

# DEAL OR NO DEAL?

Just a few months after the local elections in May 2007 Councillor Belinda Humphries resigned from the Town Council following an enquiry by the Standards Board.

Following this resignation the Chairman of the Town Council contacted Cllr David Coe and told him that local Conservatives did not really want a by-election. The Chairman said that they would be happy to co-opt the person who got the next highest vote in the May elections (a Labour candidate). Cllr Coe agreed as it would save expense for local Council Tax payers and avoid the need to close the Loatland School for another Polling Day.

Imagine Cllr Coe's surprise at the November meeting of the Town Council when Cllr Tebbutt proposed that a Conservative party member be co-opted on to the council (a person who did not stand as a candidate in May 2007 and had never offered themselves to the local electorate).

The proposal was supported by Conservative Councillors and the dirty deed was done. Cllr Coe said afterwards ***'In my 36 years in local government I have never witnessed such dishonesty and double dealing. It was the Conservatives who approached me on this matter and suggested a co-option. I took their proposal in good faith but I will never trust them again'***



## PHIL TO STAND AGAIN

The Kettering Constituency Labour Party has selected Desborough resident Phil Sawford as their Parliamentary candidate for the next General Election. Phil received an astonishing 93% of the votes to beat off the other four shortlisted candidates.

Phil overturned a Tory majority of over 11,000 to win the seat in 1997 and served as the MP for Kettering for eight years. He is a former Leader of Kettering Borough Council and served as a member of Desborough Town Council for 20 years before going to Westminster

After the selection meeting Phil said –

***'I agreed to put my name forward mainly because of the level of support I have experienced in the local community. Over the last couple of years I have received so many letters, e-mails and phone calls from people who have said that they want me to stand again. I have been encouraged by people I meet in the street, in pubs and shops and the message has been clear and consistent, in fact I have lost count of the number of times I have been asked if I will stand again.'***

***With the formal selection process over I can now tell them that I will. People know me as a local man who gets things done, they know my record and when the time comes I hope they will give me their support.'***

## DON'T LOSE YOUR VOICE

In Desborough there are over 1000 people registered to vote by post. But a lot of people miss out on their democratic rights due to work commitments, illness, holidays or bad weather.

If you want to vote by post it is easy to register, it doesn't cost anything and you will be sure of your democratic right.

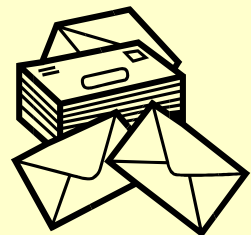
To get a Postal Vote application form simply ring Kettering Borough Council on 01536 410333 or contact the local Labour Party.

Phone:  
01536 711511

Web site:  
[www.ketteringlabourparty.com](http://www.ketteringlabourparty.com)

E-Mail:  
[kclp@btconnect.com](mailto:kclp@btconnect.com)

## VOTING BY POST



THE EASY WAY TO HAVE YOUR SAY.

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