

Summary of the Minutes of the 21st Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council

The 21st Meeting of the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) was held on 31 March 2015. The major issues discussed were summarised as follows:

Visit of Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene to Tsuen Wan District Council

2. The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene visited Tsuen Wan District Council and introduced the work of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD). Members expressed their concern over the pest control and street cleanliness, posting of bills and posters and shop front extension problem in the district, tempering of food labels as well as food surveillance on food imported from Japan. They urged the government to improve the environment of the Cooked Food Hawker Bazaars in the district and review the Cooked Food Hawker policy. They opined that Tsuen King Wai Circuit Market should be converted as a market cum community facility and the environment of the markets in Tsuen Wan, including Heung Che Street Market, Tsuen Wan Market and Yeung Uk Road Market, should be improved to facilitate their business, such as rearrangement of the stalls in some markets as well as the installation of air-conditioning and lift facilities. Some Members also discussed the adverse impact caused by dog fouling in certain constituency areas and hoped that more dog toilets could be provided in the district. Besides, the water seepage problem of the buildings should be handled more efficiently by shortening the period of investigation and facilitating the liaison between the residents and responsible staff. In addition, Members gave suggestions on the provision of niches, such as increasing the supply of niches by simplifying the sale procedure and providing sufficient ancillary transport facilities for both public and private columbarium. The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene duly responded to Members' concern and enquiries. She further explained the progress on the development of Tsuen King Wai Circuit Market and provision of dog toilets in the district. In all, the District Environmental Hygiene Superintendent would follow up the environmental hygiene issues of the specific areas in the district.

Progress Report on Major Public Works Projects in Tsuen Wan District (as at 28 February 2015)

3. The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) reported the progress of the major public works projects in Tsuen Wan district. Members expressed their views and enquiries on the progress and schedule of the advance

works for a cycle track between Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun, as well as the progress of Tsuen Wan Greening Master Plan, Ecological Park (Tso Kung Tam Valley Tsuen Wan), Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road, and associated junction improvement works undertaken by the Highways Department (HYD). They also made suggestion for the construction of Footbridge B under the Extension of Footbridge Network in Tsuen Wan and requested for the early implementation of mitigation works for landslides on natural hillsides of Sham Tseng San Tsuen as well as Tsuen Wan Bypass. Besides, they gave view and enquired about changes related to the widening of Tsuen Wan Road between Tsuen Tsing Interchange and Kwai Tsing Interchange. The representatives from the CEDD, HYD, Water Services Department and Leisure and Cultural Services Department duly responded to Members' enquiries and explained about the details and timetables of the works concerned.

Concern about the Railway Noise Problem of Tsuen Wan MTR, Request the Environmental Protection Department to Review the Railway Noise Standard

4. A Member raised and discussed the railway noise problem of Tsuen Wan MTR station and the request that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) should review the noise standard by taking into account the effect of frequency of sound. The representatives from the EPD and Mass Transit Railway Corporation Limited (MTR) explained the noise standard adopted in Hong Kong and the noise abatement measures taken by the MTR, such as regular maintenance of trains and tracks, installing wheel dampers, installing rail lubrication system in Tsuen Wan Depot, turning off the air-conditioners of the incoming trains to reduce the noise generated therefrom and monitoring the speed of trains passing through the more curved railway sessions at late night. Some Members suggested that commercial development could be built above that railway session so as to solve the noise problem. The representatives from the MTR undertook to arrange an on-site visit near the shunting zone in July this year for measuring the sound volume and frequency in one go.

“Strongly Request the Environmental Protection Authority and Departments Concerned to Allocate Resources Immediately for Addressing the Long-lasting Odour Nuisance Problem From the Bay Off Tsuen Wan Waterfront Promenade in order to Ensure that a Bay with Fresh Air and Environment in Tsuen Wan District is Truly Available for the Healthful Use of the General Public.”

5. A Member raised and discussed the request to the environmental protection authority and departments concerned to allocate resources for addressing the long-lasting odour nuisance problem from the bay off Tsuen Wan Waterfront

Promenade. The representatives from the EPD and Drainage Services Department explained the measures taken for eliminating the odour from the shoreline of Tsuen Wan. It was planned that four dry weather flow interceptors would be installed in the district while regular cleansing work and installation of plastic curtains for the box culverts had been/would be carried out for eliminating the odour. Members hoped that the department concerned would continue to strive for funds and resources for Tsuen Wan district, so that the planned improvement works could be carried out as soon as possible.

Request the Government to Review the Supply of Public Housing and Consider to Build More Public Housing at the Suitable Lots Identified in Tsuen Wan or the Nearby Districts

6. Two Members raised and discussed the request to the government to review the supply of public housing and consider to build more public housing at the suitable lots identified in Tsuen Wan or the nearby districts. The representatives from the Planning Department and Housing Department duly responded to Members' concern. It was informed that of the six housing sites identified in Tsuen Wan, the site near Cheung Shan Estate was tentatively proposed for public housing development, subject to further studies and evaluation, and district consultation would be arranged in due course. Members hoped that the departments concerned would expedite the implementation of the study work concerned and suggested that the ancillary transport facilities and noise control of the said housing site be taken into consideration. They also opined that the construction of in-fill needle-type public housing was undesirable due to its high cost and noise nuisance to the residents nearby during construction period. The representatives further stated that the planning of the remaining five sites would depend on the future circumstances. The government and Hong Kong Housing Authority would continue to identify other residential sites for development of public housing.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
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