

立法會
Legislative Council

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Legislative Council
Panel on Planning, Lands and Works

Minutes of Meeting held on
Thursday, 11 October 2001 at 12:20 pm
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building

- Members present** : Dr Hon TANG Siu-tong, JP (Chairman)
Hon LAU Ping-cheung (Deputy Chairman)
Ir Dr Hon Raymond HO Chung-tai, JP
Hon WONG Yung-kan
Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBS, JP
Hon Timothy FOK Tsun-ting, SBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
Hon IP Kwok-him, JP
- Non-Panel Member attending** : Hon Henry WU King-cheong, BBS
- Members absent** : Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP
Hon WONG Sing-chi
- Clerk in attendance** : Ms Anita SIT
Chief Assistant Secretary (1)6
- Staff in attendance** : Ms Pauline NG
Assistant Secretary General 1
- Mrs Queenie YU
Senior Assistant Secretary (1)6

Mr TSANG Siu-cheung
Senior Assistant Secretary (1)7

I Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Dr TANG Siu-tong, Chairman of the Panel for the 2000-01 session presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel for the 2001-02 session. Dr TANG invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel.

2. Dr TANG Siu-tong was nominated by Mr IP Kwok-him and seconded by Ir Dr HO Raymond Chung-tai. Mr LAU Ping-cheung, Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2000-01 session, took over the chair of the meeting. Dr TANG accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Dr TANG Siu-tong was declared elected as Chairman of the Panel for 2001-02 session.

3. Dr TANG Siu-tong took over the chair of the meeting and invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship. Mr LAU Ping-cheung was nominated by Mr TAM Yiu-chung and seconded by Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai. Mr LAU accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Mr LAU Ping-chung was declared Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2001-02 session.

II Schedule of meetings for the 2001-2002 session

4. Members agreed that regular meetings of the Panel for the 2001-02 session would be held on the first Friday of each month at 8:30 am.

III Discussion items for next meeting

5. The Chairman invited members' views on whether the Secretary for Planning and Lands (SPL) and the Secretary for Works (S for W) should be invited to brief the Panel on the Chief Executive (CE)'s 2001 Policy Address, pointing out that under the new arrangements for the debate on the Motion of Thanks in respect of CE's Policy Address, individual Panels might, if considered necessary, arrange policy briefings after the debate. Being a member of the Committee on Rules of Procedure (CRoP), Mr IP Kwok-him advised that CRoP took the view that policy briefings, if considered necessary by individual Panels, should be conducted at Panels' regular meetings as far as practicable.

6. Members agreed that SPL and S for W should be invited to brief the Panel on the policy objectives and work plans under their purview at the next regular meeting on 2 November 2001.

7. Members noted that the Administration had proposed to discuss the following three items at the November regular meeting -

- (a) Remaining engineering infrastructure works for Pak Shek Kok Development;
- (b) Creation of two supernumerary directorate posts in the Civil Engineering Department; and
- (c) Urban Design Guidelines for Hong Kong.

Members also noted that the Administration planned to submit the relevant funding proposals mentioned in (a) and (b) above to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC) in December 2001 and to the Establishment Subcommittee (ESC) on 21 November 2001 respectively.

8. Mr Albert CHAN was of the view that it was not necessary to discuss funding proposals at the Panel unless major government policies were involved. He also opined that the Panel should give priority to agenda items proposed by members in scheduling items for discussion at Panel meetings.

9. Ir Dr Raymond HO pointed out that pursuant to the relevant decision of the House Committee, the Administration had been advised to consult relevant Panels on major funding proposals before they were submitted to the Finance Committee and its subcommittees for consideration. In practice, it had turned out that the Administration had put up a large number of funding proposals, which might not involve major government policies or large-scale projects, for discussion at Panel meetings during the previous session. He did not agree with the Administration's practice of consulting the Panel on each and every PWSC item. He took the view that the Panel should only be consulted on more important items. Ir Dr HO further said that the Panel on Transport had also raised similar concerns at its meeting held in the same morning.

10. After discussion, members agreed that papers on the funding proposals mentioned in paragraph 7(a) and (b) above should be circulated to Panel members for information.

(Post-meeting note: With the concurrence of the Chairman, the Panel meeting scheduled for 2 November 2001 would be held from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. The item mentioned in paragraph 7(c) above has been included in the agenda for the meeting, which was circulated to members vide LC Paper No. CB(1) 40/01-02 on 12 October 2001.)

IV Any other business

11. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:30 pm.