

# No More Muddy Shoes

Campaigning by your local Lib-Dem Dave Banks, means that, even with the really wet winter we have experienced this year, we can all get from Oak Road to the park without growing taller with each step, as the mud builds up on our boots.



Dave wishes to thank the resident who helped to lobby for this path. It has really tidied up a former muddy, unsightly area and made it a much more pleasant walk through to Murston Park.

## Partnership and Communities Together (P.A.C.T.) Meetings for Murston Residents

Dave would like to urge you all to take an interest in these meetings. It is not a political organisation whatsoever, but a chance for residents to really set the agenda.

It is a partnership between Police and the Community and it is your chance to shape the priorities for Murston. Please go along and support your community and help to make Murston a better place to live in.

Next meeting for Murston residents is 24<sup>th</sup> January 2008 See your local newspapers for exact time and venue.

### ACTION SHEET - It Matters What YOU Think

If you know of a local problem that needs attention, or if you have a good idea, get in touch with your local Liberal Democrat Action Team. Use this space to have your say.



Please cut out the slip and return it to Dave Banks.  
38 Harris Gardens, Murston, Sittingbourne, Kent.  
ME10 3PW Or write a letter.

#### Help the Lib Dems in Murston

I can help the Lib Dems by delivering Focus in my area

I would like a postal vote

Name.....

Tel. number.....

E mail.....

Address.....



Murston  
Ward

**FOCUS**

[www.swale-libdems.org.uk](http://www.swale-libdems.org.uk)

## Lib Dem Cllr. Dave Banks helps to clean up

Dave says, "OK, so maybe there is more work to do but I have done my best to improve our local environment. A Cllr. can only do so much. Without the excellent support I have had from the Murston residents, I could not have achieved as much as I have."



Cllr. Dave Banks with the most recent incident of graffiti

Dave has been battling the so-called Graffiti 'artists' and has reported another incident of graffiti just this week. He says, "I would like to thank Swale Borough Council Officers who have been extremely helpful and responsive in the past."

Dave's biggest casework load is, however, the problems of rubbish dumping in and around the ward and he says, "It is the issue which I am contacted about the most and which annoys me the most when I am walking around my ward and at the moment the greatest problem is from empty beer cans." This is why Dave is a firm supporter of a blanket ban on alcohol on our streets.



From the Murston clean up organised by Cllr Dave Banks  
As featured on our web site. Address below

If you agree with Dave, please use the grumble sheet at the back of your Focus to let us know. Don't forget, people power can work.

[www.swale-libdems.org.uk](http://www.swale-libdems.org.uk)

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

Local Lib-Dems recently 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?*

Dave 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."



# Don't be a Dumb Dumper

We were extremely disappointed on a recent tour of Murston to see items of furniture once again being dumped around our area and would like to remind everyone that there is a **free service** for the removal of large items of furniture and white goods.

After all, it takes less effort to pick up your phone and ask for a collection than it does to haul a sofa over a fence, or to take it to the nearest piece of waste land.

**To arrange for a free collection ring  
Swale Borough Council on 01795 417850**



# LOCAL LIB DEM'S ACT ON LACK OF

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

**Local Liberal Democrat Leader, Elvie Lowe**, rang Swale Borough to alert them of 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

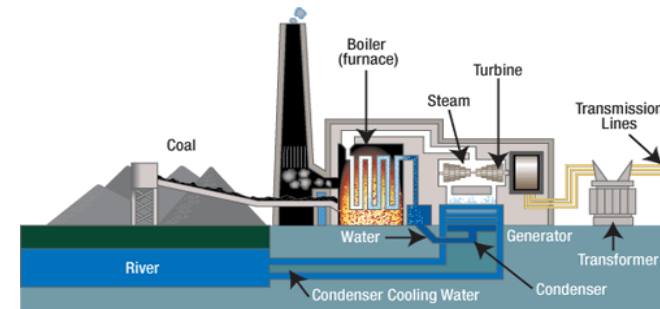
Medway Liberal Democrat Cllrs. voting against the development the Tory controlled Medway Council have agreed the application.

Now Gordon Brown has been challenged to prove his green credentials by blocking the plans by Conservative controlled Medway Council.

**Cllr. Dave Banks** 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 Focus team

Borough Councillor  
**Dave Banks. 38 Harris Gardens,  
Murston, Sittingbourne, Kent  
ME10 3PW** Tel: 422552  
E mail  
Db006g8677@blueyonder.co.uk

Borough Councillor  
**Manuella Tomes. 6 Mons Crt,  
Kemsley, Sittingbourne, Kent.**  
ME10 2TL Tel: 559693  
E-mail  
Manuella@blueyonder.co.uk

Focus Editor and Lib Dem Group  
Leader  
**Cllr Elvie Lowe. 1 Minterne Ave,  
Sittingbourne, Kent. ME10 1SE**  
Tel: 471792  
E-mail  
Elvie.lowe@blueyonder.co.uk