

# FROM LABOUR TO GREEN - JO BIRD

## How did you part company with the Labour Party?

I joined the Labour Party in 2015, inspired by Jeremy Corbyn's mobilisation for the many not the few. Hundreds of thousands of Labour Party members and millions of voters, went mass trespassing together up to the mountain top. We saw that Another World was Possible.

I was first elected as local councillor for Bromborough, Wirral in 2018 – and re-elected in 2021. In summer 2021, the Labour Party changed its rules and started expelling hundreds of members retrospectively. They came for me in November 2021 for talking, 3 years earlier, about the racism I deal with as a Jewish person and for standing up for people facing injustice. I was delighted to be out of an increasingly hostile environment, where Jewish people like me were 31 times more likely to face disciplinary action than other members.

It is heart breaking that the Labour Party has become authoritarian, divisive, racist and dead as a vehicle for social justice.

## Why did you join the Green Party?

Our communities and environment can't wait for some trade unions to stop paying money to the Labour Party. Greens challenge the system that rewards companies for overcharging people, overheating our planet, polluting our air, water, land, food, health and culture.

The Green Party is not perfect. But we also stand with striking workers, welcome refugees and support boycott, divestment and sanctions against Israel's human rights abuses.

Wirral Green Party councillors treat people fairly, vote to protect public services like libraries, buses and trains - and put local communities before party politics.

## What is your experience as a Green Party member so far?

Brilliant! I am defended not suspended.

With a phenomenal Green Team, we shifted Greens share of the votes from 20% to 57% in one year. More people voted for me as a Green than voted for me to become their Labour councillor in 2021 and 2018.

**MY PAST IS RED**  
**- AND OUR FUTURE IS GREEN**



**Green Councillors Kieran Murphy, Ruth Molyneux and Jo Bird**  
celebrate winning Bromborough in May 2023