

Country and Marine Parks Board
Summary Report of the Country Parks Committee

1. Purpose

1.1 To inform members on issues discussed at the Country Parks Committee (CPC) meeting held on 12 September 2014. Major issues discussed at the meeting are summarised below.

2. Proposed erection of agricultural structures on private agricultural land at Yi O Kau Tsuen, Lantau South Country Park

2.1 Members were briefed by the representatives from AN Agridev Company Limited about the background of farmland rehabilitation at Yi O Kau Tsuen, reasons of the proposed erection, the locations as well as layout of the proposed agriculture structures, their impacts on Lantau South Country Park and the subsequent management of the proposed agriculture structures.

2.2 Members in general supported or had no objection to the proposal.

2.3 Besides asking questions related to the erection of the agricultural structures, members also raised a number of questions on the relationship between land owners, the applicant and the operator, the operation of the farmland, overnight accommodation of staff and visitors, the long term business plan, its guided tour services and its potential role in nature conservation and education in the long term. Members are also concerned whether potential impacts such as fire hazard, reduction of water sources, pollution and waste problems would arise from the farming activities.

2.4 AFCD in-principle supported the farm rehabilitation and erection of agricultural structures for the promotion of agricultural development. Members' support for the application would help promoting agricultural development as well as ecotourism, enhancing country park management and improving the relationship among the villagers, green groups and departments concerned. After the approval of the application, AFCD would be monitoring the uses of the agricultural structures and report to the Lands Department for taking enforcement actions against any unauthorized

uses and activities in the country park.

2.5 After taking into consideration of members' views, AFCD would recommend the Lands Department to grant a Letter of Approval to the applicant with certain special conditions for the erection of agricultural structures. As suggested by members, the Authority would prepare a draft of the special conditions to be imposed in the approval and circulate the draft conditions to members for comment.

2.6 Post-meeting notes: A draft of special conditions to be imposed in the Letter of Approval to be issued by the Lands Department was circulated to members on 26 September 2014. A site visit to Yi O Rehabilitated Farm has been included in the proposed itinerary of CMPB Annual Field Visit on 19 December 2014.

3. Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report on Country Parks

3.1 The Country and Marine Parks Authority Progress Report on Country Parks for the period from 1 April to 31 July 2014 was presented at the meeting.

4. Presentation

4.1 This paper is prepared for members' information.

Country and Marine Parks Authority
October 2014