

Wiltshire Council

Council

24 November 2015

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

To consider the following motion:

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

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

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

Action sought

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