To: <cb1@legco.gov.hk> From: "David NEWBERY" Date: 10/31/2013 10:34PM

Subject: Subcommittee on Country Parks

## Dear Sir/Madam

Friends of Hoi Ha would like to voice their strong support to the Government's plans to incorporate the Sai Wan enclave into Sai Kung East Country Park. The area is one of outstanding natural beauty and fulfils all of the criteria given in the Country Park Enclaves Policy for incorporation into the Country Parks system. Sai Wan really is a jewel in the crown of Hong Kong's environmental treasures and it would be a great dis-service to future generations if this most wonderful of wild places were to be destroyed for ever. When making planning decisions, the actual need for housing has to be set against the real and potential threats to the environment. In the case of Sai Wan, no genuine need for housing has been identified and the consequences of poor development to the environment and landscape are enormous. Therefore, the decision to incorporate Sai Wan into the Country Park system is fully justified as this area demands the best environmental protection possible. It may be that certain Indigenous Villagers may lose money as a result of this plan; in this case, the best solution is to offer the individuals compensation rather than allowing the building of houses which, in all likelihood, will never be inhabited by the applicants.

Yours faithfully

David NEWBERY Secretary, Friends of Hoi Ha