment in general.
- (iii) They hoped that the departments concerned would carry out greening work at the road dividers at Po Heung Street.

- (iv) As the root growth of trees in the urban area of Tai Po had caused uplift of pavers, it was suggested that the departments concerned should follow up.

38. DFWC noted the above report.

IV. Any other business

- (1) **Minor works items of Food and Environmental Hygiene Department in Tai Po District (October 2023 to February 2024)**
(TPDC Paper No. DFW 4/2024 (Revised))

39. The Chairman said that Members might refer to TPDC Paper No. DFW 4/2024 (Revised) on minor works items of FEHD in Tai Po District.

40. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) There were no FEHD representative at the meeting, but they still hoped to invite the departmental representatives for site visits at several locations, including Kau Lung Hang Village Public Toilet, Fung Yuen Village Public Toilet, San Tau Kok Village Public Toilet, Tai Po Tau Public Toilet and Wai Ha Village Public Toilet.
- (ii) The refurbishment of Tap Mun New Fishermen's Village South Public Toilet was completed in November 2023 but they were not sure whether the department had informed the follow-up Members concerned.
- (iii) Regarding the Refurbishment of Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet, Members and Tai Po North Area Committee had circulated the design and noted that the project would commence in September 2024.
- (iv) Based on past experience in assisting villagers in applying for the construction of public toilets in rural areas, Members had to write to the FEHD with the village heads and invite Tai Po RC for site visits, after which the Members concerned could inspect the sites again and discuss the projects.

(Post-meeting note: The FEHD noted Members' comments and added that the department had contacted the Members concerned after the meeting and would arrange site visits later. Regarding the progress of the refurbishment of public toilets, the department would inform DFWC Members of the progress by issuing papers on a regular basis. In addition, as at the end of February 2024, the anticipated commencement date of the Refurbishment of Tung Ping Chau Public Toilet would be postponed to December 2024.)

41. DFWC noted the above report.

(2) **Follow-up on the unevenness of road surface on both sides of Lam Tsuen River**

(3) **Follow-up on the public concerns over facilities in the district collected under the “Meet-the-Public Scheme”**

42. The Chairman said that the unevenness of road surface on both sides of Lam Tsuen River had been discussed at an earlier TPDC meeting, and the issue had been referred to the DFWC for further follow-up and discussion. Under the “Meet-the-Public Scheme”, some members of the public had reflected the uneven surface of cycle tracks in the vicinity of The Golden Gate. In addition, a Member had pointed out earlier that the root growth had affected pavers causing the road surface to be uneven. She suggested that these issues be discussed together, and Members were welcome to express their views. It was hoped that the departments concerned would follow up as well.

43. Members’ comments were as follows:

- (i) There were many trees planted around Chui Lok Street. However, the lack of space for root growth had caused the uplift of pavers. The proximity of trees to the road resulted in higher risk of accidents. There was also a refuse collection point in the vicinity, with cleansing workers often pushing refuse trolleys in and out of it. As such, residents were concerned about the unevenness of road surface there. It was hoped that the department would put forward improvement proposals or consider placing notice boards nearby on a temporary basis to remind residents of the situation.
- (ii) Even if the departments concerned repaired the pavers and resurfaced the road surface, trees would continue to grow and the pavers would bulge again every once in a while. As such, it was hoped that the bureaux and departments concerned would have long-term tree management and town planning.

44. The Chairman said that the surface of some footpaths was extremely uneven. As there were underground utilities along the pavement between Tai Wo Bridge and Kwong Fuk Estate, different organisations often uplifted and resurfaced the pavers, resulting in uneven road surface. In addition, the Civil Engineering and Development Department had once installed stone benches and stone refuse bins there. The facilities had been relocated but messy pavers were still left in situ. She opined that the HyD and TPDLO could jointly maintain the road surface along the riverside of Lam Tsuen River under the coordination of TPDO.

45. Members’ comments and questions were as follows:

- (i) Due to the uneven surface of footpaths along the riverside of Lam Tsuen River, some runners had switched to jogging on the cycle track instead, resulting in conflicts

between cyclists and runners.

- (ii) Considering that the original purpose of laying pavers was to facilitate road excavation and reinstatement of underground utilities, it was suggested that consideration be given to using concrete as usual to prevent traps caused by bulging pavers if there were no underground utilities at the road section.

46. The representative of TPDO thanked Members for their comments. The HyD was responsible for the maintenance of footpaths on both sides of Lam Tsuen River. Members could relay their comments to the HyD via the Secretariat and ask the department to send a representative to attend the DFWC meeting to answer and follow up on the problem.

47. The Chairman asked whether the TPDO would have the resources to assist in dealing with the problem of uneven road surface on both sides of Lam Tsuen River.

48. The representative of TPDO said that as the HyD was responsible for the repair and maintenance of the above site, it should be followed up by the department concerned.

49. Members' comments were as follows:

- (i) They found it necessary to resurface the entire road section. Apart from the TPDO, they hoped to propose to the appropriate departments the resurfacing of road section so that the works could commence as soon as possible.
- (ii) The TPDC was asking Members to collect public views on improving the facilities on both sides of Lam Tsuen River. They opined that this was the right time to suggest resurfacing of the road section or removal of trees from the footpaths and provision of planters.

(4) Matters relating to other works projects in the district

50. A Member said that in the past, works projects were being discussed at the DFWC meetings and the LCSD would report on the progress on a regular basis. He asked whether the works projects, such as expansion of Wong Siu Ching Family Medicine Centre and Tai Po Jockey Club General Out-patient Clinic, works of Football-cum-Rugby Pitch in Area 33, Tai Po and Sports Centre in Area 6, Tai Po, would be discussed at the appropriate committees.

51. The Chairman asked whether the LCSD could report on the progress of public works at the next DFWC meeting. Meanwhile, the Chairman hoped that the departments concerned could provide more information on relatively large-scale works projects in the column of "Progress" of the meeting paper for Members' reference.

52. The representative of LCSD said that some of the works projects above were not implemented by the LCSD, and only the works of Football-cum-Rugby Pitch in Area 33, Tai Po and Sports Centre in Area 6, Tai Po were followed up by the department. The public works concerned would be taken forward in accordance with the established procedures for public works and it took time to carry out such procedures. As such, the department would report on the project progress to Members and consult the DC in a timely manner in the future.

V. Date of next meeting

53. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 9:30 a.m. on 8 May 2024 (Wednesday).

54. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Tai Po District Council Secretariat
April 2024