

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH [20<sup>TH</sup>] STATUTORY MEETING [2006-2008 TERM] HELD ON MARCH 25, 2008 AT THE CORPORATION'S HALL, 218 S.S. ERIN ROAD, DEBE.**

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: -**

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

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL ABSENT:-**

Councillor	Sonnylal B. Manwah	Union Hall/Bronte
------------	--------------------	-------------------

**MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-**

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Ms.	A. Adimoolah Ramjohn	Corporate Secretary
Ms.	T. Deodath	Administrative Officer II
Mr.	S. Heru	County Superintendent
Ms.	P. Cain	Personnel & Industrial Relations Officer
Ms.	L. Lalgee	Financial Officer
Mr.	C. Maharaj	Building Inspector
Mr.	R. Mahadeo	Accountant
Ms.	C. Gunness	Public Health Inspector Section
Mr.	K. King	Inspector- Municipal Police
Mr.	R. Loknath	Planning Officer
Ms.	R. Ganga Persad	Clerk IV
Ms.	K. Ramlogan	Clerk II
Ms.	N. Ragbir	Clerk I

1115. The meeting commenced at 9:10 am with a prayer by Premchand Sookoo.
1116. **Resolved** on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the agenda be suspended.

**Resolved** at 9:50am on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Statutory Meeting resume.

1117. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: -**

- [i] The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.
- [ii] Observed that Members of Council were making financial request for community meetings, and should comply with the policies.
- [iii] Cell-phones are disruptive to meetings and Chairmen of Committees must be mindful of this.
- [iv] Was receiving requests from the public for removal of derelict vehicles and white waste.
- [v] Council and Administration must decide on issues to discuss when the Minister of Local Government visits the Corporation, such as the imminent decentralization of services as suggested in the Local Government Reform, among other things.

1118. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:-**

- [i] Councillor Rampersad Hardial announced that Council had proposed to award contracts to clear all the recreation grounds after Phagwa celebrations and, as a result, the Rochard recreation ground was done very well.  
Also he requested the sum of Five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for refreshments towards the opening of Barrackpore refurbished pavilion on Sunday 30 March, 2008.
- [ii] Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah announced that he held crime meetings at Union Hall and Sir Lamont Avenue and said the bills would be forthcoming.
- [iii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo announced that there would be a medical clinic at Ramai Trace on Thursday 28 March, 2008 and everyone was invited. Also there would be a visit by the leader of the Opposition on Monday 7 April, 2008 at the Council Hall at 7:00pm and Administration to make all arrangements.
- [iv] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan thanked the Corporation on behalf of Metronomes Sports Club for the provision of lights to its pavilion. Also the Apollo Sports Club held its Family Day on Sunday 30 March, 2008 and was very glad they were able to use the recreation ground (Apollo Recreation Ground).

1119. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH [19<sup>TH</sup>] STATUTORY MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Rolland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Statutory Meeting held on February 26, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings subject to the undermentioned amendments:-

Page 9: Item 1111: To delete 'Councillor Roland Hall' and insert 'Alderman Rolland Hall'.

Page 9: Item 1111: To delete '...the Corporation should seriously pursue' and insert '...enquired about...'

Page 9: Item 1112: To delete 'Dibideen' and insert 'Dabideen'.

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

1120. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on February 07, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on February 07, 2008 be adopted.

1121. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-43 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008 be accepted.

1122. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-43 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008 be adopted.

### **[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1123. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008 be adopted.

1124. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be accepted.

1125. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] the Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be adopted.

### **[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

1126. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-**Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008 be adopted.

1127. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-27 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be accepted.

1128. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-27 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be adopted.

**[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

1129. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on February 07, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-**Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on February 07, 2008 be adopted.

1130. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-10 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008 be accepted with the under-mentioned inclusions:

- [i] *Special Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on 11/03/08*
- [ii] *Special Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on 18/03/08.*
- [iii] *List of Vouchers dated 20-26 March, 2008.*

1131. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-10 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 04, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

**[v] FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

1132. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008 be adopted.

1133. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be accepted.

1134. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-2 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be adopted.

**[vi] HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE.**

1135. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008 be adopted.

1136. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be accepted.

1137. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-4 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2008 be adopted.

**[vii] YOUTH, CITIZEN LIAISON & ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1138. **Adoption of the Minutes the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008 be adopted.

1139. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be accepted.

1140. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be adopted.

[viii] **COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE.**

1141. **Adoption of Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on February 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on February 14, 2008 be adopted.

1142. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-17 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008 be accepted.

1143. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & safety Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-17 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008 be adopted.

[ix] **SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:-**

1144. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008 be adopted.

1145. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the Nineteenth Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008 be accepted.

1146. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008 be adopted.

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

1147. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on February 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on February 14, 2008 be adopted

1148. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008 be accepted.

1149. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-13 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on March 13, 2008 be adopted.

**[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.**

1150. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on February 21, 2008 be adopted.

1151. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-3 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008 be accepted.

1152. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-3 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on March 20, 2008 be adopted.

[xii] **BUILDING COMMITTEE:**1153. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Nineteenth [19<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2008 be adopted.

1154. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Development Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusions:-

*[i] Building plan Application Nos. 1-9 in favor of Kelvin Subiah and others.*

1155. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twentieth [20<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

1156. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- i) Letter dated 27/03/2008 from Ted Jhilmit, Penal Rock Road SDA church requesting the use of Penal Rock Road 8mm Recreation ground on 24/03/2008 and 6-19/04/2008 for crusade. Also for the ground to be brush-cut - be approved.

1157. **MATTERS REFERRED: -** NIL

1158. **PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS: -** NIL

1159. **REPORTS AND REPLIES: -** NIL

1160. **PETITIONS: -** NIL

1161. **QUESTIONS:**

- (i) Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh enquired about continuation of truck borne water.
- (ii) The Financial Officer stated that the application for supplemental funding was already submitted, and the Chief Executive Officer indicated that he was having dialogue with Budget Division and then would go to the Permanent Secretary.

1162. **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS: -** NIL

1163. **MOTION:****MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR WILLVAN RAMLAKHAN.**

*Whereas by letter dated May 17, 2008 to the Director of Surveys from Petrotrin confirmed “Trintoc’s willingness to donate a parcel of land comprising approximately 0.9572 hectares to the state (Penal Debe Regional Corporation) for the construction of an office complex” at Clarke Road in Penal.*

*And whereas by letter dated September 10, 2001 from the Palo Seco Agricultural Enterprise Ltd (PSAEL) to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Penal Debe Regional Corporation indicated that the PSAEL “is authorized to manage the assets of Trintoc” and enclosed a Memorandum of Transfer by Trintoc in favor of the Penal Debe Regional Corporation for the said parcel of land now comprising 1.1296 hectares.*

*And whereas by Memorandum dated November 22, 2007 from the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government to the CEO of the PDRC requested, inter alia, the “Ratified Resolution of Council” for the acquisition of the said land at Clarke Road, Penal for the construction of an administrative complex.*

*And whereas in compliance with this directive and the urgent need to construct administrative headquarters for the Penal Debe Regional Corporation the justification for which has already been provided to the Ministry of Local Government.*

*Be it resolved that the PDRC advise the Ministry of Local Government and other relevant authorities that the said parcel of land for an administrative complex for the Penal Debe Regional Corporation be urgently acquired.*

*And be it further resolved that the planning process for the design and construction of the administrative complex commence immediately there after, after due consultation with the members of Council of the PDRC.*

Seconded by Councillor Carl Dabideen.

i) **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh** supported the motion, however he indicated that it is very unfortunate that this motion had to come for a second time and hoped it is given the level of urgency it deserves and that the Minister, upon her visit, be so informed.

ii) **Councillor Premchand Sookoo** supported the motion and said the Penal Debe Council, since its inception, held meetings in many places. On 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1994 Trintoc confirmed its willingness to donate a parcel of land for the Corporation and, as a result of this, a structure was designed and discussed with NIPDEC at the cost of twenty (20) million. However, the Ministry said the cost was too high and the plan was scaled down but still nothing was done. Since that time (14 years ago) people have made millions of dollars on rental of their property with a new rental arrangement and still the authorities cannot see it appropriate to construct a building.

iii) **Councillor Carl Dabideen** stated that in 1994 under the Chairmanship of Alvin Mahabir, the Corporation got permission to use Petrotrin land and NIPDEC had already started the process of financing however, it did not materialize because of lack of funds.

The government subsequently changed to the United National Congress (UNC) and he became the Chairman and all the necessary approvals were obtained. First Citizens Bank (FCB) was then approached and agreed to a loan in exchange for rental of space. The government changed again to the Peoples' National Movement (PNM) and all negotiations collapsed. Similar Motions were passed under Chairman Alvin Mahabir and himself and nothing was done and with the passing of this motion he hoped Administration move expeditiously to acquire the land.

iii) **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan-** thanked all for their support and asked that this motion is secured and delivered into the right hands. We should look at our drawings because the Government was doing standard buildings for local government.

**Unanimously carried.**

1164. **MOTION:**

**MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ROY KISSOON.**

*Whereas the population in the village of Penal was determined to be written thirteen thousand people and twenty five thousand with the inclusion of adjoining villages (2000 Census).*

*And whereas in Penal proper an estimated four hundred retail outlets are located within a three hundred metre radius the Dookie Street / SS Erin Road intersection (Source: Penal Debe Chamber of Commerce member).*

*And considering the phenomenal growth in commercial activity within Penal proper over the past five years and projected expansion of nearby housing projects in the near future which will contribute substantially to vehicular traffic and shopping journeys.*

*And whereas there is no public or private parking space within this area except along the roadside and a very limited number of store fronts.*

*And whereas a parcel of land on Dookie Street popularly known as Bhupsingh Park measuring 33, 774 square feet has been offered for sale to the Penal Debe Regional Corporation by Mr. Len Doodnath, Proprietor.*

*Be it resolved that the PDRC take measures to have acquired the said parcel of land for the purpose of developing a car park in the heart of downtown Penal.*

*And be it further resolved that the acquisition of the said parcel of land be pursued urgently by the relevant State agencies.*

Seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan.

i) **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan-** supported the motion and indicated that the Corporation should acquire this land in order to have proper parking facilities since a motion was moved recently for establishment of a recreational park in the vicinity.

ii) **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh-** supported the motion, however, had serious doubts, that this motion would reach anywhere. Since he came into office only two (2) motions were affected, and only because Mr. Mowasie, a resident acted on his own and pursued the motion at every avenue. The other was the motion for the Corporation to take over all the roads in the Palmiste development.

He moved a motion to rename Estate Trace to Coonan Ramdial Drive, which is maintained by the Corporation, and Administration has failed to carry out this motion causing three (3) residents to be denied access to their property because one person blocked off the roadway. Mr. Ramdial was attacked and almost lost his life. A new sign was installed and the County Superintendent went immediately and removed the sign.

When administration was bulldozing Mr. Narine's house which the Corporation said was blocking Estate Trace no. one contacted the Chairman of the Corporation nor the Councillor for the area. This incident sets the precedent that Estate Trace was the responsibility of Penal/ Debe Regional Corporation for upkeep and maintenance. A sign should be installed immediately indicating such.

Similarly, a person was constructing a hotel on Pinnard Court recreation ground and now he has rights to the land. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh continued that he has lost confidence in the County Superintendent and Administration because it is clearly evident that motions fail to materialize because of the failure of Administration to pursue.

iii) **Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah-** supported the motion. Quite a lot of development has taken place in Penal and environs resulting in increased population both residential in commercial and this parcel of land would assist tremendously towards the free flow of traffic.

iv) **Councillor Roy Kissoon** – supported the motion. Many years ago there was not as much vehicles per household, but now it is very difficult to find parking space at any city/ town centre. With the fast pace of development of Penal and surroundings it is getting more difficult to find parking space and if this motion materializes then it would help the traffic situation tremendously.

**Unanimously carried.**

### **OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-**

#### 1165. **Councillor Carl Dabideen made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

Everyone is tired and fed up with the manner in which Local Government carries out its business especially when there is the upsurge of its powers by the central government. He moved a resolution that the time has come for Penal/Debe to move expeditiously to take legal action against all agencies that are operating in Penal/Debe illegally by filing an injunction in court.

The three (3) motions that were actually carried out in this Corporation was under the United National Congress (UNC) administration and, if this administration does nothing it is up to the council to fight against this by every means. If we allow people (agencies) to come into Penal/Debe and we do nothing about this then we are failing in our responsibilities.

There is the landslip in Cuchawan Trace which needs urgent attention. However the central government said there is no money, yet you see money being used in Penal/Debe freely by other agencies.

The resolution was seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon and unanimously carried.

#### **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

- (1) The post Phagwa cleanup at Palmiste Park was excellently done.

(2) On Friday night 21 March, 2008 he got two (2) threatening phone calls and on Sunday 23 March, 2008 Mr. Ramdial was attacked at his home. This issue has gone to an extent where it is supported by certain members of administration who were putting pressure on Mr. Ramdial even though Mr. Ramdial was awarded cost by the court. He could not understand why Mr. Ramdial was getting so much pressure when all three (3) persons received final approval for their plans. Mr. Ramalie went and block-off the roadway denying Mr. Ramdial access to his land.

He wanted the County Superintendent to have no further input on this matter and it be referred to a private attorney. A sign was put up and within one (1) hour the County Superintendent went and tried to break down the sign. He would be submitting a Programme of Works for maintenance of Estate Trace and wanted a sign installed. He also wanted an investigation done on the removal of the sign and a report on why there was no consultation with the Councillor for the area.

Councillors spend a lot of time at meetings in order to represent people and must ensure that jobs are done properly and it is the County Superintendent's responsibility for execution of jobs.

1166. **Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

- (i) Since the Peoples' National Movement (PNM) government is here there is protest action in all forty-one (41) constituencies, but the worse is to see little children protesting for schools. So many motions have been passed in this council but no follow up action take place.
- (ii) PSAEL who is responsible for rural development was saying there are no funds for work in Penal/Debe yet doing work is San Fernando City.
- (iii) He thanked Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh for attending the crime meeting with him.

1167. **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the under mentioned comment/requests:-**

- (i) Request the County Superintendent to look at remedial measures at La Fortune recreation ground where concrete was mixed on the playing field.
- (ii) The M2 Ring Road along Woodland split across the roadway causing a large depression and requested something to be done.
- (iii) There is a new contractor doing work in La Romaine and always giving excuses for not restoring the roadway. The protesting residents were now targeting the Corporation and we need to deal with this matter.
- (iv) Requested street lights be installed at the corner of Bobb Street and bye pass.
- (v) Thanked Mr. Alexander, Mr. Bassarath and Mr. Zaffar for doing a good job in the Work Supervisors' absence.

1168. **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the under mentioned comments/requests:-**

- (i) Questioned whether the Minister of Local Government is serious about visiting Penal/Debe since every visit is cancelled, although she indicated that she would ensure that all Corporations' issues are heard.
- (ii) His colleagues earlier spoke of RDC, PURE and PSAEL. This Corporation submitted a list of requests for projects to the Ministry of Works, only to be told by a representative who came to a meeting that only the Cabinet minister could make recommendations to PSAEL.

A representative from RDC also said Penal/Debe cannot make recommendations for work to be done in Penal/Debe. The Ministry of Works have taken over all road paving works from the

Corporation's. Neither has the gas tax to pave roads materialize in the Corporation since it is now under the Ministry of Finance.

- (iii) The people were not receiving the value nor service that they pay for through health surcharge deductions. There is hardly any benefits since the poor and sick people have to suffer from early morning to line up at the public health institutions. Basic medications and supplies never reach the patients with some even sleeping on the hospital floors.

The Peoples' National Movement (PNM) government will continue to chastise the people but we will survive.

1169. There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 12:20pm.

.....  
**Chairman**  
**Statutory Meeting**