RNTPC Paper No. A/YL-TT/711 For Consideration by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee on 1.8.2025

APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE

APPLICATION NO. A/YL-TT/711

Applicant : Mr. LAM Yung represented by Allgain Land Planning Limited

Site : Lots 890 S.C and 891 (Part) in D.D. 118, Nam Hang Tsuen, Tai Tong, Yuen

Long, New Territories

Site Area : 100 m² (about)

<u>Lease</u>: Block Government Lease (demised for agricultural use)

<u>Plan</u>: Approved Tai Tong Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) No. S/YL-TT/20

Zoning : "Village Type Development" ("V")

[Restricted to a maximum building height of 3 storeys (8.23m) except for

those developments/uses specified in the Notes]

Application: Proposed Temporary Shop and Services for a Period of 3 Years

1. The Proposal

- 1.1 The applicant seeks planning permission for proposed temporary shop and services for a period of three years at the application site (the Site) zoned "V" on the OZP (**Plan A-1**). According to the Notes of the OZP for the "V" zone, 'Shop and Services' other than those on the ground floor of a New Territories Exempted House (NTEH) is a Column 2 use requiring planning permission from the Town Planning Board (the Board). The Site is currently paved and largely vacant (**Plans A-2 to A-4**).
- 1.2 The Site is accessible via a local track leading from Nam Hang Tsuen Road with an ingress/egress point in the north (**Drawing A-1** and **Plan A-2**). According to the applicant, the Site will be fully covered by a single-storey structure (not exceeding 4m in height) with a total floor area of not more than 100m^2 for convenience store selling daily necessities to serve the nearby residents. No parking space or loading/unloading bay is proposed and the operation hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. daily. Plans showing the vehicular access and site layout submitted by the applicant are at **Drawings A-1** and **A-2** respectively.
- 1.3 In support of the application, the applicant has submitted the Application Form with attachments received on 4.6.2025 (**Appendix I**).

2. Justifications from the Applicant

The justifications put forth by the applicant in support of the application are detailed in the Application Form with attachments at **Appendix I**. They can be summarised as follows:

- (a) the proposed use would serve the nearby residents;
- (b) the proposal is not incompatible with the surrounding environment. Similar applications have been approved within the same "V" zone;
- (c) the proposed use is temporary in nature and would not jeopardise the long-term planning intention of the "V" zone; and
- (d) no adverse traffic, environmental, landscape and visual impacts are anticipated.

3. Compliance with the "Owner's Consent/Notification" Requirements

The applicant is the sole "current land owner" of the Site. Detailed information would be deposited at the meeting for Members' inspection.

4. Background

The Site is currently not subject to planning enforcement action.

5. Previous Application

There is no previous application concerning the Site.

6. Similar Applications

There are nine similar applications (No. A/YL-TT/517, 533, 547, 557, 602, 656, 657, 662 and 709) involving six sites for temporary shop and services for a period of three or five years within the same "V" zone on the OZP in the past five years. All the applications were approved with conditions by the Rural and New Town Planning Committee (the Committee) of the Board between 2021 and 2025 mainly on the considerations that the temporary use would not jeopardise the long-term planning intention of the "V" zone; being not incompatible with the surrounding uses and the departmental concerns could be addressed by implementation of approval conditions. Details of the applications are summarised in **Appendix II** and the locations of the sites are shown on **Plan A-1**.

7. Planning Intention

The planning intention of the "V" zone is to designate both existing recognised villages and areas of land considered suitable for village expansion. Land within the zone is primarily intended for development of Small Houses by indigenous villagers. It is also intended to concentrate village type development within the zone for a more orderly

development pattern, efficient use of land and provision of infrastructures and services. Selected commercial and community uses serving the needs of the villagers and in support of the village development are always permitted on the ground floor of an NTEH. Other commercial, community and recreational uses may be permitted on application to the Board.

8. The Site and Its Surrounding Areas (Plans A-1 to A-4)

- 8.1 The Site is:
 - (a) currently paved and largely vacant; and
 - (b) accessible via a local track leading from Nam Hang Tsuen Road.
- 8.2 The surrounding areas are predominantly rural in character comprising village houses/residential dwellings intermixed with parking of vehicles, monastery, farmland and vacant/unused land.

9. Comments from Relevant Government Departments

All government departments consulted have no objection to or no adverse comment on the application. Their general comments on the application and advisory comments in the Recommended Advisory Clauses are provided in **Appendices III and IV** respectively.

10. Public Comment Received During the Statutory Publication Period

On 13.6.2025, the application was published for public inspection. During the statutory public inspection period, no public comment was received.

11. Planning Considerations and Assessments

- 11.1 The application is for proposed temporary shop and services for a period of three years at the Site zoned "V" on the OZP. Although the proposed use is not entirely in line with the planning intention of the "V" zone, it could serve the needs of the local residents. According to the District Lands Officer/Yuen Long, Lands Department, there is no Small House application approved or under processing at the Site. Approval of the application on a temporary basis for a period of three years would not jeopardise the long-term planning intention of the "V" zone.
- 11.2 The proposed use is generally not incompatible with the surrounding areas, which are predominately rural in character comprising village houses/residential dwellings intermixed with parking of vehicles, monastery, farmland and vacant/ unused land (**Plan A-2**).
- 11.3 Concerned government departments consulted, including the Director of Environmental Protection, Commissioner for Transport, Director of Fire Services and Chief Engineer/Mainland North of Drainage Services Department have no objection to or no adverse comment on the application from environmental, traffic,

fire safety and drainage aspects respectively. Should the application be approved, relevant approval conditions are recommended in paragraph 12.2 below to address the technical requirements of the concerned government departments. The applicant will also be advised to follow the latest "Code of Practice on Handling the Environmental Aspects of Temporary Uses and Open Storage Sites" to minimise the potential environmental nuisances on the surrounding areas.

11.4 Nine similar applications were approved by the Committee between 2021 and 2025. Approval of the application is in line with the previous decisions of the Committee.

12. Planning Department's Views

- 12.1 Based on the assessments made in paragraph 11 above, the Planning Department has no objection to the application.
- 12.2 Should the Committee decide to approve the application, it is suggested that the permission shall be valid on a temporary basis for a period of three years until 1.8.2028. The following conditions of approval and advisory clauses are also suggested for Members' reference:

Approval conditions

- (a) the submission of a drainage proposal within **6** months from the date of planning approval to the satisfaction of the Director of Drainage Services or of the Town Planning Board by <u>1.2.2026</u>;
- (b) in relation to (a) above, the implementation of the drainage proposal within **9** months from the date of planning approval to the satisfaction of the Director of Drainage Services or of the Town Planning Board by 1.5.2026;
- (c) in relation to (b) above, the implemented drainage facilities on the Site shall be maintained at all times during the planning approval period;
- (d) the submission of a fire service installations proposal within **6** months from the date of planning approval to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services or of the Town Planning Board by 1.2.2026;
- (e) in relation to (d) above, the implementation of the fire service installations proposal within **9** months from the date of planning approval to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services or of the Town Planning Board by 1.5.2026;
- (f) if the above planning condition (c) is not complied with during the planning approval period, the approval hereby given shall cease to have effect and shall be revoked immediately without further notice; and
- (g) if any of the above planning condition (a), (b), (d) or (e) is not complied with by the specified date, the approval hereby given shall cease to have effect and shall on the same date be revoked without further notice.

Advisory clauses

The recommended advisory clauses are at **Appendix IV**.

12.3 Alternatively, should the Committee decide to reject the application, the following reason for rejection is suggested for Member's reference:

the proposed use is not in line with the planning intention of the "Village Type Development" zone which is primarily for development of Small Houses by indigenous villagers. No strong planning justifications have been given in the submission for a departure from the planning intention, even on a temporary basis.

13. <u>Decision Sought</u>

- 13.1 The Committee is invited to consider the application and decide whether to grant or refuse to grant permission.
- 13.2 Should the Committee decide to approve the application, Members are invited to consider the approval condition(s) and advisory clause(s), if any, to be attached to the permission, and the period of which the permission should be valid on a temporary basis.
- 13.3 Alternatively, should the Committee decide to reject the application, Members are invited to advise what reason(s) for rejection should be given to the applicant.

14. Attachments

Appendix I Application Form with attachments received on 4.6.2025

Appendix II Similar Applications

Appendix III Government Departments' General Comments

Appendix IV Recommended Advisory Clauses

Drawing A-1 Vehicular Access Plan

Drawing A-2 Site Layout Plan

Plan A-1 Location Plan with Similar Applications

Plan A-2 Site Plan
Plan A-3 Aerial Photo
Plan A-4 Site Photos

PLANNING DEPARTMENT AUGUST 2025