



The Westmoreland Parish Council has set up a Safety and Security Committee, with the primary objective of facilitating partnerships, collaborations and consultations to improve the safety and security of the citizens of the parish.

Speaking with JIS News at the first parish council meeting for the new year, held on Thursday (January 10), Mayor of Savanna-la-Mar and Chairman of the Council, Bertel Moore, said that five murders have been recorded in the parish since the start of 2013, and this is unacceptable, and every effort would be made to curtail the situation and other forms of criminal activities throughout the parish.

He explained that smaller committees would also be established in all communities of the parish, with the Justices of the Peace (JPs) chairing and directing the proceedings, thereby ensuring that citizens embrace the concept and work to sustain the effort.

“These committees will liaise with the police, the JPs and other key persons from the community. I believe that this is the way we should go if we really want to combat crime and violence. I also firmly believe that we must all work together as a team in the parish, to keep crime and violence at the lowest level possible,” the Mayor said.

He emphasized the importance of the Police and the Council working together, to ensure that communities are safe for its citizens, and called for representatives of the Police Force to attend all monthly meetings of the Council.

“We cannot isolate ourselves from the police and the police cannot isolate themselves from us in the Council,” the Mayor said.

Mr. Moore urged the police to be vigilant in executing their duties, “without fear or favour” and to treat all information provided by citizens confidentially. He also called on the citizens to

support the security committees.