

ROGER WILFORD, aged 40, is a self-employed carpenter and joiner. He is married with two children and has lived in Christchurch for 30 years. He is fighting this election because he is shocked by the decline in the local environment and the lack of consideration shown by the previous councils for the people of the district.

He is a member of the East Dorset Ecology Party but is standing as an independent in this election. He supports the following statement by the Christchurch Independent Group of Candidates:

"We believe that party politics are not relevant at local government level. We intend to judge each issue on its merits, paying particular regard to the feelings of local people.

We offer a constructive alternative for the concerned elector, with the assurance that independent members, once elected, will attend all possible council meetings and will USE their roles conscientiously, not surrendering either to the prevailing complacent apathy or to the party whip.

A great number of present Councillors frequently claim that they are elected representatives of the people - but since most councillors have been returned unopposed this can hardly be considered true. It is our intention to put up a candidate in every ward in the borough, and return to the people their democratic right to vote.

It is our aim to improve the environment, to preserve the historic aspects of our ancient town, and encourage sensitive development not only in the conservation area but throughout the borough."

He also supports their proposal for good community facilities in the town centre.

He will seek to understand fully the implication of both district and county council plans and expenditure and see that YOU THE RATEPAYERS AND GENERAL PUBLIC ARE GIVEN A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW HOW AND WHY YOUR MONEY IS BEING SPENT.

**ROGER WILFORD** YOUR INDEPENDENT  
ECOLOGY CANDIDATE

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**CHRISTCHURCH  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
IN GRANGE WARD**

**Vote Ecology**  
**Vote ROGER  
WILFORD**

PROVIDE JOBS WITHIN THE DISTRICT  
CREATE A LIVELY, WELL-BALANCED TOWN CENTRE  
PRESERVE OUR GREEN SPACES FOR OUR CHILDREN  
STOP DESTRUCTIVE ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Christchurch District Council is seeking development at any price. It believes our future lies in the creation of a heavily populated urbanised centre, criss-crossed by highways and surrounded by warehouses and industry that depend on machines not manpower.

Help me to preserve the character of the town. Let's have small scale factories that employ local people, within the district. Let's have low cost housing to suit local people on realistic sites - like Somerford Airfield not Purewell Farm. Encourage public transport, not road schemes.

**WILFORD** **X**

**INDEPENDENT  
ECOLOGY**

## EMPLOYMENT

Development Proposals at Hurn Airport will not provide many jobs, and the few there will be require lengthy commuting. The Environmental cost will be high: The land borders a site of Special Scientific Interest.

Small scale, labour intensive industry within or close to the town must be encouraged.

## REDEVELOPMENT

The proposed redevelopment of the town centre threatens the livelihood of small shopkeepers: those on whom we depend at inconvenient times, for spur of the moment shopping, for personal, helpful service. Do we want to depend totally on a couple of superstores? Or do we want a town centre with a full range of shopping, social, community and cultural facilities?

One thing we certainly don't need is a new town hall, at a probable final cost of One Million pounds to the Ratepayers; what a waste of the £500,000 the council obtained from the sale of Somerford Airfield.

## ROADS

We have been offered a false choice in transport policy to relieve congestion at Fountains Roundabout.

: a new road behind St. Catherine's Hill, destroying an unspoilt heathland area of recreational value and opening up a new axis of development, whilst taking traffic away from where it wants to go.

: another that will destroy the water meadows north of the by-pass, endanger schoolchildrens safety in Clarendon Road, destroy good quality housing and merely transfer traffic congestion a few yards down the road.

Cheaper, more frequent public transport and traffic management schemes are the answer to this problem along with a feasibility study into the construction of a new railway station at Burton.

**ROGER WILFORD — INDEPENDENT**

## HOUSING

Purewell Farm is to be developed for factories, roads and housing. Millions of tons of gravel, to a depth of over 7ft will be dumped on the site: lorry traffic will be unbearable, drainage problems enormous, the cost astronomical. Development will be an environmental disaster, destroying an important Wetland habitat for wildlife.

Merritown Farm is threatened by, incredibly, Bournemouth District Council, despite its very poor communications with Bournemouth and its remoteness from public transport, shopping facilities and job opportunities.

Hoburne Farm on high grade agricultural land is to be destroyed. Yet food production will be crucial as world population increases and economic growth declines.

Of course, people need homes. But the main problem is the shortage of starter homes for young families. Yet Somerford Airfield, a suitable site for providing low cost housing for young families, has been sold off for low density, therefore high cost, development.

At local, county and national level we must have a re-appraisal of housing policy, to provide accommodation for those who need it, where they need it and at a price they can afford.

## RECREATION

Apart from the heathland and open spaces that are so valuable to Christchurch, the main area of recreation is the river, harbour and sea. But access is restricted and congestion is a problem. We therefore need: a sea launch pad to ease pressure on the harbour; moves to cut down the over-use of Stanpit Marsh; the use of Steamer Pt for amenity space when RSRE moves out and; proper maintenance of the Tuckton Bridge public landing stage.

## CONSERVATION

As well as protecting the areas mentioned above, Christchurch Town Common must be saved from the ravages of commercial exploitation: its ecological importance has been recognised by designation as a SSSI and conservation measures are required.

**ECOLOGY — GRANGE WARD**