

Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018  
 in the Pat Loseby Room, Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club at 1:00pm

Present:

Raymond Ma Sui Wing	(RM)	Chairman
Johnnie C K Chan	(JC)	Vice-Chairman
Mike Tanner	(MT)	Vice-Chairman
Hans Joachim Isler	(HJI)	Director
Luk Wai Hung	(LWH)	Director
Li Hong Man	(LHM)	Director
Ng Kong Wan	(NKW)	Director
MK Lau	(MK)	Hon Executive Director
Mike Arnold	(MA)	Board Secretary

Apologies for Absence:

Anthony Chan Wai Lun	(AC)	Director
Peter Lam Kwok Leung	(PL)	Director
Kevin Lewis	(KL)	Director
Terence HY Wan	(TW)	Hon Treasurer
Robert L Wilson	(RLW)	Hon Adviser
Ian Brownlee	(IB)	Hon Adviser and Technical Consultant
Ron Yeung	(RY)	Company Secretary

Before the meeting commenced, the Board observed a minute of silence as a gesture of respect for the untimely passing of a respected active water sports participant, Mark Whitehead, during the recent South China Sea Race.

Action

**1. Confirmation of Agenda**

1.1 The Board AGREED that the draft agenda for the meeting be confirmed without amendment.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

2.1 The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were CONFIRMED without amendment.

**3. Matters Arising from the 14<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting – Paper IP 18-1**

3.1 Para 3.1 Change of bank signatories at HSBC: The Board NOTED that the change of bank signatories had been completed.

3.2 Para 3.2 Payment of annual subscriptions by Associations: The Board NOTED that TriHK had paid its fees as a Member for the current year. The Board AGREED to the Executive Committee's proposal that the Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association should be invited to apply to become a Member with effect from the start of the new financial year, i.e. 1 June 2018. TW

3.3 Para 3.3 Update on Kai Tak Runway Fire Station Site- EKTWSC: MA reported that

- (a) MA advised that he was given to understand that the Marine Department had indicated that it had no objection to the STT following the submission of the third revised version of the Marine Traffic Impact Assessment.

- (b) The tree survey had recommended which trees should be removed and their relocation by new replacements. In light of CEDD having said that if the HKWSC wished to remove part of the seawall to construct the boat ramp, it would have to make a deposit of sufficient money to cover the cost of reinstating the seawall at the end of the STT, the Executive Committee had proposed that to save cost and avoid delaying the grant of the STT, the ramp should be removed in the STT application and initial use made of the proposed pontoon, with some strengthening if necessary of the link bridges. After obtaining the site, consideration could then be given to a longer-term solution for dragon and rescue boats, perhaps by installing a mechanical crane. The Board SUPPORTED this proposal.
- (c) On the need to have LCSD surrender the land at the entrance to the STT site to enable road access to be provided to the site, MA reported that Steven Li had drafted a paper in Chinese for submission to the Kowloon City District Council (KCDC) to obtain the latter's agreement to the surrender. Although LCSD/KC had indicated no objection to the surrender, LCSD/KC required the agreement of the KCDC. However, only government departments and statutory bodies were permitted make submissions to the DC and Steven was endeavouring to persuade LCSD/KC to make the submission. JC supplemented by reporting that he had met with Mr Pun Kwok-wah, Chairman of Kowloon City Council, and Ir Cheung Yan-hon, the chairman of the DC's Leisure and District Facilities Management Committee. Both Chairman Pun and Ir Cheung had indicated that they were fully supportive of the HKWSC's proposal. JC further reported that he had also spoken to the DO/KC, who had also indicated that he had no objection to the proposed release of the LCSD land.
- (d) MA reported that since the issue of Paper IP 18-1, HAB had sent an email to Masterplan asking for the original 2015 Operational Plan and financial viability assessment of the fire station project to be updated. HAB had advised that in 2015, they had given policy support-in-principle to the STT. In order to confirm policy support for the grant of the STT, they needed to receive an update of the 2015 information. They wished to receive this information by 27 April 2018. MT said that as part of this process, the setting up of a centre Management Committee, funding sources and costs could be re-examined. The Board AGREED that Ian Brownlee, MT, MA, Steven Li, MK and, if possible, a representative of the HKCDBA should meet to review and update the 2015 information, which would be circulated for information to Board members.
- (e) JC reported that he had spoken recently with Hon Ma Fung Kwok, who had indicated that he would raise the Kai Tak water sports centre projects in the LegCo Public Works Sub-Committee meeting, which would be held on the same day as the HKWSC's Board meeting.

MT  
MA  
MK

The Board NOTED the current situation in respect of the Kai Tak Runway Fire Station Site.

- 3.4 Para 3.4 Update on Tseung Kwan O Site: Updating the information contained in Paper IP 18-1, MT reported that Peter Weiley of the consultants, Advisian, had advised that Ian Brownlee and he had been able to have a short discussion with Linda Law of HAB about the HKWSC's latest proposals for the project and would be following up with her in the next week. MT went on to say that he had not yet been able to contact Peter Weiley to find out the latest position, but would do so.

MT

- 3.5 Para 3.5 Funding for HKWSC Secretariat: MT noted that it might be possible to link this matter with the Kai Tak fire station project so as to obtain HKJC funding. MT  
MA  
MK
- 3.6 Para 3.6 Application to IRD for charitable status for the HKWSC: MK advised that the previous evening he had reminded the Hon Legal Adviser, Vitus Leung, that the latter should look at the suggested amendments to the draft set of objects for the proposed charitable trust. MK
- 3.7 Para 3.8 Water Safety Day to be held on 1 May 2018: MT said that the HKCRA would use one of the two booths allocated to the HKWSC to demonstrate “Ergos” and show materials related to rowing. In response to MK noting that in 2017, the HKCRA had organised its own separate booth, MT agreed that for this year, the HKCRA share the two booths allocated to the HKWSC and not have its own separate booth. JC said that he would review the HKLSS’s allocation of booths to reflect this sharing arrangement. MK went on to report that he had contacted the other NSAs to provide materials for the two booths and would follow up. RM noted that this year the HKWSC would be recognised as a sponsor of the event and this, with the two booths, would raise the Council’s public profile. MK
- 3.8 Para 3.10 HKWSC website: MA said that in addition to the information set out in Paper IP 18-1, he had since added a new page to the website entitled “Viewpoint”. This page was intended to publish the views of the Council on matters concerning water sports. To this end he had uploaded an article setting out the Council’s views on the desirability of the new Youth Development Commission having regard to the benefits for youth through participation in water sports. The substance of the article was the letter sent in late 2017 to the chairman of the former Commission on Youth, but expanded by describing other examples of water sports having benefited youth development contributed by NSAs. All
- 3.9 Para 3.11 Proposed STT for Wanchai Basin: MA reported that shortly after issuing Paper IP 18-1, the DLO, Hong Kong East, had sent a letter rejecting the HKCRA’s application for an STT to provide a site for the 2019 World Rowing Coastal Championships in November 2019, on the grounds that the site was not available at that time. MT advised that the HKCRA would be following up with the DLO to ascertain the background to the rejection and to see what might be possible as regards obtaining use of at least part of the land in question. MT
- 3.10 Para 5.1 Proposed TOR for the Executive Committee. The Board considered the proposed TOR. HJI was of the view that the structure of the TOR was not that normally adopted for Committees. He said that the usual practice was to set out what powers a Committee could exercise, not to set out which powers were reserved to the Board with all others being delegated to the Committee. MA advised that HJI was generally correct in his view. However, it was very difficult in practice to set out the powers of an Executive Committee. For example, in his previous position in KCRC, the KCRC Board had found it necessary to adopt this “inverted” approach for the TOR of the Corporation’s Executive Management Committee. HJI agreed that the powers reserved to the Board set out in the draft TOR appeared to be very comprehensive. He proposed, however, that the TOR should include a requirement that the Executive Committee circulate its draft minutes to Board members so that they could have the opportunity to comment before decisions were finally confirmed. MA said that he could readily do this by circulating the draft minutes to Board members by email. The Board AGREED that MA should propose suitable wording to give effect to this All

arrangement and circulate this to Board members for comment.

**4. Matters to be reported to the Board arising from meetings of the Executive Committee**

- 4.1 HAB's offer of a possible STT site at Kai Tak Runway: MA referred to the plan of the proposed site enclosed at Annex A to the draft agenda and said that at the site meeting with HAB on 8 March 2018, it had been agreed with the Government's representatives that HAB/EKEO would advise the HKWSC whether an STT application could be made in the name of the HKWSC. Since a month had elapsed without a response from the Government, he proposed to send a reminder. It had also been suggested that to move matters along an application for an STT of the site should at the same time be prepared and sent to Lands Department. The Board AGREED that in addition to sending a reminder to HAB/EKEO, an application for an STT of the site should be prepared and submitted to Lands Department on behalf of the HKWSC. MA
- 4.2 Possible Affiliation of 14 Uniformed Youth Groups: MA spoke briefly to the paper at Annex B to the draft agenda. RM explained that what was being proposed was in line with government policy for youth. Approaching established organisations like the uniformed groups should make matters easier to manage. Recognising that the 14 groups each had a considerable number of members, RM proposed and the Board AGREED that priority should first be given to approaching those organisations that already had water sports activities. He quoted as an example approaching the Hong Kong Sea Cadets who had previously indicated an interest possibly in taking the Kai Tak fire station site before the HKWSC applied for the STT. Following a brief discussion about which groups should be approached first, the Board DELEGATED the authority to the Executive Committee to decide which of the uniformed groups should be approached first and the arrangements concerned. RM  
MK
- 4.3 Review of Private Recreational Leases: MA spoke briefly to the paper at Annex C to the draft agenda. He noted that under HAB's proposals, NSAs would be entitled to apply for PRLs at a nominal premium. Since the HKWSC represented water sports NSAs, it should be entitled to similar treatment for its proposed centres. Further, some NSAs already held sites that were subject to short-term STTs. They should be allowed to convert these to PRLs to provide longer term security for their activities. NSAs were expected to provide activities to the community at an affordable cost (i.e. often not at a price which would achieve full cost recovery). But the terms of PRLs and STTs subject to a nominal premium prevented NSAs from generating any commercial revenue, even where that revenue was directly invested in supporting substantive community water sports activities and not providing luxury facilities for members. This meant that NSAs were almost entirely dependent on government subventions, which limited their ability to expand to meet demand and offer a greater range of services. MT further noted that HAB's paper did not adequately take on board the contributions made by clubs. The Board NOTED that the period for comments to be given to HAB ended in September and AGREED that a proposed draft of the HKWSC's views should be prepared and circulated to Board members and NSAs for their comments. Following receipt of comments, the draft should be brought back to the Board for its formal consideration and approval before being issued to HAB. MA
- 4.4 Deloitte Consultancy Study on Provision of Sports Facilities in Hong Kong: Referring to Annex D attached to the draft agenda, JC reported that he had recently been invited to MT

attend a focus group discussion on behalf of the HKLSS organised by Deloitte. Deloitte had been commissioned by HAB to conduct a study on the demand and supply of sports facilities in Hong Kong and to make recommendations on future provision of sports facilities to serve Government's policy objectives on sports development. As part of the study, NSAs and others were being invited to attend a series of focus group meetings to express their views on the provision of sports facilities in Hong Kong. JC said that during the discussion, he took the opportunity to mention the role of the HKWSC and its proposals for developing water sports sites at Kai Tak and Tseung Kwan O. From the reaction of Deloitte, it appeared that they were unaware of the HKWSC and its proposals. The Board considered that there was a case for the Council to raise its profile and AGREED that a letter should be sent to Deloitte explaining the role of the HKWSC and copied to HAB.

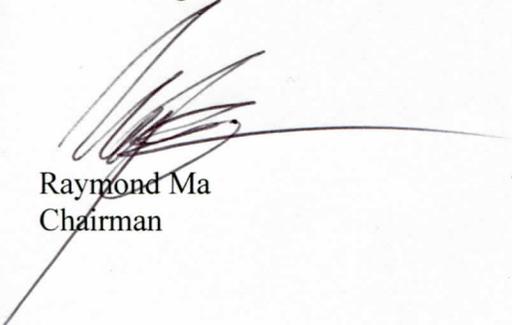
## **5. Any Other Business**

- 5.1 Kai Tak Sports Park: MT reported that he and MA, representing the HKCRA and the HKWSC, had recently attended a focus group organised by one of the three consortia invited by the Government to bid for the build operate and transfer contract for the proposed Kai Tak Sports Park. They had suggested to the consultants for the consortia that thought be given to incorporating facilities for water sports within the Park, especially in the location identified as the Dining Cove Area located alongside the adjacent typhoon shelter. Activities such as dinghy sailing and canoeing were suggested as possible activities, with the boats possibly being stored at the ground floor level of the Dining Cove with the restaurants located above on the second floor level. Although only one consortia had asked for input, MT suggested that the HKWSC should continue to keep this issue in view and be prepared to discuss further if the opportunity arose. The Board AGREED to MT's proposal.

## **6. Date of Next Board Meeting**

- 6.1 The next Board meeting is scheduled to be held beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Pat Loseby Room on Wednesday, 11 July 2018. (The remaining scheduled Board meeting is on 12 September, with the AGM being held on 10 October.)

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 2:00 p.m.



Raymond Ma  
Chairman