



Medway Progress

STOP PRESS
SPECIAL AIRPORT EDITION 3

Update from **Bob Marshall-Andrews** – Member of Parliament for Medway



On Cliffe Marshes - This is what we could have lost

With that Pig and protestors at the 2003 Labour Party Conference



The Rochester March as it past along Corporation Street



Meeting protestors in Rochester



Speaking against the proposed airport during the Westminster Hall debate in Parliament



In the Castle Grounds prior to the Rochester March



The successful RSPB lobby of Parliament, at which I spoke

Dear Resident

I am delighted to report that the Government has now decided finally and without qualification to reject the concept of an airport at Cliffe. I have always asked for the earliest notification from ministers and this has been achieved.

This represents a huge and significant victory for community and environmental organisations and for thousands of local people who have campaigned long and hard for this result.

I feel extremely proud to have worked alongside so many of my constituents and to have ensured that the Government never underestimated our collective strength and determination. I am especially pleased that this campaign has been free from party politics... we have all pulled together regardless of our political differences and proved what can be done in these circumstances when everyone is under threat.

We may even have achieved something that goes beyond victory. It was inevitable that any consultation should include a coastal site (as formerly with Maplin Sands) but the campaign has given us the opportunity to demonstrate the unique values of both our communities and our environment.

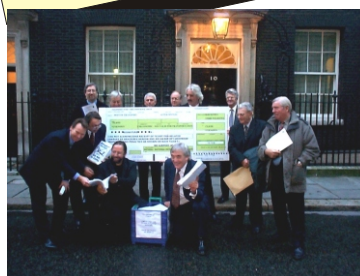
This will undoubtedly ensure far greater protection from future development and the creation of a National Park.

Best Wishes

Bob Marshall-Andrews QC MP



At Westminster with Jools Holland and RSPB's Perry Haines



Outside 10 Downing Street, with representatives of the local Parish Councils, handing in letters and petition



With a resident prior to the Rochester March

FLIGHTPATH TO VICTORY

October 2001

"If all South East demand is to be met then the best solution is to build a new two runway airport with the potential for longer term growth to four runways. Any new airport should be located where noise and air pollution affects a very low population and where 24 hour operation is possible"
Report from the Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group.



February 28th 2002

"A new airport on the Kent side of the Thames Estuary with space for up to four runways is being considered by Stephen Byers among radical options to cope with an expected boom in air travel"
Financial Times



March 3rd 2002

"Whatever the economic benefits it may bring, the disturbance and destruction an airport would bring to this unique and beautiful area is unacceptable."
Bob Marshall-Andrews QC MP



March 4th 2002

"This is not something that is just acceptable, it is unthinkable. The Thames Estuary is the 4th most important site for water birds in the UK. In environmental terms it is hard to think of a worst site for an airport in the South East."
Spokesman for the R.S.P.B.



July 2002

"A potential site for a new airport at Cliffe on the Hoo Penisular in North Kent was identified following a detailed study of sites throughout the South East and East of England."
The Future Development of Air Transport in the UK: South East Document

December 2003

Victory

The Secretary of State Alistair Darling says "There will be NO AIRPORT AT CLIFFE."



May 2003

"A scheme for a new airport at Cliffe should not be included in the short list. We doubt whether Cliffe could be commercially without considerable public subsidy."
British Airport Authority Report



April 2003

"Without a comprehensive and aggressive bird management programme in place, incorporating careful and considered airport design, appropriate habitat management and active bird control, and airport could not operate safely in this location."
Department of Transport Report



February 2003

Government announces reconsultation to include Gatwick



November 2002

High Court rules Gatwick has to be included



October 2002

Medway Council and Kent County Council apply for Judicial Review asking for Gatwick Airport to be included in any proposals.



Can I Help?

Around every two weeks I hold a surgery locally to offer help and advice to constituents on a wide range of issues.

These include:

Benefit claims, including housing and incapacity issues, Pensions and/or associated payments, Child Support Agency, Planning issues, Medical/Treatment problems, Crime/Law and Order, Environmental Damage, Obtaining Visas.

Don't worry if your problem does not fit into one or more of the above categories. Just ask for a surgery form and give me brief details.

Here's how to get in touch:

By Telephone - 01634 814687

By Post -Bob Marshall-Andrews QC MP,
Moat House, 1 Castle Hill, Rochester, Kent ME1 1QQ

By Email - marshallandrews@parliament.uk

By Website - www.epolitix.com/westminster/bob-marshall-andrews

By Fax - 01634 831294