

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-THIRD [23<sup>RD</sup>] STATUTORY MEETING [2006-2008 TERM]  
HELD ON JUNE 24, 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	Premnath Boodoosingh	Palmiste
Councillor	Diptee Ramnath	Quinam/Morne Diablo
Councillor	Sonnylal B. Manwah	Union Hall/Bronte
Councillor	Carl Dabideen	Debe West
Alderman	Roland A. Hall	

**MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-**

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Ms.	H. Sooknarine	Personnel & Industrial Relations Officer
Mr.	C. Maharaj	Building Inspector
Mr.	R. Mahadeo	Accountant
Ms.	C. Gunness	Public Health Inspector's Section
Ms.	L. Walker	Transport Foreman
Ms.	J. Thompson	Inspector – Municipal Police
Ms.	R. Ganga Persad	Clerk IV
Ms.	K. Ramlogan	Clerk II
Ms.	N. Ragbir	Clerk I

1284. The meeting commenced at 9:05 am and Councillor Boodoosingh led in prayer.

1285. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: -**

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy welcomed all to the meeting.

He informed that in Parliament last Wednesday based on a plea by the Honorable Kamla Persad Bissessar for additional funds for Truck Borne Water, the Minister of Local Government responded and among other things stated 'For Fiscal Year 2008, the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation received \$4 million, 40 percent of the entire allocation'. He added that this is a harsard and all the Corporation received was \$1Million which was in the estimates anyway.

He indicated that the Corporation were to engage in a consultancy on Local Government Reform on July 16, 2008 at Paria Suites and said that a proposal was circulated to Members of Council which would be discussed at a meeting on Friday July 04, 2008.

1286. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:-**

1286.01 The Clerk IV announced that a meeting would be held with Members of Council and the Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] on June 26, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

1286.02 The Chief Executive Officer announced that the Administrative Officer II, Corporate Secretary, Planning Officer & Financial Officer were attending a two [2] day seminar at Diego Martin hosted by the Ministry of Local Government.

1286.03 Councillor Ramlakhan announced that there is still a problem for water at Clarke Road and environs. He added that with the rain there was a heavy flooding from Oliviere Drive to the Shiva Boys High School.

1286.04 Councillor Hardial announced that for the past three and a half [3 ½] months there was no water at Hyder Trace, Old Clarke Road etc. He added that attempts to address this situation was unsuccessful.

1286.05 Alderman Hall reported that he attended a successful Interfaith Service at Port-of-Spain on June 19, 2008.

1286.06 Alderman Sammy informed that Dr. Burris, Technical Assessment Group for Caroni Ltd. [1975] wrote the Chief Executive Officer requesting a meeting to discuss provisional approvals for sites in the region.

He indicated that the Naparima District Court Council requested use of the Council's Hall for Eighty [80] persons on July 02, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

He informed that there would be a public meeting at La Fortune with the Leader of the Opposition and other Members of Parliament and requested use of the Council's Hall to host dinner.

1286.07 Councillor Sookoo announced that on June 28, 2008 the Barrackpore Police, Debe Police Post and residents would be meeting at his office #57 Ramai Trace, Debe to discuss crime in the area.

He stated that he received a letter from the San Fernando High Court to attend Jury Service from July 01, 2008 and said that he would try and seek exemption.

1288. **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SECOND [22<sup>nd</sup>] STATUTORY MEETING HELD ON May 29, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty-Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Statutory Meeting held on May 29, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings thereof.

**REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

1289. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty-Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on May 06, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Minutes of the Twenty-Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on May 06, 2008 be adopted.

1290. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-38 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008 be accepted.

1291. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-38 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008 be adopted.

**[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1292. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008 be adopted.

1293. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 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. 1-18 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be accepted.

1294. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 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.1-18 of Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] the Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be adopted.

**[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

1295. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:**-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008 be adopted.

1296. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be accepted.

1297. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be adopted.

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

1298. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on May 08, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:**-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on May 08, 2008 be adopted.

1299. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Finance, Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-22 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008 be accepted with the under-mentioned inclusions: -

*[i] Recommendations made at Special Finance Committee Meeting held at Special Committee Meeting held on June 10 & 17, 2008.*

*[ii] List of Vouchers Dated 17-23/06/08.*

1300. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councilor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-22 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

**[v] FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

1301. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008 be adopted.

1302. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-7 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be accepted.

1303. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be adopted.

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

1304. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008 be adopted.

1305. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be accepted.

1306. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be adopted.

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

1307. **Adoption of the Minutes the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008 be adopted.

1308. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-10 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be accepted.
1309. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-10 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be adopted.
- [viii] **COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE.**
1310. **Adoption of Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on May 06, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on May 06, 2008 be adopted.
1311. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008 be accepted.
1312. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on June 03, 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 Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on June 03, 2008 be adopted.
- [ix] **SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:-**
1313. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on May 21, 2008 be adopted.
1314. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2008.**  
**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>]\_Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2008 be accepted.
1315. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2008 be adopted.

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

1316. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on May 08, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on May 08, 2008 be adopted

1317. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008 be accepted.

1318. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-12 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2008 be adopted.

**[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.**

1319. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on May 20, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>]\_Gender Development Committee Meeting held on May 20, 2008 be adopted.

1320. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be accepted.

1321. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Twenty- Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2008 be adopted.

[xii] **BUILDING COMMITTEE:**1322. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Second [22<sup>nd</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on May 19, 2008 be adopted.

1323. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Development Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusions:-

*[i] Building plan Application Nos. 1-7 in favor of Peter Jones and others.*

1324. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twenty-Third [23<sup>rd</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on June 10, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1325. [i] Letter dated June 16, 2008 from Surendra Maharaj, Naparima District Scout Council informing of their Annual General Meeting on July 07, 2008 at Penal/Debe Regional Corporation from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and requesting the Chairman as their guest speaker.

- Noted

[ii] Letter dated June 16, 2008 from Surendra Maharaj, Naparima District Scout Council requesting use of the Conference Hall to host its Annual General Meeting on July 02, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Also, use of P.A. system, washrooms etc.

- Approved.

[iii] Hansard dated June 23, 2008 from Parliament re: Water Trucking Service [Governments' Non-Provision of Funding].

- Noted.

1326. **MATTERS REFERRED:** - NIL

1327. **PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:** - NIL

1328. **REPORTS AND REPLIES:** - NIL

1329. **PETITIONS:** - NIL

1330. **QUESTIONS:** - NIL

1331. **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS: -** NIL

1332. **MOTION: -** NIL

**OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-**

1333. **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

Asked that the Chairman of Council correct the statement made by the Minister of Local Government in Parliament 'For Fiscal Year 2008, the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation received \$4 million, 40 percent of the entire allocation'.

If the Corporation had to go to Central Bank with the current allocation, then a lot of projects would not be implemented due to the inflation in construction material. He suggested that the Chairman of Council make representation for additional funding.

Informed that fifty [50%] of the lights at Palmiste National Park were not functioning and asked that T. & T.E.C. restore same. Also, a letter be sent to Wildlife requesting that the alligators at the Pond be killed. He asked for copy of the letter.

Complimented the I.T. Section for bringing it to a standard where the Accounts Section are now able to network.

Made reference to the Minister of Local Government's statement in Parliament about Truck Borne Water and her perception that Members of Council were the owners of the trucks. He indicated that he does not own any truck and did not receive any contract. Also, the persons whom he recommended to the Corporation never received work.

1334. **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

Informed that he became attached to the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation as a Councillor since 2003 with many problems in the Electoral District of Penal and decided to take up the challenge to address the water situation which until today remains a major problem. He gave an example where the Chairman of Council received water lines at Teemul Trace, Clarke Road, Penal but received water only one to two (1-2) times in five (5) years.

He added that rain water was not safe but the poor have no choice and although springs were cleaned, the Corporation need to maintain them.

Indicated that he requested one (1) gallon of weedicide for Apollo Recreation Ground over six [6] months and had to purchase it himself.

County Medical Officer of Health has informed Council that mosquito breeding was very high especially with residents collecting rain water in barrels without covers.

Flooding remains a serious problem especially at Oliverie Drive, Clarke Road where there are four (4) schools and children have to walk through flood. He added that requests were made to the Ministry of Works to construct a box drain but to date nothing has been done.

Streetlights are Clarke Road were not functioning and need to be restored.

He requested that his programme be drains only but to date not one was done, meanwhile earthworks were being done at Ramdeen Trace and Lachos Road, Penal and the drains were being clogged.

1335 **Councillor Rampersad Hardial made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

Under the P.N.M. Government nothing was working. The education system was in "shambles", the exam papers were being stolen, hospitals were in a bad state and patients were on the floor whilst the Minister of Education keeps commenting that in only hundred (100 days) the plan to alleviate this would be completed.

Crime was on the rise and the Minister of National Security seems to have fallen asleep. The situation continues to get worse and the authorities continue to lie.

Local Government Elections was scheduled to be soon and vain promises of proper roads and water were being made in parliament.

Much was achieved in his Electoral District especially the **Jogging Track at .....**and a lot more could have been done if there were funds.

1336. **Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

Many families who applied for subdivision of land in Penal/Debe were turned away and are told that they were on agricultural land that cannot be sub-divided. He suggested that Council seek assistance from the Ministry of Planning & Development and through the newspaper so the matter could be addressed.

Flooding remains a major problem in his Electoral District and asked that a consultant be hired to look at the region and give a comprehensive report which would be forwarded to the Government.

Land developers must not be denied their work since the Corporation would need the earthfill for the Recreation Grounds etc. He asked that a policy be set up where developers pay a fee which would go towards restoration of the roadway.

There should be policies already in place for truck borne water, flooding and land development for 2009. He asked that the electronic board be used to display the facts to other public.

The Corporation should write Petrotrin requesting that residents living on state land be given water, lights etc.

1337. **Councillor Sonnylal B.Manwah made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

The Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of Council and Accountant should issue a press release on the Minister of Local Government's statement in Parliament that Penal/Debe Regional Corporation received a \$4 Million for truck borne water when in truth only \$1 Million was received for same.

1338. **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

Reminded Members of Council that he requested pipes three years ago and of the forty (40) received only Twenty- one (21) were accounted for. He added that he was discriminated against since to date he received none.

Informed that more than one person was involved with the missing cable costing Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000.00) from the Debe Sub Office and asked for additional security in the area.

Water work would continue soon at Hermitage and thanked the persons who assisted with same.

1339. **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the undermentioned comments/requests:-**

After election in 2007 the Ministry of Local Government indicated on National Television, that no Local Government Authority would suffer and would receive all the manpower and equipment needed to function effectively. Since that time she also said on three occasions she would visit the Corporation and together will find ways and means to assist, and on three occasions she has failed to visit.

The Minister of Local Government also lied in Parliament that she released \$ 4 Million for Truck Borne Water Distribution when the Corporation only got \$1 Million. The Corporation should have a press conference to let the population of Trinidad and Tobago know of her lies. As a prudent Council, we have managed the resources so that the Corporation could continue to bring some relief to the residents.

There are Fifty-eight (58) wooden bridges in Penal/Debe and only \$1/2 Million was released to repair bridges and fix roads, and whilst this government says they care, \$1/2 Million might only be sufficient to repair 1/2 the bridges.

The Ministry of Local Government sent memos to the Corporation asking that there be no additional employment nor for leave relief for workers on Vacation Leave leaving most gangs with three to four (3-4) workers only.

This Corporation had identified the lack of manpower as its greatest deterrent and until today has not received one single worker to add to its Cadre. With all the Housing Development Corporation developments, the resources would be stretched even further.

A poor family built a house in Diamond and the Housing Development Corporation went and demolished the house without any consideration for the pregnant woman who was living there. The Housing Development Corporation and the Estate Management Business Development Company Ltd must have all things in place before they receive any approvals from this Council.

This Corporation has been asking the Ministry of Local Government for approval to spend the \$1.7 Million unspent balances and to date no approval was given to expend this sum.

Congratulated the Chairman and Council for executing the work in the respective Electoral District even though the Corporation got no money for development of agricultural access road, recreation grounds etc.

1340. **Member of Public – Ms. Indira Katwaroo**

Ms. Katwaroo, Public Relations Officer, Gandhi Village Youth Group, reported that the youth group uses the Gandhi Village recreation ground for its activities. However, in using the facilities they find broken bottles littered on the recreation ground itself and they have to clean up the toilet facilities before it can be used. Also, after matches the youth group is left to clean the place because garbage is thrown everywhere.

Councillor Diptee Ramnath requested the use of the recreation ground for a Wind Ball Cricket Match on Saturday June 28, 2008.

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh indicated that the recreation ground is shared by three (3) Electoral Districts who must have use of the facilities, however all the stakeholders must come together to set some policies and guidelines regarding the use of the recreation ground.

1341. **Chairman’s Closing Remarks:**

The Chairman thanked all for their valuable contributions and reminded everyone of the close of Meetings for July, 2008.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending and terminated the meeting at 11:15 p.m.

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**Chairman**  
**Statutory Meeting**