

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Manston Airport RR - 1656; My Ref: 20013843
Date: 16 January 2019 17:58:54
Attachments: [CL Occupancy.docx](#)
[Chairman's Letter.docx](#)

Rear Sirs

At the recent DCO inquiry at the Winter Gardens in Margate, I gave evidence as follows:

I have lived the Thanet all my life (I am 75 years old and was Christened in Manston Church. I walked the A256 immediately under the flight path on my way to school during the period the USAF were at the airport. It was during the period that the airport and surrounding area was at its noisiest. Since that time I have been a farmer at both Spratling Street and Lydden (off Manston Court Road) I have served on Manston Parish Council, including as Chairman. During that time the Council prepared a neighbourhood survey in the Civil Parish, and residents overwhelmingly supported the airport, in some cases because they regarded it a preferable to housing or industrial development.

I have also served in the past on the Village Hall Management Committee, and am currently Treasurer of Manston Social & Sports Club, having served as Chairman for 5 years. I am also on St Catherine's, Manston Church council. As a result of this I consider myself to have an ear to the ground and be well informed on the general overbearing public opinion regarding the airport. The support is very significant and has varied little over time.

Evidence was given at the hearing (Holiday Homes against Manston) that aircraft noise has a detrimental impact on tourism, including specifically mobile homes. I have two cousins who until very recently ran mobile home holiday parks in Preston Road, Manston, and Manston Court Road, opposite the Northern Grass on the airport. Both refute this allegation, as although some may be put off, it is compensated by interest in aviation and the two museums.

I myself have had a Caravan Club Certificated location on my farm since 1986, and am told by the Club inspector that I have one of the highest occupancy rates in his area of East Kent. I am open all year for touring caravans, and am allowed a maximum of 5 per night. Therefore the maximum occupancy over the whole year is 1825. I submit that there is no correlation to show that periods when the airport has been closed or had reduced activity has enhanced occupation levels. I am attaching my occupancy figures since 1986.

I also attach a copy of the letter I referred to in my presentation which was written to the Leader of TDC in support of the airport which was jointly signed by the then current Chairman of Manston Parish Council and the four preceding ones

Yours faithfully,

Rex Goodban

For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>



18 November 2014

Cllr. Iris Johnson, Leader . TDC

Dear Cllr Johnson,

We the undersigned are increasingly concerned that the Officers at TDC are unduly delaying the decision making process regarding the CPO for Manston Airport. We accept that TDC require a due diligence process to ensure that any back to back agreement with the only interested party (Riveroak) is effective in reimbursing TDC for all costs in a timely manner. We also understand that it is useful that Riveroak have the financial capabilities to operate the Airport for a period until it returns to profitability.

Since the Airport's closure it has often been difficult to separate fact from fiction, but it is claimed from sources that are normally reliable that TDC are requesting Riveroak to submit a 25 year business plan. A plan prepared over this timescale would be so unreliable as to be worthless. So many variables would come in to play, not least the economy both here and in America, legislation and technology. One only has to look at the last 25 years to recognise the changes and influences over this period.

Together we feel that TDC and Riveroak have had adequate time to satisfy the requirements of the first paragraph above, and if rumour is correct to further add the requirements in the second paragraph is perverse and can only be seen as an attempt to delay progress.

Manston Parish Council have consistently supported the Airport, and wish it to continue to function in this capacity. This fact is supported by the Village

Appraisal Report in 1998 and more recently by the Parish Plan in 2009 which included a door to door household survey.

Between us we have held the Chairmanship of Manston Parish Council in excess of 25 years, and we jointly call on Thanet District Council (subject to the first paragraph above) to come to a swift decision to approve the preparation of a Compulsory Purchase Order, and to expedite it without delay.

Yours sincerely,

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..... Rex Goodban

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cc. 

Year	Occupancy
1986	313
1987	457
1988	559
1989	759
1990	858
1991	948
1992	815
1993	753
1994	735
1995	800
1996	815
1997	655
1998	980
1999	1257
2000	1304
2001	1099
2002	764
2003	1021
2004	1171
2005	1291
2006	1134
2007	1137
2008	1038
2009	1161
2010	1055
2011	999
2012	838
2013	693
2014	771
2015	787
2016	990
2017	1059
2018	1137