



Richard Carder is 35 years old and lives in Lower Oldfield

Park, which is within the Widcombe Ward for this City Council election. He has lived and worked in Bath for over 5 years as a music teacher in various schools in the area. He is a member of several ecologically-minded groups such as the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust, the Conservation Society, the Friends of the earth, for whom he has put on fund-raising concerts with his music group, 'the Winds on the Waters'. He has a Certificate of Social Service for his work with handicapped children in the Sheiling School at Thornbury, which is run as a community on the principles of Rudolf Steiner, and he is a member of the Anthroposophical Society.



Being as tall as Tony Greig, he is a prominent local landmark, especially when combined with his large bicycle, which is his favourite method of transport in the locality, and which he likes for its ecological virtues; it does not pollute the atmosphere, it does not require large car parks which are one of the greatest blights of our over-mechanised age on the landscape; and it keeps him fit, especially when getting up the hills in Bath!

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Dear Elector,

I am standing for the Widcombe Ward on behalf of the Ecology Party, which although it was formed only a few years ago, already has several Councillors elected throughout the Country. You may know that ecologists have proved that if we go on squandering our resources at the current rate, then before the end of the century there will be no more left in the ground of such things as Oil, Gas, Tin, Copper, Zinc and many other minerals, and you may imagine the chaos that would result if these materials were used up at the present rate until the sudden moment of extinction: large industries would collapse overnight, and more than half the working population would quickly become unemployed.

The Ecology Party believes that 'Small is Beautiful' - in the words of the late Dr. Schumacher. Large organisations and over-complex machines have a de-humanising effect on people, and once a certain stage is reached they even become inefficient in terms of economics, partly because of their sheer size (look what happened to the dinosaurs), and partly because people become bored; - they need more than just money as an incentive: jobs must be enjoyable.

Centralisation is the great disease of our age, and leads to alienation and bureaucracy. Surveys have established that the larger a town or city becomes, the higher goes the rate of crime (23% in London last year), suicide, rape, alcoholism and all forms of social degeneracy.

In order to reverse this process we have to build up local community spirit: most of the Council's money tends to be spent in the centre of the city: - more for the benefit of tourists than of residents. People have come to a sorry state when the superficial comfort of visitors is thought to be more important than the welfare of the people who actually live in the place! Country people are generally happier and healthier because they live in genuine communities; everyone knows everyone else and gossip makes the police almost redundant.

'Dinosaur' politics are obsolete: the politics of the future must be on a smaller scale, to ensure that people are not swallowed up by machines and bureaucracy, but have an active part to play in all affairs which affect their own lives and communities.

To take a light-hearted example from the B.B.C.: the Ecology Party favours 'the Good Life', in preference to 'the Men from the Ministry', which typifies the worst aspects of muddling bureaucracy produced by alienating centralisation.

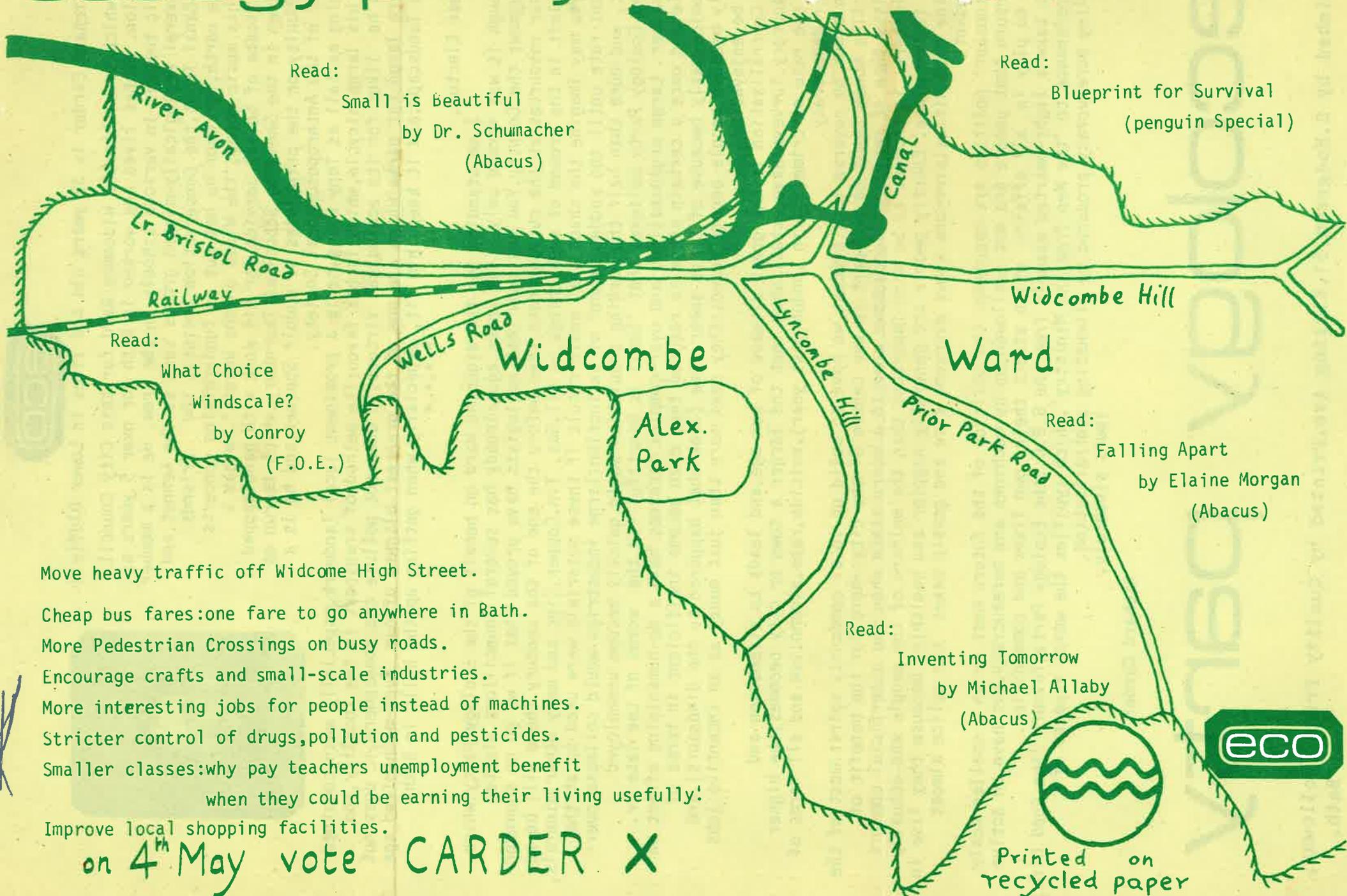
Yours sincerely,

Richard Carder

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- Move heavy traffic off Widcome High Street.
- Cheap bus fares: one fare to go anywhere in Bath.
- More Pedestrian Crossings on busy roads.
- Encourage crafts and small-scale industries.
- More interesting jobs for people instead of machines.
- Stricter control of drugs, pollution and pesticides.
- Smaller classes: why pay teachers unemployment benefit when they could be earning their living usefully!
- Improve local shopping facilities.

on 4<sup>th</sup> May vote **CARDER X**



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