

John Marjoram



About John Marjoram ... your Green Party candidate for Trinity ward

I have lived in this ward since 1967 and my first home was on Daisy Bank, which I bought for the princely sum of £800. (My neighbour said I had been done – I could have got it for £760!) I now live in Castle St. with my partner Laura.

My two daughters went to local state schools, as do two of my grandchildren.

I came to Stroud as a youth worker, but have spent most of the intervening years teaching gardening to people with learning difficulties. Now partly retired, I work as a gardener at Ruskin Mill College.

I am a Quaker and an active member of the Stroud Peace movement. When time permits, I enjoy listening to jazz, looking at buildings of historic interest and going to see 'meaningful' films at the local Film Society and the Space Film club.



John Marjoram campaigning for you

Planning. Those of you who read the local paper will be aware that my main concern on the District Council has been related to the natural environment and planning issues. Since 1986, I have been on the Planning Committee. The difficulty with planning is that it is too Whitehall-driven. All decisions on normal applications now have to be determined within eight weeks (major applications within 13 weeks), on building structures that may stand for a hundred years. Our local plan is, however, based on the concept of sustainability. I recently supported the controversial refusal for the change of use of Aston Down for an industrial site, knowing that the road infrastructure from the site along the A419 was not up to accommodating further heavy traffic through Stroud to the motorway. My main preoccupation is for 'affordable' housing in the area and low cost rented workshop space for local people.

Saving our Hospitals. All the Stroud hospitals are in this ward and along with Councillor Gwen Belcher (pictured above), I have spent many long hours defending our NHS hospitals from closure. Saving the Maternity Hospital facilities from being moved to Gloucester was a wonderful victory and all credit should go to the local community and the midwives themselves. However, provision for the older, mentally ill people at Weavers Croft and those who attend Park House is still in the balance. The Friends of Stroud Hospital are constantly working hard to retain all hospital provisions. Gwen and I are on a District Council committee looking at ways to keep provisions open in some way, even if Central Government decides to close any of these units.

Traffic. Parking and speeding are issues that all Councillors have to address. Certainly I will continue to push for 20mph speed limits throughout the town and its environs. I am very supportive of what the action group are trying to achieve in Bisley Road. At under 20mph, pedestrians have a chance of survival.

Through the Town Council, I am pushing for a core time delivery in the High St., so that there are no lorries in the High Street between 10am and 4pm. Another issue that has lingered on concerns the interchange at the Railway Station. For more than five years, we have been promised by the Tory-controlled District Council that we will have the buses moved from Merrywalks and relocated by the railway station. I will continue to push for that.

Canal. While I am pleased about the progress of the Canal, I am disappointed that the cheapest option has been chosen, which will destroy the site of the remains of Capels Mill. However, what I am seeking is to maximise the amount of open public space that surrounds the canal. I also want to ensure that the basin is reinstated at Cheapside, so it is seen as the gateway into Stroud

I hope to get around to as many people as possible to speak about other issues that concern you.

Thank you for reading this to the end. I hope you feel you can support me on Election Day on 3rd May.

YOUR PLANET NEEDS YOU!

- (Tick if you would like to get more involved.)
- I could deliver leaflets, display a poster, or help in some other way.
- I would like to make a donation – to create real progress.
- I would like to talk to someone to learn more about the Green Party.

Name: Tel: Email:

Address:

Contact: John Marjoram, 8 Castle St, Stroud, GL5 2HP.

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For more information visit: www.glosgreenparty.org.uk

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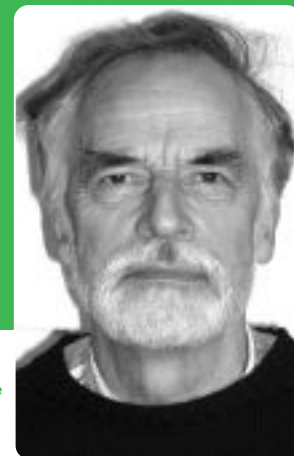
District Council Election Communication from the Green Party

FOR REAL PROGRESS: vote JOHN MARJORAM

Vote for John Marjoram

for Trinity ward

Thursday MAY 3rd.



"The main political parties, apart from becoming more alike by the day, are developing methods to limit our democratic rights, whether at local or national levels. To reverse this tendency, we have to rejuvenate and enhance our democratic process, making politics more relevant and engaging us all. The Greens refuse to accept the current status quo and are working hard to fulfil our objective of thinking Globally and acting Locally."

Dear Voter,

I am seeking your endorsement, once again, to represent you on the District Council. A warm welcome to all those who have moved into this Ward since I was last re-elected and whom I haven't yet met. This community first elected me twenty-one years ago and I still see it as an honour to represent you on the Council. Most of the time I enjoy this role, although some issues can seem daunting.

My passion to be constantly involved in Green politics has stemmed from a belief that we can create a more equal and creative community that isn't based on external fear. I have a feeling that the two main political parties are leading us into a very negative way of looking at ourselves and perceiving the world at large. To take just two examples that come from this attitude: one is the decision to go to war in Iraq and the other the replacement of Trident. These decisions are morally repugnant to the vast majority, as well as going against international law and agreed treaties. Furthermore, they are draining this country financially, diverting billions of pounds away from life-giving projects such as better education and better health provisions. They cut into finance that should go into local services, public transport and now fighting climate change.

This is not only a call for your vote, but a plea for you to get involved, to reject the policies of the two major parties, who talk green, but act in a completely unsustainable way. It is also a plea to work together to create a better world for us and future generations.

On the back page, I have set out some ideas for the future of Stroud.

John Marjoram



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