



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Tuesday, the 20th day of October, 2026, at 10.00 o'clock a.m. pursuant to the adjournment.

PRESENT

His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)

His Honour N. G. H. Rowe, J.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)

Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Energy, Business Development and Commerce*)

Mr. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (*Dist.*)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Deputy Prime Minister*) (*Minister of Environment, National Beautification and Fisheries*) (*Leader of Government Business*)

Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B., L.E.C. (*Senior Minister*) (*Attorney General*)

Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (*Minister of Technological and Vocational Training*)

Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (*Minister of Sports and Community Empowerment*)

Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (*Chairman of Committees*)

Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S.

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Transport and Works*)

Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (*Minister of Finance*)

Hon. Ms. M. K.-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (*Minister in the Prime Minister's Office – Economic Affairs and Planning*)

Ms. T. N. S.-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A.

Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (*Minister of the Public Service and Talent Development*)

Dr. the Hon. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (*Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Works*)

Dr. the Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc., D.B.A. (*Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness*)

Hon. C. D. L. Gibbs (*Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance*)

Hon. C. J. Blackman, J.P., LL.B., LL.M., ACI Arb. (*Minister of Education Transformation*)

Hon. M. A. Lashley, LL.B. (Hons.), L. E. C. (*Minister of Legal Affairs and Criminal Justice*)

Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight, Ph.D. (*Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security*)

Hon. G. P. B. Nicholls, B.Sc. (Hons.), LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., MCI Arb. (*Minister of Home Affairs and Information*)

Mr. R. R. Brathwaite, J.P., B.Sc.

Ms. T. Trotman, LL.B., L.E.C.

ABSENT

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (*Prime Minister, Minister of Economic Affairs and Development, Minister of National Security*), Hon. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. (*Minister in the Prime Minister's Office – Pan African Affairs and Heritage*), Dr. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min., Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (*Minister of Public and Private Investment*), Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (*Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs*), Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill, J.P. (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*) and Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (*Minister of Labour, Social Security and the Third Sector*).

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Canon Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 29th September, 2026 and Tuesday, 6th October, 2026 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw gave notice of the following:

- (1) Magistrate's Court (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Magistrate's Court (Amendment) Bill, 2026 was read a first time.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Miss Hon. S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 6

MAGISTRATE'S COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026

On the Order being called for Hon. M. A. Lashley to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Act to amend the Magistrate's Courts Act, Cap. 116A, the Hon. Member began to speak.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Hon. M. A. Lashley resumed his speech.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Hon. M. A. Lashley concluded his speech and moved seconded by Hon. C. McD. Griffith that the Bill be read a second time.

Ms. T. Trotman spoke.

Dr. the Hon. S. M. Munro-Knight spoke.

Hon. Ms. M. K.-A. Caddle spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Sitting was suspended until 1.40 p.m.

At 12.20 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

ORDER NO. 6 (resumed)

Hon. G. P. B. Nicholls spoke.

Hon. M. A. Lashley spoke in reply.

On the motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley seconded by Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw the House went into Committee Mr. P. R. Phillips in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 4 were called and passed without debate or amendment.

On the motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley seconded by Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands the Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motion of Hon. M. A. Lashley seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

PAPERS (recommitted)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw by command laid:
2025 Annual Report of the Department of Emergency Management.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams, the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 27th October, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

At 2.30 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

BEVERLEY S. GIBBONS, J.P. (Ms.)
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2026 – 2031

MINUTES

Tuesday, 20th October, 2026.

Government Printing Department.