

**Extract from minutes of meeting between LegCo Members
and Central & Western District Council members on 12 May 2005**

Members present : Hon Bernard CHAN, JP (Convenor)
Hon Martin LEE Chu-ming, SC, JP
Dr Hon YEUNG Sum
Hon CHOY So-yuk
Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP
Hon MA Lik, JP

Attendance by invitation : **Central & Western District Council**

Mr CHAN Tak-chor, MH, JP (Chairman)
Mr WU Chor-nam, JP (Vice Chairman)
Mr CHAN Chit-kwai, Stephen, JP
Mr CHAN Choi-hi
Ms CHENG Lai-king
Mr CHUNG Yam-cheung
Ms HO Sau-lan, Cyd
Mr LAM Kin-lai
Mr Mark LIN, JP
Mr YEUNG Wai-foon, MH
Mr YOUNG Siu-chuen, Albert
Mr YUEN Bun-keung

Staff in attendance : Miss Salumi CHAN
Chief Council Secretary (1)5

Mr Anthony CHU
Council Secretary (1)2

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VI. Preservation of the Central Police Station heritage site

28. Mr CHAN Chit-kwai stressed the need for the preservation of the Central Police Station heritage site (the Site). To enable better preservation of the Site and the public to have free access and use of the facilities at the Site in future, he was of the view that the Government should formulate an overall plan for developing the Site in the interest of the public and consider adopting a non-profit making option for preserving and developing the Site. Mr CHAN was concerned that the assessment criteria adopted by the Administration in the

tendering exercise would place too much weighting on the sum of land premium in the proponent's proposal.

29. The Chairman of C&WDC pointed out that a motion was passed by C&WDC requesting the Administration to reduce the 40% weighting assigned to land premium in the assessment of tender proposals for the Site, and to consider inviting tenders for developing and preserving the Site on a non-profit-making basis. In this connection, C&WDC, together with some professional bodies and non-government organizations, had consulted the public on the issue. The public generally supported developing and preserving the Site on a non-profit-making basis. The Chairman of C&WDC strongly urged the Administration to fully consult the public and C&WDC before launching the tender exercise for the Site.

30. Mr YUEN Bun-keung pointed out that as the Victoria Prison would only be vacated by the end of 2005, the Administration should organize open days for the Victoria Prison to facilitate the public to give views on the future use and development of the Site. The tender exercise should only be launched after the collection of public views.

31. The Chairman of C&WDC also pointed out that a motion was passed by C&WDC requesting for representation of C&WDC on the tender assessment panel. The Vice Chairman of C&WDC and Mr YUEN Bun-keung considered that the tender assessment panel should include at least one representative from the C&WDC to ensure that the views of the local residents would be taken into consideration in the assessment process. Dr YEUNG Sum and Miss CHOY So-yuk supported C&WDC members' request.

32. Ms CHENG Lai-king and Ms Cyd HO considered that the historical and cultural values of the Site should be preserved. They were against the idea of using the Site for commercial projects, such as hotels, which were not compatible with the historic setting of the Site. In this connection, Mr CHAN Chit-kwai considered that Hall F of the Victoria Prison should be preserved. Dr YEUNG Sum was also of the view that preservation of heritage was of utmost importance for the Site.

33. Mr CHAN Choi-hi and Ms CHENG Lai-king considered that apart from the Tourism Commission (TC) of the Economic Development and Labour Bureau, the Home Affairs Bureau, which was responsible for the built heritage conservation policy, should have an important role to play in the preservation of the Site. The Chairman of the C&WDC also expressed concern that the TC would only focus on how the Site could be used to promote tourism. Mr CHAN opined that the HA Panel should also monitor the development of the issue.

34. The Convenor advised that the LegCo Panel on Economic Services (ES Panel) and HA Panel had discussed the issue at their meetings on 25 October 2004 and 9 November 2004 respectively. Miss CHOY So-yuk also pointed out

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that she had moved a motion at the LegCo meeting on 10 November 2004 urging the Government to review afresh the direction of the development of the Site, and to formulate a comprehensive policy on the preservation of antiquities and monuments.

35. In conclusion, the Convenor instructed the Secretariat to refer the views of C&WDC to the ES Panel, HA Panel and the Administration for consideration.

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