

OXFORD ECOLOGY MOVEMENT

6 Glebe St., Oxford

15 May 1979

Dear Member

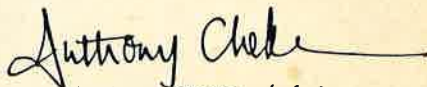
We are holding an informal meeting on 23 May in the East Oxford Community Centre (Princes St.) at 8pm with members of the local branch of the Ecology Party to discuss common ground and future relationships between the two groups. Prior to the election it was not possible to come to an arrangement with the Ecology Party branch, but we hope that something may emerge from this meeting.

For members not familiar with the history of the two groups the situation is roughly as follows. The founding group of the OEM decided not to join the Ecology Party on the grounds that as a movement promoting decentralisation, community action and "small is beautiful" it was more appropriate to form an autonomous local political 'party'. This decision was endorsed at several subsequent meetings of the OEM. A few members subsequently changed their minds, and resigned, setting up the Ecology Party branch. The OEM committee remains of the opinion that the appropriate political movement for ecology is the emergence of numerous local groups which might form an alliance or federation nationally (but remain independent & locally based), after the fashion of the French and German examples, rather than the formation of a national political party too closely resembling the existing parties we would like to see disappear. The Ecology Party's structure is on its way towards decentralisation, so there is room for plenty of discussion.

Our constitution requires that after the general election we hold an Extra-ordinary General Meeting to decide if the OEM should continue, and if so in what form. This is to be held on May 30 at 8pm in the Haldane Room, Wolfson College. The decision taken at this meeting will depend on the outcome of the joint one with the Ecology Party so it is important that as many members as possible attend both.

Hoping to see you at these meetings,

yours sincerely



Anthony Cheke (56789 ext.299)



Susan Taylor
(Meetings Secretary: 58513)