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Brian Spears FCIH  
**Chief Executive**

Ref: PN

31 October 2006

To: The Mayor and Members of the **COUNCIL**

Dear Sir/Madam

I hereby summon you to attend a Meeting of the **COUNCIL** to be held in the Town Hall, Durham, on **Tuesday 7 November 2006, at 5.30 pm.**

### **BUSINESS**

1. Prayers.
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meetings held on 12 September 2006 and 27 September 2006.
4. Mayor's Announcements (if any).
5. To answer questions under Council Procedure Rule No. 9.2 [Questions by Members – See Appendix 'A']
6. Notices of Motion.

(a) Notice has been given by Councillor Taylor of his intention to move the following Motion:

"This Council is totally committed to being transparent and accountable to the people it represents and it is equally as committed to engaging the people of Durham in meaningful consultation.

This Council wants this Swimming Pool to be a phenomenal success. It will consult with and involve the people of Durham every step of the way throughout its progress. It will put aside party political differences, and pulls together putting the people of Durham before politics, to make this major project a success

With this in mind this council will arrange quarterly meetings, at which a presentation will be given to inform the meeting of the Pools Progress, both structural and financial, until its completion.

All members and officers will be invited to attend as well as members of the public, Durham residents groups and associations will also be invited.

At the end of the presentation ample time will be allowed to take questions from elected members, and members of the public.

Then transparency and accountability will truly have been achieved."

Councillor Hepplewhite will second.

**2.**

(b) Notice has been given by Councillor Kellett of his intention to move the following Motion:

“This Council deplores the time limit placed on discussions about the Leisure Centre and Swimming Pool at the Cabinet Meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2006.”

Councillor Turnbull will second.

7. Report of Director of Legal and Administration Services.
8. Report of Director of Strategic Resources.
9. Report of the Head of Property Services.

Yours faithfully

**Chief Executive**

**Note:** Refreshments for Members will be available in the Small Hall from 4.30 pm.

**COUNCIL**  
**7 November, 2006**

**COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9.2**  
**QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**

1. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Kellett and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Leisure.  
  
"Will the Portfolio for Leisure, please state when it was discovered that the proposed Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre had risen by £1,634,380, an increase of 15%."
2. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor McDonnell and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Leisure.  
  
"Will the Portfolio for Leisure, please say whether or not a time penalty clause has been inserted into the contract to build the Leisure Centre/Swimming Pool, and if so can details be produced."
3. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Marsden and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Housing.  
  
"Will the Portfolio for Housing, please identify the 7 regeneration sites, identified in the Development Budget appraisal, and please give the value of each of these sites."
4. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Hoplewhite and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Housing.  
  
"Will the Portfolio for Housing, guarantee that only affordable homes will be built in the Sherburn Hill site, including the area of the former garages, and can he say what he means by affordable housing."
5. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Stoddart and was addressed to the Leader of the Council.  
  
"The Cabinet report states " Regeneration outputs for the 7 sites will be approx 310 affordable units of housing. Are there any that fall outside of the definition, would you please state if so and how many?"
6. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Taylor and was addressed to the Chairman of the Community Services Scrutiny Panel.  
  
"We would also like to thank, The Head of Building Services and his team for all their work, in extremely difficult circumstances i.e, having to cope with an outdated old computer programme.  
  
Would Cllr Howarth agree with us that it is regrettable, that so many of our Tenants have been struggling to get repairs done within their target date?  
  
And does she share our hopes that when the new Computer System is in place, that we will see a significant improvement."
7. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Robinson and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Finance.  
  
"Will the Portfolio for Finance say why the new Swimming Pool will require a further 1.6 million pounds of funding and where is the money coming from."

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8. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Carr and was addressed to the Leader of the Council.

“Will the Leader of the Council, say whether he agrees with the resident, Pippa Bell, when She says, “That the Riverside Park should remain undeveloped and recreational” as stated in an article of the Northern Echo on the 24<sup>th</sup> October 2006.”

9. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Taylor and was addressed to the Deputy Leader of the Council.

“Will the Deputy Leader of the Council, wish to respond to a Labour Motion of the Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006, asking that the Council concentrate on the debating matter for which we have a responsibility, the deputy Leader stated that members should not be gagged.

At a meeting of this Councils Cabinet earlier this year, I asked the leader of the Councils permission to ask a question as requested by a Brandon resident that I represent, the Leader refused to allow me to ask this question.”