## ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD

## Minutes of the 207<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at 2:30 pm at Conference Room, Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre <u>Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon</u>

Present:	Prof SO Cheung-tak, Douglas, BBS, JP Prof CHAN Ching, Selina Mr CHAN Chun-hung, Vincent Prof CHEUNG Sui-wai Prof CHU Hoi-shan Mr HO Kui-yip, MH, JP Dr LEE Ching-yee, Jane, MH, JP Prof LI Chi-miu, Phyllis, BBS Ms SEE Sau-mei, Salome Mr SHUM Ho-kit, BBS, JP Mr SU Yau-on, Albert, MH, JP	(Chairman)
	Mr TSANG Chiu-tong, Brian	
	Mr YAM Ming-ho, Caspar	
	Prof YEUNG Wai-shing, Frankie, BBS, MH, JP	
	Miss YEUNG Wing-shan, Theresa	
	Ms YIP Ka-ming, Alice	
	Mr YUEN Siu-bun, Edward	
	Ms Shirley YEUNG	(Secretary)
	Senior Executive Officer (Antiquities & Monuments) 2	
	Antiquities and Monuments Office	
Absent with Apologies:	: Ms CHEUNG Tih-lin, Vanessa Mr FU Chin-shing, Ivan, MH, JP Dr IP Chung-man, Tony, MH Prof LAM Weng-cheong	

In Attendance:

**Development Bureau** 

Miss Pamela LAM, JP Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 1 [DS(W)1]

Mr Ivanhoe CHANG Commissioner for Heritage [C for H]

Mr Sunny LO Chief Assistant Secretary (Works) 2

Ms Winkie CHICK Assistant Secretary (Heritage Conservation) 3

Ms Ella LAM Chief Executive Officer (Heritage Conservation) 1

Ms Josephine YU Secretariat Press Officer (Development)

Antiquities and Monuments Office

Ms Fione LO Executive Secretary (Antiquities & Monuments) [ES(AM)]

Ms Susanna SIU, MH Chief Heritage Executive (Antiquities & Monuments) [CHE(AM)]

Mr Clarence HO Senior Architect (Antiquities & Monuments) 1

Mr YUEN Ming-hing Acting Senior Architect (Antiquities & Monuments) 2 / Architect (Antiquities & Monuments) 6 Miss Fanny KONG Curator (Historical Buildings) 2 [C(HB)2]

Miss Beatrice WONG Curator (Historical Buildings) 3 [C(HB)3]

Architectural Services Department

Mr Raymond CHAN Assistant Director (Property Services)

Planning Department

Miss Winne LAU Assistant Director of Planning/Metro

#### **Opening Remarks**

<u>The Chairman</u> welcomed Members and government representatives to the meeting.

2. <u>The Chairman</u> reminded Members to declare interest when they perceived that there might be conflict of interest in matters being discussed or to be discussed at the meeting.

## Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes of the 206<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 12 September 2024 (Board Minutes AAB/7/2023-24)

3. The minutes of the 206<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 12 September 2024 were confirmed without amendments.

## Item 2 Matters Arising and Progress Report (Board Paper AAB/39/2023-24)

4. <u>ES(AM)</u> briefed Members on the progress of major heritage conservation projects from 1 August to 15 November 2024 as detailed in the Board Paper, including declaration of two Grade 1 historic buildings as monuments, and major preservation, restoration and maintenance of historic building projects.

### Summary on identification and assessment of items of heritage value

5. <u>ES(AM)</u> provided a roundup of the grading assessment so far and the way forward. A territory-wide survey commissioned by the Antiquities and Monuments Office ("AMO") from 1996 to 2000 recorded some 8 800 buildings which were mainly built before 1950. From which, 1 444 buildings (i.e. the "List of the 1 444 Historic Buildings") were selected for assessment between 2002 and 2004 upon in-depth study. Up till now, 177 items were accorded Grade 1, 340 Grade 2 and 517 Grade 3 status. In addition, 391 items were added to the "List of New Items for Grading Assessment" to date through suggestions from the public and AMO's daily work, out of which 270 had been graded.

6. ES(AM) continued to report that on the recommendation of the Board, AMO set up a task force in 2019 to carry out preparatory work for the assessment of post-1950 buildings systematically. Grading assessment of 207 items built after 1950 were completed, with 120 of them accorded Grade 1, 2 or 3 status. Preliminary research had also been conducted on some 2 000 buildings built between 1950 and 1959, mainly located in urban areas, as well as village-type buildings identified from some 900 villages in the New Territories. The task force was currently compiling the research findings, which were planned to be presented to the independent Historic Buildings Assessment Panel (the "Assessment Panel") for shortlisting those buildings of higher heritage value for inclusion in the "List of New Items for Grading Assessment" which would undergo further study and consideration for grading. As reported in the Board's meeting held on 6 June 2024, AMO would continue the grading assessment of buildings following the prevailing mechanism and in accordance with the established six assessment criteria. Pre-1950 buildings would be assessed first, followed by post-1950 buildings, with priority given to buildings subject to demolition threat or re-development plans. Besides, AMO was reviewing items recorded during the territory-wide survey (i.e. the 8 800 items) but not included in the "List of the 1 444 Historic Buildings", with a view to selecting suitable items for grading assessment.

7. <u>CHE(AM)</u> briefed Members on the progress of archaeological works and educational and publicity activities from 1 August to 15 November 2024 as detailed in the Board Paper, including excavation of dinosaur fossils on Port Island and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Greater Bay Area Cultural Heritage Forum (the "Forum") held in Macao. She also took the opportunity to thank Professor CHEUNG Sui-wai and Dr Tony IP for being star-graded docents for the guided tours at the National Day X Heritage Funfair, and invited Members to visit the dinosaur fossil exhibition workshop in the courtyard of the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre ("HDC").

8. <u>The Chairman</u> expressed appreciation to AMO for its tremendous efforts in organising various activities and Members for attending the Forum. The extensive discussion with scholars and experts from the Mainland and Macao provided valuable new insights into heritage conservation. He looked forward to the next Forum.

(Mr Vincent CHAN joined the meeting at 2:52 p.m.)

9. Prof Phyllis LI recommended enriching the content of past historic building appraisals with reference to research results shared at the Forum, so as to enhance understanding of related heritage from a wider regional and spatiotemporal perspective, if resource allowed. She was also pleased to see the launch of the first Greater Bay Area Education Heritage Trail featuring the linkage of the cultural and education system in the region, and suggested featuring the listing of the Maritime Silk Road relics as World Heritage Sites in the next trail. CHE(AM) replied that Hong Kong was a member of the Alliance of Cities for the Protection and Joint Inscription of Maritime Silk Road as World Heritage Sites, and government representatives had actively participated in the Alliance's meetings to deliberate on the progress of nomination work and exchange latest findings relevant to maritime trade. AMO would continue its cooperation with Mainland professionals and studies on archaeological finds unearthed from the site of Sung Wong Toi MTR station in support of the intended inscription. She added that the establishment of the first cross-boundary heritage trail paved the way to a strong start for promoting tourism, and the potential for further collaboration would be explored.

10. In response to <u>Prof Phyllis LI</u>'s suggestions on developing a specific category and timeline for grading of buildings built between 1950 and 1959, <u>ES(AM)</u> explained that the "List of New Items for Grading Assessment" currently covered items pending assessment, irrespective of their years of construction. She reiterated the step-by-step approach for addressing post-1950 buildings, noting that some of which had already been included in the said list. <u>C for H</u> supplemented that while AMO strived to enhance past building appraisals with new information, its primary focus, having regard to resource constraints, was on the assessment of remaining historic buildings to ensure their better protection. The grading of most buildings under the "List of the 1 444 Historic Buildings" had been confirmed, and AMO would consider reviewing the entities under the "List of New Items for Grading Assessment" to allow for their clear identification.

11. <u>Mr SHUM Ho-kit</u> was thrilled about the discovery of dinosaur fossils for the first time in Hong Kong and considered it a new evidence on the worthiness of conducting research on local palaeontology. He wondered if there were any long-term plans for capitalising on such discovery in terms of exhibition, education, research and collaboration with Mainland and overseas experts.

CHE(AM) briefed Members on the dinosaur fossil exhibition being 12. prepared at HDC. As dinosaur fossil preparation and restoration progressed, AMO would cooperate with professionals at home, in the Mainland and abroad to She also illustrated the list of conduct in-depth research on the specimens. upcoming educational activities including talks and workshops to promote public knowledge in palaeontology. C for H remarked that as such palaeontological study straddled multiple fields, AMO would collaborate with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ("AFCD"), as well as experts and universities in Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas from relevant disciplines to host lectures and carry out research, making the study of dinosaur fossils a local The possibility of co-hosting exhibitions with museums in the focal point. Greater Bay Area to showcase the relatively abundant dinosaur fossils in the Mainland would also be explored. In addition, AFCD would hold outreach science popularisation activities for primary and secondary schools.

13. At the Chairman's invitation, <u>Prof Selina CHAN</u> introduced the new "Digital Imaging Laboratory" in Hong Kong Shue Yan University. The laboratory featured equipment such as 3-dimensional ("3D") laser scanners and printers, which allowed 3D images of heritage sites and artefacts to be captured

accurately, and be converted to detailed digital models. She believed that such innovative blend of technology and culture could foster new forms of engagement by young people in a creative manner and stimulate their learning with digital storytelling. <u>The Chairman</u> hoped that arrangement could be made for Members to visit the centre at opportune time.

14. To capitalise on the recent enthusiasm for dinosaur fossils, <u>Mr HO Kui-yip</u> suggested establishing an online resource centre in the short term to provide the public with the relevant information. He also suggested uploading all appraisals and photos of graded historic buildings onto the internet platform. <u>ES(AM)</u> replied that information of all graded items had been uploaded onto the the Board's website.

## Item 3 Assessment of Historic Buildings (Board Paper AAB/40/2023-24)

#### **Confirmation of Proposed Grading Endorsed at the Last Meeting**

15. <u>The Chairman</u> said that Mr Caspar YAM had declared interest before the meeting that he prepared and submitted an appraisal and preliminary building condition survey for Kung Um Temple, as a voluntary service for villagers concerned without financial gains. He advised that Mr YAM would continue to join the discussion but refrain from voting on the item.

16.  $\underline{\text{ES}(\text{AM})}$  recapped that the Board endorsed the proposed grading of the following four items at its meeting on 12 September 2024:

- Nos. 8-9 Tai Pak Terrace, Kennedy Town, Hong Kong (serial no. 314) proposed No Grading;
- (ii) Tak Sang Pawn Shop, Nos. 176 and 178 Shanghai Street, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon (serial no. N249) – proposed Grade 3;
- (iii) No. 7 Luk Chau Village, Lamma Island (serial no. N65) proposed Grade 3; and
- (iv) Kung Um Temple, Yuen Long, New Territories (serial no. N187) proposed Grade 3.

17. <u>ES(AM)</u> reported that a one-month public consultation on the proposed grading of the above four items was conducted from 3 October to 3 November 2024. No written submissions were received on the proposed grading status for all items.

18. With no further views from Members, the Board supported the confirmation of the proposed grading status for the four items listed in paragraph 16 above.

(Ms Alice YIP joined the meeting at 3:28 p.m.)

### **Confirmation of Proposed Grading Endorsed at Previous Meetings**

19.  $\underline{C(HB)2}$  reported that the proposed grading for the following four items under the "List of New Items for Grading Assessment" had been endorsed by the Board but had yet been confirmed due to objections from their owners received during/after the public consultation period:

- No. 47 Cheung Shing Street, Yuen Long Kau Hui, Yuen Long, New Territories (serial no. N190) – proposed Grade 2;
- (ii) Nos. 167 and 169 Lai Chi Kok Road, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N179) proposed Grade 3;
- (iii) Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N180) proposed Grade 3; and
- (iv) No. 99F Wellington Street, Central, Hong Kong (serial no. N20) proposed Grade 2.

20. AMO wrote to the respective owners on 18 November 2024, informing that the proposed grading of the aforementioned four items would be discussed at this meeting and invited their views. C(HB)2 shared with Members the owners' views outlined in the previously received objection letters, along with the Assessment Panel's deliberations in response to the views. With the aid of videos and PowerPoints, she proceeded to brief Members on the heritage value, current conditions and proposed grading of these four items.

No. 47 Cheung Shing Street, Yuen Long Kau Hui, Yuen Long, New Territories (serial no. N190)

21. <u>C(HB)2</u> recapped that the Board endorsed the proposed Grade 2 status of the building at No. 47 Cheung Shing Street on 4 December 2013. The owner wrote to AMO in January and May 2014 expressing their objection to the proposed grading, citing alterations to the layout of the building, its poor condition, and plans for re-development. The Assessment Panel inspected the building in October 2024. After discussion and comparison of the photos of the building taken in 2013 and 2024, the Assessment Panel concluded that there were no apparent changes in its condition and appearance, and recommended maintaining its proposed Grade 2 status.

22. <u>Mr SHUM Ho-kit</u> supported the proposed Grade 2 status for the building in respect of its shared group value as it formed a cluster with various graded historic buildings in the three streets of Yuen Long Kau Hui and displayed the history and vibe of an ancient market.

23. <u>Prof CHU Hoi-shan</u> enquired about the floor plan of the building, which might illustrate how business activities were conducted in the building at that time. <u>Prof CHEUNG Sui-wai</u> asked about the structural support for the second floor of the building.

24. <u>Prof Frankie YEUNG</u> commented that the air-conditioners mounted to the front and side exterior wall seemed not in harmony with the building's surroundings and wondered if the owner could relocate them to restore the building's original appearance. <u>The Chairman</u> noted that old photos from 2013 showed these air-conditioners at their current locations.

25.  $\underline{C(HB)2}$  explained that the building was constructed in vernacular style to cope with the needs at that time and the second floor of the building was supported by grey brick walls at two sides. As the building dated back to 1905, no floor plan could be identified during research. <u>The Chairman</u> reiterated that inspection of its interior might not be possible due to owner's objection for grading the building, and asked C(HB)2 to note Members' queries and provide any supplementary information about the building's interior if it became available in the future.

26. <u>Mr SHUM Ho-kit</u> said that the concerned village head had expressed concerns on the demolition of a few historic buildings for re-development, and appealed to AMO to enhance communication with their owners for better heritage conservation.

27. <u>Prof Phyllis LI</u> noticed that there were both commercial and residential buildings along Cheung Shing Street. She believed that the cluster of buildings there reflected the history and development of a once vital market. In addition, owners of historic buildings should be encouraged to apply for the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme on Built Heritage ("FAS") for better maintenance upon grading. <u>The Chairman</u> remarked that AMO would introduce FAS in their notification letters to owners, and the Office's willingness to offer technical advice on repair and maintenance of historic buildings.

28. With no further views from Members, the Board confirmed the grading of No. 47 Cheung Shing Street as Grade 2.

## Nos. 167 and 169 Lai Chi Kok Road, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N179)

29. <u>C(HB)2</u> recapped that the Board endorsed the proposed Grade 3 status for the pair of shophouses at Nos. 167 and 169 Lai Chi Kok Road on 4 March 2014. AMO subsequently received four letters from three owners in 2014 and 2016, indicating their objection to the proposed grading, but without indicating any reasons or additional information. The Assessment Panel inspected the shophouses in October 2024 and upon deliberation, assessed that there had not been significant changes to their appearance and layout since 2014, thereby affirming its proposed Grade 3 recommendation.

30. <u>Prof CHEUNG Sui-wai</u> supported the proposed grading and added that the characteristic shophouses with projected verandahs originated in Hong Kong but their numbers were declining.

31. With no further views from Members, the Board confirmed the grading of Nos. 167 and 169 Lai Chi Kok Road as Grade 3.

#### Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N180)

32. C(HB)2 recapped that the Board endorsed the proposed Grade 3 status for the buildings at Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road on 4 December 2013. The owners and/or their representatives opposed to the proposed grading, and wrote to AMO in January 2014 to indicate their plans for re-developing the buildings. They reiterated their views in 2024, claiming that the buildings had little heritage value and that substantial expenses would be incurred to address structural weaknesses and other issues, such as water leakage. The Assessment Panel conducted an inspection of the buildings in October 2024 and reviewed these objection letters. Having considered that there was no new and reliable information on their heritage value, the Assessment Panel agreed that its proposed Grade 3 status should remain unchanged. AMO had also replied to the owner in December 2024, explaining the administrative nature of the grading system and introducing FAS to address their concerns.

33. <u>Mr HO Kui-yip</u> supported the proposed grading and considered that the buildings, with architectural features such as the square shaped columns and decorative elements at the cornice, had largely been retained in good condition, were worth preserving. With the demolition of other shophouses in the vicinity for re-development, the adjoining verandah-type buildings at Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road stood as a witness to the historical development of Nullah Road, and demonstrated the then streetscape with their distinctive appearance.

34. <u>Prof Phyllis LI</u> opined that further research could be conducted on "verandah licence". She noted that there had previously been an undertaking related to the erection of verandahs or balconies on or over government land with pedestrian access. The emergence and subsequent decline of such requirements might offer insight into the development of architectural features of pre-1950 buildings in Hong Kong.

35. With no further views from Members, the Board confirmed the grading of Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road as Grade 3.

#### No. 99F Wellington Street, Central, Hong Kong (serial no. N20)

36.  $\underline{C(HB)2}$  recapped that the Board endorsed the proposed Grade 2 status for the shophouse at No. 99F Wellington Street on 4 December 2013. AMO

received a letter from the owner's representative in February 2014 expressing disagreement with the proposed grading, citing that the shophouse had recently undergone renovation. In response to AMO's notification letter of November 2024, the owner reiterated that the shophouse lacked special architectural interest and had limited historical significance in comparison with other structures within the neighbourhood. After inspecting the shophouse in October 2024 and reviewing the photos taken before and after the renovation, along with the letters from the owner / owner's representative which did not provide any new and reliable information about the building's heritage value, the Assessment Panel maintained their previous assessment on the heritage value of the shophouse and reaffirmed its proposed Grade 2 status.

37. <u>Miss Theresa YEUNG</u> expressed her support for the proposed grading, noting the shophouse was aesthetically pleasing. She also commended the owner's intention to conserve the shophouse by retaining most of its architectural features. She hoped that more urban planning measures could encourage owners of historic buildings to preserve their properties.

38. In response to <u>Prof CHEUNG Sui-wai</u>'s enquiry on the year of construction and design in respect of the shophouse, C(HB)2 said that it was built around 1927-28 with a basement.

39. <u>Mr Vincent CHAN</u> concurred with the proposed grading for the shophouse which was considered an architectural rarity in the district and having regard to its shared group value with surrounding graded items, including the Wellington Street Public Toilet (Grade 2).

40. With no further views from Members, the Board confirmed the grading of No. 99F Wellington Street as Grade 2.

### New Items for Grading Assessment

41. <u>The Chairman</u> thanked Members for attending the site visit to Tin Shui Lau Fong on 3 December 2024, and AMO for the demonstration of building recording by small unmanned aircraft (drone) on the spot. He then invited ES(AM) to brief Members on the application of technology in building conservation by AMO.

(Mr Albert SU joined the meeting at 4:24 p.m.)

42. <u>ES(AM)</u> reported that AMO had set up a 3D Laser Scanning Survey Subunit in 2016, with a view to collecting 3D survey data for better conservation, restoration and education of heritage. With the aid of PowerPoint and video, she briefed Members with examples on the application of 3D laser scanning, as supplemented by the use of drones, to record historic relics as well as monitor their conditions. Apart from using 3D printing of historic buildings at exhibitions to enrich the experience of visitors, AMO was exploring ways to release 2D and 3D records of heritage sites on online platform subject to any privacy and technical issues that might arise. She remarked that the interior of historic buildings could also be captured with a portable 3D scanner, and showed Members some 3D printout models.

43. <u>The Chairman</u> said that the following three items would be discussed at the meeting:

- (i) Tin Shui Lau Fong, Chek Keng Sheung Wai, Sai Kung North, Tai Po, New Territories (serial no. N430) – proposed Grade 2;
- (ii) Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin, Clear Water Bay, Sai Kung, New Territories (serial no. N431) – proposed Grade 2; and
- (iii) No. 6 Arran Street, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N432) proposed Grade 3.

44. With the aid of videos and PowerPoints,  $\underline{C(HB)3}$  briefed Members on the heritage value, current conditions and proposed grading of the above three items.

## Tin Shui Lau Fong, Chek Keng Sheung Wai, Sai Kung North, Tai Po, New Territories (serial no. N430)

45. <u>Ms Salome SEE</u> appreciated AMO's detailed research on the building including its importance as a base of co-operation between the Hong Kong and Kowloon Brigade and the British Army Aid Group in the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression (the "War of Resistance") as noted during the Board's visit. To maximise the value of the findings, she suggested intergrating them into the development of in-depth heritage tourism. <u>The Chairman</u> further proposed that QR code could be provided at the site to facilitate hikers passing by to learn

about its association with and the stories of the East River Column.

46. <u>Mr HO Kui-yip</u> shared the historical ambience he felt during the visit to Tin Shui Lau Fong and the nearby Holy Family Chapel (Grade 2). He emphasised that the former site possessed historical significance, though not in the most well-maintained condition. He recommended incorporating multimedia elements, such as simulation and oral history materials to enhance visitors' experience. He hoped that the building could be repaired as soon as possible. <u>The Chairman</u> echoed, adding that oral history would facilitate the interpretation of the building in relation to historic relics associated with the East River Column in the vicinity. He suggested that these elements could be featured in themed heritage trails in the Greater Bay Area in future.

47. <u>Mr SHUM Ho-kit</u> remarked on the building's historical value, especially from the perspective of the War of Resistance involving the East River Column in Sai Kung. He supported the proposed grading, and pointed out that there was potential to develop both cultural heritage and eco-tourism in the area given its picturesque scenery for achieving "tourism is everywhere in Hong Kong". <u>The Chairman</u> added that Members could visit the Hong Kong Museum of the War of Resistance and Coastal Defence for more information on the East River Column.

48. <u>Dr Jane LEE</u> supported the proposed grading and suggested AMO to record the oral history on video so as to preserve it for future heritage education, conservation and tourism purposes.

49. <u>Prof CHEUNG Sui-wai</u> opined that the adjacent Holy Family Chapel was of significance because it also marked the endeavour of Catholic missionaries in Hong Kong. <u>The Chairman</u> remarked that the Chapel was accorded Grade 2 status in 2013.

50. <u>Ms Alice YIP</u> concurred with Members' comments and believed that more could be done to encourage private owners to preserve historic buildings. She emphasised the importance of alleviating owners' concerns by clarifying that grading would not affect ownership, usage, management and development rights of their properties. 51. <u>Prof Phyllis LI</u> supported the proposed grading and opined that the Holy Family Chapel was also a rich cultural and heritage asset that could enhance tourism promotion under the "point-line-plane" approach.

52. With no further views from Members, the Board endorsed the grading of Tin Shui Lau Fong as proposed Grade 2.

# Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin, Clear Water Bay, Sai Kung, New Territories (serial no. N431)

53. <u>Prof CHU Hoi-shan</u> asked if there were further opportunities to interview Mr LAU Bing On and Ms FANG Lan. <u>C(HB)3</u> explained that AMO had arranged a detailed oral history interview with Mr LAU in July 2024 who contributed significant historical information on the building. However Ms FANG had passed away in 1998.

54. <u>Prof Selina CHAN</u> supported the proposed grading. She highlighted that the building demonstrated participation of women and children in the War of Resistance, and these stories could be featured in future exhibitions on the subject.

55. <u>Ms Salome SEE</u> suggested that vending machines for 3D printout models of historic buildings or relics could be provided at these sites to promote heritage tourism.

56. With no further views from Members, the Board endorsed the grading of Nos. 93 and 94 Ng Fai Tin as proposed Grade 2.

## No. 6 Arran Street, Mong Kong, Kowloon (serial no. N432)

57. <u>Mr Brian TSANG</u> said that the building was situated at a busy district where many Mainland tourists frequently passed by. This together with the adjacent buildings at Nos. 18 and 20 Nullah Road (Grade 3) could be a popular tourist spot.

58. <u>Mr Caspar YAM</u> supported the proposed grading, considering that such pre-war tenement building, with rich architectural features and form generally retained in spite of alterations, was now rare. The adjoining Nos. 2, 4 and 8 Arran Street, which were built at the same time as No. 6 Arran Street to form a row of

verandah buildings, had already been re-developed. He suggested a themed heritage trail on verandah-type tenement buildings or providing guidelines to assist concerned owners to better maintain and repair these tenement buildings.

59. <u>Mr HO Kui-yip</u> supported the proposed grading and said that the evolution of the architectural design of tenement building with photos should be covered in its appraisal for public information.

60. With no further views from Members, the Board endorsed the grading of No. 6 Arran Street as proposed Grade 3.

### Item 4 Any Other Business

61. <u>Mr SHUM Ho-kit</u> was concerned about the serious damage of Tai Wong Temple (Grade 1) at Yuen Long Kau Hui caused by fire in October 2024. He noted that there might be difficulty in reaching its owners and hoped AMO could communicate with relevant stakeholders for the restoration works in order to ensure safety of the visitors. <u>C for H</u> noted Mr SHUM's views and undertook to follow up on the matter.

### Vote of thanks to Chairman and Members

62. As this was the last Board meeting for the current term,  $\underline{DS(W)1}$ , on behalf of the Government, expressed her gratitude to the Chairman and Members for their committed service and invaluable advice throughout their tenure. <u>The Chairman</u> also thanked all Members for their constructive contributions as well as the government representatives for their support throughout his chairmanship.

63. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Antiquities and Monuments Office March 2025 Ref: AMO 22-3/1