

COMMITTEE ON BOATING AND YACHTING

Minutes of Meeting held on 22 March 2000 at 1030 hours in the Marine Department Headquarters Conference Room (A)

Present

Mr. K. K. NG	General Manager/ Operations, Marine Department	Chairman
Dr. Alan LAU	) Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club	Member
Mr. Robert Bird	)	Member
Ms. Cora CHEN	) Hong Kong Yachting Association	Member
Mr. Cowen CHIU	)	Member
Mr. L. Y. BUTT	) Marine Department	Member
Miss Ivy CHAU	)	Secretary

In Attendance

Mr. Alex KWOK	) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Mr. W. K. CHOW)
Mr. K. L. LEE	) Marine Department
Mr. F. L. CHEUK)
Mr. K. C. CHAN)
Mr. S. C. LEUNG)
Mr. Y. K. LAI)

Absent

Mr. K. C. KWOK	Hong Kong Yachting Association	Member
Mr. F. K. FONG	Civil Engineering Department	Member
Mr. Wells HO	Home Affairs Bureau	Member
Mr. David TONG	Home Affairs Department	Member
Mr. Stephen LEUNG	Urban Services Department and Regional Services Department	Member

The Chairman welcomed all present.

I. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

II. MATTER ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance (MS(LV)O)- Progress Report

3. **Mr. F L CHEUK** briefed members that due to some technical problems, the expected enforcement date of the MS(LV)O would be delayed to end of this year.

Wan Chai Reclamation - Progress Report

4. **Mr. S C LEUNG** informed members that after evaluation of the 3 shortlisted development options, option A was recommended for detailed assessment and further examination. **Mr. LEUNG** introduced the main features of the option and told members that the reclamation study was aimed for completion at end of 2001 to early of 2002.
5. Members found the option acceptable.

South East New Territories Development Strategy Review - Progress Report

6. **Mr. S C LEUNG** briefed members on the progress of the Review. The consultation Paper had already been circulated to members for comments. Marine Department also conducted detailed discussions with the consultant and Planning Department(PD). **Mr. LEUNG** briefed members on the revised proposal of the potential MCA(Marine Conservation Areas) which had been agreed with in principle. PD would conduct assessments and consultations before finalizing the proposal. Educational approach would be adopted to protect the MCA.

Artificial Reef (AR) Development Study - Progress Report

7. **Mr. K C CHAN** reported on the progress of the Study. **Mr. CHAN** informed members that Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) had drawn up an implementation plan after having public consultations on the Study and briefed members on the plan. Relevant information of the deployment of AR would be promulgated in Marine Department Notices and indicated on the appropriate navigational charts in due course. Members raised no comment on the proposal. The deployment of AR was expected to commence in 2001 for completion in April 2002.

IV. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Pleasure Vessel Examination System

8. **Mr. K L LEE** informed members that the new legislation for Pleasure Vessel Operator Certification and Examination would be enacted under MS(LV)O. **Mr. LEE** further advised that the fee structure based on a user pay principle had been proposed to Finance Bureau. Members would be informed of the implementation date when confirmed.
9. **Mr. LEE** briefed members of the system of the MD examinations for Grade 1 and Grade 2 Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificates. He added that candidates for Grade 1 examination would be required to have 1 year relevant experience and hold a Grade 2 Certificate. In response to Mr. Alan LAU's enquiry, **Mr. LEE** said that the Pleasure Vessel Operator Certificate would incorporate both deck and engineering qualifications. **Mr. LEE** also assured that the standard of the examination organized by MD would be in line with the training and examination organized by HKYA to ensure fairness. He would distribute the finalized rules and syllabus of the examination to members for their comments and reference in near future.

Tung Ping Chau Marine Park (COMBAY Paper No. 2/00)

10. **Mr. Alex KWOK** briefed members on the proposal of Tung Ping Chau Marine Park, the information paper of which had been distributed to members before the meeting. **Mr. KWOK** introduced the background of identifying Ping Chau as the potential Marine Park and the management and control arrangements thereof to the meeting. Members raised no comment on the proposal.

Carrying Capacity of Pleasure Vessels (PV)

11. **Mr. L Y BUTT** briefed members on the proposal of determining the maximum number of persons to be carried by PVs upon the enactment of the MS(LV)O. In the proposal, PVs would be simplified from 6 to 2 types, open deck and closed deck. The maximum allowable number of persons on a PV would be determined by the size

of vessel in terms of length x breadth (L x B) unit. For closed deck PV, the maximum allowable number of persons would be calculated by $L(m) \times B(m) \times 0.4$. For open deck PV, the maximum allowable persons would be determined as follows:

- 10 (L x B) units or less, 2 persons maximum
- More than 10 (L x B) units, 4 persons maximum

PVs might be allowed to carry more persons subject to a satisfactory inclining test conducted by an approved classification society.

12. Members raised initially no adverse comment on the proposal. Once finalized, it would be distributed to members for formal consultation.

Retirement of Chairman

13. **The Chairman** told members that this was the last COMBAY meeting chaired by him before his retirement in May this year. The meeting delivered a sincere thanks to Mr. K K NG for his valuable contribution to the meeting.

V. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14. The date of next meeting would be announced in due course.
15. There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1200 hours.