

### Motion



## Agenda Item 7

Wiltshire Council

Council

24 November 2015

# Notice of motion No. 27 - Inclusion of Laverstock and Ford Parish into Salisbury Parish – Councillors Mary Douglas and Richard Clewer

To consider the following motion:

'Many of us in Salisbury have been waiting a long time for the opportunity to include Laverstock in the Salisbury City Council boundaries and are very concerned that this has not been included as one of the options for consideration in this Review.

There are good reasons to include Laverstock within the Salisbury City Council boundaries. Laverstock is very much part of the city: the river constitutes less of a gap than between the city centre and Harnham which is part of Salisbury Parish; and 3 of Salisbury's 6 secondary schools are located in Laverstock. Currently, the residents of Laverstock enjoy all the services provided by Salisbury City Council yet do not pay for them. In effect, Laverstock residents are subsidised by all the other Salisbury residents. This is clearly not fair. Genuine concern that the much treasured village identity of Laverstock would be threatened by joining SCC can be allayed by looking to Stratford-sub-Castle on the other side of the city, which is part of SCC and yet maintains a strong village identity through community magazines, local events etc.

To omit this option from the Review would be to perpetuate a democratic anomaly and miss a key opportunity to put right a historic wrong. There is no longer a viable distinction between the two parishes and future development in both will only compound this. In the interests of creating viable communities it is time that the Parishes merge.

#### Action sought

That Council instruct the Working Group to investigate and consult on the merger of Laverstock and Ford Parish into Salisbury City Parish; and bring the matter back to Full Council for a decision at the earliest opportunity.'



#### Notices of motion

The following rules taken from Part 4 – Rules of Procedure – Council explain how motions are to be dealt with at the meeting:

#### At the meeting

- 89. The Chairman will invite the proposer, or one of the councillors, who has given notice of the motion to move the motion. Where these councillors are not available at the meeting, the motion can be moved and seconded by any other councillors.
- 90. A notice of motion must be moved at the meeting, it must then be seconded. If the motion is not moved and seconded, it will, unless postponed by consent of the Council, be treated as abandoned and may not be moved without fresh notice.
- 91. Once moved and seconded at the meeting, the councillor proposing the motion will be given up to five minutes in which to present his or her motion.
- 92. The Chairman will give the relevant cabinet member an opportunity to respond to the motion giving him or her up to five minutes in which to do so.
- 93. On considering a notice of motion and subject to paragraphs 95-100 below, the following options shall then be open to the council:
  - debate the motion and vote on it
  - refer it to an appropriate member body with or without debate
  - refer it to the Leader of Council with or without debate
- 94. The Chairman will move that the motion either be debated on the day or referred to the appropriate member body. This will be seconded by the Vice-Chairman of Council or in his or her absence, another member of the council and put to the vote without discussion. On the question of referring the motion to an appropriate member body, the only amendment the Chairman will accept is to which member body the motion should be referred.
- 95. If the motion relates to a function exercisable only by the council then the council will debate the motion and on consideration of a report, determine the motion or refer it to a future meeting of the Council.
- 96. If the motion relates to a function that has been delegated to another member body then the council will vote without debate on whether to refer the motion to that member body.
- 97. If referred to another member body that member body must consider the motion at its next available meeting. The mover and seconder of the motion will be invited to attend that meeting if they are not already members of that body in order to present their motion but will not be able to vote unless they

- have voting rights. The member body must report back to the council as soon as practicable by way of the minutes of that meeting.
- 98. If the notice of motion is referred to another member body following debate at council, a summary of the debate at council together with any recommendation will be taken into account by the member body when considering the motion.
- 99. If the notice of motion relates to an executive function, the motion will be referred to the Leader of the Council. The Leader will write to the proposers of the motion with a copy to all members of the council, advising them what steps he or she proposes to take.
- 100. Any decision of council arising from a motion must comply with the principles of decision making as set out in Part 2, paragraph 14.2 of this Constitution.

#### Part 4C - Guidance on Amendments to Motions

1. The requirements concerning amendments to motions are contained in the Council's Rules of Procedure in Part 4 of the Constitution. Paragraph 107 provides:

An amendment to a motion must be relevant to the motion and will either be:

- to refer the matter to an appropriate body or individual for consideration or reconsideration
- to leave out words
- to leave out words and insert or add others or
- to insert or add words

as long as the effect of the amendment is not to negate the motion.

- 2. The Chairman will determine the validity of any proposed amendment under this paragraph, after taking advice from the Monitoring Officer. The Chairman's decision on any proposed amendment is final.
- 3. In exercising judgment on the validity or otherwise of any proposed amendment, the Chairman will have regard to the following principles:
  - the overriding principle of fairness in the conduct of the Council's business;
  - the amendment is relevant to the motion;
  - the proposed amendment does not negate the motion; this can be secured more appropriately by voting against the original motion.
  - The content of the proposed amendment is proportionate to the original motion in nature and extent;
  - The proposed amendment does not amount to a device to frustrate the purpose of the original motion or to raise a late motion.
- 4. Councillors are encouraged, where practicable, to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in connection with any proposed amendment in advance of the meeting at which it is to be moved.

