

立法會
Legislative Council

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LC Paper No. CB(4)669/20-21
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Panel on Home Affairs

**Minutes of meeting by videoconferencing
held on Monday, 8 February 2021, at 4:30 pm**

- Members present** : Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon MA Fung-kwok, GBS, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP
Dr Hon Pierre CHAN
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP
- Member absent** : Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP
- Public Officers attending** : Item III
Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Zorina WAN Hiu-yan
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation
and Sport)²

Mr LUK Chi-kwong
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)³
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Linda CHEUNG Yuk-shan
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)2
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Victor TAI Sheung-shing
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr Ephes LAU Man-kuen
Senior Project Manager 327
Architectural Services Department

Item IV

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Zorina WAN Hiu-yan
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation
and Sport)2

Mr LUK Chi-kwong
Assistant Director (Leisure Services)3
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Linda CHEUNG Yuk-shan
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)2
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Victor TAI Sheung-shing
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr Gary WONG Shek-wah
Senior Project Manager 325
Architectural Services Department

Item V

Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP
Under Secretary for Home Affairs

Ms Iona SHAM Hiu-tung
Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Culture)2

Mrs Mary CHENG LAU Mei-lee
Assistant Director (Libraries and Development)
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms KONG Mei-yi
Chief Librarian (Management)²
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Ms Phyllis SO Kit-yee
Chief Executive Officer (Planning)³
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Mr Victor TAI Sheung-shing
Project Director 3
Architectural Services Department

Mr Ephes LAU Man-kuen
Senior Project Manager 327
Architectural Services Department

Clerk in attendance : Ms Joanne MAK
Chief Council Secretary (4) 7

Staff in attendance : Mr Raymond SZETO
Senior Council Secretary (4) 6

Ms Louisa YU
Legislative Assistant (4) 7

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I. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting

Members noted that no information paper had been issued since the last meeting.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)463/20-21(01) and (02)]

2. The Panel agreed to discuss the following items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting on 15 March 2021 at 4:30 pm:

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- (a) Facility Upgrading of Tai Po Civic Centre;
- (b) Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront; and
- (c) Proposed retention of one supernumerary post of Government Architect (D2).

III. Town Park in Area 68, Tseung Kwan O

[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)463/20-21(03) and (04)]

3. At the invitation of the Chairman, the Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)463/20-21(03)].

Discussion

4. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan said that residents of Tseung Kwan O ("TKO") welcomed the development of the proposed Town Park. Raising concerns about potential light and noise nuisances caused by activities at the basketball courts to nearby residents, she enquired about the Administration's measures to alleviate these nuisances.

5. USHA said that two basketball courts were included in the proposed Town Park due to high demand by residents and youths in TKO. In designing the basketball courts, the Administration had considered the potential nuisances that might affect nearby residents and devised suitable measures to minimize these nuisances, including: (i) positioning the basketball courts towards the southwest side of the proposed Town Park with some distance from most residential areas; (ii) adopting an innovative design of sunken basketball courts to reduce the effects of noise and lighting on the surroundings; and (iii) limiting usage by adjusting the opening hours of the basketball courts (for example closing the basketball courts at around 10 pm subject to the views of the stakeholders nearer the time of commissioning).

6. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan enquired about the design of the water feature in the proposed Town Park. USHA and Project Director 3, Architectural Services Department ("PD3/ArchSD") said that the water feature would adopt a static waterscape. With a shallow water level of about 15 cm deep and static water surface, the water feature would produce aesthetic reflections of the surroundings as a visual effect for users of the proposed Town Park, who would be able to enjoy the view from the walkways and greening areas beside the water feature.

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7. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan expressed concerns about potential safety and hygiene issues that might arise from usage of the water feature. PD3/ArchSD responded that the design of water feature had considered the safety concern, such as set-back design to discourage users reaching the water. The water of the water feature would also be regularly sanitized by a filtration system for hygiene purpose.

8. In response to enquiries by Ms YUNG Hoi-yan about the provision of seats for users of the proposed Town Park, PD3/ArchSD said that the proposed Town Park would provide adequate rain shelters and open park benches with over 600 seats to be distributed throughout the park area.

9. The Chairman said that unlike town parks in other districts, the proposed Town Park's design did not include display of landmark/artwork features. He suggested that the Administration should consider adding them to the proposed Town Park. USHA said that while the results of local consultations on the design of the proposed Town Park did not reflect a strong demand for display of artwork the Government would be pleased to consider the Chairman's suggestion.

10. Ms YUNG Hoi-yan enquired about the implementation timetable. USHA said that if the project was approved by the Finance Committee on recommendation of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") in the 2020-2021 legislative session, construction could commence in the fourth quarter of 2021 for completion in the second quarter of 2024.

11. After discussion, the Chairman concluded that members supported the submission of the proposed project to PWSC for consideration.

IV. Kwai Chung Park

[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)463/20-21(04) and (05)]

12. At the invitation of the Chairman, USHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)463/20-21(05)].

Discussion

13. Mr Holden CHOW and Mr MA Fung-kwok enquired about the Administration's work in promoting cricket in Hong Kong, and whether the relevant stakeholders, such as the Cricket Hong Kong, were consulted on how to better utilize the temporary cricket grounds near the project site for promoting the sport.

14. USHA said that the Administration was committed to promoting cricket's development in Hong Kong. To this end, the Government had been closely

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monitoring the usage of the six venues managed by LCSD suitable for playing cricket in Hong Kong, in addition to the temporary cricket grounds under discussion. Having considered the satisfactory usage rate and popularity of the temporary cricket grounds, the Administration supported the site for use as cricket grounds at the last land licence renewal exercise in 2019. The Administration would continue to identify other suitable sites to build more cricket grounds as appropriate in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.

15. In response to Mr MA Fung-kwok's enquiry, USHA said that other than the temporary cricket grounds, the BMX Park near the project site was also a popular facility, recording over 11 000 users for competition and training in 2018. The BMX Park had been closed since March 2019 for renovation, and was scheduled for reopening this year.

16. After discussion, the Chairman concluded that members supported the submission of the proposed project to PWSC for consideration.

V. Renovation of Tsuen Wan Public Library

[LC Paper Nos. CB(4)463/20-21(06) and (07)]

17. At the invitation of the Chairman, USHA briefed members on the salient points of the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)463/20-21(06)].

18. Mr LAU Kwok-fan expressed support for the project. Citing increasing demand for study rooms, he enquired whether the proposed renovation included improvements in both study room capacity and facilities in the Tsuen Wan Public Library ("TWPL").

19. USHA responded that the general usage rate of study rooms in public libraries was manageable, and there was no pressing need to build more study rooms. Meanwhile, the proposed renovation would bring improvements to the facilities of the study room in TWPL, including newly-designed study carrels and installation of power sockets for mobile devices.

20. Mr Holden CHOW considered that the proposed renovation would help TWPL modernize its facilities. He enquired about the details of the works schedule concerning renovation of 3/F to 5/F of TWPL, and whether the library services affected would be completely replaced by or operate in parallel with mobile library services.

21. USHA and Assistant Director (Libraries & Development), Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("AD(LD)/LCSD") said that the phased renovation works would begin on 6/F and 7/F where the office and backend support were

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located, followed by temporary relocation of some of the services on 3/F, 4/F and 5/F to 6/F and 7/F while works in 3/F, 4/F and 5/F would progress by stages. TWPL would remain in service during the entire period of renovation works in parallel with mobile library services provided by a specially designed truck, though some work areas in TWPL would be temporarily closed during the renovation. AD(LD)/LCSD supplemented that under the "Joyful Reading at Your Neighbourhood: Library-on-Wheels" pilot project, mobile library services would be deployed to communities on a need basis. During the renovation of TWPL, the "Library-on-Wheels" would be deployed at the Tsuen Wan Park to bolster library services in the district.

22. Mr Holden CHOW enquired about the Administration's plan to carry out similar renovation works for other public libraries. The Chairman suggested that the Administration should adopt an innovative and humanized approach in planning improvements to the service provisions of public libraries, such as introducing coffee corners to entice readers to stay longer at public libraries.

23. USHA said that the Administration had been continuously reviewing the service provisions of individual public libraries and had been carrying out renovation or upgrading works to bring library service up to prevailing standards. At the Sha Tau Kok Public Library and the Sau Mau Ping Public Library had been undergoing relocation and expansion, and both projects were scheduled for completion and reopening within this year. Construction of new public libraries at the Northwest Kowloon Reclamation Site No. 6 and Lei King Road were also underway. Subject to the circumstances and constraints of individual projects, public library services would incorporate innovative and humanized designs. For example, the planned new public library at Lei King Road would house a coffee corner while the renovated TWPL would also provide a coffee corner area with beverage supplied by a vending machine.

24. After discussion, the Chairman concluded that members supported the submission of the proposed project to PWSC for consideration.

VI. Any other business

25. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 5:16 pm.