

# maltatoday

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## Cacopardo shoots himself in the foot

Revealed: how he represented clients in a development application on the same site he now wants to protect

**KARL SCHEMBRI**

CARMEL Cacopardo, the latest celebrity front-liner to embrace Alternattiva Demokratika's green cause, had represented clients as architect for a massive development that would have changed the same site where, a week ago, he flanked the Green Party to decry the destruction of agricultural land in Hal Kirkop, MaltaToday can reveal.

MEPA applications show that Cacopardo was the architect for the proposed construction of terraced houses, garages and maisonettes at Triq San Gwann in the limits of Hal Safi in 1995, right opposite the same development of a Lidl supermarket, proposed by Charles Polidano, that he now wants to stop on environmental grounds.

In the development proposed 12 years ago, sprawling over 47 plots, Cacopardo had submitted the plans and applications on behalf of Guido Falzon outside the limits for development.

Yet last week, Cacopardo was right there on the frontline of the Green Party's battle for the preservation of agricultural land opposite St Benedict's College, as Polidano's trucks were unearthing tonnes of soil to build the new supermarket.

The ex-PN Information Secretary and former MEPA audit office investigator appealed to the high moral ground as he flanked AD officials who slammed "the notorious construction magnate" and accused the authority of lacking credibility for approving the development just metres away from the project he himself planned over a decade ago. **▶ page 12**

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