



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

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**REPORT TO KIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2023**

Tribute to former Councillor John Bishop

I was saddened to be informed that my predecessor, John Bishop died in earlier this month. John served Kimpton as our District Councillor for 16 years and always demonstrated a strong spirit of service and commitment to residents throughout that period. I know his loss will be felt by many in our community and my thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.

North Hertfordshire Budget Meeting

At a Meeting of Full Council on Thursday 23 February, Councillors debated the 2023/24 for North Hertfordshire District Council. As a result of the budget adopted by the Labour – Liberal Democrat administration, residents across the District will be paying more and getting less for their money. Council Tax is to be increased by 2.99%, the Garden Waste Charge will be increased by nearly 25% and Car Parking fees in Town Centres will also see an increase. Despite increasing the amount residents will pay to NHDC, members of the Administration deemed it appropriate to increase Councillor Allowances by 6%, something which I voted against. I will continue to voice my opposition to the impending cuts to our waste collections, which will result in bins being collected every three weeks, with the potential for monthly collections in the future. In my opinion, this is a clear example of the Council neglecting its statutory responsibilities. I have argued this cut, which apparently will save £270,000, should be reversed and the Council ought to make savings and efficiencies elsewhere within its £18.5 million budget. My firm believe is that Local Government should focus on providing high quality statutory services which deliver residents with good value for money and I will continue to advocate for this in the Council Chamber.

Welcoming Funding for Kimpton Folk Festival

I'm pleased to report that at a Meeting of the Southern Rural Committee on Thursday 2 March the Committee allocated £750 to Kimpton Folk Events to provide free entertainment at the Folk Festival in the Summer.

Hertfordshire Constabulary Surgery in Kimpton

I can confirm that Hertfordshire Constabulary will host a Surgery on Friday 31 March from 10:30 until 12:00 in the Dacre Rooms. Another Surgery will be held on Friday 28 April. These Surgeries are a good opportunity for residents to raise concerns directly with our local Neighbourhood Policing Team.



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