

## Item 11 (iii) Appendix A

### Part 2: Members' Planning Code of Good Practice

#### 1. Site Visits

10.1 It is often desirable before determining a planning application that members of the planning authority visit an application site to view it in its surroundings and have relevant features drawn to their attention. The Council has adopted a Code of Practice for such inspections with which it will comply. This is attached at Appendix "A" to this Code. Debate and decisions on applications must take place in a committee meeting, therefore any discussion that does take place during these site visits should not lead into a debate on the merits of the application.

#### 10.2 Remember

10.2.1 **Do not** request a site visit if you have a personal and prejudicial interest in the matter. For the avoidance of doubt the principles in paragraph 4 of this Planning Code of Good Practice shall apply.

10.2.2 **Do not** attend a site visit where you have a personal and prejudicial interest in the site or the matter in hand.

10.2.3 **Do not** request a site visit unless you feel it is strictly necessary and consider that:-

Deleted: because

10.2.3.1 Particular site factors are significant to the determination of the application; or

Deleted: in terms of the weight attached to them relative to other factors or the difficulty of their assessment in the absence of a site inspection

10.2.3.2 There are significant policy or precedent implications and specific site factors need to be carefully addressed, and

10.2.3.3 The site factors which justify a site visit have been provided to the Committee Services Officer or Planning Officer with the site visit request.

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10.2.4 **Do** attend site visits organised by the Council, where possible, where you are an appointed member of the site visit team, or the ward/local member for the area where the site is.

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