

**Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB)**  
**Confirmed Minutes of the 55th Meeting**

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Date : 13 June 2014 (Friday) File Ref.: AF CPA 01/1/0

Time : 2:30 p.m.

Venue : Room 701, Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD)  
Headquarters

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**ATTENDANCE**

**Chairman**

Mr TANG King-shing, GBS, PDSM

**Members**

Mr Jan CHAN

Professor CHIU Lai-har, Rebecca, JP

Mr CHOW Kwok-keung

Professor CHU Lee-man

Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, JP

Mr LAM Chung-lun, Billy, GBS, JP

Mr LEE Chung-ming, Eric

Dr LI Shing-foon, Eric

Ms MA Miu-wah, Katherine

Dr MAN Chi-sum, JP

Mr MO Ka-hung, Joseph

Dr NG Cho-nam, BBS, JP

Ms SO Ka Man

Ms WONG Lai-yin, Idy

Dr LEUNG Siu-fai, JP	Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Acting)
Miss Sian LI	Senior Administrative Officer (Nature Conservation), Environmental Protection Department
Ms Olga LAM, JP	Assistant Director of Lands (Estate Management)

Secretary

Mr Patrick TSANG	Assistant Secretary (Boards) <sup>1</sup> , AFCD
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**IN ATTENDANCE**

Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Mr Joseph SHAM	Assistant Director (Country and Marine Parks)
Mr Franco NG	Senior Country Parks Officer (South East)
Mr Alan CHAN	Senior Marine Parks Officer
Mr Patrick LAI	Senior Country Parks Officer/Ranger Services
Mr K S CHEUNG	Senior Country Parks Officer (North-west) (Acting)
Mr Timothy LAM	Country Parks Officer (Sai Kung)

Home Affairs Department

Mrs Ann HO	Chief Executive Officer (2) <sup>1</sup>
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Marine Department

Mr CHEUK Fan Lun	General Manager/Vessel Traffic Services
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Planning Department

Ms Ann WONG

Senior Town Planner/NTHQ 1

Water Supplies Department

Mr YEUNG Tak-hoi

Senior Engineer/Planning 2

**ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES**

Ms Suzanne M. GENDRON

Dr HAU Chi-hang, Billy

Honourable HO Chun-yin, Steven

Ms KWAN Sau-wan

Ms LO Po-man

Mr TANG Tat-chi, William

Ms WOO Jacinta Kit Ching

Assistant Director of Planning (New Territories)

Mr HUI, Eric Kwok Sun, JP

Assistant Director of Home Affairs (2)

Mr Donald CHOY

Assistant Director (Leisure Services)<sup>3</sup>, LCSD

Mr LAI Chi-tung

Assistant Director of Marine (Port Control)

Mr MAK Shing-cheung, Vincent

Assistant Director of Water Supplies/Development

**OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

58/14 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Mr CHEUK Fan Lun, General Manager/Vessel Traffic Services of Marine Department, and Mr YEUNG

Tak-hoi, Senior Engineer/Planning 2 of Water Supplies Department, who were attending the meeting for the first time. He also informed members that Dr LEUNG Siu-fai, JP, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation, was doubling up as Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation while Mr Alan WONG Chi-kong, JP was on duty visit.

59/14 The Chairman informed members that, as an established practice and to facilitate the taking of meeting minutes, sound recording would be made during the meeting. The audio records would be destroyed after the meeting minutes were confirmed.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **I. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 24 February 2014**

60/14 The minutes of the last meeting held on 24 February 2014 were confirmed without amendments.

### **II. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting**

#### **(a) Proposed Designation of the Country Park Enclave of Tai Long Sai Wan as Part of Sai Kung East Country Park (Para. 4/14)**

61/14 Mr K S CHEUNG reported that the court had declined the applications for the extension of time and for leave to proceed with a judicial review on Chief Executive in Council's decision to approve the draft map of the Sai Kung East Country Park on 28 February 2014. Consequently, the applicant had applied for legal aid to lodge an appeal against the court's judgement on 28 March 2014. The Authority would update members on the progress of this JR case.

[Post-meeting note: the application for legal aid to lodge an appeal against the court's judgement was refused on 19 June 2014.]

#### **(b) Convention on Biological Diversity (Para. 5/14 to 6/14)**

62/14 Mr Joseph SHAM reported that the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) Steering Committee would conduct its fourth meeting on 27 June 2014. The three Working Groups had also conducted five rounds of meetings and scheduled their sixth round of meeting for July/August 2014. To raise public awareness about local biodiversity and enhance

engagement in discussion about the BASP, roving exhibitions, public lecture series on biodiversity and public forums were being conducted. The third lecture of public lecture series on biodiversity, on the topic “Biodiversity Conservation in Hong Kong”, had been held on 17 May 2014 and was attended by about 280 persons. The last lecture, on the topic “Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Hong Kong”, was scheduled for 5 July 2014. With a view to gathering views from relevant stakeholders on the BASP, the first seminar had been held at Zero Carbon Building (ZCB) (零碳天地) in Kowloon Bay on 7 June 2014. It was attended by over 90 representatives from green groups, professional bodies, academics, and public and private institutions. The second seminar was scheduled for 14 June 2014 at ZCB.

(c) Proposal to Designate Country Park Enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the Site near Nam Shan as Part of Country Parks (Para. 11/14 to 44/14)

63/14 Mr K S CHEUNG reported that the Lands Department had recently endorsed an application by a non-government organization (NGO) for a Short Term Tenancy (STT) to construct and operate a drug treatment and rehabilitation centre (the centre) at a disused school in the enclave of Sai Lau Kong, with funding support from the Security Bureau. As regards consultation of relevant stakeholders, the Authority had briefed the few inhabitants of the fishing village there on the proposed designation of the enclave as part of the Plover Cove Country Park. They had expressed no strong views on the designation proposal. The Authority had also been liaising with the NGO and Security Bureau to keep in view the progress of the project.

64/14 Mr K S CHEUNG went on to say that the enclave of the site near Nam Shan did not comprise any private land and there were only two Government land licences, having checked with District Lands Office (Islands). The two Government land licences were held by some members of a family living in the vicinity of the enclave. The Authority had already briefed some of the licence holders on the proposed designation of the enclave of the Site near Nam Shan as part of the Lantau South Country Park and would proceed the consultation with the rest.

**III. Progress on Management Plan of Sai Wan in Sai Kung East Country Park (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/6/2014)**

65/14 Mr Franco NG presented Working Paper WP/CMPB/6/2014.

66/14 The Chairman expressed his gratitude to Mr MO Ka-hung, Joseph that, under his leadership, the Working Group on Sai Wan Management (the Working Group) had been making good progress on a number of issues.

67/14 Mr MO Ka-hung, Joseph remarked that pragmatic views were raised in the first and second meetings of the Working Group; the informal meeting between the Working Group, villagers of Sai Wan and representatives of the Heung Yee Kuk on 24 April 2014; and the meeting of the Task Force on Planning Issues related to Tai Long Sai Wan under the Sai Kung District Council (Task Force) on 28 April 2014. He commended AFCD for the implementation of the Sai Wan Management Plan (the Management Plan). He expected that members of the Working Group would offer advice to tackle the priority issues in the site visit to Sai Wan, and progress could be made to the issue of overnight accommodation and licence of food stalls at the interdepartmental meeting involving FEHD, Lands Department and Home Affairs Department.

[Post-meeting note : The site visit to Sai Wan was conducted on 30 June 2014 morning.]

68/14 In response to a member's enquiries, Mr Franco NG said that the three objectives of the Management Plan were (1) provision of a safe and pleasant place for compatible recreation activities, (2) biodiversity enhancement and nature conservation, and (3) facilitation of ecotourism through engagement of local community. It was expected that objectives (1) and (2) would be tentatively achieved by 2015. As full cooperation of the villagers was indispensable to achieve objective (3), AFCD would continue to communicate with the villagers accordingly. Besides, the villagers (including the operators of the two food stalls) would be consulted on the layout of the common area at the beachfront with a view to achieving a mutually acceptable solution.

69/14 As regards a member's enquiries about the attitude and response of the villagers to the Management Plan, Mr Franco NG replied that AFCD officers had been constantly keeping in contact with the villagers for the implementation of the Management Plan. The villagers rendered their cooperation readily on some management issues, such as refuse collection and tree management, etc. However, it was still required to keep on communicating with the villagers about the unauthorized occupation of Government land for operation of food stalls, given that there was a consensus amongst members of the Working Group that such situation

was not desirable from land management point of view and the long term solution would be for villagers to vacate the said Government land so as to allow AFCD to turn it into a common area for public enjoyment.

70/14 A member supplemented that the concept of “food court” had been raised at the meeting of the Working Group. The concept aimed to achieve a win-win situation that the common area (with tables and chairs) provided a place for visitors to eat and drink (whether the food was brought from the food stalls or not) and resolved the management challenge regarding the unauthorized occupation of Government land for operation of food stalls. The concept would be discussed with the villagers in the site visit.

71/14 Mr Franco NG answered to the member’s enquiry that the boundary of a country park was usually above the high water mark, so it did not cover the part of the beach exposed during low tide. In light of the above, water-based activities had not been included in the Management Plan.

72/14 As regards a member’s enquiries, Mr MO Ka-hung, Joseph replied that the villagers worried that they might come into conflict with NGOs over the management and operation of guest houses since they had been running such business by themselves for more than a decade. The Working Group would endeavour to convey the mode of operation under the Management Agreement (MA) Scheme and the views of NGOs to the villagers so as to make the cooperation between the villagers and NGO a success. In the event that a great deal of conflicting views between the villagers and NGOs still existed, the Working Group would reflect the conflicting views to Country Parks Committee and AFCD with a view to exploring alternative channels for pursuing the cooperation. Apart from the funding from the MA Scheme, other external sources of funding, like Hong Kong Jockey Club, would also be considered for providing financial support to economic activities of the villagers. Mr Patrick LAI clarified that at the Task Force meeting on 28 April 2014, the idea of cooperation between villagers and NGO was supported by some members while other members had no comment. Hence, the opposition by the Task Force to the idea of cooperation did not exist.

73/14 The member suggested that stakeholders of successful MA projects be arranged to explain their mode of operation to the villagers with a view to addressing the villagers’ concerns.

74/14 A member remarked that the villagers had no trust in green groups since villagers had been in conflict with green groups for a long time. The Working Group had been trying to build up the cooperation between the villagers and those NGOs other than green groups for running social enterprises. It would also consider inviting the villagers to have experience sharing with the operators of the three successful MA projects at Long Valley (塋原), Ho Sheung Heung (河上鄉) and Fung Yuen (鳳園).

#### **IV. Summary Report of Country Parks Committee (CPC) (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/7/2014)**

75/14 Professor CHU Lee-man, Chairman of the Country Parks Committee, presented Working Paper WP/CMPB/7/2014 on issues discussed at the CPC meeting held on 20 May 2014.

76/14 A member was of the view that the gist of the discussion about the assessment on the suitability of designating country park enclaves of Mau Ping, Pak A, Tung A, Ko Lau Wan and Shui Mong Tin as part of country park should be mentioned in the summary report, including diverse views of members on the results of assessment on each enclave and the conclusion of the discussion for each enclave.

77/14 Dr LEUNG Siu-fai, JP responded that the Authority would take note of the member's view. The gist of discussion about the assessment on country park enclaves would be mentioned in future summary reports.

#### **V. Summary Report of Marine Parks Committee (MPC) (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/8/2014)**

78/14 Dr LI Shing-foon, Eric, Chairman of the Marine Parks Committee, presented Working Paper WP/CMPB/8/2014 on issues discussed at the MPC meeting held on 25 March 2014. He advised that upon the designation of the proposed Brothers Marine Park, future development works in the waters were still possible subject to necessary statutory procedures.

79/14 Mr Joseph SHAM informed members that a special CMPB meeting had just been arranged on 3 July 2014 afternoon at which Airport Authority Hong Kong would brief members on the key findings and proposed mitigation measures of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report of the Three-Runway System (3RS) project, including the proposed marine park for the 3RS project.

[Post-meeting note : The special meeting was conducted on 3 July 2014 afternoon.]

80/14 In response to a member's enquiries, Mr Joseph SHAM replied that AFCD had been conducting a long-term programme on monitoring of Chinese white dolphins (CWD) in Hong Kong waters since 1995 and uploaded the monitoring reports onto its website for public inspection. It was observed that during the study period of April 2013 to March 2014, dolphin abundance in the waters of west Lantau and Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park was more or less the same; however, the abundance declined significantly in northeast Lantau waters possibly due to onset of works projects including the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge reclamation, and the marked increase in traffic of high speed ferries. As CWD in Hong Kong waters was a small portion of the whole CWD population in Pearl River Estuary (PRE), AFCD had collaborated with the Mainland Authority of PRE CWD National Nature Reserve to monitor the CWD population in the PRE.

**VI. Summary Report of Public Relations Committee (PRC)  
(Working Paper WP/CMPB/9/2014)**

81/14 Ms HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, JP, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, presented Working Paper WP/CMPB/9/2014 on issues discussed at the PRC meeting held on 3 March 2014. Members noted the Report.

**VII. Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report  
(Working Paper WP/CMPB/10/2014)**

82/14 Mr Joseph SHAM presented Working Paper WP/CMPB/10/2014 on Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report for the period from 1 January to 30 April 2014.

83/14 As regards a member's enquiry about the decrease in visitors during the reporting period in comparison with the corresponding periods of the last several years, Mr Patrick LAI replied that the decrease might be due to higher rainfall in the reporting period as compared with the average figure of the corresponding periods in the past.

84/14 The member suggested that the statistics of social trend of country park visitors (e.g. breakdown of local, overseas and Mainland visitors) and the effects of ecotourism activities organized by AFCD be included in the progress report if appropriate. Dr LEUNG Siu-fai, JP responded that the Authority would consider her suggestion subject to resources availability. Mr Patrick LAI supplemented that such data was collected in the country parks visitors opinion survey which was conducted in 2012, but not in the visitor counting which was carried out on a continuous basis.

85/14 The Chairman remarked that the Authority might consider reviewing the format and contents of the progress report in terms of the objectives, for example, facilitating the Authority in the management of country and marine parks and CMPB in discussing and offering advice to the Authority regarding the management of country and marine parks, and the corresponding indicators to be included. Should the Authority make a decision on the way forward, it might consider inviting members with interests or expertise to conduct the review.

86/14 In response to a member's enquiries about 24,200 trees affected by fire in March 2014, Mr K S CHEUNG replied that the fire occurred at an afforestation site of the Tai Lam Country Park in Ma On Kong (馬鞍崗) near the toll plaza of Tai Lam Tunnel on 24 March 2014. The area affected was 13 ha. As hill fires were recurring at this site, AFCD would carry out planting of fire-resistant species at suitable locations of the site to mitigate the loss of trees. Mr Patrick LAI supplemented that the Authority would consider whether the site was suitable for tree planting day.

87/14 A member opined that the progress report was very useful to local hiking groups for matters requiring attention, in particular safety matters. He suggested that information about law enforcement should be displayed at the entrances of country parks and disseminated to the media for publicity.

88/14 As regards the member's suggestion on provision of Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in country parks, Mr Patrick LAI said that AEDs were currently provided in venues with heavy visitor flow, for example, Hong Kong Wetland Park and Lions Nature Education Centre. As regards emergency services in the country parks, he advised that AFCD would continue to rely on the professional service of Fire Services Department and Auxiliary Medical Service (AMS).

89/14 Dr LEUNG Siu-fai, JP supplemented that information about the provision of AEDs in country parks and the cooperation with AMS would be presented at the next meeting.

#### **VIII. Any Other Business**

90/14 Members did not raise any other business for discussion.

#### **IX. Date of Next Meeting**

91/14 The Chairman informed members that the date of next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 9 October 2014. He reminded members of the special meeting on 3 July 2014.

92/14 The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

– End –