



**Councillor Ralph Muncer**  
*Member of North Hertfordshire  
District Council for Kimpton*

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**REPORT TO KIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:  
WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2022**

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**Speaking to the Transport Secretary at Conservative Party Conference**

At Conservative Party Conference in Birmingham, I attended a number of events which focussed on a variety of topics including an event titled 'The Aviation Conversation' which was attended by the Secretary of State for Transport, The Rt. Hon. Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP. At the event, I asked the Secretary of State about ensuring Airports work alongside Local Communities and Local Authorities in order to tackle the challenges and alleviate the disruption caused to residents. I also took the opportunity to highlight my concerns over the proposals to expand Luton Airport, as well as the issues which residents in Kimpton are currently facing as a result of Airport Operations such as Noise Pollution and Traffic Congestion. I'm therefore pleased that the Secretary of State said she would be taking up these issues with her team at the Department for Transport.

**Update on High Street Roadworks**

Over the course of Week Commencing, Monday 17 October, I received a number of emails from residents regarding the Roadworks taking place on the High Street, Kimpton. I therefore sought clarification from Officers at Hertfordshire Highways who confirmed to me that 'Drainage Investigation Works' were being carried out due to reports of flooding. These works are vital in order to clear the drainage system of debris, prevent flooding and assess any damage to the system. On Friday evening (21 October) I visited the site and was briefed on the progress which has been made, as well as the future work identified by engineers which will be needed in order to reduce flooding in the Village. Ringway, the Roadwork Contractors, currently have a permit for Road Closures until Friday 28 October however, the works on the High Street have now concluded and will be focussed on Kimpton Road minimising the disruption caused to residents. I have asked that for any future works which are scheduled, residents are fully informed of the situation and likely disruption.

**Welcoming Funding for Kimpton Primary School**

I'm pleased to report that at a Meeting of the Southern Rural Committee on Thursday 29 September the Committee allocated £657 to Kimpton Primary School for their playground development project. This funding will help to secure equipment that will support the cognitive development and well-being of students at the school.

### **Additional Funding for St Albans City Hospital**

It's very welcome to see that St Albans City Hospital will receive a £12 million investment in new facilities. The new 'Community Diagnostic Centre' is due to open in 2024 and will enable the Hospital to become a 'one-stop shop' for patients so that they can have a range of tests or investigations in a single visit – meaning fewer hospital visits for patients and a faster diagnosis that will in turn allow treatment to begin more quickly. I have no doubt this funding will make a real difference in ensuring that NHS Services remain both local and accessible to residents in Kimpton as well as wider Hertfordshire.

### **Update on the North Hertfordshire Local Plan**

At a Meeting of North Hertfordshire District Council on Tuesday 8 November Councillors will be asked to vote on whether to adopt the Local Plan which sets out the planning policies and proposals for North Hertfordshire. Over the last few weeks I have attended a briefing as well as taken the time to review the updated Plan which includes modifications from the Government Inspector. Please find below the proposal and comments for Kimpton within the Local Plan:

#### Kimpton

##### *Introduction*

13.178 Kimpton parish is on the south-western edge of the District. The village of Kimpton has a relatively good range of facilities, including a school, shop, public houses, village hall and church. Apart from the village itself, the parish also includes the smaller settlements of Peters Green and Blackmore End as well as some scattered farms and a wide tract of countryside.

13.179 At the 2011 census the population of the parish of Kimpton was 2,167 and there were 884 dwellings in the parish.

##### *Role in settlement hierarchy*

13.180 Kimpton is identified as a Category A village under policy SP2. It has been excluded from the Green Belt with its settlement boundary being shown on the Policies Map. Blackmore End is classed as a Category B settlement. It has also been excluded from the Green Belt and infilling development that does not extend the built up area into the surrounding countryside will be permitted. Peters Green is a Category C settlement. Development here will be restricted to limited affordable housing and facilities for local community needs in accordance with our detailed policies.

##### *Heritage*

13.181 Kimpton has two conservation areas. Kimpton Village covers the eastern part of the village around the church and green, and Kimpton Bottom lies at the western end of the village. The parish church of St Peter and St Paul is a Grade I listed building.

##### *Housing*

13.182 One site is allocated in Kimpton for an estimated 13 new homes. 43 homes have been built or granted planning permission since 2011.

Ref	Local Housing Allocations and site specific policy criteria	Dwelling estimate
Policy KM3	Land north of High Street	13 homes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Address existing surface water and groundwater flood risk issues through SUDs or other appropriate solution; and</li><li>• Sensitive design to minimise impacts upon the adjoining conservation area.</li></ul>	
Total allocated sites		13 homes
Completions and permissions		43 homes
Total allocated, completed and permitted		56 homes

*Economy*

13.183 Kimpton has a small employment area along Claggy Road. This is not sufficiently large to designate as an employment area, but does perform an important role in providing local employment and facilities. The Council will therefore seek to protect the employment function of this area under policy ETC4: Employment development outside employment areas.

*Infrastructure and mitigation*

13.184 There are known flooding issues in Kimpton, from both surface water and groundwater, particularly along Claggy Road which acts as a flood route into the High Street. Development in Kimpton will be required to achieve the equivalent of greenfield run off rates to ensure existing issues are not exacerbated.

**Planning Application: 22/02675/FP, Kimpton Grange, Luton Road, Kimpton, SG4 8HA**

I have received a letter from the Planning Department asking to provide comments on the proposed scheme for Kimpton Grange, Luton Road, Kimpton, SG4 8HA: *Conversion of existing dwelling "The Lodge" into 6 apartments (5 x 2-bed and 1 x 3-bed). Erection of four terraced 2-bed dwellings and five detached dwellings (1 x 5-bed, 2 x 4-bed and 2 x 2-bed) including landscaping and parking following demolition of existing buildings. Alteration of existing access and creation of additional access.* I have also been asked to put forward any potential projects for a possible Section 106 Agreement in relation to this scheme. I therefore wish to work with the Parish Council to identify any projects which would be appropriate for our community. The Parish Council should be aware the deadline to exercise my power to call in this application is Thursday 10 November 2022.



**CLLR RALPH MUNCER  
MEMBER OF NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FOR KIMPTON**