

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Manston Airport](#)
Subject: Manston Airport 24/7 Hub
Date: 19 November 2021 15:50:53

Dear planning officer,

I am writing to you on behalf of my Father and my self in support of the plans to reopen the airport at Manston. We are making the effort to write as local residents as it has come to my attention that a vocal minority of other residents have been organising template letters and evidence to oppose the reopening that are not representative of our view or in my opinion the majority feeling

I have 5 main points

1 History

The Airport at Manston predates the First World War and after a century of activity in the area is an important part of the history and tradition of Thanet. Until the recent break in operation there has been an airport here which did not adversely affect tourism even during the heyday of the area as resort towns nor their desirable retirement haven.

Comparable seaside towns like Southend have built their recent prosperity on developing an airport, local industries and tourism together.

2 Local employment

The reopening of the airport will provide Local Jobs now, stimulate and support small local business and trades and internal investment into the area. As well as longterm career opportunities and sustainable jobs.

Thanet is an area with no real industry. The Tourist industry has declined, as have all of the other industries previous based here. Thanet has one of the most deprived areas in South East England and has some of the highest unemployment rates in the region. What it desperately needs some employment opportunities for the local people and something to stimulate investment. I would argue that the reopening of the airport does both of those things not only as a project in itself but also in the potential related local business and support services that it would generate.

The operation and maintainance of the airport will provide much needed work now (in the form of construction, security, admin, etc). As well as the aircraft maintainance, site management, haulage, when it is operating. This inturn will support local suppliers and services. All of these will benefit the local economy in general. The airport will also attract other businesses wishing to use it as a transport hub to be based in Thanet. Manufacturing and distributing from here with similar effect on the local economy.

3 Thanet's unique position

The legacy infrastructure left from the airports previous operation, the ferry port, hoverport and Pfizer plant gives Thanet a Unique pre build infrastructure that would be the envy of many other areas in South East England. Added to the opportunities brought by the high speed link Thanet should make the most of what it already has in using these advantages to secure new jobs and opportunities for the area.

4 The UK has now left the EU and with this change are many new opportunities. There will be more importance placed on air freight with new trading partners and new broader regulations will call for increased capacity for freight with in the UK boarder. Manston is perfectly suited to this and should reopen to bring any potential financial and employment benefits to this area.

5 Quieter Planes

"Over the past 50 years individual aircraft have reduced their noise impact by 75%. Indeed, compared with the first jet aircraft, noise from modern aircraft has been reduced by 97% on departure - a 15 decibel reduction - and **94% on arrival** - a 12 decibel reduction (1)."

[REDACTED]

The main complaint about the airports previously was the noise caused by one specific old training plane. There is a strong argument that a noise restriction could be put on older planes. No flight should be allowed to exceed a specified decibel level otherwise all flights will be suspended. As highlighted above modern plane noise is not an issue in the majority of cases. But specified limits and places where measurements are taken should be agreed before flights resume.

Night flights should allow fast fresh deliveries to London without impacting on the local residents use of the infrastructure. Which would obviously be a cause for concern for residents.

In conclusion I think that there is an overwhelming economic argument for the reopening of the airport including night flights. I with a noise restriction support the reopening of Manston Airport.

Yours

John and Simon Gill

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