

8A. REFERRAL FROM SOUTHERN RURAL AREA COMMITTEE 30 JUNE 2022: CLOSURE OF KIMPTON SURGERY

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL:

(1) That the Council discusses the closure of Kimpton GP surgery and the issue of accessibility of healthcare services for residents in rural wards.

REASON FOR DECISION:

(1) To act as forum for discussion on matters of local interest and to make arrangements for the provision of information about local services and other matters to people in the area.

Audio recording – 41:28

Councillor Ralph Muncer advised that there was a public consultation and a public meeting opposing the NHS closure of the Kimpton Surgery and that many residents attended. He stated that the closure of this surgery would force residents to travel elsewhere and would have a large impact on elderly and vulnerable people, as well as those who rely on public transport. He reassured Kimpton residents and in response to a question from Councillor Sam North said that the local MP and County Councillor are heavily involved in this.

Councillor David Barnard proposed wording for a motion for consideration to Council as follows: "That this Council regrets the proposal of the NHS to close the surgery in Kimpton and urges the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to take urgent action to withdraw this proposal, and ensure that residents of Kimpton and surrounding rural communities can readily access important medical care". He was advised that specific wording would have to be reviewed.

Councillor Sam North advised that the Council appoints members to sit on organisations such as the Hertfordshire Health Scrutiny Committee and that residents might benefit from consideration of the topic by full Council.

Councillor David Barnard proposed, Councillor Ralph Muncer seconded and, following a vote, it was:

RECOMMENDED TO FULL COUNCIL: That the Council discusses the closure of Kimpton GP surgery and the issue of accessibility of healthcare services for residents in rural wards.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION: To act as forum for discussion on matters of local interest and to make arrangements for the provision of information about local services and other matters to people in the area.

The reports and papers associated with this item can be viewed here: [Agenda for Southern Rural Area Committee on Thursday, 30 June 2022, 7:30 pm - North Herts Council \(north-herts.gov.uk\)](#)