



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Minutes of the proceedings of a Sitting of the House of Representatives held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Tuesday 14th March, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT

House of Representatives

Mr. Speaker
The Honourable Leo Cato
in the Chair

Honourable Dickon Mitchell, MP
(*St. David*)

- Prime Minister & Minister for Finance, National Security, Home Affairs, Information, Disaster Management & Public Administration

Honourable Philip A. Telesford, MP
(*St. George South-East*)

- Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs

Honourable Joseph Andall, MP
(*St. Patrick West*)

- Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development

Honourable Lennox J. Andrews, MP
(*St. Andrew South-West*)

- Minister for Economic Development, Planning, Tourism, ICT, Creative Economy, Agriculture & Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives

Honourable Tevin Andrews, MP
(*Carriacou & Petite Martinique*)

- Ministry of Carriacou, Petite Martinique Affairs and Local Government

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| Honourable Dennis Cornwall, MP
(<i>St. Patrick East</i>) | - Minister for Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities & Civil Aviation and Transportation |
| Honourable Kerryne Z. James, MP
(<i>St. John</i>) | - Minister for Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy |
| Honourable Ron Livingston Redhead, MP
(<i>St. George North-East</i>) | - Minister of State wrf Youth & Sports within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture |
| Honourable Andy Williams, MP
(<i>South St. George</i>) | - Minister for Mobilisation, Implementation and Transformation |
| Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith C. Mitchell, PC, MP, JP
(<i>St. George North-West</i>) | - Leader of His Majesty's Opposition |
| Honourable Peter David, MP
(<i>Town of St. George</i>) | - Member |
| Dr. the Hon. Clarice Modeste-Curwen, MP
(<i>St. Mark</i>) | - Deputy Speaker |
| Honourable Kate Lewis, MP
(<i>St. Andrew North-East</i>) | - Member |
| Honourable Emmalin Pierre, MP
(<i>St. Andrew South-East</i>) | - Member |

ABSENT

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| Honourable Delma Thomas, MP
(<i>St. Andrew North-West</i>) | - Member
(<i>Excused</i>) |
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PRAYERS

The Speaker of the House read prayers.

The Houses said the Lord's Prayer.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OR AFFIRMATION OF A NEW MEMBER

There was no Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a New Member.

MINUTES

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Sitting of the House of Representatives held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Monday 5th December, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., Thursday 8th and Friday 9th December, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. be taken as read.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes taken as read.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the confirmation of the said Minutes.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes confirmed.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Minutes of the proceedings of a Sitting of the House of Representatives held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Friday 16th December, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. be taken as read.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes taken as read.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the confirmation of the said Minutes.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes confirmed.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the proceedings of a Special Sitting of the House of Representatives held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Friday 20th January, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. be taken as read.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes taken as read.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the confirmation of the said Minutes.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

Minutes confirmed.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

There was no message from the Governor-General.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker made the following announcement:

"Honourable Members, just to say that the Post-Election Training Seminar that was planned to be held on the 7th, 8th and 9th of March, 2023 was in fact completed. I sense from my interaction of the Honourable Members of the House, that the sessions were well received and the comments from the folks of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) were that there be consideration for a Caucus being formed between the Grenada Parliament and the UK Parliament. It was in my view, a very, very useful session, especially for those of us who are new to Parliamentary Procedures."

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

There was no presentation of Petitions.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the following Reports and Papers be laid on the Table:

1. Report of the Director of Audit, Grenada on the Financial Statements of the Office of the Ombudsman for the year ended 31st December, 2020.
2. National Insurance Scheme – 13th Actuarial Review of the National Insurance Fund as of December 31, 2021.

The Speaker ordered that the Reports and Papers be laid on the Table.

UNOPPOSED PRIVATE BUSINESS

There was no unopposed private business.

QUESTIONS

The Leader of His Majesty's Opposition commented on the signature on the correspondence of the answers provided to the questions addressed to the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister for Finance by Ms. Carvel Lett and not by the Member of the House of which the questions were addressed to.

The Leader of His Majesty's Opposition indicated that the matter was raised with the Clerk, and that he expects that the normal practice of providing answers to questions in the House by the Honourable Member in receipt of the questions, be exercised in future Sittings of the House.

The Speaker thanked the Leader of His Majesty's Opposition for his comments and recommendations and advised Honourable Members to adhere to the set standards of the House.

URGENT QUESTIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF STANDING ORDER NO. 20

There were no urgent questions.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

There were no Statements by Ministers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

There were no personal explanations.

MOTIONS

There were no Motions.

BILLS

DATA PROTECTION BILL, 2023

The Leader of Government's Business introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the relevant Standing Order of the House be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Members spoke against the suspension of the Standing Order:

- Leader of His Majesty's Opposition
- Parliamentary Representative for the Town of St. George
- Parliamentary Representative for St. Andrew South-East

The Prime Minister and Parliamentary Representative for St. David, Honourable Dickon Mitchell responded to the concerns raised.

The under-mentioned Members spoke against the suspension of the Standing Order:

- Parliamentary Representative for St. Mark
- Parliamentary Representative for St. Andrew North-East

Question put and agreed to.

Relevant Standing Order suspended.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the second reading of the Bill.

The Leader of His Majesty's Opposition stood on a Point of Order to request that a Division of the House be held.

Division sought and ordered.

The Clerk conducted the Division.

Division:

Honourable Dickon Mitchell	-	Aye
Honourable Philip Telesford	-	Aye
Honourable Joseph Andall	-	Aye
Honourable Tevin Andrews	-	Aye
Honourable Dennis Cornwall	-	Aye
Honourable Ron Redhead	-	Aye
Honourable Kerryne James	-	Aye
Honourable Andy Williams	-	Aye
Honourable Emmalin Pierre	-	No
Honourable Kate Lewis	-	No
Honourable Peter David	-	No
Honourable Clarice Modeste	-	Nay
Honourable Keith Mitchell	-	No

Results: 8 Ayes; 5 Noes.

The Speaker declared that the result of the Division was 5 Noes and 8 Ayes.

Honourable Lennox Andrews returned to the Chamber at that time and the divisional vote was put to him.

Honourable Lennox Andrews	-	Aye
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Results: 9 Ayes; 5 Noes.

The Speaker declared that the result of the Division was 5 Noes and 8 Ayes.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the second reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Members spoke on the Bill:

- Leader of Government's Business
- Leader of His Majesty's Opposition
- Minister of State wrf Youth & Sports within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture
- Minister for Economic Development, Planning, Tourism, ICT, Creative Economy, Agriculture & Lands, Fisheries & Cooperatives
- Parliamentary Representative for St. Andrew North-East
- Minister for Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities & Civil Aviation and Transportation
- Minister for Carriacou, Petite Martinique Affairs and Local Government
- Parliamentary Representative for St. Andrew South-East
- Minister for Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development
- Deputy Speaker and Parliamentary Representative for St. Mark
- Minister for Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy
- Parliamentary Representative for the Town of St. George
- Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, National Security, Home Affairs, Information, Disaster Management and Public Administration

The Leader of Government's Business thanked the Honourable Members from both sides of the House for their contributions made to the Bill and commended the Bill for its second reading.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the Bill Part by Part.

Question put and agreed to.

House in Committee.

Part II - Privacy and Data Protection Principles - agreed to

Part III - Rights of Data Subjects - agreed to

- Part IV - Exemption - agreed to
- Part V - Information Commission - agreed to as amended

Amendment: *In Clause 24 renumber the first sub-clause as sub-clause (1).
In Clause 24 (1), as renumbered, delete the word "persons" after the word "three" and substitute with the word "members".
In Clause 24 (3) replace the word "Minister" with the word "Governor-General".
In Clause 25 (1) (a) insert the word "bodies" after the word "public".*

- Part VI - Enforcement - agreed to as amended

Amendment: *In Clause 33 (1) (e) and (f) substitute the word "require" with "ask" and "required" with "asked".
In Clause 33 (2) delete the words "the Commission or an authorised officer" and substitute with the words "the authorised officer".*

- Part VII - Offences - agreed to as amended

Amendment: *In Clause 39 delete sub-clause (2) and renumber sub-clause (3) as sub-clause (2).*

- Part VIII - Miscellaneous - agreed to
- SCHEDULE I - agreed to as amended

Amendment: *In paragraph 3 and 5 are amended by replacing the word "Minister" with the word "Governor-General".*

- SCHEDULE II - agreed to

- Part I - Preliminary - agreed to as amended

Amendment: *In Clause 5 (2) delete the word "controller" and substitute with the word "user".*

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the House resume and the Chairman of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

Question put and agreed to.

House resumes.

The Chairman of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed with amendments.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the Chairman's Report be adopted.

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman's Report adopted.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed as amended.

House adjourned for lunch at 2:28 p.m.

House resumed at 3:30 p.m.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT BILL, 2023

The Leader of Government's Business introduced the above-mentioned Bill for first reading.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the relevant Standing Order of the House be suspended to enable the Bill to be taken through all its stages at that Sitting.

Question put and agreed to.

The Leader of Government's Business moved the second reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Members spoke on the Bill:

- Leader of Government's Business and Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs.
- Minister of State wrf Youth & Sports within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports and Culture.
- Deputy Speaker and Parliamentary Representative for St. Mark.
- Parliamentary Representative for St. Andrew South-East.
- Prime Minister & Minister for Finance, National Security, Home Affairs, Information, Disaster Management & Public Administration

The Leader of Government's Business and Minister for Social & Community Development, Housing and Gender Affairs thanked the Honourable Members from both sides of the House for their contributions made to the Bill and commended the Bill for its second reading.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Leader of Government's Business moved that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House to consider the Bill Part by Part.

Question put and agreed to.

House in Committee.

Part II	- National Emergency Advisory Council	- agreed to
Part III	- National Disaster Management Agency	- agreed to
Part IV	- District Disaster Management Committee	- agreed to
Part V	- Specially Vulnerable Areas	- agreed to
Part VI	- Disaster Risk Financing	- agreed to
Part VII	- Obligations of Persons Involved in Disaster management	- agreed to
Part VIII	- National Multi-Hazard Alert System and Declaration of Disasters	- agreed to
Part IX	- Miscellaneous	- agreed to as amended

Amendment: In Clause 59 renumber the sub-clause as sub-clause (1) and insert the following new sub-clause:

“(2) Without prejudice to section 58 (1), the Cabinet may in its discretion order that compensation shall be paid to a person upon being satisfied that the person has suffered loss or damage by reason of the exercise of a power conferred under this Act, and that the amount of the compensation shall be charged upon the Consolidated Fund.”

- SCHEDULE - agreed to

Part I - Preliminary Provisions - agreed to

The Leader of Government’s Business moved that the House resume and the Chairman of the Committee report progress on the Bill.

Question put and agreed to.

House resumes.

The Chairman of the Committee reported that the Bill was considered by a Committee of the whole House and passed with amendment.

The Leader of Government’s Business moved that the Chairman’s Report be adopted.

Question put and agreed to.

Chairman’s Report adopted.

The Leader of Government’s Business moved the third reading of the Bill.

Question proposed.

Question put and agreed to.

The Bill was read a third time and passed as amended.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

The Leader of Government’s Business moved the adjournment of the House *sine die*.

Question proposed.

The under-mentioned Members spoke on the Adjournment:

❖ Parliamentary Representative for St. David

The Speaker made comments.

Question put and agreed to.

The Sitting of the House adjourned sine die at 4:29 p.m.

Submitted to the Speaker for his signature in accordance with Section 6 (2) of the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives.


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Andrew Augustine
CLERK OF PARLIAMENT

Signed by me pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 6 (2).


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Leo Cato (Honourable)
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES