



# Thromde Tshogde Minutes

3<sup>rd</sup> Thromde Council

# **13<sup>th</sup> Thromde Tshogde 3<sup>rd</sup> Council**

## 13<sup>th</sup> Thromde Tshogde

Date – 18th February, 2025

Time: 10:00AM - 4:15 PM

Venue – Thromde Conference Hall

### Members present

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1	Ugyen Dorji	Thrompon
2	Karma Namgyel	Executive Secretary
3	Ugyen	Taba-Dechencholing Thuemi
4	Ugyen Penjore	Jungzhin-Pamtsho Thuemi
5	Phub Tshering	Norzin Thuemi
6	Sonam Tshering	Changbangdu-Olakha Thuemi
7	Dorji Gyeltshen	Babesa Thuemi
8	Pema Yangzom	Motithang Thuemi
9	Rinzin Dorji	Changangkha Motithang Thuemi

### Invitees

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1	Thinley Norbu	Chief, UPD
2	Yeshe Wangdi	Chief Engineer
3	Sonam Chuki	Chief Finance Officer
4	Sonam Wangchuk	Chief, CiED
5	Sonam Tobgay	Chief, LRSD
6	Ugyen Dorji Tshechu	Chief Legal Officer
7	Tshering Dendup	Chief ADM Officer
8	Tashi Dorji	Chief, O&M Division
9	Karma Jamtsho	Officiating Chief, CoED
10	Kezang Dorji Jr	Sr Urban Planner
11	Kezang Dorji Sr	Sr Urban Planner



Sl. No.	Name	Designation
12	Udesh Chhetri	Dy. Chief Finance Officer
13	Karma Dorji	Sr. Planning Officer

## Opening remarks

The Chair welcomed all members of the council, the Executive Secretary, and the official invitees from various divisions and sections. Additionally, he extended a warm welcome to the newly joined Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Finance Officer.

The Chair highlighted that Thromde has successfully completed approximately 60–70% of the planned works for the fiscal year 2024–2025. He attributed these achievements to the dedication and hard work of all Thromde employees and area Tshogpas. While various concerns have been raised on social media by individuals, he emphasized that the Thromde management and council are fully aware of the progress made so far.

One of the key priorities, he noted, is to avoid budget lapses at the end of the fiscal year. Budget lapses not only impact the budget ceiling but also affect the physical progress of planned activities due to spill over into successive fiscal years. Therefore, he directed all divisions and concerned officials to expedite their activities and ensure the full utilization of the allocated budget before June-end. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of preparing for the upcoming fiscal year and urged everyone to take note of planned proposals for the next cycle.

The Chair also informed the floor about the upcoming celebration of His Majesty the King's Birth Anniversary on February 21st. He outlined the planned arrangements, including the hoisting of national flags, display of His Majesty's portraits and cultural programs. He also announced that traffic along Norzin Lam would be restricted, making the entire stretch pedestrian-friendly and the same has been announced via Thromde social media pages to the general public. Additionally, he urged all buildings to be adorned with Bhutanese national flags and festive decorations in honor of the occasion.

## Agenda 13.01 - Status update on the pre-paid voucher case

The Taba-Dechencholing Thuemi raised concerns regarding the prolonged issue of the mobile voucher case, which has been moving from office to office without any final resolution. However, he acknowledged the efforts of the Chair and the management, led by the Executive Secretary, in actively working to resolve the matter.

He informed the Council that, as per the Royal Audit Authority (RAA), employees are required to make the necessary refunds. However, since the case has been referred to



the Cabinet, the matter still remains unresolved, resulting in daily accrual of penalties. There is a growing concern that the accumulated penalty may exceed the actual amount to be refunded. Therefore, he urged the management to expedite the resolution of the case at the earliest. He also requested that the penalty be waived, as employees have been unable to make the payments due to the ongoing delay in solving the case with concrete solution.

## **Discussion**

The Chair clarified that the mobile voucher case is currently with the Cabinet. Following the letter received from the RAA, Thromde sought the intervention of the Honourable Cabinet Secretary, and the matter has been forwarded to the Cabinet for further deliberations.

Depending on the Cabinet's resolution, if refunds are required, Thromde will request the RAA to reconsider the penalties. If necessary, the case will also be submitted to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) for further review.

The Executive Secretary informed the Council that the Cabinet convenes every Thursday, and it is hoped that the case will be deliberated soon.

## **Decision**

The status update provided by the Chair and the Executive Secretary was noted and shared as information with the Council members.

**Action:** Management

## **Agenda 13.02 - The need for improved services and facilities after the service fees and charges have been raised**

The Changbangdu-Olakha Thuemi presented public complaints and grievances regarding the improvement of Thromde's public services. Residents have raised concerns that while service and amenity fees have been revised, there has been little noticeable improvement in service delivery. For instance, in some areas, garbage collection does not adhere to the scheduled time and frequency, and in others, streetlight maintenance and repairs take an unreasonably long time.

## **Discussion**

The Chair informed the Council that, regarding waste collection, the frequency of collections per week has been increased after putting up to the Waste Management



Committee (WMC). He also clarified that waste charges are not solely for collection and disposal but also covers the overall waste management system, including the operation and maintenance of the Memelakha landfill and waste drop-off centers. If service providers fail to meet their contractual obligations and do not cover all designated areas, Thromde must formally instruct them to adhere to the agreed collection schedules as per the agreement.

Regarding streetlights, the Chair noted that the fees collected are insufficient to cover even the monthly electricity bills paid to Bhutan Power Corporation (BPC). However, with regard to maintenance and repairs, he directed the Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Division to ensure that streetlights are repaired within the usual turnaround time (TAT), emphasizing that street lighting benefits the entire city, making the associated fees necessary to be paid by all.

The Executive Secretary explained that garbage collection challenges in certain areas stem from narrow roads and steep slopes, which prevent large garbage trucks from accessing these locations. To address this, the City Environment Division (CiED) is piloting the deployment of smaller vehicles capable of reaching these small congested areas. Another potential solution is constructing waste drop-off centers in such locations.

The Chief of CiED expressed gratitude to the Council for highlighting concerns related to waste collection and disposal. He reiterated that these issues are more prevalent in extended areas, where larger trucks struggle to navigate. Additionally, some complaints arise due to missed collection times, particularly among office-goers who may not be available during scheduled collections time. He confirmed that there are plans to procure small garbage vehicles to serve these areas on a pilot basis.

## **Decision**

The Council:

1. directed the CiED to ensure that service providers adhere to the agreed waste collection and disposal schedules.
2. instructed the CiED to explore solutions for serving extended areas and tasked the O&M Division with ensuring timely streetlight repairs.

**Action** - O&M Division and CiED

## **Agenda 13.03 - Public restrooms are very pathetic and not inclusive – need interventions to improve it**

The Norzin Thuemi raised concerns regarding the condition of public toilets within the city, stating that they do not meet acceptable standards. He noted that the facilities are not user-friendly and lack inclusive components. Additionally, he requested an



update from Thomde on which agency or division is responsible for operating and maintaining public toilets. He also emphasized the need to allocate a budget for the improvement of these facilities.

## **Discussion**

The Executive Secretary informed the Council that there is currently no specific division or section within Thomde responsible for managing public toilets. Previously, this responsibility was assigned to the Thomde Health Office, but after the office was transferred to the Ministry of Health (MoH), the mandate did not fall under any particular division. Given this gap, he recommended the development of a project proposal to improve and construct public toilets within Thomde.

## **Decision**

The Council decided to develop a project proposal for the construction and maintenance of public toilets within the city. It directed the Urban Planning Division (UPD) to design a standardized public toilet model and instructed the Infrastructure Division (ID) to prepare cost estimates based on the approved design.

**Action:** UPD/ID

## **Agenda 13.04 - The electric cables running through drains causes issues and no solutions have been worked out to solve the issues till date**

The Norzin Thuemi raised concerns regarding water pipes and cable lines running through drains. This situation poses risks to Thomde field employees and contributes to drain clogging, particularly during the monsoon season. To address this, he proposed that Thomde consider designating clear Right of Way (ROW) or specific spaces for laying utility lines.

## **Discussion**

The Chair acknowledged that these longstanding issues persist due to the lack of alternative locations for relocating the utility lines. However, he noted that the ECRUL project includes the construction and renovation of major stormwater drains, which may help resolve these concerns where certain spaces can be dedicated in relocating these utility lines.



## Decision

The Council directed the Management to explore alternative solutions and instructed the ECRUL project focal official to take note of these issues and incorporate measures to address them while implementing the project.

**Action:** Management/ECRUL Project Focal Official

## Agenda 13.05 - Deliberation on Thromde Disaster preparedness

The Norzin Thuemi reported that the Department of Local Governance and the Department of Disaster Management (DLG&DDM) recently organized a four-day consultation workshop in Paro on the preparation of an Earthquake Contingency Plan for Thimphu. However, he expressed concerns that the information about the workshop was not clearly communicated in advance, limiting the participation and contribution of Thromde Tshogpas. He emphasized the importance of apprising the Council on Thromde's disaster preparedness, as the plan directly concerns Thimphu.

## Discussion

The Chief Urban Planner (CUP) stated that Thromde's primary role in disaster plan preparations is to provide accurate data on resources, facilities, buildings, and population within its jurisdiction. He also briefed the Council on the overall disaster response structure and various sections involved. Additionally, he highlighted the need to clearly define Thromde's responsibilities in disaster management.

The Chair noted that the involvement of Thromde in earthquake contingency planning sometimes appears inconsistent—while the plan is developed at the national level, Thromde's role is more evident at the field level as technical working group. He stated that Thromde is willing to provide relevant data, such as building and facility information, when required.

The Executive Secretary pointed out that the lack of a dedicated focal official makes it challenging for Thromde to actively engage in disaster preparedness initiatives. However, he affirmed that Thromde can provide all available data and urged for a well-structured plan that explicitly outlines the roles of all agencies involved. He also clarified that while Thromde does not have the capacity to develop a disaster preparedness plan, it is willing to contribute relevant information.

The Taba-Dechencholing Thuemi mentioned that although the initial roles of Thromde were unclear, towards the end of the workshop, specific responsibilities for the constituencies were assigned to the area Tshogpas and relevant capacity building requirements have been submitted.



The Chair concluded that Thromde will fulfill its responsibilities where possible but must clearly communicate any tasks that fall outside its mandate. He recommended waiting for the finalized plan or Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to assess Thromde's designated roles before deciding anything else.

## **Decision**

The Council decided that Thromde will extend full support to the DLG-DDM-led team in developing the Earthquake Contingency Plan and SOPs. Thromde will fulfill the roles outlined in the SOP but will communicate clearly if any responsibilities fall outside its jurisdiction.

**Action:** Management

## **Agenda 13.06 - Presentation on Thimphu City-Wide Design Code**

Since the City-Wide Design Code is a new regulation that must be followed for all development activities, it is essential to present it to the Council to clarify any confusion among the public. This will enable area Tshogpas to address concerns effectively. As per the Chair's directive, the Urban Planning Division (UPD) presented key provisions of the City-Wide Design Code.

## **Discussion**

The Chair inquired about how the new design code would apply to existing structures and land use. The UPD clarified that while it is not feasible to demolish all existing structures to comply with the new code, any maintenance or renovation applications will need to adhere to its provisions in future.

The Jungzhina Thuemi raised concerns that even during maintenance, following the new design code might be difficult. He pointed out issues related to buildings that have been sold on a flat-wise basis, suggesting that it would be more practical to allow buildings to reach their standard lifespan before enforcing new requirements.

The UPD stated that while minor maintenance could be permitted, major renovations must comply with the new design code. The Norzin Thuemi noted that although the future plan is well-intentioned, some plot owners, particularly those in areas like Norzin Lam who are in the process of redevelopment, may be disadvantaged. The UPD explained that the new Thimphu Structural Plan (TSP) was developed by experts to correct the current trend of unregulated city development, and rolling out the new design code is a necessary step in implementing these corrective measures.

The Olakha Thuemi raised concerns regarding Changbangdu area, where the new



design code allows only three floors, whereas existing buildings have five floors or more. If these buildings are renovated, two flat owners per building would lose their properties. If flat owners do not opt for joint ownership for flats, the reduction in floor area for separate flats can create challenges in terms of living space, storage, and overall comfort (some flats are already registered as joint ownership). The UPD clarified that in such cases, ownership rights must be adjusted within the permitted three-floor limit.

The Chair stated that if building owners propose converting existing attics into full floors without altering coverage, land use, or other parameters, a planning permit would not be required. However, major renovations and change in major use may require approval. The UPD further clarified that attic conversions would be assessed for structural stability only. Additionally, small businesses such as tailoring shops and “jamthog” setups would not require planning permits.

The Officiating Chief of the Compliance and Enforcement Division (CoED) stated that any application proposing a change from residential to commercial use must be submitted to the UPD for review. The Chair emphasized that looking at the grievances submitted by the public and practical issues foreseen, the design code provision has disadvantaged only those owners who haven’t constructed compared to owners already taken approval and constructed based on previous DCR/TSP. While all the investment and arrangements attributing to proper comfortable housing/home, economic advantage and social sustainability is based on previous permissibility and provisions, the current design code looks regressive and not favourable although expected the middle-path outcome. Some of the indirect impacts not considered are tax levied, PAVA rate, valuation, and way forward which invites all of queries and clarification leading to dissatisfaction. Owing to the aforementioned, the following provisions were discussed in detail;

1. **Building height:** The building height in some locations are reduced by half or less like in Serbithang. This needs to be relooked and considered for more height.
2. **Flat Ownership:** If flat owners does not opt for joint ownership for flats in areas where height reduction is imposed during reconstruction, the floor area for individual flats needs to be relooked and considered for more height.
3. **Coverage & Setback:** The coverage based on FAR is appropriate. However, the setback requirement governs and do not favour to achieve FAR provision. In some isolated cases especially the plots between two buildup plots, the setback (3m from projection and 6m from the habitable) as per design code discourages to develop the plot. Therefore, the FAR shall govern the setbacks for proper dwellings that is comfortable and affordable.
4. **Geotechnical study:** Majority of the plots are already developed and has not experienced stability issues till date. This gives a good indication of overall condition as fairly consistent. The design code with height limitations



already accounts for geotechnical studies. Mandatory geotechnical survey requirements are additional financial burden for building owners of remaining plots with the imposed regulation of reduced height while previous ones with greater heights have not faced any issues till date. The requirement needs to be reconsidered based on the current scenario in these areas.

5. **Plot size:** Many landowners may have already invested to develop land according to minimum plot sizes as per the previous LAPs. Landowners planning subdivisions may now face a reduction in the potential value of their land and may feel unfairly penalized for having followed the previous regulations. Complications could arise during development with regard to finances or permits since the plans to develop independently is not possible as originally intended by conforming to the previous regulation. The change may ultimately cause a backlog of unresolved issues, legal disputes, and long-term financial hardship for those who are affected. It can also erode trust in the very systems that are supposed to protect their rights and support their long-term planning. There has been questions of transparency and ownership of the plan by the public on several occasions.

## Decision

The Council decided on the followings and agreed to send to Ministry for information:

**Attic Conversion** – Converting attics into full floors and renovation without change in use will not require a planning permit.

**Building Height** - The number of floors allowed for Serbithang area is allowed 3 instead of 2.

**Coverage & Setback** – The coverage shall govern the setback.

**Geotechnical Survey** – The geotechnical survey requirement is not mandatory.

**Plot Size** – The minimum plot size maintained shall be 10 decimals irrespective of land pooled or not pooled for Urban II, Suburban I & II.

**Action:** Thromde Tshogde

## Agenda 13.07 - Compensation for Mrs. Oka Dem and Mrs. Karma for boundary wall and Semi-permanent structure

Mrs. Karma Wangmo

The Urban Planning Division submitted the 2 cases of compensation to be made to Tshogde for endorsement. The same has been deliberated and approved by the Management and it is submitted to Tshogde for endorsement. In the first case, the compensation for the boundary wall belonging to Mrs. Karma Wangmo in GLD area in Taba has been calculated based on BSR 2015 which comes to around Nu 58,869.



## Decision

Mrs. Oka Dem

The tshogde endorsed the compensation payment to Mrs. Karma Wangmo as proposed. In the second case, the compensation for Mrs. Oka Dem in Jungzhina for the semi-permanent structures which falls within the ROW of secondary road. Even after granting full CPLC, the structure could be adjusted within the cadastral boundary and therefore, had to be removed. The total compensation comes to around Nu 553, 073 based on 2017 BSR.

## Discussion

The Executive Secretary proposed that if the owner wishes to retain the structure, an equivalent amount can be deducted from the compensation, allowing the owner to handle the demolition. In support of this proposal, the Council agreed that either approach is acceptable as long as the structure is removed.

## Decision

The Council endorsed the compensation payment of Nu 553, 073 for Aum Oka Dem. However, the owner must remove the structure by themselves by the end of February 2025.

**Action:** Urban Planning Division (UPD)

## Agenda 13.08 - Salary increment or promotion proposal in favor of Architect Srijana Mongar

Ms. Srijana Mongar was recruited on a contract basis in 2019 and has since completed over 50 design and drawing projects. Given her consistent performance and contributions in addressing the shortage of architects in the Urban Planning Division, the Division proposes either a salary increment or promotion to the next category in recognition of her hard work.

## Decision

Since she has delivered all tasks assigned to her with professionalism, the Tshogde decided to increase her salary at par with the P3 position of the Civil Service w.e.f. March 2025.

**Action:** UPD/HRS/Finance Division



### **Agenda 13.09 - Thromde Annual Picnic proposal**

Since it has been over six years since the last annual picnic, the Chair proposed to the council members to have it organize one this year. This event serves as a one-time opportunity for all employees of the Thromde and their family members to come together, celebrate, and foster a stronger sense of community.

### **Consideration of Annual Rimdro**

There was also a proposal to organize an annual rimdro from some of the members. Several other members agreed that the offerings made to various religious programs could sufficiently serve as the annual rimdro. Additionally, due to space constraints in the office, holding a separate rimdro event would not be feasible.

### **Decision**

The council has directed the Chief ADM Officer to organize the annual office picnic in March or April. The necessary expenditures will be covered from the internal revenue.

**Action:** Chief ADM Officer

### **Agenda 13.10 - Endorsement of the following expenditures made from the current savings of FY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 and an internal revenue**

The Finance Division submitted the additional expenditures made from the current savings of the FY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 and also from an internal revenue as follows:

#### **A. Endorsement of the following expenditures made from the current savings of FY 2021-2022 and 2022-2023:**

1. Nu 560,000 paid as prize money for the academic toppers
2. Nu 25,380 for overtime payment for Chadri works for the visit of HM King of Lesotho
3. Nu 100,000 for Tshigdhuen soeldeph contribution at the Kuenselphodrang
4. Nu 1,035,600 for the HM 4th King's Birthday celebrations at the Clock Tower
5. Nu 30,000 as contribution for the Jana Chidue at the Tashichhodzong

#### **B. Endorsement of additional budget used from Thromde revenue:**

1. Maintenance of water supply system Nu- 4 M
2. Maintenance of street lights – Nu 4.35M



## Decision

Tshogde endorsed the above expenditures with following directives for future considerations:

**A - Academic Topper Budget:** Tshogde directed the establishment of a specific budget head for the academic topper award.

**B - or annual Thromde events:** For annual Thromde events such as the cultural programs for schools and the City Marathon, which are organized as part of build-up programs for National Day, Tshogde directed the Finance Division to have these budgeted in advance without requiring Tshogde's endorsement.

**C - O&M Division Budget Projections:** directed the O&M Division to present clear, comprehensive projections for the annual budget, eliminating the need for ad-hoc approvals. However, in cases of disasters or urgent matters, the budget can be considered for approval on an exception basis.

**Action:** Finance Division

## Agenda 13.11 - Annual school enrollment in Thromde schools- Not all eligible children are able to get enrolled

The Jungzhina Thuemi submitted that the issue of annual enrolments, especially in pre-primary education, has been a persistent challenge in Thromde. Even children of eligible ages are struggling to enroll in schools. Since a significant number of school-age children resides in Thimphu Thromde, there is an urgent need for more budgetary support to construct new academic blocks to accommodate all eligible children. Currently, the class sizes in most schools, especially government schools, ranges from 35 to 45 students, leading to overcrowded classrooms.

The Thuemi also proposed that the annual enrolment capacities of all schools be standardized or determined through close consultations with Thromde. Since the enrolment process is managed by individual school principals, some schools accept more students than others. Therefore, it was suggested that the annual enrolment capacity be decided in consultation with the Thromde Education Division.

## Discussion

The Chair acknowledged the enrolment issues, stating that the main challenge lies in the lack of adequate academic blocks. However, in the current fiscal year, there are six or more new infrastructure projects underway. The Chair directed the Education Division and Infrastructure Division to assess and report on potential upgrades and identify spaces where new structures can be constructed in some schools. The goal is to



present these findings directly to the Honorable Prime Minister for necessary support.

The Executive Secretary also highlighted a concern raised in a letter from the Office of the Cabinet Secretary. It stated that funds for the construction of schools or related infrastructure in local governments (LGs) must be transferred directly to the LGs and should not affect their budget ceilings. If the funds are held by the central ministry and released late in the fiscal year or in the later part of Five-Year Plan, it would be difficult for LGs to implement the projects. He also emphasized that the pressure is especially high for Thimphu Thromde, as many students are transferred from other regions due to parental transfers or on health-related reasons.

## **Decision**

The Council directed the Thromde Education Division, in consultation with the Infrastructure Division, to develop a comprehensive report outlining the feasible school upgrades and the construction of new structures wherever feasible within the existing Thromde schools. This report will have to be submitted to the management for further deliberation to determine the best course of action.

**Action:** Education Division

## **Agenda 13.12 - Requirement of endorsement of MoF for levying/revision of fees and charges by Thromde**

The Executive Secretary submitted that following the recent revision of service charges and fees, the Ministry of Finance (MoF) has raised the question of whether the revision has been submitted to MoF for endorsement. He informed that there was previously no clear understanding of whether fees and charges, once revised or levied by the Thromde Council, require MoF's prior endorsement before being implemented. This submission is made for information or deliberation if necessary.

## **Discussion**

The Chair clarified that the Local Government (LG) Act provides LGs with the authority to levy fees and charges, which is why the Thromde Council made the decision. Some members noted that if such endorsements are required from the central government, there would be no need for deliberations at the LG level, and the matter could be directly referred to MoF for approval. The Executive Secretary further noted that there are provisions in the LG Act that may require prior approval from the government, MoF, or even Parliament. The Chair agreed that there is a lack of clarity and interpretation issues by the concerned and suggested it would be helpful if the concerned central ministries could engage the relevant stakeholders and thresh out the misunderstanding as per the provision of laws. The members also stated that



any decision by the Tshogde who represents people/ public, be further endorsed by Department or Ministry without people's representative is improper or illegitimised given its empowerment by the relevant Acts.

## **Decision**

The Tshogde decided to continue what deemed appropriate by the provisions of law as usual. However, any intervention that may arise will be taken up as an when it arises and if necessary

**Action:** Council

## **Agenda 13.13 - Clean City Action Plan for Thimphu**

The Chief of CiED provided an update on the Clean City Action Plan for Thimphu. Originally intended to span one year, the plan has been directed by Honorable Prime Minister to be completed within the current fiscal year. The action plan includes several key components, with a primary focus on installing CCTVs to enhance surveillance through a dedicated surveillance room. Other elements of the plan involve outsourcing city cleaning and sweeping services for 1-2 zones, along with awareness and education programs aimed at the general public.

The Chief also announced that the Action Plan will be officially launched on 21st February 2025, coinciding with the Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the King. He emphasized the importance of community involvement and requested the full support of the area Tshogpas, as the projects will be community-focused. This was shared as an information for the council members.

**Action:** CiED/ Tshogpas

## **Agenda 13.14 - Shifting of JB vendors as a result of Kaja Throm extension**

The UPD informed that there are approximately 190 vendors, including both handicraft and garment vendors, currently operating in the riverside market area at CFM. According to the new Thromde Structure Plan (TSP), this area has been designated as a market area to enhance its vibrancy. As part of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport's (MoIT) plans for the Kaja Throm extension, the vendors will need to be relocate to the old the Kaja Throm area. The MoIT is currently in the process of working out the details of the plans, and once the new Kaja Throm extension is completed, the vendors will be allocated new spaces. The UPD requested the area Tshogpa to provide full support for this relocation if required.



## **Decision**

Tshogde decided that the Thromde will communicate with the vendors to inform them of the need to relocate to the old Kaja Throm, as the current area will be used for the new Kaja Throm extension.

**Action:** UPD

## **Agenda 13.05 - Parking fee issues in Motithang area**

The Chair raised an issue regarding the operation of parking spaces near Ozone Park, in Motithang. The residents reported that during the day, there are hardly vehicles parked for having to go to offices, but in the evening, the spaces are used for residential parking. Car owners often leave their vehicles overnight, and when the parking fees are calculated the following day, it causes unnecessary disputes between the parking fee collectors and the car owners. The residents also submitted that there are lot of parking designated along the road by Thromde in Changangkha and Motithang area, but the particular location made to collect parking fee is unfair and targeted. Therefore, residents have requested that the area be designated as residential parking and excluded from the parking contract, a request that has also been submitted by the public though area Tshogpa.

## **Decision**

Since the current contractor's term ends in June 2025, let it continue until then. However, it was decided that the entire stretch of parking spaces in that area will not be included in the contract after the current contract term has been completed.

**Action:** Asset Manager

## **Conclusion**

The Chair thanked all the council members and the invited Thromde officials for their active participation and insightful contributions during today's deliberations. The discussions were productive and will guide us in making well-informed decisions for the betterment of Thimphu Thromde he added. The Chair also expressed appreciation for the collaboration and commitment shown by everyone, and encouraged continued efforts towards achieving our shared goals.

The 13th Thromde Tshogde adjourned at 4:00PM

**Rapporteur** – Karma Dorji, Sr. Planning Officer

