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-MacIver	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	19/11/2015	Opposes Motion 27 (incorporation of Laverstock within
			Council		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. I 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				



Creating a sporting habit for life

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



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22 Potters Way.

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2 nos 15

Dear dis

I write to eagress a view on proposels to clarge the parish boundaries.

I note that a public meeting to discuss the issue was held at wid por on Thursday 15 Oct. A date chosen, I hope in ignorance rather than as a deliberate attenth to offerd, that conflicted with those who wished to celebrate all thisse (the Islamic new year). How insensitive whatever your ethnic wigin or afaith.

would be any benefit to residents from changing the provide boundries the disadvantages are numous. How many times do we have to tell you we do not wish to change our boundries?

your gaithfully

officed (A.J. WOOD)

or Chairman Seventery a Ford Paril bouncil

Mrs. D. M. Walker

22, St Andrews,

Laverstock,

Salisbury, Wilts Spires

Stuart Wheeler

Stuart Wheeler
Chairman, Wiltshire Council CGR 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 1.e as a rural Parish.

Yours Faithfully DH walker

Helvin Lelvar.

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Selis Lung

SPI-1PR.

Strant wheeler,

destant of stre Working grown.

With reference to the Information of the letter enclosed in our must glaver stock fearith magizare dedicated this week.

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I have due to the time.

J. E. Hemming 3 St Thomas Way Bishopdown Form Strant Wheeler Salisbury Wilts SPI 3FG 01722 337062 Chair of the working group witshise Eounit car Dear Sir, I am an original owner called Bishop down Farm. I would like Bishopdown Fam to secome part of Lewerstock & Ford Raish My reasons are as follows-Laverstock + tood in the 33 years I have uned here, 13 in haverstock 20 Bishopdown Fam. have proved themselves Consistent Carring and

none than capable of necturing the needs of the area they represent. W. C.C. on the other hand have in the past caused me gruef and hardship mi several de partments by their incompetence, and lack of understanding of their responsibilihave had to seek other profficional 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 Balfon Beaty got a clue on what to do or how to do ct. Yours in frustration J. Clyaboth Hemming. P. S. Apologies for hand writing I have a hand problem at the broment

11 Woodland Way.
Laversvock
Salisbury.
8P118B.
29th October 2015.

or MR. Wheeler.

Dam writing to you regarding the

sals of the current Community Governance Review

No do not wish to be absorbed by the

We would like to keep our panish

a voluble. Not change it, to remain

pendent of Salisbury City Council. De have a very good non-political al Panish Council looking after our needs.

e chose to luie in a nural parish. Yours Sincerely G. Haires.

MRs. Cillian 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 finical 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 main 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 15th 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
1st 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.

Hangaret L. Gives

Yours sincerely

K.S.Eyres and Margaret L.Eyres

Micyolo

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

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.

1

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 out 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,

1.N. Kingston Krkingston

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 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.

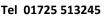
Yours sincerely,

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



Email: clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org www.redlynchparishcouncil.gov.uk



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

28th September 2015

Dear Mr Watling

<u>Community Governance Review – Hamptworth and Nomansland</u>

Thank you for your emails of 28th 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 8th 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.

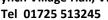
Should the proposed changes be agreed the Parish Council wish to also query the following:

- 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?

REDLYNCH PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Mrs Kate Budworth

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



Email: clerk@redlynchparishcouncil.org 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

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

20th November 2015

Dear Councillors: Stuart Wheeler; Ernie Clerk; Jon Hubbard

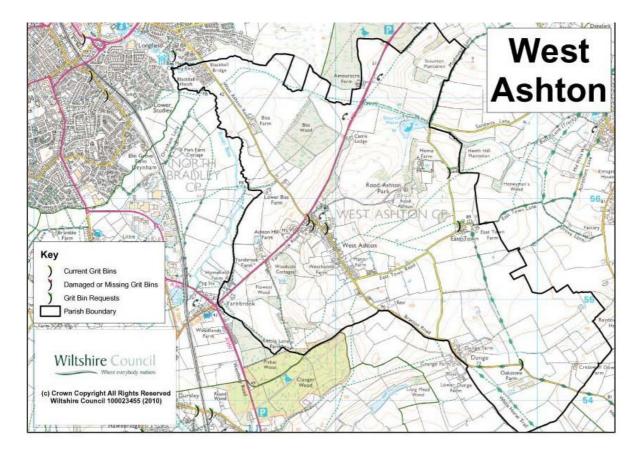
Cc Ian McLennon

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

R. Covingte

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

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