

**PARISH COUNCIL OF MANCHESTER**

**AGENDA**

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON JULY 10, 2014**

1. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING
2. PRAYER
3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON **JUNE 12, 2014**
5. MATTERS ARISING
6. REPORTS FROM AGENCIES
7. ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. ACCOUNTS
9. CORRESPONDENCE
  - I. From Government Ministries & Departments
  - II. OTHER PARISH COUNCILS
  - III. OTHER SOURCES
    - (a) Report from the President, ALGAJ
  - IV. DEPARTMENTAL
10. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
  1. Finance & Planning Committee held 3/6/14
  2. Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management held 5/6/14
  3. Human Resource Committee held 10/6/14
  4. Civic Affairs & Brooks Park held 10/6/14

5. Municipal & Commercial Services held 17/6/14
6. Physical Planning & Environment held 19/6/14
7. Poor Relief held 25/6/14
8. Agriculture held 25/6/14
9. Local Board of Health and Environmental Sanitation 25/6/14

11. MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMITTEES

Physical Planning & Environment

- (a) Subdivision with lots below ¼-acre size
- (b) Recommendation for affixing the Council's Common Seal to approved subdivision applications
- (c) Recommendation for issuance of Certificate of Completion

12. QUESTIONS


13. PETITIONS

14. NOTICE OF MOTION

15. PRAYER

16. ADJOURNMENT

BY ORDER



David Parkes  
Secretary/Manager  
Parish Council, Manchester

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
OF MANCHESTER HELD ON JUNE 12, 2014**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council of Manchester was held in the Council's Chamber, 32 Hargreaves Avenue, Mandeville on Thursday, June 12, 2014, commencing at 10:13 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Her Worship the Mayor  
Councillor Brenda Ramsay

Councillors: - Ervin Facey, Deputy Mayor  
Cleon Francis  
Faith Sampson  
Muriel Swaby  
McArthur Collins  
Desmond Harrison  
Jones Oliphant  
Burton Wright  
Anthony Bryce

**ELECTORAL DIVISION**

Bellefield

Spur Tree  
Knockpatrick  
Johns Hall  
Porus  
New Green  
Christiana  
Mandeville  
Walderston  
Newport

**ENTERED DURING THE MEETING**

Councillor Darlton Brown  
Donovan Mitchell  
Fairbourne Maxwell  
Omar Miller  
Dewaine Larmond

Alligator Pond  
Royal Flat  
Mile Gully  
Craighead  
Director of Planning

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Messrs. David Harris	-	Actg. Secretary/Manager – Clerk to the Committee
Doyen Johnson	-	Superintendent, Roads & Works
Densil Mundy	-	Inspector of Poor
Dewaine Larmond	-	Director of Planning
Miss Sharon Walker	-	Internal Auditor
Mrs. Darcia Roache	-	Director of Administration
Mrs. Cardel Baker Grant	-	Community Programmes Co-ordinator
Miss Janice Mundle	-	Municipal & Commercial Service Manager
Miss Charmine Hepburn	-	Recording Secretary

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Emrick Needham	-	Acting Superintendent, Jamaica Fire Brigade
Mr. Shelton Thomas	-	Operations Engineer, Jamaica Public Service Co
Ms. Andrewnett Henzil	-	Customer Service Manager, JPSCo.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Her Worship the Mayor, Councillor Brenda Ramsay.

**NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING** – was taken as read.

**PRAYER** – Devotion was conducted by Rev. Dr. Adlyn White, Chaplain who wished all fathers a happy Father's Day and may they continue to find life very fulfilling.

**WELCOME**

Her Worship the Mayor expressed warm welcome to members, officers and representatives from the various agencies and wished for all a successful meeting.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**



Apologies for absence were tendered on behalf of the Secretary/Manager who is on vacation leave, Mrs. Vivinne Grant, Matron-Infirmiry who was unable to attend due to an emergency at the Infirmiry, Councillor Darlton Brown and Mr. Dewaine Larmond – Director of Planning who would be late.

### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### **Corrections:**

- Page 3 Under the captioned 'the Jamaica Fire Brigade' 2<sup>nd</sup> para 1<sup>st</sup> line the name 'Randolph' be changed to read 'Randall'.  
Under the captioned 'Other Issues' 2<sup>nd</sup> para. 2<sup>nd</sup> line the word 'and' to be deleted.
- Page 9 Under the captioned 'Announcement' 3<sup>rd</sup> para. 2<sup>nd</sup> line the word 'change' to be change to 'chance'.
- Page 10 3<sup>rd</sup> para. 9<sup>th</sup> line the words 'hence someone was needed for the post' be deleted.  
4<sup>th</sup> para. 8<sup>th</sup> line the word 'defective' to be changed to 'in spite'.

Moved by : Councillor Ervin Facey, Deputy Mayor  
Seconded by : Councillor Desmond Harrison and Agreed -

"that the Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Council  
"held on May 8, 2014 be and are hereby confirmed as amended.

#### **Re: Absence of Agencies**

At this juncture, Councillor Desmond Harrison mentioned that he had noticed that for more than one meeting there had been no representative from the National Works Agency and the National Water Commission. The member went on to state that the Council had gone through the rudiments of writing letters to these agencies and they had replied advising that they were mandated to attend.

The Councillor further mentioned that he had matters in his division that needed to be addressed by the National Water Commission and asked that a letter be written to both agencies regarding their non attendance to Council Meetings.

Mayor Ramsay advised that she shared the Councillor's concerns regarding the non attendance of the National Water Commission; however the National Works Agency attend the Council's Infrastructure Committee Meetings where fulsome discussions are done. She said that they had indicated that they would rather report at that meeting where they could be crossed examined by the Councillors, hence one would understand their apology for not attending Council Meetings but not the National Water Commission and added that a letter should be written to them once more regarding the matter.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

##### **Re: Development of Roxborough**

The Acting Secretary/Manager advised the meeting that the Tourism Enhancement Fund had stated that they were presently re-scoping the project and the Council would be advised on the status at a later date.

##### **Re: Adoption of Round-a-bouts – Jamaica Public Service Company**

The Acting Secretary/Manager presented and read letter dated June 11, 2014 from Keith Garvey, Director-Region Central, South Jamaica JPSCo. Ltd. which stated:

*"This serves to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence dated April 17, 2014 requesting sustainable partnership to manage and maintain three (3) round-a-bouts within the parish. We would like to commend the Parish Council for highlighting the interest of the parish and for the*



*initial step advanced in seeking sustainable partnership. As such, we will partner with you by volunteering the labour/manpower to maintain the three (3) round-a-bouts."*

Mayor Ramsay commended the JPSCo.Ltd. and advised that the Council would be responding to the offer. She said some finer details needed to be worked out and before any maintenance of the round-a-bouts should take place they would have to be upgraded and then the maintenance project could take place. She said that further dialogue would be had with Mr. Garvey to see the extent of the partnership and once more expressed thanks to the agency for their kind response.

#### **Re: Council's Citizens' Charter**

Regarding the matter at caption, the Acting Secretary/Manager advised the meeting that there was a possibility that the Ministry of Local Government had copies of the document in-house and dialogue would be had to ascertain same and whether the Council could receive it before incurring any additional cost for copying.

**ENTERED THE MEETING – Mr. Dewaine Larmond – Director of Planning**

#### **Re: Policy in Removing Non- Functional Fire Hydrants**

Mr. Emrick Needham, Assistant Superintendent – Fire Brigade advised the meeting that he had done some investigation internally and contact was also made with the National Water Commission whether there was a policy in place to remove hydrants that were known as dummy. He said that he was advised that the agency was vested with that authority and the Council who would place sanctions on the developers/persons who had erected those hydrants.

Mayor Ramsay advised the meeting that she wanted to differ with what the officer had stated as certainly it should be the joint responsibility of the National Water Commission and the Fire Brigade to see that the hydrants were installed properly and pressure tested. She said that where the agency could fault the Council was for the Council not ensuring that this is done and going forward this matter should be addressed.

The Chairman then directed the Superintendent, Roads & Works to ensure that when applications are made for Certificate of Completion that investigations should be carried out to ascertain that the hydrants installed are working before the certificates are released.

Councillor Burton Wright remarked that he was not comfortable in what he was hearing. The member said that what he expected to hear was the way going forward and enquired as to what was the solution to the hydrants that were not connected to the main.

Mayor Ramsay stated that those that were not connected the responsibility still lies with the Fire Brigade to ensure that this is done.

Responding, Mr. Needham informed the meeting that there was a difficulty in doing so as one would have to ascertain whether they were dummies and would have to excavate where they are installed to verify same. However if there is no water in the main testing could not be done, hence the problem.

Mayor Ramsay stated that she was not satisfied and stated that as members they have seen, heard and experienced some very disturbing events when it comes to fire and for members to sit as a body and hear that report she could not be comforted as it was the duty of the Fire Brigade to provide protection and coverage. She reiterated that it should be a joint effort between the Fire Brigade and the National Water Commission to verify that the hydrants are connected whether there is water in the line or not.

She then asked of members whether they could identify hydrants within their Divisions that were not connected and send a listing to the Fire Brigade in order that they could direct same to their head quarters as this was a severe problem that the parish of Manchester was experiencing.

Councillor McArthur Collins suggested that both the Fire Brigade and the National Water Commission meet and start some investigations and bring back a report to the next sitting of the Council as to the way forward.

#### **Re: Council's Website**



The Acting Secretary/Manager advised the meeting that updating of the website was far advanced and the public in short order will be able to access the site and receive live updates of the Council's meetings and events.

Mayor Ramsay asked of the Acting Secretary/Manager as to whether a definite timeline would be given when the website would be up and running.

Responding, the officer advised that same should be up by the end of June 2014 and it would be a matter of updating after the site was up. This was noted by the members.

### Exit Interview

In regard to the matter at captioned, the Acting Secretary/Manager advised the meeting that the documents had been sent to the Ministry of Local Government on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 and the Council was presently working on the response of the Audit and the relevant responses would be ready by the end of the coming week for circulation to members.

### REPORTS FROM AGENCIES

#### The Jamaica Fire Brigade

The Chairman invited Mr. Emrick Needham, Assistant Superintendent, Jamaica Fire Brigade to update the meeting accordingly.

Mr. Needham reported that at present there was only one operable unit within the parish as the Brigade had to pull one from the fleet and send to Kingston for general servicing.

The Assistant Superintendent gave an update on some the hydrants within the parish that were working and they were as follow: Ward Avenue/Wint Road, Harriott Meadows, Stanley Close, Melrose Terrace, Amherst Drive, Horizon Heights, Jackson Drive, Chellaston Drive, Sinclair Road/Ingleside, West Acres, Lot 6 Sheridan Drive, Comfort, Landsettlement-Williamsfield, Melrose, Williamsfield Heights-10, Williamsfield Gardens, Grey Ground-Grove Mount, Russell Place Gardens and Meadows, Mahoe Drive, Great House, Coleyville , Christiana, Brockery-8, Hatfield etc.

The officer stated that the Brigade had an idea of where the hydrants were working; however the general data was not yet with the Brigade for them to identify all the hydrants whether they were working or not.

Mr. Needham reported that during the month of May 2014 the Department responded to 80 fire calls broken down as follows:

- 62 were genuine, 9 malicious false alarms, 1 false alarm with good intent (F.A.G.I) and 8 special services.
- Summary – Mandeville 67 and Christiana 13
- Estimated value of property at risk was \$531,000,000.00
- Estimated loss was \$14,145,000.00
- Estimated value saved \$516,955,000.00

#### Major Fires

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| May 6  | 1 apartment dwelling house at Chantilly -Manchester. Number of jets used: One medium. Loss \$200,000.00. Risk \$5M. Homeless: 0 Origin: Unknown                                  |
| May 20 | Block Factory-McKinley Road - Manchester. Number of jets used: One medium. Loss \$1,000,000.00 Risk-\$2.5M Homeless-0 Origin: unknown  |
| May 20 | 3 apartment dwelling house at Bailey's Town – Georges Valley. Number of jets used: One medium. Loss \$350,000.00. Risk \$500,000 Homeless: 1 adult Origin: Fire left unattended. |



- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| May 21 | 13 apartment dwelling house at Trelawny Number of jets used: One medium. Loss \$10M Risk \$12M Homeless: 8 adults & 3 children Origin: Unknown                    |
| May 23 | Unoccupied house/shop Porus – Manchester Number of jets used: two medium. Loss \$3M Risk \$10M Origin: Unknown  |
| May 27 | 8 apartments dwelling house at Ticky, Ticky – Manchester Number of jets used: two medium. Loss \$1.5M Risk \$3M Homeless: 9 adults and 3 children Origin: Unknown |

Major Special Service

There was no major special service.

Other Issues

*Councillor Burton Wright* remarked that no mention was made of the hydrants within the Chudleigh Housing Scheme and to his knowledge there were working hydrants within the area.

Mr. Needham stated that the Councillor was correct that there were working hydrants within the Chudleigh Housing Scheme and reiterated that the location of those that were named was a synopsis of the list that the Brigade has and they had not yet received the complete data for the entire parish.

Councillor Desmond Harrison thanked the Assistant Superintendent for his report and stated that he did not know that there were so many hydrants in Christiana that were working. The member then enquired of the officer which one of the stations was the unit taken from that was sent for servicing.

Mr. Needham advised that the unit was taken from the Mandeville station..

Mayor Ramsay questioned and was advised that the unit was taken out for general maintenance.

Councillor McArthur Collins questioned when was the last time that the list for the workable hydrants was updated. The member then asked that investigations be carried out to ascertain whether the hydrants on Wint Road and Ward Avenue are and in good condition.

The officer advised the meeting that both hydrants were recently tested by both the National Water Commission and the Fire Brigade and are functioning well.

Councillor Omar Miller enquired as to whether the report that was done was for the month of May or June. The member went on to state that the reason for the question was that there was a fire in Ticky, Ticky where a life was lost and the funeral service would be the day in question. He said it was the second time a fire had taken place at that house and the lady that perished in same was of unsound mind. The Councillor implored persons who have family members of that nature to be more responsible as this should not have happened.

The Assistant Superintendent advised the meeting that at the time of the fire it was reported that the persons was injured and taken to the hospital, however the Brigade did not receive a report that the lady had succumbed to her injuries.

Mayor Ramsay directed that in the future where there are incidents like the one in question he is to ensure that the Brigade gets the update and same is included in the report.

The Chairman stated that she understood the Councillors passion and that members do experience similar situations in their Divisions where family members forget about their relatives and on the day of their funerals there are huge feasts, tributes etc and they were never remembered in their lifetime. She said it was really unfortunate.

Councillor Cleon Francis reported that on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at approximately 2:00 p.m. there was a fire within the Brokenhurst area and upon till 10:00 a.m. the following day the fire truck had not responded. The member stated that the basic school within the vicinity was



threatened and some graves within the area. He said that he was concerned about the response and it was sad to see fire of such magnitude and there was no fire truck. He said citizens had to come together to bring the fire under control.

Mr. Needham advised the meeting that the Brigade was aware of the fire, however the unit for Mandeville was at another emergency, the Christiana unit was called, however it developed mechanical problem on the way down, hence the delay in responding. The officer further advised that calls were made to both Clarendon and St. Elizabeth Fire Brigades; however their units had similar emergencies. He said that the situation that the Fire Brigade was facing was that the Brigade did not deal with the number of emergencies they were receiving all at the same time. He further advised that the Christiana unit had since been repaired and was up and running.

The Assistant Superintendent informed the meeting that the units that the Brigade is using are old and the newest one is from 2006 which is on the road every day for every fire and other emergency calls, and as such the units are overworked, hence the frequent breakdown.

The Officer further advised that there was a programme that is ongoing to sensitize citizens as to what to do to prevent these fires from occurring. He said he knew the challenges that the Brigade were experiencing and if persons can help themselves, the Department would try to educate them in doing so.

Councillor Cleon Francis remarked that his concern was that up to 10:00 a.m. there was no response from the Fire Brigade and questioned whether there was any investigation carried out by the agent after they had received the call to ascertain the cause and to see the damages the fire had caused.

Responding, Mr. Needham answered in the positive. He added that whenever a fire continues over an extended period contact would be made with the person who had made the call to ascertain the status of the fire and as such the Brigade would not visit the scene based on the report received.

Councillor Miller mentioned that while at the funeral for the lady that died in the fire at Ticky Ticky a man received a call that his house was on fire.

Mayor Ramsay commented that she was concerned about the frequency of fires within the Craighead and Christiana Divisions. She said that there was not a month where there was not an incident reported. She then asked whether some more investigations and sensitizations in those particular Divisions could be done. She said she was not comfortable and it could not be mere coincidence that there were so many fires. The Chairman stated that it may need a tripartite approach such as the Jamaica Public Service Co. Ltd., Fire Department, Council and the Social Development Commission could also be included.

The Chairman went on to state that at a recent meeting the proposal for phase 2 of the Perth Development was discussed and it meant that there would be a "new town". She said it was approximately 411 acres which is proposed to be developed on a phased basis and the approach that is being taken was a new and progressive one and she would like to thank those persons for the vision they have in that it would not be just for houses but commercial, property management, as well.

She then mentioned that the time had come for the Brigade to have volunteer fire service and that block of residence would be an ideal place to start. The idea would be conveyed to the Jamaica Fire Brigade for their consideration and because both the cadre of firemen and fleet were not what it ought to be and citizens were already helping themselves consideration should be given to this.

In regard to the volunteer fire fighters, Mr. Needham stated that it was a matter that the Brigade had been considering for quite some time and some of the issues that came up were who would provide clothing for the volunteers as fire fighting was a risky job and another issue would be who would compensate those individuals should something happen. He said it was a broad topic; however they were willing to welcome any stakeholder/s who would buy into it as the Brigade needed the partnership and the assistance.



Mayor Ramsay mentioned that the matter was being looked at in a comprehensive manner and some of things stated were minor when it compared to loss of lives and properties.

Ms. Beverly Boothe – Parish Manager, Social Development Commission added that the Officer of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) and Red Cross had recently trained four communities as disaster resilience response group and suggested that some more volunteers could be incorporated within that group to assist in that area as well.

Mayor Ramsay stated it would be a start; however persons would have to be trained at a different level because of the risks involved; however it would be a start.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Needham for his report and stated that she trust that the unit that was sent to Kingston for servicing would be back in short order and in good condition.

**LEFT THE MEETING – Mr. Emrick Needham-Assistant Deputy Superintendent –Jamaica Fire Brigade**

**Re: Water Report**

Mayor Ramsay directed that a letter be written to the National Water Commission regarding their absence from the Council's meeting and requests of members to be forwarded to them as well in order that updates can be had at the next meeting.

**Re: Street Lights etc.**

The Chairman welcomed Ms. Andrewnett Henzil, Customer Care Manager, and Mr. Shelton Thomas, Operations Engineer, JPSCO. Ltd. and asked them to update the meeting accordingly.

Ms. Henzil reported that there were a number of streetlights that were repaired during the reporting month; however the company was still having some internal challenges as it relates to repairs. She said all the necessary patrols have been completed and hoped that the repairs will be improved for the coming month. She mentioned that eighty-nine (89) streetlights were repaired and the areas were as follows:

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>NUMBER REPAIRED</b>
Bellfield	0
Spur Tree	0
Craig Head	0
Walderston	9
Royal Flat	10
Alligator Pond	0
Newport	2
Porus	1
Grove Town	0
Mile Gully	0
Christiana	0
Johns Hall	0
Knockpatrick	28
Mandeville	26
New Green	7

**VEGETATION**

- Bushing done at May Day, Barnstaple-Inverness
- New Wales and Ellen Street – spot bushing

**POLE CHANGES – 24**

- Caledonia Road - 5
- North Crescent – 3
- DeCarteret Drive -1
- Mt. Nelson – 1

- Marshalls Pen 1
- New Green 1
- Bloomfield 3
- Colleyville 3
- Porus 1
- Dunsinane 1
- Russell Place 2
- Hillside 1
- St. John Basco
- 

#### MAJOR OUTAGES - 5

- Spur Tree 310 (May 3, 2014) – 2hrs 49mins duration burnt cross arm
- Kendal 210 (April 4, 2014) – 1 ½ hrs duration- public error - kite in the line
- Spur Tree 310 (April 4, 2014) Accident at Kingsland, 2 hrs duration

#### MAJOR PLANNED OUTAGES FOR JUNE

- Section of Manchester Road (Willow gate – Bashco) 15/6/14 defective pole change

#### THEFT CONTROL AND FIGHT AGAINST LOSSES

Throw –ups removed in 989 Areas:

New Kendal, Heartease, Broadleaf, Asia, Pusey Hill, Dunrobin, Hatfield, Red Bank and Fairfield Mtn.

Arrests - 19

Audit – 310 completed

Ms. Henzil reported that there will be a 6.06% reduction in the cost of electricity and stated that members who had seen some increase on their bills should get in touch with her at 878-3310 she could investigate the cause for the increase.

The following were recommendations/request/s from the under mentioned Councillors:

**Councillor Ervin Facey – Deputy Mayor** mentioned that for the past three months there had not been much repairing of malfunctioning street lights within the Spur Tree Division and this was cause for concern as the areas of malfunctioning streetlights continue to increase especially in areas of Mike Town, Dunsinane and Top Greenvale. The member also stated that some of the lights have been out for approximately four months or more. He made a special appeal for some attention to be given to the Spur Tree area.

**Councillor McArthur Collins** - mentioned that sometime ago a request was made that where lights within Divisions were repaired that the roads be named in order that Councillors can be aware and the citizens be notified of same. The member further stated that there were a number of lights within the New Green Division that needed repairing and asked that same be investigated with a view to having them repaired in the shortest possible order.

Continuing, the Councillor mentioned that the Jamaica Public Service Company had a programme in other parishes for citizens who were stealing electricity and asked whether same could not be introduced to Manchester as well to reduce the stealing of electricity.

**Councillor Muriel Swaby** – questioned the exact location as to where the streetlight that was repaired in the Porus Division as was stated in the report. The member stated that for several months she had made the requests for streetlights to be repaired in the St. Toolies, Harmon, Trinity and Red Berry areas and due to the light not working those areas are being targeted by thieves and gunmen.

**Councillor Anthony Bryce** - pointed out that in the Newport Division although the lights had been repaired they were still malfunctioning as during the daytime they were still on and asked that same be addressed. The member commended the team for the bushing carried out in his Division and stated that there has been much improvement than the previous year.



**Councillor Faith Sampson** – remarked that she had noted that no repairs had been done within the Johns Hall Division and there were a number of streetlights that needed repairing. The member mentioned that what had started once more in her Division were the frequent outages and one she said had lasted approximately 9 hours. She also stated that there at Endeavour there was high tension wire that was about to fall and was in need of immediate attention. She made an appeal once more for some the lights within her Division to be repaired during the course of the month.

**Councillor Darlton Brown** - mentioned that he too had recognized from the report that no streetlight had been repaired in the Alligator Pond Division. The member asked whether there was a time frame when the internal challenges that the Company was facing would be resolved. He said the reason for the question was the longer the lights were out it was the longer they were being harassed by their constituents.

In regard to patrols being done by JPSCo., the Councillor asked that he be emailed a list of the areas within the Alligator Pond Division in order that he be aware of the areas visited and where the repairs are being carried out as he did not want any area to be left out. The member stated that in his Division once there was any accident to the lines on Spur Tree hill the area was affected and questioned as to whether there were any plans to remove the facilities from where they exist and place them elsewhere such as underground or otherwise as in his opinion over time it becomes costly to repair same.

**Councillor Fairbourne Maxwell** - thanked Mr. Thomas and his team for the job they were doing and for the speedy response to his requests within his Division.

**Councillor Burton Wright** - thanked the JPSCo. representatives on behalf of the citizens of Walderston for the work that they have done within the Division.

**Councillor Jones Oliphant** - expressed his appreciation for the work the company was doing in the Mandeville area and asked that those areas that had not yet been repaired be given some attention.

**Councillor Donovan Mitchell** - pointed out that in the report it had stated that ten (10) lights were repaired in the Royal Flat Division; however one had to be careful as often times when repairs are carried out it falls under another Division and not his depending on the side the lights were on. He then requested a copy of the listing of the areas where the lights were completed in order that he could verify whether same fall within his Division.

Continuing, Councillor Mitchell enquired as to why JPSCo. was reverting to the wooden posts instead of the concrete ones. He said that where posts replacements were done the wires from the old ones were not transferred to the new ones and questioned why this was not so. The member made request for comprehensive de-shrubbing to be carried out in the Royal Flat area and not just the primary lines but also the secondary lines be done as well.

The Councillor further mentioned that he saw approximately twelve (12) vehicles for the company lined up in the Royal Flat square; however he could not say whether they were on patrol or not, because while they were parked there a light in the area was going on and off and whether the team would make a report on same and whether it had since been repaired.

**Councillor Omar Miller** - thanked the team for the fifty (50) streetlights that were repaired in the Craighead Division. The member asked whether the company had started using the LED lights where streetlights were now being repaired. He said the reason for the question was that when one looked at the amount that the Council had to pay for streetlights it was a cause for concern and the money could be used elsewhere. He said from his inception as a Councillor he has been making the request for the erection of new streetlights; however to date he has yet to receive same.

Councillor Miller added that he too has concerns regarding the high light bills that he was receiving and would like same to be investigated as he was not seeing the reduction in same as was stated.



**Councillor Iceval Brown** - also expressed her appreciation for the repairs that were done in the Grove Town Division; however there was a light at her gate that needed investigating as same was malfunctioning. She said that she too needed her light bill to be investigated as she was not getting the benefits as was stated.

**Councillor Desmond Harrison** - commended Mr. Thomas for his quick response whenever he was called upon and stated that he too had some malfunctioning lights within his Division that needed fixing. The member stated that he had mentioned some streetlights that had been removed without his knowledge and would like them to be replaced.

**Councillor Burton Wright** - reported that there was a rotten pole in Spalding Hill in front of one Ms. Lynch's gate that needed urgent attention.

**Mayor Ramsay** - added that although fifteen (15) lights were repaired in the Bellefield Division there were still a lot more that needed repairing; such as Top Bellefield to Banana Ground, Blue Mountain Road, Napierston to Content and Davyton to name a few. She also asked that the de-shrubbing and replacement of poles be increased and intensified as the country was in the hurricane season and most of these will impact negatively on the company's service should there be even high winds.

Continuing, the Chairman mentioned that the Council had been asking for joint operations from the JPSCo. and the National Works Agency to remove a tree on Greenvale Road and Manchester High School which is a threat to life and property.

Mr. Shelton Thomas advised the meeting that a schedule had been prepared in regard to the repairing of streetlights where patrol would be carried out and repairs would be done and as was mentioned the company had some internal challenges; however that did not stop the patrol. The officer noted that many Councillors stated that no repairs of streetlights were carried out within their Divisions. He said what had been done was those areas that had received less repairs over a period of time were scheduled first; hence the other areas were scheduled after.

Mr. Thomas advised the meeting that the light that was repaired in the Porus Division was done on the Main Road adjacent to the Open Bible Church. He mentioned that at times he had to seek the intervention of the Mayor or Councillors to ascertain that the lights that were being repaired were done in their Divisions. He said that he had made a request for the boundaries of where each Division and the boundaries begin and end.

Regarding the defective wire at Endeavour, Mr. Thomas advised that same would be addressed in the shortest order. He stated that the planned outage for Sunday, June 15, 2014 would not affect residential customers but would be in the vicinity of Willowgate to Bashco areas. The officer stated that dialogue would be had with the National Works Agency in regard to the cutting of the trees.

Mr. Thomas stated that to replace the defective streetlights with LEDs was very costly and he was never given a structured programme to do so; however if same was to be done it would have to be done in phases.

In regard to wooden poles to concrete, Mr. Thomas advised the meeting that JPSCo. had taken a decision to utilize more wooden poles than concrete, as the wooden ones if properly treated can last up to thirty (30) years and was more cost effective than the concrete one. He said in that more replacement can be done with the wooden poles.

Mr. Thomas advised the meeting that an alternative location had been discussed for the facilities at Spur Tree and was being looked at.

Mayor Ramsay asked and was advised that the company's GPS was working and is being utilized. The officer advised the meeting that the vehicles that were seen at Royal Flat were to do report on what they have seen; however some were often missed.

The Chairman remarked that the frequency in which the streetlights go out after being repaired was a cause for concern. She then asked whether the company was doing more in-house service than contracted service.



Mr. Thomas answered in the positive and advised that streetlight repairs were done solely in-house. He said the concerns were raised with the Purchasing Department of JPSCo. because it was not a case of faulty workmanship and they are in discussion with the manufacturers regarding the products with a view to have them rectified.

Mayor Ramsay thanked the officers for their report and stated that she knew they were trying to do their best.

**LEFT THE MEETING** – Mrs. Shelton Thomas and Ms. Andrewnett Hensil officers JPSCo.

### **The Social Development Commission**

Mayor Ramsay asked Ms. Beverly Boothe-Parish Manager to update the meeting accordingly. The officer reported as follows:

#### **Report from Social Development Commission**

During the reporting period for May 2014, the Parish Team continued to work in meeting its targets, which should when completed enhance the lives of residents in the Parish.

We continue to engage and support our partners in projects across the parish. The partners worked with for this period were: The Manchester Parish Council, ODPEM, Ministry of Water, Land & Environment, Ministry of Tourism, SRHA, RADA, Poor Relief Dept, Roads & Works Dept, NWA, Red Cross, Manchester Health Dept, Political Directorate, MIND, Scientific Research Council (SRC), Bureau of Standards Jamaica, JBDC, Kriss An Charles Investments Co. Ltd, Manchester Cooperative Credit Union, Peoples Cooperative Bank, and the Ministry of Education.

Comfort Hall (Oxford CDC was assessed). The Porus CDC was strengthened with the inclusion of the new Broadleaf Citizen Assoc. The New Green CDC was strengthened with the inclusion of the New Green Community Club.

The Huntley CDC was strengthened in Record Keeping and Constitution Writing. The mission and vision were also completed.

Meetings were held with Cllrs M. Swaby, A. Bryce, I. Brown., C. Francis, F. Sampson-Nickle, M. Collins, F. Maxwell, E. Facey, Her worship the Mayor, Cllr B. Ramsay and Cllr. D. Harrison. Discussions were held re: the South, N/W and N/E Manchester Athletic Meets, Safety and Security and Town Hall Meetings

The Parish Council Town Hall meeting was held in Grove Town and Newport divisions. SDC was represented at both meetings.

Parish Manager and the relevant CDO met with MPs. to seek sponsorship for four constituencies and 1 Parish Track Meet.

Two (2) meetings were held with MP Peart Re: giving support to the South Manchester Sports Day. Funding was approved. Discussion re: financial support for South Manchester Netball competition was addressed.

Members of Parliament: Mr. Audley Shaw, Mr. Mikeal Phillips and Hon. Peter Bunting were also engaged re funding for Constituency Track Meets. Approved funding was received from all three.

1 social fair held in the Grove Place community.

Porus and Richmond Safety & Security Community meeting was held. Agencies presented were: NSWMA-SPM, MPC, CDA, JFB, and JCF.

SDC assisted National Youth Service (NYS) with their Summer Work Programme Interviews on May 21, 2014 at Ridgemount Church. Approximately five hundred (500) participants were interviewed.

Parish Manager and CDO facilitated two Porus Community Centre Management Committee special Meetings. This was done in collaboration with committee members and Councillor Beverly Swaby. This was to discuss the future of the Management & Maintenance committee of the Community Centre. This



facility is the property of the SDC and planning will be done with the Committee to better manage the facility as a business.

Field Supervisor attended the Fathers Day March Planning Committee Meeting on May 21, 2014 at Mandeville Baptist Church Hall. The objective of the meeting was to fine-tune plans for a Father's Day March in Mandeville on Saturday June 14, 2014. The aim of the March is to advocate for family life and its protection. The activity will be hosted by the Mandeville Chapter of the "National Association for the Families".

DAC meeting was held in Porus. Discussion focused on plans for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Porus community centre which will be held in November (Community Month). A Planning Committee has been selected to spearhead this activity. As a next step, the first meeting will be held in the second week of June.

The monthly meeting of the PDC was held on May 20, 2014. It was chaired by the new Chairman Miss Sally-Ann Corrodus. In attendance were former chairman Dr. Reid, DAC chairs for Mile Gully, Newport, Mandeville, Cross keys and Williamsfield, Miss Nadine Anderson of CDA, Cariled Officer Mr. Phil Rodriques and Mrs. D. McIntrye Pike along with the PDC office staff. Reports were given by all DAC Chairmen, SDC and PDC. They are hoping to merge an awards ceremony with the SDC's for community month. Williamsfield main issue was the non inclusion of farmers who began the dialogue with JBI and the Windalco Joint Council re green Houses for the various communities.

Asset mapping for Marlie Hill, Grove Town, Hibernia and Silent Hill were completed during the period.

One (1) workshop held with South Manchester Community Council in project proposal and project management

Cricket Orientation meeting was held on May 1, 2014 at the SDC Parish Office. Approximately thirty-two (32) persons attended the forum. Three members of the Jamaica Cricket Umpires Association were also in attendance along with the JCF and CSJP. The teams were sensitized as to expectations and the Competition's Rules and Guidelines were discussed.

The T/20 Cricket Competition Parish Phase (Knockout) began on May 10, 2014 at New Hall and Comfort. The super eight round was also held at New Hall and Comfort.

South Manchester Athletic Meet was held. Overall ten teams participated. Broadleaf emerged winners and received the South Manchester Trophy. Champion Male was Ainsworth Daley of Marcus Garvey and Champion Female was Mayeshia Meade of French Park

The North West Track Meet was also held. Seven teams participated. The winner received the Mikeal Phillips trophy, \$25,000.00 for an economic project and a one Farm work ticket for a member of the Club selected by them. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place club Hills United from Huntley got \$20,000.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Grove Place \$15,000.00 all for economic. All seven clubs got \$5,000.00 to assist with back to school assistance for members of their respective clubs.

Champion Male Tajay Blomfield and Champion Female was Moesha Whitley of Grove Place. Teams will be selected from persons placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> to represent the respective constituency.

Ministry of Tourism & Entertainment, community tourism consultation for the Parish of Manchester was attended by three SDC staff members. CDCs were also sensitized to attend.

1 Michael Manley award entry form was submitted from South Manchester Herbs & Spices Multi-purpose Coop. Society limited.

Meeting held with Asia CDC, re: Building Disaster Resilient Rural Communities & Livelihoods (BDRRCL) with ODPEM as the implementing agency. The training aspect has been completed and ODPEM will be having their closing ceremony for all the participants. The funder (ACDI/VOCA) will be responsible for the implementation of the project aspect for the group.

The Ministry of Water, Land & Environment Consultation was attended by Parish Manger. This exercise was to inform persons of LAMP 2 phase of the project, to assist persons in getting land titles. Prime Minister Hon. Portia Simpson-Miller was the Keynote speaker. Minister Robert Pickersgill and other



Ministers, Mayors and councillors and Members of Parliament from Manchester, Clarendon & St. Elizabeth were in attendance.

#### **Labour Day Report**

- 90 projects registered , 58 were completed, 13 still in progress, 9 were not done
- No reports for 10
- 38 communities participated .

The Chairman thanked Ms. Boothe for her report and encouraged her to keep up the good work that she and her team were doing.

Mayor Ramsay announced that there will be a Parish Safety Committee meeting at the Royal Flat Seventh Day Adventist Church on Thursday June 12, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Ramsay announced the sudden passing of Ms. Thelma Darby one of the workers at the Manchester Infirmary. She said that visits had been made and counselling done by the Chaplain Dr. Adlyn White and a Counsellor from Northern Caribbean University and further counselling had been sought for the workers. She asked members to remember the families in their prayers.

Councillor Donovan Mitchell advised that the funeral service for deceased would be on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the New Testament Church in Grey Ground and stated that all members and officers should show their support to the family.

The Chairman announced that the Council's Town Hall meetings were completed; however the Parish Safety and Security meetings still continue.

She said that members benefitted from the Shelter Managers refresher training course which was put on by Mrs. La'Jean Powell-Richards. She said the day's event was very good and thought the Shelter Managers appreciated same. She said it will be an ongoing event as the Country is in the hurricane season and the parish would want to be prepared for any eventuality. She also advised that the Council had commenced their drain cleaning exercise and there are some outstanding critical drains that need to be done and representation had been made to the Ministry of Local Government for additional funds and which the Council awaits.

Mayor Ramsay announced that the Council in collaboration with the Jamaica Culture Development Commission was preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2014 Norman Manley celebration and the planning had commenced.

The Acting Secretary/Manager announced the passing of Councillor Ervin Facey, Deputy Mayor's cousin, Mrs. Enid Jones and advised that the funeral service would be held on Saturday, June 21, 2014 at St. Andrew Parish Church beginning at 9:00 a.m.

#### **ACCOUNT**

##### **Financial Report**

The Acting Secretary/Manager reported that for the period April 1, 2014 which is the beginning of the new Financial Year the Council collected a total of \$51,110,782.00 and had a corresponded expenditure of \$48,718,129.00 and ended the month with a \$2.3M surplus.

Mayor Ramsay thanked the Acting Secretary/Manager for his report.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **From Government Ministries and Departments**

##### **Ministry of Local Government & Community Development**

There was no correspondence.

##### **Office of the Services Commission**



There was no correspondence.

### **Other Parish Councils**

The Acting Secretary/Manager presented and read letter dated March 24, 2014 from Robert Hill, J.P., Town Clerk – Kingston & St. Andrew Corporation regarding Resolution passed at meeting held on March 11, 2014 regarding the Establishment of Senior Officers in the Finance, Revenue and Commercial Services Unit – ALGAJ.

Mayor Ramsay asked whether Councillors were in support of the Resolution.

Councillor Desmond Harrison mentioned that he would need additional time to look into the matter more intensely.

Councillor Donovan Mitchell explained that the reason for the Resolution was as a result of a two day training which was held in Montego Bay and other substantial training where the varying rates were being charged for services within the different Parish Councils were looked discussed, hence the idea for the meetings is to look at best practices and the way forward.

Mayor Ramsay added that due to the many challenges and issues that the Councils faced it was always good to have persons coming together, not to impose on anyone Council but to share in the same way Secretary/Managers and Director of Administrations have their meetings and they share their best practices and it was in that regard that the proposal is being viewed. She said in her opinion it is a good idea and stated that not everyone had all the answers, while some had better practises than others, and it was something that the Council could give consideration to. Members of the Committee were in agreement with the Resolution.

### **From Other sources**

#### **ALGAJ's Report**

Mayor Ramsay mentioned that she was sure that members had activities taking place in their Divisions and encouraged them to submit same to the Secretary/Manager in order to have them published in the monthly report.

### **DEPARTMENTAL**

There was no correspondence.

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

Moved by : Councillor Burton Wright  
Seconded by : Councillor Jones Oliphant and Agreed -

“that the following reports of Committees as laid on the Table  
“be and are hereby accepted:-

1. Finance & Planning Committee held 1/04/14
2. Human Resource Committee held 8/04/14
3. Civic Affairs & Brooks Park held 8/04/14
4. Municipal & Commercial Services held 15/04/14
5. Physical Planning & Environment held 17/04/14
6. Poor Relief held 23/04/14
7. Agriculture held 23/04/14
8. Local Board of Health and Environmental Sanitation 24/04/14

#### **Human Resource Committee**

The Chairman, Councillor Donovan Mitchell advised the meeting that the Minutes of the Human Resource Committee was circulated to all Councillors. He said that the computer tablets for the



Councillors were temporary placed on hold as the Council was doing a technical review of the input of the services and the supplier.

Councillor McArthur Collins asked whether a time frame had been given for same to be done.

Responding, the Acting Secretary/Manager advised that there was an issue regarding the coverage and the Council was awaiting the information from the potential provider. He said after the information is provided a definite decision can be made. He said the matter was being actively pursued.

#### Community, Civic & External Affairs & Brooks Park

The above report was presented by Councillor Darlton Brown, Chairman of the Committee as under:

- *Extensive discussions were had regarding the repairing of the round-a-bout at the intersection of Wint Road and Ward Avenue and an estimate is to be prepared for same.*
- *On June 13, 2014 the Central Region of Festival of Foods 2014 will be held at the old police station site in May Pen – Clarendon.*
- *June 22, 2014 an evening of Excellence will be held at the Cecil Charlton Park commencing at 4:00 p.m. and on July 4, 2014 the birthday tribute for the late Norman Manley will be held at Roxborough.*

Mayor Ramsay thanked Councillor Darlton Brown for the report.

#### Municipal & Commercial Services

The above report was presented by Councillor Ervin Facey, Chairman of the Committee as under:

- *Christiana Abattoir-based on the feedback from the butchers the Council will continue to operate the facility.*
- *The registration of vendors continues; however the Committee is not satisfied with the progress therefore the Council will have to plan an operation to ensure that all vendors are registered.*
- *Regarding the vacant lands at catchment tanks – the listing was received and would be advertised with the conditions for leasing.*
- *Other parcels of land owned by the Council that can be utilised are being listed.*
- *The Committee was concerned regarding the arrears owned by the vendors of the Christiana Market. Those in arrears are to be written to with a view to clear same.*

Mayor Ramsay thanked the Chairman for the report.

#### Physical Planning & Environment

The above report was presented by Councillor Darlton Brown, Chairman of the Committee as under:

- *Intense discussions and commitments were made to the National Housing Trust regarding the maintenance of the Perth subdivision and the Council was awaiting a response.*
- *The use of lots along Levy Lane for commercial use was discussed and further deliberations would be had on the matter.*
- *22 Residential building plans were approved*
- *1 multifamily residential was approved*
- *2 commercial were approved*
- *4 subdivision plans were recommended for approval*
- *1 subdivision was refused on the basis that the lot sizes were below the required standard.*

Councillor Darlton Brown added that developers should be guided before the applications were lodged for approval to prevent customers from such problems.

Mayor Ramsay appealed to all developers to visit the Council before any development takes place as officers are willing and able to guide them in order that the process can be simplified and expedited.

### Poor Relief

The above report was presented by Councillor Faith Sampson, Chairman of the Committee as under:

- *At the beginning of the month 90 residents were at the Infirmary. During the month one male resident died. The month ended with 89 residents; 47 males and 42 females*
- *Residents were engaged in the following activities: Rehabilitation/therapy, exercise, farming, recreational-(this was in the areas of art and craft and games).*
- *5 residents went for their clinic appointments at the Mandeville Public Hospital and four for emergency treatment.*
- *The Medical Officer visited and treated 19 residents; the Medical Health Officer also visited and treated 15 residents.*
- *The month began with 495 persons on Roll 1 was added, 2 struck off and 2 died.*
- *The month ended with 492 persons on the Roll; 259 males and 233 females*
- *81 home visits were made by the officers.*
- *Three temporary poor were assisted*
- *The Committee approved 2 new cases one from Mile Gully and the other from Christiana.*
- *The Committee extended condolences to the family of Mrs. Thelma Darby-Laundress at the Infirmary who died suddenly on Sunday, June 8, 2014. Her funeral service will be held on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.*

Mayor Ramsay thanked Councillor Faith Sampson for presenting the report.

### MATTERS REFERRED FROM COMMITTEES

#### a) Planning & Development

Subdivisions with lots below ¼ - acre size.

There was none.

#### b) Recommendation for affixing the Council's Common Seal to Approved Subdivision Applications

Moved by : Councillor Ervin Facey – Deputy Mayor  
Seconded by : Councillor Anthony Bryce

“WHEREAS the under mentioned subdivision plan has been approved and confirmed by the Hon. Minister of Land and Environment;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Seal of the Parish Council of Manchester be affixed to the subdivision plans:

1. Part of Cocoa Walk for Headley Boothe
2. Part of Clifton for Mavis Facey
3. Part of Redberry for Wellesley Francis



4. Part of Waltham for Paul Bailey
5. Part of Chudleigh for Cedric Thompson

(c) Recommendation for Issuance of Certificate of Completion –

Mayor Ramsay remarked that based on the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, Roads and Works, the under mentioned Certificates of Completion were recommended for approval:

(i) Recommendation for Issuance of Certificate of Completion –  
Part of Petersfield, Manchester for Violet Clarke

The Acting Secretary/Manager presented and read report of the Superintendent, Roads & Works dated May 28, 2014, recommending for the Council's approval, the issuance of Certificate of Completion of development works in respect of subdivision located at Part of Petersfield, Manchester for Violet Clarke as all the required conditions of approval have been complied with.

Moved by : Councillor Donovan Mitchell  
Seconded by : Councillor Fairbourne Maxwell and Agreed –

“that a Certificate of Completion of development works be issued to  
“the Registrar of Titles in respect of subdivision part of Petersfield  
“Manchester for Violet Clarke.

(ii) Recommendation for Issuance of Certificate of Completion –  
Part of New Hall - Manchester for Alexander Windett

The Acting Secretary/Manager presented and read report of the Superintendent, Roads & Works dated May 30, 2014, recommending for the Council's approval, the issuance of Certificate of Completion of development works in respect of subdivision located at Part of New Hall, Manchester for Alexander Windett as all the required conditions of approval have been complied with.

Moved by : Councillor Donovan Mitchell  
Seconded by : Councillor Fairbourne Maxwell and Agreed –

“that a Certificate of Completion of development works be issued to  
“the Registrar of Titles in respect of subdivision part of New Hall -  
“Manchester for Alexander Windett.

(iii) Recommendation for Issuance of Certificate of Completion –  
Part of Cedar Grove - Manchester for Paul Sybblis

The Secretary/Manager presented and read report of the Superintendent, Roads & Works dated June 10, 2014, recommending for the Council's approval, the issuance of Certificate of Completion of development works in respect of subdivision located at part of Cedar Grove, Manchester for Paul Sybblis as all the required conditions of approval have been complied with.

Moved by : Councillor Donovan Mitchell  
Seconded by : Councillor Fairbourne Maxwell and Agreed –

“that a Certificate of Completion of development works be issued to  
“the Registrar of Titles in respect of subdivision part of Cedar Grove  
“Manchester for Paul Sybblis

## QUESTIONS

There was no question.



## PETITIONS

Councillor Fairbourne Maxwell petitioned for a letter to be written to Alpart to advise the Council what is the current status of the lands that were donated to the Judicial Council for the Regional Court as same was a long outstanding matter.

Councillor Collins petitioned for letters to be written to the manager of National Water Commission regarding the absence of water in the New Green Division as was promised and the Southern Parks & Markets regarding the non-collection of garbage within the area. The member stated that the letter should state that the citizens needed to know the true reason/s why they were not getting the services.

The Chairman mentioned that representatives from SPM Solid Waste Management had been attending the Council's Town Hall Meetings; however this was not done throughout the parish but at certain sections and she was in agreement that public education be done in the two areas mentioned. She said she had spoken to Hon. Noel Arscott, Minister of Local Government and the Secretary/Manager that a meeting should be held not just with the local entity but at a higher level because in Manchester the citizens were not getting value for money. She said Councillors would be notified of the date of the meeting.

Councillor Omar Miller petitioned for the erection of streetlights within the Craighead Division.

Mayor Ramsay advised the meeting that the sooner the streetlight bulbs are changed the consumption would be much less and more lights would be replaced; however she did not believe there was that urgency by JPSCo. As this would impact on the company's bottom line; however the Council would have to force their hand in doing so.

## NOTICE OF MOTION

There was not Notice of Motion.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ramsay thanked everyone for attending and for participation.

There being no other matter for discussion the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. on a motion by Councillor Ervin Facey, Deputy Mayor seconded by Councillor Anthony Bryce after closing prayers by Councillor Omar Miller.

CONFIRMED



CHAIRMAN