RNTPC Paper No. A/TM/541B For Consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee on 10.7.2020

<u>APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION</u> <u>UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE</u>

<u>APPLICATION NO. A/TM/541</u> (for 3rd Deferment)

<u>Applicant</u>	:	Lin Chi Ching Yuen represented by Toco Planning Consultants Limited
<u>Premises</u>	:	G/F, Lot 1197 (part) in D.D. 131, Tsing Shan Tsuen, Yeung Tsing Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
<u>Floor Area</u>	:	52.7m ² (not exceeding)
<u>Lease</u>	:	 Lot 1197 (part) in D.D. 131 (a) Shall be used for residential purposes only (b) No structure erected or to be erected on the lot shall contain more than two storeys or exceed a height of 25 feet above mean formation level of the land on which it stands (c) No grave shall be made on the lot, nor shall any human remains whether in earthenware jars or otherwise be interred therein or deposited thereon
<u>Plan</u>	:	Approved Tuen Mun Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/TM/35
Zoning	:	"Government, Institution or Community" ("G/IC") [maximum building height restriction of 3 storeys excluding basement floor(s)]
Application	:	Proposed Columbarium

1. Background

- On 19.6.2019, the applicant sought planning permission to use G/F of a building known as Tai Hak Tin Temple (大黑天殿) (the Premises) for proposed columbarium within an existing religious compound, namely Lin Chi Ching Yuen (LCCY) (蓮池淨苑) (Plan A-1). The proposed columbarium involves 1,210 niches.
- 1.2. On 16.8.2019 and 13.12.2019, the Rural and New Town Planning Committee (the Committee) of the Town Planning Board (the Board) agreed to defer making a decision on the application for two months each, as requested by the applicant, to allow time to address departmental comments. The applicant submitted further information (FI) on 15.10.2019, 13.2.2020 and 20.5.2020. The application is scheduled for consideration by the Committee at this meeting.

2. <u>Request for Deferment</u>

On 19.6.2020, the applicant's representative wrote to the Secretary of the Board and requested the Board to defer making a decision on the application for two months in order to allow time to address the comments of Transport Department, Lands Department and general public (**Appendix I**).

3. <u>Planning Department's Views</u>

- 3.1. The application has been deferred twice for a total of four months at the request of the applicant to allow time to address departmental and public comments. The applicant has demonstrated efforts in preparing FI in support of the application. Since the last deferment in December 2019, the applicant has submitted a revised Traffic Impact Assessment and responses to departmental comments. More time is required by the applicant to prepare FI to address the further departmental and public comments.
- 3.2. The Planning Department <u>has no objection</u> to the request for deferment as the justification for deferment meets the criteria for deferment as set out in the Town Planning Board Guidelines on Deferment of Decision on Representations, Comments, Further Representations and Applications made under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPB PG-No. 33) in that the applicant needs more time to prepare FI in response to departmental comments, the deferment period is not indefinite and the deferment would not affect the interests of other relevant parties.
- 3.3. Should the Committee agree to defer a decision on the application, the application will be submitted to the Committee for consideration within two months upon receipt of further submission from the applicant. If the FI submitted by the applicant is not substantial and can be processed within a shorter time, the application could be submitted to an earlier meeting for the Committee's consideration. Since it is the third deferment of the application, the applicant should be advised that the Committee has allowed a total of six months for preparation of submission of FI, and this is the last deferment and no further deferment would be granted.

4. Decision Sought

The Committee is invited to consider whether or not to accede to the applicant's request for deferment. If the request is not acceded to, the application will be submitted for the Committee's consideration at the next meeting.

5. <u>Attachments</u>

Appendix I Letter dated 19.6.2020 from the applicant's representative

Plan A-1Location Plan

PLANNING DEPARTMENT JULY 2020