# WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### LOWLANDS AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2015

# CONSTRUCTION OF A SOLAR PV PARK, TO INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PV PANELS, WITH CONTROL ROOM, TRANSFORMER HOUSINGS, INVERTERS, SECURITY SYSTEM (FENCING AND INFRARED CAMERAS), LANDSCAPING, ACCESS TRACKS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS LAND AT SHILTON DOWNS FARM, SHILTON APPLICATION NUMBER 14/02156/FUL

## REPORT OF THE HEAD OF PLANNING AND STRATEGIC HOUSING

## (Contact: Kim Smith, Tel: (01993) (861676)

(The decisions on this matter will be a resolution.)

#### I. PURPOSE

To consider whether it would be expedient to undertake a formal site visit prior to the likely consideration of this planning application on Monday 16 March.

## 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Sub-Committee decide that it would be expedient to visit the site.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. This application is seeking planning permission for a solar park on agricultural land forming part of Shilton Downs Farm on the northern outskirts of Shilton village. The proposed development covers an area of 22.3 hectares on a predominantly flat site which subtly slopes from the north- west corner down towards the south east corner. The site is not the subject of any landscape or environmental designations.
- 3.2. Given the extent of the site area and that the buildings serving Shilton Downs Farm are visible on the skyline when travelling along the B4020, Officers consider that a site visit to consider the proposed development would be of benefit to Members prior to the formal consideration and determination of the application.
- 3.3. It is anticipated that the application will be presented to the Lowlands Area Planning Sub-Committee on Monday 16 March 2015.

# 4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

#### 5. ALTERNATIVES/OPTIONS

None.

#### 6. REASONS

See section 3.

Giles Hughes - Head of Planning and Strategic Housing (Author: Mrs K Smith, Tel: (01993) 861676; EMail: <u>kim.smith@westoxon.gov.uk</u>)

Date: 22 January 2015 Background Papers: None