

# AGENDA SUPPLEMENT (1)

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Meeting: **Council**  
Place: **Council Chamber - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN**  
Date: **Tuesday 24 November 2015**  
Time: **10.30 am**

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**The Agenda for the above meeting was published on 16 November 2015. Additional documents are now available and are attached to this Agenda Supplement.**

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718024 or email [Yamina.Rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Yamina.Rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

This Agenda and all the documents referred to within it are available on the Council's website at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## **4 Public Participation (Pages 3 - 8)**

Questions received from the following together with responses :

- David Burton, Chairman – Laverstock and Ford Parish Council
- Lance Allan, Clerk – Trowbridge Town Council
- Teresa Strange, Clerk – Melksham Without Parish Council

## **8 Community Governance Reviews (Pages 9 - 32)**

Additional representations received.

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DATE OF PUBLICATION: 23 November 2015





# Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Hampton Park & Old Sarum

Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge

17 November 2015

## **Extraordinary Meeting, Council, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015** **Question from David Burton, Chairman - Laverstock and Ford Parish Council**

**Question** Re: Agenda item 7. Notice of Motion No.27 by Councillors Mary Douglas and Richard Clewer

I am pleased to see that Councillors Douglas and Clewer, in this Notice of Motion, have finally acknowledged that Laverstock and Ford Parish does indeed have a strong village spirit, worthy of protection.

Unfortunately SCC's proposed solution to retaining our community's integrity while merging us with the City, is very much too little too late.

Since 1894 the Parish Council of Laverstock and Ford has built a close-knit community spirit, which has enabled us to develop leading community services in the Parish. To name a few of these:

We have nurtured the River Bourne Community Farm on land previously abandoned by the City for over twenty years and helped it grow over five years into a self-funding facility which provides numerous social, educational and environmental services to the Parish residents AND thousands of residents from the neighbouring City.

We have developed a system of rural trails within the Parish, an approach that Wiltshire Council have run with in Southern Area and now plan to roll out across Wiltshire. Our new Old Sarum Youth Club has already won an award from Community First and is praised as an exemplar for youth services.

We have worked tirelessly with developers on a new Country Park within the Parish with hundreds of hours of voluntary input to bring it to Green Flag Standard - the first Green Flag Standard Country Park for Wiltshire.

We actively engage with the schools mentioned in the Motion to ensure cohesion between the school children and residents.

We also have an enviable track record of support for our work with residents who recently

voted decisively to remain in the Parish of Laverstock and Ford.

My question to Wiltshire Councillors is therefore how can it be equitable, when we are providing more than our fair share of services for both our own residents and many of those in the neighbouring City, that Salisbury City Council should be handed our Parish and the first rate services we have built to help pay for it's own inefficiencies?

I wish to make a 3-minute statement at the Council meeting on the 24th of November and would be grateful if this written question can be circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

## **Response**

As Mr. Burton will have seen, the view of the Working Group is that the current boundary between the parishes of Salisbury and Laverstock & Ford in the Bishopsdown Farm area is no longer appropriate, as it cuts through the estate roads, dividing the estate between the two parishes in a way that is not felt to be sensible or convenient for the provision of effective local government. Having considered the submissions from both of the parish councils and the representations received from local residents, it is the recommendation of the Working Group, taking into account the statutory criteria and government guidance, that it would be more appropriate for this area to become part of Laversock & Ford Parish. In reaching that recommendation, the Working Group was aware of many of the points that Mr. Burton has set out in the preamble to his question. There are, of course, arguments in favour of Salisbury City Council's position that this area becomes part of the City and it is, therefore, a matter for the Council whether it accepts the recommendation of the Working Group, or whether it wishes either to approve the other option on which there has been consultation, or to ask the Working Group to consider and consult on other option for this area.

## **Questions to Wiltshire Council, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015. From Lance Allen, Clerk to Trowbridge Town Council**

### **Supporting statement.**

Whilst Trowbridge Town Council welcomes the recognition by the Working Group that; *'There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation'* and that; they have therefore recommended *'That decisions on the proposals numbered 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 26 for changes to the areas of Trowbridge and surrounding parishes be deferred for further consideration and consultation by the Working Group and that there also be consultation on proposal 27'*, they have failed to make a recommendation to Wiltshire Council with respect to a number of other proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council:

- 24. Lady Down Farm
- 25. Hilperton Gap South
- 28. Ashton Park Urban Extension
- 29. White Horse Business Park

And have therefore taken the decision themselves to reject these proposals without any justification.

### **Question 1.**

How can the Working Party reconcile its failure to make a recommendation in support of scheme 24 Lady Down Farm, a proposal which moves the boundary from an undefined middle of field position to the Kennet and Avon Canal, with its recommendation in support of scheme 47 which moves the boundary to the Kennet and Avon Canal, giving as a reason for its support as; *'the proposal would provide a clearer boundary between the two parishes'*; and its failure to make a recommendation in support of scheme 25 Hilperton Gap South, a proposal which moves the boundary from the middle of a number of back gardens to a new road on the edge of a town, with its recommendation in support of scheme 42 which moves the boundary to a new road on the edge of a town, giving as a reason for its support as; *'The transfer of this area of land . . . would provide a logical definitive boundary between the two parishes'*; and its failure to make a recommendation in support of scheme 28 Ashton Park Urban Extension, a proposal which incorporates areas of new development to the south of the town which are remote from their villages, with its recommendation in support of scheme 42 which incorporates areas of new development to the south of a town which are remote from their village, giving as a reason for its support as; *'The majority of parish residents live in the residential estates to the south of Devizes and have a clear community link with the town'*; and with its recommendation in support of scheme 43 which incorporates areas of new development to the east of the town which are remote from their village, giving as a reason for its support as; *'The proposed new boundary lines provided a clear division*

*between the two parishes and that the community in the area to be transferred would have clear affinity with Melksham'?*

## **Response**

In considering each of the areas under review, the Working Group considered all of the relevant factors in the legislation and Government guidance and came to an overall conclusion as to the recommendations that it proposed to make in respect of that area. Given that, I do not see that there is any inconsistency in the summary reasons given for the various recommendations quoted in the question.

## **Question 2.**

When did Wiltshire Council agree to delegate decision making authority to the Community Governance Review Working Party, (with not a single councillor voting against that resolution, as the Working Party is not a politically balanced committee of the Council) and if Wiltshire Council did not make such a resolution, does Wiltshire Council accept that the decision of the Working Party not to make recommendations in respect of schemes 24, 25, 28 and 29 above, is Ultra Vires and will Wiltshire Council therefore now amend the recommendation to include schemes 24, 25, 28 and 29 in the '*further consideration and consultation*' so that all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council can be consulted on and presented to Wiltshire Council for decision making?

## **Response**

The terms of reference of the Working Group were approved by Council in February 2014. These included undertaking a review of the internal and external boundaries of Trowbridge and neighbouring parishes and associated seating arrangements. The role of the Working Group was to carry out reviews of the areas concerned and make recommendations to the Council. Whilst the Working Group had no executive powers to make final decisions on any boundary or other structural changes, it was a proper part of its remit to decide what proposals to put forward, initially for consultation and then to full Council for a decision.

It is a matter for Council whether to accept the Working Group's recommendations on any of the proposals or not. If it does not accept the Working Group's recommendation in respect of any of the areas under review, it can ask the Group to carry out further consideration and consultation, either generally or in respect of any specific proposals that may have been put forward by parish councils or other bodies.

**Question from Teresa Strange, Clerk to Melksham Without Parish Council.**

Questions:

**Can the Council please confirm the date when any changes will take place with regard to Precepting and Tax Base calculations; is this 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 or another date?**

The “Guidance on community governance reviews” issued by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England of which “Principal Authorities are required, by section 100 (4) of The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, to have regard to”; states the following:

*30. Reorganisation of community governance orders creating new parishes, abolishing parishes or altering their area can be made at any time following a review. However for administrative and financial purposes (such as setting up the parish council and arranging its first precept), the order should take effect on the 1 April following the date on which it's made. Electoral arrangements for a new or existing parish council will come into force at the first elections to the parish council following the reorganization order.*

This is a different date than the date in your Community Governance Review Report published with the agenda papers which states:

*5.4.Precepts. Depending on how many changes are approved by Council, there will be considerable work involved in reconciling property records to their new parish, both in respect of council tax and in many other departments. Further, parish councils would need an indication of their tax base for precepting purposes, and an introduction date of 1 April 2017 would seem to offer the best compromise.*

**Could you please clarify the date the change comes into effect.**

## **Response**

It is not possible, at this stage, to be definitive as to when any changes to community governance arrangements will come into effect. This will depend on when final approval is given to the proposed changes and how long it then takes to prepare and approve the necessary legal orders.

It is, however, unlikely that any final Order could be made before April 2016. The intention would therefore be for any approved changes to come into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, if possible, which would give time for any necessary preparatory work to be undertaken and would be consistent with the advice from the Guidance quoted in the question.



## Full Council, 24 November 2015.

### Additional correspondence in respect of the CGR schemes

	Scheme	Type	From	Date	Summary
1	18 to 29	Letter	Sport England	12/11/2015	Supports Trowbridge Town Council
2	2 and 3	Letter	Mr M Tudor	06/11/2015	Supports Laverstock and Ford
3	2 and 3	Letter	Mr A Wood	02/11/2015	No change to boundaries
4	2 and 3	Letter	Mrs D Walker	04/11/2015	No change to boundaries
5	2 and 3	Letter	Mrs M Finch	01/11/2015	No change to boundaries
6	2 and 3	Letter	Mrs J Hemming		Bishopdown Farm to Laverstock and Ford
7	2 and 3	Letter	Mr and Mrs G Haines	04/10/2015	No change to boundaries
8	2 and 3	Letter	Mr A Wright		No change to boundaries
9	2 and 3	Letter	Mr and Mrs K Eyres	01/11/2015	No change to boundaries
10	2 and 3	Letter	Mr and Mrs B Evans	30/10/2015	No change to boundaries
11	2 and 3	Letter	Mr A Baker	31/10/2015	Bishopdown Farm to Laverstock and Ford
12	2 and 3	Letter	Mr and Mrs A Kingston	01/11/2015	Remain in L&F and assimilate Bishopdown Farm
13	2 and 3	Letter	Mr M Uffindell	31/10/2015	Bishopdown Farm to Laverstock and Ford
14	53 and 54	Letter	Redlynch Parish Council	28/08/2015	Supports (may be a duplicate copy)
15	26 to 29	E-mail	Mr and Mrs N Heard	17/11/2015	Opposes West Ashton to Trowbridge
16	26 to 29	E-mail	Mr R Covington	17/11/2015	Opposes West Ashton to Trowbridge
17	26 to 29	E-mail	Mr and Mrs D Smith	13/11/2015	Opposes West Ashton to Trowbridge
18	26 to 29	E-mail	Mrs J Bonome-Maclver	12/11/2015	Opposes West Ashton to Trowbridge
19	26 to 29	Letter	West Ashton Parish Council	20/11/2015	Opposes Trowbridge TC proposals
20	2 and 3	Letter	Laverstock and Ford Parish Council	19/11/2015	Opposes Motion 27 (incorporation of Laverstock within Salisbury)
21	49 and 50	Email	Clyffe Pypard Parish Council	23/11/15	No change boundaries

### Summary of additional survey responses

#### Electronic

A1, A2, B7	Salisbury area	9 in favour of either staying or moving to L&F. 1 to stay in Salisbury
A3, A4	Trowbridge area	1 in favour of all TTC, 10 prefer to remain in Hilperton, 6 against TTCs 4c and 4d
A8	Box and Corsham	1 in favour of Box proposal
A9	Melksham area	3 against merger. 1 in favour of 47 (Seend)
B3	Nomansland (Redlynch and Landford)	1 in favour

#### Hard copy

Scheme	Summary
18 to 29	2 strongly agree with all Trowbridge TC proposals
39	1 strong objection at The Knowle
40 and 41	2 disagree with Corsham Town Council's proposal
51	Two parish councils agree with proposal
52	Two parish councils agree with proposal, one of which prefers to offer a wider scheme

Lance Allan BSc FILCM  
Town Clerk  
Trowbridge Town Council,  
The Civic Centre,  
St Stephen's Place, Trowbridge,  
BA14 8AH

12 November 2015

Dear Lance,

Thank you for contacting Sport England and raising the Community Boundary Review & Trowbridge.

Sports England has been very appreciative that the Trowbridge Town Council has been proactive in shaping sports projects over the years and anticipates this becomes harder when local boundaries change and/or become too fragmented to join things up strategically. Our expectations are that public sector bodies develop an evidenced based assessment of needs in the local area which informs a strategy on facilities and sports pitches. An example of this working in practice is the development of the site adjacent to Trowbridge Rugby Club as the best location.

From a sports perspective Sport England would hope to see strong local leadership and willing partnerships from the local authority and the town and parish councils within the authority area in order to best serve the sporting needs of residents. Ideally this would be along the lines of how Trowbridge Town Council has already been working with Sport England and partners in order to shape sport for Trowbridge.

Yours sincerely

Nick Lockwood

Relationship Manager Facilities and Planning

T: 020 7273 1864 M: 07801 755423

E: [nick.lockwood@sportengland.org](mailto:nick.lockwood@sportengland.org)



22, Potters Way,  
Milford.

Salisbury

SP1 1PY

2 Nov 15

Dear Sir,

I write to express a view on proposals to change the parish boundaries.

I note that a public meeting to discuss the issue was held at 6:0 PM on Thursday 15 Oct. A date chosen, I hope in ignorance rather than as a deliberate attempt to offend, that conflicted with those who wished to celebrate Al Hija (the Islamic New Year). How insensitive whatever your ethnic origin or faith.

Whereas it is difficult to imagine that there would be any benefits to residents from changing the parish boundaries the disadvantages are numerous. How many times do we have to tell you we do not wish to change our boundaries?

Yours faithfully,

A. J. Wood

(A. J. WOOD)

4th Nov. 2015

Mrs. D. M. Walker  
22, St Andrews,  
Laverstock,  
Salisbury, Wilts SP1 1RS

Stuart Wheeler  
Chairman, Wiltshire Council C&R Working Group.  
Paddock Cottage  
Ram Alley.  
Burbage.  
Wiltshire  
SN8 3BL

Dear Sir,

We have no desire for all or part of the Laverstock and Ford Parish being absorbed into the City by Salisbury City Council. We are a rural Parish, and wish to remain so, with all the benefits that accompany this. Further, we have lived in Laverstock for 13 years, and are emphatic that things should remain as they are i.e. as a rural Parish.

Yours Faithfully

 Page 13

4 Helen Lobsenz

Loverskote

Salisbury

SP1-1PG

1st November 2015

Stewart Wheeler,  
Lobair of the Working Group.

With reference to the information  
of the letter enclosed in our news  
Lowerstock Parish magazine delivered  
this week.

On the 8th December 1998 my husband  
retired and we visited a few home  
with a country setting and we were  
pleased to find a lovely village outside  
of the city, with all the amenities  
etc and gardens & fields, and village  
like Stone Village Hall, Lehurst, some schools  
and in recent years the Kingsdown Farm  
with all the animals etc.  
We know that Ford's Old Square are  
concerned with the village, this side of  
the Ring Road, should be kept as country  
not busy life, we haven't got the same  
facilities, the houses have all their services

The Council don't repair our paths  
& Roads, so we are told they haven't  
got any money, thank their government  
and the Council cannot afford to waste  
the peoples money on things, it's not  
really needed,  
we are old aged pensioners who  
are unable to keep coping with  
rising costs!

People who want to get planning  
permission for large things build  
on their property to make a large  
concrete for selling in future they over  
the people who's Rates should go up.  
I think this will help you in  
further meetings, sorry I'm unable to attend  
any meetings I haven't any transport  
and I'm only able to go to tea time.

Yours Sincerely  
Mrs M. Field.

Stuart Wheeler  
Chair of the  
Working Group  
Wiltshire Council C.G.R.

Dear Sir,

I am an original owner  
occupier of what is now  
called Bishopdown Farm.

I would like Bishopdown  
Farm to become part of  
Laverstock & Ford Parish.

My reasons are as  
follows - Laverstock & Ford  
in the 33 years I have  
lived here, 13 in Laverstock  
& 20 Bishopdown Farm,  
have proved themselves  
Consistent, Caring Page 15

more than capable of meeting the needs of the area they represent.

W.C.C. on the other hand have in the past caused me grief and hardships in several departments by their incompetence, and lack of understanding of their responsibilities. On 2 occasions I have had to seek other professional advice & help to solve problems created by them.

I now watch with sadness and dismay at the total neglect of most aspects of life in the area



and vast sums of money  
given to Balfour Beatty  
who frankly have not  
got a clue on what to  
do or how to do it.

Yours in frustration

J. Elizabeth Hemming

P.S. Apologies for hand  
writing I have a hand  
problem at the moment

11 Woodland Way.

Laversstock

Salisbury.

SP11SB.

29<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Mr MR. Wheeler.

I am writing to you regarding the  
results of the current Community Governance Review.

We do not wish to be absorbed by the

We would like to keep our parish  
a whole, not change it, to remain  
independent of Salisbury City Council.

We have a very good non-political  
parish council looking after our needs.  
We chose to live in a rural parish.

Yours sincerely

G. Haines.

Mrs. Gillian Haines.

55 Partridge Way  
Old Sarum  
Wilts  
SP4 6PX

Chairman, Wiltshire CGR Working Group  
Paddock Cottage  
Ram Alley  
Burbage  
Wiltshire  
SN8 3BL

Dear Mr Wheeler

I am a resident of Laverstock and Ford Parish, I have in the past been a member of the council and am proud of our Parish Council and the way it looks after the area. The council is non-political and feel there is no room for party politics at this level of government or financial allowances I am opposed to any merger with Salisbury Parish.

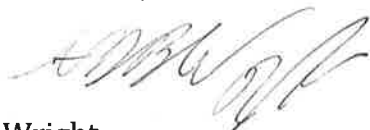
Laverstock and Ford is a mainly rural parish and is not a good match with an urban Parish like Salisbury. The people of the Parish have made their wishes clear with a democratic vote with a higher turn out than a local or general election. A 99.4% is a pretty clear outcome from a vote, therefore any decision that merges the two parishes is purely autocratic and the action akin to the action of a dictatorship.

The Parish is over 100 years old, I consider this to be a long tradition and if Salisbury do want to absorb us I would suggest they include Wilton as well after all the only reason Salisbury Parish has not included them is on the grounds of history

The meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> October at 4 pm was at a short notice and could not easily be attended by someone working full time 9 to 5 and therefore the outcome can not be trusted as a true represent.

Laverstock and Ford is not broken therefore does not need any fixing in the form of merger with Salisbury,

Yours Sincerely



Alex Wright

Culver,  
12 Church Road,  
Laverstock,  
Salisbury,  
Wilts.  
SP1 1QX  
1<sup>st</sup> November 2015

Cllr Stuart Wheeler.  
Chairman Wiltshire Council CGR Working Group,  
Paddock Cottage,  
Ram Alley,  
Burbage,  
Wiltshire.  
SN8 3BL

Dear Cllr Wheeler,

We wish to register our objection to the Salisbury City Council proposal to take over Laverstock and Ford Parish.

We moved to Laverstock nearly 40 years ago from Salisbury because we wished to live in a village environment but still being close to the city of Salisbury.

Laverstock is a vibrant village with many well supported clubs and organisations including WI, Garden Club, Ladies Group, Evergreen, Scouts and Brownies. The well maintained village hall is nearly fully booked on a regular basis by clubs and organisations.

The very successful Laverstock Community Farm is another asset to the village. Monthly cream teas during the summer months served by the WI are extremely popular. The day to day running of the farm is helped by many volunteers from the village. Villagers are able to take their children and grandchildren to see the animals and walk around the farm. Many special events for all ages are organised by the farm. Also produce is sold in the farm shop.

Laverstock council is non political and its members are dedicated to work for the good of the village. A bi-monthly newsletter is delivered to every home in the village informing residents of parish affairs and forthcoming events.

Laverstock has its own identity of which the residents are most proud of and we do not want to be ruled by Salisbury City Council. We urge you to reject the Salisbury City Council proposal to take over Laverstock.

Yours sincerely



K.S.Eyres and Margaret L.Eyres

130 Greenwood Avenue  
Laverstock, Salisbury  
Wiltshire SP1 1PE

30th October, 2015

Stuart Wheeler  
Chairman, Wiltshire Council CGR Working Group  
Paddock Cottage  
Ram Alley  
Burbage, Wiltshire  
SN8 3BL

Dear Mr Wheeler

We are writing to you with regard to the proposal, put forward by Salisbury Council, to take over Laverstock and absorb it into the city.

We have lived in Laverstock for twenty-five years. One of the things that drew us was the fact that Laverstock was *not* a suburb of Salisbury, but a community in its own right, with its own church, pub, primary school, sports club, village hall (where many different clubs and societies meet), and, more recently, a community farm. It is a place with a 'being', and a history, of its own.

One of the great things about the Parish of Laverstock and Ford is the *Parish News* which comes out every two months. This is a mine of information on local services, and a directory of local organisations. The magazine publishes articles on local affairs and people's interests. We ourselves are involved in a local history group, and the *Parish News* regularly publishes reports of the papers delivered at our meetings. If Laverstock was made part of Salisbury, this platform would surely be lost.

We firmly believe that decision-making should be made as closely as possible to the people affected. Therefore we must speak up for Laverstock, against Salisbury's 'empire-building.'

Yours truly

Handwritten signature of Bryan R Evans and Sharon A Evans. The signature is written in cursive and includes the initials 'Bryan R Evans' and 'Sharon A Evans'.

Bryan and Sharon Evans

20 St Christopher's Close,  
Bishopdown Farm,  
Salisbury,  
Wiltshire. SP1 3FL

31/10/15.

Mr S Wheeler,  
Paddock Cottage,  
Ram Alley,  
Burbage,  
Wiltshire. SN8 3BL

Dear Sir,

Governance Review Community 2015.

I looked at the Council Website intending to use it to make my views known to the Working Group regarding the proposed alterations to Parish Boundaries in this area but found it to be not particularly 'user friendly' so am writing to you instead.

When I moved here from London in 1994 I did so in the hope of having a quiet rural existence which at first it was . However over the ensuing years, with all the development which has gone on, the character of the area has changed, not for the better, in my opinion, so it will come as no surprise to you to learn that I am for the proposal shown on Wiltshire Council's Map 2 and joining Bishopdown Farm with Laverstock Parish .

Yours faithfully,



A A Baker.

**Andrew and Kathleen Kingston, 19 Glendale Crescent, Milford, Salisbury, SP1  
1NT  
Tel: 01722 335773**

Mr S. Wheeler  
Chairman, Wiltshire Council CGR Working Group  
Paddock Cottage  
Ram Alley  
Burbage  
Wiltshire  
SN8 3BL

November 1st 2015

Dear Mr Wheeler,

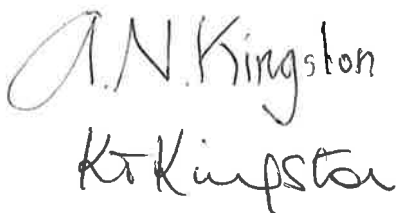
We wish to make clear that we want the Parishes of Laverstock and Ford to remain outside the Wiltshire Council Area.

We want to remain in the Parishes of Laverstock and Ford Council Area and want also to assimilate Bishop Down Farm into our Parish area.

This, we feel, will preserve the rural area in which we live and have the added benefit of protecting our green spaces as well as giving our residences priority in any new housing allocations in the Parish.

This I believe is in line with the Government's localism plan whereby power is devolved down to the local community.

Yours sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'A.N. Kingston' and the second is 'Kt Kingston'. Both are written in a cursive, personal style.

Andrew and Kathleen Kingston

*Highford,  
Manor Farm Road  
Ford,  
Salisbury,  
Wiltshire,  
SP4 6DG*

31/10/2015

S. Wheeler Esq.  
Chairman, WC CGR Working Group,  
Paddock Cottage,  
Ram Alley,  
Burbage,  
Wiltshire  
SN8 3BL

Dear Mr Wheeler,

Reference Laverstock and Ford Parish Boundary

I understand that your group is currently managing the consultation concerning the proposals to adjust parish boundaries in my area. As with so much that Wiltshire Council seems to engage in at present the system is not user friendly and the overly cumbersome forms on the internet have encouraged me to submit my concerns and ultimate objections by land mail. Having called a public meeting with little notice or advertising I am concerned that yet another decision will be pushed through without proper concern to those it affects.

Obviously born out of political need and not social necessity, this proposal will hitch a perfect well managed parish council (Laverstock and Ford) to a politically motivated and poorly run parish council (Salisbury). Common sense dictates that option one is adopted, that is Bishopdown Farm becoming part of Laverstock and Ford and benefitting from a caring non political council running their affairs.

Our parish council owns and manages its own capital assets, not to be given over to Salisbury.

We do not require a significant rise in our council tax to support the city events and misguided policies.

We have an effective and viable council which takes decisions and is run by local residents.

Laverstock and Ford are rural villages that require local and like minded residents to run them. Please do not lump us in with the urbanites whose only objective is to increase political capital.

Yours sincerely,

M S Uffindell



# REDLYNCH PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Mrs Kate Budworth

Parish Clerk: Nicky Ashton, c/o Redlynch Village Hall, Vicarage Road, Lover, Wilts, SP5 2PG

Tel 01725 513245

Email: [clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org)

[www.redlynchparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.redlynchparishcouncil.gov.uk)



Mr John Watling  
Electoral Services  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

28<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Dear Mr Watling

## **Community Governance Review – Hamptworth and Nomansland**

Thank you for your emails of 28<sup>th</sup> August 2015 concerning the review of the parish boundary for Redlynch and Landford Parish Councils.

Representatives from both Councils have met to discuss the issue of Nomansland and Hamptworth becoming part of Landford Parish Council due to the demographics of the area and residents possibly having more affinity with Landford than Redlynch.

The proposed boundary lines should Nomansland or both Nomansland and Hamptworth move to Landford Parish Council were agreed by both Councils when discussed initially.

In light of your request for further comments regarding this issue, Redlynch Parish Council again discussed the proposed boundary lines at their meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

The Council are still in agreement with the proposals but would like to request that where the proposed boundary line runs along a footpath/bridleway Wiltshire Council specifies which Parish the footpath/bridleway lies within. Again due to the demographics it was thought users of the footpaths/bridleways were more likely to be residents of Redlynch Parish and would therefore suggest they remain within Redlynch Parish.

Should the proposed changes be agreed the Parish Council wish to also query the following:

1. Will the assets owned by Redlynch Parish Council within Nomansland and Hamptworth be transferred to Landford Parish Council?
2. Who will manage these asset transfers?
3. Who will pay for any legal expenses?

*Representing the communities of  
Hamptworth, Lover, Morgan's Vale, Nomansland, Redlynch and Woodfalls*

# REDLYNCH PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Mrs Kate Budworth

Parish Clerk: Nicky Ashton, c/o Redlynch Village Hall, Vicarage Road, Lover, Wilts, SP5 2PG

Tel 01725 513245

Email: [clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org](mailto:clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org)

[www.redlynchparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.redlynchparishcouncil.gov.uk)



4. How will the proposed changes affect the finances of Redlynch Parish Council in particular will the funds held by Redlynch Parish in their general reserves remain those of Redlynch Parish Council?
5. Are you able to confirm when the boundaries would change should they be agreed?

Thank you for your assistance in this matter and I look forward to receiving a response to the above points raised by the Council.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Ashton'.

Nicky Ashton, Parish Clerk  
On behalf of Redlynch Parish Council

# West Ashton Parish Council



Please reply to the Clerk – Ms Nicola Duke, 21 Hackney Way,  
Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 2GE Tel: 01373 864127 email:  
westashtonpc@outlook.com

Community Governance Review Working Party  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wiltshire

20<sup>th</sup> November 2015

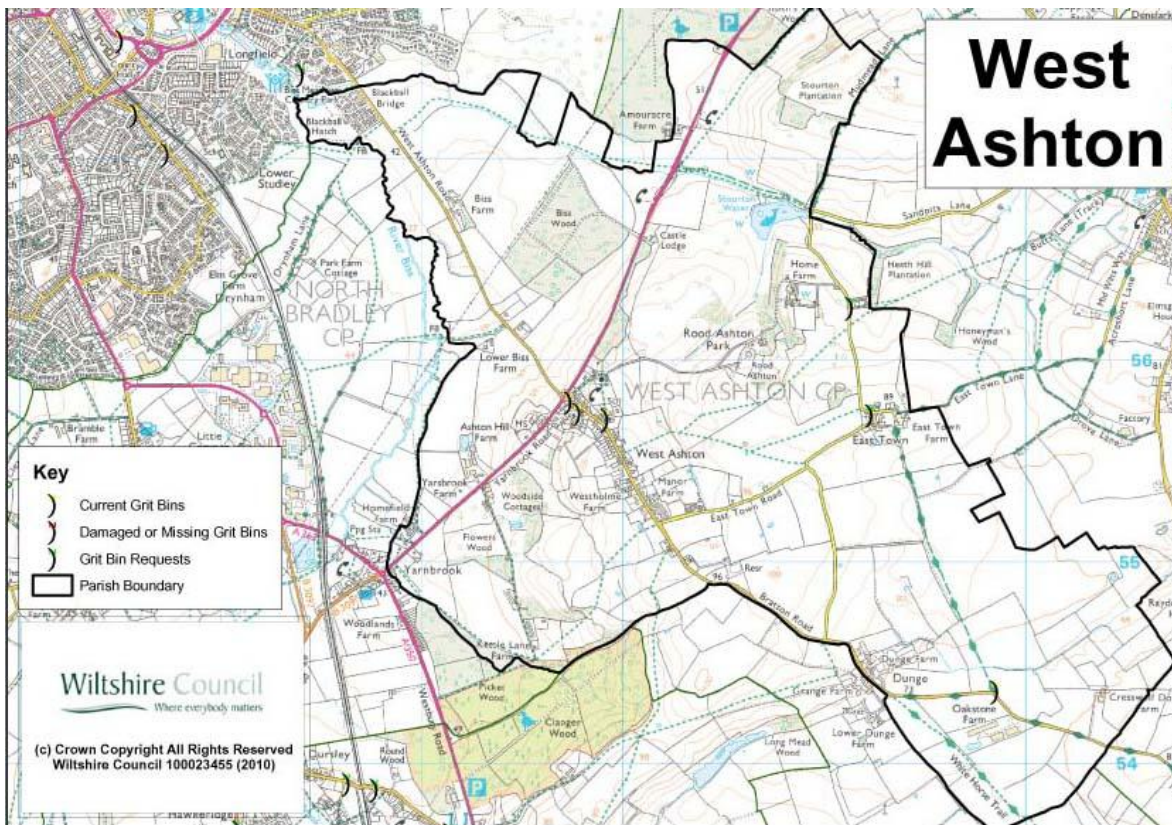
Dear Councillors: Stuart Wheeler; Ernie Clerk; Jon Hubbard  
*Cc Ian McLennon*

## **West Ashton submission for Governance and Boundaries**

West Ashton Parish Council believes it is best placed to serve the needs of residents in the parish as it grows and develops. Currently the parish has a community that is diverse and distributed across the whole parish. This is from Old Farm, formerly the site of Larkrise community farm that has now moved to near the centre of the parish, to East Town and Dunge with the hub of the community in the village of West Ashton itself.

With the housing and infrastructure development as defined in the Wiltshire Council Core Strategy, signed off by the Inspector and approved by Wiltshire Council earlier this year we believe West Ashton parish council can play its full part in shaping the lives of the folk that live and will live in a developed and vibrant community.

There are four main focal points in the parish: Primary School; Church; Village Hall and of course the Parish Council. Some of the parish council members serve on the village hall committee, which provides a strong focus for community activities. Indeed the parish council and various village groups are represented from across the whole parish and Trowbridge as well.



There have been several consultation meetings to put forward proposals for boundary changes and it is quite frightening to witness the proposals that big councils make to effectively emasculate parish communities with their plans to take over developed or to be developed land areas, ref: Core strategy development in Ashton Park.

Ms Jan Scott, leader of Wiltshire Council, made the following important points when introducing the budget consultation public meeting:

***Our priorities and focus...***

- *To support and empower communities to do more for themselves – making them stronger, more resilient and more able to cope*

***Meeting the challenges...***

- *We need local communities to become more resilient, to take on even more responsibility and to do more for themselves in their local areas*

These are two key messages that West Ashton parish council can take on board and drive alongside the Core Strategy in the aims for this part of Wiltshire and will be reflected in its Neighbourhood Plan.

West Ashton parish council can only achieve this if it has the ‘critical mass’ to do so therefore any changes to the parish will put its development in jeopardy and directly impact on the residents from all parts of the parish.

**Reference:** The Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Guidance on community governance reviews:

*In reviewing the guidance there are several important points to consider:*

*56. Parish Councils can contribute to the creation of successful communities by influencing the quality of planning and design of public spaces and the built environment, as well as improving the management and maintenance of such amenities.*

*80. The general rule should be that the parish is based on an area which reflects community identity and interest and which is of a size which is viable as an administrative unit of administration. This is generally because of the representative nature of parish councils and the need for them to reflect closely the identity of their communities. It is desirable that any recommendations should be for parishes or groups of parishes with a population of a sufficient size to adequately represent their communities and to justify the establishment of a parish council in each. Nevertheless as previously noted, it is recognized that there are enormous variations in the sizes of parishes, although most parishes are below 12,000 in population.*

*83. 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.*

*127. In rural areas, the Government wants to encourage the involvement of local people in developing their community and having a part to play in shaping the decisions that affect them. A parish can be a useful and democratic means of achieving this*

Perhaps it is worth considering Trowbridge Town Council’s (TTC) proposals, which on the face of it seem little more than a land grab and appear to be solely motivated by the revenue opportunity that it represents. There is no proposition of inclusiveness in terms of governance, only the notion of one town. The plan is to subsume parts of the surrounding parishes because it suits them, which is thinly disguised because the prize clearly has to be West Ashton parish land and the destruction of the green buffer between the town, West Ashton and North Bradley. Trowbridge Town Council has focussed on their financial benefits. Do they have issues with finances that the taking over of surrounding parishes will sort out for them?

Let’s consider the various areas that particularly affect West Ashton and the hostile proposals by Trowbridge Town Council.

#### **Area 4a – Old Farm**

This area was redeveloped when Larkrise farm moved courtesy of Wimpy Homes. The area is adjacent to the floodplain and black ball bridge, both of which are natural boundaries and are unlikely to change (see map above). *See above; extracted paragraph ‘83’ from “The Local Government Boundary Commission for England - Guidance on community governance reviews”.* The distance of Old Farm to Trowbridge, as quoted by TTC, is irrelevant *“100 metres of the main built up area of Trowbridge yet remote from the remainder of West Ashton village which is some 1600m away at the closest point near the A350 crossroads”.* The natural boundary as mentioned earlier overrides any consideration of mere metres. To go on to state it only affects 105 properties and assumes 223 that would increase would increase Trowbridge Park Electoral Division to 3581 is unabashed big brother tactics and doesn’t offer any community governance incentive.

#### **Area 4b – West Ashton Road Employment Land**

This is an area allocated for employment development and its boundary is a strip of grass land that forms a natural boundary between West Ashton and Trowbridge and is adjacent to the floodplain. This area has had planning permission since 1999 and has been subject to several extensions to this permission; there have recently been proposals for sports facilities and a children's nursery on this site, which would naturally complement the Ashton Parks development and support the West Ashton parish's community inclusiveness.

#### **Ashton Park**

This area does not appear to be included in this consultation but is nevertheless a key part of the Parish and the proposed development as approved in Wiltshire's Core Strategy.

It is vitally important that the whole area of Ashton Park - Areas 4a and 4b - are viewed as an integral part of the parish governance and the community that this offers for the future.

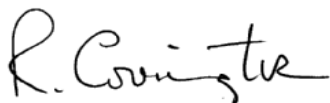
West Ashton Parish Council's 'Statutory Powers' with the boundaries secured as they are would enable the new and developing community to have influence and control over its own future without it being diluted by an old, traditional town council that on the face of it sees the revenue as its key driver.

#### **Area 4d – White Horse Business Park**

The boundary between Trowbridge is already set by a green field separation area and therefore inclusion of the White Horse Business Park within the boundary of Trowbridge would seem a step too far and quite unnecessary. The modest change in the electoral roll to the advantage of Trowbridge Town Council (TTC) provides no identifiable benefit. Indeed using their figures of only 2 residential properties being and assuming 3 electors is a rather pointless exercise.

**West Ashton Parish Council is opposed to any change in its boundary and the proposals by Trowbridge Town Council and its supporters will simply leave West Ashton Village in isolation and unable to fulfil its statutory duties. Furthermore, there will be real questions over the long term sustainability and financial viability of the parish council should its electorate and precept be cut to this extent.**

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Richard Covington

Chairman, West Ashton Parish Council





# 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)

Cllr Baroness Scott of Bybrook  
Leader of the Council  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge BA14 8JN

19 November 2015

Dear Cllr Scott

### **Important Information With Respect To Notice Of Motion 27**

I am writing to you as a matter of urgency to provide important background information on this Notice of Motion proposed by Wiltshire Councillors Douglas and Clewer for your Extraordinary Meeting next Tuesday, the 24th of November.

In the Notice of Motion and also in a letter that you will have received from Mr. Williams, Salisbury City Council's Clerk, the impression is given that Salisbury City Council are united in their belief that Laverstock and Ford Parish should be forcibly taken over by Salisbury City Council.

The hard facts are that this is plainly not the case. When 19 Salisbury City Councillors voted on this issue in July 2014 only 11 voted for a forcible take over, while 7 voted to welcome Laverstock & Ford (and 4 other parishes) moving to the City but not if those Parishes wished to remain intact. There was 1 abstention. In an informal poll of Laverstock & Ford residents in October 2014, to which 40% of the households responded, over 99% stated that they wished Laverstock & Ford to remain intact.

I believe the way in which these facts have been edited from the background documents you received from Mr. Williams, and glossed over in Notice of Motion 27 to be just one example of how elements of Salisbury City Council are currently undermining the trust and respect between the residents of our Parish and the City Council.

I have raised a question for Wiltshire Councillors with respect to Notice of Motion 27 and will also be making a 3-minute statement on the 24th, which provides further evidence of unfair behaviours from Salisbury City Council towards our Parish residents.

Yours sincerely

David Burton  
Chairman

## **Statement regarding the proposed boundary change between Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard**

The residents of Thickthorn and Preston have long been an integral part of the community of Clyffe Pypard and Bushton, so when, several years ago the question was raised as to the possibility of changing the parish boundary, Clyffe Pypard Parish Council were very supportive of the idea. Then a poll of the residents of Thickthorn and Preston, carried out by our parish council, returned a near 100% support for a change, and this was followed by a unanimous vote in support by Lyneham Parish Council.

As a consequence the process which culminates today, at this meeting was set in motion.

I would like to thank our Wiltshire Councillor , Allison Bucknell, for all the work she has put in to help the process, as always dealing with matters, concerns, questions etc. in a professional, impartial and friendly manner.

I would also like thank John Watling and his team for all the work they have put , and again for their patient and professional approach.

As Chairman of our Parish Council I had become aware that some residents of Preston had become very unhappy with the proposed change, and the last thing we would want to see is a split in the community.

We are disappointed with the result of the 'referendum 'of the residents of Thickthorn and Preston, but agree with the recommendations of the working group, that the parish boundaries stay as they are.

Communities are not made by drawing a line on a map but by the people who live in them, and I have no doubt that the residents of Preston , Thickthorn and Clyffe Pypard will continue with their close relationship, which enables the church of St Peter's , the village hall, the WI and other organisations to flourish.

Many thanks

**Peter Gantlett Acting Clerk and Chairman of Clyffe Pypard Parish Council**