

**Country and Marine Parks Board**  
**Confirmed Minutes of the 86th Meeting**

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Date : 26 February 2025 (Wednesday)

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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**PRESENT**

**Chairman**

Professor LING Kar-kan, SBS

**Members Attending in Person**

Professor LI Xin

Mr Mickey LAI Kin-ming, JP

Mr Patrick LAI Chuen-chi

Mr YAU Sai-yuen

Director, AFCD

Deputy Director, AFCD

Chief Leisure Manager (Management), Leisure and  
Cultural Services Department

Miss Sophia ZHONG Shek-wa

Assistant Secretary (Nature Conservation) 2,  
Environment and Ecology Bureau

**Members Attending via Zoom Video Conferencing**

Mr CHEUNG Siu-keung, BBS, MH

Dr Apple CHUI Pui-yi

Miss Natalie CHUNG Sum-yue

Professor Desmond HUI Cheuk-kuen

Dr Jeffrey HUNG Oi-shing

Mr Ian LEUNG Kin-wai

Mr LO Pui-lam

Dr Angie NG Ying-sim

Mr SHUM Si-ki

Mr Henry YAU Yik-chung

Mr Randy YU Hon-kwan, MH, JP

Ms Kathy CHAN Cheuk-ling

Senior Town Planner/New Territories District  
Planning Division Headquarters 1, Planning  
Department

Miss Carmen CHAN Ka-man

Assistant Director/Port Control, Marine Department

Mr John LEUNG Chung-sun

Chief Executive Officer (2)1, Home Affairs  
Department

Mr CHIU Man-fat

Senior Engineer/Planning Policy 1, Water Supplies  
Department

Ms Juliana LAI Joe-yee

Chief Estate Surveyor/Estate Management (Acting),  
Lands Department

#### Secretary

Ms Lily CHEUNG Man-lee

Assistant Secretary (Boards)1, AFCD

#### **In Attendance**

#### AFCD

Dr Jackie YIP Yin

Assistant Director (Country Parks)

Dr Jim CHU Chun-wa

Assistant Director (Fisheries and Marine  
Conservation)

Ms Aidia CHAN Sin-wai

Senior Country Parks Officer (Ranger Services)1

Ms CHAN Yu-nam

Senior Geopark Officer

Mr William CHOW Siu-hung

Senior Country Parks Officer (Management)2

Ms Louise LI Wai-hung

Senior Marine Parks Officer

Dr Vicky CHOI Yuk-kam

Geopark Officer (Planning)

#### **Absent with Apologies**

Dr Caroline LAW Man-yee

Mr Alex WONG Lap-kei  
 Professor QIU Jianwen  
 Ms Vriko YU Pik-fan

## **OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

1/25        The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the following three officials attending the meeting for the first time:

Ms Juliana LAI Joe-yee	Chief Estate Surveyor/Estate Management (Acting), Lands Department
Mr John LEUNG Chung-sun	Chief Executive Officer (2)1, Home Affairs Department
Dr Vicky CHOI Yuk-kam	Geopark Officer (Planning), AFCD

2/25        The Chairman informed Members that, as an established practice, audio recording would be made during the meeting to facilitate the taking of minutes. It would be destroyed after the confirmation of the minutes.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **I. Confirmation of Minutes of the 85th Meeting held on 30 September 2024**

3/25        The minutes of the 85th meeting held on 30 September 2024 were confirmed without amendments.

### **II. Matters Arising**

#### **(a) Management Work and Visitor Services Arranged for the Robin's Nest Country Park (Para. 91/24 to 105/24)**

4/25        With a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Aidia CHAN Sin-wai reported that the Lin Ma Hang Lead Mine was re-opened on 30 December 2024 and the section of road within the

frontier closed area near Lin Ma Hang Village was opened to the public with effect from 24 January 2025. Also, she briefed on the publicity activities conducted by the AFCD via different channels, media reports, and the public response to the “Discovering Robin’s Nest Country Park” Hiking Challenge.

5/25        The Chairman suggested that in addition to promoting the Robin’s Nest Country Park (RNCP) to the Mainland, international publicity efforts should also be stepped up, for example, by promoting it to foreign chambers of commerce in the territory and telling good stories of Hong Kong.

6/25        Dr Jackie YIP Yin responded that the AFCD had been collaborating with the Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTb) to proactively promote Hong Kong’s green tourism, and the RNCP was one of the themes. The HKTb had invited foreign online celebrities to visit Hong Kong and the RNCP to film promotional videos.

**(b) Report on Annual Board Visit 2024 (Para. 116/24)**

7/25        With a PowerPoint presentation, Ms Lily CHEUNG Man-lee reported on the Annual Board Visit held on 20 December 2024.

**III. Preparation for the Revalidation of Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/1/2025)**

8/25        With a PowerPoint presentation, Ms CHAN Yu-nam introduced the AFCD’s ongoing preparation work for the revalidation of Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark (HKUGGp).

9/25        A Member said that the revalidation requirements should cover both qualitative and quantitative indicators. He believed that the AFCD could use the research conducted, its liaison with stakeholders and findings of the post-activity participant surveys over the years to meet the revalidation requirements. In addition, the AFCD mentioned that old facilities would be subject to renovation. He believed that participants’ opinions could be collected through public engagement activities to understand the public’s expectations for improvement measures.

10/25        The Chairman enquired about the probability of successfully renewing the UNESCO Global Geopark status.

11/25        Ms CHAN Yu-nam responded that stringent requirements for revalidation were listed in detail. The AFCD had prepared for the revalidation work in accordance with the requirements and was confident in meeting the standards and passing the revalidation.

12/25        A Member suggested using artificial intelligence technology in providing guided tour services to meet the needs of tourists from different countries in an innovative way.

13/25        A Member suggested strengthening transportation support by vessels to connect the major geopark attractions. She mentioned that village elements and local stories could be incorporated into the content of guided tours to enhance their attractiveness. In addition, she also suggested liaising with minibus companies to enhance traffic arrangements to and from the High Island Reservoir East Dam.

14/25        The AFCD noted the two suggestions.

#### **IV.            Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/2/2025)**

15/25        Mr LO Pui-lam, Chairman of the Country Parks Committee (CPC), briefed Members on Working Paper WP/CMPB/2/2025, which provided a summary of the issues discussed at the CPC meeting held on 18 October 2024. Members noted the report.

#### **V.            Summary Report of the Marine Parks Committee (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/3/2025)**

16/25        As Professor QIU Jianwen, Chairman of the Marine Parks Committee (MPC) was absent, Dr Jim CHU Chun-wa briefed Members on Working Paper WP/CMPB/3/2025 on his behalf, which provided a summary of the issues discussed at the MPC meeting held on 5 November 2024. Members noted the report.

17/25        The Chairman enquired about the change in the population of Chinese White Dolphins in the Pearl River Estuary.

18/25 Dr Jim CHU Chun-wa said that the population of Chinese White Dolphins in the Pearl River Estuary remained stable, with about 2 500 Chinese White Dolphins.

**VI. Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report  
(Working Paper: WP/CMPB/4/2025)**

19/25 Dr Jackie YIP Yin presented the Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report for the period from 1 August to 31 December 2024 (Working Paper: WP/CMPB/4/2025).

20/25 The Chairman enquired about the hill fires in country parks.

21/25 Dr Jackie YIP Yin said that a hill fire broke out in Wong Nai Tun, Yuen Long in December last year. But the nearby tourist facilities, such as the Tai Tong Sweet Gum Woods, were not affected. The AFCD had arranged for tree plantation to restore the areas damaged by the hill fire. Dr YIP remarked that a more serious hill fire took place at Kai Kung Leng recently in January 2025. The cause of the fire was still under investigation.

22/25 The Chairman said the hill fire at Kai Kung Leng might affect the residents nearby.

23/25 A Member noted that the illegal activities in country parks were mainly illegal camping, unauthorised entry of vehicles and unauthorised entry of bicycles. She enquired whether the AFCD aimed to combat such activities and the specific measures. She remarked that some country parks were rather far away from bus stops and feeder transport might be required. She also enquired whether the AFCD knew the popular illegal camping sites and suggested that the AFCD consider designating these sites as campsites.

24/25 Dr Jackie YIP Yin said that the AFCD had noticed the hot spots of illegal camping and had continuously taken enforcement actions and measures at these sites to prevent illegal camping. In addition, the AFCD would also evaluate the relevant sites and consider providing new designated campsites at suitable sites. She took the grassland at Ngong Ping, Ma On Shan, as an example, and explained that the AFCD had in the past carefully evaluated the feasibility of providing a designated campsite there. But since the site was susceptible to large-scale hill fires and also being used for other activities such as paragliding, it was not suitable to be designated as a campsite. Regarding the problems of unauthorised entry of vehicles and bicycles, the AFCD would continue to take enforcement actions, erect warning

signs at the venues and carry out educational publicity to raise the public awareness of the relevant requirements.

## **VII. Any Other Business**

25/25      The Chairman suggested recruiting docents from cities in the Greater Bay Area (GBA). On the one hand, it was hoped that they could bring in tourists from the GBA. On the other hand, this could also promote integrated development with the Mainland. Moreover, he remarked that the development of the Northern Metropolis followed the planning principle of urban-rural integration. The AFCD had accumulated rich experience in conserving village culture, customs and landscape. He suggested that the AFCD should share their experience with other government departments and organisations.

26/25      Dr Jackie YIP Yin agreed that consideration could be given to recruiting docents from the GBA. She shared the AFCD's experience of organising volunteer trail restoration services in winter. The participants included visitors from Shenzhen who specifically came to Hong Kong to learn the skill of restoring trails. Dr Jim CHU Chun-wa said that the annual reef check was organised in collaboration with Shenzhen. These activities could promote exchanges and integration of the two places.

## **VIII. Date of Next Meeting**

27/25      The Chairman informed Members that the next meeting was tentatively scheduled for the afternoon on 30 May 2025 (Friday).

28/25      The meeting adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

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