



**WHITEWATER
MEADOWS
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

Newsletter



From the President's Desk



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Devon Thawe**



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**Secretary
Kimberly Moore**

I am honoured to serve as your community leader, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your ongoing support and active participation in our community. There is immense power when a group of people with similar interests gets together to work towards the same goals. The hard-working executive team and other volunteers set out to serve this community and I am happy to say, to a large extent, we have achieved some of the plans we have for the community of White Water Meadows. We see the need for more togetherness and have made attempts to close this gap. We are pleased to facilitate instant communication between residents via our vibrant and active WhatsApp group. We are just below 300 subscribers. The introduction of virtual meetings has also helped us to more than double the number of attendees at our general meetings.

The past few years have been challenging and though disappointing at times, we are very grateful for what we have accomplished, some of which are outlined in this newsletter. I am thrilled to see the **positive impact** these efforts are having on the quality of life in our community, and I look forward to what we can accomplish together in the coming months.

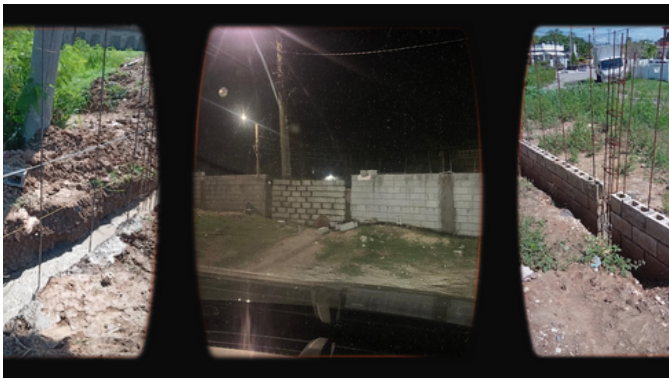
As discussed at our last general meeting in December 2024, for the few months remaining in this administration, we will endeavour to:

- 1) Have the scheme handed over to the Parish council.
- 2) Complete the development of our park.
- 3) Kick start the development of our community multi-purpose sports complex.

Wall Project

Do you remember the famous quote, "build the wall?" Well, we did! On April 17, 2023, the Standhope Road and Sydenham Villas intersection was completely closed off (at least for one night). It was the dedicated, united effort of a fraction of the community in selling block drive tickets, supporting the cake sale and making donations. Thanks to a strong sense of cohesion and hard work, we were able to raise over 1.3 million dollars to complete the first phase of our project to 'Build the Wall'!

The night after the wall was built, two men were implicated in the malicious destruction of the wall. The matter was reported to the police but we were unable to serve the summons or take the matter to court. We would also need the assistance of an attorney to further the case. The wall project was suspended as a result.



Talent Show December 2022

WWM citizens displayed tremendous talent during our Talent Search on December 30, 2022. From soul stirring melodies, spirited gospel and dynamic dance moves; the youths of WWM came out to demonstrate Rising Stars quality talent. The atmosphere was right with delicious warm soup, speakers blasting at the right volume, cool December air, liquor and a captive audience. Although we did not make a profit it was a great night and the promoters are to be commended for their stellar effort.



Tree Lighting Ceremony

In December 2022, a hand full of residents gathered at the park for heartwarming Tree Lighting Ceremony. Favourite festive songs were shared and attendees had the opportunity to share about things they were thankful for.



Park Renovation Project

Green spaces, plants and the sound of children laughing are in deed therapeutic. Much thanks to the Kiwanis Club of St Andrew for partnering with the Whitewater Citizen Association to renovate the park. The park has sprung to life with newly planted palm trees, freshly painted tyres and our beloved gazebo has had a face lift. The children of the community have not wasted any time in enjoying our pleasant park. They were also actively involved in the efforts to restore pride and joy to our largest recreational space.

Residents from the community dedicated time, effort and funds to see that the project was a smashing success. Our continued collective effort is needed to maintain this beautiful treasure while promoting further development.



CCTV cameras

Seven cameras were installed in the Community. However, the two camera's installed at Stanhope Road were taken down, when Flow reclaimed their utility pole on which the cameras were installed. These cameras were funded primarily by a tag drive. This is a considerable achievement, as footage from CCTV cameras has been handed over to the police following criminal activities that occurred in the community.

We look forward to Part two of the project which involves the use of video enhancers and monitoring via panic button by a security company and Jamaica eye.

Speed Bumps

Four Speed bumps were installed on the Boulevard and the one at the entrance repaired. This has greatly helped to reduce the speed at which motorist drive in our community, making it a safer place to live.



Road Work

Together we have embarked on a few road patching projects; the largest of which was completed in 2022. We extend thanks to a resident who contributed 2 loads of asphalt to complete the road work in 2022. All residents who paid dues would have also contributed to these projects.



Irrigation Project



The team has led oversight of the Southern Plain Agricultural Project, which is completed and now awaiting restoration of the iron rail at the entrance. We have also written to the irrigation company requesting a gate at the Old Harbour Road and the Whitewater Boulevard intersection. This project has stopped the overflow and seeping of water into residents' yard.



Dues Collection

This administration has been a very hands-on team. Every month since the team took office, members of the executive body have made themselves available to collect monthly dues. Persistent effort has been made to have volunteers helping to collect dues, whether at the gate or on their street. We have also consistently asked residents to transfer dues to the Association Bank account held at JMMB. Thanks to Claudette Hylton, Trudy-Ann Binns, Lynette Butler Gilpin and the son of Christopher Ramsdeen for volunteering to collect dues.

In January 2024, the monthly dues was increased from \$500 per month per household to \$1,500 per month. While this is still insufficient to adequately take care of the needs of the community we are grateful for the 50 people on average who have contributed to the upkeep of the community. Financial reports detailing income and expenditure of the association is dispatched to residents every quarter. Persons are also free to request additional information and explanation at our bi-monthly meetings.

Financial Overview for year ended

INCOME FOR 2024

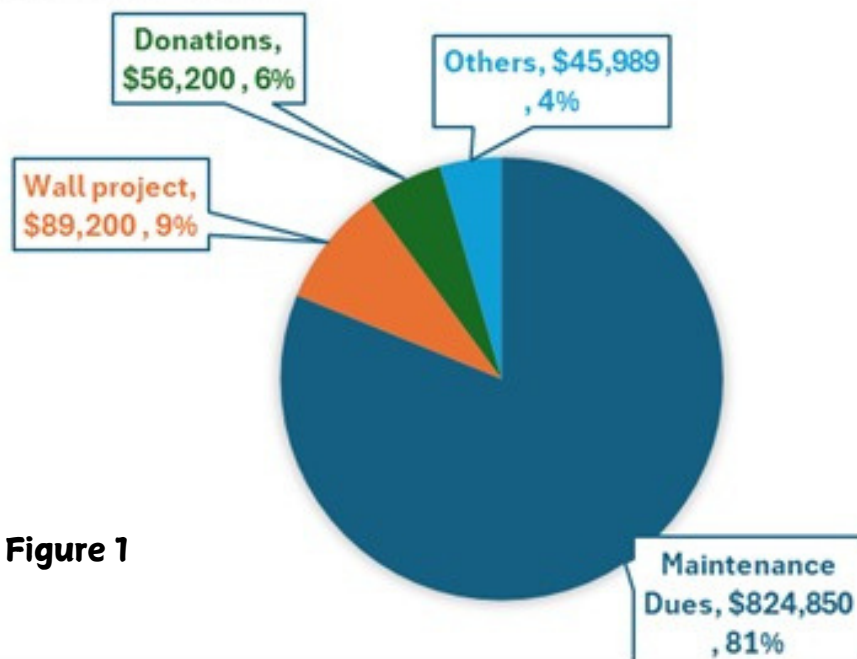


Figure 1

The financial health of the Association showed an improvement in performance from a deficit of \$304,800 in 2023 to a surplus of \$64,500 in 2024. However, results for the year ended July 31, 2023, included expenditures on the camera project of \$458,000, while the income of \$382,800 was collected and recorded in the year ended July 31, 2022. Normalizing the financial results, there was a 17% decline in the surplus for the year 2024 when compared to 2023.

While overall income dropped by 31%, annual maintenance dues increase by \$249,000 (43%) year over year. Monthly maintenance dues were Increase from \$500 per household per month to \$1,500 in January 2024. The contributions for the wall project, \$529,000 and income from cake sale, \$303,000, which was not done in 2024, accounted for the stronger income performance in the prior year. The temporary wall contribution of \$1,000 per month per household was stopped in December 2023 (five months into the current financial year).

The number of persons (average of 55 persons per month) contributing to the community maintenance and development on a consistent basis is very miniscule when compared to a population of over 790 houses.

The 2024 expenditures of the association reflected a 46% decrease when compared to 2023, This was mainly due to the Wall Project of \$501,000 and Camera Project of \$458,000 in the previous year. Excluding these two projects, the 2024 expenditures increase by 16% year over year.

Green area maintenance and road repairs accounted for 60% and 19% of the maintenance dues, respectively. This leaves us with approximately 20% to finance the operations of the scheme. As a result of the lack of funds, several projects were not initiated or completed, these include the CCTV camera system, park development, road repairs, to name a few.

White Water Meadows has immense potential with its relatively large lot, lush green spaces and flexible restrictive covenant. However, without fiscal and human capital we are unlikely to realize this potential. We must all take responsibility for the development of our community. And while all residents may not be interested in community maintenance and development, the number of supporters is too low to make a significant impact on the community. We encourage residents to make a concerted effort to secure the value of one of our most valuable investments.

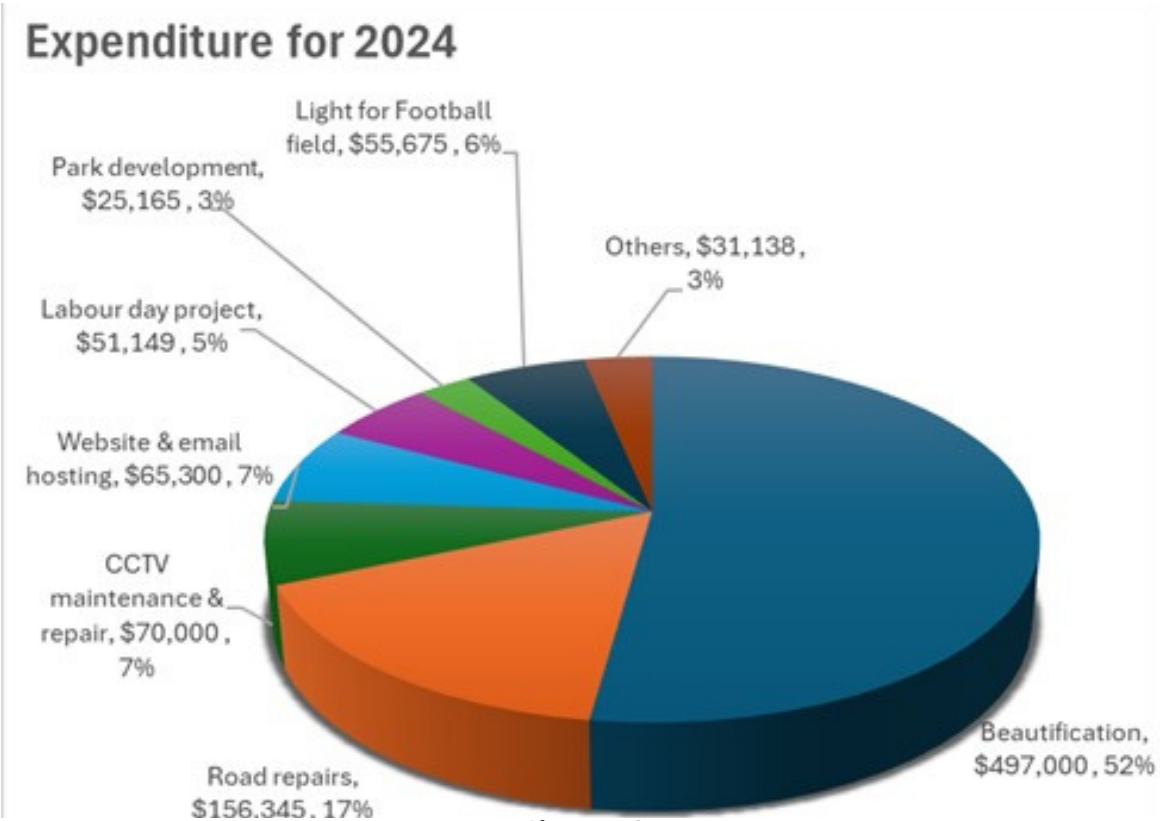


Figure 2

COMMENDATIONS



The WWMCA wishes to thank all those who paid dues, encouraged others to do so, attended meetings, made donations, volunteered for projects, and supported the collective efforts of our great community.



Thank you for reading!