

Community services

Geoff Hughes - Director for economy, communities and corporate

Members of the Planning Site Inspection:

BA Baker, CR Butler, ACR Chappell, PGH Cutter
(Chairman), PJ Edwards, DW Greenow, KS Guthrie,
J Hardwick (Vice-Chairman), EL Holton, JA Hyde,
TM James, JF Johnson, JLV Kenyon, MN Mansell,
FM Norman, RJ Phillips, AJW Powers, P Rone, A Seldon,
NE Shaw, WC Skelton, D Summers, EJ Swinglehurst,
LC Tawn and SD Williams

Our Ref: SI-Monday 6 June 2016

Please ask for: Tim Brown

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3 June 2016

Dear Councillor,

Site inspection - Monday 6 June 2016

The chairman of the planning committee and the assistant director have determined that a site inspection will take place from **9.30 am**, on **Monday 6 June 2016** in relation to the following application: 151314 - new single carriageway (southern link road) and associated works at existing roundabout junction of the A49(T) and B4399, to a new roundabout with the A465, then joining the B4349.

The site visit will be conducted from the coach and from a number of other pre-arranged locations but it will convene at approximately 10.30 am at Veddoes Farm, Grafton Lane and then at approximately 11.30 am at the agricultural access 300 metres north of Haywood Lodge Cottages, Haywood Lane. Details of these two stopping points are attached. Please also find attached an extract from the council's constitution which governs the conduct of site inspections.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Brown
Democratic services officer

c.c. Local ward member(s) and parish/town council(s)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

EXTRACT FROM THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

SITE INSPECTIONS

5.13.4 Site Inspections

5.13.4.1 Site Inspections by a Committee can be helpful in reaching a decision on issues where site circumstances are clearly fundamental to the decision. This is true particularly when the issues concern, for example, visual impact, the character of an historic building or the effect of development on local amenity. However, site inspections are costly, cause delay to decisions and are an unsuitable place for holding a reasoned debate.

The criteria for holding site inspections are:

- a the character or appearance of the development itself is a fundamental planning consideration;
- b a judgement is required on visual impact;
- c the setting and surroundings are fundamental to the determination or to the conditions being considered, and cannot reasonably be made without visiting the site in question.

The Chairman of the Planning Committee and the Assistant Director Environment, Planning and Waste will determine which applications will be the subject of a prior site inspection. This does not prevent any member of the Committee requesting a site inspection of a site at the Committee meeting when it has not already been visited by this procedure.

5.13.4.2 Site Inspections should not be held when inspection of the site is irrelevant to the material conditions. Any Member of the Committee may request a site inspection, but reasons based on the above criteria must be stated, and will be minuted.

5.13.4.3 **The purpose of the site visit is fact finding.** Officers will be able to point out relevant features of the site and surroundings. You will be able to see the physical features of the site and ask questions through the Chairman or the officers to seek clarification. Neither the applicant/agent or third parties will be allowed to participate in the site inspection. The input of these parties is made at the Committee meeting itself. At the discretion of the Chairman of the Planning Committee the appropriate Parish or Town Council may be invited to observe the inspection. In these circumstances the Parish or Town Council may not contribute to the opportunity to ask questions of officers on site.

5.13.4.4 **No discussion of the merits of the case must be permitted and all questions from you will be put through the Chairman.**

5.13.4.5 The visiting party will stay together as a group.

5.13.4.6 As a member of the Planning Committee when on site visits you should not make any comments that could create an impression that you had already formed a view on the merits of the application. No decision on the application should be made until the meeting of the Planning Committee at which the application is to be considered, when they will have before them all necessary information to be able to make an informed decision, including any material facts arising from the site visit which the Assistant Director Environment, Planning and Waste considers should be reported to the Committee.

5.13.4.7 Conduct of Visits

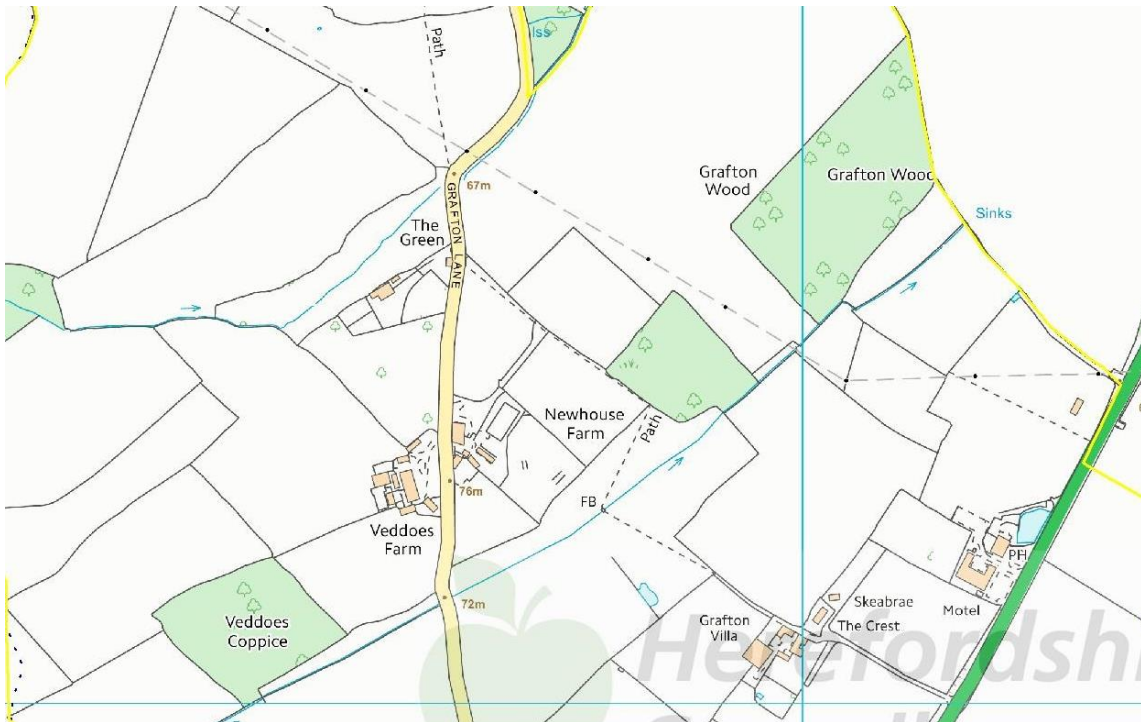
- a visits will be conducted in a formal manner.
- b the Chairman or Vice-Chairman will open the meeting, and remind members of its purpose and conduct.
- c Officers will highlight issues **relevant to site inspection**. If issues are raised which necessitate consultation with the applicant or his agent, this should be done after the close of the meeting and the outcome reported to the subsequent committee.
- d Local Ward Members will be invited to site inspections in their wards and asked to highlight local issues relevant to the site inspection.
- e the Chairman or Vice-Chairman will close the meeting.

5.13.4.8 General Matters

- a there will be **no** debate about the merits of the application and no decision will be made.
- b no formal notes will be made.
- c **no** hospitality will be accepted.

5.13.4.9 **If you find it necessary to visit a site alone (perhaps because it was not possible for you to attend a Committee visit), you should view the site only from public vantage points, seek to avoid any discussion with interested parties, and, if there is such discussion, make it clear that no decision on the application will be taken until it has been discussed at Committee.**

Site Inspection 6 June 2016 -Stopping Points



The site visit will be conducted from the coach and from a number of other pre-arranged locations but it will convene at approximately 1030am at Veddoes Farm, Grafton Lane (see plan below) and then at approximately 1130 at the agricultural access 300metres north of Haywood Lodge Cottages, Haywood Lane (see below)



At these points, interested members of the public will have the opportunity to listen to, but not partake, in any discussion

