The Baroque on Lamma Newsletter Issue # 3

Dear All,

The Baroque on Lamma had submitted supplementary information to the Town Planning Board on 8th September 2011. The submission package is now available for public inspection and comment within the period 23 September 2011 to 14 October 2011 at

The Planning Enquiry Counter, 17th Floor, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong; and
The Planning Enquiry Counter, 14th Floor, Sha Tin Government Offices, 1 Sheung Wo Che Road, Sha Tin, New Territories.

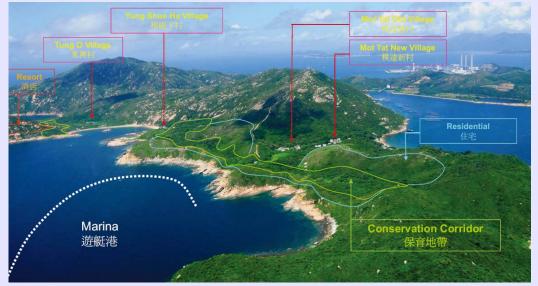
The submission package will be available at our website (<u>www.bol-hk.com</u>) for your perusal. Furthermore, we have arranged a public engagement workshop on Saturday, 8th October 2011 at St. James' Settlement (85 Stone Nullah Lane, Wanchai, Hong Kong) to gather views from our stakeholders.

The Conservation Management Plan for the Proposed Conservation Corridor

We are inviting stakeholders, including local green groups, academic institutions, scientists, NGOs, with interest in conservation to help in preparing a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the proposed Conservation Corridor. The Corridor is a key component of the development. It occupies mostly abandoned agricultural land of Mo Tat, Yung Shue Ha and Tung O and foot slopes of the hills alongside. The area is characterised by rich biodiversity and several perennial streams are running through it. It is our intention not only to leave the existing flora and fauna habitats within the proposed Conservation Corridor undisturbed but also to restore/regenerate pockets that are under threat from invasive species or from misuse. We also hope that the abandoned agricultural land can be put to meaningful use and to promote the concept of green living. Opportunity will also arise for academic researches relating to these habitats and for promotion of public consciousness of natural environment and its evolution.

Funding and Management of the Conservation Corridor

We propose that the design and implementation of the CMP will be supervised by a Conservation Committee with wide representation. We propose to fund the preparation and implementation of the CMP, including initial researches and investigations, and to provide assistance to the participating organisations during the initial establishment period. Some preliminary ideas have been formulated for discussion purposes, including the followings:



1. Visitor's Centre

Restoration of existing abandoned village buildings near Yung Shue Ha Village into a Visitors' Centre to display the human settlement history of Lamma Island. The Centre can also serve as a base for eco-tours, conducted educational explorations within the Conservation Corridor and its surroundings, and other related activities.

2. Artificial Wetland

Construction of an Artificial Wetland at abandoned farmland next to Visitors' Centre to handle waste generated from the centre and to demonstrate waste decomposition through natural processes.

3. "Old Lamma"

Restoration of part of Mo Tat Old Village and the Mo Tat School to recreate the past Lamma way of living, including farming.

4. Plant Nursery Centre

Plant Nursery Centre utilising abandoned agricultural land near Mo Tat Village to illustrate how local plant species can help shape the local culture such as cuisine, medicine, building construction, home decoration and furniture. It can also showcase the damage exotic and invasive species can do or has done over the years.

5. Stream Habitat Education Centre

Establish a Stream Habitat Education Centre at the existing perennial streams of Mo Tat Village, Yung Shue Ha Village or Tung O Village to advocate stream ecology/natural history of species like the Romer's Tree Frog. Research can also be undertaken on the fish migration between stream and the sea and the relationship between the local ecology and the natural history of the whole territory.

6. Organic Farming Research Centre

Organic Farming Education Centre at existing abandoned farmland at Tung O Village. The organic farm can also serve as functional biological corridors involving local crops to facilitate pollen dispersal through insect and bird pollinator movements between habitats.

7. Green Turtle and Marine Life Research Centre

Creation of a Green Turtle and Marina Life Research Station near Sham Wan with onsite learning and research facilities.

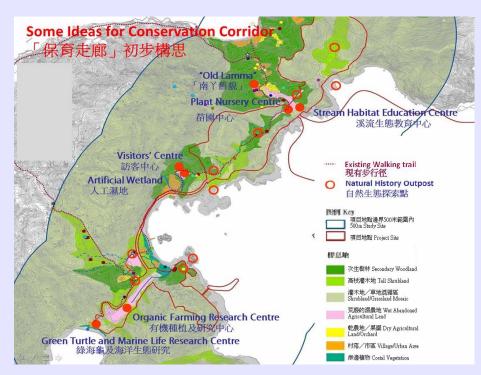
8. Natural History Outpost

Natural history "outposts" that can be managed by voluntary organisations to promote research and education, such as identifying species of interest or at risk, compiling educational outreach material and interactive maps. Eco-quest can be organised for families, schools and corporate guests.

These are just some of the ideas that we have. We believe that active conservation is the key to address habitat degradation due to uncontrolled incompatible uses, hill fires, activities, and natural succession altering the original habitats.

We welcome interested NGOs/ societies/ institutions/ local green groups to join in the formulation/preparation and subsequent implementation of the CMP. Through concerted effort, we believe we can make major contribution towards an active conservation and education program.

We will continue to share the project's latest news and related information through this platform and our official website www.bolhk.com. If you have any suggestions or inquiries about The Baroque on Lamma or the website (www.bol-hk.com), please feel free to contact us through enquiry@bol-hk.com.



The Baroque on Lamma project aims to introduce a green community in Hong Kong, embodying a world-class marina, an ecological tourist destination, a training centre for windsurfing and sailing, complete with hotels and low-density residential communities, thereby introducing a brand new living style which blends in well with local ecology.

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