

**Salisbury Documents**

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## Area A1, A2 and B7- Salisbury and Surrounding Parishes

### Letters and other documents

No	From	Date
1	Laverstock and Ford Parish Changes proposals revised 7 May 2012	7/5/12
2	Laverstock and Ford PC 240914	24/9/14
3	Laverstock and Ford PV 28 March 2014	28/3/14
4	Proposed extension of the boundary of Salisbury City 1927 ref F2 2019	7/5/12
5	Quidhampton boundary review 4 Feb 2014	4/2/15
6	Quidhampton boundary review 25 July 2014	25/7/15
7	Salisbury City Council Cllr_Andrew_Roberts_SCC_Boundary_Review_report 21 July 2014	21/7/15
8	Salisbury City Council DOC52756 13 October 2015	13/10/15
9	Notes of public meeting held on 15 October 2015	15/10/15
10	Wilton TC Proposed Wilton CP boundary March 2014	3/14

### List of E-mails and hard copy

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mr Calydon	7/10/14	Against SCC
2	Mr C Froude	19/10/15	For SCC
3	Mr M Claydon	20/10/15	Against SCC
4	Mr and Mrs P Finlay	27/10/15	Against SCC, for L&F
5	Mr R Williams	28/10/15	
6	Mr R Hambling	29/10/15	Against SCC, for L&F
7	Mrs M Barnes	29/10/15	Against SCC, for L&F
8	Mrs P Baker	1/11/15	Against SCC, for L&F
9	Ms K Pettis	1/11/15	Against SCC
10	Mr and Mrs J Hodgkinson	1/11/15	Against SCC
11	Mr I Burke	2/11/15	Against SCC
12	Mr and Mrs P Nell	4/11/15	Against SCC
13	Ms A Palmer	5/11/15	Against SCC

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# Laverstock & Ford Parish – The Way Ahead

## The Heritage

The parish was formed under the Local Government Act of 1894 although Laverstock dates to pre-history with known ‘modern’ settlement from the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The parish has retained its identity despite the expansion of its new neighbour to the west of the River Bourne.



Farming has been the key identity of the parish. Fertile alluvial soils and gravels are used for arable, meadowland and pasture while the Upper Chalk of the surrounding downs are used for grazing.

The key separating points from the neighbouring city are the railway line and St Marks Path. Bishopdown Farm, which adjoins St Mark's Path, signalled the end of the rural boundary and the beginning of the city. Over the years, the Bishopdown Council Estate took land to the city and more recently, the first phase of Bishopdown Farm development also saw the boundary move, on advice from the then Salisbury District Council. The principal reason being that the housing was nearer Bishopdown Council estate than either Laverstock or Ford. Further development on the Bishopdown farmland, known as Hampton Park, was retained in the Parish of L&F.

Unfortunately, under the creation of the Parish of Salisbury, the geographic map forwarded by SDC/WC to the Electoral/Boundary Commission traced the wrong boundary and this was not spotted in time. The result is that the map of the parish of L&F and that of the parish of Salisbury now overlap.

There is no doubt that the newer Salisbury map is incorrect, as the supposed boundary encroaches past St Mark's Path and into the Bishopdown farmland. There is no access from St Mark's path into the Parish of L&F and this was the path walked on the parish "Beating the Bounds" procession. This inaccuracy requires correction at the earliest possible time to avoid doubt.

Significant development has taken place in the last 50 years and the parish now comprises Laverstock, Ford, Old Sarum and Hampton Park plus a small area of Milford to the south.

Further development is proposed at Old Sarum and in the new Core Strategy (2011) an additional inclusion of up to 500 dwellings is earmarked as an extension to Hampton Park and a new community at Longhedge, on the northern perimeter of L&F parish. This number will comprise between 450 and 800 dwellings, over time with additional employment land at both Old Sarum and Longhedge.

## Representation

Laverstock & Ford Parish had two Salisbury District Councillors representing the entire parish, until 2003, when the new Hampton Park and the proposed Old Sarum development was deemed to add “too many electorate ” for the two councillors to represent. Hampton Park was ‘warded’ on a numbers basis and is still represented by a City councillor, although remaining, by the choice of the electorate, as part of the Laverstock & Ford parish, where the development has an entitlement of 4 seats on the Parish Council. There was a move made by the city councillors to claim Hampton Park as part of the city. However, a vote of the electorate of all parts of L&F Parish demonstrated that EVERYONE wished to remain together as part of L&F parish and outside of Salisbury.

At the formation of Wiltshire Council in 2009, one council division was formed as Laverstock, Ford & Old Sarum and once again, owing to the numbers, Hampton Park was “warded” to St Mark’s City Ward, although still remaining in the L&F parish.

Laverstock & Ford PC, uniquely, has a place on both the Southern Wiltshire Area Board and the Salisbury Area Board of Wiltshire Council, although, by choice, chose the Southern Wiltshire Area Board, owing to its rural village and agricultural affiliations and outlook.

The Laverstock & Ford Parish Council is the basic form of Local Government for the parish and this is active and comprises 13 councillors. Although councillors can reside in any part of the parish, 4 are deemed to represent places under the ‘warded entitlement’ of Hampton Park.

## Changed Times

The Hampton Park entitlement was derived by the Electoral Commission when the Parish comprised Laverstock (inc Milford) 1000 dwellings. Ford 175 dwellings, Old Sarum 175 and Hampton Park 500 dwellings.

This total of <b>1850 dwellings</b> was represented by 13 councillors. (142 dwellings per cllr)
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The Electoral Commission therefore mathematically calculated that the percentage of dwellings for Hampton Park warranted almost four of the total allocation.

Since that decision and the decision of the communities to remain in L&F parish, there has been much additional housing under the Local plan of 2005 and as described earlier, much more in the Core Strategy 2011.

**As at November 2011 the parish comprises:**

Laverstock/Milford 1150 (including Pilgrims Way development)

Ford 180

Old Sarum circa 550 and rising rapidly to 850\* in the next 2 to 3 years

Hampton Park 500. \* *Persimmon & City Brisk Dev'mt Wish to increase this number further.*

**Known total by 2014:**

**2680 Dwellings**

**Further Changing Times**

Proposals in the Wiltshire Council Core Strategy for South Wiltshire includes Up to 500 homes in the Strategic Gap between Ford and Hampton Park (AKA Hampton Park Extension and HPII)

A new community at Longhedge for both Employment (8 hectares) and housing – initially 450 dwellings but with another 350 in reserve, making the land “doomed” as it will have been “Planner Blighted”. A further site at the southern end of the Old Sarum Airfield Conservation Area, in Ford, has been re-instated by the Core Strategy Inspector, despite WC members removing it, owing to there having been no consultation on this proposal, throughout the Core Strategy. This is being contested currently, by WC member for L, F & OS. No known further development is proposed in Laverstock or Ford.

Excluding the Ford sites the envisaged dwellings for the L&F parish would be:

Laverstock/Milford 1150

Ford 180 + *undefined number possible at Southern end of OS Airfield*

Old Sarum 850 + *undefined number possible at northern end of OS*

*Airfield + any additional numbers obtained by Persimmon/City Brisk*

Hampton Park 500

Hampton Park Extension 500

Longhedge 450 – 800

**Maximum Total 3980** + *undefined number possible at Southern and Northern ends of OS Airfield + addnl Persimmon & City brisk*

**Minimum is likely to be 3630 dwellings**, if Longhedge does not exceed 450 and the Strategic Gap accepts only 300 dwellings on a revised plan.

Possible addition: The original “Bishopdown Farm” development on land previously in L&F parish comprises 300 dwellings. The residents

association for the area includes both Bishopdown Farm and Hampton Park as it's geography of representation. At their request, L&F Parish Newsletter is distributed to all residents on Bishopdown Farm and they have allegedly stated that a preference for representation would be L&F Parish and not Salisbury Parish. This has not been tested.

## **Issues**

### **1. The Parish Boundary**

This has become important owing to the possible creation of a Community Farm and Nature Reserve, gained through the planning consent within the Strategic gap separating Ford and Hampton Park. This is where the accurate L&F map has been subverted by the overlapping of the newly created Salisbury parish map. The risk is that to do nothing would lead to the city claiming the Community Farm and Nature Reserve and turning it into an every day city Park. The envisaged plan via the L&F PC is to extend the community farm project and retain the chalk down land and farming associations of the land.

### **2. Parish Council Membership**

The 13 places on the PC were set years ago and are known to have represented 1850 households at the time of the warding with the 4 places allocated to HP pro rata. **By 2014, 2680 dwellings** are envisaged and HP would represent under 19% of the parish, making the pro rata allocation between 2 and 3 seats if the parish retained just 13 seats in total.

If the 2003 representation ratio of councillor to households was retained (142), the number of councillors would need to increase to 19. This would restore the Hampton Park allocation to 4.

The L&F PC need to judge its required councillor to household ratio for the immediate future, before any further considerations.

***A ratio of 175 households to 1 councillor would require 15 seats in 2014. The Hampton Park pro rata allocation, whilst it remains warded, would be 3 seats.***

### **Post 2014**

The current uncertainty relates to the Core Strategy and its outcomes and implementation. 500 dwellings at Hampton Park could become, perhaps 300. 450 at Longhedge could become 800 overnight. Land at both the southern and northern end of Old Sarum Airfield could be developed for an undefined number of houses. Persimmon and City Brisk are keen to add further dwellings at Old Sarum.



Probability suggests that the parish will comprise circa 4000 dwellings eventually with the Core Strategy seeking to deliver up to 950 of these in the short term, to deliver affordable housing needs.

This would signal a total housing number of **3630 in L&F Parish possibly by 2017** – *during the life of the next Wiltshire Council.*

The current 142 dwellings to 1 parish councillor would require 26 Parish Councillors. The expanded Hampton Park, if still warded, would warrant 8 parish councillors.

The question will no doubt be asked, “Why would the new housing at Hampton Park be warded and not be part of the Laverstock, Ford and Old Sarum Division?”

The answer would be twofold at least.

1. Numbers would be too great for that division, which is also subject to growth and
2. When the “Warded” area was mapped, the boundary was drawn as Roman Road (Not by L&F parish, of course!).

The earlier mentioned 175:1 ratio would warrant an increase for the PC to 21 Parish Councillors in 2017. (including 6 for Hampton Park)

A greater ratio of 200:1 would necessitate 18/19 councillors (5 for HP)

**To retain a level of say 15 councillors**, the ratio of households per councillor would be a minimum of 242:1 or to cope with ongoing/unknown growth 250:1 (4 for HP, if it remains warded)

### **Wiltshire Council Representation**

With 3630 dwellings in the Laverstock & Ford Parish by perhaps 2017, there is a certain desire for two Wiltshire Councillors to represent the Parish exclusively. This would enable the parish to wholly look to the Southern Wiltshire Area Board, as requested of Wiltshire Council, at its inception.

Wiltshire Council currently looks at 3700 electorate per councillor, as the ideal. This will need to grow in future, if numbers are to be maintained. Currently ten per cent, either way is within the acceptable margin. It is extremely difficult to judge occupancy, although more single person dwellings are being built than previously. WC report 4025 electors for the Parish of L&F currently for a “Tax Base” of 2212 dwellings. (1.82 electors per dwelling) **Somewhere between 6600 and 7000 residents by 2017 would be a fair assessment and gets close but does not reach the electorate required for two Wiltshire Councillors.**

### **Further Consideration**

As described in the Heritage opening statements, Bishopdown Farm was wholly in L&F parish until the initial 300 homes of Bishopdown Farm development.

The L&F PC may wish to engage with that community to restore the historic parish once again. An estimate of 550-600 additional residents would need to be factored in to all the numbers, although they would just fit (based on estimates only) the two Wiltshire Councillor scenario. However, with 16 Parish Councillors @ 250:1 ratio. No distinction would be made for any part of the parish.

### **By 2020 forecast Housing by community**

Laverstock	1150
Ford	350
Old Sarum	1000
Longhedge	450
Hampton Park	1000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3950 – Residents @ 1.82 per household = 7200</b>
<i>Bishopdown Farm 300 – 550 residents @ 1.82 per household</i>	
<i>(Currently outside L&amp;F parish)</i>	

**Grand Potential Total 7750 residents and 4250 dwellings**

**7750/2 = 3875 residents represented by 2 Wiltshire Councillors, if whole of former parish re-united.**

**Parish Councillors for the potentially enlarged parish, even at 250:1 = 17**

### **Next Steps**

1. Consideration by the Parish Council
2. Formation of a Task Group comprising the existing WC members and selected PC Cllrs + possibly co-opted members of the parish with expertise.
3. Make contact with Wiltshire Council to advise that some changes will be required for 2013.
4. Establish more accurate data, as available, consult as necessary, determine benefits or otherwise for the Parish of Laverstock & Ford and its residents
5. Make final recommendations to the PC and consult residents
6. Ensure WC registers requirements of the parish and its people in good time for changes to take effect at the earliest possible time (2013/2017)

**The original document was presented to the L&F Parish Council in November 2011 and a project group formed to investigate the possibilities and eventually make recommendations to the PC to decide future policy and actions.**

Ian McLennan  
Laverstock, Ford & Old Sarum Division  
Wiltshire Council  
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# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Hampton Park & Old Sarum

3 Pilgrims Way, Laverstock, Salisbury, SP1 1RZ  
Tel: 01722 411847

Email: [parish-clerk@laverstock-ford.co.uk](mailto:parish-clerk@laverstock-ford.co.uk)

John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services, Wiltshire Council  
County Hall, Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire BA14 8JN

24 September 2014

Dear Mr Watling

## Community Governance Review

As you know, Laverstock & Ford have a longstanding request lodged with Wiltshire Council to review our Wiltshire Councillor and Parish Councillor seat representation.

As we have not received any news regarding the process I want to confirm some points with you.

1. Our request included a wish to be exclusively represented by two WC seats, largely due to the increase in houses within the parish. Please can I have your assurance that the review will look at the WC Division boundaries.
2. We understand that a neighbouring parish (Salisbury City) has proposed to absorb the entire Laverstock & Ford Parish. We have had a large response from parishioners totally opposed to this proposal by Salisbury City. Therefore, in the event that the final decision is in favour of this, please can you advise us on the procedure for a parish to go to judicial review and can you supply a list of law firms/barristers who specialise in the field and a recommendation for the best ones to use would be welcome.
3. Finally, again should the decision be in favour of Salisbury City parish council taking on the Laverstock & Ford Parish it would result in our parishioners having an increase of 844% (Band D) in their precept. We understand that according to law if an organisation wishes to increase the precept by more than 2% a referendum should be invoked. Can I have your assurance that this will be the case within our parish?

I look forward to your response in the hope we gain some clarification on our three points.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Burnell  
Chairman, Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Copy to: Ian Gibbons, Associate Director Legal & Governance, Wiltshire Council

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Send to: [john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council

Dear Mr Watling

### **Electoral Boundaries & Seats Laverstock & Ford and Neighbouring Parishes**

As you know, Laverstock & Ford have a longstanding request lodged with Wiltshire Council to review our Wiltshire Councillor and Parish Councillor seat representation.

We understand that at the last Full Council meeting of Wiltshire Council, parishes were asked to write in and clarify any needs they may have. We also understand that our request had been translated into a review of Salisbury's boundary with its neighbours, before this was amended to reinstate our own request as Laverstock & Ford.

For clarity, we would emphasise that this is a longstanding request by Laverstock & Ford Parish Council for our own review, owing to the large increase in housing within our parish.

A number of events have led to this parish boundary review. In the 1990's housing was granted at Bishopdown Farm, within our parish. Our council was advised that as the new housing would upset the electoral arrangements and were positioned nearer Bishopdown (in Salisbury) than Ford, that it would be best to move the parish boundary and let the new houses be in the city. This seemed logical at the time.

When more housing at Hampton Park, Old Sarum and Laverstock resulted in a number crunching exercise, Hampton Park whilst remaining in the parish was warded to a City District Council Ward whilst the remainder of the parish continued to be served by two District Councillors. With the creation of Wiltshire Council the Hampton Park community became part of a City seat and the remainder of the parish represented by one Wiltshire Councillor.

Whilst further development continues our Parish Plan (Adopted March 2009) clearly states that all our communities wish to remain within our parish and retain their individuality rather than become part of the city. The new developments now also offer us an exciting opportunity to have two Wiltshire Councillors exclusively representing our parish and to fully embrace Bishopdown Farm residents, should they wish to accept a return to the original parish boundary. We do accept that Bishopdown farm residents must take a view on any possible change.

This two exclusive WC seats representation is our enthusiastic wish.

The number of seats on the parish council also needs to be reviewed as the 13 existing seats were originally for about 1500 dwellings, rather than possibly 4500 dwellings! We have not considered the detail of this particular change as yet but wish to log the need for review.

We are not a small parish and despite our size, we manage to retain a non political parish representation and a fair split of councillors representing each community. This is something our local residents think is important to them.

Finally, on a geography front, the creation of Salisbury City parish in 2009 saw the northern boundary follow a wrong line. This was ratified by the Electoral Boundaries body, as WC did the work. However, for some years thereafter, the WC parish map of Laverstock & Ford and the Parish Map of Salisbury overlapped, on the WC website!. More recently, the new Salisbury line has been imposed on our map and a chunk lost, through this error. As part of the changes, we would wish to see our historic boundary reinstated. This follows the line of St Mark's Path from Old Sarum, which separated what was all Bishopdown farm and the city, without any means of accessing our parish (farm) from that path. This is why it is clearly the correct boundary and not the slip of a pen version, as currently listed.

For these reasons and several more, we ask for two Wiltshire Councillors exclusively for our parish a physical boundary reinstatement and parish seating review for Laverstock & Ford Parish.

Yours Sincerely

Christopher Burnell  
Chairman  
Laverstock & Ford Parish Council



# QUIDHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Clare Churchill. 1 Tower Farm Cottages, Quidhampton,  
Salisbury, SP2 9AA. Telephone 01722 743027  
[quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com)

Boundary Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
BA14

4<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Dear Wiltshire Council,

Following a meeting of Quidhampton Parish Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014, Quidhampton Parish Council wish to request the following change to the existing parish boundary;  
To extend the boundary east to include the properties nos 1 and 2 Tower Farm Cottages, Skew Rd.  
See enclosed map.

The reason for this request is that the two properties have the address Skew rd, Quidhampton and feel more associated with the village of Quidhampton than being within the City of Salisbury.

The occupants of both properties have been consulted and are in favour of the proposal.

If there is any further information required from Quidhampton Parish Council please could you let me know.

Yours sincerely

Clare Churchill (Mrs)  
Clerk to Quidhampton Parish Council.

Enc Map of the area.

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# QUIDHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman; Mr D Roberts  
Parish Clerk: Mrs C Churchill.  
1 Tower Farm Cottages, Quidhampton,  
Salisbury, SP2 9AA. Telephone 01722 743027  
[quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com](mailto:quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com)

25<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Mr John Watling  
Deputy Returning Officer and Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN

Dear Mr Watling

## **Quidhampton Parish Council submission to the review of parish boundaries 2014.**

At its meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup> Quidhampton Parish Council resolved (minute ref 14/070 (i)) that it wished to incorporate Tower Farm Cottages into the Parish. These properties are currently within Salisbury City Council but fall within the natural boundaries of the village.

No other changes are requested or desired.

Quidhampton Parish Council rejects the proposal from Salisbury City Council to extend the City boundaries to incorporate the village. Minute ref 14/070 (ii).

## **Identity**

Quidhampton has an independent identity as a small village community with its own village hall and pub (re-opening 1<sup>st</sup> August). It has a number of societies and groups and publishes a regular and popular village newsletter. It is broadly rural in outlook.

The Parish is clearly separated from Salisbury by the Water Meadows, pasture, open ground and the A36, from Netherhampton by the Water Meadows and from Wilton by the grounds of Wilton House.

## **Representation**

The Parish Council was fully elected at the last election but now has co-opted councillors. It is representative of the community with reasonable gender balance and a balance of ages and socio economic profile. The councillors are grandparents, young parents, professionals, small business owners, public sector workers and pensioners. The homes of Councillors are located in all parts of the small community. Some Councillors have served for many years while others are in their first term. Members of the council also engage in other aspects of village life such as serving on the Village Hall Committee, acting as quiz master or flood warden and maintaining the village website. In the past year the Council has consulted with young people in the village about improvements to the village park.

The Council rejects the suggestion that being incorporated into Salisbury City Council would improve the representation of Quidhampton residents and believes that such a course of action would be detrimental to representation.

### **Services**

The general business of the council involves the allocation of limited resources to support local activities such as prizes for the village fete, the village bonfire party, small improvements to the village hall and supporting the newsletter. In addition the council maintains the small village park where volunteer working parties are the norm.

In the recent past the Council has successfully worked to maintain a regular bus service and listed the village pub as a community asset.

The council can see no reason why these services would be improved by being subsumed by Salisbury City Council and believes such a course of action would be detrimental to services.

### **Localism and partnership working**

Quidhampton Parish Council supports the principle of localism and believes that the types of services provided by the council are best delivered by residents acting as representatives.

In addition, Quidhampton Parish Council works with others in partnership where necessary to deliver improvements.

The Council can see no reason why partnership working or localism would be improved by being subsumed by Salisbury City Council and believes that such a course of action would be detrimental to community life and cohesion.

Yours sincerely

Clare Churchill (Mrs)  
Clerk to Quidhampton Parish Council.

CC  
John Glen. M.P.  
Cllr J Scott, OBE. Leader of Wiltshire Council.  
Cllr P Edge, Wilton and Lower Wylde.  
Mr D Roberts, Chairman, Quidhampton Parish Council.

**Salisbury City Council**  
**Community Governance Review 2014**  
**Leader's options report (Doc 46689)**

**Aims of any review**

Salisbury City Council is a civil parish. Its jurisdiction and operating area are determined by its parish boundaries. Those parish boundaries are to be reviewed by Wiltshire Council, using a procedure known as a Community Governance Review. The review is part of a wider series of boundary reviews of the larger settlements in Wiltshire and was requested by those towns and our City.

A boundary review should aim to align administrative boundaries with the physical reality of any settlement. This usually requires 'catching up' but can also predict and provide for future changes, giving 'breathing room' to a settlement. The amount of room given should be linked to the predicted next boundary review date. History suggests that the intervals between reviews are usually at least decades.

Boundary alignment is done to ensure that those who live together are governed together, with liability for local taxes matching use of shared local facilities. Boundaries can also help to create or change local identities, although such identity is rarely solely or strongly linked to administrative areas.

It is assumed that any major change in boundaries would lead to a review of City ward boundaries - and possibly councillor numbers and the question of whether wards have one, two or three members.

**Nature and purpose of a Community Governance Review**

A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole or part of Wiltshire Council's area to consider one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- The naming of parishes and styles of new parishes
- The electoral arrangements of parishes (including the number of councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding)
- Grouping or de-grouping parishes

This Review is being carried out by Wiltshire Council under the powers in Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of that Act and any relevant regulations made under it. It will also have regard to the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews published by the DCLG.

Wiltshire Council has appointed a Working Group to carry out this review and to make recommendations to the Council in due course. The Working Group will comprise a representative from each group of the Council (with a substitute permitted to attend). Other members may also attend where an item specifically affects their electoral division.

The Review will have particular regard for the need to secure that the community governance arrangements within the areas under review....

- reflect the identities and interests of the communities concerned and
- are effective and convenient to local people

When carrying out the community governance review Wiltshire Council will also take into account other existing or potential community governance arrangements (other than those relating to parishes) in determining what parish arrangements to recommend.

Reviews can receive submission from any interested person, including affected parish councils, individual councillors or groups of councillors.

All boundary reviews produce a great deal of comment, much of it over-heated and tending to suggest that an administrative boundary change will 'destroy a thousand years of history' and so on. The expanding settlement will probably be 'land-grabbing', 'empire building', 'bullying' smaller groups, 'riding roughshod over local views' and perhaps even 'failing to understand rural life and feelings'.

The review will of course merely be seeking to find the most rational longer term parish-level governance arrangement for our local area. It will aim to achieve the best outcome for all local people rather than any existing bodies, their members or other groups.

### **A short history of the boundaries of Salisbury**

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 sets out in detail the modern criteria for community governance reviews. Although different in detail they are unchanged in essence from the criteria used in many previous boundary reviews, which have always aimed to match the administrative boundaries of local government entities to the physical reality of the villages, towns or cities that they represent, with logical boundaries fixed where possible on prominent and unchanging natural features.

As development changes the built reality of settlements then the administrative machinery that relates to them, including boundaries, changes to match. These changes are almost always retrospective, with boundaries catching up with a built reality that has been in place for some time.

This occurs because reviews of the boundaries of local government areas are rare. Reviews of parish boundaries are rarer still.

The boundaries of the City of Salisbury did not change between the time of its medieval foundation and 1835. For all of that time the City consisted of the three original parishes of St Thomas', St Edmund's and St Martin's plus the extra parochial Liberty of the Close. Old Sarum and all other surrounding settlements remained administratively separate from the City and some became notorious as rotten boroughs.

As part of a general review of boundaries following the Great Reform Act of 1832 the parliamentary boundaries of the City of Salisbury were reviewed. The built up area was then well beyond the line of the old medieval walls and new residential areas to the east and north in Milford and Fisherton Anger were added to the City to match the new parliamentary boundary, becoming the parishes of Milford within and Fisherton Anger within in 1894.

The City grew throughout the nineteenth century. Its boundaries caught up with the physical changes in 1904, when the City became a single civil parish for the first time and took in all of Fisherton Anger Without and parts of the previously separate settlements of Milford Without, East Harnham, Britford and Stratford-sub-Castle.

Growth in the early twentieth century was rapid and another review occurred in 1927, adding the by-then suburban areas of West Harnham, Bemerton, Laverstock and Stratford.

Post-war development saw another change in 1954, which added parts of Quidhampton and Netherhampton parishes as well as more of Britford, Stratford and Laverstock, including Old Sarum castle.

It is not clear when the last parts of Stratford parish, by then reduced to largely unpopulated fields north of Old Sarum, were added.

At no time to date have any areas within the City of Salisbury been removed from it and put into any adjoining parish.

The historic pattern has therefore been that the boundaries have followed the physical expansion of the city into surrounding, once rural, areas, taking in parts of parishes and in several cases finally incorporating them completely. The old parishes live on as City areas, but without separate councils.

The population resident within the City boundaries had grown from 17,117 at the 1901 census to 32,911 in 1951. It is now over 43,000.

From 1954 until 1974 the City of Salisbury was combined with the parishes of Quidhampton and Wilton into the Salisbury and Wilton Rural District Council, which merged with other authorities into Salisbury District Council, which led to the City being unparished from 1974 until 2009. Parish councils were reinstated in Wilton (as a Town Council) and Quidhampton after 1974.

### **The current position**

The City boundaries have not changed since 1954, although the physical City has continued to grow, and has spilled beyond the boundaries in several places, most notably at Hampton Park/Bishopdown Farm, where a large residential area is split between the City and the parish of Laverstock and on the western edge of Harnham, which now extends into Netherhampton.

A number of Salisbury facilities are currently in adjoining parishes. Three of the five Park and Ride sites are outside the City. Salisbury General Hospital, the largest single employment site in the area, is in Britford parish. Salisbury Racecourse, Salisbury livestock market and the Salisbury and South Wilts golf club are in Netherhampton. The site of the new Salisbury cemetery, to be operated by the City Council, is in South Newton. Salisbury City Football Club and three of the secondary schools that serve the City are in Laverstock and Ford.

Old Sarum Castle is within the City of New Sarum. Old Sarum airfield and the rest of Old Sarum are not.

The City has current boundaries with the parishes of Laverstock and Ford, Clarendon Park, Britford, Netherhampton, Quidhampton, Wilton, South Newton, Woodford and Durnford. The settlements in these parishes are very different in terms of size, proximity of the settlement centres to the City boundary, facilities, extent of interaction with the City, history and feel.

### **Future Development**

Further development is expected. Some is under construction, notably the extension to Hampton Park/Bishopdown Farm. More is approved and contracted, in various stages, such as that at Fugglestone and Long Hedge/Old Sarum. Others are simply designated in the approved Local Development Framework. Whilst there is and will be some infilling and conversion within the existing settlement most growth is expected to follow the past pattern of building in the next ring of fields around the current City.

Most of the expected development will be extensions of the City into adjoining parishes, or the expansion of the satellite settlement that is growing around the airfield at Old Sarum. The very large development at Fugglestone will all but close the current gap between the western side of the City and the northern end of Wilton.

### Salisbury City Council

Salisbury City Council (SCC) is the parish council for the area within the City boundaries, providing all local parish services. Wiltshire Council is the principal authority for the City and all surrounding parishes, providing all other local government services.

Measured by income, assets, staffing and responsibilities SCC is the largest parish council in Britain. Indeed it is something of a giant amongst parish councils. Its income in 2013/14 was £2,105,126 (£2,359,379 budgeted in 2014/15). Its asset value totals £16,423,925 and includes nearly one hundred areas of land, including eight major parks and open spaces (Hudson's Fields, Victoria Park, Churchill Gardens, Queen Elizabeth Gardens, Harnham Recreation Ground, The Greencroft/ Wyndham Park, Fisherton Recreation Ground and Lower Bemerton Recreation Ground), two cemeteries, a crematorium, the Guildhall, markets, a depot, a neighbourhood centre, investment properties and 850 allotments.

It has a diverse income arising from rents, fees and commercial activities as well as its parish precept. It receives no funding from central government. The precept in 2014/15 is £105 per Band D household and will total 61% of income in that year. The status, asset and income strength of SCC gives it the ability to borrow at very low rates to fund major capital projects.

As at 15 July 2014 SCC has 49.37 (when vacancies/vacant hours filled) full time equivalent staff, including a professionally qualified City Clerk and Deputy Clerk and specialists in many areas, including Community Development, Parks and recreation, Events, Communications, Finance and HR.

It is a statutory consultee on all planning and other development applications in the City and has a dedicated planning and transportation committee to consider and comment on such applications.

SCC has a fully elected membership of 23 councillors. They currently represent four political parties with two independents. The City (both SCC and SDC wards) has long had a healthy diversity of political representation and all elections are true contests. Every council seat has been contested, often vigorously, at both SCC elections. SCC has never had a co-opted member. Co-option can lead to councils being seen to be, or being, self-perpetuating clubs of similar people rather than truly accountable representatives of local opinion.

SCC enjoys the general power of competence available to larger elected parishes. It has a regular, open and fully organised structure of committees and public meetings. All key information, including budgets and meeting minutes, is published online.

SCC supports local arts, cultural, sporting and community groups, with administrative support and direct funding, both regular and one-off grants, totalling £93,480 in 2013/14.

SCC therefore has significant capacity. It can and does get things done for the benefit of residents and visitors to the City and is fully and meaningfully democratically accountable to its residents.



The populations, council members and Precept of adjoining parishes in 2013/14 were as follows:

Parish	Precept - 2013/14 (band D) <sup>1</sup>	Population - 2011 census	Parish Councillors
Laverstock and Ford	12.45	4,447	13
Clarendon	13.26	246	5
Britford	17.41	592	7
Netherhampton	9.04	493	
Quidhampton	38.08	408	9
Wilton	91.65	3,579	11
South Newton	18.56	819	9
Woodford	17.13	443	7
Durnford	11.14	368	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>228.72</b>	<b>11,395</b>	<b>43</b>
<i>Salisbury City</i>	<i>90.00</i>	<i>42,700</i>	<i>23</i>

None of these parishes has any full time staff or significant administrative resources beyond part-time clerks. Their income is largely derived from their precepts as shown above.

Adjoining parishes have few or no elected members, with co-option of members being the norm. Their memberships are not always complete.

Only Wilton and Laverstock and Ford councils have websites. Only Wilton has budget information available online.

#### Advantages and disadvantages of inclusion of any new area in the City

The boundary review may lead to new areas being included within the City boundaries. Doing so would give residents of any such areas a council with:

*Democratic accountability* - the real chance to choose your own representatives, and change them if they fail to perform. As SCC controls its own resources, with no grant income from or capping by central or other local government it offers true local democracy not mere local administration;

*Transparency* - access to local information, including financial and full membership information, through a website and other regular communications;

*Financial strength* - access to larger resources, including greater borrowing power, which could be spent on improving any newly incorporated areas;

*Administrative capacity* - that could be accessed to improve these areas by direct work, working in partnership with other bodies or lobbying other bodies;

*Diversity* - there is sufficient members to produce a worthwhile diversity of ability, experience and opinions, hopefully more representative of the population. Many smaller parish council members are excellent, hard-working and long-serving, but there are simply fewer of them.

*Efficiency* - small parishes can spend a disproportionate percentage of their income on administration, such as the clerk's fees. For example Wilton Town Council will spend 41.65% of its current income on administration. Complete incorporation of such bodies would end these costs, without adding much to SCC costs, freeing funds for more direct public benefit;

<sup>1</sup> Wiltshire Council website (council tax band D charge)

*A stronger, louder voice* - it is an unavoidable truth that larger bodies get more attention and therefore can have a better chance to get things fixed or improved. Their views can carry more weight in planning matters.

*City status* - this is a part of local identity - do you live in a village, a town or a City? Salisbury is a City. Its neighbours are not. The continuity of tradition of Salisbury's mayoralty (now with its 754<sup>th</sup> incumbent) is part of that status. This is in contrast to Wilton, the ancient capital of Wessex and the place from which the county name derives, but now only a town.

And give them individually:

*Access to facilities* - Most SCC facilities are already open to all, but some are limited to City residents, notably the chance to rent a City allotment;

*Cohesive identity* - Many 'overspill' area residents already identify themselves as Salisbury residents, when they are not. This anomaly would end;

*Local representation* - SCC has ward members, responsible for and to small areas. Other parishes have mostly 'whole parish' members, with no specific area of responsibility.

*Fairness of contribution* - included residents would make the same local tax contribution to local facilities as their neighbours.

The possible disadvantages for incorporated residents would be:

*Loss of local identity* - Identity is a complex thing, made up of many parts. Most people's local identity is built around the people and places they personally know, rather than administrative areas, but there is no doubt importance in attachment to a neighbourhood. This can continue within a larger unit, as it notably does in Harnham, Bemerton and Milford within the City (and the civic traditions of Wilton continued separately during the existence of Salisbury and Wilton RDC) but could be diminished. It is notable that the northern end of Stratford-sub-Castle, which has been within the City for sixty years, still feels more rural than many areas in the adjoining parishes;

*Higher cost* - The SCC precept is higher than its neighbours, so incorporated residents could initially pay more. How much depends on parish and property banding, varying from about £5 to £200 per household per year. The maximum difference with an adjoining parish at Band D at 2014/15 rates would be £99.76 (Salisbury £1,551.97 total charge for all four local authorities, Clarendon £1,452.21). The smallest Band D difference with a neighbour would be £8.61 with Wilton. This difference might not last, as an increase in the number of precept payers would not automatically produce a matching increase in SCC costs (there should be savings on administrative costs), so the precept could in time stabilise or fall. Smaller parishes may also have to raise their current precepts to deal with the falling support grant from Wiltshire Council.

The possible benefits to SCC and its existing citizens would be:

*Rational boundaries* - Administrative boundaries could be changed to reflect the true settlement area;

*Fair contribution* - More of those who regularly use SCC funded facilities, such as parks and open spaces, would be contributing to them;

*Increased assets, income and tax base* - Expanding the boundaries would bring more households into the City which would increase the tax base and income of SCC. Incorporating whole parishes would bring the assets of those parishes.

*A stronger voice* - A larger council would be a stronger and more effective partner to other public and private sector organisations, including Wiltshire Council. Wiltshire Council is a very large authority. It will inevitably have to concentrate on more strategic issues, leaving purely local matters to parish and town councils. These councils need to be capable of taking on and effectively executing increasing responsibilities. The geography of Wiltshire makes it particularly important to have a strong and truly representative voice from the south of the county.

The possible disadvantages to SCC and its existing citizens would be:

*Increased liabilities* - new areas may bring liabilities for facilities within them, such as ageing play areas, that exceed the value of transferring assets;

*Increased demands* - new areas can bring new demands for services and facilities, to match the level of provision in other parts of the City, again without producing matching income or assets;

*Loss of focus* - The activities of SCC have been planned around current areas. Any new areas may disrupt or dilute these plans;

*Loss of identity* - The core City identity may be diluted rather than enhanced by the incorporation of surrounding suburban and other areas.

### Options and a tour round the boundaries

The shape of any settlement is best seen from above. An aerial view readily shows where the built up area ends and true open countryside begins, in a way that intra-urban green space can obscure from the ground. Such a view is publically available to all in Salisbury in the aerial photo in the lift lobby of Salisbury Library. That photo stretches from Wilton to Laverstock Down and forms the template for the options set out below.

#### Option 1 - The Minimal City - Catching Up

Incorporate into the City all of the built up areas and facilities that are contiguous to the current boundary and now form an indistinguishable part of the settlement, with boundaries moving to readily identified natural features, tracks or roads. These areas are:

*Hampton Park* - The whole of the current area up to Pearce Way and the extension across Pearce Way into Hampton Park Two, including the new country park land. The new boundary would be along the Ford Road from Old Sarum until Green Acres (the first house in Ford), and then along the field boundary of the Hampton Park Two site to join the existing River Bourne boundary.

*The New Cemetery Site* - The site designated for a cemetery at New Cut Crossroads together with the triangle of land across the Avenue, both currently in South Newton parish. This area is currently uninhabited.

*The Broken Bridges Path* - the line of this path between Lower Bemerton and Harnham up to the current city boundary, bringing this City link route within the City.

*Netherhampton Road* - Wellworthy Road and the Harnham Business Park where they extend into Netherhampton as extensions of West Harnham. Also that part of Harnham Slope woods that are currently in Netherhampton, to be brought under single management.

*The Coombe Road Triangle* - The area enclosed between the current boundary and an extension of the southern City boundary from the track opposite the hospital site to Old Shaftesbury Road, which includes the new housing in the triangle between Old Blandford Road and Coombe Road. Certain fields between Old Shaftesbury Drive and Harnham Slope woods could be included to produce a straighter City boundary.

*Salisbury District Hospital and the Downton Road P&R site* - the whole of the hospital site, including its car parks, from the point on the north west corner where the site meets the City boundary and the area between the green lane joining the hospital site to the Downton Road, extending across to Lower Road Britford, where it joins the Downton Road near the Park and Ride site.

### **Option 2 - The Larger City - Planning Ahead**

Incorporate into the City all of the Option 1 areas plus the adjacent areas that are expected to be developed or that already form suburban extensions to the City, either by the suburbanisation of an existing village, such as Laverstock and Quidhampton, or the expansion of an old military facility, such as at Old Sarum, being:

*Laverstock* - The whole of the village within the current parish boundary up to a northern boundary along the London Road and A30.

*Old Sarum* - the whole of the airfield, the whole of the current and future housing areas west of the airfield up to the current northern and western parish boundary, including the Park and Ride site. The new southern boundary to start at Green Acres and go north around Ford village.

*Britford* - The whole of the current village up to the boundary of Longford Park, including that part of the Avon water meadows currently surrounded on three sides by the City.

### **Option 3 - The Full City - The Complete Settlement**

Incorporate into the City all of the Options 1 and 2 areas plus the whole of other adjoining parishes and Wilton, to produce a single area covering everything seen to be urban in the Library aerial photo. The City would then be surrounded and enclosed on at least three sides by the historic Pembroke (Wilton House), Radnor (Longford Castle) and Clarendon Park estates, which are unlikely to change very much. There should be no need to review this boundary for many years. These areas being some or all of:

*Laverstock and Ford* - The remainder of the parish, namely the still distinct village of Ford;

*Petersfinger* - The area between the railway line and the river, from the current city boundary to a point opposite the entrance lodge to Clarendon Park.

*Britford* - The remainder of the parish, essentially open land around the south of the City joining the hospital site to Coombe Road.

*Netherhampton* - The remainder of the parish, including the main village area, the Livestock Market and Racecourse. This would be logical if the boundary extended to include Wilton.

*Quidhampton* - The whole of the parish. Now reduced to about 700 acres. This would also be logical if the boundary extended to include Wilton.

*Wilton* - The whole of the parish, currently a very small Town. This would give Wilton the City status it richly deserves and probably necessitate a change of name of the council to something like 'The Cities of Salisbury and Wilton Council', perhaps with two Mayors.

*Woodford and Durnford* - The northern boundary could be straightened by moving it north to the line of the Avenue from New Cut Crossroads down to the Avon, though Little Durnford Manor park and up to the current boundary north of Old Sarum. Hilltop Business Park, the Avon Farm development and a few other houses are within this area. Boundary tidying might also put the area around Long Hedge Farm into the City, if the rest of Old Sarum is included.

## **Conclusion and recommendation**

The aim of this document is to give information and options, not to make recommendations or form a council submission to the Community Governance Review. Due to the controversial political issues that such reviews can create, both within and beyond the City, it is difficult for officers to make any worthwhile recommendations or put forward a neutral report that does anything more than describe the process. As an independent Leader of SCC I have no dog in any political or other boundary fight so feel obliged to seek to provide a personal review of the situation and possible logical options as I see them and leave it to the members of SCC to decide which, if any, of the above Options, or any variation of them, to choose, either collectively as a council, as political Groups or as individual members.

I will be unable to attend the Full Council meeting on 21 July at which these issues will be discussed, so I have asked officers to submit this report to the meeting as part of a more conventionally set out council paper with a request that members decide:

- (a) whether there is sufficient consensus for a council approved submission to be made; and
- (b) if yes, what that consensus is.

If there is no consensus then I would expect that fact to be reported to the review and separate submissions to be made by various members or groups. I would then submit this paper to the review for information and as a personal view as a single independent ward member, not as the Leader of the Council.

My purely personal view is that we should look into the next few decades of the future, think what is best for our existing and future citizens and neighbours over that period in terms of representation and resources, have faith in the quality and value of what our council has done, is doing and can in future do to improve our area for residents, workers and visitors and therefore choose to recommend Options 2 or 3 to the Wiltshire Council review body. I incline towards Option 3, although I think there may be more in it for our neighbours than our existing residents.

**Councillor Andrew Roberts**

Leader - Salisbury City Council  
11 July 2014.

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## Boundary Review Statement – October 2015:

(Doc 52756)

This statement outlines the position of Salisbury City Council in response to Wiltshire Council's preliminary proposals on parish boundaries in the Salisbury area.

SCC considered all aspects of the Governance Review at its Full Council in July 2014. A number of options were considered and a preferred option agreed. This was subsequently put forward to Wiltshire Council as SCC's position. This remains SCC's position.

SCC is surprised and rather disappointed that WC's proposals do not appear to have taken sufficient account of a number of key points, which may lead to a less than best possible outcome for the long-term good of local government and service provision in the Salisbury area. However, we are encouraged that no decision has yet been made, so put again the following points:

1. **Reality** – Settlements grow over time. Salisbury is no different. It and its neighbouring areas have changed in the last 40 years and will continue to do so.

The SCC proposals were based on the demonstrable physical reality of the aerial photo view; setting the boundaries where the built up area ends and the really open countryside begins (although there is no reason why countryside cannot be administratively within an urban area – as Epping Forest is within London).

This area now includes almost all of the Laverstock and Ford and Britford Parish areas – which are little more remote or separated from the City than Bemerton or Harnham.

The relevant government guidance states that:

*“As far as boundaries between parishes are concerned, these should reflect the “no-man’s land” between communities represented by areas of low population or barriers such as rivers, roads or railways. They need to be, and be likely to remain, easily identifiable.”*

2. **Democracy and Accountability** – Democratic accountability is a key requirement of all good government at any level. This requires open and contested elections: the ability to have and exercise choice over who makes decisions on local issues and to change them if not satisfied with past outcomes. Salisbury has, and always has had, 100% of its Councillors elected in fully contested elections. This has produced administrations with members from many parties, of diverse backgrounds and wide ranging abilities and experience.

It is a sad fact that smaller parishes rarely achieve this type of representation, relying on the willingness of a hardy but often restricted and rather self-selecting group to serve by co-option. Expansion of the City would inevitably spread the reality rather than theory of electoral accountability.

The relevant government guidance states that:

*“One of the characteristics of a sustainable community is the desire for a community to be well run with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership”. This means:*

*2.1. Representative, accountable governance systems which both facilitate strategic, visionary leadership and enable inclusive, active and effective participation by individuals and organisations;*

*and*

*2.2. Effective engagement with the community at neighbourhood level including capacity building to develop the community’s skills, knowledge and confidence.”*

3. **Capability** – Boundaries are key determinants of the resources as well as responsibilities of local government. Those responsibilities and their funding are changing fast. The localism and devolution agendas of central government, as enthusiastically and rightly followed by Wiltshire Council, are pushing for decisions to be made and services to be delivered at the most local level. In respect of this review this means parish level.

SCC has shown its willingness to accept the responsibilities and accountability of local decision making and service provision, in order to secure benefits for local residents, including by involvement in the now advanced discussions about asset and service transfer from WC.

But it cannot do this to best effect if it is not given the capability to deliver or the coverage to manage its true urban area as a whole. Doing so will be of benefit to all within that area.

4. **Efficiency** – All parishes have a minimum overhead cost of simply existing. Small parish councils spend a high proportion of their income on such overhead. Larger bodies benefit from economies of scale and the ability to ‘right-size’ resources, getting more benefit from every pound of public income. Some parishes can be simply too small to undertake some tasks at all. SCC also has significant and resilient non-precept resources (such as crematorium and market income) that can be put to use to benefit a wider area.

The relevant government guidance states that:

*“The Government believes that the effectiveness and convenience of local government is best understood in the context of a local authority’s ability to deliver quality services economically and efficiently, and give users of services a democratic voice in the decisions that affect them”.*

5. **Fairness** – Most SCC activities affect open public facilities or services, such as the provision of high-quality parks and open spaces, free sports facilities and public events and arts and community support. Potential new responsibilities will cover matters such as street cleanliness and the wider public realm.



These services cannot be restricted and are available to all who wish to benefit from them. An element of what economists call 'free riding' – use without contribution to cost – is therefore inevitable. That is fine for occasional visitors but basic fairness demands that all who benefit from the activities of SCC as part of their everyday lives should make an equal contribution to them. That type of benefit is in practice a matter of geographic proximity to the City centre and other City facilities, not historic boundaries drawn on maps. But when such boundaries are redrawn they should wherever possible reflect the physical reality. Equal contribution would of course come with equal access to resource and SCC has greater resource, expertise and capacity than adjoining parishes.

6. **Identity** – Many residents within all of the areas suggested by SCC for inclusion in the City already identify strongly with it. This is not necessarily to the exclusion of more super-local identities around neighbourhoods, including former separate parishes such as Harnham, Bemerton, Milford and Fisherton.

Many institutions outside the boundaries have always identified themselves with the City, including three of the six secondary schools in the area, the hospital, the football club, many of the Park & Ride sites, the racecourse, cattle market and a golf club. The Mayoralty of Salisbury is seen as a local civic function and Mayors have for years regularly been invited, and willingly attended, events in the areas affected by this review.

WC's own Salisbury Area Board deals with Laverstock and Ford and regularly receives applications for grants in respect of activities beyond the City boundaries, including most recently in respect of playing fields in Netherhampton. SCC also receives requests for 'out-of-area' support from bodies keen to work in partnership to utilise its capacity to aid their causes.

Much of the rapidly growing Old Sarum remains administratively separate from New Sarum, as if its rotten boroughs still existed.

It is surprising that all of these clear signs of identification have to date been ignored, whilst WC has (in draft) found sufficient community identity to propose parish changes for some fields that are only used for grazing and are expected to remain so as such and other fields that will only ever house the deceased, but has not yet suggested putting the Harnham Trading Estate into Harnham?

7. **Future Proofing** - Governance reviews of this type and scale are very rare (the last equivalent one was in 1954). It is therefore incumbent on the reviewers to not simply address current issues but to look to the future, taking into account both known near future developments and providing 'breathing space' to anticipate the possibilities of the coming decades. The draft proposals simply fail to do this at this time.

SCC believes that the minimalist nature of the current proposals represents a potentially great lost opportunity for all within and near to Salisbury. SCC welcomes the involvement of all within the physical City. It has no desire to have disputes with its neighbours and is more than willing to make its resources equally available to all in need of them. But it can only do this with updated parish boundaries that reflect the truth on the ground and ensure fairness of contribution as well as benefit.

Previous higher authorities have had the courage and foresight to seize the rare opportunities of boundary reviews to keep the City boundaries up to date, to the long-term benefit of many thousands of mostly unaware residents. SCC hopes that WC will follow them and reconsider its current proposals and recommend a fair, future-proofed proposal which enables a strong partnership between SCC and WC to equitably deliver local services to all local residents who see Salisbury as their home.

Salisbury City Council

13 October 2015

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

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### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2015 AT AUDITORIUM - CITY HALL, SALISBURY, SP2 7TU.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Cllr Richard Clewer, Kieran Elliott, Ian Gibbons, Cllr Jose Green, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Bill Moss, Paul Taylor and John Watling

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#### 20 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel. It was explained Cllr Hubbard had given his apologies for the meeting, and that Cllr McLennan would be participating from the audience as an affected member of the proposals being discussed.

#### 21 **Purpose and procedures of the meeting**

The Chairman explained the reasons for Community Governance Reviews, procedure for the meeting, and that decisions on boundaries would be taken by Full Council.

#### 22 **Proposals**

Maps were presented showing each proposal, which were introduced and explained by the Head of Electoral Services.

##### **22a Britford Triangle**

##### **Comments in support:**

Cllr Andrew Roberts, Leader of Salisbury City Council

- It is the bare minimum of the change that is sensible and beneficial.

Cllr John Collier, Salisbury City Council

- The change is small and meets the criteria regarding connectivity with the city and no uniqueness that would argue against its inclusion.

Cllr Jane Ranaboldo, Britford Parish Council

- Had no objection so long as the proposals shown were the totality of transfers from Britford to Salisbury proposed.

**Comments in objection:**

There were no objections raised.

**22b Salisbury/ Laverstock and Ford**

There were two proposals for properties along the current boundary, one transferring the remainder of an existing estate into Laverstock and Ford, one moving the estate into Salisbury proper.

**Comments in Support**

Cllr Andrew Roberts, Leader of Salisbury City Council, in addition to previous written submissions, and Margaret Wilmot, John Lindley, Salisbury City Council

- Neutral observers would think estate is already a suburb of Salisbury City, other areas of city proper are just as far from the centre, or further.
- Effectiveness of local government is key, city council able to improve this, able to be more coordinated and effective, all wards contested.
- Parishes already gain benefits of city without contributing as much.
- City growing and its needs must be assessed and planned for, last change for a change for a long time.
- Council housing in Laverstock was built by Salisbury City Council as a dormitory of the city, it is integrally connected to it.
- Edge of city is still the city.

**Comments in Objection**

Cllr David Burton, Chairman of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council, Residents of Laverstock

- Identity is being near Salisbury, not within Salisbury. Rural and not urban character would be diminished if Salisbury proposals accepted.
- 4 distinct, reasonably sized communities
- Parishes perfectly viable for provision of effective local government
- Absorption into Salisbury would lead to a lack of focus on issues on the perimeter, such as on the County park and local amenities.
- Local residents overwhelmingly against transfer into Salisbury

There were also questions on the review process and frequency of reviews which were answered by the Chairman.

## **22c Halfpenny Road Estate**

### **Comments in Support**

Cllr Andrew Roberts, Leader of Salisbury City Council, John Collier and John Lindley of Salisbury City Council, supported the proposals as the properties were much closer to Salisbury, though they felt the adjacent business park should really be included as well.

Cllr Sally Armitage, Netherhampton Parish Council, supported the proposed change following no objection from any affected residents. Also supported the transfer of the business park.

### **Comments in Objection**

There were no comments raised in objection.

## **22d Skew Road/ Wilton Road Junction**

### **Comments in Support:**

Quidhampton Parish Council support the proposed change as reflecting the connectivity with Quidhampton for the properties affected.

Salisbury City Council supported the proposed change for the same reason.

### **Comments in Objection:**

There were no comments in objection raised.

## **22e The Avenue and Fugglestone Red Area**

### **Comments in Support:**

Cllr Phil Matthews, Wilton Town Council

- The change would tidy up the boundary and provide further definitive green space between Salisbury and Wilton.

### **Comments in Objection/Neutral comments:**

Cllr Andrew Roberts, Leader of Salisbury City Council

- Although no specific problem with the change, as the area was green fields with no residents, it was hard to see how it could meet the criteria.

Cllr Tom Corbin, Salisbury City Council

- Disputed the change did clarify the boundary to any appreciable degree.

## **22f New Cemetery Land**

**Comments in support:**

Cllr Andrew Roberts, Leader of Salisbury City Council

- The cemetery was part of a development within the City boundary and would service the City. As it would be administered by the City Council and Wilton Town Council, but as it bordered the City boundary and not Wilton, it made sense for the area to be transferred from South Newton to the City.

**Comments in objection:**

There were no objections raised.

23 **Close**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

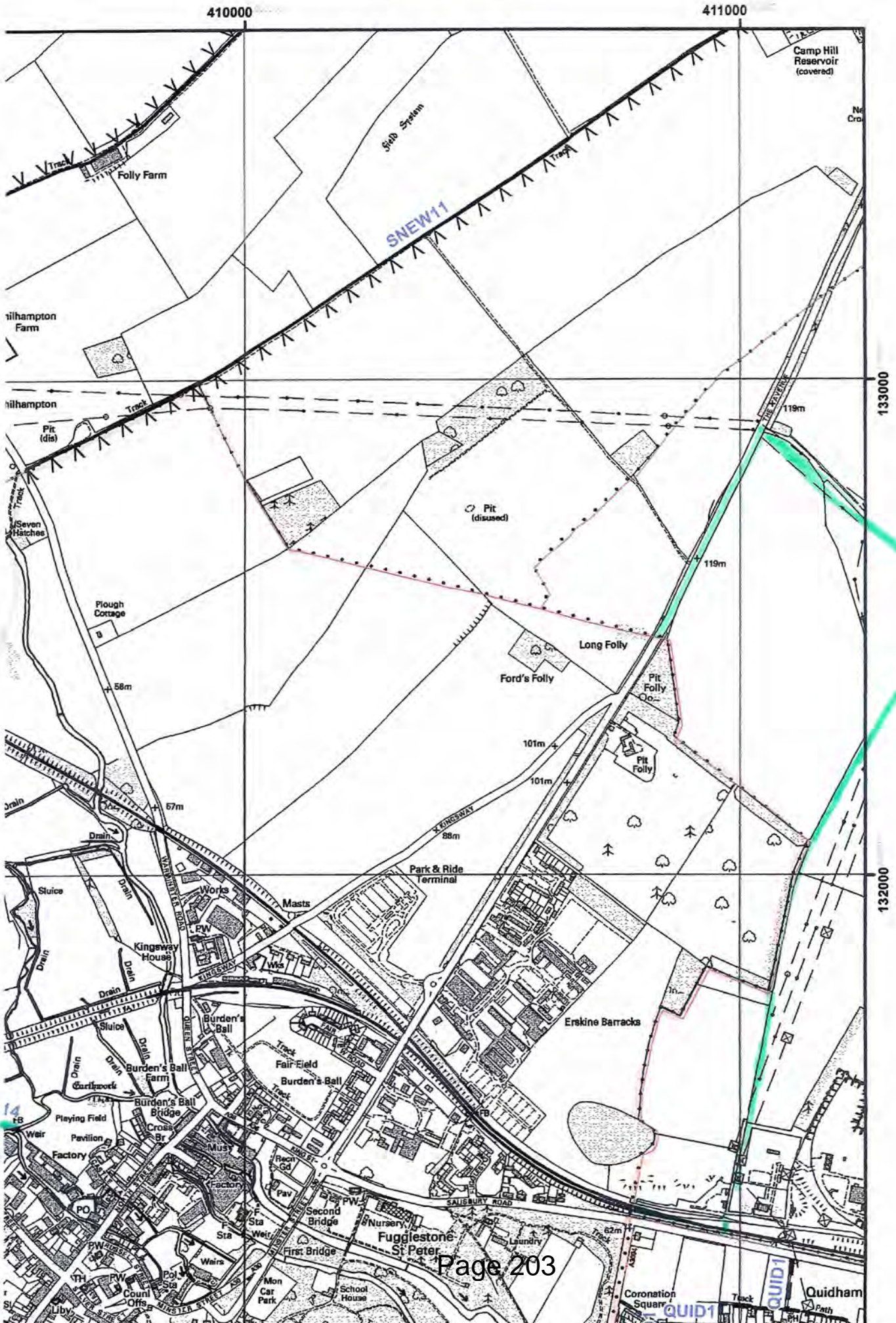
(Duration of meeting: 4.00 - 5.30 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Jessica Croman, of Democratic Services, direct line , e-mail

Press enquiries to Communications, direct line (01225) 713114/713115

PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY FOR WILTON C P

MARCH 2014



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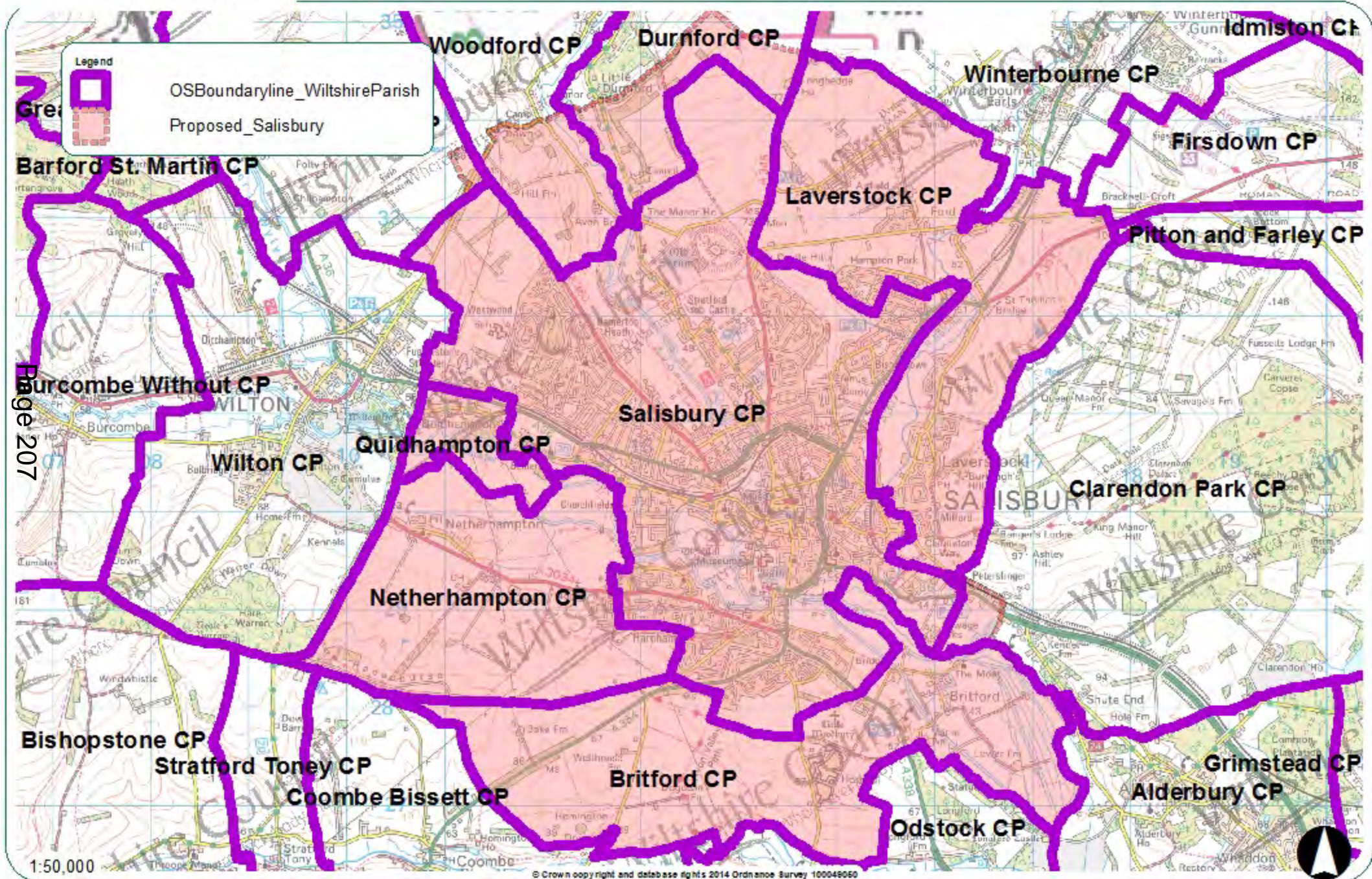


## Area A1, A2 and B7- Salisbury and Surrounding Parishes

### Mapping

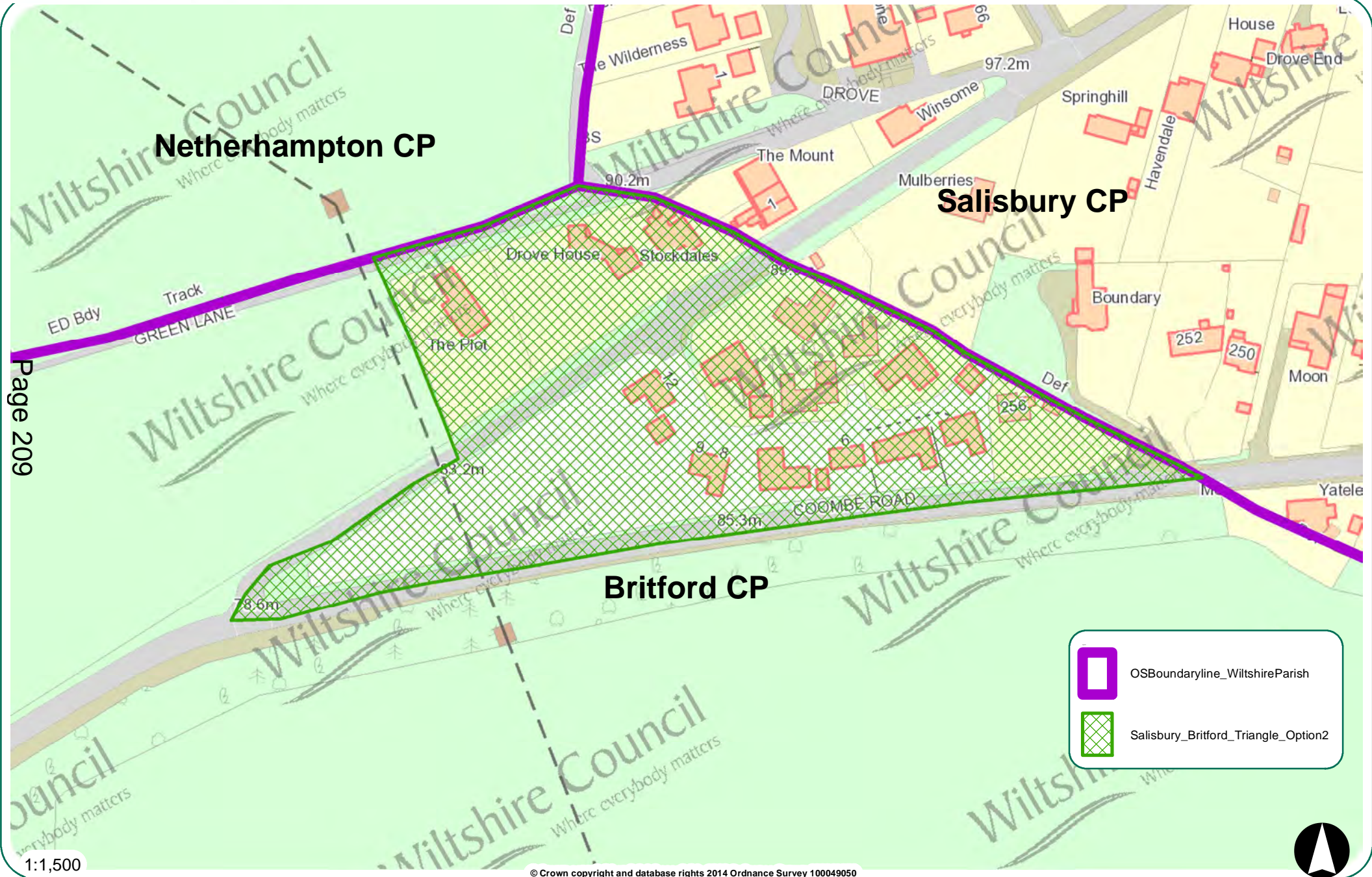
- Scheme 1 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 1b
- Scheme 2 and 3 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 2
- Scheme 2 and 3 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 3
- Scheme 4 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 4
- Scheme 5 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 5
- Scheme 6 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 6
- Scheme 7 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 7
- Scheme 8 - Salisbury City Council Proposed Changes (Woodford)
- Scheme 9 - Option 2 Durnford
- Scheme 9 - Salisbury City Council Proposed Changes (Durnford)
- Scheme 10 - Salisbury City Council Proposed Changes (Clarendon Park)
- Scheme 11 - Salisbury City Council Proposed Changes (South Newton)
- Scheme 12 - Option 2 Britford
- Scheme 12 - Option 3 Britford
- Scheme 13 - Option 2 Laverstock detailed Bishopdown area
- Scheme 13 - Option 2 Laverstock detailed following River Bourne
- Scheme 13 - Option 2 Laverstock detailed Potters Way area
- Scheme 13 - Option 2 Laverstock
- Scheme 14 - Option 2 Netherhampton
- Scheme 14 - Option 4 Netherhampton
- Scheme 14 - Option 5 Netherhampton
- Scheme 17 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 6

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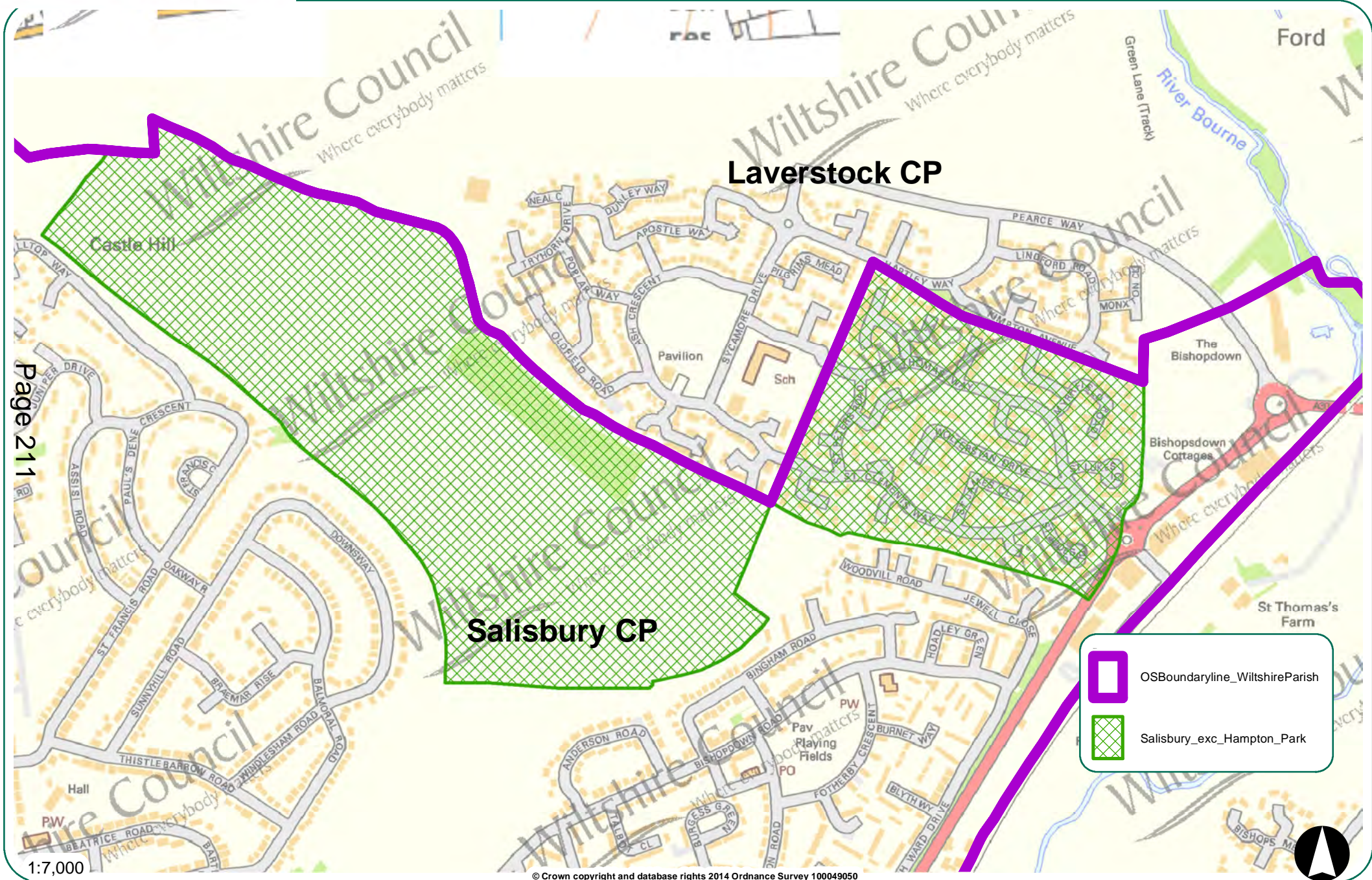
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Area A1, A2 and B7 - Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 1b  
Coombe Road/ Old Blandford Road Area



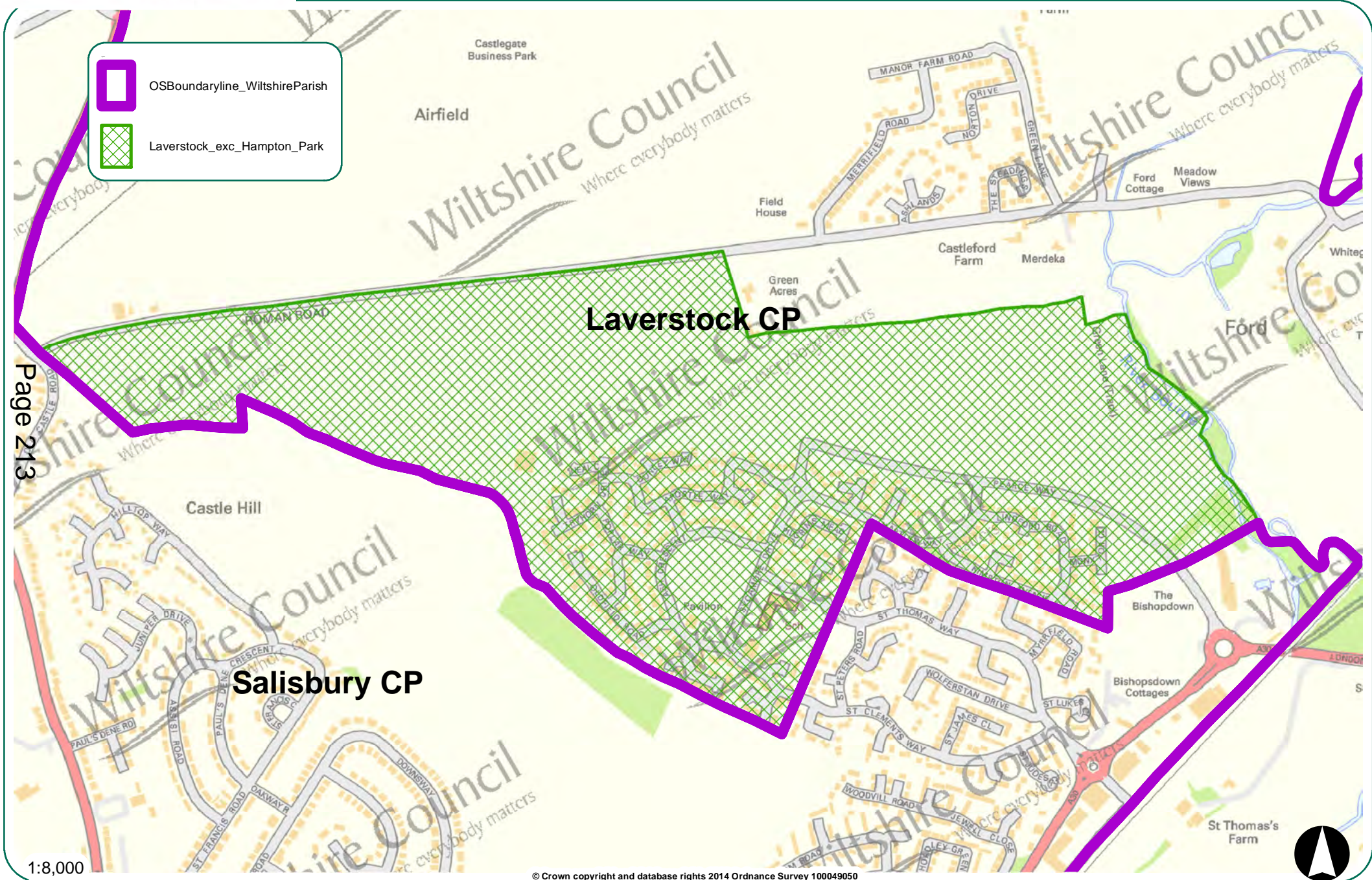
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Area A1, A2 and B7 - Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 2  
Hampton Park and Country Park Area

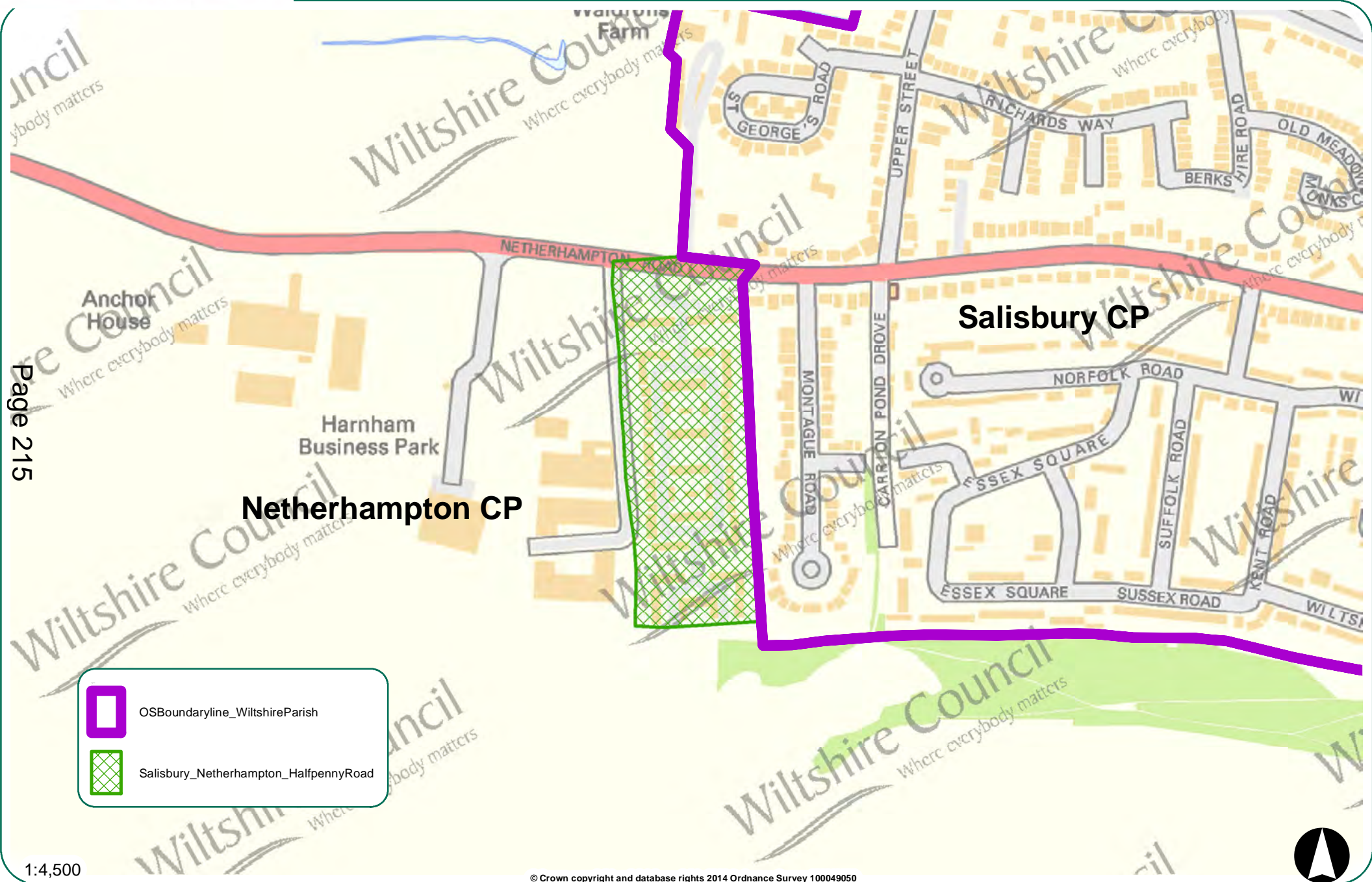


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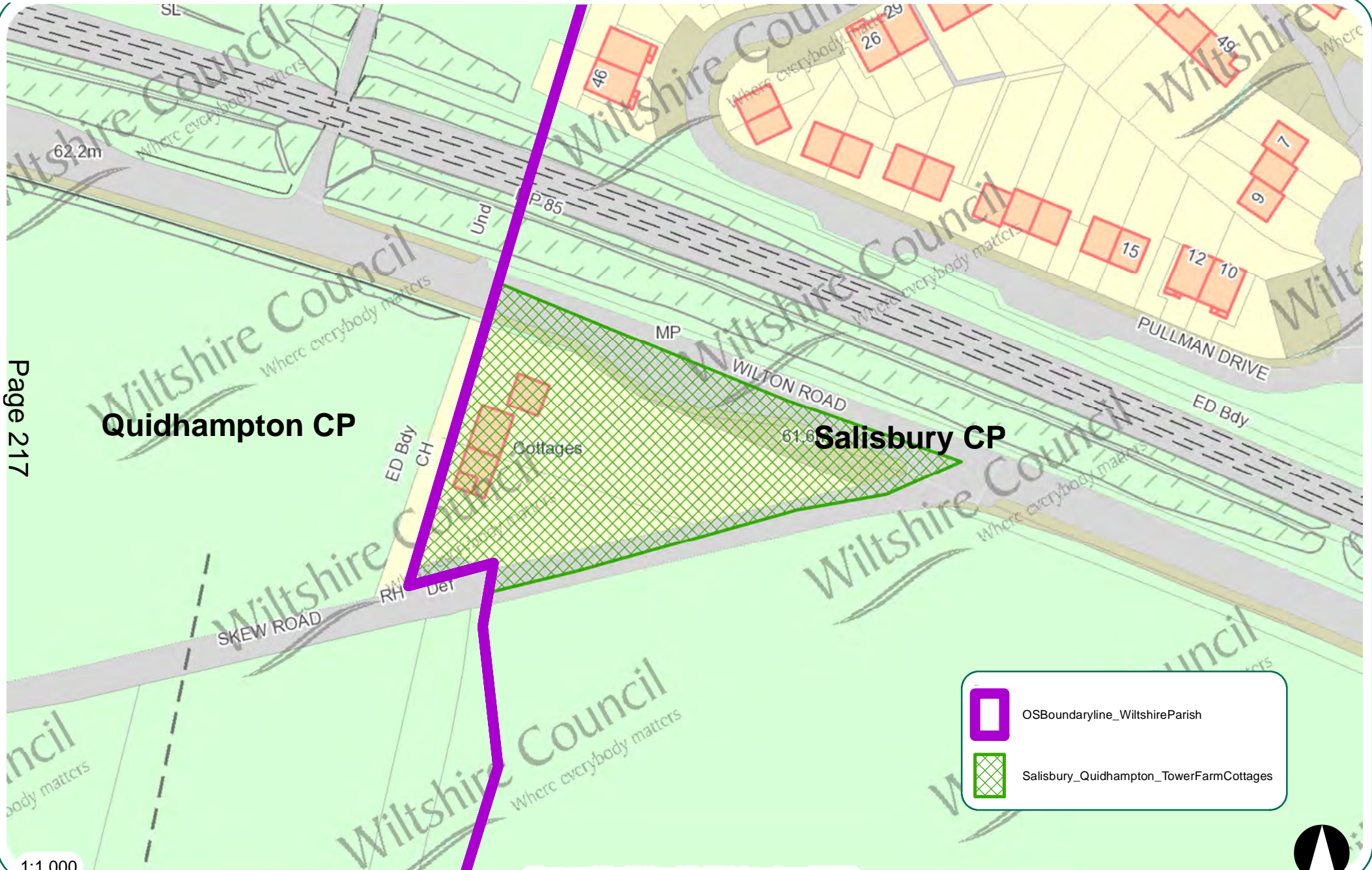




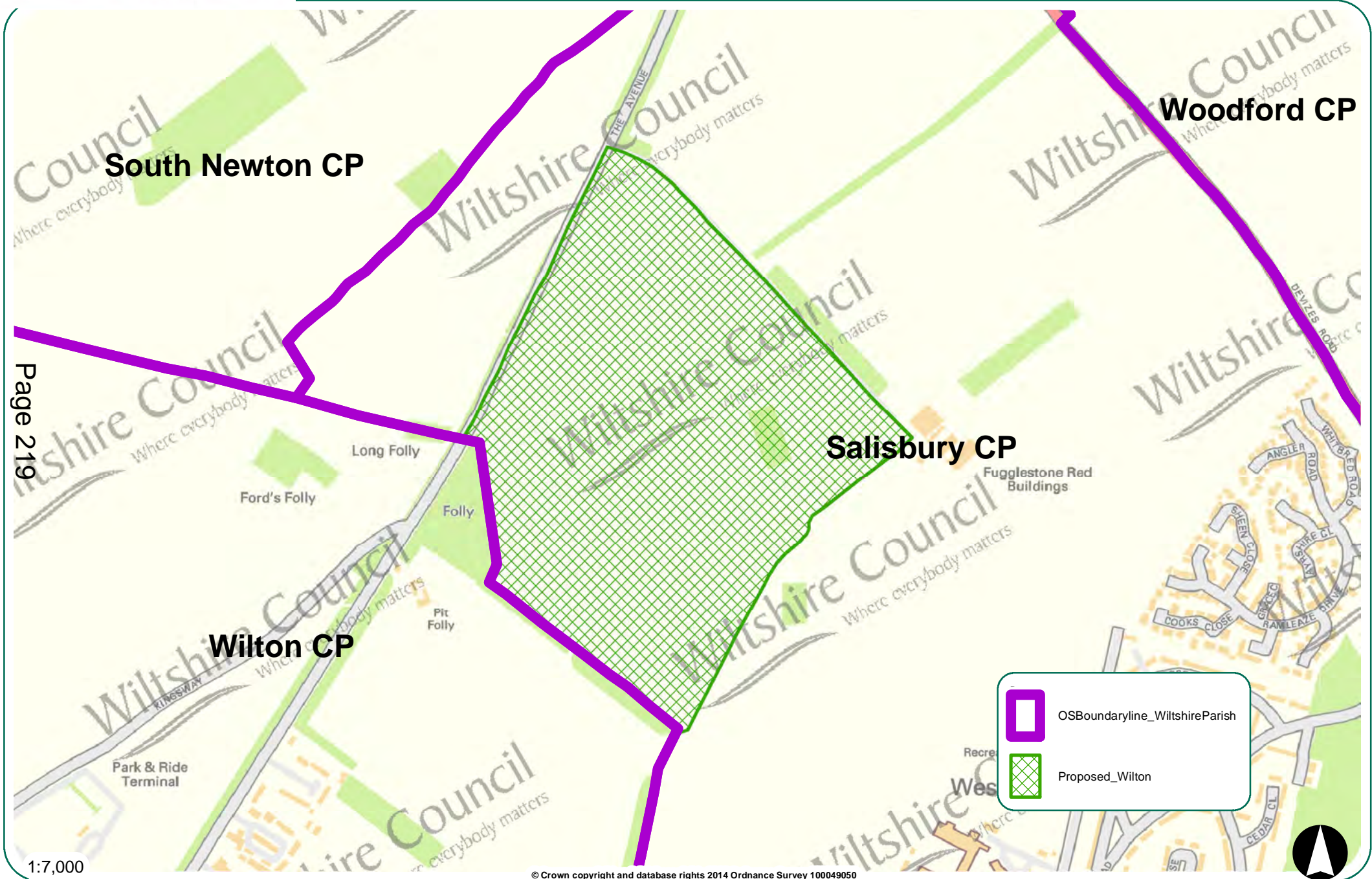
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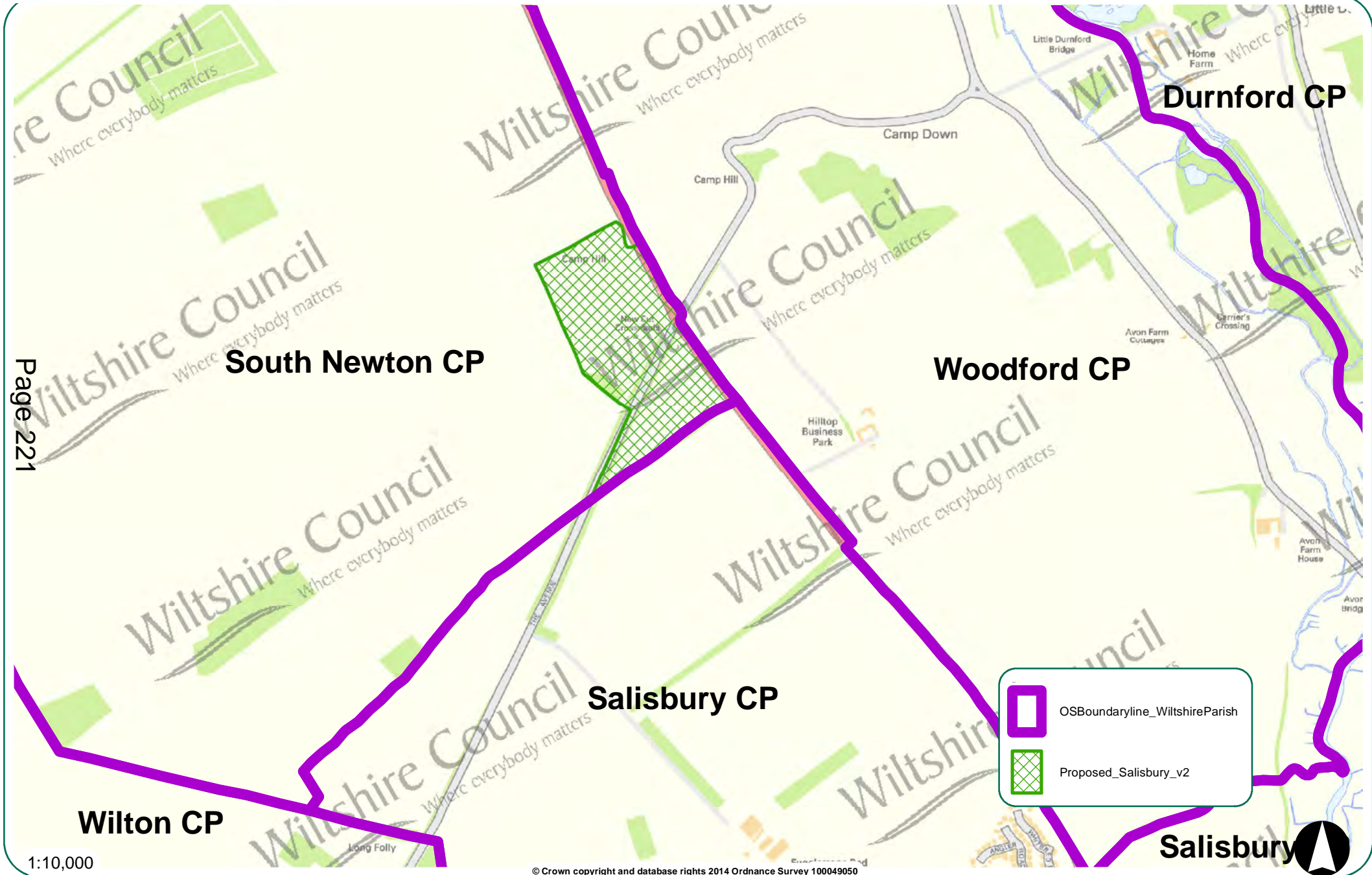


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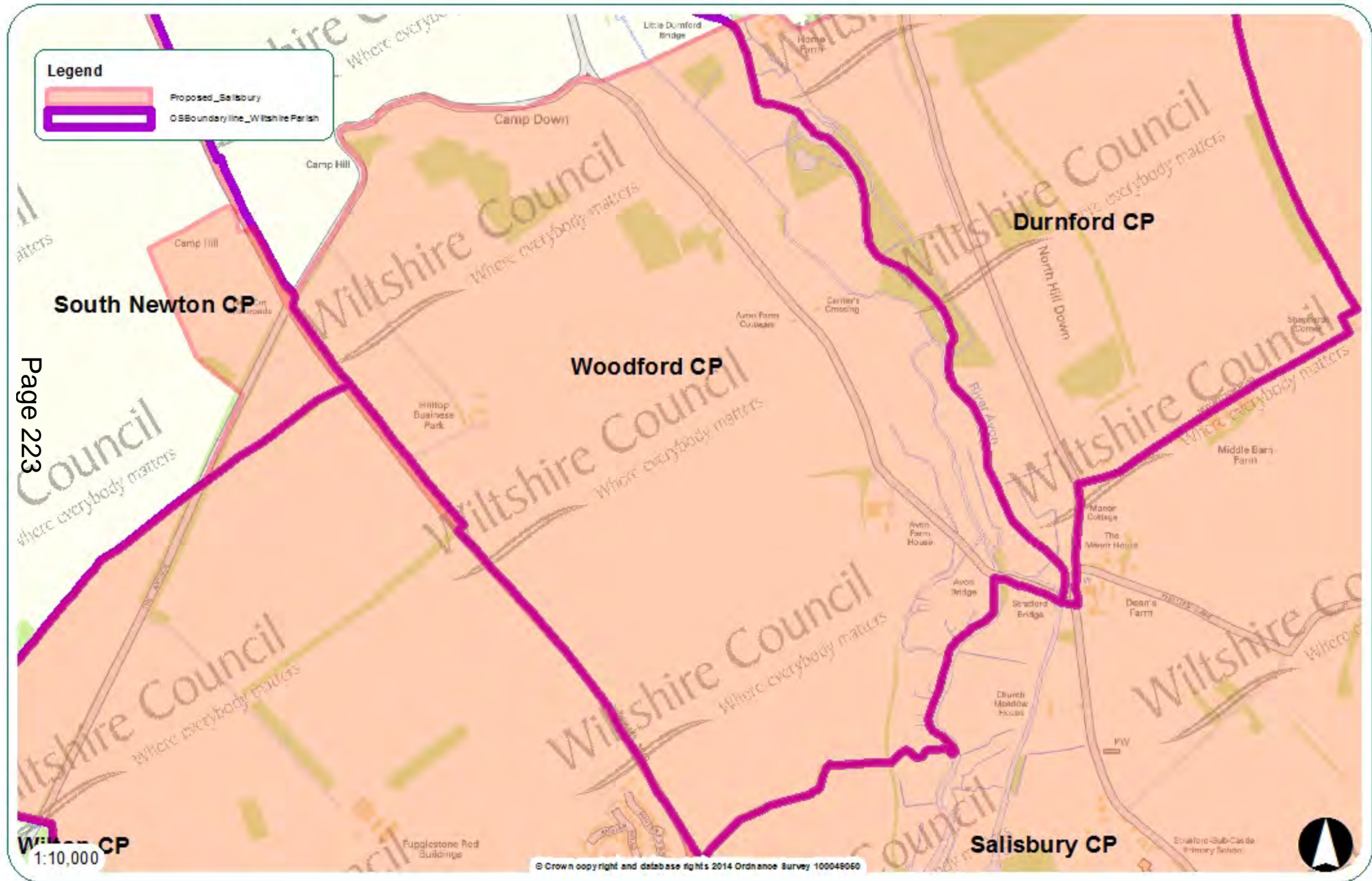
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**Salisbury City Council  
Proposed Parish Boundary Changes  
(Woodford)**

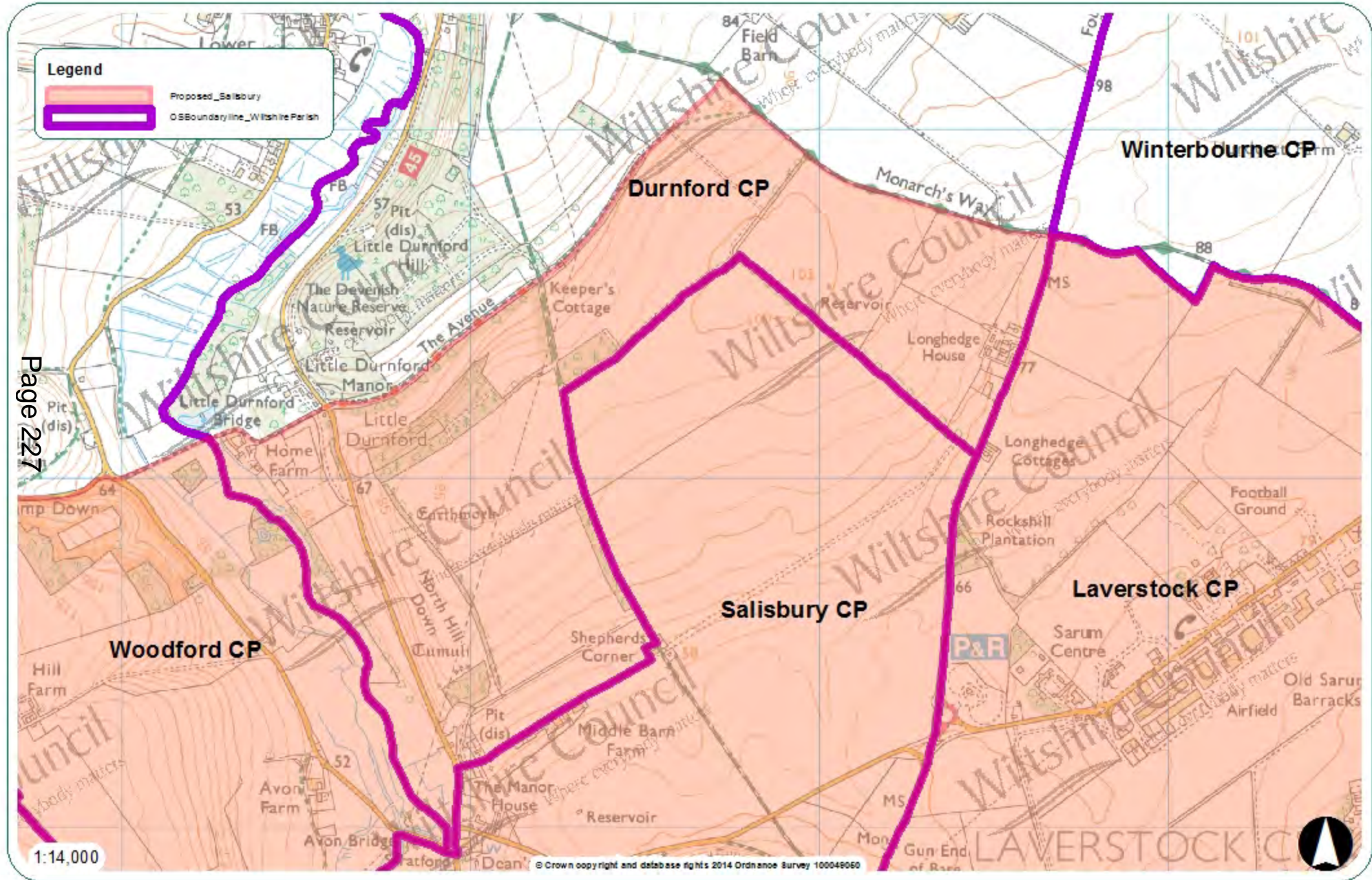


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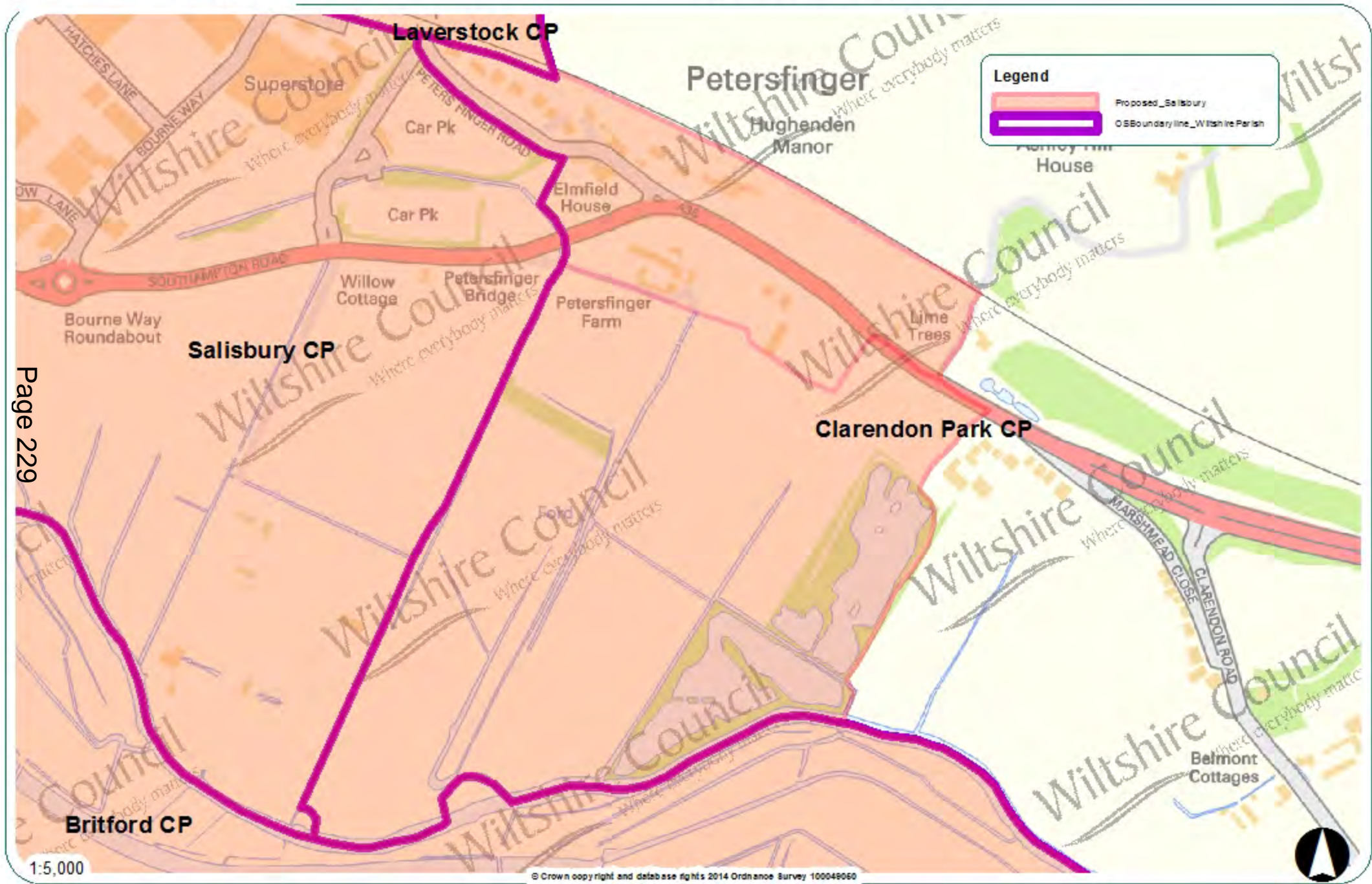
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**Salisbury City Council  
Proposed Parish Boundary Changes  
(Durnford)**



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**Legend**

- Proposed\_Salisbury
- OS Boundary line\_Wiltshire Parish

**South Newton CP**

**Woodford CP**

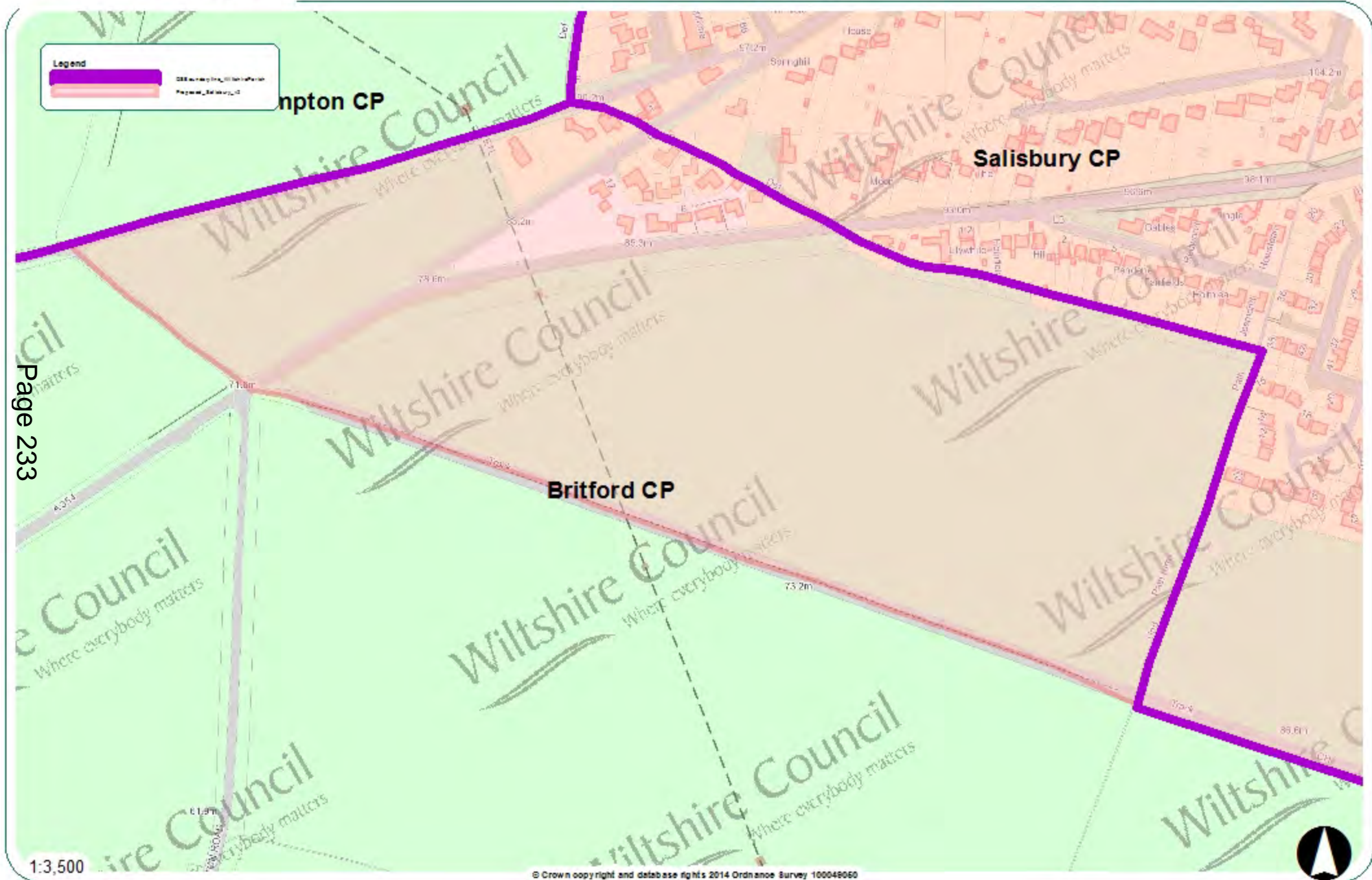
**Salisbury CP**

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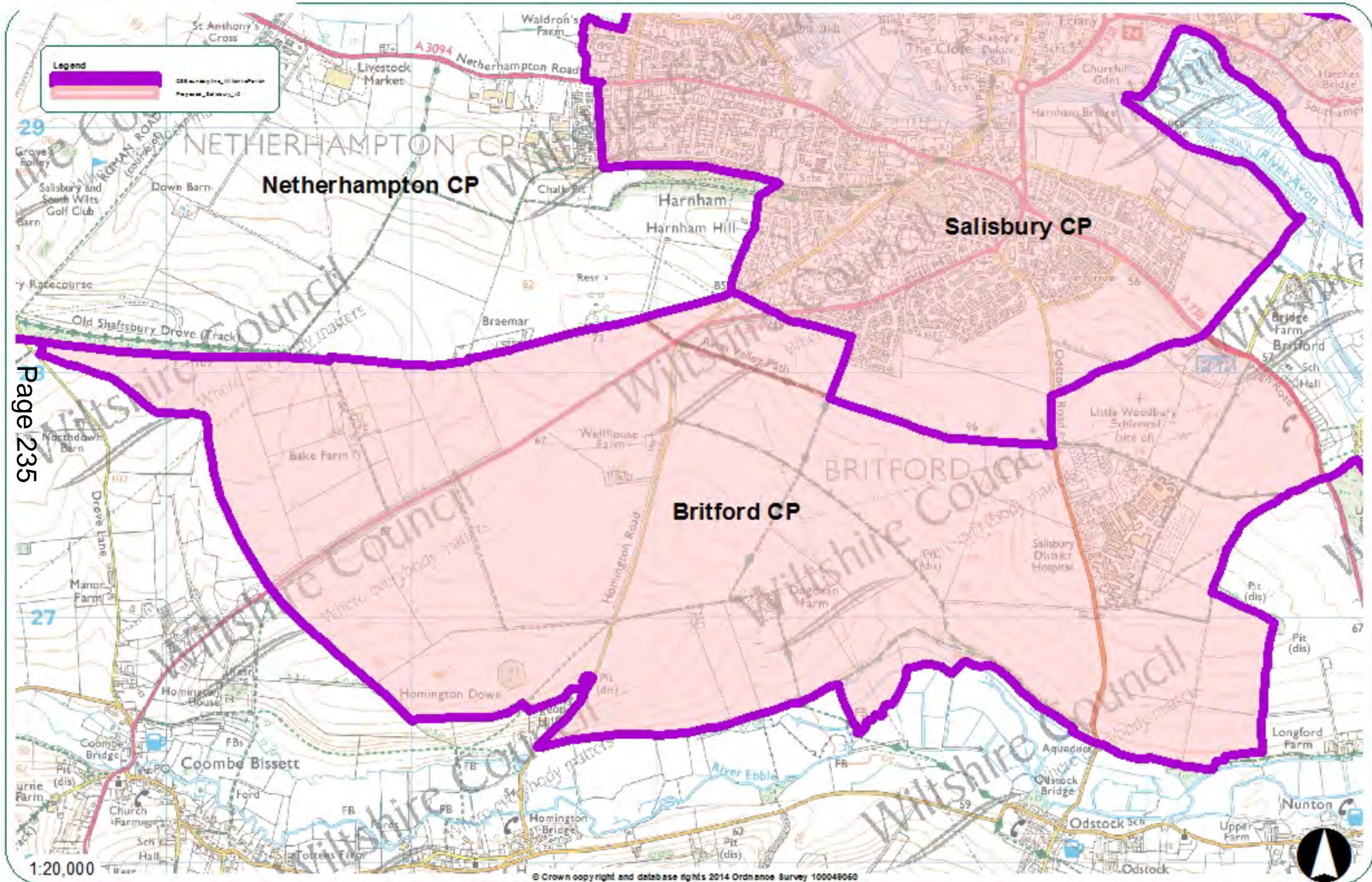
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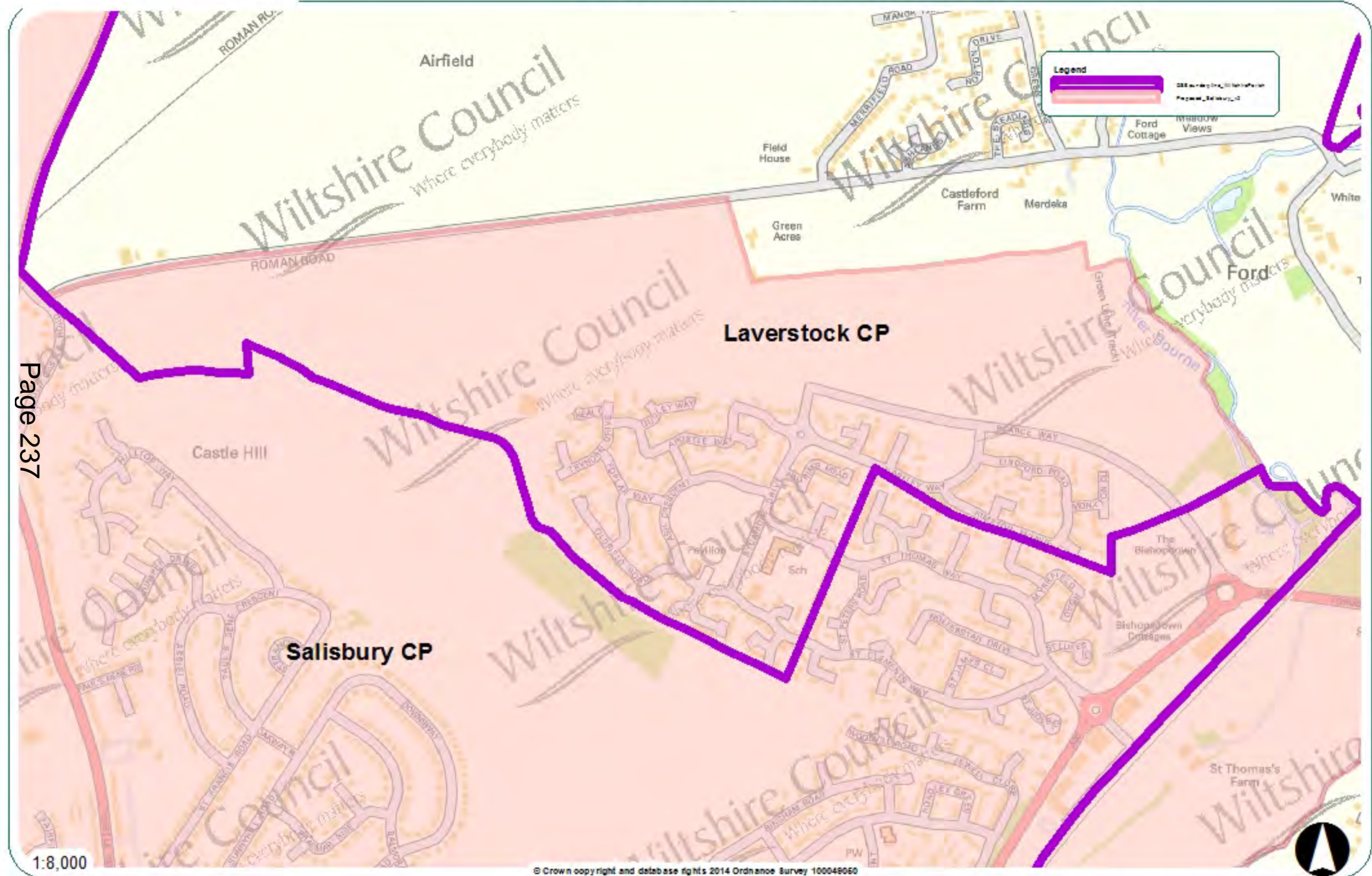


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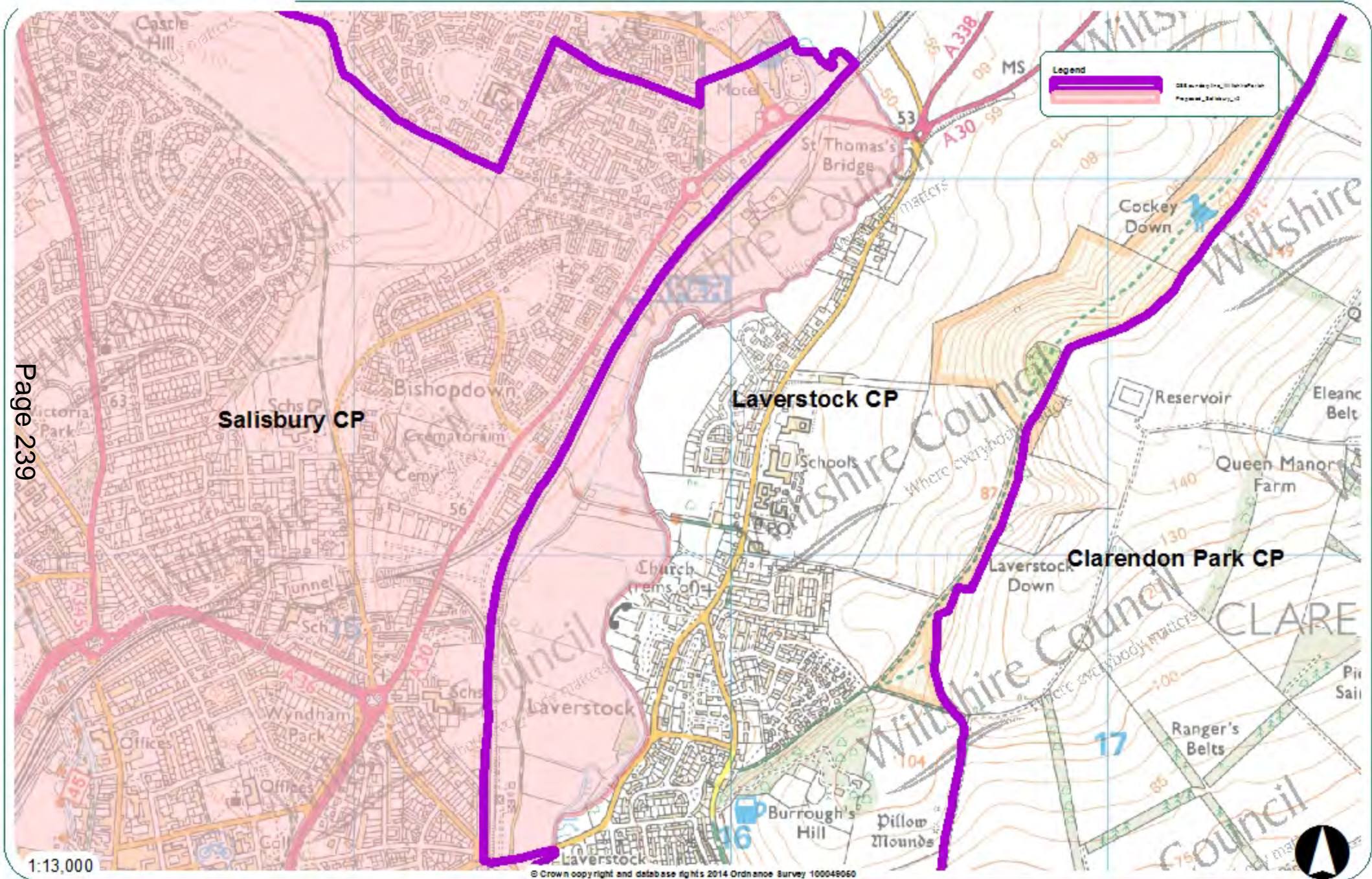


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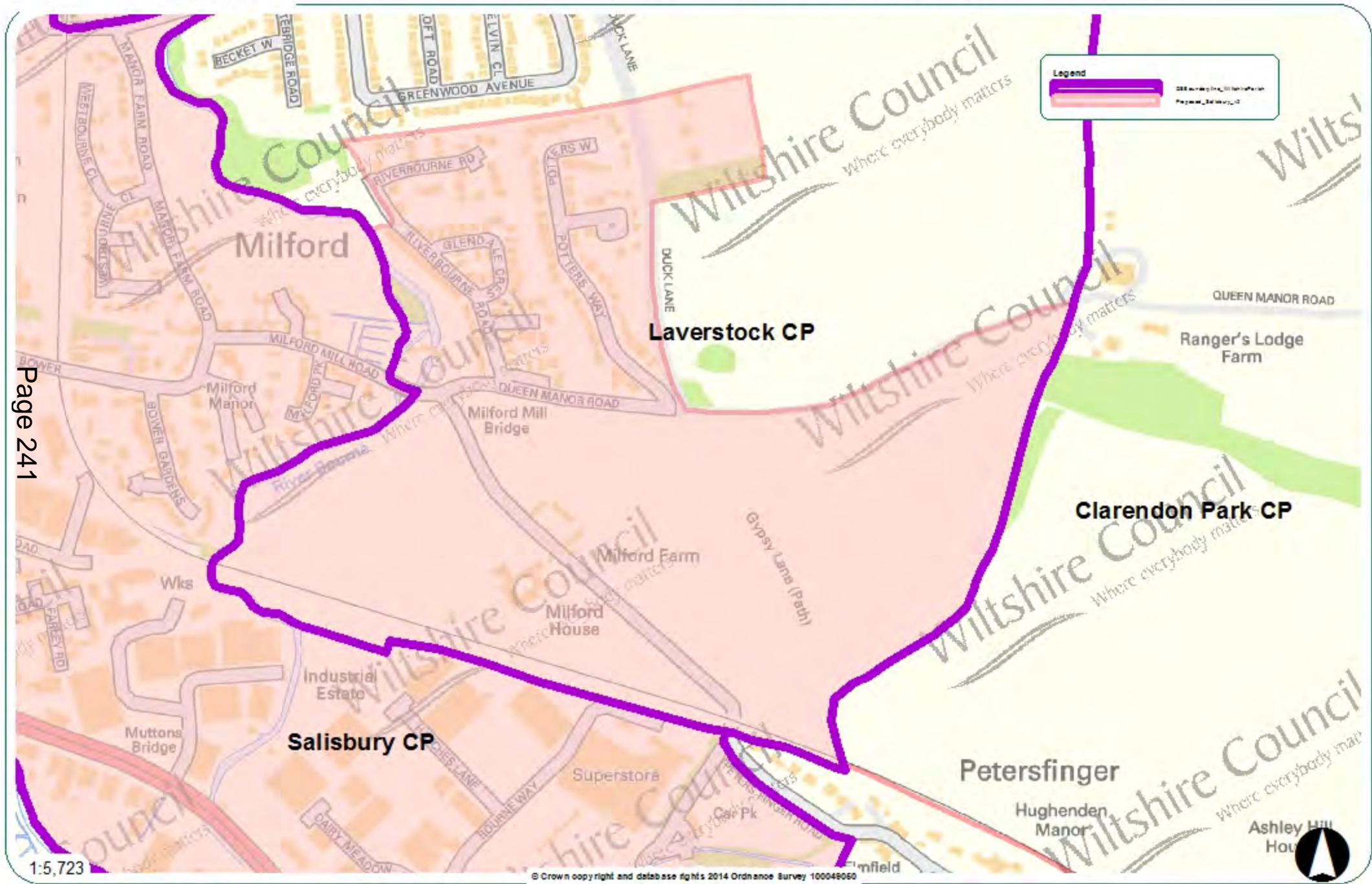




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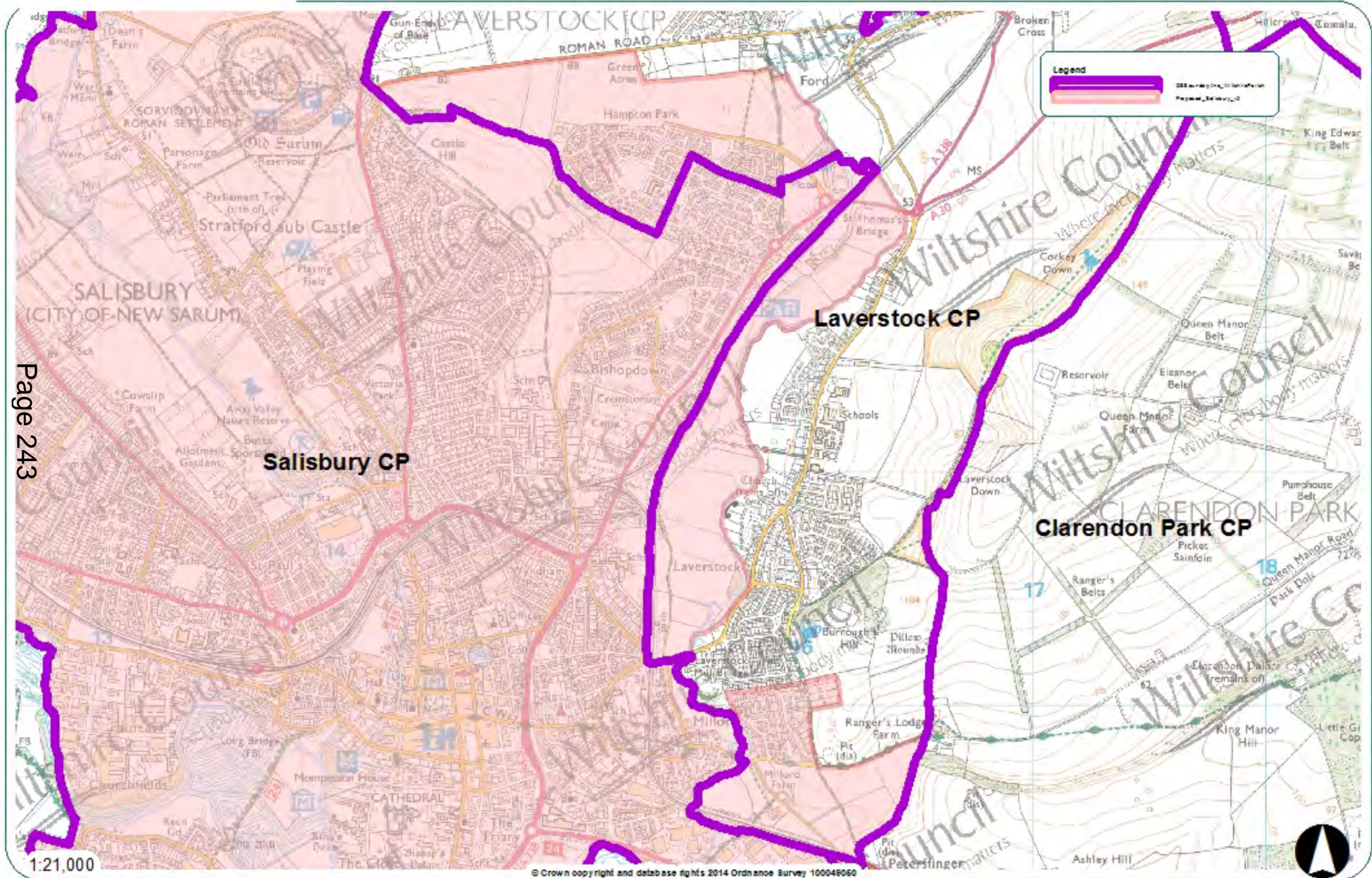


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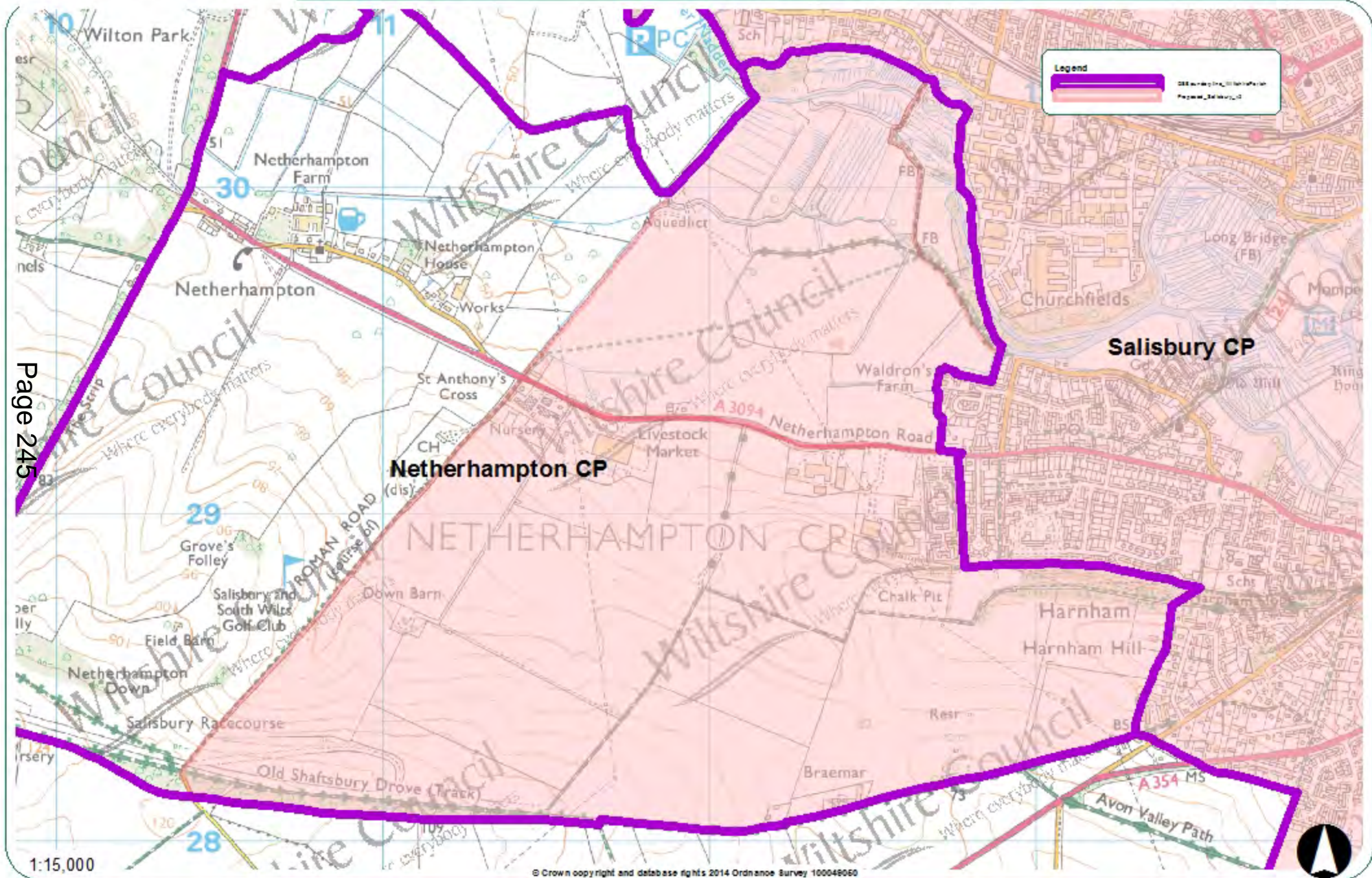
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**Salisbury City Council  
Proposed Parish Boundary Changes Option 2  
(Laverstock)**

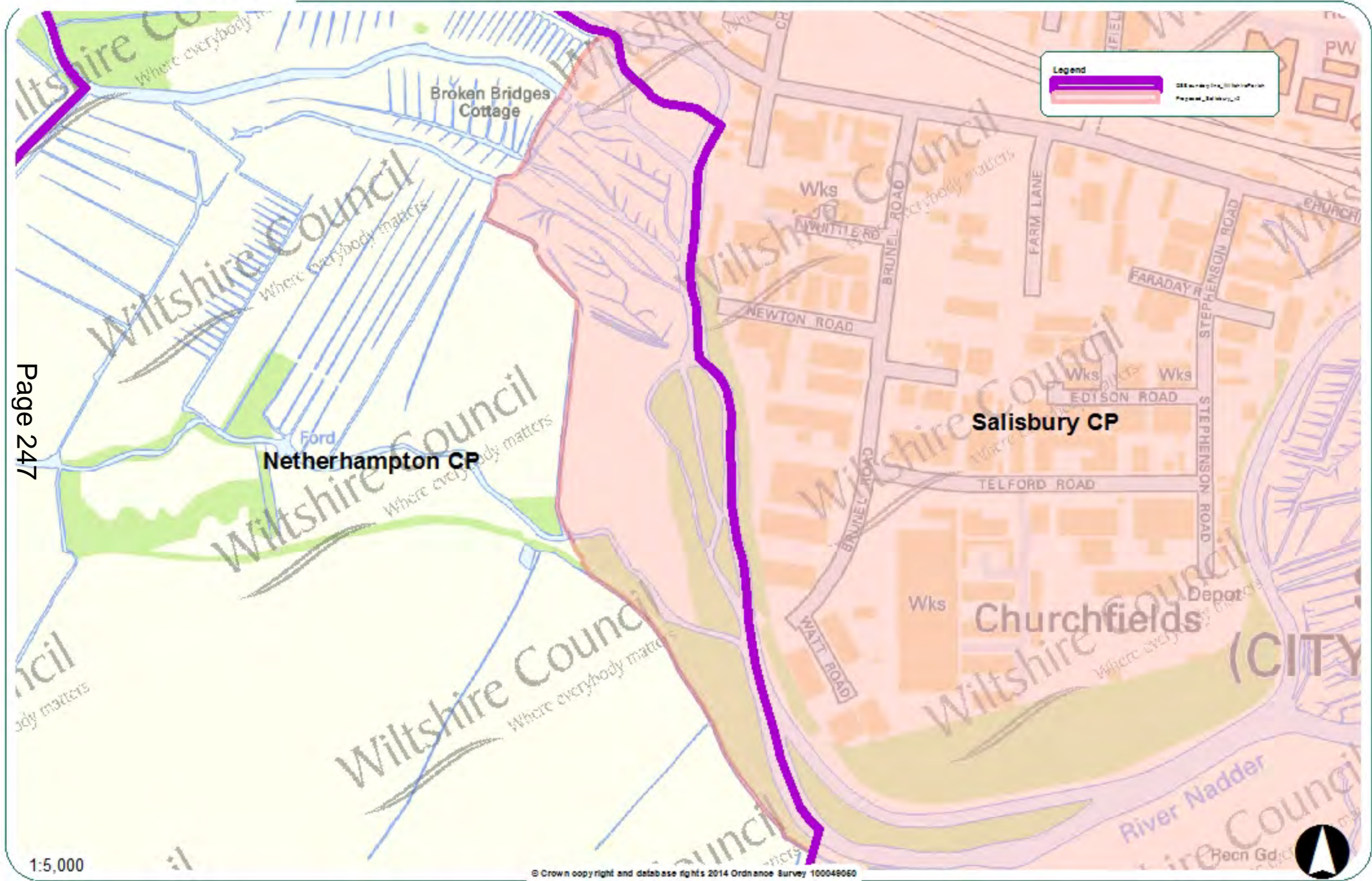


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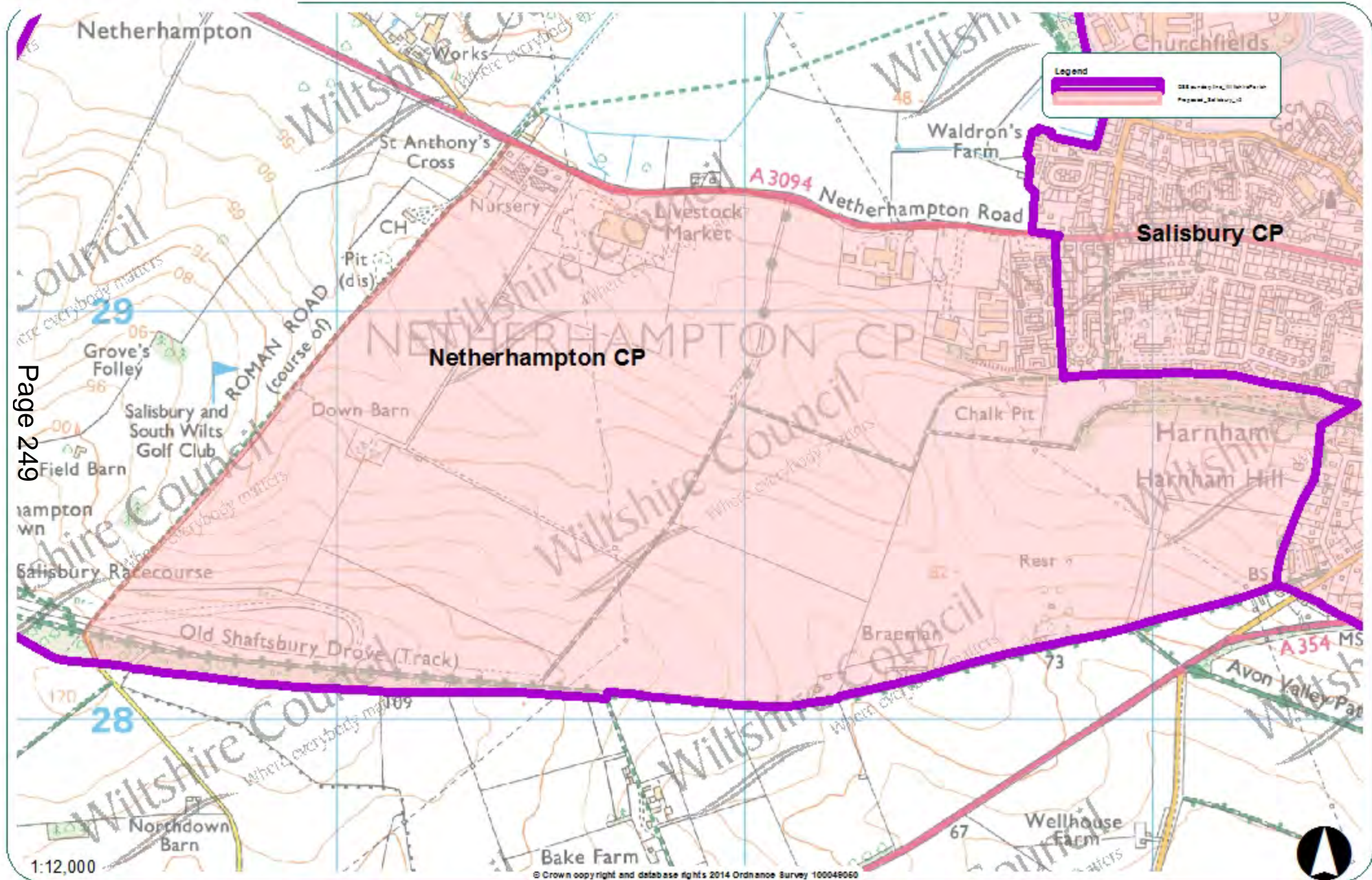


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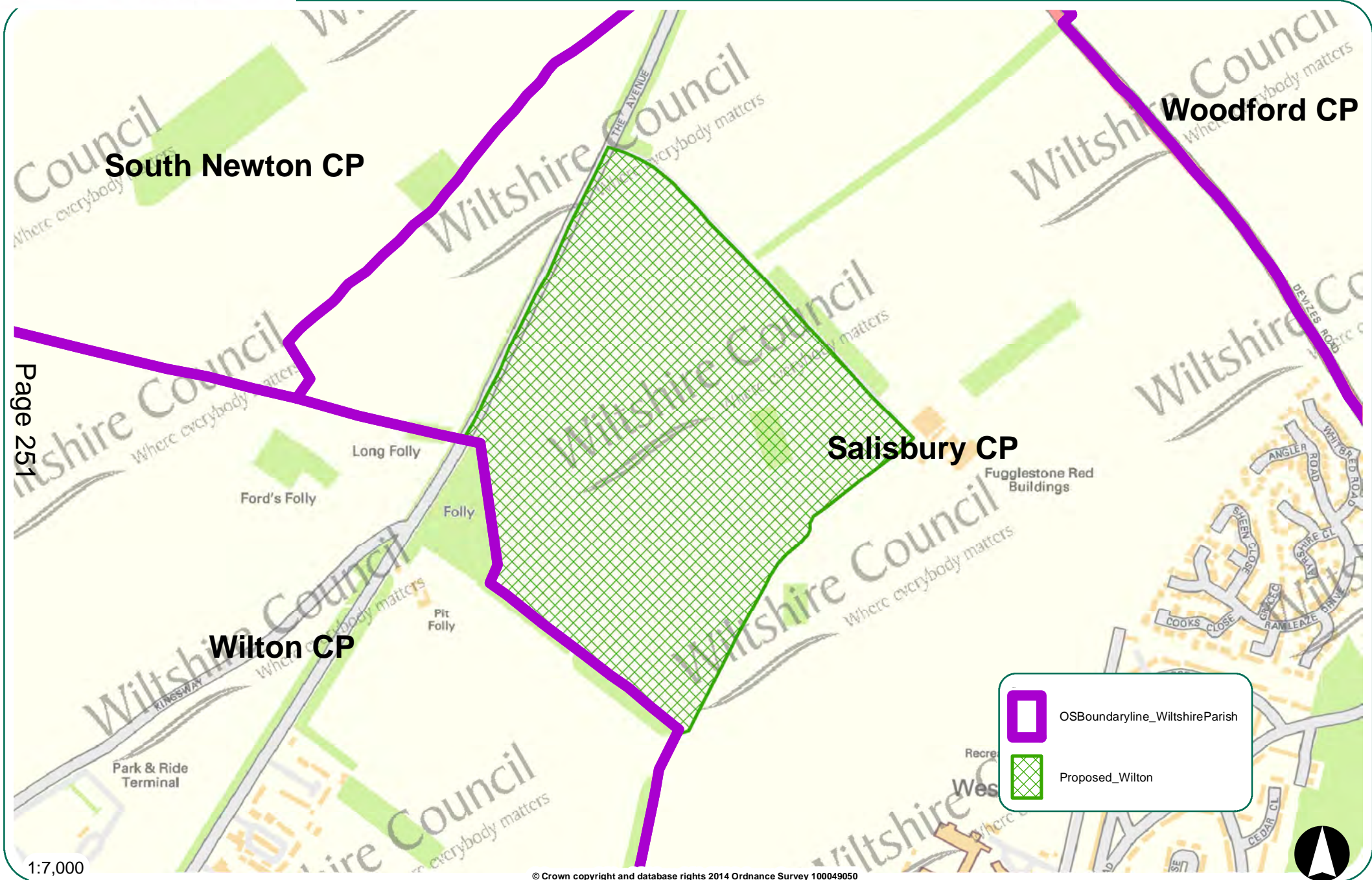


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## Salisbury City Council Proposed Parish Boundary Changes Option 5 (Netherhampton)



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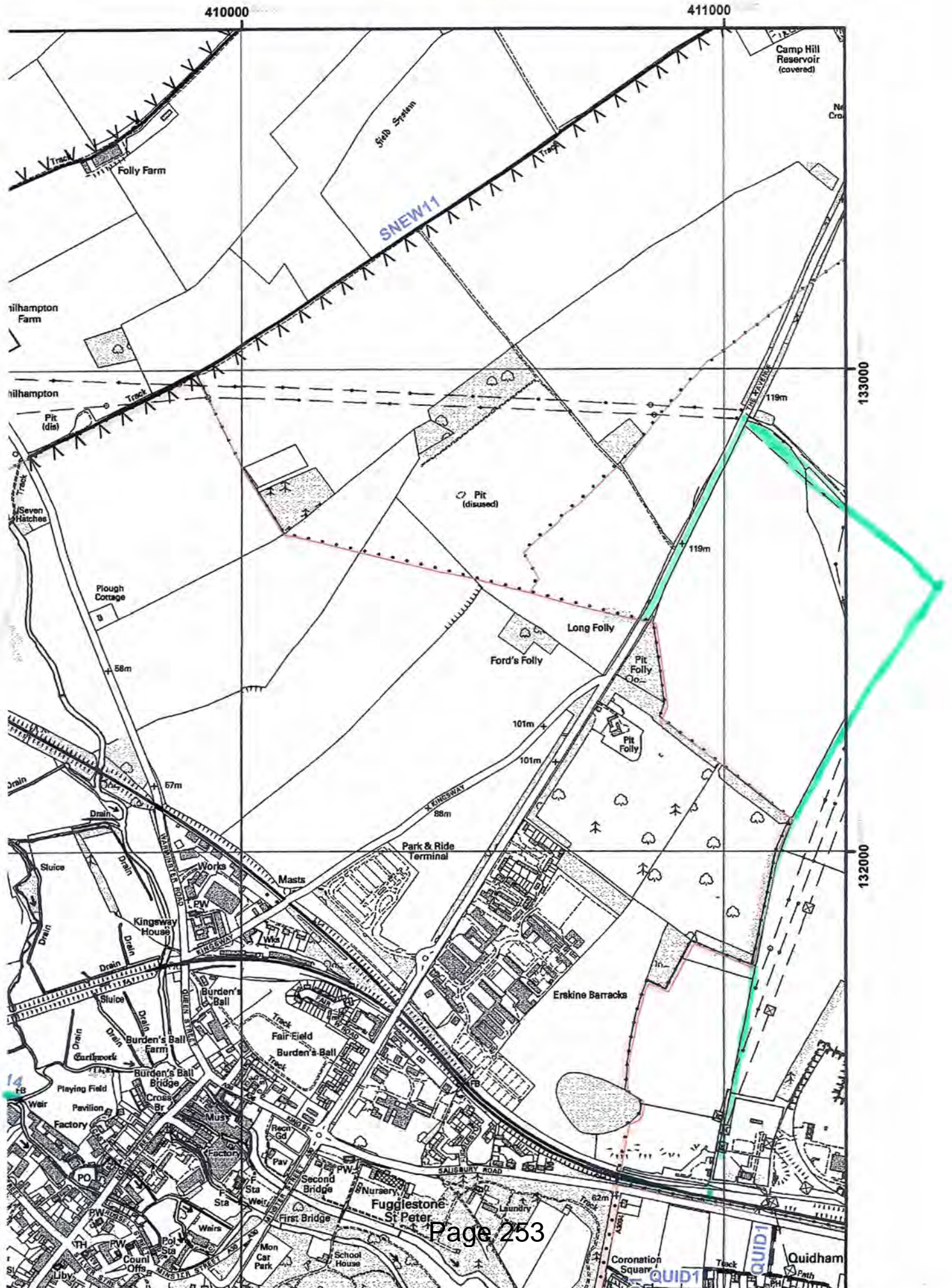


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PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY FOR WILTON C P

MARCH 2014



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