

Timothy BIRT

Dereham faces threats and this election is crucial to the future of our Town.

Nothing will change if we vote the way we always have.



It's time to rethink.

Whatever colour you choose at the general election, please consider who will deliver the best for Dereham in the local elections.

I would like to continue serving on the Town Council and in order to do the best for Dereham I need to influence Breckland Council.

About me

I have made Breckland my home since 1991 and as a life member of the Green Party I have been actively connected with local issues. I am a self-employed electronics engineer, married with children at Neatherd High School and Dereham Sixth Form.

More at: **birt.org.uk**

Town Council Election

For 8 years, the last as your Mayor, I have brought a solid Green influence to the Town Council, helping to:

- ◆ Refurbish public toilets to a high standard.
- ◆ Design a new cemetery and purchased suitable land.
- ◆ Renovate Memorial Hall, making it one of the best venues in Breckland.
- ◆ Purchase open space adjacent to Neatherd Moor.
- ◆ Take over play areas from Breckland Council and ...
- ◆ Install fantastic new play equipment at Moorgate.
- ◆ Support direct community action by the 'Friends of Dereham Windmill'; turning this into a tremendous community asset.

It is hard to imagine how all of this would happen without Green Councillors driving the principles of public funding and public ownership

... for the common good.

But there is much more to do:

- ◆ Toftwood needs more open space and youth provision. Land has been identified and funding is available, but it needs pushing.
- ◆ Dereham needs more and better employment opportunities. More than just McDonald's, we also need graduate and post-graduate jobs. Without quality jobs the town won't thrive.
- ◆ I have Town Council agreement to start a neighbourhood plan, but it will only happen with enthusiastic Councillors to drive it forward. This plan will give local people a strong say in how to develop Dereham and resist hostile planning applications.



The Greens are a minority but have been incredibly effective at making Dereham a better town.

Breckland District Council Election

Compared to many places, the quality of life in Breckland is excellent. I love it and wouldn't want to live anywhere else, but it could be even better.

Robust decisions can only be made after consideration of all facts and taking account all points-of-view, that's not happening at Breckland Council. It is vital there is Green representation, I want to be there to speak up for Dereham.

What needs to change:

Blindly following an ideology that everything should be contracted out or sold to private companies does not give the best or even the cheapest results, for example:

- ◆ Capita run the planning system in Breckland. It is run for profit and, by law, for the benefit of shareholders NOT Breckland residents.
- ◆ 'Investment' purchases such as those at Barnham Broom and Kings Lynn are questionable. Repeated *freedom-of-information* requests have been blocked because of “commercial confidentiality”, so we have no scrutiny – draw you own conclusion!

Surely our Council should believe in and therefore invest within the district. If the gamble of property value doesn't work out at least we are providing jobs and services for Breckland businesses and tax payers.

- ◆ The threat that Breckland will sell off any piece of green space because it can't see its community value. This is still a very real danger, despite the failed Local Asset Backed Vehicle (LABV).

Crime and Policing

A major issue in Toftwood is anti-social behaviour. Breckland Council's anti-social behaviour unit is inadequate and not doing enough for Toftwood.


The *Town Pastors* have been a great help in Dereham, formally supported by the police and Town Council, but not Breckland - why?

**Despite being a minority, see how effective the Greens have been on Dereham Town Council.
I can do the same at District.**

There are two polling stations, the larger is Toftwood Village Hall for everyone on Shipdam Road and to the west of Toftwood. Scout Haven is for those east of Shipdam Road. Check your poll card.

For Town Council (green colour ballot):

You can choose up to 3 candidates.
Please use one of your votes for me.


BIRT Timothy Edward	 Green Party	X
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Tim about to announce local project funding grants

For Breckland Distinct Council (pink colour ballot):

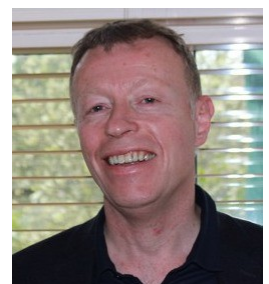
You may select a maximum of two candidates.
Please use one of your votes for me.

BIRT Timothy Edward	 Green Party	X
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You may select a further district candidate,
Mike HIRST is supporting me in this ward, please use
your other vote for him.

Find out more about Mike at:

BrecklandGreens.org.uk



Mike Hirst

For the General Election (white colour ballot)

The Green candidate is Simeon JACKSON

Find out more about Simeon at:

midnorfolk.greenparty.org.uk



Simeon Jackson