



AGENDA

Chairman's Note: *From the start of the pre-election period ('purdah'), the council must comply with restrictions outlined in Section 2 of the Local Government Act 1986. In addition a Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity published in 2011 makes clear that particular care should be taken in periods of heightened sensitivity, such as in the run up to an election. The Act defines publicity as "any communication, in whatever form, addressed to the public at large or to a section of the public."*

Generally, the Act says that we should "not publish any material which, in whole, or in part, appears to be designed to affect public support for a political party." The Code of Practice recommends that councils should generally not issue any publicity which seeks to influence voters and that publicity relating to individuals involved directly in the election should not be published unless expressly authorised by statute.

In relation to decision making within the council, the position remains that it is 'business as usual' unless there are very good reasons why this should not be the case. In the vast majority of cases, the pre-election period will have no impact on normal council business.

87. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Apologies have been received from Councillor Harrison.

Recommendation – That the apologies be accepted.

88. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Code of Conduct (Minute 17(b)/May/16 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

89. PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING – 3 APRIL 2017 – MINUTES (enclosed)

90. PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- (i) DM/17/01089/LB – **20 Galgate** – Listed building application for the renovation of building to form 2no separate dwellings (Heritage, design & access statement; existing and proposed plans enclosed).
- (ii) DM/17/01060/AD - **Unit 4 Castle Chambers 21-23 Market Place** – 2 self adhesive window panels to be displayed in the lower half of the first floor windows (Heritage statement and designs enclosed).

All applications can be viewed on line via Durham County Council's Planning Application System:
<http://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/>

The following planning applications will additionally be considered at the **Planning Committee meeting** on **Monday 24 April at 5.30pm under item 90**.

- (iii) DM/17/01205/FPA – **7 Victoria Road** – Single storey rear extension (Design & Access Statement; Heritage Statement; existing and proposed plans enclosed).
- (iv) DM/17/01246/FPA & DM/17/01247/LB – **Demesnes Mill Barn Cottage** – Listed building application for conversion of garage into habitable room, internal and external alterations and formation of conservatory to rear (Heritage, design & access statement; existing and proposed plans enclosed).

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