

**For information
on 6 March 2007**

**BOARD PAPER
AAB/11/2007-08**

**MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE
ANTIQUITIES ADVISORY BOARD**

COMMISSIONING OF THE PING SHAN HERITAGE CENTRE

PURPOSE

To report the commissioning of the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre (Ping Shan Heritage Centre).

BACKGROUND

2. The project, undertaken by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) and commenced since February 2005, is to convert the old Ping Shan Police Station (a Grade III historic building) into the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre. The Antiquities Advisory Board discussed and supported the implementation of this project in September 2005 via Board Paper AAB/34/2005-06 and Board Minutes AAB/4/2005-06 (Copy attached at Annex A).

3. The conversion work was completed in December 2006 and after the installation of exhibits, the Centre will open its door to the public as from 14 April 2007.

4. The Centre consists of 3 old blocks, one new block and one toilet block. While the new block is used for archaeological collection store, the ground floors of 3 old blocks with a total floor area of 200m² will be used for exhibition purpose. Due to structural safety and heritage preservation concerns, the first floors of the old blocks will only be converted as archaeological workshop, office and storage, and could not be open for public use.

OPERATION OF THE CENTRE

5. The Centre will be open to public from 10am to 5pm daily. It will be closed on Mondays (except public holidays) and the first two days of the Chinese New Year. It will be designated as a museum under Cap. 132 - Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance.

6. A service contractor will be engaged to provide venue management services for the Centre including its daily operation, venue maintenance and general visitor services.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

7. The AMO has been working closely with the Tang Clan since the inception of the project. Representatives from the Tang Clan are invited to join hands with AMO curators in collecting artifacts, developing the storyline and designing the exhibits of the Tang Clan Gallery at Block A of the Centre. The proposed exhibition on Ping Shan Tang Clan will feature their history, tradition and rituals, covering both tangible and intangible heritage. History of the old Ping Shan Police Station and the Ping Shan Heritage Trail will be introduced in the gallery at Block B. To encourage the participation of school students and promote their awareness in heritage preservation, schools especially for those in Yuen Long District are invited to design and produce exhibitions on local heritage for display at Block C. The fabrication of the exhibitions will commence in late February for completion in April 2007. The outline of the exhibitions is at **Annex B**.

OPENING CEREMONY

8. The opening ceremony of the Ping Shan Heritage Centre is scheduled for 14 April 2007. We will conduct a wide range of publicity activities too promote the Centre.

Antiquities and Monuments Office
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

February 2007

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