

# Lib Dems Force KCC U-Turn on Brogdale

Local Lib Dems have welcomed the announcement that the national fruit collection at Brogdale Farm will remain in Swale. However without the intervention of the KCC Lib Dem Leader Cllr Trudy Dean, they would have been lost. When Trudy was approached by members of the Friends of the Brogdale Fruit Collection, she forced the issue onto KCC's Scrutiny Committee who agreed to write to Government as a matter of urgency in support of keeping the internationally known collection on its current site at Brogdale.

The Committee decided to take the view of Trudy Dean and reject the position taken earlier by Conservative Cabinet Member, Cllr Roger Gough, who had advised DEFRA that KCC supported removing the collection from Brogdale to East Malling.

Under questioning from Trudy, Cllr Gough admitted that he had found the decision 'difficult'. He accepted that he ignored the objections of Swale Borough Council and the local members and agreed he should have consulted more widely. Members of all parties also agreed to ask the Leader of the Council Paul Carter, who is understood to have been aware of Cllr Gough's letter, to reconsider his position and asked Roger Gough to withdraw his letter.

Trudy Dean said, "It is a damning criticism of KCC's Cabinet system that Cllr Gough wrote his letter on behalf of Kent County Council without his decision becoming known to the rest of us until now. Given the international reputation of Brogdale and its importance to the economy of Kent, it is even more outrageous that he took a decision without proper advice."

Published and Promoted by Elvie Lowe, (Liberal Democrat) at 1 Minterne Avenue, Sittingbourne, ME10 1SE



## NOW YOU SEE IT, NOW YOU DON'T!!

Local Liberal Democrat, Elvie Lowe, has taken up the issue of the continued disappearance of the Bus Shelter from outside the Library in Milton Regis High Street and for the markings to the St. Paul's Street Pedestrian crossing, which are also missing. She has lobbied KCC to replace the markings rapidly on safety grounds and will continue to badger KCC at every opportunity. The bus shelter was demolished in a vehicle accident and Swale Borough Council would



Elvie at the crossing with no lines.



Elvie at the site of the missing bus shelter.

normally pursue an insurance claim. However, the police have been unable to trace the driver of the offending vehicle so an insurance claim seems unlikely at this time. Elvie says, "If you have any information regarding this incident please contact myself or SBC so that our residents don't have to continue to stand out in the rain and we can replace the bus shelter sooner rather than later." She explained that if it had to be replaced from SBC's budget, it would not be a like for like replacement but a less expensive design."

Elvie is made aware of many issues by regular walks around the ward, keeping in close contact with the active Neighbourhood Watch organisations and by personal contact. If you wish to bring a new issue to her attention it is very easy to contact her. You can phone 471792 use the comment box at the back of this Focus, write via Swale House or using the address in the contact box or email using the same.

### DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL US ?

If you think we may be able to help you with any problem don't hesitate to get in touch.

#### CAN YOU HELP US ?

Yes, I can help by :

- Delivering Focus in my road
- Displaying a poster at election time
- Helping with clerical work at home
- Joining the Liberal Democrats

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: .....

E-mail: .....

Return to Milton Regis Focus Team,  
1 Minterne Avenue, Sittingbourne, ME10 1SE.

Email:- [elvie.lowe@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:elvie.lowe@blueyonder.co.uk)

# Billions of pounds on ID cards! No Thanks Mr Brown!!

Local Lib-Dem Elvie Lowe wrote to our MP requesting that he withdrew his support for ID cards in light of the recent incidents of lost disks containing confidential information.

Having received his reply, we find ourselves totally bewildered. In response to the loss of data disks he remarked that no government could cope with a junior civil servant failing to follow guidelines. We say, "Yes but why on earth was a junior civil servant entrusted with such sensitive and confidential material?"

As for ID cards, he suggests that the way forward would be to utilise the SIM card on mobile phones with a camera.

So, can we look forward to the Labour party supplying those of us without this technology with a nice state of the art phone and paying the monthly tariff? Will we all have to purchase them by law? How will we protect against phone theft and therefore identity theft? And best of all, *who will teach our elderly relatives how to use them?*

Elvie says, "Hey, if you don't have an up to date camera phone, don't despair. You could soon be able to apply to the government for one."



## CHEAP COMPOSTER OFFER



Recycle for Kent has now launched a new composting offer for all residents in partnership with WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Program) national "Recycle Now" campaign. Their reduced prices are:

**Compost Converter (220ltr) at £8.00 and a larger (330ltr) at £10.00**

These and other types of bins and digesters can be delivered to your door. You can order your compost bin by calling 0845 077 0757 Quoting reference HCA1 or save a further £1.00 by ordering on line at

[www.recyclenow.com/compost](http://www.recyclenow.com/compost)

# LOCAL LIB DEMS ACT ON LACK OF

A recently approved planning application by Medway Council to build Britain's first coal-fired power station for 24 years just across the water from us at Kingsnorth. It nearly went ahead without any consultation by Swale Council. This is despite the fact that we will be the closest land fall to be affected by the fossil fuel fall-out.

**Local Liberal Democrat Leader, Elvie Lowe**, rang Swale Borough to alert them to the situation. As a result they just managed to put in an objection before Medway's planning committee made its decision.

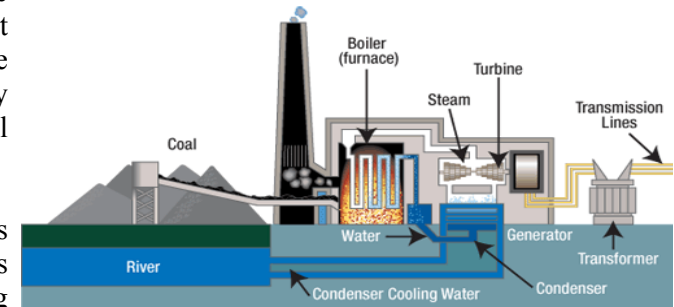
However, despite objections from Swale Borough Council and the Medway Liberal Democrat Cllrs. voting against the development, the Tory controlled Medway Council have agreed the application.

Now Gordon Brown has been challenged to prove his green credentials by blocking

the plans by Conservative controlled Medway Council.

**Cllr. Elvie Lowe** said, "It is ironic that we fought off both Tip Tree Tip and a Waste-to-Energy plant here in Swale only to have a Coal Fired Power Station burning what is widely regarded as the dirtiest fossil fuel on our doorstep. Are we the only party to take the protection of our environment seriously? It seems that the other parties are not prepared to do more than Talk the Talk."

Within the UK, Liberal Democrats are the only party committed to tough, workable action to really save the future for our children..



## Contact your local Liberal Democrat Councillor

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