

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH [18TH] STATUTORY MEETING [2006-2008 TERM]
HELD ON JANUARY 29, 2008 AT THE CORPORATION'S HALL, 218 S.S. ERIN ROAD,
DEBE**

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: -

Alderman	Dr. Allen Sammy	Chairman of Council
Councillor	Roy Kissoon	La Fortune/Hermitage
Councillor	Rampersad Hardial	Rochard/Barrackpore East
Councillor	Premchand Sookoo	Debe East/Barrackpore West
Councillor	Diptee Ramnath	Quinam/Morne Diablo
Councillor	Sonnylal B. Manwah	Union Hall/Bronte
Councillor	Willvan Ramlakhan	Penal
Councillor	Premnath Boodoosingh	Palmiste
Councillor	Carl Dabideen	Debe West
Alderman	Roland A. Hall	

MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Ms.	T. Deodath	Administrative Officer II
Mr.	S. Heru	County Superintendent
Ms.	L. Chandoo Singh	Personnel & Industrial Relations Officer
Mr.	C. Maharaj	Building Inspector
Mr.	R. Mahadeo	Accountant
Mr.	V. Moonasar	Workshop Foreman
Mr.	J. Marfan	Works Supervisor I
Ms.	C. Gunness	Public Health Section
Mr.	K. King	Inspector- Municipal Police
Mr.	G. Alexander	Transport Foreman
Ms.	A. Adimoolah-Ramjohn	Corporate Secretary
Mr.	R. Loknath	Planning Officer
Ms.	R. Ganga Persad	Clerk IV
Ms.	K. Ramlogan	Clerk II
Mr.	S Sinanan	Clerk 1
Ms.	V. Roopnarine	Checker

1003. The meeting commenced at 9:15 am with a prayer by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan.

1004. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: -**

[i] Welcomed all to the meeting.

[ii] Pointed out that the Tobago retreat was a very valuable exercise and they were trying to implement some of the decisions. Councillor Carl Dabideen led in a session where they identified lines of responsibilities for Members of Council. Since the retreat, all Staff from the Penal office is new in this building and departments have full accommodation and should be comfortable.

However, sociologists will tell that moving from a cramped to an open space takes time to adjust. Nevertheless, Council and Administration are continuing with programmes to enhance workers' performance. For example, the personal enhancement seminars led by Ms. Marguerite Gordon, which by all reports were very successful.

[iii] There is also the impending move of the Roads Section from the Debe sub office to the additional building on this compound. The Corporation received the keys last Monday (28/01/08) and the goal to have all the services under one compound has materialised.

The bottom line, he asked, is are we improving our productivity; are documents moving more swiftly; are complaints dealt with better and faster?

[iv] Two (2) section meetings were held and the target set at the Tobago retreat was used for measurability and there is optimism for the future now that there is a document to use. Members of Council have to make additional efforts to monitor their areas and portfolios.

[v] The Corporation has already had two (2) successful heritage festivals and another is targeted from 10th -17th May, 2008 and we have applied to NGOs for additional funding.

1005. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:-**

[i] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan announced that the backhoe and a gang did work at the corner of Lowkie Trace and SS Erin Road, Penal, and the telephone lines and a tree fell on a resident's parlour. The lines were removed by TSTT but the tree remained on the resident's parlour to date.

1006. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH [17TH] STATUTORY MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Statutory Meeting held on December 13, 2007 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

1007. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2007.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2007 be adopted.

1008. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-24 of the Eighteenth [18th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008 be accepted.

1009. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-24 of the Eighteenth [18th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008 be adopted.

[ii] **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1010. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007 be adopted.

1011. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-16 of the Eighteenth [18th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be accepted.

1012. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-16 of the Eighteenth [18th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be adopted.

RESOLVED: - *Unanimously, at 9:50am on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Diptee Ramnath that the meeting be adjourned to caucus stage.*

RESOLVED: - *Unanimously, at 10:25am on a motion moved by Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Diptee Ramnath that the statutory meeting be resumed.*

[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

1013. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007 be adopted.

1014. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Eighteenth [18th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be accepted pending the undermentioned amendments:-

(i) Recommendation #16: Item [i] and [ii]: be withdrawn and revisited then resubmitted for approval.

(ii) Recommendation #18 should read “Council recommended to Administration that the contract for Public Health Inspector III be terminated with immediate effect pending item 12 of the memorandum from the Chief Executive Officer to the Chairman, and dated 21 January, 2008. Subject-Employment Contract- Mr. Ramdeo Badal Public Health Inspector III, which reads “In discussions with Ministry of Local Government and Service Commission, I have been informed that the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation will be given a definite response in the filling of the vacant Public Health Inspector’s position by the 25th January, 2008”.

1015. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Eighteenth [18th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be adopted pending the above mentioned amendments.

[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE

1016. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2007.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2007 be adopted.

1017. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the eighteenth [18th] Finance Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations No.1-12 of the Eighteenth [18th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned inclusions:

[i] *Special Finance Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on 15/01/08*

[ii] *Special Finance Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on 22/01/08*

[iii] *List of Vouchers dated 23rd -25th January, 2008*

[iv] *List of Vouchers dated 28th January, 2008*

[v] *Policy: that the Workshop Foreman, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and Accountant, be given the authority for emergency funding in the sum of \$3000.00 in cases of breakdown of vehicles.*

1018. **Adoption of the of Reports and Recommendations the Eighteenth [18th] Finance Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-12 of the Eighteenth [18th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 08, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

[v] **FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

1019. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007 be adopted.

1020. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Eighteenth [18th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-9 of the Eighteenth [18th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be accepted.

1021. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and Seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Eighteenth [18th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be adopted.

[vi] **HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE**

1022. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2007 be adopted.

1023. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Eighteenth [18th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be accepted.

1024. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Eighteenth [18th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendation Nos.1-9 of the Eighteenth [18th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2008 be adopted.

[vii] YOUTH, CITIZEN LIAISON & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1025. **Adoption of the Minutes the Seventeenth [17th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007 be adopted.

1026. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations No.1 of the Eighteenth [18th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008 be accepted.

1027. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Eighteenth [18th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations No.1 of the Eighteenth [18th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008 be adopted.

[viii] COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

1028. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007 be adopted.

1029. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Eighteenth [18th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be accepted.

1030. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Eighteenth [18th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be adopted.

[ix] SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:-

1031. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007 be adopted.

1032. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the Eighteenth [18th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008 be accepted.

1033. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the Eighteenth [18th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008 be adopted.

[x] PLANNING, THE ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

1034. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 06, 2007 be adopted

1035. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Eighteenth [18th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be accepted.

1036. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Eighteenth [18th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on January 10, 2008 be adopted.

[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

1037. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 07, 2007 be adopted.

1038 **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Eighteenth [18th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008 be accepted.

1039. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Eighteenth [18th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on January 17, 2008 be adopted.

[xii] BUILDING COMMITTEE

1040. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventeenth [17th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2007 be adopted.

1041. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Building Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-3 of the Eighteenth [18th] Building Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusion.

[i] Building plan Application Nos. 1-7 in favor of Kissoonlal Deokienath and others.

1042. **Adoption of Reports Recommendations of the Eighteenth [18th] Building Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-3 of the Eighteenth [18th] Building Committee Meeting held on January 15, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusion:-

1043. **CORRESPONDENCE:-**

(i) Letter from Patricia Soogrim requesting permission to operate a bar from 4th- 6th February, 2008 at Quinam Beach.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously approved.

(ii) Letter from Roy Solomon requesting to operate a bar from 4th- 6th February, 2008 at Quinam Beach.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously approved.

(iii) Letter from the Principal, Picton Presbyterian School requesting approval to use the Kennedy Park on the 11th and 12th February, 2008 instead of the 12th and 13th February, 2008.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously approved.

(iv) Letter from Senior Superintendent of Police, South Western Division requesting the use of two (2) Corporation vehicles with drivers for the Carnival period from 6:00pm on Sunday 3rd February, 2008 to 8:00am on Wednesday 6th February, 2008.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously approved pending payment by the Police Division.

1044. **MATTERS REFERRED: -** NIL

1045. **PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS: -** NIL

1046. **REPORTS AND REPLIES: -** NIL

1047. **PETITIONS: -** NIL

1048. **QUESTIONS: -** NIL

1049. **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS: -** NIL

1050. **MOTION: -**

MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR WILLVAN RAMLAKHAN

Whereas the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation is approximately 240 square kilometers with a population of 90,000 people and growing.

AND WHEREAS this growth in population is likely to increase dramatically within the occupation of new government housing settlements at Golconda and Debe as well as in private developments and a corresponding demand for spaces for public use including leisure.

AND WHEREAS that within the district of Penal proper there is evidence of building activity which will add to the population and daily business of the said district and the corresponding demand on utilities and leisure space.

AND WHEREAS the only passive leisure space open to the public with the said Penal district is Bhupsingh Park, a paved area, of approximately 15,000 square feet in size and used as a public car park on a daily basis.

AND WHEREAS as the main commercial district of the Penal/Debe Region and the daily human traffic to transact business increases the population by at least thirty percent without the corresponding increase and resting space.

BE IT RESOLVED that a parcel of private land identified by Council between Dookie Street, Penal and Bupsingh Street, Penal which is 0.3754 hectares in size and available for sale be acquired by the state to address the open space needs of the residents of the Penal district and those who visit on a daily basis.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said space be developed as a park for principally passive use on a daily basis to meet the growing population of the region.

Seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial.

[i] Councillor Roy Kissoon supported the motion and remarked that he was reminded of a similar Park built by the Chaguanas Borough Corporation and is in full use by the residents. This park was necessary so that people will have a place of leisure free of accidents.

[ii] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh supported the motion, however, he feared that, like a motion he moved to rename a roadway, he feared that this motion would fall on the wayside and not be pursued by Administration.

[iii] Councillor Rampersad Hardial supported the motion and indicated that the parcel of land is located in the heart of Penal and if the Corporation should acquire it would be of tremendous benefit to the people of Penal and the surrounding environs.

[iv] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan thanked all for supporting the motion, and stressed that he would be personally pursuing the motion through the process.

Unanimously carried.

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-**1051. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the under mentioned comments/request:-**

- (i) As the Local Government representative for Palmiste Electoral District, he based his decisions on facts and not emotions and this Corporation's failure to act on decisions made at Council level can have serious impact on resident's lives. He made reference to a motion whereby more than 100 residents signed a petition to rename a roadway from Estate Drive to Coonan Ramdial Drive but nothing was done and no reasons were given. The facts will indicate that this road was used by the community but because of outside influence, especially because of one worker, there were different actions and the motion was not put into place.

Mr. Jinko and Mr. Ramdial continue to be affected. Mr. Ramdial invested thousands of dollars to uplift the community and no responsible Council would prevent someone from making such huge contributions to his community. This Council has frustrated Mr. Ramdial so much that he had to return from abroad and go before the courts in order to resolve the matter. As the representative for the area he did what he could and all those who voted for the plan could not even say where it was located and all those who abstained, knowing all the facts, should have taken a side.

Another motion was moved in 2000 for the Corporation to take over all the roads in Palmiste Electoral District.

- (ii) When Council makes decisions they get the opposite reaction from Administration and when contractors perform poorly and Council expresses dissatisfaction, these people get more work in the Corporation.
- (iii) With respect to Hillpiece Recreation ground, every year contracts are awarded but the job was never completed. He requested an investigation on every single contract awarded for recreation grounds to ensure the terms and conditions were adhered to. He took pictures and made calls to the Work Supervisor about his arrangement with the contractor. The contractor continued to spread mud and the outfield was not rolled yet the contractor was paid. When one looks at the funds these clubs put out and the preparation that goes into these types of jobs, the clubs tend to be demotivated with the poor quality of work done by the contractors.
- (iv) He clearly indicated that he would not be seeking re-election but will continue to represent the people and raise issues such as these. He thanked the former Councillor for Palmiste, Mr. Krishna Bahadursingh, who passes on a vision for Palmiste which he continued and hoped his successor would do the same. He believed he worked hard for his constituents and requested Council award the former Councillor for his outstanding work.

1052. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the under mentioned comments/requests:-

[i] The criminals seem to be working from outside as well as inside the Police Service since a Women Police Constable allegedly sold nine million dollars worth of cocaine from the Princess Town Police Station for one million dollars and the people depend on them for protection.

The Government cannot control the crime situation since the criminals are their friends. The Minister of National Security was telling people he knows who the major criminals are. People are walking out of the courts free because law abiding people are unwilling to give evidence because they fear for their lives and loved ones. Soon the criminal element will take over the country.

[ii] The cost of living is already so high and the government is now threatening to raise water rates. Gas prices would also go up because they want to remove the subsidy. The Port Authority was moving to cut

the import of cars by half and everyday food prices are rising dramatically. This country is heading for anarchy since most of us live from paycheck to paycheck.

[iii] Nothing is in place in the Corporation for the safety of people. After one month of complaining the Corporation now fix a crossing at Dignity Trace. The fallen tree was still lying on the resident's parlour in Lowkie Trace but TSTT had already done its part expeditiously. He wondered why this Corporation was not taking a serious stand on the safety of its residents.

[iv] Workers should be commended and rewarded for outstanding performance of their duties and pointed out two (2) workers whom he felt were deserving of this, namely, Soogrim Bellarsario and Grafton Alexander.

1053. **Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the under mentioned comment/requests:-**

[i] He hoped the Motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan would be pursued, because a motion was moved to name the highway extension the 'Noor Hassanali Highway', also a letter was sent by the Retrench residents to name a play park the 'Noor Hassanali Playpark' but to date no one saw it fit to follow up on these motions.

[ii] He heard the County Superintendent say he would not assist with any project in the Councilor's district. The Work Supervisor has done nothing either but says he goes on site visits and submits estimates. He asked for a report on annual expenditure for his Electoral District and, from the report, his electoral district got forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) in 2003 for Union Hall Recreation Ground; twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) in 2004 for Golconda Recreation Ground and forty two thousand dollars (\$42,000.00) in 2005.

[iii] He requested cutting of trees at Bryansgate and again nothing has been done.

1054. **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

[i] He and the Chairman had a meeting with the squatters of Woodland and thanked the Chairman, on behalf of the residents, for all the assistance. However, they were still pleading for water and electricity.

[ii] The work at Jacksingh Street was taken over by another contractor who blamed former contractor, Trinity Pavers Limited for damages. However, no one was accepting responsibility and the residents continue to suffer.

[iii] Requested the grader to spread earthfill at La Fortune.

[iv] Requested the boundary of Woodland Recreation Ground be extended to cover the entire area allocated.

[v] Sports, in so many ways, elevated the lives of people but the Sportt Co, which is a government agency, has done nothing to elevate any sporting facility in this region.

[vi] This government was boasting about water for all before election but now hardly anyone continues to get water and WASA rates about to raise again. Under the UNC government everyone received a supply of water.

1055. **Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

[i] There will be a meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture at Morne Diablo Fishing Port and requested lunch be provided.

[ii] With the upcoming water distribution it was imperative that the Corporation is provided with a Public Health Inspector. The Health section is too important to be without a Public Health Inspector.

[iii] The Corporation should maximize this dry season to assist the farmers by having roads graded and watercourses cleaned before the rainy season commences.

[iv] Arrangements should be made to cleanup the garbage pile up at the beaches during the Carnival weekend. Also for Penal central.

[v] The Corporation should set the bench mark for its recreation grounds so that agencies who want to work with us would have accessible drawings and specifications that are up to the standard set by the Corporation.

1056. **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the under mentioned comments/ request:-**

[i] The Act 21 of 1990 states the Corporation should have five (5) executive members and over eighteen (18) years now the Ministry hasn't seen it fit to supply this Corporation with adequate staff despite our pleas over the years.

[ii] The Prime Minister visited Penal/Debe after the floods and asked us to highlight our plight but the floods continue. The Technical Officers were told to identify projects and submit estimates and the entire Corporation got approximately two million dollars and promises of more funding never materializing.

[iii] Council agreed that 2008 would be the 'year of delivery' and decided to meet with all the stakeholders. When Council met with PSAEL they were told that Cabinet approves their projects. RDC came and none of their projects were within Penal/Debe. PURE told us that the Corporation cannot tell them what projects are needed. PURE did a job in Boodoo Trace and not two (2) months after there were more potholes than before. This is sheer discrimination by these agencies.

[iv] The murder rate to date is alarming whilst the Minister of National Security said they know who the gang members were but was doing nothing about the situation.

[v] The Tobago retreat was very successful and needed to continue.

1057 **CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS:-**

The curator's course will take place on February 7,8,12, 2008 from 9:00 am to 2:00pm. Preference was given to clubs with turf wickets and certificates would be awarded from National Training Agencies (NTA) and will be recognized across the country.

1058. There being no further business, the meeting terminated at 12:01 p.m.

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Chairman
Statutory Meeting