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Brian Spears FCIH
Chief Executive

Ref: PN/DW

19 February 2008

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 26 February 2008, at 4.30 p.m.**

BUSINESS

1. Prayers
2. Apologies for Absence
3. To approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 January 2008
4. Recording of Council Proceedings
5. Presentation of Certificates to Honorary Aldermen
6. To present to Mr Barber his Long Service Certificate for 25 years service with the Council
7. Mayor's Announcements (if any)
8. To answer questions under Council Procedure Rule No. 9.2
[Questions by Members – See Appendix 'A']
9. Notices of Motion

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

"This Council resolves to carry out a consultation exercise to ascertain the level of resident support for the parishing of areas of the District which are not currently parished."

Councillor Rae will second.

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

"This Council would urge the Electoral Commission to consider proposed boundary changes for the new unitary Durham council carefully and if it conducts a review in 2008 to recommend that no elections on any proposed changes take place before 2013 as outlined in the Orders.

This Council believes that the new council will need five years to reorganise and further elections in 2010 will be costly and disruptive to the process."

Councillor Reynolds will second.

2.

- (c) Notice has been given by Councillor Mitchell of his intention to move the following Motion:

“That this Council recognizes the benefit of the Go Warm scheme currently running in Durham and thanks all those working on it. This Council notes that while the Council has been supportive of the scheme in words, it has not made any financial contribution to the scheme and further notes that the Council did have around £80,000 set aside for schemes like this but that this was cut earlier in the year and so resolves to provide this sum to widen the number of properties that will benefit from the Go Warm scheme.”

Councillor Taylor will second.

- (d) Notice has been given by Councillor Mitchell of his intention to move the following Motion:

“This Council believes that the public needs to have trust in local government, including their elected representatives and that as much information as possible on their activities should be available to the public. It so resolves to publish on its website, and in the next issue of City News; the total amount that each Councillor has claimed in expenses in the last financial year and the total to date for this year. It further resolves to publish the amounts each Councillor claims in allowances, both standard and special for last financial year and this one.”

Councillor Bell will second.

- (e) Notice has been given by Councillor Rae of her intention to move the following Motion:

“This Council welcomes the work already undertaken in association with the recently adopted Sustainable Development Policy, in particular that associated with Climate Change and the need for wholesale reduction in carbon emissions. The Council recognises the intrinsic connections between the critical issue of Climate Change and the need to:

- Protect natural resources and facilitate local and regional environmental enhancements,
- Bring about more sustainable patterns of production and consumption,
- Facilitate more sustainable patterns of development within communities.

We believe that delivery on these issues, as clarified within the Council's Sustainable Development Policy, should a key priority of the unitary authority, and recommend that this Council takes such steps as appropriate to effectively champion these matters.

Councillor Mitchell will second.

10. Report of Director of Financial Services
11. Report of Director of Corporate Services
12. Report of Head of Legal & Strategic Services

Yours faithfully



Chief Executive

- Note:**
- (i) Members and Senior Officers Robes of Office should be worn, and will be available in the Mayor's Chamber prior to the commencement of the Meeting.
 - (ii) Members are requested to take their seats in the Large Hall by 4.20pm.
 - (iii) Following the Presentation of Certificates to Honorary Aldermen, there will be a short adjournment during which light refreshments will be served in the Small Hall.

COUNCIL
26 February, 2008

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9.2
QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

1. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Bell and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Communities.

“Could the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Cllr. Thompson, please tell us how many call outs to repair combi-boilers in Council properties there have been in the last 6 months. Could he also provide a general breakdown by the type of fault and the average time it takes for them to be repaired. Could he also tell us what the financial cost to this Council has been for these repairs; and whether any of this cost can be recouped under the contract to the firm providing the boilers. Lastly could he also pass on this Council’s thanks to the officers who have dealt with this request.”

2. The following question was received, by the due date, from Councillor Taylor and was addressed to the Portfolio Holder for Communities.

“Could the Portfolio Holder for Communities, Cllr. Thompson, please tell us how many applications there have been under the new housing band system. Could he also provide details of the allocation of these applications by band; the number of appeals against the first allocated bands; the percentage of appeals that result in a successful re-allocation of band; the number of applications received from outside the District of Durham and the percentage of applications from outside the district who are allocated to either band A or B. Lastly could he also again pass on this Council’s thanks to the officers who have dealt with this request.”

