

# SUMMONS

---

**Extraordinary Council Meeting**

**Date: 24 November 2015**

**Time: 10.30 am**

**Place: Council Chamber - County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN**

**PLEASE SIGN THE ATTENDANCE  
BOOK BEFORE ENTERING THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER**

---

Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, County Hall, 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 summons 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)

---

## **RECORDING AND BROADCASTING NOTIFICATION**

Wiltshire Council may record this meeting for live and/or subsequent broadcast on the Council's website at <http://www.wiltshire.public-i.tv> At the start of the meeting, the Chairman will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being recorded. The images and sound recordings may also be used for training purposes within the Council.

By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and/or training purposes.

The meeting may also be recorded by the press or members of the public.

Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council, its Cabinet or committees is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them so doing and by choosing to film, record or broadcast proceedings they accept that they are required to indemnify the Council, its members and officers in relation to any such claims or liabilities.

Details of the Council's Guidance on the Recording and Webcasting of Meetings is available on the Council's website and available on request.

If you have any queries please contact Democratic Services using the contact details above.

## **PART I**

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

1 **Apologies**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of disclosable interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.

3 **Announcements by the Chairman**

4 **Public Participation**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public. As this is an extraordinary meeting convened specifically to consider the Community Governance Review and the Review of Allocation of Seats on Committees, and in accordance with the Council's constitution, questions, statements and petitions can only be accepted in respect of these items.

### Statements

If you would like to make a statement at this meeting on any item on this agenda, please register to do so at least half an hour prior to the timings mentioned in this agenda or by 10am for any other schemes. Up to 3 speakers will be permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each on each of the schemes. Please contact the officer named above for any further clarification.

### Questions

To receive any questions from members of the public received in accordance with the constitution. Those wishing to ask questions are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the officer named above (acting on behalf of the Corporate Director) no later than **5pm on Tuesday 17 November 2015**. Please contact the officer named on the first page of this agenda for further advice. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

5 **Councillors' Questions**

As previously advised, as this is an extraordinary meeting of Council and in accordance with the Council's constitution, questions can only be accepted in relation to the items on this agenda.

Please note that Councillors are required to give notice of any such questions in writing to the officer named on the first page of this agenda (acting on behalf of the Corporate Director) not later than **5pm on Tuesday 17 November 2015**. Questions may be asked without notice if the Chairman decides that the matter is urgent.

Details of any questions received will be circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and made available at the meeting and on the Council's website.

6 **Review of Proportionality and Allocation of Seats on Committees to Political Groups** (*Pages 5 - 14*)

Report by Robin Townsend, Associate Director - Corporate Function, Procurement and Programme Office

7 **Notice of motion No. 27 - Inclusion of Laverstock and Ford Parish into Salisbury Parish - Councillors Mary Douglas and Richard Clewer** (*Pages 15 - 20*)

To consider the attached motion.

For Council's ease of reference the rules on how motions on notice are dealt with at Council and guidance on amendments to motions taken from Part 4 of the Council's constitution are also attached.

8 **Community Governance Reviews** (*Pages 21 - 166*)

(i) Report by Carolyn Godfrey, Corporate Director.

(ii) Details of schemes considered and the recommendations from the Working Group on Community Governance Review

(iii) Guidance on Community Governance Reviews by DCLG

(membership of the Working Group: Councillors Stuart Wheeler (Chairman), Jon Hubbard, Ernie Clark and Ian McLennan)

**List of schemes to be considered**

Please note to assist members of the public who wish to attend the meeting for this item, the following timings are given:

Salisbury and surrounding area proposals at start of item

Melksham and surrounding areas proposals will not be considered before 12 noon

Trowbridge and surround areas proposals will not be considered before 2pm

Other areas will be considered at appropriate intervals under direction of the Chairman.

- 8a) **Salisbury** (*Pages 167 - 254*)
- 8b) **Trowbridge** (*Pages 255 - 380*)
- 8c) **Chippenham** (*Pages 381 - 408*)
- 8d) **Devizes** (*Pages 409 - 448*)
- 8e) **Calne** (*Pages 449 - 466*)
- 8f) **Corsham** (*Pages 467 - 590*)
- 8g) **Melksham** (*Pages 591 - 686*)
- 8h) **Lyneham** (*Pages 687 - 706*)
- 8i) **Bishopstrow** (*Pages 707 - 740*)
- 8j) **Nomansland** (*Pages 741 - 762*)
- 8k) **Tisbury** (*Pages 763 - 792*)
- 8l) **Tidworth** (*Pages 793 - 802*)

## **PART II**

**Items during consideration of which it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed.**

None

**Carolyn Godfrey  
Corporate Director and Head of Paid Service  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN**

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**24 November 2015**

---

## **Review of Proportionality and Allocation of Seats on Committees to Political Groups**

### **Introduction**

1. Following changes in the number of seats held by individual political groups on the Council, a request has been received from the Leader of the Conservative group for a review of the allocation of seats to political groups.
2. This report guides the Council through the legal requirements in allocating seats to the political groups.

### **Review of Allocation of Seats to Political Groups**

#### **Legal Position**

3. Under the Local Government & Housing Act 1989 (“the Act”) and subsequent Regulations, (“the Regulations”), the Council must review the representation of the different political groups on committees when requested to do so by a leader of a political group where changes have occurred in the size of political groups.
4. It is open to the Council when carrying out a review to adopt some arrangement other than that prescribed by the Act and the Regulations. Notice of such a proposal would have to be given in the Summons, and a decision would need to be made with no one voting against it. The remainder of this report assumes that the Council will not want an alternative arrangement to that prescribed by law.

#### **Political Groups**

5. There are currently 4 political groups on the Council. The respective strengths of those Groups following these changes are as follows:-

Name of Group	No. of Councillors in Group
Conservative	61
Liberal Democrat	20
Independent	11
Labour	4
Ungrouped Member	1
Vacancy – by-election 26 November	1

6. Under the regulations, two or more councillors may form and register a group.
7. This report has been prepared on the basis of the strengths of the various political groups set out in paragraph 5.

### **Principles**

8. The Act sets out four principles which must be followed so far as reasonably practicable. They are:
  - (a) *Preventing domination by a single group:* All the seats on a committee should not be allocated to the same political group.
  - (b) *Ensuring a majority group enjoys a majority on all committees:* If one political group has a majority in the full Council, that political group should have a majority on each committee.
  - (c) *Aggregating all committee places and allocating fair shares:* Subject to the above two principles, the total number of seats on all the committees of the Authority allocated to each political group should be in the same proportion as that political group's seats on the full Council.
  - (d) *Ensuring as far as practicable fairness on each committee:* Subject to the above three principles, the number of seats on each committee of the Authority allocated to each political group should be in the same proportion as that political group's seats on the full Council.

### **Application of Principles**

9. The Council must review the establishment of its committees in accordance with the principles laid down in the Act. Immediately this is done, each political group should state the names of the councillors it wishes to take its allocated places on committees, including substitutes, and when those wishes are known, the Council is under a duty to make the appointment of those councillors as soon as practicable. It is a legal requirement however that the Council formally approves the appointment of councillors to committees and therefore it is essential that each political group notifies the Democratic Governance Manager of their nominated councillors to serve on committees.

### **Councillors not in a Political Group**

10. In the case of councillors who are not members of a political group, a proportion of seats on committees equal to the proportion of Council members who do not belong to a political group has to be reserved, with appointments to these seats being made by the Council at its discretion.

## Method to Calculate Places

11. The principles in paragraph 8 can be applied in the following sequence:
  - (i) Calculate the total number of seats with votes on all the ordinary committees and any Joint Committees.
  - (ii) Calculate the proportion that each political group forms of the total membership of the Authority. Reserve an appropriate number of seats for ungrouped members.
  - (iii) Apply those proportions to the total number of ordinary committee seats to give the aggregate entitlement of each group; the requirement to apply the proportions “so far as reasonably practicable” can be met by rounding down fractional entitlements of less than half, and rounding up entitlements of a half or more; if this results in a greater aggregate than the number of seats available, the fractional entitlement(s) closest to a half should be rounded in the other direction until entitlements balance the available seats.
  - (iv) Apply the proportions to the number of councillors on each ordinary committee to give provisional entitlement to seats on that committee.
  - (v) If the provisional entitlement gives only one group seats on the committee, adjust the entitlement so that the next largest group has a seat (thus applying principle (a) in paragraph 8).
  - (vi) Finally, adjust the seats on each committee so that the total allocated to each group is as near as possible to their aggregate entitlement, whilst preserving the results reached at steps (iv) and (v) (thus applying principle (c) in paragraph 8).
12. The Council is free to adopt any aggregate number of places on ordinary committees so long as it follows the principles in paragraph 8 and the sequence in paragraph 11.
13. Attached to this report at Appendix 1 is a numerical guide to proportional representation on Committees based on the respective strengths of the political groups set out in paragraph 5.
14. This indicates that the net effect of the change in political group sizes is that the Conservative Group Group gains one seat and the Independent Group lose one seat. Agreement has been reached between the respective group leaders that this will be taken from the membership of the Northern Area Planning Committee. The Liberal Democrat group would lose one seat with the Liberal Democrat group leader agreeing that this will be taken from the Audit Committee. A draft scheme of committee places which reflects this is at (Appendix 2)
15. The change to political groupings would mean a change to the allocation of seats to political groups on the Police and Crime Panel with the Conservative

group gaining one seat and the Liberal Democrat group losing one seat. However, following consultation with the Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel and Swindon Borough Council, Council is being recommended to await the outcome of the by-election and a further report on a review of allocation of seats on committees to the February Council meeting.

The membership of the Police and Crime Panel takes into account the collective political composition of both Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council as follows:

Conservatives	93 (60.78%)	6.68	7 seats	+1
Labour	27 (17.64%)	1.94	2 seats	
Liberal democrat	22 (14.37%)	1.58	1 seat	-1
Independent	11 (7.18%)	0.79	1 seat	

Swindon appoints 2 Conservative and 2 Labour councillors leaving Wiltshire Council to appoint 4 Conservatives, 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Independent.

16. The allocation of seats to the Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority and the Wiltshire and Dorset Fire Authority are not affected.

### **Matters for Decision**

15. The Council is asked:
- (a) To note this report and the legal requirements.
  - (b) To confirm the aggregate number and the draft scheme of committee places available to members of the Council as set out in Appendix 2.
  - (c) To agree to keep the status quo position on the Police and Crime Panel pending a further report reviewing the allocation of seats to political groups to Council in February 2016 following the 26 November by-election.
  - (d) To make those changes to the appointment of councillors and substitutes to serve on those committees in accordance with the revised scheme of committee places, until the next occasion membership is reviewed under the provisions of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989.

**Robin Townsend**  
**Associate Director – Corporate Functions, Procurement and Programme Office**

---

Report Author: Yamina Rhouati, Democratic Governance Manager

Unpublished documents relied upon in the production of this report: NONE



Environmental impact of the recommendations contained in this report: NONE

**Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Numerical Guide to political proportionality

Appendix 2 – Draft Scheme of Committee Places

This page is intentionally left blank

Proportional Representation Table

	Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour	Independent	UKIP	
	61	20	4	11	1	
1	0.622		0.041	0.112	0.010	0.79
2	1.245	0.408	0.082	0.224	0.020	1.98
3	1.867	0.612	0.122	0.337	0.031	2.97
4	2.490	0.816	0.163	0.449	0.041	3.96
5	3.112	1.020	0.204	0.561	0.051	4.95
6	3.735	1.224	0.245	0.673	0.061	5.94
7	4.357	1.429	0.286	0.786	0.071	6.93
8	4.980	1.633	0.327	0.898	0.082	7.92
9	5.602	1.837	0.367	1.010	0.092	8.91
10	6.224	2.041	0.408	1.122	0.102	9.90
11	6.847	2.245	0.449	1.235	0.112	10.89
12	7.469	2.449	0.490	1.347	0.122	11.88
13	8.092	2.653	0.531	1.459	0.133	12.87
14	8.714	2.857	0.571	1.571	0.143	13.86
15	9.337	3.061	0.612	1.684	0.153	14.85
16	9.959	3.265	0.653	1.796	0.163	15.84
17	10.582	3.469	0.694	1.908	0.173	16.83
18	11.204	3.673	0.735	2.020	0.184	17.82
19	11.827	3.878	0.776	2.133	0.194	18.81
20	12.449	4.082	0.816	2.245	0.204	19.80
21	13.071	4.286	0.857	2.357	0.214	20.79
22	13.694	4.490	0.898	2.469	0.224	21.78
23	14.316	4.694	0.939	2.582	0.235	22.77
24	14.939	4.898	0.980	2.694	0.245	23.76
25	15.561	5.102	1.020	2.806	0.255	24.74
26	16.184	5.306	1.061	2.918	0.265	25.73
27	16.806	5.510	1.102	3.031	0.276	26.72
28	17.429	5.714	1.143	3.143	0.286	27.71
29	18.051	5.918	1.184	3.255	0.296	28.70
30	18.673	6.122	1.224	3.367	0.306	29.69
31	19.296	6.327	1.265	3.480	0.316	30.68
32	19.918	6.531	1.306	3.592	0.327	31.67
33	20.541	6.735	1.347	3.704	0.337	32.66
34	21.163	6.939	1.388	3.816	0.347	33.65
35	21.786	7.143	1.429	3.929	0.357	34.64
36	22.408	7.347	1.469	4.041	0.367	35.63
37	23.031	7.551	1.510	4.153	0.378	36.62
38	23.653	7.755	1.551	4.265	0.388	37.61
39	24.276	7.959	1.592	4.378	0.398	38.60
40	24.898	8.163	1.633	4.490	0.408	39.59
41	25.520	8.367	1.673	4.602	0.418	40.58
42	26.143	8.571	1.714	4.714	0.429	41.57
43	26.765	8.776	1.755	4.827	0.439	42.56
44	27.388	8.980	1.796	4.939	0.449	43.55
45	28.010	9.184	1.837	5.051	0.459	44.54
46	28.633	9.388	1.878	5.163	0.469	45.53
47	29.255	9.592	1.918	5.276	0.480	46.52
48	29.878	9.796	1.959	5.388	0.490	47.51
49	30.500	10.000	2.000	5.500	0.500	48.50
50	31.122	10.204	2.041	5.612	0.510	49.49
51	31.745	10.408	2.082	5.724	0.520	50.48
52	32.367	10.612	2.122	5.837	0.531	51.47
53	32.990	10.816	2.163	5.949	0.541	52.46
54	33.612	11.020	2.204	6.061	0.551	53.45
55	34.235	11.224	2.245	6.173	0.561	54.44
56	34.857	11.429	2.286	6.286	0.571	55.43
57	35.480	11.633	2.327	6.398	0.582	56.42
58	36.102	11.837	2.367	6.510	0.592	57.41
59	36.724	12.041	2.408	6.622	0.602	58.40
60	37.347	12.245	2.449	6.735	0.612	59.39
61	37.969	12.449	2.490	6.847	0.622	60.38
62	38.592	12.653	2.531	6.959	0.633	61.37
63	39.214	12.857	2.571	7.071	0.643	62.36
64	39.837	13.061	2.612	7.184	0.653	63.35
65	40.459	13.265	2.653	7.296	0.663	64.34
66	41.082	13.469	2.694	7.408	0.673	65.33
67	41.704	13.673	2.735	7.520	0.684	66.32
68	42.327	13.878	2.776	7.633	0.694	67.31
69	42.949	14.082	2.816	7.745	0.704	68.30
70	43.571	14.286	2.857	7.857	0.714	69.29
71	44.194	14.490	2.898	7.969	0.724	70.28
72	44.816	14.694	2.939	8.082	0.735	71.27
73	45.439	14.898	2.980	8.194	0.745	72.26
74	46.061	15.102	3.020	8.306	0.755	73.24
75	46.684	15.306	3.061	8.418	0.765	74.23
76	47.306	15.510	3.102	8.531	0.776	75.22
77	47.929	15.714	3.143	8.643	0.786	76.21
78	48.551	15.918	3.184	8.755	0.796	77.20
79	49.173	16.122	3.224	8.867	0.806	78.19
80	49.796	16.327	3.265	8.980	0.816	79.18
81	50.418	16.531	3.306	9.092	0.827	80.17
82	51.041	16.735	3.347	9.204	0.837	81.16
83	51.663	16.939	3.388	9.316	0.847	82.15
84	52.286	17.143	3.429	9.429	0.857	83.14
85	52.908	17.347	3.469	9.541	0.867	84.13
86	53.531	17.551	3.510	9.653	0.878	85.12
87	54.153	17.755	3.551	9.765	0.888	86.11
88	54.776	17.959	3.592	9.878	0.898	87.10
89	55.398	18.163	3.633	9.990	0.908	88.09
90	56.020	18.367	3.673	10.102	0.918	89.08
91	56.643	18.571	3.714	10.214	0.929	90.07
92	57.265	18.776	3.755	10.327	0.939	91.06
93	57.888	18.980	3.796	10.439	0.949	92.05
94	58.510	19.184	3.837	10.551	0.959	93.04
95	59.133	19.388	3.878	10.663	0.969	94.03
96	59.755	19.592	3.918	10.776	0.980	95.02
97	60.378	19.796	3.959	10.888	0.990	96.01
98	61.000	20.000	4.000	11.000	1.000	97.00
99	61.622	20.204	4.041	11.112	1.010	97.99
100	62.245	20.408	4.082	11.224	1.020	98.98
101	62.867	20.612	4.122	11.337	1.031	99.97
102	63.490	20.816	4.163	11.449	1.041	100.96
103	64.112	21.020	4.204	11.561	1.051	101.95
104	64.735	21.224	4.245	11.673	1.061	102.94
105	65.357	21.429	4.286	11.786	1.071	103.93
106	65.980	21.633	4.327	11.898	1.082	104.92

	Conservative	Liberal Democrat	Labour	Independent	UKIP	
	61	20	4	11	1	
107	66.602	21.837	4.367	12.010	1.092	105.91
108	67.224	22.041	4.408	12.122	1.102	106.90
109	67.847	22.245	4.449	12.235	1.112	107.89
110	68.469	22.449	4.490	12.347	1.122	108.88
111	69.092	22.653	4.531	12.459	1.133	109.87
112	69.714	22.857	4.571	12.571	1.143	110.86
113	70.337	23.061	4.612	12.684	1.153	111.85
114	70.959	23.265	4.653	12.796	1.163	112.84
115	71.582	23.469	4.694	12.908	1.173	113.83
116	72.204	23.673	4.735	13.020	1.184	114.82
117	72.827	23.878	4.776	13.133	1.194	115.81
118	73.449	24.082	4.816	13.245	1.204	116.80
119	74.071	24.286	4.857	13.357	1.214	117.79
120	74.694	24.490	4.898	13.469	1.224	118.78
121	75.316	24.694	4.939	13.582	1.235	119.77
122	75.939	24.898	4.980	13.694	1.245	120.76
123	76.561	25.102	5.020	13.806	1.255	121.74
124	77.184	25.306	5.061	13.918	1.265	122.73
125	77.806	25.510	5.102	14.031	1.276	123.72
126	78.429	25.714	5.143	14.143	1.286	124.71
127	79.051	25.918	5.184	14.255	1.296	125.70
128	79.673	26.122	5.224	14.367	1.306	126.69
129	80.296	26.327	5.265	14.480	1.316	127.68
130	80.918	26.531	5.306	14.592	1.327	128.67
131	81.541	26.735	5.347	14.704	1.337	129.66
132	82.163	26.939	5.388	14.816	1.347	130.65
133	82.786	27.143	5.429	14.929	1.357	131.64
134	83.408	27.347	5.469	15.041	1.367	132.63
135	84.031	27.551	5.510	15.153	1.378	133.62
136	84.653	27.755	5.551	15.265	1.388	134.61
137	85.276	27.959	5.592	15.378	1.398	135.60
138	85.898	28.163	5.633	15.490	1.408	136.59
139	86.520	28.367	5.673	15.602	1.418	137.58
140	87.143	28.571	5.714	15.714	1.429	138.57
141	87.765	28.776	5.755	15.827	1.439	139.56
142	88.388	28.980	5.796	15.939	1.449	140.55
143	89.010	29.184	5.837	16.051	1.459	141.54
144	89.633	29.388	5.878	16.163	1.469	142.53
145	90.255	29.592	5.918	16.276	1.480	143.52
146	90.878	29.796	5.959	16.388	1.490	144.51
147	91.500	30.000	6.000	16.500	1.500	145.50
148	92.122	30.204	6.041	16.612	1.510	146.49
149	92.745	30.408	6.082	16.724	1.520	147.48
150	93.367	30.612	6.122	16.837	1.531	148.47
151	93.990	30.816	6.163	16.949	1.541	149.46
152	94.612	31.020	6.204	17.061	1.551	150.45
153	95.235	31.224	6.245	17.173	1.561	151.44
154	95.857	31.429	6.286	17.286	1.571	152.43
155	96.480	31.633	6.327	17.398	1.582	153.42
156	97.102	31.837	6.367	17.510	1.592	154.41
157	97.724	32.041	6.408	17.622	1.602	155.40
158	98.347	32.245	6.449	17.735	1.612	156.39
159	98.969	32.449	6.490	17.847	1.622	157.38
160	99.592	32.653	6.531	17.959	1.633	158.37
161	100.214	32.857	6.571	18.071	1.643	159.36
162	100.837	33.061	6.612	18.184	1.653	160.35
163	101.459	33.265	6.653	18.296	1.663	161.34
164	102.082	33.469	6.694	18.408	1.673	162.33
165	102.704	33.673	6.735	18.520	1.684	163.32
166	103.327	33.878	6.776	18.633	1.694	164.31
167	103.949	34.082	6.816	18.745	1.704	165.30
168	104.571	34.286	6.857	18.857	1.714	166.29
169	105.194	34.490	6.898	18.969	1.724	167.28
170	105.816	34.694	6.939	19.082	1.735	168.27
171	106.439	34.898	6.980	19.194	1.745	169.26
172	107.061	35.102	7.020	19.306	1.755	170.24
173	107.684	35.306	7.061	19.418	1.765	171.23
174	108.306	35.510	7.102	19.531	1.776	172.22
175	108.929	35.714	7.143	19.643	1.786	173.21
176	109.551	35.918	7.184	19.755	1.796	174.20
177	110.173	36.122	7.224	19.867	1.806	175.19
178	110.796	36.327	7.265	19.980	1.816	176.18
179	111.418	36.531	7.306	20.092	1.827	177.17
180	112.041	36.735	7.347	20.204	1.837	178.16
181	112.663	36.939	7.388	20.316	1.847	179.15
182	113.286	37.143	7.429	20.429	1.857	180.14
183	113.908	37.347	7.469	20.541	1.867	181.13
184	114.531	37.551	7.510	20.653	1.878	182.12
185	115.153	37.755	7.551	20.765	1.888	183.11
186	115.776	37.959	7.592	20.878	1.898	184.10
187	116.398	38.163	7.633	20.990	1.908	185.09
188	117.020	38.367	7.673	21.102	1.918	186.08
189	117.643	38.571	7.714	21.214	1.929	187.07
190	118.265	38.776	7.755	21.327	1.939	188.06
191	118.888	38.980	7.796	21.439	1.949	189.05
192	119.510	39.184	7.837	21.551	1.959	190.04
193	120.133	39.388	7.878	21.663	1.969	191.03
194	120.755	39.592	7.918	21.776	1.980	192.02
195	121.378	39.796	7.959	21.888	1.990	193.01
196	122.000	40.000	8.000	22.000	2.000	194.00
197	122.622	40.204	8.041	22.112	2.010	194.99
198	123.245	40.408	8.082	22.224	2.020	195.98
199	123.867	40.612	8.122	22.337	2.031	196.97
200	124.490	40.816	8.163	22.449	2.041	197.96

(Appendix 2 – Draft schedule of committee places)

Committee	Total Number of Places for Elected Members	Conservative Group Allocation ( 61 seats)	Liberal Democrat Group Allocation (20 seats)	Labour Group Allocation ( 4 seats)	Independent Group Allocation ( 11 seats)	UKIP ( 1 seat)
Strategic Planning	11	7	3	-	1	-
Area Planning Committees						
North	11	9 (+1)	1	-	1 (-1)	-
South	11	6	2	2	1	-
East	8	7	-	-	1	-
West	11	7	2	-	2	-
Licensing	12	8	2	-	2	-
Overview and Scrutiny Management	15	8	4	1	2	-
Children's Select	13	8	3	1	1	-
Environment Select	13	7	4	1	1	-
Health Select	13	7	3	1	2	-
Standards	11	7	3	-	1	-
Police and Crime Panel	7	4	2	-	1	-
Audit	11	6	2 (-1)	-	1	1
Appeals	8	5	1	1	1	-
Staffing Policy	9	5	2	-	1	1
Officer Appointments	5	3	1	-	1	-
Pension Fund	5	4	1	-	-	-
TOTALS:	174	108 (+1)	36 (-1)	7	20 (-1)	2

1 vacancy – By-election – 26 November 2015

This page is intentionally left blank

**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.'*

This page is intentionally left blank



## Notices of motion

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

### At the meeting

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

have voting rights. The member body must report back to the council as soon as practicable by way of the minutes of that meeting.

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

## Part 4C – Guidance on Amendments to Motions

1. The requirements concerning amendments to motions are contained in the Council's Rules of Procedure in Part 4 of the Constitution. Paragraph [107-103](#) provides:

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

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

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

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

This page is intentionally left blank

**Wiltshire Council**

**Council**

**24 November 2015**

---

## **Community Governance Review**

---

### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to make recommendations to full Council on the Community Governance Review (CGR), and to update members on other schemes where it is felt no decision can yet be reached.

### **2. Background**

- 2.1. A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole or part of the 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
- 2.2. The Council appointed a Working Group to carry out this Review and to make recommendations to the Council in due course. The Working Group comprises a representative from each group of the Council (with a substitute permitted to attend). Individual members of the Working Party have been mindful of their position as local members in some cases, and have received advice and guidance in that respect from the Council's Monitoring Officer. In particular, it should be noted that following the consultation members of the Working Group withdrew from discussions on the formulation of recommendations affecting their respective divisional area. The Review has to ensure that the community governance arrangements within the areas under review reflect the identities and interests of the communities concerned and provide effective and convenient governance for local people. Further guidance can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance>
- 2.3. In February 2015, Council resolved to discontinue further work on some schemes for which there was no longer a local appetite to proceed. These are appended for information only.
- 2.4. The Working Group is now in a position to bring forward a number of recommendations for community governance changes for approval by Council. These are appended to this report. In other cases, it is proposed that further consideration and consultation is required.

- 2.5. Each geographical area has a separate document pack and mapping pack.

### **3. Main Considerations for the Council**

3.1. In carrying out the review, and in formulating its recommendations, the Working Group has had regard both to its legal obligations under Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and to the statutory guidance issued jointly by the DCLG and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance>. In reaching a decision on these recommendations, the Council must have regard to the same criteria, which are therefore summarised below.

3.2. Section 93 of the 2007 Act requires the Council, when undertaking a review, to ensure that community governance within the area under review will be:-

- Reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
- Effective and convenient

3.3. The Guidance gives further advice in relation to the two main criteria, as summarised below:-

#### Identities and Interests of Local Communities

- Communities need to be empowered to respond to challenging economic, social and cultural trends and to demographic change
- Parish Councils can perform a central role in community leadership
- How people perceive where they live - their neighbourhoods – is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities. Neighbourhoods can be defined by the geography of an area, the make-up of the local community, a sense of identity and whether people live in a rural, suburban or urban area.
- Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest with their own sense of identity
- The feelings of the local communities and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations in considering this factor
- There may be a variety of different communities of interest within a Parish and any review should consider communities as offering a sense of place and of local identity for all residents

#### Efficient and Convenient Local Government

- Effective and convenient 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.

- Local communities should have access to good quality local services, ideally in one place and a parish council may be best placed to do this
- Parish Councils should be viable in terms of providing at least some local services which need to be easy to reach and accessible to local people

3.4. The Guidance also provides that, when considering the two statutory criteria set out in paragraph 3.2 above, the Council should take into account a number of influential factors, including:

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion and
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

3.5. Further guidance is provided in relation to these two factors:-

*The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion*

- Community cohesion is about recognising and responding to changes in the make up of a community to enable different groups of people to integrate and get on well together. This includes developing a shared sense of belonging and developing positive relationships between people from different backgrounds. Cohesion is also about how people perceive the composition of their local community and what it represents.

*Size, Population and Boundaries*

- Size, population and boundaries are relevant considerations in deciding whether community governance arrangements are effective and convenient. Authorities should be based on natural communities reflecting people's expressed choices. A parish should be based on an area which reflects community identity and is of a size which is viable as an administrative unit of local government. Boundaries should reflect 'no man's land' between communities and be ( and be likely to remain) easily identifiable, such as rivers, roads or railways.

3.6. When considering the proposals for changes to the structure or area of parish councils, the Working Group has been mindful of proposed developments that are likely to take place in those areas. The Guidance provides that, when considering the electoral arrangements for an area, the Council must also consider any changes to the number or distribution of electors that is likely to occur within the next five years. Therefore, where planned development is known, this had been taken into account.

3.7. Where, as a result of an alteration to parish boundaries, a property moves from one parish to another, this may well have an impact on the overall level of Council Tax payable by the occupants of that property, as the amount of precept levied by different parish councils will vary. However, as

can be seen from the guidance summarised above, this is not a relevant factor when considering whether it is appropriate to change the community governance arrangements in a particular area.

#### **4. Consultation**

- 4.1. The terms of reference for the Working Party provided that it would identify relevant consultees and determine the most appropriate and effective methods of communication. The terms of reference provided that any representations received as result of the consultation process would be considered by the Working Party and be taken into account in the formulation of recommendations to the Council.
- 4.2. Schemes were consulted upon, by one of two methods
  - 4.2.1. By individual letters to the residents and relevant town or parish councils. A copy was also sent to all local Wiltshire Councillors in the wider area affected. Both they and the parish or town council also received a property list.
  - 4.2.2. By arranging public meetings to discuss the proposals. Again, this has been communicated to the parish or town councils and local Wiltshire Councillors, with the same supporting information.
- 4.3. The following actions were taken in publicising the consultation:
  - Parish and Town Councils, and local members were circulated with details of proposed schemes and public meetings
  - Web site
  - Publication of full council report dated 28 September 2015 (also included on web site)
  - Press release week beginning 6 October - editorial coverage in the Wiltshire Times, Gazette & Herald and Salisbury Journal.
  - Published on the WC News Portal – this allows it to also sit on the front page of the WC website
  - Uploaded the release to all the Our Community Matters websites
  - Released to all Community Engagement Managers to promote the public meetings and the consultation generally
  - Promoted extensively on social media – Twitter and Facebook
  - Parish Newsletter – 6 October
  - Elected Wire and Electric Wire on Friday 10 October
  - The circulation of leaflets via local free newspapers was not always straightforward and/or in some cases timely. Additional public meetings were held in the Melksham area in response to request from the councils involved, and details of the further, third meeting were publicised in the 21 October edition of the Melksham News
- 4.4. Feedback was invited and received via:
  - Website, including the consultation portal



- Hard copy surveys from meetings
  - Hard copy surveys for letters to individual households in some areas
  - e-mails
  - Hard copy ad hoc letters
- 4.5. The review schemes are broken down into geographical areas. At the end of each area in the appendices to this report is a mapping “pack” and a documentation “pack”. Where e-mails contained relatively brief For or Against responses, these are simply listed on a summary sheet within each pack. Where the e-mails were more complex, they have been included in the documentation pack.

## 5. Timing

### 5.1. Unitary Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) receives data from all councils annually to highlight significant levels of electoral inequality. This is defined as:

- more than 30% of its wards/divisions have an electoral imbalance (ratio of electors to members) of more than 10% from the average for the authority;
- and/or it has one ward/division with an electoral imbalance of more than 30%; and the imbalance is unlikely to be corrected by population change within a reasonable period.

The LGBCE have expressed interest in our figures for the last two years, but have now confirmed that Wiltshire will not feature in its work programme before 2017/18. This means that unitary divisions will not be affected by any parish alterations before that.

### 5.2. Parliamentary Review

Under current legislation the reference data for the review of Parliamentary boundaries will be the local authority boundaries (external, ward, and polling district) as they existed on 7 May 2015, and the Parliamentary electorate figures as they exist in the register to be statutorily published on 1 December 2015.

Whilst the alteration of parish boundaries and parish wards may cause some administrative difficulties, this need not derail the present CGR process.

### 5.3. Elections

It is a generally accepted rule that no major changes should be introduced within six months of any main election. The end date for any changes affecting parish elections should therefore be no later than the end of October 2016 at the latest. The operative date to give effect to any changes can be shown in the Order(s), e.g. 1 April 2017, and that would be sufficient to produce registers on new boundaries from 1 December 2016, albeit with many smaller polling district to recognise the boundaries as they existed at 7 May 2015.

#### **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.

### **6. Next steps**

6.1. Any changes to community governance arrangements that have been approved by the Council are brought into effect by means of a formal Order. However, before any order is made, it would also be necessary to consider whether there are any consequential changes that need to be made. For instance, where a boundary alteration results in a change in the number of electors in a parish, or the distribution of those electors within the parish, it may be appropriate to consider whether there needs to be changes to the warding arrangements within the parish, or to the number of councillors. If a parish is to be abolished, there would need to be consideration as to what is to happen to any assets held by that council. This would be considered as a separate exercise, following the decisions made at this meeting. Final orders will be brought back to council for formal approval.

### **7. Safeguarding Implications**

7.1. There are no safeguarding impacts arising from this report

### **8. Equalities Impact of the Proposal**

8.1. There are no equalities impacts arising from this report

### **9. Risk Assessment**

9.1. There are no significant risks arising from this report, although the situation with regard to boundaries and seats must be in place by no later than the end of October 2016 if the Unitary and Parish elections in May 2017 are not to be compromised. It will be necessary to ensure that sufficient resources are available to complete this work within the required timescale.

### **10. Financial Implications**

10.1. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report

### **11. Legal Implications**

11.1. This Review is being carried out by the Council under the powers in Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. It also has regard to the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews published by the DCLG. Details of this are set out in the report

### **12. Public Health Impact of the Proposals**

12.1. There are no public health impacts arising from this report.

### **13. Environmental Impact of the Proposals**

13.1. There are no environmental impacts arising from this report.

### **14. Recommendations**

**The Working Group recommends:-**

- 14.1. That Council approves the recommendations set out in the Appendices to this report in respect of the parishes that have been reviewed;**
- 14.2 That, where changes to the area or structure of parishes are approved, the Working Group gives further consideration to the consequential changes (if any) that may need to be made to the electoral arrangements for those parish councils, including any changes to warding and brings these back to Council for final approval.**

**Carolyn Godfrey  
Corporate Director**

---

Report Author: John Watling

Head of Electoral Services. Telephone 01249 706599.  
[John.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:John.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

13 November 2015.

### **Background Papers**

Letters and documents appended from councils, other organisations and individuals

### **Appendices**

Schemes

Mapping pack for each scheme

Document pack for each scheme

EC LGBCE Guidance on Community Governance Reviews March 2010

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is a Community Governance Review (CGR)?**

These reviews were previously called Parish Reviews and they are usually undertaken every 10-15 years to make sure that the boundaries and electoral arrangements of parishes within an area are working well.

A CGR must:-

- Reflect the identities and interests of the communities in that area; and
- be effective and convenient.

Consequently, a CGR must take into account:-

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

Therefore any changes made by a CGR must improve communities and local democracy in the parish or parishes concerned.

### **Why is the Council doing this now?**

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 transferred responsibility for these reviews to principal councils. A number of parishes and towns within the county have asked the council to review their boundaries.

### **Some information on this Review refers to parish or town wards – what are these?**

Some large parishes are divided into smaller sections, called wards, and these can reflect the character of a parish. For instance, if a parish contains two villages, with quite separate identities, then the parish might be split into two separate wards, with separate parish councillors for each ward.

### **How many councillors can a Parish Council have?**

There must not be fewer than five councillors on a parish council but there is no maximum number given. Ideally, the number of members on a parish council should reflect the size of the parish overall.

### **Will my post code change?**

No, Royal Mail has a separate process for setting postcodes, which do not correlate with parish boundaries.

### **Does changing a parish boundary make any difference to the likelihood of development occurring on the edge of settlements?**

No. The criteria, and the legislation that sits behind it, for determining whether or not parish boundaries should change bears no relation to the legislation that guides the determination of planning applications. In simple terms, if a proposal for development comes forward the parish within which that development sits has no direct relevance to the decision whether to grant planning permission or not.

### **Will this affect my council tax bill?**

Possibly. Most parish councils levy what is known as a precept to cover their costs. Typically the contribution toward your parish council is around 5% of the council tax you pay. There are variations between parish precepts so it is likely that this element of your council could change if your property moves into a different parish.

The 2014/15 and 2015/16 Council Tax band D charge and precept for all parishes can be seen at:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/counciltaxhousingandbenefits/counciltax/ctaxhowmuch/counciltaxbanddandpreceptallparishes.htm>

It is not possible to say what the 2016/17 charges will be, and nor is it possible to predict the effect of the Community Governance proposals on these parish precepts.

### **Will I have to get official documents like my driving licence changed if my property moves from one parish to another?**

No. The key elements of your address for official purposes are your house name/number, street and postcode. There are many examples already of where a postal address records a property in a different town/parish than the one in which it is actually situated.

### **If my property moves from one parish to another, do I need to change my passport details?**

No. Your passport does not contain your address, therefore there is no requirement to update the details.

### **What sort of factors might be taken into account when looking at community identity?**

There is no set list of factors; the following offers a few suggestions:

- Where do you tell your friends you live?
- Where are your key services, e.g. shops, doctors, pub, sports club, social club?
- Where do you think the boundary with the next parish is?
- Do you know which parish you live in?
- Are there any natural physical boundaries such as a river, road, hill nearby?
- Are there any Community groups or associations in the area which help to indicate where communities begin and end?

### **Where can I read more about Community Governance Reviews and how they operate?**

The Department for Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission have produced guidance on how to conduct reviews and what they should cover.

This can be seen at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance>

This page is intentionally left blank

## Community Governance Schemes.

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

Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
1	Properties within Britford Triangle	18	Britford	Salisbury
2	Properties within Bishopdown Farm (part)	334	Salisbury	Laverstock
3	Properties within Hampton Park (part)	982	Laverstock	Salisbury
4	Properties within Halfpenny Road Estate	144	Netherhampton	Salisbury
5	Properties near Skew Road/Wilton Road Junction	2	Salisbury	Quidhampton
6	The Avenue and Fugglestone Red Area	0	Salisbury	Wilton
7	New cemetery land - The Avenue and A360 Area	0	South Newton	Salisbury

1,480

Schemes not put to consultation by the CGR Working Party		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
8	Woodford		Woodford	Salisbury
9	Durnford		Durnford	Salisbury
10	Clarendon Park		Clarendon Park	Salisbury
11	South Newton		South Newton	Salisbury
12	Britford (other than above)		Britford	Salisbury
13	Laverstock and Ford (other than above)		Laverstock and Ford	Salisbury
14	Netherhampton (other than above)		Netherhampton	Salisbury
15	Quidhampton (other than above)		Quidhampton	Salisbury
16	South Newton (other than above)		South Newton	Salisbury
17	Wilton (other than above)		Wilton	Salisbury

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

## CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC MEETING

### 1. Properties within Britford Triangle

#### Summary of proposal

To move the triangular area of residential land at the A354 Coombe Road / Old Blandford Road junction, excluding the adjacent open countryside, as shown hatched green on the attached Map 1, from Britford parish in to Salisbury parish .

Map: Scheme 1 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 1b

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

### Main Considerations

This proposal was one of a number originally submitted by Salisbury City Council, with a view to incorporating within the City all of the built-up areas that were considered to be contiguous with the current parish boundary and which, in their view, now formed an indistinguishable part of the urban settlement. The main arguments in favour of the proposal are that the land concerned contains properties that are effectively part of the adjacent residential area that is within Salisbury. The extension of the parish of Salisbury to include this area would create clear boundaries between the relatively urban parish of Salisbury and the more rural parish of Britford, and would also enable the more effective provision of local services.

No substantial objections, or arguments against this proposal have been received.

### Community Governance Working Group Recommendation

**That the area of land in the parish of Britford shown hatched and edged in green on Map 1b (Area A1,A2 & B7), being land between the A354 Coombe Road and Old Blandford Road, becomes part of the parish of Salisbury**

Reasons: The proposal, to which Britford Parish Council had no objection, would lead to a more logical boundary between the two parishes, reflecting the extent of the existing built development in that area.



## **2 and 3. Properties within Hampton Park (part) – two options.**

Suggestions were received for the Bishopdown Farm area from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council and Salisbury City Council, through which their common boundary passes. The two schemes seek to move Bishopdown Farm and Hampton Park properties into one parish or the other, hence consultation on the two proposals.

### Summary of proposals

Salisbury's scheme is to move the properties at Hampton Park in to Salisbury and is shown in the green hatched area on Map 3.

Laverstock and Ford's scheme is to move properties at Bishopdown Farm to Laverstock and Ford and is shown in the green hatched area on Map 2.

Maps: 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

Consultation method: Public meeting. Website consultation.

### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

Whilst it is not easy to either construct a web review on more than one proposal at a time nor to respond to it, the trends from the responses can be broken down with reasonable accuracy, from a return of 127 responses.

Proposal	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Salisbury CC (Proposal 3)	2	34	
Laverstock and Ford PC (Proposal 2)	77	12	
Unknown			2
TOTALS	79	46	2

### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

## **Main Considerations**

Both parish councils accept that there is an argument for changing the current boundary as it predates the recent residential development, with the result that the Bishopdown Farm estate is divided between the two parishes. Government guidance and good practice suggest that it is preferable for such residential areas to be within a single parish, in terms of community interest, the effective delivery of local services and clear identifiable boundaries.

The arguments for moving the whole of this area into Salisbury are set out in the City Council's submissions and are similar to those that apply to the inclusion of any of the surrounding areas into the City. These include:-

- increased financial strength, allowing for improved service delivery and greater efficiency, particularly with the City Council taking responsibility for the delivery of more services.
- The physical reality, which is that the area concerned is effectively a continuation of the city and that the boundaries of the parish should reflect this. This would also be fairer, as all those living within the city would be contributing to the services provided in the city
- Better democratic accountability as the city council has contested elections
- Many of these living in the area concerned identify themselves with the city, and it is possible to do so whilst also identifying themselves with other more local communities within the larger city community.

The arguments for the whole of this area becoming part of Laverstock and Ford are that the community in this area is distinct from that of Salisbury and that the majority of residents wish to remain in Laverstock and Ford parish. There is a concern that inclusion of the area into Salisbury would lead to less effective delivery of services to the community there, as there would be less focus on issues affecting the area.

### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendations**

**That the area of land in the parish of Salisbury shown hatched and edged in green on Map 2 (Area A1,A2 & B7), being land at Bishopdown Farm, becomes part of the parish of Laverstock and Ford**

**That the proposal for the area of land at Hampton Park in the parish of Laverstock and Ford, shown edged green on Map 3 (Area A1, A2 & B7), to become part of the parish of Salisbury be not supported**

Reasons:- The Working Group accepted that it would be more appropriate for the whole of the residential area concerned to be within the same parish. Of the two options under consideration, the Working Group preferred the one put forward by Laverstock & Ford Parish Council, as they felt that it better reflected the community identity of the area and had the support of the majority of those who responded to the consultation process.

#### **4. Properties within Halfpenny Road Estate**

##### Summary of proposal

To extend the Salisbury City boundary to between the edge of the Harnham trading estate and Halfpenny Road. (Map – “Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 4” refers)

Map: Scheme 4 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 4

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

#### **Main Considerations**

The considerations in this case are similar to those applying to proposal 1 for Britford, as it also involves an existing residential development on the edge of the City, which is considered by the City Council to form an indistinguishable part of the urban settlement of Salisbury. The extension of the parish of Salisbury to include this area would retain clear boundaries between the relatively urban parish of Salisbury and the more rural parish of Netherhampton, and would also enable the more effective provision of local services.

No substantial objections or arguments against this proposal have been received.

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Netherhampton shown hatched and edged in green on Map 4 (Area A1,A2 & B7), being land between the edge of the Harnham Trading Estate and Halfpenny Road, becomes part of the parish of Salisbury**

Reasons:- No objections had been received to the proposal, which had the support of both parish councils concerned. It would provide a more appropriate defined boundary between the urban area of Salisbury and the more rural area of Netherhampton and would encompass the extent of the existing residential development in that area.

## **5. Properties near Skew Road/Wilton Road Junction**

### Summary of proposal

To move the parish boundary between Salisbury and Quidhampton so that Tower Farm Cottages at the Skew Road / Wilton Road junction (currently in Salisbury parish) become part of Quidhampton parish.

Map: Scheme 5 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 5

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

## **Main Considerations**

This is a minor proposal affecting two properties. It is argued that the properties have a greater community of interest with Quidhampton than with Salisbury and that this can be reflected in an alteration to the parish areas which will retain a clear identifiable boundary along Wilton Road and Skew Road.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Salisbury shown hatched and edged in green on Map 5 (Area A1,A2 & B7), being land near the Skew Road/Wilton Road junction, becomes part of the parish of Quidhampton**

Reasons:- This proposal, supported by the two parish councils concerned, would be a minor change affecting two properties which are considered to have a greater community affinity with Quidhampton than with Salisbury.

## **6. The Avenue and Fugglestone Red Area**

### Summary of proposal

To transfer an area of land between The Avenue and the Fugglestone Red site from Salisbury to Wilton.

Map: Scheme 6 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 6

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

## **Main Considerations**

This alteration was proposed in order to 'tidy up' the boundary between Wilton and Salisbury and to provide a further definitive green space between the two conurbations. There are no properties within the area concerned and there would therefore seem to be no issues regarding the effective provision of local services.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the proposal for the area of land at The Avenue and Fugglestone Red in the parish of Salisbury, shown edged green on Map 6 (Area A1,A2 & B7), to become part of the parish of Wilton be not supported and that there be no changes in this area**

Reasons:- The Working Group considered that the existing parish boundaries in this area were appropriate and that the proposal to alter them was not justified in terms of the relevant criteria.

## **7. New cemetery land - The Avenue and A360 Area**

### Summary of proposal

To transfer an area of land near The Avenue and A360 to Salisbury from South Newton for the new cemetery. There do not appear to be any residential properties affected by this proposal.

Map: Scheme 7 - Area A1, A2 and B7 Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 7

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. No forms were returned by hard copy.

## **Main Considerations**

Whilst there are no residential properties on the land concerned, it is proposed for use as a cemetery to service the city of Salisbury and surrounding area. The proposed cemetery is to be administered by Salisbury City Council and Wilton Town Council. The main consideration is, therefore, whether transfer of this land would improve the effective delivery of local services.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of South Newton shown hatched and edged in green on Map 7 (Area A1,A2 & B7), being land near the Avenue and A360, becomes part of the parish of Salisbury**

Reasons:- The proposal would bring land identified for a new cemetery into the parish of Salisbury. As the proposed cemetery would be administered by Salisbury City Council it was considered appropriate, in terms of the effective delivery of local services, for the area to be transferred to Salisbury.

<b>Schemes not put to consultation by the CGR Working Party</b>		<b><u>Current parish</u></b>	<b><u>To parish</u></b>
8	Woodford	Woodford	Salisbury
9	Durnford	Durnford	Salisbury
10	Clarendon Park	Clarendon Park	Salisbury
11	South Newton	South Newton	Salisbury
12	Britford (other than above)	Britford	Salisbury
13	Laverstock and Ford (other than above)	Laverstock and Ford	Salisbury
14	Netherhampton (other than above)	Netherhampton	Salisbury
15	Quidhampton (other than above)	Quidhampton	Salisbury
16	South Newton (other than above)	South Newton	Salisbury
17	Wilton (other than above)	Wilton	Salisbury

## 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



### **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
14			
15			

## Area A3 and A4 - Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes

### Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
18	Properties within Area 3c Halfway Close and Brook (Hilperton proposal part)	27	Hilperton	Trowbridge
19	Properties within Area 3a Wyke Road (Trowbridge Parish) (TTC Area 3a)	13	Trowbridge	Hilperton
20	Properties within Area 3a Wyke Road (Hilperton Parish) (TTC Area 3a)	8	Hilperton	Trowbridge
21	Properties within Shore Place (TTC Area 1)	28	Wingfield	Trowbridge
22	Properties within Area 3c Paxcroft Mead South of Hilperton Drive (TTC Area 3c) Trowbridge Proposal	264	Hilperton	Trowbridge
23	Properties within Area 3c Hulbert Road	634	Trowbridge	Hilperton
26	Old Farm (TTC Area 4a) (West Ashton to Trowbridge)	107	West Ashton	Trowbridge

**1,081**

### Schemes not put to consultation by the CGR Working Party

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
24	Lady Down Farm (TTC Area 2) (Holt to Trowbridge)		Holt	Trowbridge
25	Hilperton Gap South (TTC Area 3b) (Hilperton to Trowbridge)		Hilperton	Trowbridge
27	West Ashton Road Employment Land (TTC Area 4b) (West Ashton to Trowbridge)		West Ashton	Trowbridge
28	Ashton Park Urban Extension (TTC Area 4c) (Southwick to Trowbridge)		Southwick	Trowbridge
29	Area 4d - White Horse Business Park (TTC Area 1) (North Bradley to Trowbridge)		North Bradley	Trowbridge

Please note there is duplication between 18, 22 and 23.

## **Area A3 and A4 - Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes**

### **CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC MEETING**

#### **18. Properties within Area 3c Halfway Close and Brook (Hilperton proposal part)**

##### Summary of Proposal

At Paxcroft Mead, the present boundary between Hilperton and Trowbridge passes through residential estates, following a line approximately 250m to 300m south of the A361 road between the Hilperton roundabout and the roundabout on the A361/ Ashton Road junction.

Trowbridge Town Council and Hilperton Parish Council have both suggested schemes to rationalise the boundary in this area.

##### **Maps:**

Scheme 18 22 23 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 v2

Scheme 18 22 23 - Hilperton PC Proposal Area A3, A4

Scheme 18 22 23 - Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 150915

Scheme 18 to 29 Trowbridge TC Proposed Boundary

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

One response was received, from a resident of Hilperton who disagreed with the Trowbridge Town Council's proposal.

### **Main Considerations**

This is one of a number of proposals put forward for consideration to realign the boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton parishes. As in other areas, the existing parish boundaries do not reflect subsequent residential developments. Therefore, one of the main considerations is whether the boundaries should be moved to properly reflect current community identities and, if so, where those boundaries should be. In the case of this proposal, it is argued by Trowbridge Town Council that the transfer of these areas of Hilperton into Trowbridge will enable the Town Council to provide a better service to those communities and that the residents in that part of Hilperton identify themselves with Trowbridge and make use of facilities within the town.

Objectors to the proposal argue that local residents consider themselves to be part of Hilperton, look to Hilperton for local services and do not want to be moved into Trowbridge.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)

**19. and 20. Properties within Area 3a Wyke Road (Trowbridge Parish) (TTC Area 3a)**

Summary of Proposal

This scheme is confined to the Wyke Road area. At the junction of Wyke Road with Horse Road and Canal Road, the part of Wyke Road which is south of that junction is partly in Hilperton and partly in Trowbridge. The properties on the eastern side are in Hilperton, and those on the western side are in Trowbridge

The proposal is to move the boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton so that both sides of Wyke Road are in the same parish.

Maps:

Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2a

Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2b

Consultation method: Individual letter. Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

**Main Considerations**

The issues in this proposal are similar to the others affecting the Trowbridge area, namely whether there is a need to amend the areas of Trowbridge and Hilperton, to properly reflect community identity and interests, to provide effective local services and have clear, identifiable boundaries between the two parishes.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)

## **21. Properties within Shore Place (TTC Area 1)**

### Summary of Proposal

Trowbridge Town Council have suggested an amendment to the boundary of Trowbridge with Wingfield in the area of Shore Place, Kingsley Place and Chepston Place.

The properties are currently in Wingfield, but other properties in the same roads are in the parish of Trowbridge.

Map: Scheme 21 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 1a

Consultation method: Individual letter. Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

## **Main Considerations**

As with many of the other proposals, the main issue here is that residential development has taken place across existing parish boundaries, so that they are now out of date. As a result, they do not reflect community identity and interests; do not enable the effective provision of local services and the boundaries are no longer clear or logical.

## **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)



## **26. Old Farm (TTC Area 4a) (West Ashton to Trowbridge)**

### Summary of Proposal

This concerns an area of developed land and adjacent floodplain at Old Farm, off the West Ashton Road, currently in West Ashton Parish. The proposal is for the parish boundary to be moved so that this area becomes part of Trowbridge and involves just over 100 properties.

Map: Scheme 26 - Trowbridge TC Area 4a Old Farm

Consultation method: Individual letter. Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

## **Main Considerations**

As well as the issues that are common to all of the Trowbridge area proposals (community identity, clear identifiable boundaries etc), this proposal also raises the issue of the effect of any alterations on the viability of West Ashton parish. The proposal, if approved, would lead to the loss of a significant number of properties from West Ashton ( approximately one third of the total) and it has been argued by West Ashton Parish Council that the resulting loss of precept would have a serious effect on the ability of the parish council to provide services to its community.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)

## **22. Properties within Area 3c Paxcroft Mead south of Hilperton Drive (TTC Area 3c)**

### Summary of Proposal

The proposal is to amend the boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton in the area of Paxcroft Mead to the south of Hilperton Drive

### Maps:

Scheme 18 22 23 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 v2

Scheme 18 22 23 - Hilperton PC Proposal Area A3, A4

Scheme 18 22 23 - Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 150915

Scheme 18 to 29 Trowbridge TC Proposed Boundary

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

## **Main Considerations**

The main considerations are what would be the appropriate line of the boundary between the two parishes, having regard to the relevant criteria, including community of interests, effective provision of services and the desire for a clear boundary

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)

## **23. Properties within Area 3c Hulbert Road**

### Summary of Proposal

The proposal is to amend the boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton in the area of Hulbert Road

### Maps:

Scheme 18 22 23 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 v2

Scheme 18 22 23 - Hilperton PC Proposal Area A3, A4

Scheme 18 22 23 - Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 150915

Scheme 18 to 29 Trowbridge TC Proposed Boundary

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

There are a total of 140 responses via the CGR website portal for all schemes in the Trowbridge area. With the exception of the West Ashton area (ten), most seem to refer to the Trowbridge / Hilperton area. 23 are in favour of the relevant proposals, and 24 are against, but 91 have ticked the box to say they would prefer to see an amendment.

Of those ten West Ashton responses, 2 agree with the Town Council's proposal, 5 disagree and 3 suggest amendment.

A number of responses may appear similar, but tend to follow the Town Council's advice on wording.

### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

## **Main Considerations**

The main considerations are what would be the appropriate line of the boundary between the two parishes, having regard to the relevant criteria, including community of interests, effective provision of services and the desire for a clear boundary

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**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 (West Ashton Road Employment Land)**

Reasons:-There had been some lack of clarity regarding the specific proposals which had been put out to public consultation affecting the boundaries between Hilperton and Trowbridge. In addition, other options had been put forward during the consultation in respect of those areas, which merited further consideration and consultation. The Working Group consider that it would be more appropriate for all of the schemes in the Trowbridge area to be dealt with together and that therefore all of the proposals be deferred at this time. It is also felt that the proposal for alterations to parish boundaries in the vicinity of the West Ashton Road Employment Land (number 27), which had been put forward by Trowbridge Town Council but not supported for consultation by the Working Group, should now be included for consideration, as it was intrinsically linked with the Old Farm site (number 26)

**Schemes not put to consultation by the CGR Working Party**

		<b><u>Properties</u></b>	<b><u>Current parish</u></b>	<b><u>To parish</u></b>
24	Lady Down Farm (TTC Area 2) (Holt to Trowbridge)		Holt	Trowbridge
25	Hilperton Gap South (TTC Area 3b) (Hilperton to Trowbridge)		Hilperton	Trowbridge
27	West Ashton Road Employment Land (TTC Area 4b) (West Ashton to Trowbridge)		West Ashton	Trowbridge
28	Ashton Park Urban Extension (TTC Area 4c) (Southwick to Trowbridge)		Southwick	Trowbridge
29	Area 4d - White Horse Business Park (TTC Area 1) (North Bradley to Trowbridge)		North Bradley	Trowbridge

## Mapping

Scheme 18 22 23 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 v2  
Scheme 18 22 23 - Hilperton PC Proposal Area A3, A4  
Scheme 18 22 23 - Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 150915  
Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2a  
Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2b  
Scheme 21 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 1a  
Scheme 24 - Trowbridge TC Area 2 Lady Down Farm  
Scheme 25 - Trowbridge TC Area 3b Hilperton Gap  
Scheme 26 - Trowbridge TC Area 4a Old Farm  
Scheme 27 - Trowbridge TC Area 4b West Ashton Road Employment Land  
Scheme 28 - Trowbridge TC Area 4c Ashton Park Urban Extension v2  
Scheme 28 and 29 Trowbridge TC Area 4c and 4d

Scheme 18 to 29 Trowbridge TC Proposed Boundary

## Letters and other documents

No	From	Date
1	1991 Parish Boundary Order West Wiltshire supplied by Trowbridge TC	1991
2	151001 Letter Sports Facilities Trowbridge Tigers FC	
3	151001 Letter Sports Facilities wasp 12 October 2015	12/10/15
4	151001 Letter Sports Facilities wasp	
5	151012 letter Sports Facilities headed paper Bath Lacrosse Club 12 Oct 15	12/10/15
6	Avon Valley Runners Community Governance Review	
7	Hilperton Parish Council - CGR 20 October 2015	20/10/15
8	Hilperton PC additional comments 30 July 2014	30/7/14
9	Hilperton PC Governance Review 28 July 2014	28/7/14
10	Letter from Ms Julie Baptista 14 October 2015	14/10/15
11	LETTER TO COUNCIL Natalie Hardy 12 October	12/10/15
12	North Bradley PC Letter to Eric Pickles Sept 14 final submission	24/9/14
13	PCLG Governance Review 060211 6 February 2011	6/2/11
14	Trowbridge Public Meeting Minutes - 13 October 2015	13/10/15
15	Trowbridge Rangers FC letter	
16	Trowbridge TC 4 November 2015a Response to Consultation CGR Trowbridge supplement Area3	4/11/15
17	Trowbridge TC 4 November 2015b Response to Consultation 4 November 2015	4/11/15
18	Trowbridge TC letter to residents Oct 2015	10/15
19	Trowbridge Town Council 101102 Governance Review Changes January 2011	
20	Trowbridge Town Council 140701 Updated report June 2014	6/2014



21	Trowbridge Town FC boundaries letter to cc for public meeting Oct 15	10/15
22	TTC 150923 Map Summary of Trowbridge Proposals _3_ _3_	23/9/15
23	TTC 150930 DISCOVER Trowbridge - a town council for all of the town _3_	30/9/15
24	West Ashton PC 2 October 2014 response to Trowbridge TC's proposals	2/10/14
25	Notes from Trowbridge CGR fact finding meeting 2 December 2014	2/12/14
26	Letter from Sport England 12 November 2015	12/11/15

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Ms T Mortimer	15/9/14	
2	Ms L Summerson	7/10/15	Supports TTC, inc W Ashton
3	Ms V Fahey	7/10/15	Supports TTC
4	Ms E Glover	8/10/15	Supports TTC, esp Paxcroft Brook
5	Mr J Ligo	9/10/15	Supports TTC
6	Mrs C Farnell	11/10/15	Supports TTC
7	Mr C Harris	12/10/15	
8	Mr K McCall	13/10/15	Finance queries
9	Mr and Mrs D Feather	26/10/15	Comment re consultation
10	Mr I Jamieson	7/11/15	Against TTC's Hilperton scheme only

	<b>Area A5 - Chippenham area</b>			
	Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted	Properties	<b>Current parish</b>	To parish
30	Chippenham			
31	Change of parish name at Chippenham Without (to Sheldon and Allington)	73	<b>Chippenham Without</b>	N/A

### **30. Chippenham**

#### Summary of Proposal

Various proposal to amend the boundaries between Chippenham and neighbouring parishes, in particular Chippenham Without and Bremhill have been put forward

#### Maps

(None at this stage)

Consultation method: None yet.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

N/A

Hard copy survey response (summary):

N/A

### **Main Considerations**

A number of proposals have been put forward for changes to the areas of Chippenham and surrounding parishes. The location of future residential development in the area, and its impact on community governance, is clearly a significant factor in consideration of those proposals, given the expected level of growth around the town. However, there is currently uncertainty regarding the location of this development, following the Inspector's directions during consideration of the Core Strategy. It is therefore likely to be premature to make any decisions regarding changes to community governance in this area.

### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That no decision be made at this stage on changes to the parish of Chippenham (other than proposal 42 below), pending conclusion of the Chippenham DPD process, following the directions given by the Core Strategy inspector**

Reasons:- It would be premature to consider changes to the area of Chippenham and surrounding parishes at this stage, as it was not yet possible to identify where major residential development would be likely to take place and therefore what effect there would be on community governance within those areas

### **31. Chippenham Without – Change of Name**

A request has been received to change the name of the parish of Chippenham Without to Sheldon and Allington.

The Working Group consider that this issue would best be dealt with as part of the general consideration of community governance arrangements for the Chippenham Area.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That consideration of any proposed name change for Chippenham Without parish be deferred pending further consideration of any other community governance arrangements in the Chippenham area.**

## Area A5 - Chippenham area (No Council maps)

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bremhill_PC_submission_to_WGroup_v4 27 November 2014	24/11/14
2	Chippenham TC draft Map November 2014	11/14
3	Chippenham TC Planning Minutes 170714 Indicative map	17/7/14
4	Chippenham TC revised map 1 December 2014	1/12/14
5	Chippenham Without PC minutes Jan to Dec 2014	2014
6	Langley Burrell covering letter 3 December 2014	3/12/14
7	Langley Burrell suggestions 3 December 2014	3/12/14
8	PCG Fact Finding meeting notes - Chippenham 4 December 2014	4/12/14

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mr and Mrs Hartnell	30/4/14	Does not want change at Bremhill
2	Chippenham Without PC	2/12/14	No reason to alter boundary
3	Council tax (Paul Southway)	13/7/15	Possible (small) boundary anomaly
4	Mr I James	Various	Bremhill boundaries

## Area A6 B6 Devizes area

### Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
32	Properties within Roundway Parish	2,340	Roundway	New
33	Properties within Devizes Parish	6,037	Devizes	New
34	Bishops Cannings and Roundway 1 (Le Marchant Area)	346	Roundway	Bishops Cannings
35	Bishops Cannings to Roundway (Broadway House southwards)	2	Bishop Cannings	Roundway
(35b)	Hopton Industrial Estate	-	Bishop Cannings	Roundway
(35c)	Bishops Cannings warding	-		

**8,725**

## **Area A6 B6 Devizes area**

### **CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC MEETING**

#### **32. and 33. Properties within Roundway and Devizes parishes**

Summary of Proposal

That the parishes of Devizes and Roundway be merged.

Map: Scheme 32 and 33 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Devizes and Roundway Map 1

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

To be updated at Council

#### **Main Considerations**

Because of its shape Roundway Parish Council effectively surrounds much of Devizes. There is no geographical centre to Roundway

The main issue here is whether it is appropriate to transfer parts of the parish of Roundway into Devizes and, if so, what effect that would have on the viability of Roundway as an independent parish. It is acknowledged by both councils that it would be more effective, in terms of the delivery of services, for the more built-up parts of Roundway parish to become part of Devizes parish, as there is a clear common community identity. That would mean that the remaining part of Roundway would not be a viable parish. In the circumstances, Roundway has accepted this and agreed to a form of merger with Devizes.

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the parish of Roundway be abolished and that the areas currently within Roundway parish become part of Devizes parish**

**That the Working Group consider and consult on the most appropriate way to give effect to this decision**

Reasons:- This proposal was supported by both of the parish councils concerned. It is considered that the existing structure does not lead to effective local government. The majority of Roundway parish residents live in the residential estates to the south of Devizes and have a clear community

link with the town. Transferring only those southern areas would result in the remaining Roundway parish being unviable. Some form of merger of the two parishes is considered to be logical and in the best interests of community governance in the area. Further consideration should be given as to how this can most effectively be achieved.



### **34. Bishops Cannings and Roundway 1 (Le Marchant Area)**

#### Summary of Proposal

To move the triangle of land currently in Roundway from Franklyn Road to Windsor Drive in to Bishops Cannings parish.

Map: Scheme 34 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 2

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

To be updated at Council

### **Main Considerations**

As in other areas, the current parish boundary passes through recently-built residential developments, leading to houses in the same street being in different parishes. The proposal is to bring all of the Cannings Hill development into Bishops Cannings, so that all of the properties are within one parish and that there are clear boundaries.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Roundway shown hatched and edged in green on Map 2 (Bishops Cannings & Devizes), being land between Franklyn Road and Windsor Drive, becomes part of the parish of Bishops Cannings**

Reasons:- The current parish boundaries are anomalous and do not reflect the existing residential development in the area. The proposal would provide clear and logical boundaries for the parishes and would result in the whole of the residential area concerned being within the same parish, which would assist in the provision of effective local government.

### **35. Bishops Cannings to Roundway (Broadway House southwards)**

#### Summary of Proposal

to consider moving the parish boundary between Bishops Cannings and Roundway, so that land to the south of Brickley Lane / Broadway House becomes part of Roundway parish.

Map: Scheme 35 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 3

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

To be updated at Council

#### **Main Considerations**

This is a proposal to realign the boundary so as to bring an area of land currently within Bishops Cannings into Roundway parish. There are only two properties affected by the proposal. The main issues are the effects on the provision of local services to those properties and whether the change would result in there being clear identifiable boundaries. Bishops Cannings Parish Council has objected to this proposal and have proposed an alternative that it considers better meets the relevant criteria.

#### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That further consideration be given by the Working Group to the proposal that the area of Bishops Cannings parish to the south of Brickley Lane/Broadway House become part of Roundway/Devizes parish**

Reasons:- The response from Bishops Canning Parish Council had questioned whether this proposal would lead to a logical boundary between the two parishes. They had submitted an alternative option which merited consideration.

### **35b. Bishops Cannings and Roundway 1 (Hopton Industrial Estate)**

#### Summary of Proposal

to move part of the Hopton Industrial Estate, currently within the parish of Bishops Cannings into Roundway.

Map: Scheme 35b - Hopton Boundary Changes 12 October 2015

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

To be updated at Council

### **Main Considerations**

Although there are no residential properties affected by the proposed changes, the existing parish boundary passes through the industrial estate and does not follow any logical line within it. The change proposed would result a clearly defined boundary and would benefit the business operating on the industrial estate.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Bishops Cannings shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 35b - Hopton Boundary Changes 12 October 2015, being land at Hopton Industrial Estate , becomes part of the parish of Roundway/Devizes**

Reasons:- The current parish boundaries predate the development of the industrial estate and do not now follow any logical lines. Whilst there are no residential properties involved, the proposal would put the whole of the industrial estate within one parish, which would assist in the provision of effective local government.

### **35c Bishops Cannings Warding**

#### Summary of Proposal

That there be only one ward within the parish of Bishops Cannings, instead of the current two wards

Map: (No map)

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

To be updated at Council

### **Main Considerations**

There are currently two electoral wards within the parish of Bishops Cannings – Bishops Cannings and Cannings Hill. The Parish Council considers that, as a result of population changes and developments within the Parish, the current warding arrangements are anomalous and that it would be preferable for there only to be one ward within the Parish

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That there should be a single electoral ward for the parish of Bishops Cannings, replacing the current two wards of Bishops Cannings and Cannings Hill**

Reason:- The Working Group accepts the arguments of Bishops Cannings Parish Council that the current warding arrangements do not reflect the current distribution of population within the parish and are unnecessary

## Mapping

- Scheme 32 and 33 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Devizes and Roundway Map 1
- Scheme 34 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 2
- Scheme 35 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 3
- Scheme 35b - Hopton Boundary Changes 12 October 2015
- Scheme 35c – no map

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bishops Cannings PC 21 September 2014	21/9/14
2	Bishops Cannings PC Map 21 September 2014	21/9/14
3	Devizes Public Meeting Minutes - 12 October 2015	12/10/15
4	Devizes TC - boundary review - 2 Sept 2010	2/9/10
5	Devizes TC Governance Review 2014 4 July 2014	4/7/14
6	Devizes TC Hopton Boundary Changes	10/15
7	Devizes TC Proposed Boundary Map 3 April 2014	3/4/14
8	Devizes TC Resolution - 31 March 2015	31/3/15
9	Devizes TC Windsor Drive Boundary Changes 26 October 2015	26/10/15
10	Meeting Devizes TC and Roundway PC 10 February 2015	10/2/15
11	Roundway PC Minutes 27 April 15 Item 337	27/4/15
12	Roundway PC Resolution 27 April 2015	27/4/15

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Bishops Cannings PC	17/7/13	Warding comment

## A7 Calne area

	<b>Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted</b>	<b><u>Properties</u></b>	<b><u>Current parish</u></b>	<b><u>To parish</u></b>
36	Sandpit Road area	0	Calne Without	Calne
37	Wenhill Heights area	0	Calne Without	Calne
38	John Bentley school area	0	Calne Without	Calne
39	The Knowle, Stockley Lane Area (4)	6	Calne Without	Calne

6

## **36 Sandpit Road area**

### **CONSULTATION BY LETTER**

#### Summary of Proposal

To consider amending the parish boundary between Calne and Calne without in the area of Sandpit Road, so that it aligns with the settlement boundary

Previous comments from the Calne Town council suggested there is no pressing need to alter the boundaries, other than if there are significant differences between the existing boundaries and the proposed settlement boundary.

There are only four small areas where the proposed settlement boundary crosses in to the parish of Calne Without

No residential properties affected

Map: Scheme 36 - Area A7- Calne Area Sandpit Road Map 1

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

None

### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration with these areas is whether it is appropriate to amend the parish boundaries between Calne and Calne Without so that they are aligned with the existing settlement boundaries

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Calne Without in the Sandpit Road area shown hatched and edged in green on Map 1 (Area A7) becomes part of the parish of Calne**

Reasons:- The Working Group accepts that it would be appropriate to align the parish boundaries with the existing settlement boundaries

### **37. Wenhill Heights area – no residential properties affected**

#### Summary of Proposal

To consider amending the parish boundary between Calne and Calne without in the area of Wenhill Heights, so that it aligns with the settlement boundary

Map: Scheme 37 - Area A7- Calne Area Wenhill Heights Map 2

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

None

### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration with these areas is whether it is appropriate to amend the parish boundaries between Calne and Calne Without so that they are aligned with the existing settlement boundaries

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Calne Without in the area of Wenhill Heights shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 37 - Area A7- Calne Area Wenhill Heights Map 2 becomes part of the parish of Calne**

Reasons:- The Working Group accepts that it would be appropriate to align the parish boundaries with the existing settlement boundaries



### **38. John Bentley school area – no residential properties affected**

#### Summary of Proposal

To consider amending the parish boundary between Calne and Calne without in the area of John Bentley School , so that it aligns with the settlement boundary

Map: Scheme 38 - Area A7- Calne Area John Bentley School Map 3

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

None

#### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration with these areas is whether it is appropriate to amend the parish boundaries between Calne and Calne Without so that they are aligned with the existing settlement boundaries

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Calne Without in the vicinity of John Bentley School shown hatched and edged in green on Scheme 38 - Area A7- Calne Area John Bentley School Map 3 becomes part of the parish of Calne**

Reasons:- The Working Group accepts that it would be appropriate to align the parish boundaries with the existing settlement boundaries

### **39. The Knowle, Stockley Lane Area this affects six properties on Stockley Lane**

The proposal is that the parish boundary between Calne and Calne without in the area of The Knowle, Stockley Lane be amended so that it aligns with the settlement boundary

Map: Scheme 39 - Area A7- Calne Area The Knowle Stockley Lane Map 4

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Six letters were sent, and one was returned, disagreeing with the proposal.

#### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration with these areas is whether it is appropriate to amend the parish boundaries between Calne and Calne Without so that they are aligned with the existing settlement boundaries

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Calne Without at The Knowle, Stockley Lane shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 39 - Area A7- Calne Area The Knowle Stockley Lane Map 4 becomes part of the parish of Calne**

Reasons:- The Working Group accepts that it would be appropriate to align the parish boundaries with the existing settlement boundaries

## Mapping

- Scheme 36 - Area A7- Calne Area Sandpit Road Map 1
- Scheme 37 - Area A7- Calne Area Wenhill Heights Map 2
- Scheme 38 - Area A7- Calne Area John Bentley School Map 3
- Scheme 39 - Area A7- Calne Area The Knowle Stockley Lane Map 4

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Calne Settlement Boundary Revised_town civil boundary 23 January 2015	23/1/15
2	Calne TC resolution	2/10/15
3	Calne Without PC Settlement 5 November 2015	5/11/15
4	Calne Settlement Boundary Revised_town civil boundary 23 January 2105	23/1/15

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Cllr A Hill	20/1/15	Future at High Penn
2	Calne Without PC	13/9/15	Query re The Knoll and Marden Farm development
3	Mr and Mrs Warnett	26/10/15	Against
4	Calne Without PC	23/9/15	Accepts proposals

## Area A8 - Corsham and Box

### Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
40	Properties within Rudloe exc Wadswick area (Corsham TC proposal)	445	Box	Corsham
41	Properties within Rudloe Estate (part) (Box PC proposal)	236	Corsham	Box
42	Properties within Land to east of A350	6	Corsham	Chippenham

**687**

## **Area A8 - Corsham and Box**

### **CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC MEETING**

#### **40. Properties within Rudloe excluding Wadswick area (Corsham Town Council proposal)**

#### **41. Properties within Rudloe Estate (part) (Box Parish Council proposal)**

##### Summary of Proposals:

The Corsham Town Council's revised proposal which excludes Wadswick (40). Under this option, approximately 445 properties which are currently in Box would transfer to Corsham parish.

The proposal from Box Parish Council (41). Under this option, approximately 236 properties which are currently in Corsham parish would transfer to Box.

##### Maps:

Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 2

Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3 at 14000 scale

Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3

Consultation method: Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

##### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

Whilst the two schemes are not mutually exclusive, consideration of these proposals, and feedback, tends to be either in favour of one or the other, or more often, against one or the other.

Out of 46 responses on the CGR website portal, 39 are against the Corsham proposal, with 4 in favour and 3 with no preference. However, some of those then go on to say that they prefer the Box proposal. Very few, if any, seem to have commented on Proposal 41 direct though.

##### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the public meeting. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meeting.

Seven responses were received in connection with Corsham Town Council's proposal (40), and all seven were against the proposal. Two were received in respect of Box Parish Council's proposal, and both were in favour.

## **Main Considerations**

It is recognised that Rudloe is an identifiable community. Currently, part of Rudloe is within Corsham parish and part within Box. The first issue is, therefore, whether it is appropriate for the whole of Rudloe to be within the same parish. There are clear community governance benefits for doing so, in terms of community identity, the provision of effective and convenient services and having

a clear boundary between parish areas. If that is accepted, then the next issue is which parish Rudloe should come under. The arguments for it to come within Corsham are that it would then be part of a town with a larger population, giving it the opportunity to provide a greater level of local services. Box Parish Council, however, argues that Box is able to provide a good level of local services to the residents of Rudloe and that the residents would prefer to be within Box.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the proposal for the area of land at Rudloe in the parish of Box, shown edged green on Map Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 2 to become part of the parish of Corsham be not supported**

**That the area of land in the parish of Corsham shown hatched and edged in green on Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3 being land at Rudloe, becomes part of the parish of Box**

Reasons:- The Working Group considers that it would be appropriate for the whole of the community of Rudloe to be within one parish, in terms of the provision of effective local government. Having considered the arguments put forward by both Corsham Town Council and Box Parish Council, and their respective supporters, the Working Group considers that the evidence indicates that the Rudloe community has a greater affinity and identity with the parish of Box and that effective and convenient local government services can be provided to that community by them being part of Box parish.

## **42. Properties within Land to the east of the A350 main road**

### Summary of Proposal

To transfer the land inside the A350 bypass between the A4 roundabout and the boundary with Lacock parish, near where the A350 crosses the B4528 road. This land is currently in Corsham and, if the proposal is approved, it would become part of Chippenham.

Map: Scheme 42 - Area A8 - Corsham and Chippenham A350 Map 1

Consultation method: Individual letter. Public meeting. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

None

### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration here is whether the A350 is a more appropriate boundary between Chippenham and Corsham than the current one, taking into account any likely development in the near future

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Corsham shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 42 - Area A8 - Corsham and Chippenham A350 Map 1 being land to the east of the A350, becomes part of the parish of Chippenham**

Reasons:- The transfer of this area of land into Chippenham ( which is not opposed by Corsham Town Council) would provide a logical definitive boundary between the two parishes

## Mapping

- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 2
- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3 at 14000 scale
- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3
- Scheme 42 - Area A8 - Corsham and Chippenham A350 Map 1

## Summary of e-mails received

No	From	Date
1	Box PC 5 February 2014	5/2/14
2	Box PC letter 30 June 2014	30/6/14
3	Box PC letter to Corsham TC 10 July 2014	10/7/14
4	Box PC Proposal to move Rudloe estate into Box 22 December 2014	22/12/14
5	Box PC response Corsham's revised submission 22 December 2014	22/12/14
6	Corsham Public Meeting Minutes - 14 October 2015	14/10/15
7	Corsham TC CGR for Corsham Sept 15 (leaflet) - FINAL 060915	9/15
8	Corsham Vice Chairman notes 14 October 2015	14/10/15
9	E-mail from Rvd Dr Anderson Kackenzie and Mr I MacKenzie 27 July 2014	27/7/14
10	E-mail from the Springfield and Clift Close Residents Association – 12 July 2014	12/7/14
11	Extract from a second email form Mr P Turner 15 October 2015	15/10/15
12	Extract from an e-mail from Ainslie Goulstone 29 September 2015	29/9/15
13	Extract from an e-mail from Jane Browning 29 September 2015	29/9/15
14	Extract from an e-mail from Margaret Wakefield 1 October 2015	1/10/15
15	Extract from an e-mail from Mr and Mrs R Eaton 29 September 2015	29/9/15
16	Extract from an e-mail from Mr D Ibberson 29 September 2015	29/9/15
17	Extract from an e-mail from Mr L Dancey on 7 October 2015	7/10/15
18	Extract from an e-mail from Mr M Devon on 3 October 2015	3/10/15
19	Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Rayner 29 September 2015	29/9/15
20	Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Turner 10 October 2015	10/10/15
21	Extract from an e-mail from Mr R Alderman on 9 October 2015	9/10/15
22	Extract from and e-mail from Mr R Parry 14 October 2015	14/10/15



23	Extract from Corsham TC e-mail 24 July 2014	24/7/14
24	Extract from e-mail from Mr A Payne – 12 October 2015	12/10/15
25	Extract from email from Mr B Mennell 21 October 2015	21/10/15
26	Extract from e-mail from Mr T Jones – 29 September 2015	29/9/15
27	Extract from e-mail from Ms A Keat 22 August 2014	22/8/15
28	Extract from e-mail from Patricia Crowe 12 October 2015	12/10/15
29	Extract from second e-mail from Jane Browning on 10 October 2015	10/10/15
30	Extract of e-mail from Mr J Currant 12 October 2015.	12/10/15
31	Extract of e-mail from Mr R Duxbury 31 July 2014	31/7/14
32	Letter and email from Mr and Mrs D Brighten 13 October 2015	13/10/15
33	Letter from James Gray MP 30 April 2014	30/4/14
34	Letter from Mr and Mrs Allen 25 July 2014	25/7/14
35	Letter from Mr I Johnson 29 July 2014	29/7/14
36	Letter from Mr J Beeson 29 October 2015	29/10/15
37	Letter from Mr J Whitford 5 October 2015	5/10/15
38	Letter from Mr J Whitford to Baroness Scott 21 October 2015	21/10/15
39	Letter from Mr N Crocker 19 August 2014	19/8/14
40	Letter from Mrs E Arkell 19 August 2014	19/8/14
41	Letter from Mrs M Rousell 16 September 2014	16/9/14
42	Letter from Ms Sally Mitchell 15 October 2015	15/10/15
43	Letter of 21 July and email of 12 October 2015 from Mr G Jones	12/10/15
44	Mr A Paynes summary of public meeting held on 14 October 2015	14/10/15
45	Second email from Mr T Jones 15 October 2015	15/10/15
46		

#### **E-mails and hard copy**

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mr C Ward	29/5/14	Request for information
2	Mr C Todd	16/6/14	Against Corsham
3	Ms A Lucas	14/7/14	Against Corsham
4	Mr J Peplar	16/7/14	Against Corsham
5	Mr and Mrs E Callaway	21/7/14	Objects to change
6	Mr P Smith to Box PC and Cllr Thomson	22/7/14	Against Corsham
7	Ms M Short	15/10/15	Why split MOD properties
8	Mr and Mrs J Connell	18/10/15	Against changes
9	Mrs C Ross	30 October 2015	Against Corsham

## Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without

### Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
43	Properties within Melksham Without (Snarlton Lane, Thyme Road area)	733	Melksham Without	Melksham
44	Whole parish	3,663	Melksham Without	New
45	Whole parish	6,908	Melksham	New
46	Re-draw north west boundary to align with the A365 and Dunch Lane junction	0	Melksham Without	Melksham
47	Southern boundary with Seend, Locking Close and the canal - Giles Wood	0	Seend	Melksham Without
48	Land between Berryfield Lane and the River Avon - LCP	0	LCP	Melksham Without

**11,304**

## **Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without**

### **CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC MEETING**

#### **44. and 45 (two references, but one scheme). Whole parish merger**

##### Summary of Proposal

A merger of the parishes of Melksham and Melksham Without.

##### Maps:

Scheme 44 and 45 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 5

Scheme 44 and 45 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 6

Consultation method: Three public meetings. CGR website consultation.

##### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

24 responses were received via the CGR website portal. Of those, 3 were in favour of the merger and 17 were against. The remaining four were categorised as amendments by the survey software, but an analysis of the wording used clearly indicates that two favoured the merger, and the other two were against it.

This makes a total of 5 in favour of a merger, and 19 against.

##### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the three public meetings. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meetings.

Four hard copy response forms were received, 3 against the merger, and 1 in favour.

### **Main Considerations**

The proposal by Melksham Town Council is that Melksham and Melksham Without be replaced by a single parish. The main argument in favour of this is that this would create a stronger, more resilient parish, which would be better able to provide services to its residents, both now and in the future. A larger parish would be able to take on additional responsibilities, for the benefit of the local community. The counter-argument, put forward by Melksham Without Parish Council, is that the two parishes have separate identities which would be lost in a merger and that the interests of the residents of Melksham Without do not always coincide with those of Melksham.

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That there be no change to the structure of Melksham and Melksham Without parishes and that they remain as separate parishes**

Reasons:- The existing structure is considered to provide effective and convenient local government, with both of the parish councils working effectively to provide services to their respective parish communities. The Working Group did not consider that there was sufficient justification for a merger of the two parishes.

### **43. Properties within Melksham Without (Snarlton Lane, Thyme Road area)**

The Council consulted on two options for the general Melksham area. The first option was for a large scale merger of the parishes of Melksham and Melksham Without, and this is shown at schemes 44 and 45.

There are four smaller schemes in the second option. The largest is a proposal to move the boundary between Melksham and Melksham Without so that approximately 733 relatively newly built properties become part of Melksham. Currently they are situated outside the Town boundaries and are part of Melksham Without.

Map: Scheme 43 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 1

Consultation method: Three public meetings. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the three public meetings. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meetings.

Two responses were received, both in favour of the proposal.

### **Main Considerations**

The proposal is to alter the boundary to include within Melksham all of the new residential development inside the proposed new spine road. The new road would become the boundary. The main issue in this proposal is whether the proposed changes will provide a more suitable boundary between the two parishes and whether the alterations will lead to more effective governance and community identity.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Melksham Without shown hatched and edged in green on Scheme 43 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 1, being land in the vicinity of Snarlton Lane and Thyme Road, becomes part of the parish of Melksham**

Reasons:- The proposed new boundary line provided a clear division between the two parishes and that the community in the area to be transferred would have clear affinity with Melksham

#### **46. Re-draw north west boundary to align with the A365 and Dunch Lane junction**

##### Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal to align part of the north western boundary of Melksham with Melksham Without, so that it is aligned with the A365 road and Dunch Lane in the area of their junction.

No residential properties appear to be affected by this proposal, although a large number of new dwelling are due to be constructed there..

##### Map:

Scheme 46 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 2

Scheme 46 - Streets - George Ward School from MWOPC

Consultation method: Three public meetings. CGR website consultation.

##### Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

One comment appeared under the Corsham section of the website, suggesting that there should be just one parish at Melksham

##### Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the three public meetings. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meetings.

Two completed response forms were received, both in favour of the proposal.

#### **Main Considerations**

The current parish boundary in this location does not follow any easily identifiable route and passes through land allocated for housing development. Moving the boundary to the line of the A365 would provide a clearly defined division between the parishes and would ensure that all properties built on the site would be within the same parish, which would lead to improved community governance.

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Melksham Without shown hatched and edged in green on Scheme 46 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 2, being land in the vicinity of Dunch Lane and the A365 becomes part of the parish of Melksham**

Reasons:- The existing boundary had become anomalous following development in the area and that the community would benefit from the whole area being within one parish and it was logical that this should be Melksham

#### **47. Southern boundary with Seend, Locking Close and the canal - Giles Wood**

##### Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal to move part of the boundary with Seend in a southerly direction to meet the Kennet and Avon canal. This would mean that the path between Locking Close and the canal would become part of the Melksham Without parish.

No residential properties appear to be affected by this proposal.

Map: Scheme 47 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 3

Consultation method: Three public meetings. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

Six responses were received via the CGR website portal. Three were in favour of the proposal and three were against it.

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the three public meetings. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meetings.

One response was received (from somebody ticking the “interested party” box, rather than “resident”) and this was in favour of the proposal.

#### **Main Considerations**

There are two main issues here. Firstly, whether moving the boundary between Seend and Melksham Without to the line of the canal in this location makes a more appropriate dividing line between the two parishes. Secondly, there is a picnic site on the land the management of which is currently largely funded by Melksham Without Parish Council. It is the view of Melksham Without PC that it would be more convenient for this site to be within its parish, as that would remove complications regarding the management of the picnic site.

Seend Parish Council oppose the proposal as they have concerns about the future use of the area and do not consider the current management arrangements for the picnic site to be a sufficient justification for any change. They consider that the area has a strong community identity with Seend parish.

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Seend, shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 47 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 3 being land in the vicinity of Locking Close and Giles Wood becomes part of the parish of Melksham Without**

Reasons:- the proposal would provide a clearer boundary between the two parishes and it seemed sensible for the picnic area to be within Melksham Without, given the existing maintenance arrangements for that area



#### **48. Land between Berryfield Lane and the River Avon – LCP**

##### Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal to rationalise the boundary of land common to both parishes (LCP) using the river as the proposed boundary line. This would involve the small area of land between Berryfield Lane and the River Avon being transferred from Broughton Gifford Parish Council to Melksham Without Parish Council.

No residential properties appear to be affected by this proposal.

Map: Scheme 48 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 4

Consultation method: Three public meetings. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Copies of the survey were attached to the agenda for the three public meetings. Whilst the feedback is set out below, this is obviously from residents who may also have commented at the meetings.

One response was received, from a parish representative, in favour of the proposal.

#### **Main Considerations**

This area of land is currently shared in common between the two parishes, which is a historical anomaly. It is considered appropriate that this be rectified by transferring the land to one of the parishes. The issue then is which is the more appropriate, given the nature of the area the area be transferred and the resulting boundaries. Transferring it to Melksham Without would lead to the parish boundary following the line of the river in that area.

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the area of land common to the parishes of Broughton Gifford and Melksham Without, shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 48 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 4, being land in the vicinity of Berry Lane becomes part of the parish of Melksham Without**

Reasons:- the proposal would remove the anomaly of an area being common to two parishes and it was logical for the boundary to follow the line of the river

## Mapping

- Scheme 43 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 1
- Scheme 44 and 45 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 5
- Scheme 44 and 45 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 6
- Scheme 46 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 2
- Scheme 46 - Streets - George Ward School from MWOPC
- Scheme 47 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 3
- Scheme 48 - Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 4

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Community Action Whitley and Shaw CAWS letter to Melksham Without PC 25 October 2015	25/10/15
2	Development and Streets - Former George Ward School November 2015	11/15
3	Extract from Melksham Town Council e-mail 19 February 2014	19/2/14
4	Extract from Melksham Town Council e-mail 30 July 2014	30/7/14
5	Extract from Melksham Without PC e-mail to Broughton Gifford PC 22 December 2014	22/12/14
6	Extract from Melksham Without PC e-mail to Seend PC 22 December 2014	22/12/14
7	Letter from Broughton Gifford PC 5 October 2015	5/10/15
8	Letter to Melksham Without PC 4 April 2014	4/4/14
9	Melksham Seniors Updated Boundary 2 November 2015	2/11/15
10	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 4 November 2015	4/11/15
11	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 20 October 2015	20/10/15
12	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 21 October 2015	21/10/15
13	Melksham TC letter 1 July 2013	1/7/13
14	Melksham Without PC letter 23 July 2014	23/7/14
15	Melksham Without PC letter 28 March 2014	28/3/14
16	Melksham Without PC Response on CGR 12 October 2015	12/10/15
17	Extract of email from Mr P Davis 11 November 2015	11/11/15

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Melksham Without PC	21/10/15	MWOPC "headlines" for residents

## Area B1- Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard

	<b>Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted</b>	<b><u>Properties</u></b>	<b><u>Current parish</u></b>	<b><u>To parish</u></b>
49	Properties within Preston exc Thickthorn Area	15	Lyneham and Bradenstoke	Clyffe Pypard
50	Properties within Thickthorn Area	7	Lyneham and Bradenstoke	Clyffe Pypard

22

**Area B1- Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard**  
**CONSULTATION BY LETTER**

**49. Properties within Preston excluding Thickthorn Area**

Summary of Proposal

Subject to Proposal 50 being approved, this is a proposal that properties at Preston (currently in Lyneham) should also become part of the parish of Clyffe Pypard.

Map: Scheme 49 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

There was an element of overlap with the responses coming back in hard copy for the two elements of these schemes. 22 letters were sent out to residents of Thickthorn and Preston and a total of 12 came back. Six were in favour of the proposals and six were against. These were generally ticked to indicate comments were applicable to the combined schemes (49 and 50) and it has not been possible to isolate the "Thickthorn only" comments.

**Main Considerations**

The main issue here ( and in proposal 50 below) would seem to be whether, applying the relevant criteria, particularly those relating to community identity, there are sufficient reasons to justify making a change to the boundaries in this area. The proposals involve the transfer of properties at Thickthorn from Lyneham & Bradenstoke to Clyffe Pypard. There is no clear consensus among those who have responded to the consultation.

**Community Governance Working Group Recommendation**

**That the proposals for areas of Lyneham and Bradenstoke parish, shown edged green on Maps Scheme 49 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2, and Scheme 50 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 1 (Area B1), to become part of the parish of Clyffe Pypard be not supported and that there be no changes in this area**

Reasons:- there was no clear community support for the proposal amongst those would be affected by it and there did not appear to be any significant justification for making any change to the existing governance arrangements

## **50. Properties within Thickthorn Area**

### Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal that the boundary between the parishes of Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard should be moved so that properties at Thickthorn become part of Clyffe Pypard, rather than Lyneham.

Map: Scheme 50 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 1

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

There was an element of overlap with the responses coming back in hard copy. 22 letters were sent out to residents of Thickthorn and Preston and a total of 12 came back. Six were in favour of the proposals and six were against. These were generally ticked to indicate comments were applicable to the combined schemes (49 and 50) and it has not been possible to isolate the "Thickthorn only" comments.

## **Main Considerations**

See comments on proposal 49 above

## **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation:-**

**That the proposals for areas of Lyneham and Bradenstoke parish, shown edged green on Maps Scheme 49 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2, and Scheme 50 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 1 (Area B1), to become part of the parish of Clyffe Pypard be not supported and that there be no changes in this area**

Reasons:- there was no clear community support for the proposal amongst those would be affected by it and there did not appear to be any significant justification for making any change to the existing governance arrangements

## Mapping

- Scheme 49 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2
- Scheme 50 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 1

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Lyneham and Bradenstoke PC	14/12/11
2	Original List of Properties Mr Morison	
3	Original Proposed Change Mr Morison	
4	PCG Fact Finding meeting notes - Lyneham 4 December 2014	4/12/14
5	LBPC 11 December 2014 Council resolution	11/12/14

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	(None)		

<b>Area B2- Bishopstrow</b>				
	<b>Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted</b>	<b><u>Properties</u></b>	<b><u>Current parish</u></b>	<b><u>To parish</u></b>
51	Properties within Sutton Veny (A36 area)	2	Sutton Veny	Bishopstrow
52	Properties within Barrow House Area	6	Warminster	Bishopstrow
(52b)	Bishopstrow. Grange Lane and Home Farm area.			
		<b>8</b>		

## **Area B2- Bishopstrow**

### **CONSULTATION BY LETTER**

#### **51. Properties within Sutton Veny (A36 area)**

It was proposed that a more logical line for part of the southern boundary of Bishopstrow parish would be the line of the A36 Warminster to Salisbury road

Map: Scheme 51 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 2

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Two letters were sent out, and none were received back

### **Main Considerations**

The main consideration in this proposal is whether moving the parish boundary to the A36 is justified in terms of providing a clear identifiable boundary between parishes and whether there are any implication in terms of community identity or service provision for the two properties affected

### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Sutton Veny, shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 51 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 2 being land in the vicinity of the A36 becomes part of the parish of Bishopstrow**

Reasons:- the extension of the area of Bishopstrow so that the A36 became the parish boundary seems to be a logical change, resulting in a clearer delineation between the two parishes.



## **52. Properties within Barrow House Area**

The parish boundary between Bishopstrow and Warminster leaves a few properties around Barrow House (south of the River Wylye) in the parish of Warminster. A proposal put forward to the CGR Working Party suggests that there is more affinity of these properties with Bishopstrow than Warminster, and the suggestion is that the boundary line should be moved slightly northwards to follow the line of the river.

Map: Scheme 52 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 1

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

None

Hard copy survey response (summary):

Six letters were sent out, and one was received back. The wording of the response was slightly ambiguous, but the writer was in favour of the proposal.

### **Main Considerations**

As with similar proposals the main issues here are whether it is more appropriate to move the parish boundary to follow a defined physical feature and whether there are benefits for the community identity or governance for the six properties concerned. It is considered in this case that the properties do have more of an affinity with Bishopstrow than Warminster and that it would be logical for the boundary to be moved to the line of the river.

### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Warminster, shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 52 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 1 being land in the vicinity of Barrow House becomes part of the parish of Bishopstrow**

Reasons:- the properties within the area to be altered would seem to have a closer affinity with Bishopstrow than with Warminster. The alteration would therefore result in more effective and convenient local government for the small number of residents involved.

**52b Bishopstrow. Grange Lane and Home Farm area..**

At the fact finding meeting held in 2014, the CGR were asked to consider transferring land in the area of Bishopstrow House, Grange Lane and Home Farm, which is currently in Warminster parish, to Bishopstrow.

Having considered the matter, the CGR Working Party were of the view that this was not a scheme on which they would seek further consultation, as there did not appear to be good governance reasons to support the proposal.

Map: Scheme 52b - Bishopstrow Proposed Change between Warminster and Bishopstrow

Consultation method: None.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

N/A

Hard copy survey response (summary):

N/A

**Main Considerations**

The main consideration is whether there are any clear community governance grounds for moving the parish boundary in this location

**Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That no changes be made to the areas of Bishopstrow and Warminster in the vicinity of Grange Lane and Home Farm**

Reasons:- the Working Group could not identify any community governance grounds to justify making the change proposed

## Mapping

- Scheme 51 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 2
- Scheme 52 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 1
- Scheme 52b - Bishopstrow Proposed Change between Warminster and Bishopstrow

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bishopstrow Boundary Review paper 2014 - FINAL	2014
2	Bishopstrow Boundary Review paper 2014 Sheila Thomson	2014
3	Bishopstrow Parish meeting letter including map 29 April 2009	29/4/09
4	Warminster TC minutes 17 November 2014 Minute number 296 refers	17/11/14
5	Notes from Bishopstrow CGR fact finding meeting 2 December 2014	2/12/14

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Bishopstrow PM	16/12/10	
2	Cllr C Newbury	15/7/14	Supports change at river
3	Sutton Veny PC, via Bishopstrow PM	6/12/14	No objection to boundary with Sutton Veny
4	Bishopstrow PM	6/12/14	Suggest 2009 map should not be used.
5	Cllr C Newbury	28/8/15	Points out possible house numbering conflicts
6	Bishopstrow PM	28/8/15	Proposals would still leave anomalies

## Area B3- Nomansland (Redlynch and Landford)

Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
53	Properties within Nomansland Proposal Only 1	287	Redlynch	Landford
54	Properties within Hamptworth only Proposal	53	Redlynch	Landford

**340**

## **Area B3- Nomansland (Redlynch and Landford)**

### **CONSULTATION BY LETTER**

#### **53. Properties within Nomansland Proposal Only**

Nomansland is currently in the parish of Redlynch, but there is a proposal that it has more affinity with the neighbouring parish of Landford than it has with the rest of the parish of Redlynch and the boundary should be moved.

Map: Area B3 – Redlynch and Landford Map 1

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

Five responses were received via the web portal, but there was a high response to the individual letters sent to residents. These five were all in favour of proposals 53 and/or 54.

Hard copy survey response (summary):

287 letters were sent to residents affected by this proposal and 39 were returned. Of that 39, 37 were in favour of the proposal and 2 were against.

Taken with proposal 54, this means a total of 340 letters were sent out, 53 were returned, of which 48 were in favour and 5 were against.

### **Main Considerations**

There is clear support for this and for proposal 54 from those who made representations. The main issue is whether the properties concerned have a close community identification with Langford than with Redlynch, taking into account the geography of the area and the relative location of the settlements

### **Community Governance Working Party Recommendation**

**That the area of land in the parish of Redlynch shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 53 - Area B3 - Redlynch and Landford Map 1 being land at Nomansland becomes part of the parish of Landford**

Reasons:- the Working Group accepted that the community within the area concerned had a greater affinity with Landford than with the rest of Redlynch and that proposed change was justified in terms of community identity and interest. The proposal was also supported by the overwhelming majority of the residents who responded to the consultation.

#### **54. Properties within Hamptworth**

If the option to move Nomansland in to Landford is approved, there is a second proposal to consider also moving Hamptworth and its environs in to Landford as well.

Map: Scheme 53 - Area B3 - Redlynch and Landford Map 2  
Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford Hamptworth Estate  
Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford with National Park area

Consultation method: Individual letter. CGR website consultation.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

Five responses were received via the web portal, but there was a high response to the individual letters sent to residents. These five were all in favour of proposals 53 and/or 54.

Taken with proposal 53, this means a total of 340 letters were sent out, 53 were returned, of which 48 were in favour and 5 were against.

Hard copy survey response (summary):

53 letters were sent to residents affected by this proposal and 14 were returned. Of that 14, 11 were in favour of the proposal and 3 were against.

#### **Main Considerations**

As proposal 53 above

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation:**

**That, subject to proposal 53 above being approved, the area of land in the parish of Redlynch shown hatched and edged in green on Map Scheme 53 - Area B3 - Redlynch and Landford Map 2 being land at Hamptworth becomes part of the parish of Landford**

Reasons:- if proposal 53 is accepted, then there is a clear logic in this further area becoming part of Landford, in terms of both community identity and effective local governance. This proposal was also supported by a large majority of respondents to the consultation.

## Mapping

- Map: Area B3 – Redlynch and Landford Map 1 - Properties within Nomansland Proposal Only
- Map: Area B3 – Redlynch and Landford Map 2 - Properties within Hamptworth
- Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford Hamptworth Estate
- Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford with National Park area

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Extract from e-mail from Cllr Randall 5 May 2013	5/5/13
2	Extract from e-mail from Cllr Randall 25 July 2014	25/7/14
3	Notes of fact finding meeting Nomansland 19 November 2014	19/11/14
4		

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Cllr L Randall	22/1/14	Link between Hamptworth and Nomansland
2	Mr D Anderson	1/9/15	Will supply alternative map for Hamptworth estate. Subsequently received in hard copy

## Area B4 - Tisbury and West Tisbury

Schemes on which the CGR Working Party consulted

		<u>Properties</u>	<u>Current parish</u>	<u>To parish</u>
55	Properties within Tisbury	1,198	Tisbury	Unknown
56	Properties within West Tisbury	269	West Tisbury	Unknown
		<b>1,467</b>		



## **55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury**

For several years, there have been discussions locally about the boundary between Tisbury and West Tisbury, as development straddles the parish boundary between the two parishes.

Previous suggestions have ranged from a revision of the boundary in the built up area, to a re-organisation based on either streets or post codes. The possibility of a merger has also been discussed. No clear option has been put to the Council at this time.

### **Maps**

Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 1  
Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 2  
Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 3

Consultation method: Individual letter. None yet.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

N/A

Hard copy survey response (summary):

N/A

### **Main Considerations**

#### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation:**

**That no changes be made to the governance arrangements in the Tisbury area at this stage**

Reasons:- No clear or firm proposals for change have been put forward for consideration at this time, but both parish councils are engaged in active discussions.

## Maps

Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 1  
Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 2  
Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 3

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Extract from Tisbury PC e-mail 6 July 2014	6/7/14
2	Extract from West Tisbury PC e-mail 22 October 2015	22/10/14
3	Letter from Mr J Pope 18 May 2010	18/5/10
4	Letter from West Tisbury PC 8 March 2014	8/3/14
5	Map to accompany extract from e-mail from West Tisbury PC 22 October 2015	22/10/15
6	Notes of Tisbury fact finding meeting 19 November 2014	19/11/14
7	Tisbury PC 18 June 2015	18/6/15
8	West Tisbury PC 5 July 2014	5/7/14
9	West Tisbury PC 17 June 2015	17/6/15
10		

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mrs T Austreng	30/6/14	Against merger
2			
3			

## **56b Tidworth warding**

Considerable residential development has significantly affected the ratio of electors to councillors in the wards of the town council which were created in 2004.

Map: Scheme 56b - Tidworth 2004 Map with Order

Consultation method: None yet.

Feedback from CGR website survey consultation (summary):

N/A

Hard copy survey response (summary):

N/A

### **Main Considerations**

At present, there are ten Councillors for the East Ward (east of the A338 road), seven for the West Ward and two for the Perham Down Ward.

The West Ward is currently having / or has had 100 properties built by Wimpey. The East Ward is currently having 600 built by Persimmon. Within the next two years, another 322 will be built by the Army (not part of Army Basing but a long-term requirement). This means that East Ward will have an additional 822 properties more than the West Ward so the East Ward is in danger of being under represented when compared to the West Ward

The local councillor has suggested that Tidworth Town Council should remain at 19 members, but changes should be made to reflect the alterations in property and elector numbers.

No formal consultation has been held yet with the Town Council or its residents.

### **Community Governance Working Group Recommendation:**

**To consider this matter further and report back to Council with a recommendation**

## Mapping

Map: Scheme 56b - Tidworth 2004 Map with Order

## Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Tidworth 2004 Order Text	

## Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	(No recent e-mails)		

**Schemes discontinued by Council on 25 February 2015, presented here for information only.**

Many of the original schemes contained in the Terms of Reference were either long standing casual requests for information, or were schemes for which there is no longer any local support. In February 2015, the Council supported the Working Party's recommendation that there should be no further action on the following schemes, and these are now resolved items.

	<b><u>Area</u></b>	<b><u>Ref</u></b>	<b>Status</b>
57	Durrington (although the army re-basing may result in a review of the area in due course)	B5	Resolved item - No further action
58	Compton Chamberlayne	C1	Resolved item - No further action
59	Horningsham and the Deverills	C2	Resolved item - No further action
60	All areas - potential for amalgamation of parishes	C3	Resolved item - No further action
61	Sutton Mandeville	C4	Resolved item - No further action
62	Grafton	C5	Resolved item - No further action
63	Idmiston	C6	Resolved item - No further action
64	Gt Somerford	C7	Resolved item - No further action
65	Urchfont	C8	Resolved item - No further action

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **What is a Community Governance Review (CGR)?**

These reviews were previously called Parish Reviews and they are usually undertaken every 10-15 years to make sure that the boundaries and electoral arrangements of parishes within an area are working well.

A CGR must:-

- Reflect the identities and interests of the communities in that area; and
- be effective and convenient.

Consequently, a CGR must take into account:-

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

Therefore any changes made by a CGR must improve communities and local democracy in the parish or parishes concerned.

### **Why is the Council doing this now?**

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 transferred responsibility for these reviews to principal councils. A number of parishes and towns within the county have asked the council to review their boundaries.

### **Some information on this Review refers to parish or town wards – what are these?**

Some large parishes are divided into smaller sections, called wards, and these can reflect the character of a parish. For instance, if a parish contains two villages, with quite separate identities, then the parish might be split into two separate wards, with separate parish councillors for each ward.

### **How many councillors can a Parish Council have?**

There must not be fewer than five councillors on a parish council but there is no maximum number given. Ideally, the number of members on a parish council should reflect the size of the parish overall.

### **Will my post code change?**

No, Royal Mail has a separate process for setting postcodes, which do not correlate with parish boundaries.

### **Does changing a parish boundary make any difference to the likelihood of development occurring on the edge of settlements?**

No. The criteria, and the legislation that sits behind it, for determining whether or not parish boundaries should change bears no relation to the legislation that guides the determination of planning applications. In simple terms, if a proposal for development comes forward the parish within which that development sits has no direct relevance to the decision whether to grant planning permission or not.

### **Will this affect my council tax bill?**

Possibly. Most parish councils levy what is known as a precept to cover their costs. Typically the contribution toward your parish council is around 5% of the council tax you pay. There are variations between parish precepts so it is likely that this element of your council could change if your property moves into a different parish.

The 2014/15 and 2015/16 Council Tax band D charge and precept for all parishes can be seen at:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/counciltaxhousingandbenefits/counciltax/ctaxhowmuch/counciltaxbanddandpreceptallparishes.htm>

It is not possible to say what the 2016/17 charges will be, and nor is it possible to predict the effect of the Community Governance proposals on these parish precepts.

### **Will I have to get official documents like my driving licence changed if my property moves from one parish to another?**

No. The key elements of your address for official purposes are your house name/number, street and postcode. There are many examples already of where a postal address records a property in a different town/parish than the one in which it is actually situated.

### **If my property moves from one parish to another, do I need to change my passport details?**

No. Your passport does not contain your address, therefore there is no requirement to update the details.

### **What sort of factors might be taken into account when looking at community identity?**

There is no set list of factors; the following offers a few suggestions:

- Where do you tell your friends you live?
- Where are your key services, e.g. shops, doctors, pub, sports club, social club?
- Where do you think the boundary with the next parish is?
- Do you know which parish you live in?
- Are there any natural physical boundaries such as a river, road, hill nearby?
- Are there any Community groups or associations in the area which help to indicate where communities begin and end?

### **Where can I read more about Community Governance Reviews and how they operate?**

The Department for Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission have produced guidance on how to conduct reviews and what they should cover.

This can be seen at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-governance-reviews-guidance>

This page is intentionally left blank



## Guidance on community governance reviews



The  
Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
for England

## Guidance on community governance reviews

March 2010

Department for Communities and Local Government  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Department for Communities and Local Government  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London  
SW1E 5DU  
Telephone: 0303 444 0000  
Website: [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)

© Crown Copyright, 2010

*Copyright in the typographical arrangement rests with the Crown.*

*This publication, excluding logos, may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium for research, private study or for internal circulation within an organisation. This is subject to it being reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright and the title of the publication specified.*

Any other use of the contents of this publication would require a copyright licence. Please apply for a Click-Use Licence for core material at [www.opsi.gov.uk/click-use/system/online/pLogin.asp](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/click-use/system/online/pLogin.asp), or by writing to the Office of Public Sector Information, Information Policy Team, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU

e-mail: [licensing@opsi.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@opsi.gov.uk)

If you require this publication in an alternative format please email [alternativeformats@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:alternativeformats@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

Communities and Local Government Publications  
Online via the Communities and Local Government website: [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk)

March 2010

ISBN: 978 1 4098 2421 3



# Contents

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	
Introduction	6
The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and community governance reviews	6
Aim of this guidance	6
Issues covered in this guidance	7
Statutory provisions	7
Structure of Guidance	8
Further information	8
<b>Section 2</b>	
Undertaking community governance reviews	9
Why undertake a community governance review?	9
Terms of reference for community governance reviews	10
Timing of community governance reviews	11
Undertaking community governance reviews	13
Public petitions to trigger community governance reviews	15
<b>Section 3</b>	
Making and implementing recommendations made in community governance reviews	17
Context of parishes in the wider community	17
Defining a parish	17
Criteria for undertaking a community governance review:	18
The identities and interests of local communities	19
Effective and convenient local government	20
Factors for consideration	21
The impact on community cohesion of community governance arrangements	21
Size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish	23

Parish meetings and parish councils	25
Recommendations and decisions on the outcome of community governance reviews	26
Implementation of community governance reviews by order	28
Maps of parish changes and mapping conventions	29
<b>Section 4</b>	
Other aspects of community governance reviews	30
Parish names and alternative styles for parishes	30
Grouping or degrouping parishes	31
Abolishing parishes and dissolving parish councils	32
Rural areas	33
London	34
Other urban areas	34
Charter trustee areas	35
Other (non-parish) forms of community governance	35
<b>Section 5</b>	
Electoral arrangements	39
Introduction	39
What are electoral arrangements?	39
Ordinary year of election	39
Council size	40
Parish warding	41
The number and boundaries of parish wards	42
The number of councillors to be elected for parish wards	42
Names of parish wards	43
Electorate forecasts	44
Consent/protected electoral arrangements	44
<b>Section 6</b>	
Consequential recommendations for related alterations to the boundaries of principal councils' wards and/or divisions	46

## Foreword

This document comprises guidance issued by the Secretary of State and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England under section 100 of the Local Government and Public Involvement and Health Act 2007 (the 2007 Act) on undertaking, and giving effect to recommendations made in, community governance reviews and on making recommendations about electoral arrangements respectively.

The Implementation Plan for the Local Government White Paper, *Strong and Prosperous Communities*<sup>1</sup> (the 2006 White Paper), sets out Communities and Local Government's future approach to guidance. It proposes that guidance must be short, clear and practical, and that an open and inclusive approach to its preparation should be followed, involving the range of stakeholders who will be affected by or have an interest in it.

This guidance follows that approach. It is an updated version of guidance originally published in 2008 prepared by a partnership of Communities and Local Government and the Electoral Commission with stakeholders including DEFRA, the Local Government Association, County Councils Network, London Councils, the National Association of Local Councils, and the Society of Local Council Clerks. It aims to be clear and practical but also to encourage innovative and flexible local action. The main change to the guidance has been to reflect the establishment of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, which is responsible for the boundary-related functions previously exercised by the Electoral Commission and the Boundary Committee for England.

A model community governance reorganisation order is available on the Department's website.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> *Strong and Prosperous Communities*, the Local Government White Paper, The Stationery Office, October 2006(Cm 6969).

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/modelreorganisationorder>

## Section 1: Introduction

### The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and community governance reviews

1. Chapter 3 of Part 4 of the 2007 Act devolves the power to take decisions about matters such as the creation of parishes and their electoral arrangements to local government and local communities in England.
2. The Secretary of State therefore has no involvement in the taking of decisions about recommendations made in community governance reviews and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) involvement is limited to giving effect to consequential recommendations for related alterations to the electoral areas of principal councils.
3. From 13 February 2008, district councils, unitary county councils and London borough councils ('principal councils') have had responsibility for undertaking community governance reviews and have been able to decide whether to give effect to recommendations made in those reviews. In making that decision, they will need to take account of the views of local people.
4. Principal councils are required, by section 100(4) of the 2007 Act, to have regard to this guidance which is issued by the Secretary of State, under section 100(1) and (3), and the LGBCE under section 100(2).
5. This guidance is not an authoritative interpretation of the law (as that is ultimately a matter for the courts) and it remains the responsibility of principal councils to ensure that any actions taken by them comply with the relevant legislation. They should seek their own legal advice where appropriate.

#### Aim of this guidance

6. This guidance is intended to provide assistance to principal councils on:
  - a) undertaking community governance reviews;
  - b) the making of recommendations for electoral arrangements for parish councils and the making of consequential recommendations to the LGBCE for related alterations to the boundaries of electoral areas of principal councils; and



- c) giving effect to recommendations made in community governance reviews.

### Issues covered in this guidance

7. The guidance supports and helps to implement key aspects of the 2006 White Paper. The 2007 Act requires that local people are consulted during a community governance review, that representations received in connection with the review are taken into account and that steps are taken to notify them of the outcomes of such reviews including any decisions.
8. The matters covered by the guidance include:
  - a) duties and procedures in undertaking community governance reviews (Chapter 2), including on community governance petitions; the document gives guidance on a valid petition, and for the requirement for petitions to meet specific numerical or percentage thresholds signed by local electors;
  - b) making and implementing decisions on community governance (Chapter 3): the 2007 Act places a duty on principal authorities to have regard to the need to secure that any community governance for the area under review reflects the identities and interests of the local community in that area, and that it is effective and convenient; relevant considerations which influence judgements against these two principal criteria include the impact on community cohesion, and the size, population and boundaries of the proposed area;
  - c) other forms of community governance not involving parishes (Chapter 4) for example, residents' associations, community forums, tenant management organisations, area committees;
  - d) considerations on whether parish meetings and parish councils would be most appropriate, and electoral arrangements (Chapter 5);
  - e) consequential recommendations for related alterations to ward and division boundaries (Chapter 6).

### Statutory provisions

9. In addition to the 2007 Act, legislation relating to parishes can also be found in the Local Government Act 1972 (in particular, provision about parish meetings and councils, the constitution of a parish meeting, the constitution and powers of parish councils and about parish councillors) and the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 (reviews of, and recommendations about,

electoral areas by the LGBCE), as well as in other enactments.

## Structure of guidance

10. This document is published jointly and is divided into two parts. Chapters 2 to 4 deal with those matters which the Secretary of State may issue guidance on and the issues raised in Chapters 5 and 6 are those on which the LGBCE may issue guidance. Having conducted a community governance review, unless in certain circumstances there are no implications for electoral arrangements, principal councils will need to consider both parts of this guidance together.

## Further information

11. Further information about electoral arrangements for parishes and any related alterations to district or London borough wards, or county divisions should be sought from the LGBCE's website [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

## Section 2: Undertaking community governance reviews

### Why undertake a community governance review?

12. Community governance reviews provide the opportunity for principal councils to review and make changes to community governance within their areas. It can be helpful to undertake community governance reviews in circumstances such as where there have been changes in population, or in reaction to specific or local new issues. The Government has made clear in the 2006 White Paper and in the 2007 Act its commitment to parish councils. It recognises the role such councils can play in terms of community empowerment at the local level. The 2007 Act provisions are intended to improve the development and coordination of support for citizens and community groups so that they can make the best use of empowerment opportunities.
13. The 2007 Act is intended to streamline the process of taking decisions about giving effect to recommendations made in a community governance review, such as recommendations for the creation of new parishes and the establishment of parish councils, and about other matters such as making changes to parish boundaries and electoral arrangements. By devolving the powers to take these decisions from central government to local government, the 2007 Act is intended to simplify the decision-making process and make it more local.
14. Parish and town councils are the most local tier of government in England. There are currently about 10,000 parishes in England – around 8,900 of which have councils served by approximately 70,000 councillors. There is a large variation in size of parishes in England from those with a handful of electors to those with over 40,000 electors.
15. In many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances, the council should consider undertaking a community governance review, the terms of reference

of which should include consideration of the boundaries of existing parishes.

16. A community governance review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that exist in England. Reviews also offer the chance to principal councils to consider the future of what may have become redundant or moribund parishes, often the result of an insufficient number of local electors within the area who are willing to serve on a parish council. Some of these issues are considered elsewhere in this guidance (see chapter 3 about parish councils and parish meetings and chapter 4 regarding grouping parishes and dissolving parish councils and abolishing parishes).
17. Since new boundaries may be used to provide the building blocks for district and London borough ward and/or county division boundaries in future electoral reviews of district, London borough, unitary and county councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary anomalies when they arise. Principal councils should therefore consider carefully changes to parish boundaries as these can have consequential effects on the boundaries for other tiers of local government.
18. Community governance reviews may also be triggered by local people presenting public petitions to the principal council. This is explained in more detail in paragraphs 39 to 43 on public petitions to trigger community governance reviews.

### Terms of reference for community governance reviews

19. The 2007 Act allows principal councils to determine the terms of reference under which a community governance review is to be undertaken. It requires the terms of reference to specify the area under review and the principal council to publish the terms of reference. If any modifications are made to the terms of reference, these must also be published.
20. Terms of reference will need to be drawn up or modified where a valid community governance petition has been received by the principal council. Local people will be able to influence the terms of reference when petitioning (see paragraphs 24 and 39 to 43 for more information).
21. As the 2007 Act devolves power from central to local government and to local communities, it is inappropriate to prescribe a “one size fits

all” approach to terms of reference for community governance reviews applied by principal councils. However, the Government expects terms of reference to set out clearly the matters on which a community governance review is to focus. The local knowledge and experience of communities in their area which principal councils possess will help to frame suitable terms of reference. The terms should be appropriate to local people and their circumstances and reflect the specific needs of their communities.

22. In areas for which there is both a district council and a county council, district councils are required under section 79 of the 2007 Act to notify the county council of their intention to undertake a review and of their terms of reference. County councils play a strategic role in the provision of local services, and they can offer an additional dimension to any proposal to conduct a review, particularly as the terms of reference are being formulated. The bodies which the principal council must consult under section 93 of the 2007 Act include other local authorities which have an interest in the review. Such local authorities would include any county council for the area concerned. In such circumstances the district council should seek the views of the county council at an early stage.
23. Local people may have already expressed views about what form of community governance they would like for their area, and principal councils should tailor their terms of reference to reflect those views on a range of local issues. Ultimately, the recommendations made in a community governance review ought to bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

### Timing of community governance reviews

24. A principal council is under a duty to carry out a community governance review if it receives a valid community governance petition for the whole or part of the council’s area. However, the duty to conduct a review does not apply if:
  - a) the principal council has concluded a community governance review within the last two years which in its opinion covered the whole or a significant part of the area of the petition; or
  - b) the council is currently conducting a review of the whole, or a significant part of the area to which the petition relates.
25. Where a review has been conducted within the last two years the principal council still has the power to undertake another review if it so wishes. Where a review is ongoing, the council can choose to

modify the terms of reference of the ongoing review to include the matters within the petition, or to conduct a second review.

26. Otherwise, the 2007 Act provides for a principal council to conduct a community governance review at any time. Principal councils will want to keep their community governance arrangements under review, and they should ensure that they consider on a regular basis whether a review is needed. A review may need to be carried out, for example, following a major change in the population of a community or as noted earlier in this chapter (see paragraph 15) to re-draw boundaries which have become anomalous, for example following new housing developments being built across existing boundaries. Principal councils should exercise their discretion, but it would be good practice for a principal council to consider conducting a review every 10-15 years – except in the case of areas with very low populations when less frequent reviews may be adequate.
27. In the interests of effective governance, the principal council should consider the benefits of undertaking a review of the whole of its area in one go, rather than carrying out small scale reviews in a piecemeal fashion of two or three areas. However, it is recognised that a full-scale review will not always be warranted, particularly where a review of the whole area or a significant part of the principal council's area has been carried out within the last few years. Occasionally, it may be appropriate to carry out a smaller review, for example, to adjust minor parish boundary anomalies.
28. Principal councils should use their knowledge and awareness of local issues when deciding whether to undertake a review. However, principal councils should avoid starting a community governance review if a review of district, London borough or county council electoral arrangements is being, or is about to be, undertaken. Ideally, community governance reviews should be undertaken well in advance of such electoral reviews, so that the LGBCE in its review of local authority electoral arrangements can take into account any parish boundary changes that are made. The LGBCE can provide advice on its programme of electoral reviews.
29. Where the LGBCE bases its new district or London borough ward boundaries on parish boundaries the Parliamentary Boundary Commission will then use these boundaries to determine parliamentary constituency boundaries (parliamentary constituencies use district and London borough wards as their building blocks). This illustrates the importance of keeping parish boundaries under review and ensuring they accurately reflect local communities.
30. Reorganisation of community governance orders (explained further in

this chapter under implementation) 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 is made. Electoral arrangements for a new or existing parish council will come into force at the first elections to the parish council following the reorganisation order. However, orders should be made sufficiently far in advance to allow preparations for the conduct of those elections to be made. In relation to a new parish council, the principal council may wish to consider whether, during the period between 1 April and the first elections to the parish council, it should make interim arrangements for the parish to be represented by councillors who sit on the principal council.

31. Parish council elections should normally take place every four years at the same time as the elections for the district or London borough ward or, in areas outside of London which have no district council, the county division in which a parish, or part of a parish, is situated. However, where a new parish is to be created, it may be necessary to alter the date of the next parish election, particularly if the next elections to the ward or division are not scheduled to take place for some time. To achieve this, section 98 of the 2007 Act allows principal councils to modify or exclude the application of sections 16(3) and 90 of the Local Government Act 1972, so that the first election to the new parish council is held in an earlier year. This results in councillors serving either a shortened or lengthened first term to allow the parish council's electoral cycle to return to that of the unitary, district or London borough ward at the next election.

### Undertaking community governance reviews

32. Section 93 of the 2007 Act allows principal councils to decide how to undertake a community governance review, provided that they comply with the duties in that Act which apply to councils undertaking reviews.
33. Principal councils will need to consult local people and take account of any representations received in connection with the review. When undertaking the review they must have regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community in the area under review, and the need to secure that community governance in that area is effective and convenient. Further information on making recommendations is in Chapter 3.
34. Under the 2007 Act principal councils are required to consult both

those local government electors in the area under review, and others (including a local authority such as a county council) which appears to the principal council to have an interest in the review. In the case of a community governance review where a parish council already exists, as a local authority, it too should be consulted. Other bodies might include local businesses, local public and voluntary organisations - such as schools or health bodies. The principal council must take into account any representations it receives as part of a community governance review.

35. Principal councils must consider the wider picture of community governance in carrying out their reviews. In some areas there may be well established forms of community governance such as local residents' associations, or community forums which local people have set up and which help make a distinct contribution to the community. Some principal councils may also have set up area committees which perform a specific role in the local community.
36. In undertaking a review, section 93(5) requires principal councils to take these bodies into account. Potentially, as representatives of their community, these bodies may be considered as foundations for or stages towards the creation of democratically elected parishes (further information about other non-parish forms of community governance can be found in Chapter 4).
37. Principal councils are required to complete the review, including consequential recommendations to the LGBCE for related alterations to the boundaries of principal area wards and/or divisions, within 12 months of the start of the community governance review. The review begins when the council publishes terms of reference of the review and concludes when the council publishes the recommendations made in the review<sup>3</sup>. The Government stated in the 2006 White Paper that they wanted the process for undertaking community governance (formerly parish reviews) to be simplified and speeded up. Given that there is no longer the need to make recommendations to Central Government prior to implementing any review recommendations, the 2007 Act makes it easier for principal councils to reach decisions on community governance reviews. Whilst a community governance review will depend on a number of factors, such as the number of boundary changes, the Government believes it should be feasible to accomplish reviews within 12 months from the start.

---

<sup>3</sup> See section 102(3) of the 2007 Act for the interpretation of 'begin' and 'conclude' in relation to a review.



38. Principal councils will need to build into their planning process for reviews reasonable periods for consultation with local electors and other stakeholders, for the consideration of evidence presented to them in representations, as well as for decision-making (see Chapter 3 on making and implementing recommendations made in community governance reviews). Implementation of reviews by Order and the requirement for the principal council to publicise the outcome of a community governance review are covered in paragraphs 98 to 103.

### Public petitions to trigger community governance reviews

39. In recent years, the Government has been keen to encourage more community engagement. The 2006 White Paper confirmed this development further stressing the intention to build on the existing parish structure improving capacity to deliver better services, and to represent the community's interests.
40. Under the 2007 Act, local electors throughout England can petition their principal council for a community governance review to be undertaken. The petition must set out at least one recommendation that the petitioners want the review to consider making. These recommendations can be about a variety of matters including:
- the creation of a parish
  - the name of a parish
  - the establishment of a separate parish council for an existing parish
  - the alteration of boundaries of existing parishes
  - the abolition of a parish
  - the dissolution of a parish council
  - changes to the electoral arrangements of a parish council
  - whether a parish should be grouped under a common parish council or de-grouped.
  - a strong, inclusive community and voluntary sector;
  - a sense of civic values, responsibility and pride; and
  - a sense of place – a place with a 'positive' feeling for people and local distinctiveness.
  - reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area; and
  - effective and convenient.

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
  - the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.
  - People from different backgrounds having similar life opportunities
  - People knowing their rights and responsibilities
41. For a petition to be valid it must meet certain conditions. The first of these conditions is that a petition must be signed by the requisite number of local electors. It is recommended that petitioners aim to collect the requisite number of signatures based on the most recently published electoral register. It should be against this register that the petition thresholds (set out below) will be assessed. The three thresholds are:
- a) for an area with less than 500 local electors, the petition must be signed by at least 50% of them;
  - b) for an area with between 500 and 2,500 local electors, the petition must be signed by at least 250 of them;
  - c) for an area with more than 2,500 local electors, the petition must be signed by at least 10% of them.
42. These thresholds have been chosen to ensure that the minimum number of signatures to be obtained is neither so high that it will be impossible in most cases to collect that number nor so low as to allow a very small minority of electors to trigger a review. So, in areas with higher populations the threshold is not so high as to prevent a genuine desire for a review not being realised. Equally, in areas with smaller numbers of electors, this means that a handful of electors cannot initiate a review against the wishes of the majority of their fellow electors. The thresholds therefore help to ensure that the local democratic process is properly maintained.
43. The petition should define the area to which the review relates, whether on a map or otherwise, and refer to identifiable fixed boundaries. Where a proposed boundary is near an individual property, the petition must make clear on which side of the boundary the property lies. The petition must specify one or more proposed recommendations for review.
44. Where a petition recommends the establishment of a town or parish council or parish meeting (see paragraph 88) in an area which does not currently exist as a parish, the petition is to be treated as including

a recommendation for a parish to be created even if it does not expressly make such a recommendation<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> See Section 80 (8) of the 2007 Act

## Section 3: Making and implementing recommendations made in community governance reviews

45. As stated in the 2006 White Paper parish councils are an established and valued form of neighbourhood democracy and management. They are not only important in rural areas but increasingly have a role to play in urban areas. We propose to build on the existing parish structure, so as to improve its capacity to deliver better services and represent the community's interests.

### Context of parishes in the wider community

46. Communities and Local Government is working to help people and local agencies create cohesive, attractive and economically vibrant local communities, building on the Government's Sustainable Communities' strategy.
47. An important aspect to approaching sustainable communities is allowing local people a say in the way their neighbourhoods are managed. 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:
  - a) representative, accountable governance systems which both facilitate strategic, visionary leadership and enable inclusive, active and effective participation by individuals and organisations; and
  - b) effective engagement with the community at neighbourhood level including capacity building to develop the community's skills, knowledge and confidence;
48. Central to the concept of sustainable communities is community cohesion. The impact of community governance on cohesion is an issue to be taken into account when taking decisions about community governance arrangements, and this is discussed further below.

### Defining a parish

49. Parish and town councils vary enormously in size, activities and circumstances, representing populations ranging from less than 100 (small rural hamlets) to up to 70,000 (large shire towns – Weston-Super-Mare Town Council being the largest). The majority of them are small; around 80% represent populations of less than 2,500. Small parishes with no parish council can be grouped with

neighbouring parishes under a common parish council (see paragraphs 112 to 115).

50. Parish councils continue to have two main roles: community representation and local administration. For both purposes it is desirable that a parish should reflect a distinctive and recognisable community of place, with its own sense of identity. The views of local communities and inhabitants are of central importance.
51. The identification of a community is not a precise or rigid matter. The pattern of daily life in each of the existing communities, the local centres for education and child care, shopping, community activities, worship, leisure pursuits, transport facilities and means of communication generally will have an influence. However, the focus of people's day-to-day activities may not be reflected in their feeling of community identity. For instance, historic loyalty may be to a town but the local community of interest and social focus may lie within a part of the town with its own separate identity.

### Criteria for undertaking a community governance review

52. Section 93 of the 2007 Act requires principal councils to ensure that community governance within the area under review will be:
53. When considering the criteria identified in the 2007 Act, principal councils should take into account a number of influential factors, including:
54. In considering this guidance, the impact on community cohesion is linked specifically to the identities and interests of local communities. Size, population and boundaries are linked to both but perhaps more specifically to community governance being effective and convenient.

### The identities and interests of local communities

55. Parish councils have an important role to play in the development of their local communities. Local communities range in size, as well as in a variety of other ways. Communities and Local Government is working to help people and local agencies create cohesive, attractive and economically vibrant local communities. The aim for communities across the country is for them to be capable of fulfilling their own potential and overcoming their own difficulties, including community conflict, extremism, deprivation and disadvantage. Communities need to be empowered to respond to challenging economic, social, and cultural trends, and to demographic change.
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. Neighbourhood renewal is an important factor to improve the quality of life for those living in the most disadvantaged areas. Parish councils can be well placed to judge what is needed to build cohesion. Other factors such as social exclusion and deprivation may be specific issues in certain areas, and respect is fundamental to the functioning of all places and communities. The Government remains committed to civil renewal, and empowering citizens to work with public bodies, including parish councils, to influence public decisions.

57. 'Place' matters in considering community governance and is a factor in deciding whether or not to set up a parish. Communities and Local Government's vision is of prosperous and cohesive communities which offer a safe, healthy and sustainable environment. One aspect of that is strong and accountable local government and leadership. Parish councils can perform a central role in community leadership. Depending on the issue, sometimes they will want to take the lead locally, while at other times they may act as an important stakeholder or in partnership with others. In either case, parish councils will want to work effectively with partners to undertake the role of 'place-shaping', and be responsive to the challenges and opportunities of their area in a co-ordinated way.
58. It is clear that how people perceive where they live - their neighbourhoods - is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities and depends on a range of circumstances, often best defined by local residents. Some of the factors which help define neighbourhoods are: the geography of an area, the make-up of the local community, sense of identity, and whether people live in a rural, suburban, or urban area.
59. Parishes in many cases may be able to meet the concept of neighbourhoods in an area. Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest, with their own sense of identity. Like neighbourhoods, the feeling of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations.
60. Today, there may well be a variety of different communities of interest within a parish; for example, representing age, gender, ethnicity, faith or life-style groups. There are other communities with say specific interests in schools, hospitals or in leisure pursuits. Any number of communities of interest may flourish in a parish but they do not necessarily centre on a specific area or help to define it.

61. Building a sense of local identity may make an important contribution to cohesion where a local area is facing challenges arising from rapid demographic change. In considering the criteria, community governance reviews need to home in on communities as offering a sense of place and of local identity for all residents.

### Effective and convenient local government

62. 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.
63. Local communities should have access to good quality local services, ideally in one place. A parish council may be well placed to do this. With local parish and town councils in mind, effective and convenient local government essentially means that such councils should be viable in terms of providing at least some local services, and if they are to be convenient they need to be easy to reach and accessible to local people.
64. In responding to the requirement for effective and convenient local government, some parish councils are keen, and have the capacity to take on more in the provision of services. However, it is recognised that not all are in position to do so. The 2007 Act provides a power of well-being to those parish councils who want to take on more, giving them additional powers to enable them to promote the social, economic and environmental well being of their areas. Nevertheless, certain conditions must be met by individual parish councils before this power is extended to them.
65. Wider initiatives such as the Quality Parish Scheme and charters agreed between parish councils and principal councils also help to give a greater understanding of securing effective and convenient local government. In such cases, parish and town councils which are well managed and good at representing local views will be in a better position to work closely with partner authorities to take more responsibility for shaping their area's development and running its services.

### Factors for consideration

66. When reviewing community governance arrangements, principal councils may wish to take into account a number of factors, to help inform their judgement against the statutory criteria.

*The impact on community cohesion of community governance arrangements*

67. Setting up parishes and parish councils clearly offers the opportunity to strengthen community engagement and participation, and generate a positive impact on community cohesion. In conducting community governance reviews (whether initiated by itself or triggered by a valid petition), the principal council should consider the impact on community cohesion when deciding whether or not to set up a parish council.
68. Britain is a more diverse society – ethnically, religiously and culturally – than ever before. Today’s challenge is how best to draw on the benefits that migration and diversity bring while addressing the potential problems and risks to cohesion. Community cohesion is about recognising the impact of change and responding to it. This is a fundamental part of the place-shaping agenda and puts local authorities at the heart of community building.
69. In its response to the recommendations of the Commission on Integration and Cohesion the Government has defined community cohesion as what must happen in all communities to enable different groups of people to get on well together. A key contributor to community cohesion is integration which is what must happen to enable new residents and existing residents to adjust to one another.
70. The Government’s vision of an integrated and cohesive community is based on three foundations:
- People trusting one another and trusting local institutions to act fairly
71. And three key ways of living together:
- A shared future vision and sense of belonging
  - A focus on what new and existing communities have in common, alongside a recognition of the value of diversity
  - Strong and positive relationships between people from different backgrounds.
72. The Commission on Integration and Cohesion’s report, *Our Shared Future*, is clear that communities have expert knowledge about their own circumstances and that actions at the local level contribute to achieving integration and cohesion, with local authorities well placed to identify any pressures. The Commission reports that policy makers and practitioners see civic participation as a key way of building integration and cohesion – from ensuring people have a stake in the community,



to facilitating mixing and engendering a common sense of purpose through shared activities. The 2006 White Paper's proposals for stronger local leadership, greater resident participation in decisions and an enhanced role for community groups contribute to promoting cohesion.

73. Community cohesion is about local communities where people should feel they have a stake in the society, and in the local area where they live by having the opportunity to influence decisions affecting their lives. This may include what type of community governance arrangements they want in their local area.
74. The 2007 Act requires principal councils to have regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identity and interests of local communities; the impact on community cohesion is linked strongly to it. Cohesion issues are connected to the way people perceive how their local community is composed and what it represents, and the creation of parishes and parish councils may contribute to improving community cohesion. Community governance arrangements should reflect, and be sufficiently representative of, people living across the whole community and not just a discrete cross-section or small part of it. It would be difficult to think of a situation in which a principal council could make a decision to create a parish and a parish council which reflects community identities and interests in the area and at the same time threatens community cohesion. Principal councils should be able to decline to set up such community governance arrangements where they judged that to do so would not be in the interests of either the local community or surrounding communities, and where the effect would be likely to damage community cohesion.
75. As part of a community governance review a principal council should consider whether a recommendation made by petitioners will undermine community cohesion in any part of its area.
76. Challenges to community cohesion are often very local in nature and because of their knowledge of local communities, local authorities are in a good position to assess these challenges. As for the other considerations set out in this guidance, principal councils will wish to reach a balanced judgement in taking community cohesion into account in community governance arrangements.

*Size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish*

77. Size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish are

linked to aspects of both principal criteria as identified in the 2007 Act, but perhaps more specifically to community governance being effective and convenient. Often it is factors such as the size, population and boundaries which influence whether or not it is going to be viable to create a parish council. Parishes must fall within the boundaries of a single principal council's area.

78. The Local Government Commission for England in its 1993 Report *Renewing Local Government in the English Shires* makes the point that there is a long history of attempts to identify ideal minimum and maximum sizes for local authorities. Instead its preference was for authorities to be based on natural communities and reflecting people's expressed choices. This is even truer today, particularly at the most local level of government. Nevertheless, the size of communities and parishes remains difficult to define.
79. Parish councils in England currently vary greatly in size from those with a handful of electors with some representing hamlets of around 50 people to those in towns with well over 40,000 electors. Geography and natural boundaries; population size; and to an extent 'council size' (the term used by the LGBCE to describe the number of councillors who are elected to a local authority) may influence how small or large a parish council can be.
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 local government. 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 recognised that there are enormous variations in the size of parishes, although most parishes are below 12,000 in population.
81. A parish council should be in a position to provide some basic services and many larger parishes will be able to offer much more to their local communities. However, it would not be practical or desirable to set a rigid limit for the size of a parish whether it is in a rural or urban area, although higher population figures are generally more likely to occur in urban areas. Equally, a parish could be based on a small but discrete housing estate rather than on the town within which the estate lies.
82. There may be cases where larger parishes would best suit the needs

of the area. These might include places where the division of a cohesive area, such as a Charter Trustee town (see paragraphs 133 to 134), would not reflect the sense of community that needs to lie behind all parishes; or places where there were no recognisable smaller communities.

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. For instance, factors to consider include parks and recreation grounds which sometimes provide natural breaks between communities but they can equally act as focal points. A single community would be unlikely to straddle a river where there are no crossing points, or a large area of moor land or marshland. Another example might be where a community appeared to be divided by a motorway (unless connected by walkways at each end). Whatever boundaries are selected they need to be, and be likely to remain, easily identifiable.
84. In many cases a boundary change between existing parishes, or parishes and unparished areas, rather than the creation of an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that parish arrangements reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over time, communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across them resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.
85. A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries. Since the new boundaries are likely to be used to provide the building blocks for district ward, London borough ward, county division and parliamentary constituency boundaries in future reviews for such councils, it is important that principal councils seek to address parish boundary issues at regular intervals.

### Parish meetings and parish councils

86. Under the Local Government Act 1972 all parishes, whether or not they have a parish council, must have a parish meeting. In many parishes the requirement to have a parish meeting takes the form of at least one annual meeting, or more often several meetings during each year, organised (where one exists) by the parish council or if not by the parish meeting itself. The parish meeting of a parish consists of the local government electors for the parish, and as such local

electors are invited to attend these meetings. Parish meetings have a number of functions, powers and rights of notification and consultation. The trustees of a parish meeting hold property and act on its behalf. Depending on the number of local government electors in the parish, there are different rules about whether or not a parish council must be created for the parish, or whether it is discretionary.

87. Where principal councils are creating new parishes, the 2007 Act requires them to make recommendations about whether or not a new parish should be constituted in their area. New parishes can be constituted in a number of different ways, including by creating a parish in an area that is not currently parished, amalgamating two or more parishes and separating part of a parish, with or without aggregating it with parts of other parishes.
88. Section 94 of the 2007 Act applies in relation to these recommendations. It places principal councils under a duty to recommend that a parish should have a council in parishes which have 1000 electors or more. In parishes with 151 to 999 electors the principal council may recommend the creation of either a parish council or a parish meeting. In parishes with 150 or fewer electors principal councils are unable to recommend that a parish council should be created and therefore only a parish meeting can be created. The aim of these thresholds is to extend the more direct participatory form of governance provided by parish meetings to a larger numbers of electors. Equally, the thresholds help to ensure that both the population of a new parish for which a council is to be established is of sufficient size to justify its establishment and also that local people are adequately represented.
89. One of the reasons for these differing thresholds is that the Government recognises the difficulty which sometimes exists in small parishes, in particular, in managing to get sufficient numbers to stand for election to the parish council. However, the thresholds identified above do not apply to existing parish councils. If the community governance review concludes that the existence of the parish council reflects community identities and provides effective and convenient local government, despite the small number of electors, then it can recommend that the parish council should continue in existence. So, where an existing parish of 150 or less electors already has a parish council with the minimum number of five parish councillors it can continue to have a parish council.
90. If a principal council chooses to establish a parish council, or if an existing parish whose boundaries are being changed has a parish council, the principal authority must consult on, and put in place the

necessary electoral arrangements for that parish. (See Chapter 5 Electoral Arrangements.)

## Recommendations and decisions on the outcome of community governance reviews

91. Community governance reviews will make recommendations on those matters they have considered, as defined by the terms of reference set at the start of the review.
92. A principal council must make recommendations as to:
  - a) whether a new parish or any new parishes should be constituted;
  - b) whether existing parishes should or should not be abolished or whether the area of existing parishes should be altered; or
  - c) what the electoral arrangements for new or existing parishes, which are to have parish councils, should be.
93. It may also make recommendations about:
  - a) the grouping or degrouping of parishes;
  - b) adding parishes to an existing group of parishes; or
  - c) making related alterations to the boundaries of a principal councils' electoral areas.
94. In deciding what recommendations to make the principal council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient. The 2007 Act provides that it must also take into account any other arrangements (apart from those relating to parishes and their institutions) that have already been made, or that could be made, for the purposes of community representation or community engagement.
95. The recommendations must take account of any representations received and should be supported by evidence which demonstrates that the recommended community governance arrangements would meet the criteria set out in the 2007 Act. Where a principal council has conducted a review following the receipt of a petition, it will remain open to the council to make a recommendation which is different to the recommendation the petitioners wished the review to make. This will particularly be the case where the recommendation is not in the interests of the wider local community, such as where giving effect to it would be likely to damage community relations by dividing communities along ethnic, religious or cultural lines.

96. In making its recommendations, the review should consider the information it has received in the form of expressions of local opinion on the matters considered by the review, representations made by local people and other interested persons, and also use its own knowledge of the local area. It may be that much of this information can be gained through the consultation which the council will have held with local people and also the council's wider engagement with local people on other matters. In taking this evidence into account and judging the criteria in the 2007 Act against it, a principal council may reasonably conclude that a recommendation set out in a petition should not be made. For example, a recommendation to abolish or establish a parish council, may negatively impact on community cohesion, either within the proposed parish area, or in the wider community within which it would be located, and therefore should not be made.
97. The aim of the 2007 Act is to open up a wider choice of governance to communities at the most local level. However, the Government considers that there is sufficient flexibility for principal councils not to feel 'forced' to recommend that the matters included in every petition must be implemented.
98. Under the 2007 Act the principal council must both publish its recommendations and ensure that those who may have an interest are informed of them. In taking a decision as to whether or not to give effect to a recommendation, the principal council must have regard to the statutory criteria (see paragraph 51). After taking a decision on the extent to which the council will give effect to the recommendations made in a community governance review, the council must publish its decision and its reasons for taking that decision. It must also take sufficient steps to ensure that persons who may be interested in the review are informed of the decision and the reasons for it. Who should be informed will depend on local circumstances. Publicising the outcome of reviews is dealt with in the next section on implementation.

#### *Implementation of community governance reviews by order*

99. There are a number of steps that a principal council must take to publicise the outcome of any review it has conducted, and to provide information about that outcome to the bodies it must notify following any reorganisation order it makes to implement the review. Community governance reviews should be conducted transparently so that local people and other local stakeholders who may have an interest are made aware of the outcome of the decisions taken on them and the reasons behind these decisions.

100. If the council implements the recommendations made in its review, there are other steps it is required to undertake. These include depositing copies of the reorganisation order<sup>5</sup> which the principal council will need to draw up to give effect to its decisions. Besides depositing at its main office a copy of the reorganisation order, it should also deposit a map showing the effects of the order in detail which should be available for inspection by the public at all reasonable times (i.e. during normal working hours). The 2007 Act also requires the council to make available a document setting out the reasons for the decisions it has taken (including where it has decided to make no change following a community governance review) and to publicise these reasons.
101. The principal council must publicise how the council has given effect to the review, and that the order and map are available for public inspection as set above. Other means of publicity it may wish to consider are through publication on the council's website, in local newspapers, on notice boards in public places, and in local libraries, town halls or other local offices. In addition, after a principal council has made a reorganisation order, as soon as practicable, it must inform the following organisations that the order has been made:
- a) the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
  - b) the LGBCE
  - c) the Office of National Statistics
  - d) the Director General of the Ordnance Survey
  - e) any other principal council (e.g. a county council) whose area the order relates to.
102. The Audit Commission has statutory responsibility for appointing external auditors to all local councils in England. For the purposes of its audit appointment functions the Commission needs to be aware of changes emerging from community governance reviews. Therefore, principal councils should inform the Audit Commission of any reorganisation orders made to implement the recommendations of community governance reviews.
103. Section 97 of the 2007 Act provides for regulations to make incidental, consequential, transitional or supplementary provision for

---

<sup>5</sup> A copy of a model reorganisation order with different examples of recommendations can be viewed on the Communities and Local Government website. It may help principal councils to draw up reorganisation orders which could be adapted to their own needs and circumstances. Principal councils are not obliged to follow this example. It is offered on an advisory basis and principal councils will want to seek their own legal advice that any orders they produce meet the necessary legal requirements.

the purposes of, or in consequence of, reorganisation orders. Two sets of regulations have been made under the 2007 Act, which apply to reorganisation orders - both came into force on 8 April 2008. The first of these, the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008 No.625 make provisions in relation to matters such as the distribution of property and the rights and liabilities of parish councils affected by a reorganisation order. The second set, the Local Government Finance (New Parishes) Regulations 2008 No.626 deal with the setting of precepts for new parishes.

104. Section 99 of the 2007 Act provides for public bodies affected by reorganisation following a community governance review to make agreements about incidental matters and what those agreements may provide for. So as to ensure that a reorganisation order has effect subject to the terms of any such agreement, principal councils should make provision for this in the reorganisation order. An example provision has been included in the model reorganisation order which can be found on the Communities and Local Government website (see footnote 2).

## Maps of parish changes and mapping conventions

105. To assist those who will have an interest in any recommendations made by the principal council when conducting a community governance review and to accompany the reorganisation order, clear high quality maps should be produced to a standard equivalent to using Ordnance Survey large scale data as a base. Maps can be graphically presented at a reduced scale for convenience but preferably no smaller than 1:10,000 scale. Each recommendation and order should be depicted on a map or maps. The mapping should clearly show the existing parish ward, parish, district or London borough boundaries and all proposed parish ward and parish boundaries in the area(s) affected, or given effect to in a reorganisation order.
106. It can be useful to include some positional information to identify the location of the area(s) in relation to the complete area of the principal council. A colour key can be included to clearly identify each boundary type. Where there are only proposed changes to an existing parish boundary alignment it can be helpful to show in translucent colour any areas to be transferred from one parish to another. This indicates clearly the extent of the proposed change. It can also be beneficial to add unique references to all areas of transfer to create a



cross reference to the re-organisation order document. Applying a reference to each order map should also be considered so that a link is created with the re-organisation order.

## Section 4: Other aspects of community governance reviews

### Parish names and alternative styles for parishes

107. Prior to the 2007 Act, a parish could be given the status of a town under section 245 of the Local Government Act 1972. “Town” status continues to be available to a parish. In addition, the 2007 Act inserted sections 12A and 12B into the 1972 Act to offer a further choice of alternative styles for a parish: community, neighbourhood and village. However, for as long as the parish has an alternative style, it will not also be able to have the status of a town and vice versa.
108. The ‘name’ of a parish refers to the geographical name of the area concerned and can be changed independent of a review by a principal council at the request of a parish council or parish meeting (where there is no parish council)<sup>6</sup>. A change in the status or ‘style’ of a parish allows for that area to be known as a town, community, neighbourhood or village, rather than as a parish. The status or style of the parish will be reflected in the name of any council of the parish, the parish meeting, any parish trustees, and the chairman or vice-chairman of the parish meeting or of any parish council. So, for example, the council of a parish which uses the style ‘village’ will be known as the ‘village council’ and its councillors as the ‘village councillors’, etc.
109. References in legislation to a ‘parish’ should be taken to include a parish which has an alternative style, as is the case in relation to a parish which has the status of a town. The same applies in relation to references in legislation to a ‘parish meeting’, ‘parish council’, ‘parish councillor’, ‘parish trustees’, etc in connection with a parish which has an alternative style.
110. The Government recognises that in long established parishes, particularly in rural areas, local people may wish to retain the name of their parish and the existing style of their parish councils, - although others may prefer “village” or another style. Following a community governance review, in areas previously unparished where a new parish is being created, people living there may wish for the style of their parish council to reflect the local community in a different way and may prefer one of the alternative styles. This may well be the case for those living in urban areas. Local authorities will wish to take

---

<sup>6</sup> Section 75 Local Government Act 1972

account of these preferences in deciding the name of the parish and the chosen style.

111. Where the review relates to a new parish, it is for the principal council, in the first instance, to make recommendations as to the geographical name of the new parish, and as to whether or not it should have one of the alternative styles. So far as existing parishes under review by principal councils are concerned, the review must make recommendations as to whether the geographical name of the parish should be changed, but it may not make any recommendations for the parish about alternative style. It will be for the parish council or parish meeting to resolve whether the parish should have one of the alternative styles.
112. In relation to a group of parishes, provision about alternative styles for the group may be made by the principal council in a reorganisation order that forms that group, adds a parish to an existing group or de-groups a parish or group. A grouping containing a mixture of styles is not permitted under section 11A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972. Where an individual parish is removed from a group through a de-grouping order the parish must retain the style it had when it was part of the group until such time as the parish council or meeting resolves to adopt an alternative style. Provision about alternative styles in relation to groups will normally be made independently of a community governance review.

### Grouping or degrouping parishes

113. Section 91 of the 2007 Act provides for a community governance review to recommend the grouping or degrouping of parishes by principal councils. As mentioned in chapter 3, (paragraph 87) unless they already exist as functioning parish councils smaller new parishes of less than 150 electors will be unable to establish their own parish council under the 2007 Act.
114. In some cases, it may be preferable to group together parishes so as to allow a common parish council to be formed. Degrouping may offer the reverse possibilities perhaps where local communities have expanded. Such proposals are worth considering and may avoid the need for substantive changes to parish boundaries, the creation of new parishes or the abolition of very small parishes where, despite their size, they still reflect community identity. Grouping or degrouping needs to be compatible with the retention of community interests. It would be inappropriate for it to be used to build artificially large units under single parish councils.
115. Section 91 also requires a review to consider the electoral arrangements

of a grouped parish council or of a parish council established after a parish is de-grouped. Each parish in a group must return at least one councillor.

116. When making a recommendation to group or de-group parishes, the principal council may make a request to the LGBCE to make a related alteration to the boundaries of district or London borough wards or county divisions. For example, if a principal council decided to add an additional parish to a group, because of their shared community identities, it may wish to recommend that all of the parishes in the group be included in the same district ward (see Chapter 6 for more details).

### Abolishing parishes, and dissolving parish councils

117. While the Government expects to see a trend in the creation, rather than the abolition, of parishes, there are circumstances where the principal council may conclude that the provision of effective and convenient local government and/or the reflection of community identity and interests may be best met, for example, by the abolition of a number of small parishes and the creation of a larger parish covering the same area. If, following a review, a principal council believes that this would provide the most appropriate community governance arrangements, then it will wish to make this recommendation; the same procedures apply to any recommendation to abolish a parish and/or parish council as to other recommendations (see paragraph 90 -97). Regulations<sup>7</sup> provide for the transfer of property, rights and liabilities of a parish council to the new successor parish council, or where none is proposed to the principal council itself.
118. Section 88 of the 2007 Act provides for a community governance review to recommend the alteration of the area of, or the abolition of, an existing parish as a result of a review. The area of abolished parishes does not have to be redistributed to other parishes, an area can become unparished. However, it is the Government's view that it would be undesirable to see existing parishes abolished with the area becoming unparished with no community governance arrangements in place.
119. The abolition of parishes should not be undertaken unless clearly justified. Any decision a principal council may make on whether to abolish a parish should not be taken lightly. Under the previous parish review legislation, the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, the Secretary of State considered very carefully recommendations made

<sup>7</sup> The Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008 No.625.

by principal councils for the abolition of any parish (without replacement) given that to abolish parish areas removes a tier of local government. Between 1997 and 2008, the Government rarely received proposals to abolish parish councils, it received only four cases seeking abolition and of these only one was approved for abolition by the Secretary of State.

120. Exceptionally, there may be circumstances where abolition may be the most appropriate way forward. Under the 2007 Act provisions, the principal council would need to consider local opinion, including that of parish councillors and local electors. It would need to find evidence that the abolition of a parish council was justified, and that there was clear and sustained local support for such action. A factor taken into account by the Government in deciding abolition cases, was that local support for abolition needed to have been demonstrated over at least a period equivalent to two terms of office of the parish councillors (i.e. 8 years), and that such support was sufficiently informed. This means a properly constituted parish council should have had an opportunity to exercise its functions so that local people can judge its ability to contribute to local quality of life.
121. Where a community governance review is considering abolishing a parish council we would expect the review to consider what arrangements will be in place to engage with the communities in those areas once the parish is abolished. These arrangements might be an alternative forum run by or for the local community, or perhaps a residents' association. It is doubtful however, that abolition of a parish and its council could ever be justified as the most appropriate action in response to a particular contentious issue in the area or decision of the parish council.
122. In future, principal councils will wish to consider the sort of principles identified above in arriving at their decisions on whether or not to abolish a parish council. In doing so, they will be aware that decisions about community governance arrangements, including decisions for the abolition of a parish council, may attract a challenge by way of judicial review.
123. The 2006 White Paper underlined the Government's commitment to parish councils as an established and valued form of neighbourhood democracy with an important role to play in both rural, and increasingly urban, areas.
124. Section 10 of the Local Government Act 1972 makes provision for the dissolution of parish councils in parishes with very low populations, but not for the de-parishing of the area. Recommendations for the

dissolution of a parish council which is not in this position are undesirable, unless associated either with boundary changes which amalgamate parishes or divide a parish or with plans for a parish to be grouped with others under a common parish council (see paragraphs 112 to 115). Recommendations for changing a parish area (or part of a parish area) into an unparished area are also undesirable unless that area is amalgamated with an existing unparished urban area.

## Rural areas

125. About 90% of the geographical area of England is covered by a parish, and this is mostly in rural or semi-rural areas. So, most populated rural areas already have a structure of local government that includes parishes and many of these have been in existence for hundreds of years. It is desirable that any changes do not upset historic traditions but do reflect changes that have happened over time, such as population shift or additional development, which may have led to a different community identity.
126. The focus of community feeling will differ from place to place and between different types of settlement. A scatter of hamlets may have a feeling of community within each hamlet, meriting a separate parish for each one, or amongst a number of hamlets, for which one parish covering all may be appropriate. Where a number of hamlets surround a village a parish could be based on the village and its environs, provided that the sense of individual identity is not lost.
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.

## London

128. The London Government Act 1963 abolished parishes existing at the time within London. When the boundaries for Greater London were established, they were adjusted to allow the surrounding shire counties to keep parishes that were in the fringe areas. Since then, London has been the only part of England not to have parishes or parish councils.
129. The Government's view is that Londoners should have the same rights as the rest of the country. The 2007 Act corrects this anomaly to allow London boroughs the possibility to exercise the same community governance powers as other principal councils including being able to set up parishes and parish councils. Similarly, local

electors in London boroughs are, as elsewhere in England, able to petition for a community governance review.

130. In London, there is the same possibility to choose a style for a parish perhaps to reflect better the local urban area like “community” or “neighbourhood”. Whilst some parts of London are populated by people who may be more transient or mobile than elsewhere, there are equally areas of the capital where there are stable populations who may wish to see the creation of a parish council for their local area.

#### *Other urban areas*

131. There are parts of rural or semi-rural England which are unparished, but the opportunities for establishing new parishes are increasingly to be found in urban and suburban areas. It is possible that identifying the community upon which a parish might be based may be more difficult to discern in some urban areas. A “community” perhaps already represented by a voluntary organisation or a community endeavour, such as a Neighbourhood Watch area or a residents’ association, may indicate a suitable area on which to base proposals for a new or altered parish, (see paragraphs 135 -145).
132. Much of the information described in Chapter 3 on the identities and interests of local communities is applicable to urban areas. There are parishes in parts of some large cities or unitary authorities, as well as a number of parishes in the metropolitan boroughs of the larger conurbations. Some of these parishes have been created under the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 Act, but in most metropolitan boroughs these are on the more sparsely populated peripheries (the originals having been transferred, as part of former rural districts, to the metropolitan counties in 1974).
133. The lower population limits and grouping mentioned above are more relevant to rural areas than to urban areas, although both are applicable in law. The general rule is that the parish is based on an area which reflects community identity and interest and which is viable as an administrative unit. In urban areas this may mean, for example, that a parish should be based on a housing estate rather than on the town within which the estate lies. The larger the town, the greater will be the scope for identification of distinct communities within it.

#### *Charter trustee areas*

134. Charter trustees were established following the local government reorganisations in the early 1970s and 1990s to preserve the historic

identity of former boroughs or cities, most with relatively large populations. To this end, charter trustees have the power to carry out ceremonial functions. They were not intended to act as administrative units. Proposals to create a parish or parish council covering all or part of a charter trustee area need to be judged in particular against the following considerations:

- a) the effect on the historic cohesiveness of the area;
  - b) what are the other community interests in the area? Is there a demonstrable sense of community identity encompassing the charter trustee area? Are there smaller areas within it which have a demonstrable community identity and which would be viable as administrative units?
135. These issues need to be taken into account in those areas with certain cities or boroughs which will be affected by any consequent reorganisation from the structural and boundary changes in the 2007 Act.

### Other (non-parish) forms of community governance

136. In conducting a community governance review, principal councils must consider other forms of community governance as alternatives or stages towards establishing parish councils. Section 93(5) of the 2007 Act states that 'In deciding what recommendations to make [in the community governance review] the principal council must take into account any other arrangements... that have already been made or that could be made for the purposes of community representation or community engagement in respect of the area under review'. The following paragraphs consider other types of viable community representation which may be more appropriate to some areas than parish councils, or may provide stages building towards the creation of a parish council. There is sometimes evidence locally of an existing community governance infrastructure and of good practice which are successfully creating opportunities for engagement, empowerment and co-ordination in local communities.
137. However, what sets parish councils apart from other kinds of governance is the fact they are a democratically elected tier of local government, independent of other council tiers and budgets, and possess specific powers. This is an important distinction to make. Parish councils are the foundation stones for other levels of local government in England. Their directly elected parish councillors represent local communities in a way that other bodies, however worthy, cannot since such organisations do not have representatives directly elected to those bodies.



138. The 2006 White Paper recommended that local communities should be able to take more responsibilities for local issues affecting their area. Key to this approach is community empowerment, and the ability of various existing organisations themselves to see through specific projects to tackle local issues. Structures such as local residents' associations, community or neighbourhood forums and area committees have an important role to play in local community governance.
139. At the neighbourhood level, there are various initiatives in existence, which through being representative and accountable can effectively empower local people. They have varying degrees of power and influence, and commensurate levels of transparency and accountability.

#### *Area committees*

140. Area committees are part of the structure of some principal councils (e.g. district, unitary and London borough), where they choose to have them. Area committees are a key initiative for enabling local government to fulfil community governance roles and also to deliver government policy on issues affecting social inclusion in local communities. Principal councils also provide resources for area committees, and their councillors are commonly integral to their constitution. Area committees can cover large areas and exist to advise or make decisions on specific responsibilities that can include parks, off-street parking, public toilets, street cleaning, abandoned vehicles and planning applications amongst others. Also, more widely, they contribute to shaping council services and improving local service provision.

#### *Neighbourhood management*

141. Neighbourhood management programmes are similarly set up by principal councils and may be led by one of a number of bodies. The expansion of neighbourhood management was promoted in the 2006 White Paper as a tool to enable local authorities to deliver more responsive services through their empowerment of citizens and communities. Their purpose is to create the opportunity for residents to work with local agencies, usually facilitated by a neighbourhood manager, to improve services at the neighbourhood level.
142. Neighbourhood management arrangements aim to improve 'quality of life' through implementation of (rather than advising or making decisions on) better management of local environment, increasing community safety, improving housing stock, working with young people, and encouraging employment opportunities, supported

strategically by relevant stakeholders and Local Strategic Partnerships. They tend to cover smaller populations than area committees. The 2006 White Paper recommends that take up of neighbourhood management should be encouraged and that Government should work with local authorities pioneering the approach, to raise the profile of achievements and promote adoption elsewhere.

#### *Tenant Management Organisations*

143. The 2006 White Paper makes a series of proposals that facilitate the empowerment of residents through Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs). Tenant Management Organisations are established by the local housing authority; they usually function on urban housing estates and can take responsibility for housing services (such as collecting rents and service charges and organising repairs and maintenance) from the local housing authority under the Housing (Right to Manage) (England) Regulations 2008. The 2006 White Paper promoted the role of TMOs and recommended simplifying and extending their scope; enabling them to take on additional services and undertake further representation of residents within neighbourhoods. A TMO is an independent legal body and usually elects a tenant-led management committee to the organisation; they can also enter into a legal management agreement with landlords.

#### *Area/Community Forums*

144. Area or community forums (including civic forums) can be set up by the principal council, or created by local residents to act as a mechanism to give communities a say on principal council matters or local issues. Sometimes forums are set up to comment on a specific project or initiative that will impact upon the local area, and so may be time-limited. They increase participation and consultation, aiming to influence decision making, rather than having powers to implement services. They vary in size, purpose and impact, but membership usually consists of people working or living in a specific area. Some forums also include ward councillors, and representatives from the council and relevant stakeholders can attend meetings.

#### *Residents' and Tenants' Associations*

145. Residents' and Tenants' associations enable local people to participate in local issues affecting their neighbourhood or housing estate, including the upkeep of the local environment, crime, sometimes dealing with anti-social behaviour matters, or on some estates, housing management. They can be set up by any group of people living in the same area and can choose who members will be;

how they will be represented and what they want to achieve. In the case of tenants' and residents' associations on estates, they may be established with direct support from the principal council, as a mechanism for communicating with the tenants and residents on its estates. To engage effectively with other organisations, residents' and tenants' associations must be able to show that they are accountable and represent the views of the whole community, rather than narrow self interests of just a few local people.

#### *Community Associations*

146. Community associations offer a particular and widespread democratic model for local residents and local community-based organisations in a defined neighbourhood to work together for the benefit of that neighbourhood. They can use a model constitution registered with the Charity Commission. The principal council may also be represented on the association's committee. They usually manage a community centre as a base for their activities. Membership is open to everyone resident in the area.

## Section 5: Electoral arrangements

### Introduction

147. The purpose of a review undertaken by a principal council, or a petition from the electorate, is likely primarily to concern the administrative boundaries of a new or existing parish. As discussed earlier (Chapter 2), this might be in the light of growth from within an existing parish or a locally identified need for a new form of community governance. However, in addition to these primary concerns, principal authorities will also need to consider the governance of new or altered parishes. The principal council must have regard to the need for community governance within the area under review to reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and to ensure that the governance is effective and convenient. Further information on electoral arrangements is available from the LGBCE's website [www.LGBCE.org.uk](http://www.LGBCE.org.uk)

### What are electoral arrangements?

148. Electoral arrangements in relation to an existing or proposed parish council are defined in the 2007 Act and are explained in detail below:
- a) ordinary year of election – the year in which ordinary elections of parish councillors are to be held;
  - b) council size – the number of councillors to be elected to the council, or (in the case of a common council) the number of councillors to be elected to the council by local electors in each parish;
  - c) parish warding – whether the parish should be divided into wards for the purpose of electing councillors. This includes considering the number and boundaries of any such wards, the number of councillors to be elected for any such ward and the name of any such ward.

### Ordinary year of election

149. Ordinary parish elections are held once every four years with all councillors being elected at the same time. The standard parish electoral cycle is for elections in 2011, 2015 and every four years after 2015, but parish elections may be held in other years so that they can coincide with elections in associated district or London borough wards or county divisions and share costs. For example, all London borough ward elections take place in 2010, 2014 and so on. We would therefore expect parish elections in London to take place in these years.

150. New or revised parish electoral arrangements come into force at ordinary parish elections, rather than parish by-elections, so they usually have to wait until the next scheduled parish elections. They can come into force sooner only if the terms of office of sitting parish councillors are cut so that earlier parish elections may be held for terms of office which depend on whether the parish is to return to its normal year of election.
151. For example, a parish that had elections in 2007 could wait until its next scheduled elections in 2011 for new parish wards to come into force. Alternatively, the new parish wards could have come into force at elections in 2009 if the terms of office of the councillors elected in 2007 were cut to two years. If the elections in 2009 were for two-year terms of office then the parish council could return to its normal electoral cycle in 2011.
152. Alternatively, if new or revised parish electoral arrangements are to be implemented in the third year of sitting councillors' term of office, provision can be made to cut short the term of office of existing councillors to three years. Elections could then take place with all councillors serving a five-year term of office, enabling the parish to return to its normal year of election.

### Council size

153. Council size is the term used to describe the number of councillors to be elected to the whole council. The 1972 Act, as amended, specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors; there is no maximum number. There are no rules relating to the allocation of those councillors between parish wards but each parish ward, and each parish grouped under a common parish council, must have at least one parish councillor.
154. In practice, there is a wide variation of council size between parish councils. That variation appears to be influenced by population. Research by the Aston Business School Parish and Town Councils in England (HMSO, 1992), found that the typical parish council representing less than 500 people had between 5 and 8 councillors; those between 501 and 2,500 had 6 to 12 councillors; and those between 2,501 and 10,000 had 9 to 16 councillors. Most parish councils with a population of between 10,001 and 20,000 had between 13 and 27 councillors, while almost all councils representing a population of over 20,000 had between 13 and 31 councillors.
155. The LGBCE has no reason to believe that this pattern of council size to population has altered significantly since the research was

conducted. Although not an exact match, it broadly reflects the council size range set out in the National Association of Local Councils Circular 1126; the Circular suggested that the minimum number of councillors for any parish should be 7 and the maximum 25.

156. In considering the issue of council size, the LGBCE is of the view that each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities. Nevertheless, having regard to the current powers of parish councils, it should consider the broad pattern of existing council sizes. This pattern appears to have stood the test of time and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, to have provided for effective and convenient local government.
157. Principal councils should also bear in mind that the conduct of parish council business does not usually require a large body of councillors. In addition, historically many parish councils, particularly smaller ones, have found difficulty in attracting sufficient candidates to stand for election. This has led to uncontested elections and/or a need to co-opt members in order to fill vacancies. However, a parish council's budget and planned or actual level of service provision may also be important factors in reaching conclusions on council size.

### Parish warding

158. Parish warding should be considered as part of a community governance review. Parish warding is the division of a parish into wards for the purpose of electing councillors. This includes the number and boundaries of any wards, the number of councillors to be elected for any ward and the names of wards.
159. In considering whether or not a parish should be divided into wards, the 2007 Act requires that consideration be given to whether:
- a) the number, or distribution of the local government electors for the parish would make a single election of councillors impracticable or inconvenient; and
  - b) it is desirable that any area or areas of the parish should be separately represented.
160. Accordingly, principal councils should consider not only the size of the electorate in the area but also the distribution of communities within it. The warding of parishes in largely rural areas that are based predominantly on a single centrally-located village may not be justified. Conversely, warding may be appropriate where the parish

encompasses a number of villages with separate identities, a village with a large rural hinterland or where, on the edges of towns, there has been some urban overspill into the parish. However, each case should be considered on its merits, and on the basis of the information and evidence provided during the course of the review.

161. There is likely to be a stronger case for the warding of urban parishes, unless they have particularly low electorates or are based on a particular locality. In urban areas community identity tends to focus on a locality, whether this be a housing estate, a shopping centre or community facilities. Each locality is likely to have its own sense of identity. Again, principal councils should consider each case on its merits having regard to information and evidence generated during the review. (See also under Chapter 3, paragraphs 54 to 60).

*The number and boundaries of parish wards*

162. In reaching conclusions on the boundaries between parish wards the principal council should take account of community identity and interests in the area, and consider whether any particular ties or linkages might be broken by the drawing of particular ward boundaries. Principal councils should seek views on such matters during the course of a review. They will, however, be mindful that proposals which are intended to reflect community identity and local linkages should be justified in terms of sound and demonstrable evidence of those identities and linkages.
163. The principal council should also consider the desirability of parish warding in circumstances where the parish is divided by district or London borough ward and/or county division boundaries. It should be mindful of the provisions of Schedule 2 (electoral change in England: considerations on review) to the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 in relation to reviews of district or London borough and county council electoral arrangements. These provide that when the LGBCE is making changes to principal council electoral arrangements, no unwarded parish should be divided by a district or London borough ward or county division boundary, and that no parish ward should be split by such a boundary. While these provisions do not apply to reviews of parish electoral arrangements, the LGBCE believes that, in the interests of effective and convenient local government, they are relevant considerations for principal councils to take into account when undertaking community governance reviews. For example, if a principal council chooses to establish a new parish in an area which is covered by two or more district or London borough wards or county division boundaries it may also wish to consider the merit of putting

parish warding in place to reflect that ward and/or division.

164. When considering parish ward boundaries principal councils should ensure they consider the desirability of fixing boundaries which are, and will remain, easily identifiable, as well as taking into account any local ties which will be broken by the fixing of any particular boundaries.

*The number of councillors to be elected for parish wards*

165. If a principal council decides that a parish should be warded, it should give consideration to the levels of representation between each ward. That is to say, the number of councillors to be elected from each ward and the number of electors they represent.
166. It is an important democratic principle that each person's vote should be of equal weight so far as possible, having regard to other legitimate competing factors, when it comes to the election of councillors. There is no provision in legislation that each parish councillor should represent, as nearly as may be, the same number of electors. However, the LGBCE believes it is not in the interests of effective and convenient local government, either for voters or councillors, to have significant differences in levels of representation between different parish wards. Such variations could make it difficult, in workload terms, for councillors to adequately represent the interests of residents. There is also a risk that where one or more wards of a parish are over-represented by councillors, the residents of those wards (and their councillors) could be perceived as having more influence than others on the council.
167. The LGBCE offers no specific guidelines for what might constitute significant differences in levels of representation; each case will need to be considered on its merits. Principal councils should be mindful that, for the most part, parish wards are likely to be significantly smaller than district or London borough wards. As a consequence, imbalances expressed in percentage terms may be misleading, disguising the fact that high variations between the number of electors per councillor could be caused by only a few dozen electors.
168. Where a community governance review recommends that two or more parishes should be grouped under a common parish council, then the principal council must take into account the same considerations when considering the number of councillors to be elected by each parish within the group.



*Names of parish wards*

169. In considering the names of parish wards, the principal council should give some thought to existing local or historic places so that, where appropriate, these are reflected and there should be a presumption in favour of ward names proposed by local interested parties.

**Electorate forecasts**

170. When considering the electoral arrangements for a parish, whether it is warded or not, the principal council must also consider any change in the number or distribution of the electors which is likely to occur in the period of five years beginning with the day when the review starts. The most recent electoral register should be used to gain an accurate figure for the existing electorate. Planning assumptions and likely growth within the area, based on planning permissions granted, local plans or, where they are in place, local development frameworks should be used to project an accurate five year electorate forecast. This ensures that the review does not simply reflect a single moment but takes account of expected population movements in the short- to medium-term.
171. Electorate forecasts should be made available to all interested parties as early as possible in the review process, ideally before the formal commencement of the review so that they are available to all who may wish to make representations.

**Consent/Protected electoral arrangements**

172. If, as part of a community governance review, a principal council wishes to alter the electoral arrangements for a parish whose existing electoral arrangements were put in place within the previous five years by an order made either by the Secretary of State, the Electoral Commission, or the LGBCE, the consent of the LGBCE is required. This includes proposals to change the names of parish wards.
173. The principal council must write to the LGBCE detailing its proposal and requesting consent. The LGBCE will consider the request and will seek to ensure that the proposals do not conflict with the original recommendations of the electoral review, and that they are fair and reasonable.
174. Where a request for consent is made to the LGBCE, it will expect to receive evidence that the principal council has consulted with electors in the relevant parish(es) as part of the community governance review and will wish to receive details of the outcome of that review.
175. For changes to the number or boundaries of parish wards, the

principal council will also need to provide the LGBCE with an existing and five-year forecast of electors in the parish(es) affected. Five-year forecasts should be accurate from the day that the review began. Both existing and forecast figures should be provided for the existing parish (and parish wards where relevant) and the proposed parish (and parish wards where relevant).

176. If the LGBCE consents to the changes it will inform the principal council which can then implement the proposed changes by local order. No LGBCE order is required. Conversely, if the LGBCE declines to give consent, no local order may be made by the local authority until the five-year period has expired.

## Section 6: Consequential recommendations for related alterations to the boundaries of principal council's wards and/or divisions

177. As part of a community governance review, principal councils may wish to consider whether to request the LGBCE to make changes to the boundaries of district or London borough wards or county divisions to reflect the changes made at parish level.
178. There are three instances when a principal council may wish to consider related alterations to the boundaries of wards or divisions following:
- the creation, alteration or abolition of a parish
  - the establishment of new or altered parish ward boundaries
  - a grouping or de-grouping of parishes.
179. In the interests of maintaining coterminosity between the boundaries of principal authority electoral areas and the boundaries of parishes and parish wards, principal councils may wish to consider as part of a community governance review whether to make consequential recommendations to the LGBCE for related alterations to the boundaries of any affected district or London borough wards and/or county divisions. The Commission may agree to make related alterations to ensure coterminosity between the new parish boundary and the related ward and/or division boundary. If so, the Commission will make an order to implement the related alterations. The Commission will not normally look to move ward or division boundaries onto new parish ward boundaries. However, it will consider each proposal on its merits.
180. In addition, when making a recommendation to group or de-group parishes, (see paragraph 108 to 111 for more details) the principal council may make a request to the LGBCE to make a related alteration of district or London borough ward or county division boundaries. For example, if a principal council decided to add an additional parish to a group it may wish to recommend that all of the parishes be included in the same district or London borough ward and/or county division. Recommendations for related alterations should be directly consequential upon changes made as part of a community governance review.
181. It will be for the LGBCE to decide, following the receipt of proposals, if

a related alteration should be made and when it should be implemented. Only the LGBCE can make an order implementing any alterations to the district or London borough ward or county division boundary. No order will be made to implement related alterations until the order changing the boundary of the relevant parish(es) or parish ward(s), or the order grouping or de-grouping parishes, has been made. Rather than make related alterations that would create detached wards or divisions or that would have a disproportionate impact on ward or division electoral equality, the LGBCE may decide to programme an electoral review of the principal council area.

- 182.** If, in liaison with the district or London borough council and/or the county council, the LGBCE decides to make related alterations to ward and/or division boundaries at a different time, it will consider whether there would be any adverse effects for local people in the holding of elections while the boundaries are not coterminous. However, changes to wards and divisions come into force at district or London borough and county ordinary elections in the electoral areas on either side of the electoral boundary change, so a period of non-coterminosity until the scheduled parish, district or London borough and county elections have taken place may be preferable to unscheduled elections. Unscheduled elections will be necessary to bring into force changes between adjacent parishes or wards whose scheduled elections never normally coincide.
- 183.** In two tier areas, district councils are advised to seek the views of the county council in relation to related alterations to division boundaries.
- 184.** A principal council may decide that it does not wish to propose related alterations to ward or division boundaries. Where this results in boundaries no longer being coterminous, principal councils will need to be satisfied that the identities and interests of local communities are still reflected and that effective and convenient local government will be secured. Principal councils will also wish to consider the practical consequences, for example for polling district reviews, of having electors voting in parish council elections with one community but with a different community for district or London borough and/or county elections.
- 185.** Where proposals for related alterations are submitted to the LGBCE, it will expect to receive evidence that the principal council has consulted on them as part of a community governance review and the details of the outcome of that review. Principal councils may wish to undertake this consultation at the same time as they consult on proposals to alter the boundaries of parishes or establish new parishes. They must complete the community governance review,

including making any consequential recommendations to the LGBCE for related alterations, within a period of one year. Sufficient time should be given to the LGBCE to consider the proposals in advance of the election year in which the principal council proposes they be implemented.

186. The principal council will need to take into account the number of registered electors in any district or London borough ward or county division affected when the review starts, and a forecast of the number of electors expected to be in the areas within five years, and provide this information to the LGBCE. This information should be used to establish a total electorate figure for each district or London borough ward and/or county division affected by the recommendations, both for the current electorate and for expected electorate five years after the start of the review. These totals should also be provided to the LGBCE.
187. When submitting proposals to the LGBCE the principal council should illustrate the proposed changes on maps of a suitable scale, using different coloured lines and suitable keys to illustrate the required changes.
188. If the LGBCE decides not to implement the proposed related alterations, then the existing ward and/or division boundaries will remain in force. The LGBCE has no power to modify any recommendations submitted to it; it may only implement or reject the recommendations.
189. In most cases, related alterations to district or London borough ward and/or county division boundaries tend to be fairly minor in nature and simply tie the ward and/or division boundary to the affected parish boundary. However, if an authority has altered several parish and/or parish ward boundaries and proposes several related alterations to district or London borough ward and/or county division boundaries, the cumulative effect of these could affect electoral equality at district or London borough and/or county level. This could be particularly acute if a number of parishes were transferred between district or London borough wards or county divisions to reflect grouped parishes. In such circumstances, the LGBCE will wish to consider conducting an electoral review of the principal council area or an electoral review of a specified area within it. The timing of such reviews would be dependent on the LGBCE's review programme commitments.



## 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

This page is intentionally left blank



# 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)
---

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.***

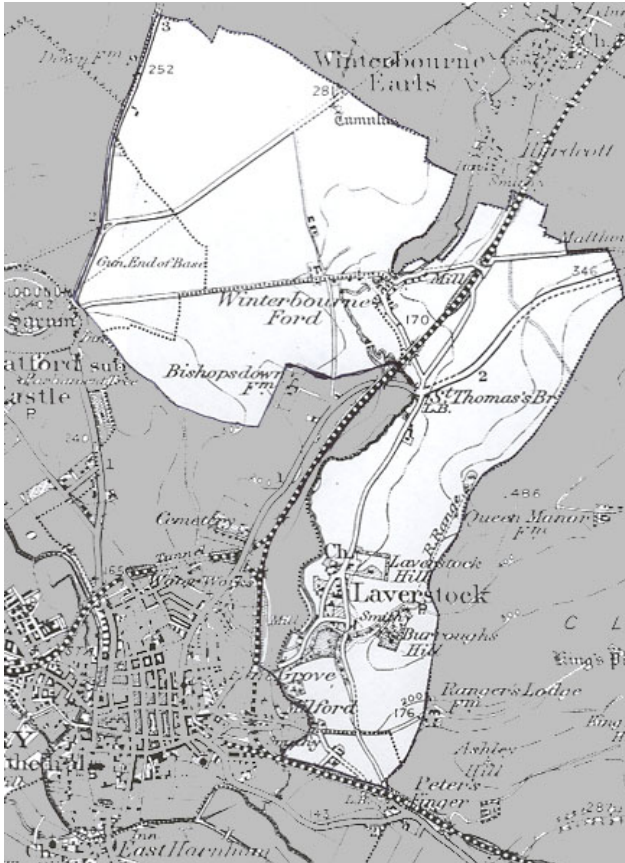
***Parish Councillors for the potentially enlarged parish, even at 250:1 = 17***

### **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  
01722 332233  
[Ian@LetsGO-Show.com](mailto:Ian@LetsGO-Show.com)



This page is intentionally left blank





# 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

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

This page is intentionally left blank

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.

This page is intentionally left blank

# 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.

This page is intentionally left blank

## 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

---

### 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

---

#### 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.

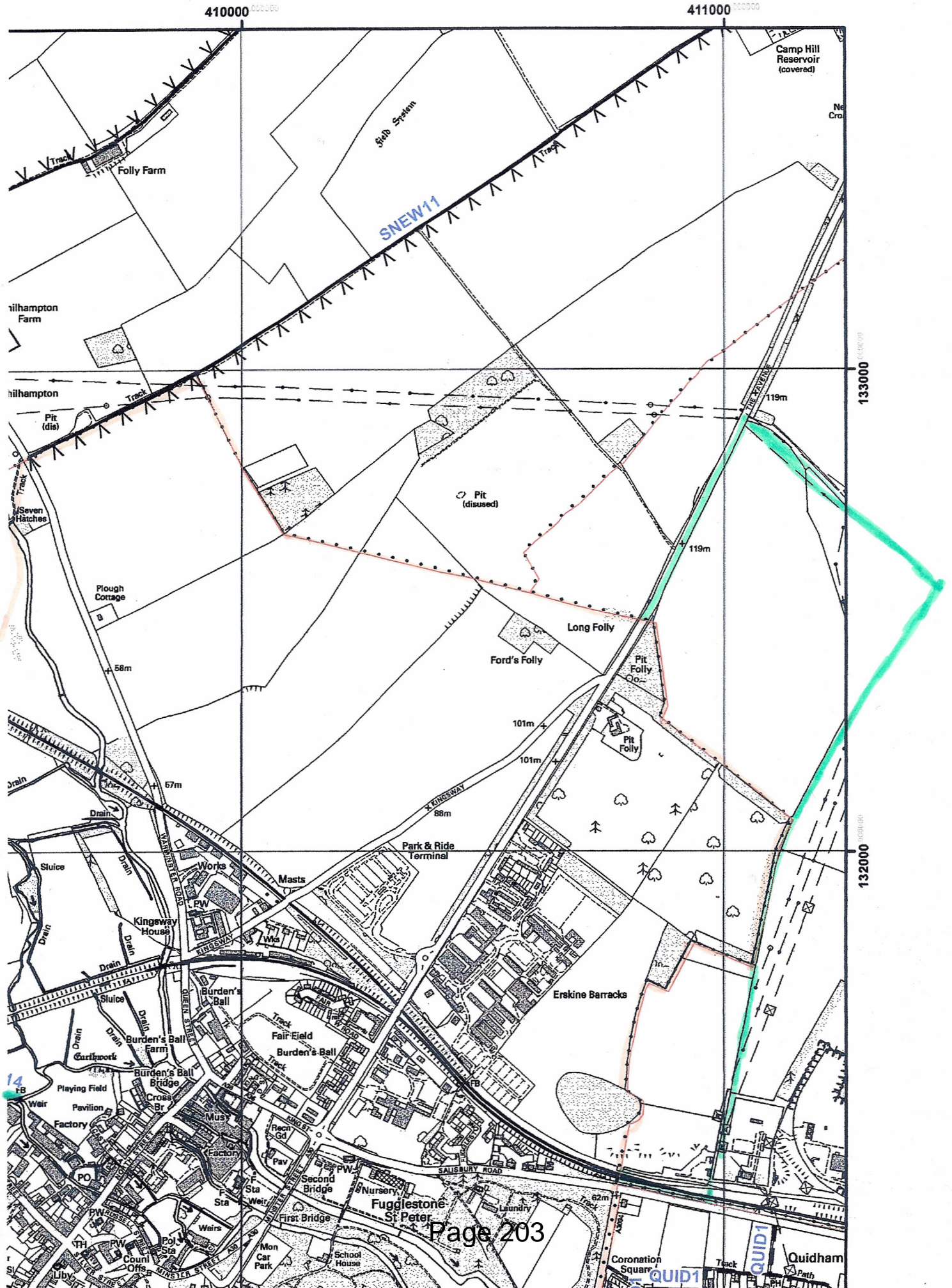
(Duration of meeting: 4.00 - 5.30 pm)

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 CP

MARCH 2014



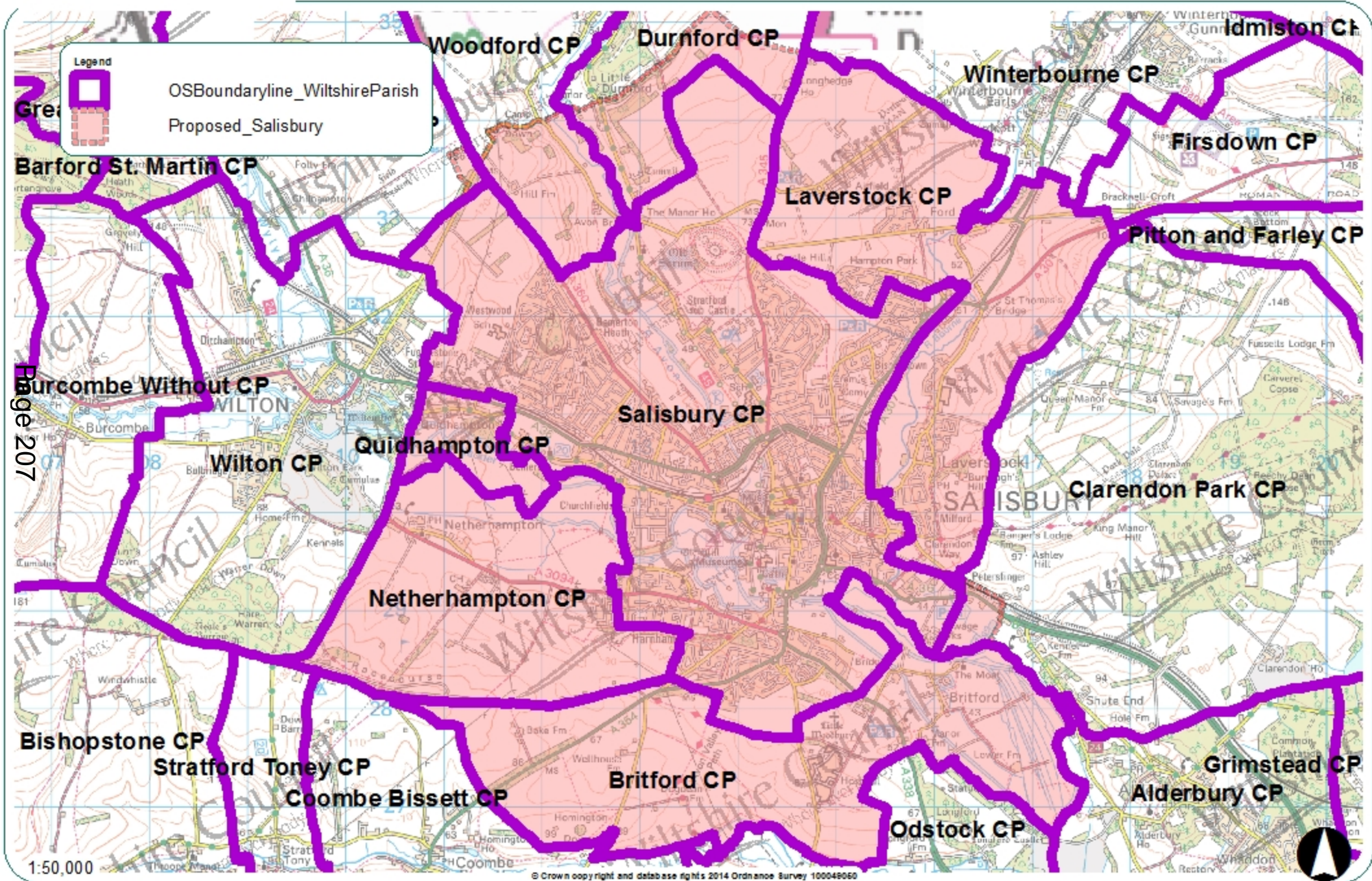
This page is intentionally left blank

## **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

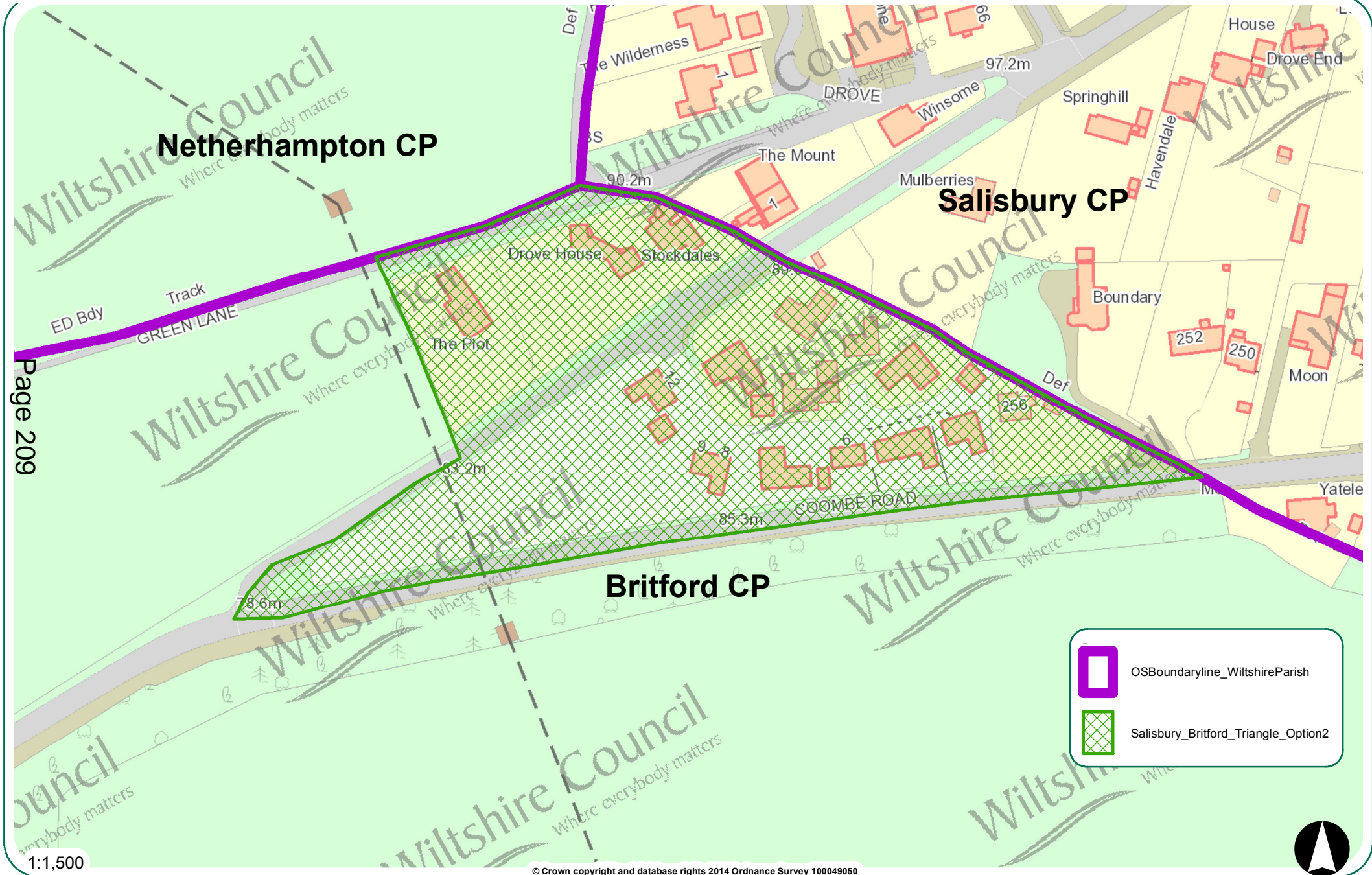
This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

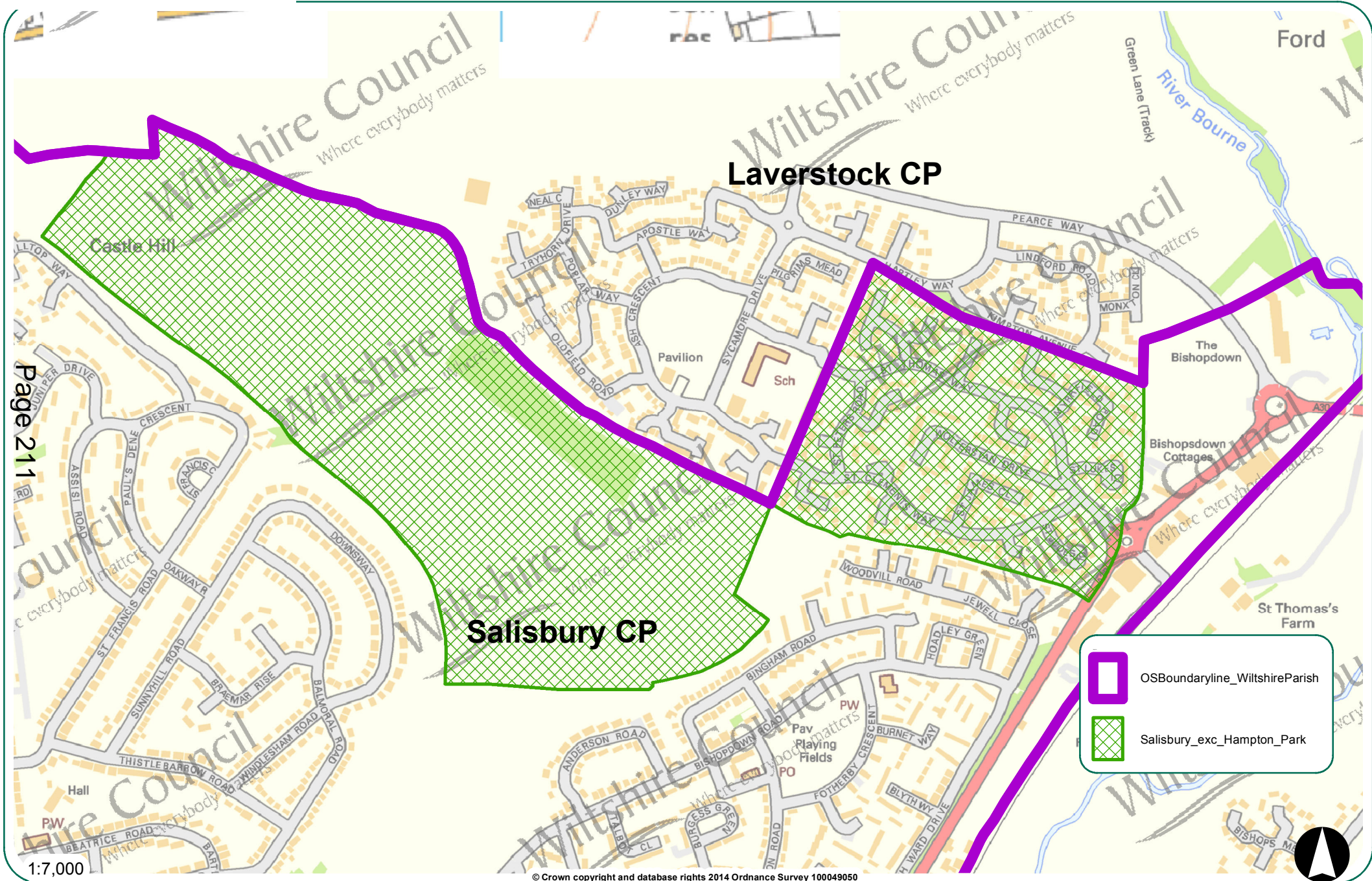


Area A1, A2 and B7 - Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 1b  
Coombe Road/ Old Blandford Road Area

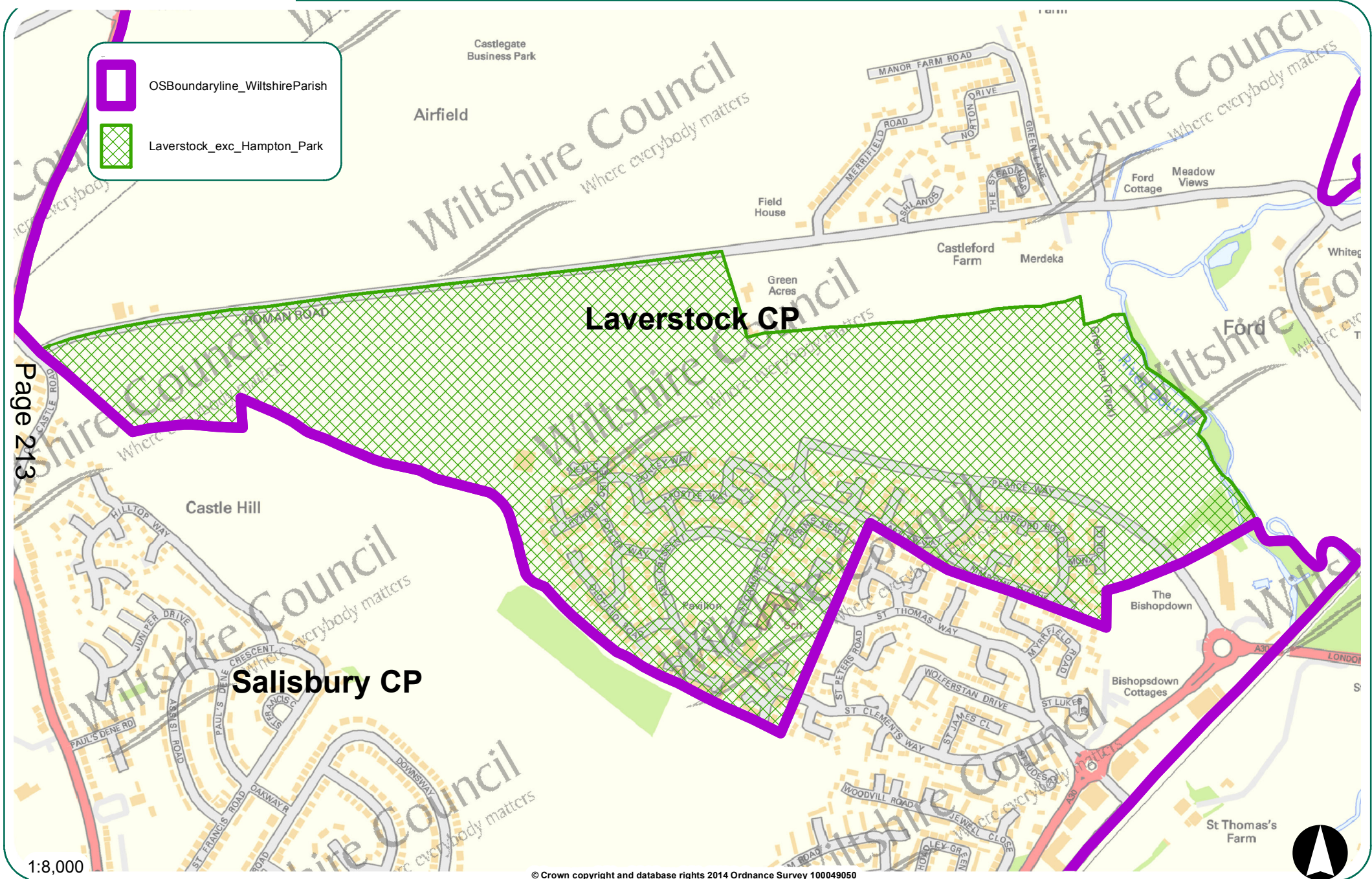


This page is intentionally left blank

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



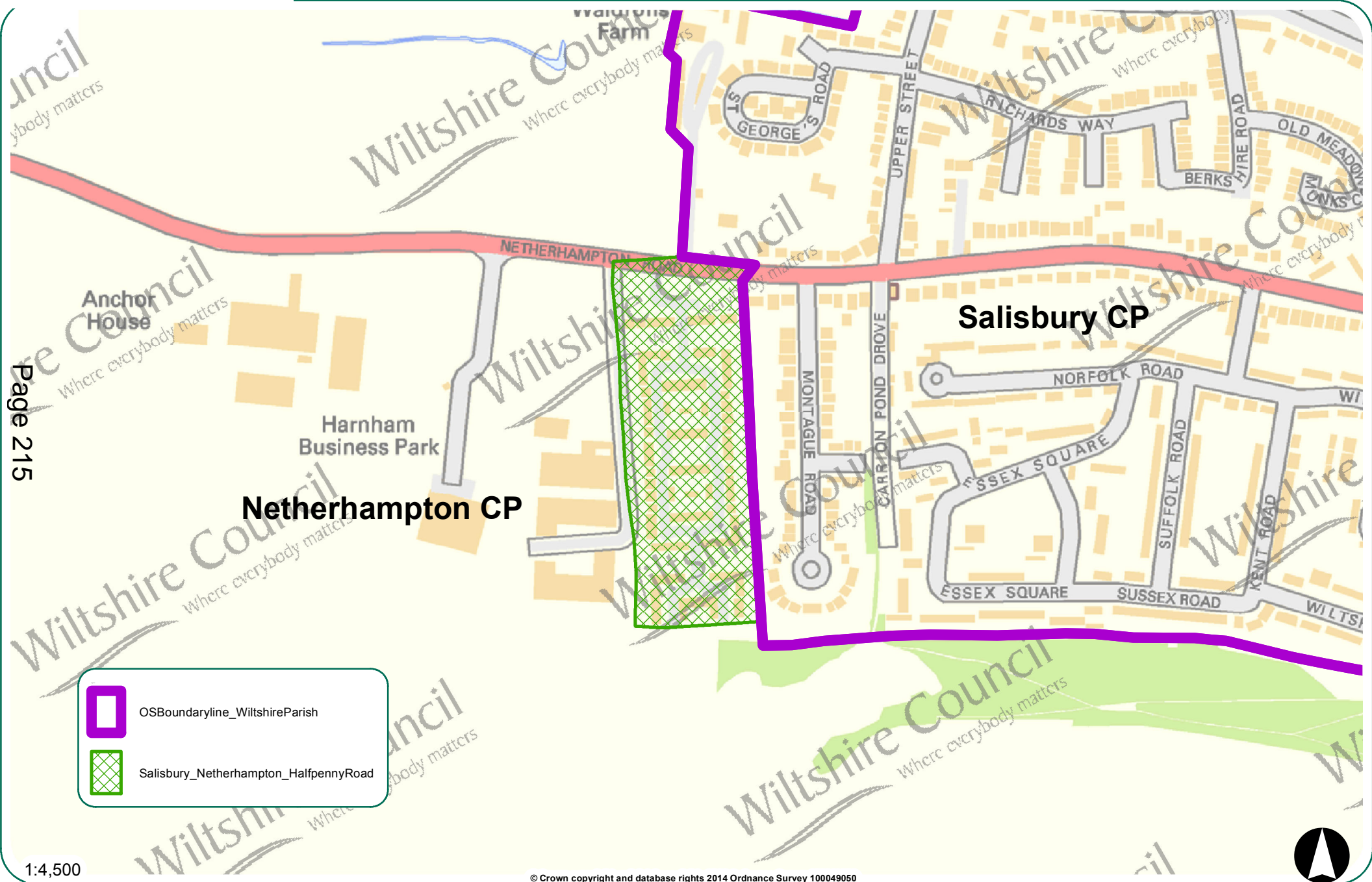
This page is intentionally left blank





This page is intentionally left blank

Area A1, A2 and B7 - Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 4  
Halfpenny Road Area

Page 215

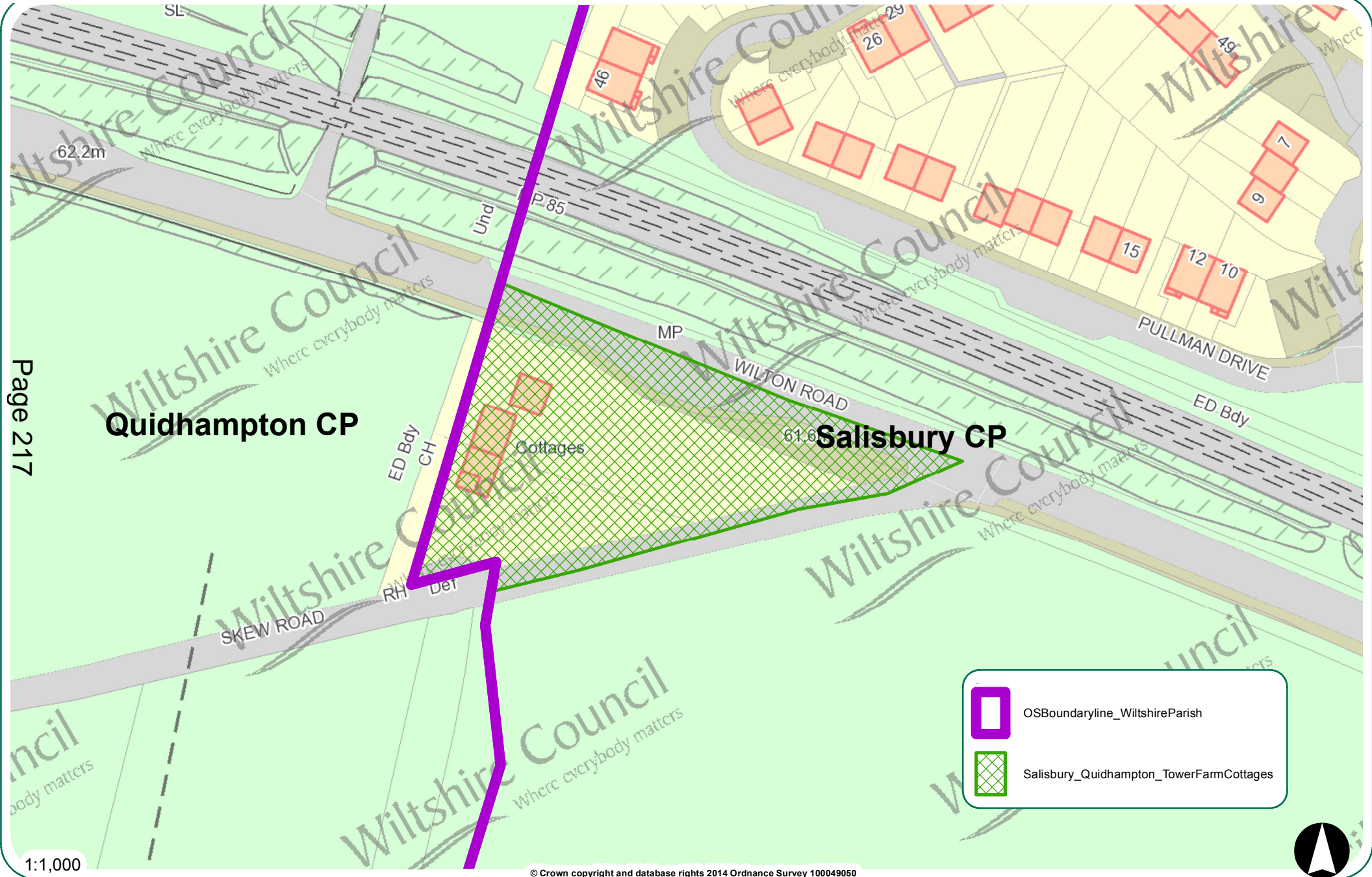


Legend:

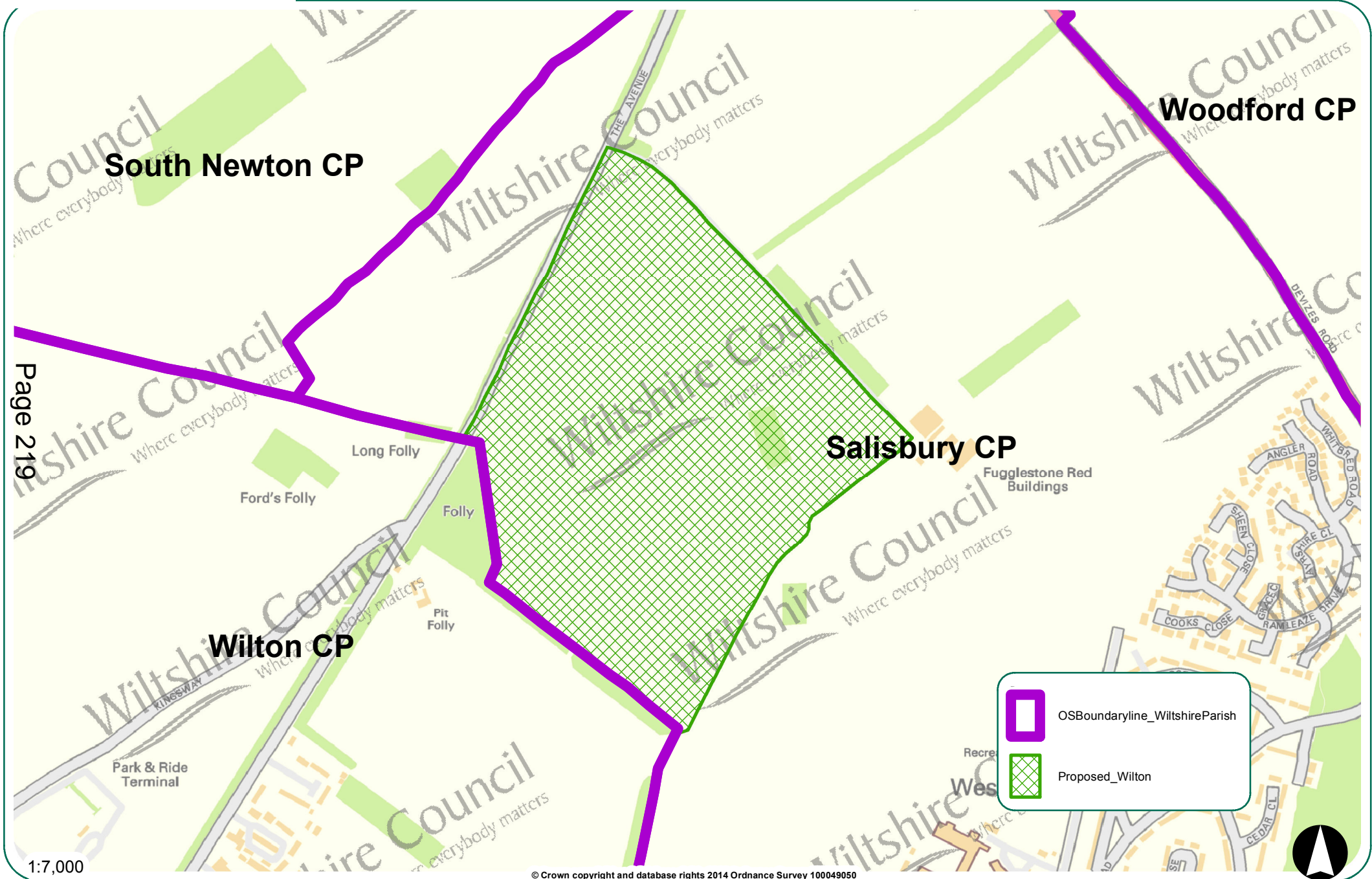
-  OSBoundaryline\_WiltshireParish
-  Salisbury\_Netherhampton\_HalfpennyRoad

This page is intentionally left blank



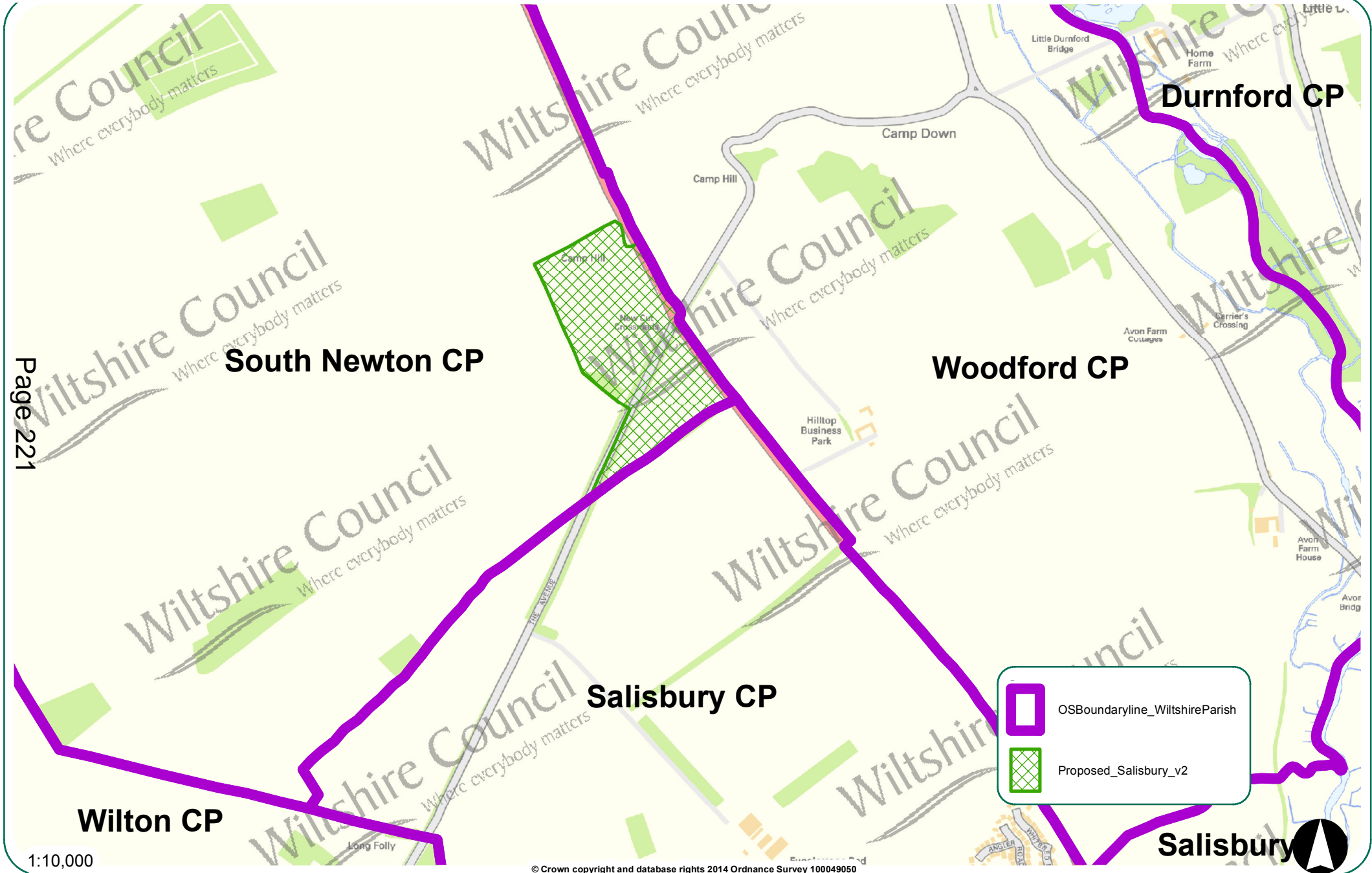


This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

Area A1, A2 and B7 - Salisbury and surrounding parishes Map 7  
The Avenue and A360 Area

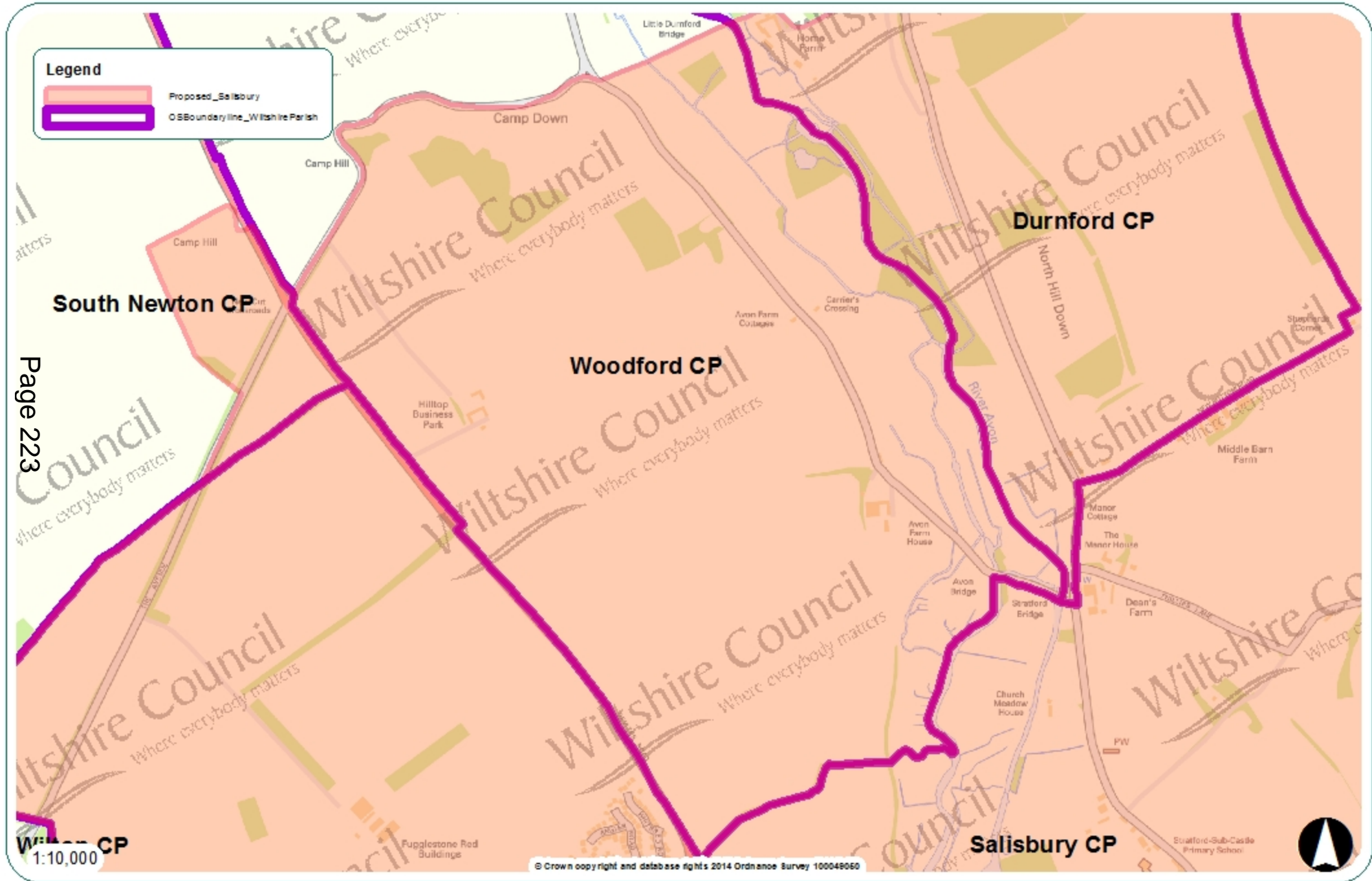


Page 221

1:10,000

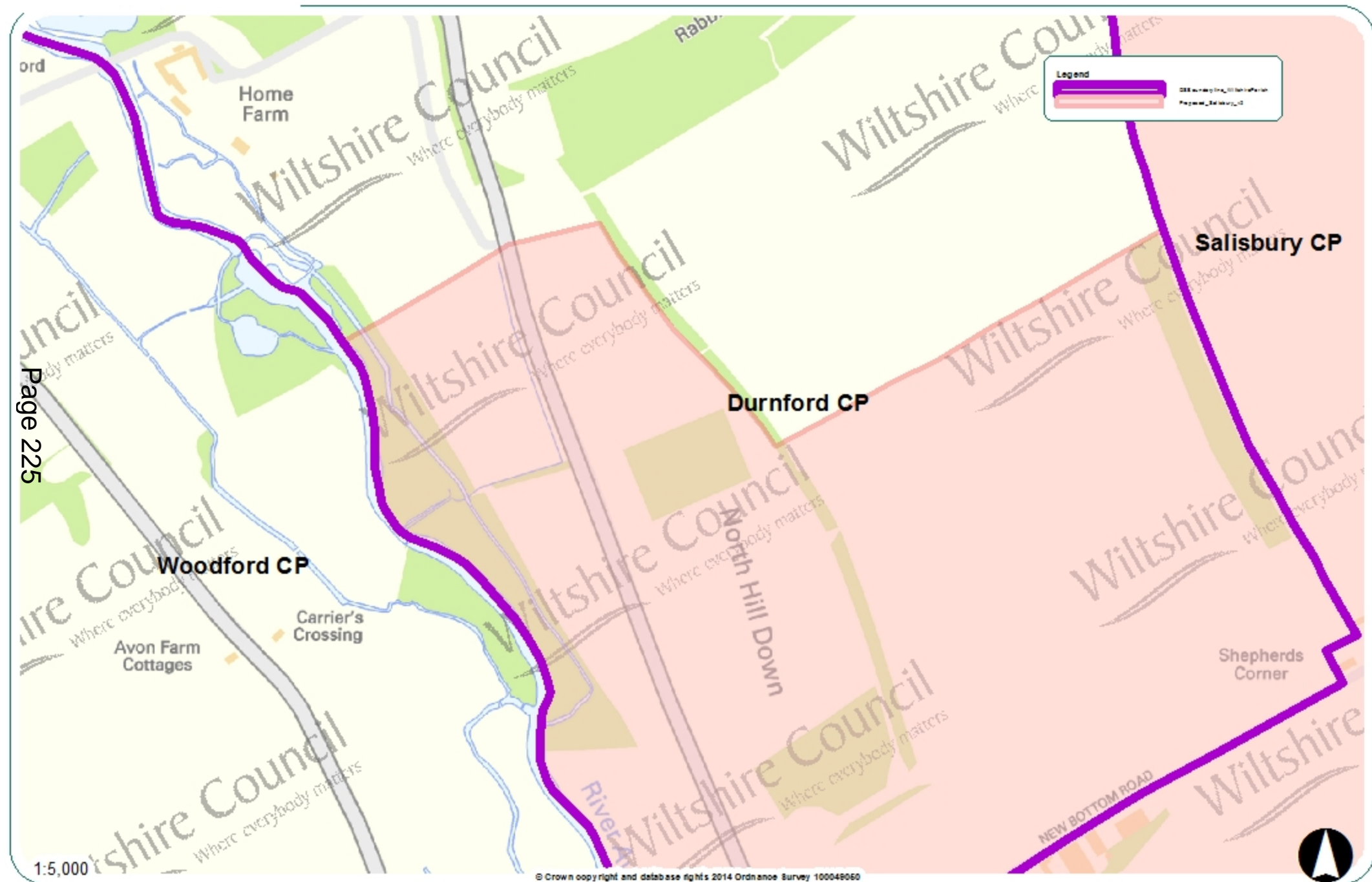
This page is intentionally left blank

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



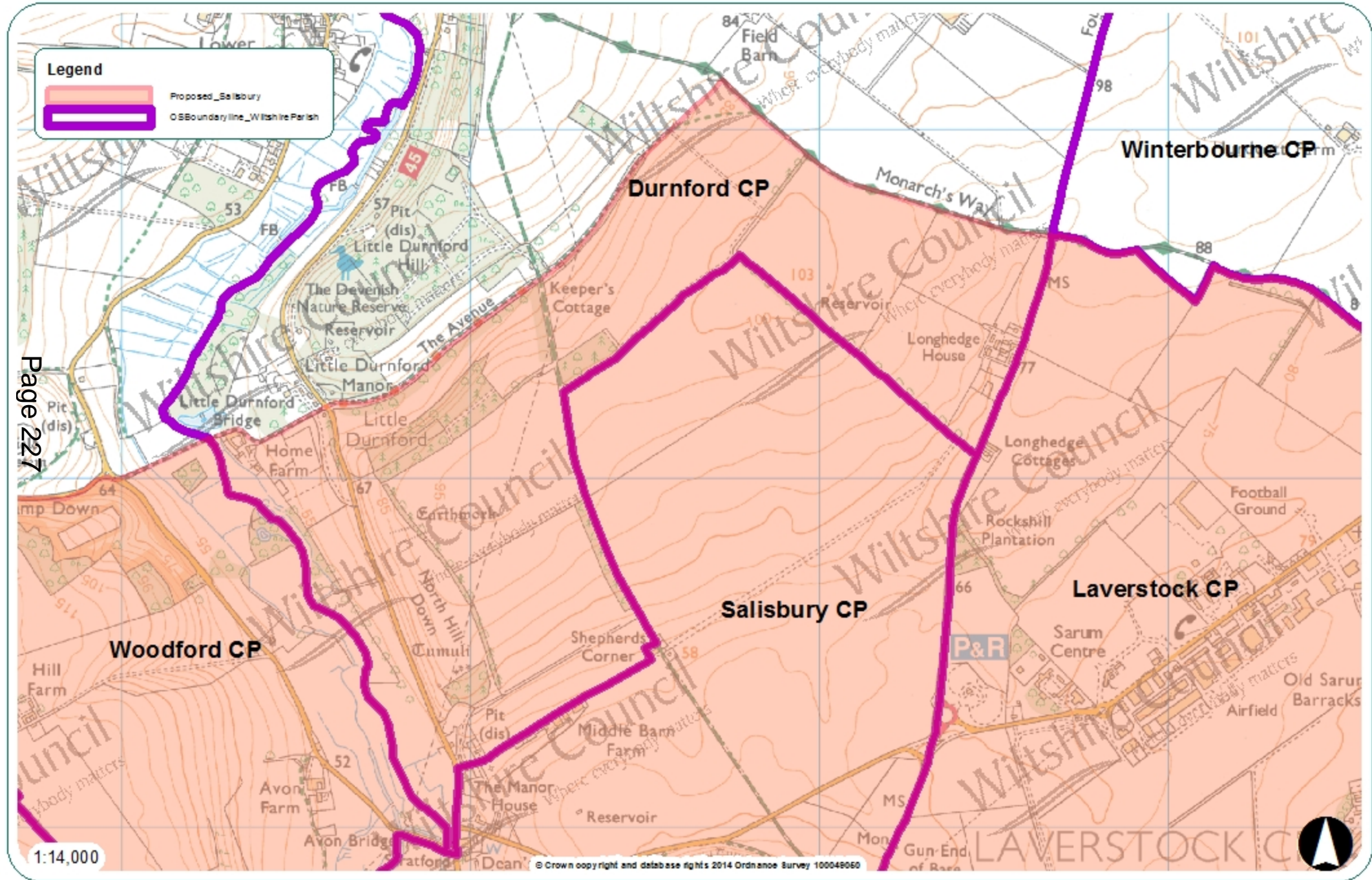
This page is intentionally left blank





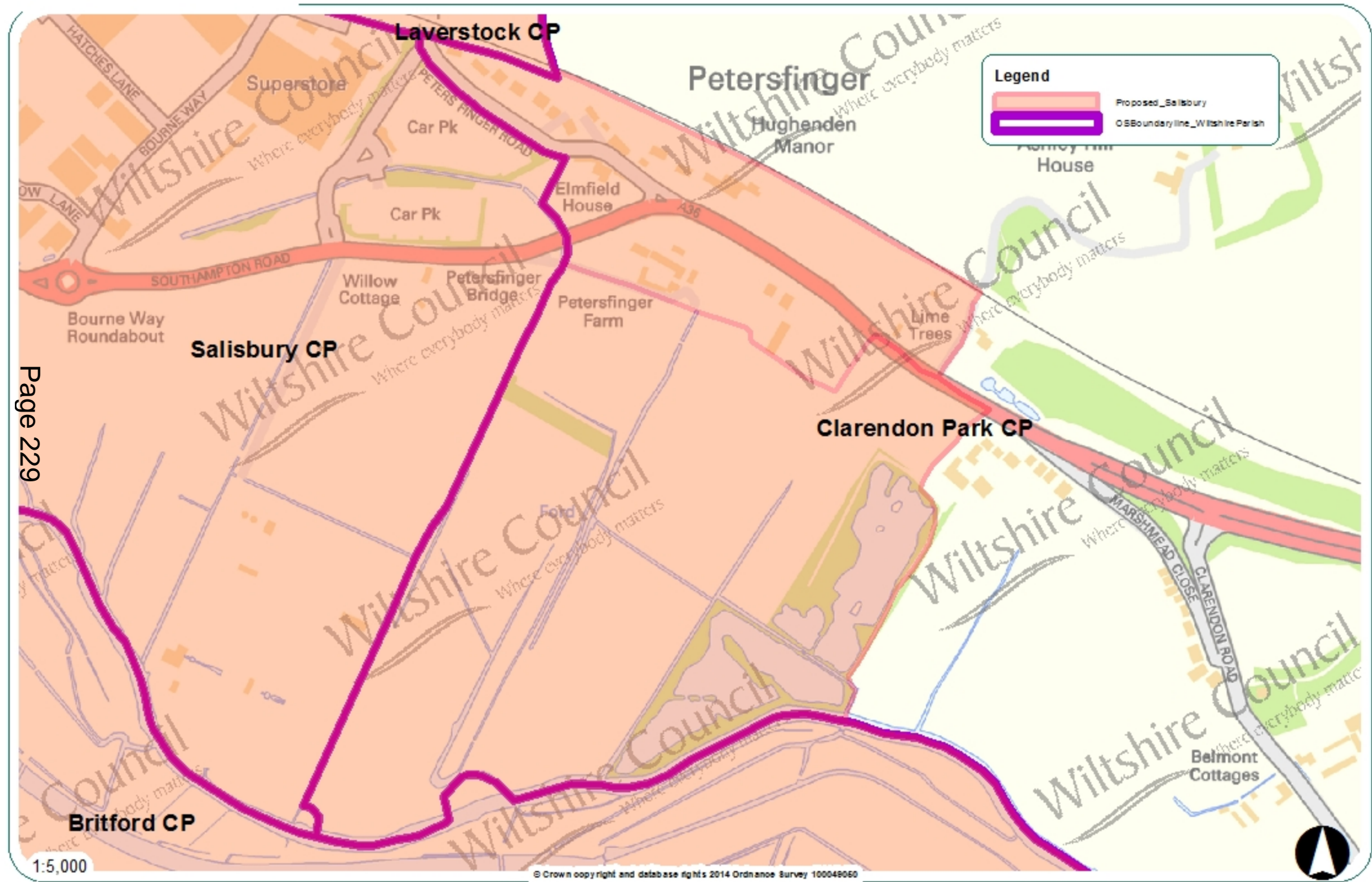
This page is intentionally left blank

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



This page is intentionally left blank

**Salisbury City Council  
Proposed Parish Boundary Changes  
(Clarendon Park)**



Page 229

1:5,000

This page is intentionally left blank

**Legend**

- Proposed\_Salisbury
- OS Boundary line\_Wiltshire Parish

**South Newton CP**

**Woodford CP**

**Salisbury CP**

Page 231

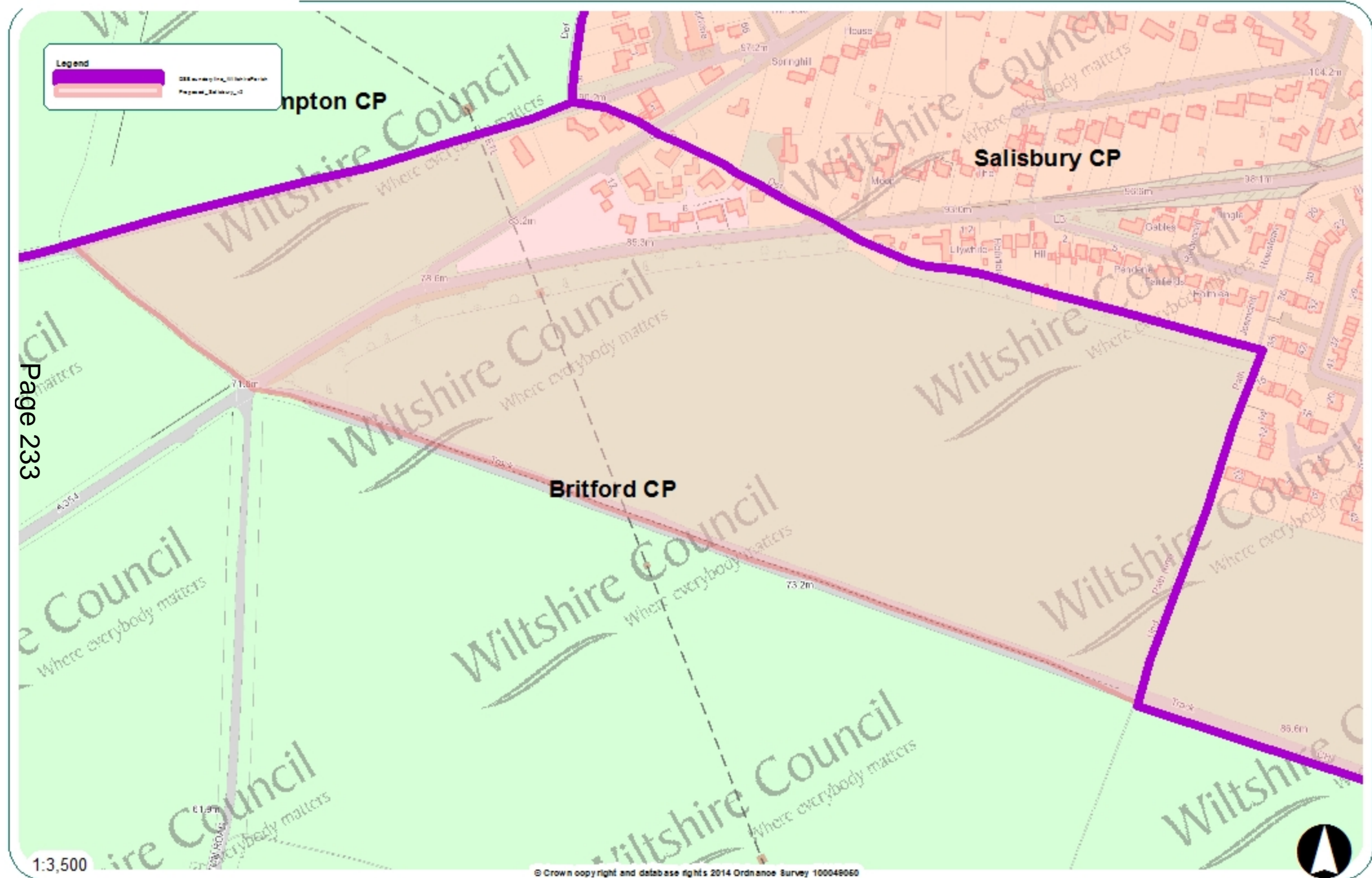
1:3,500



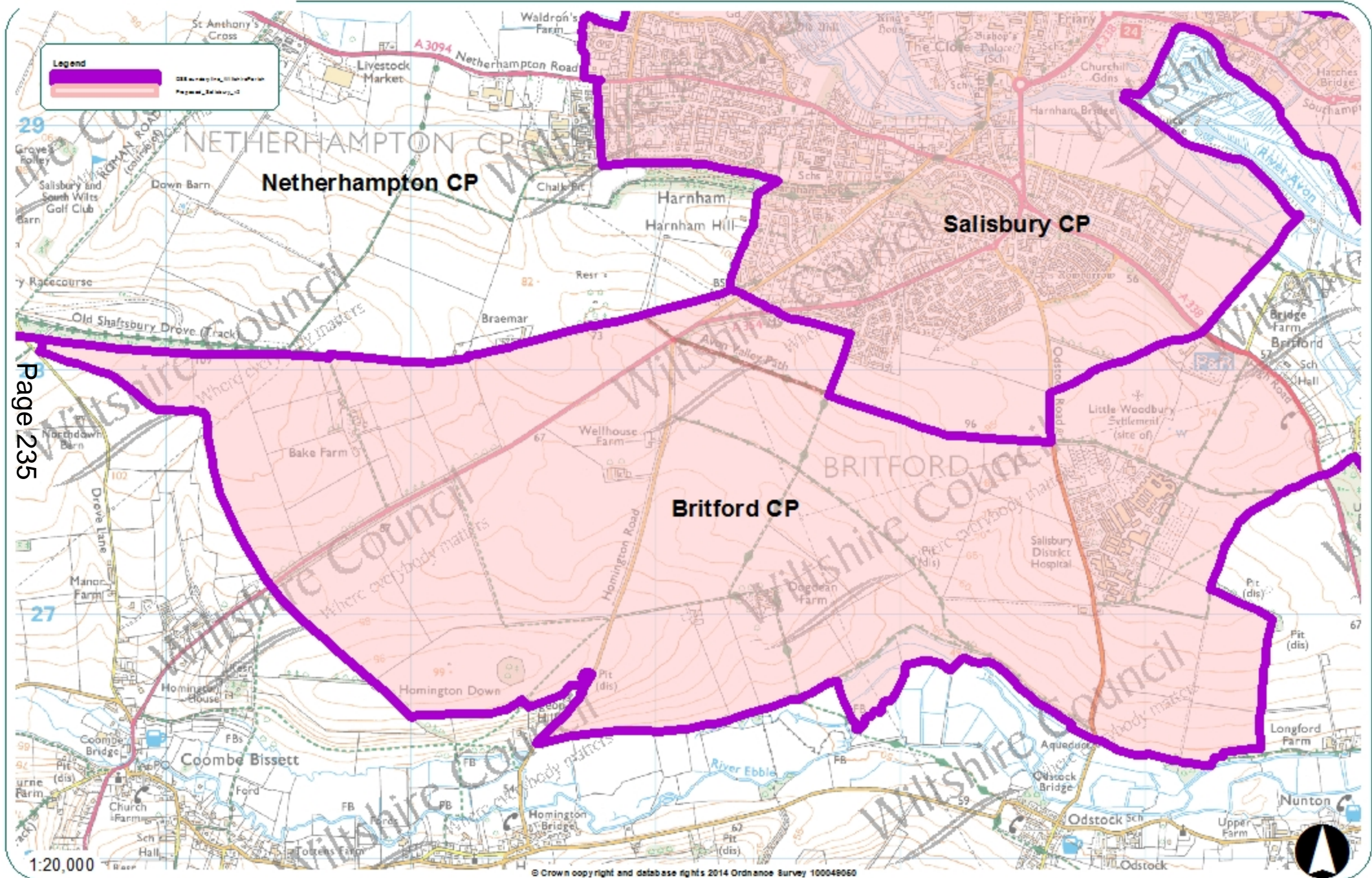
This page is intentionally left blank



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



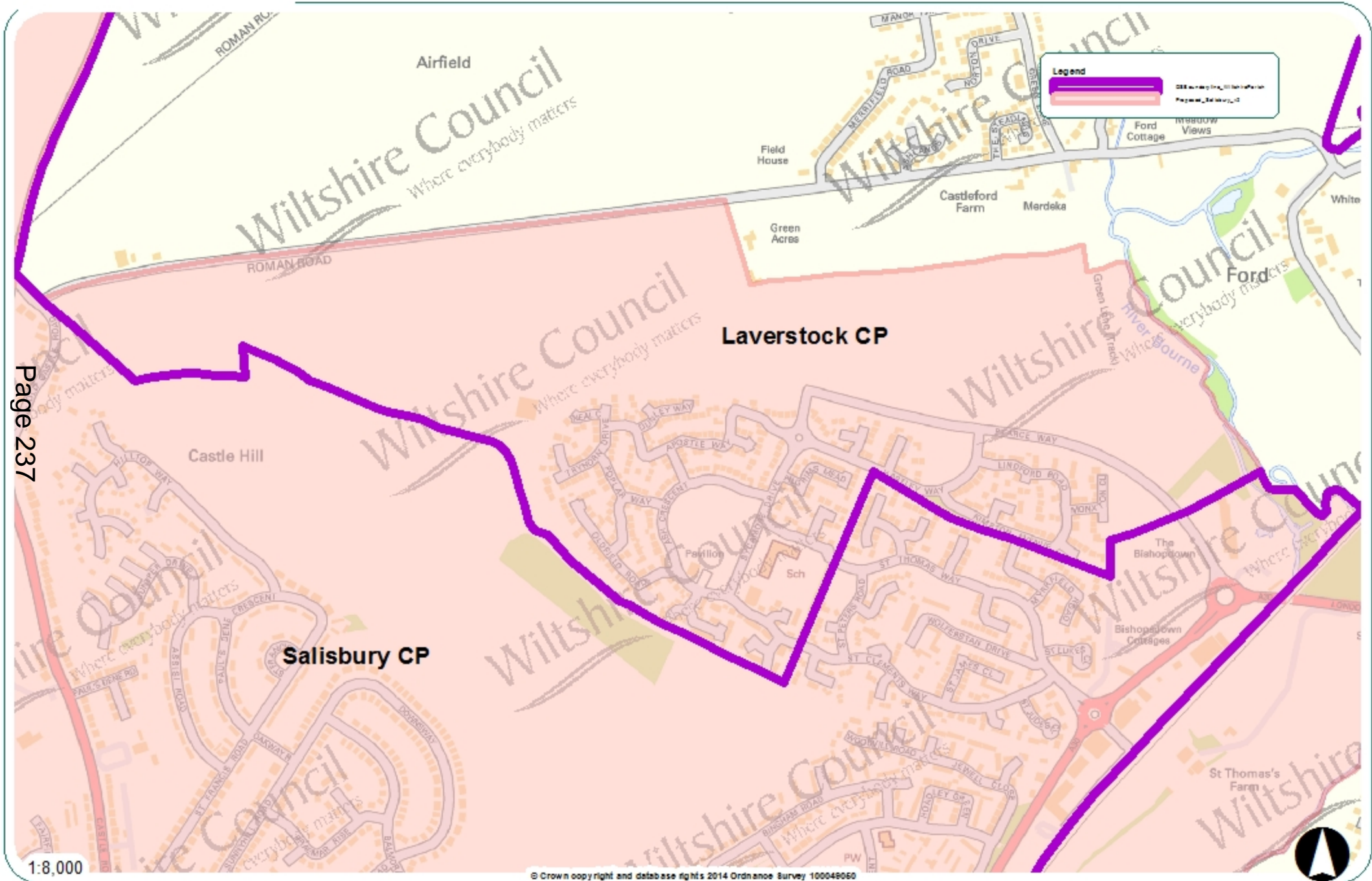
This page is intentionally left blank



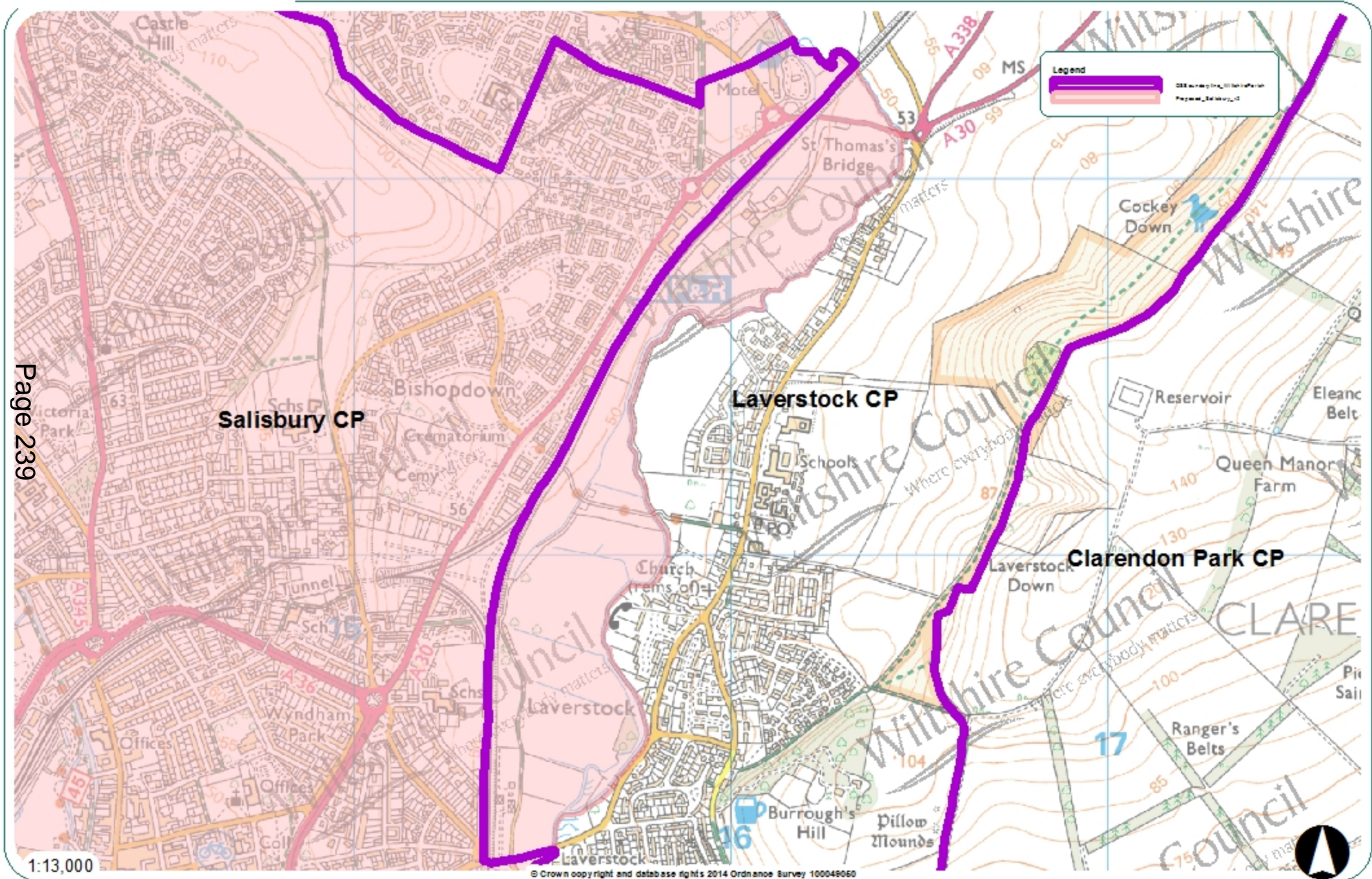
Page 235

This page is intentionally left blank

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

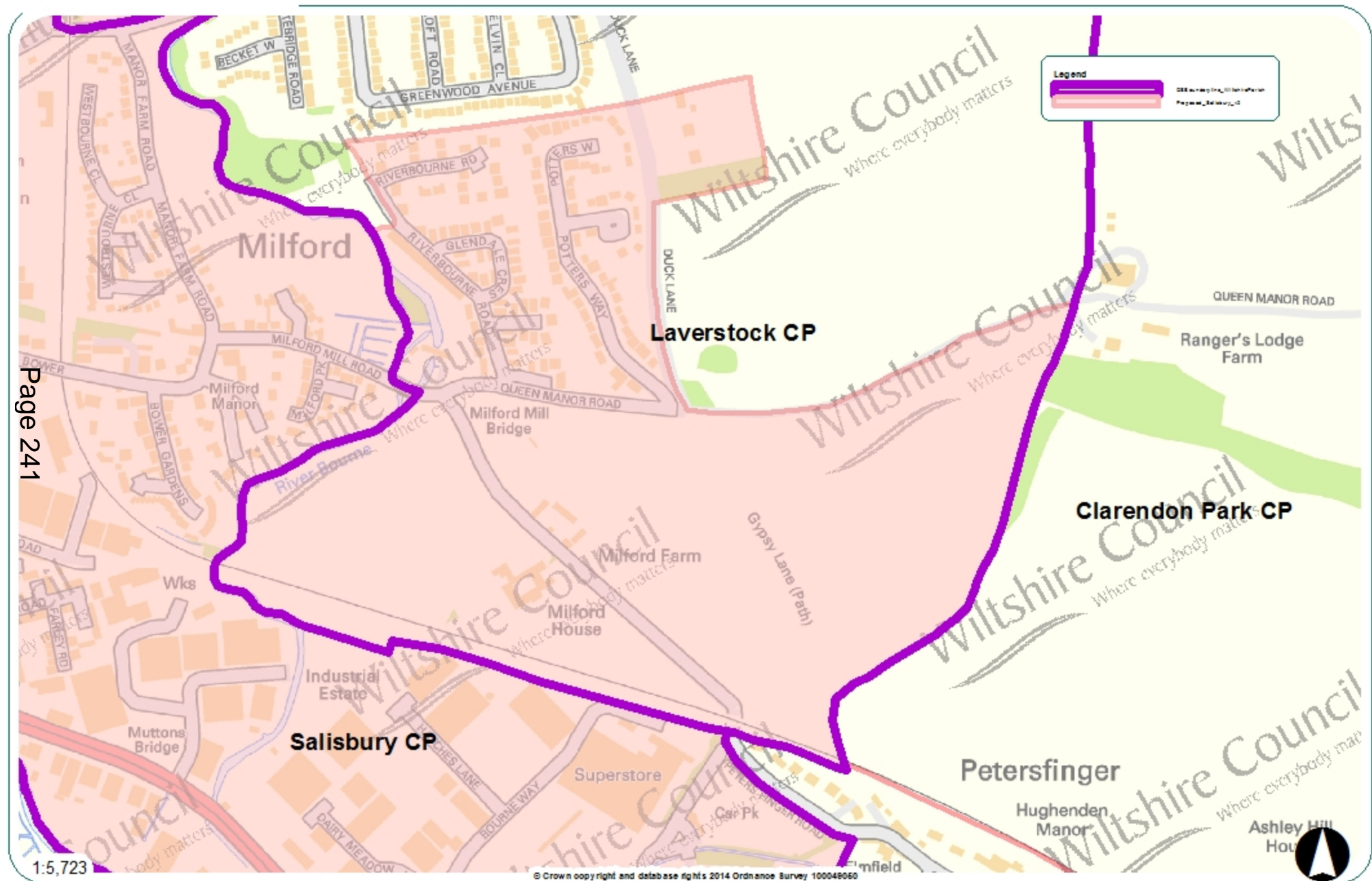


This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

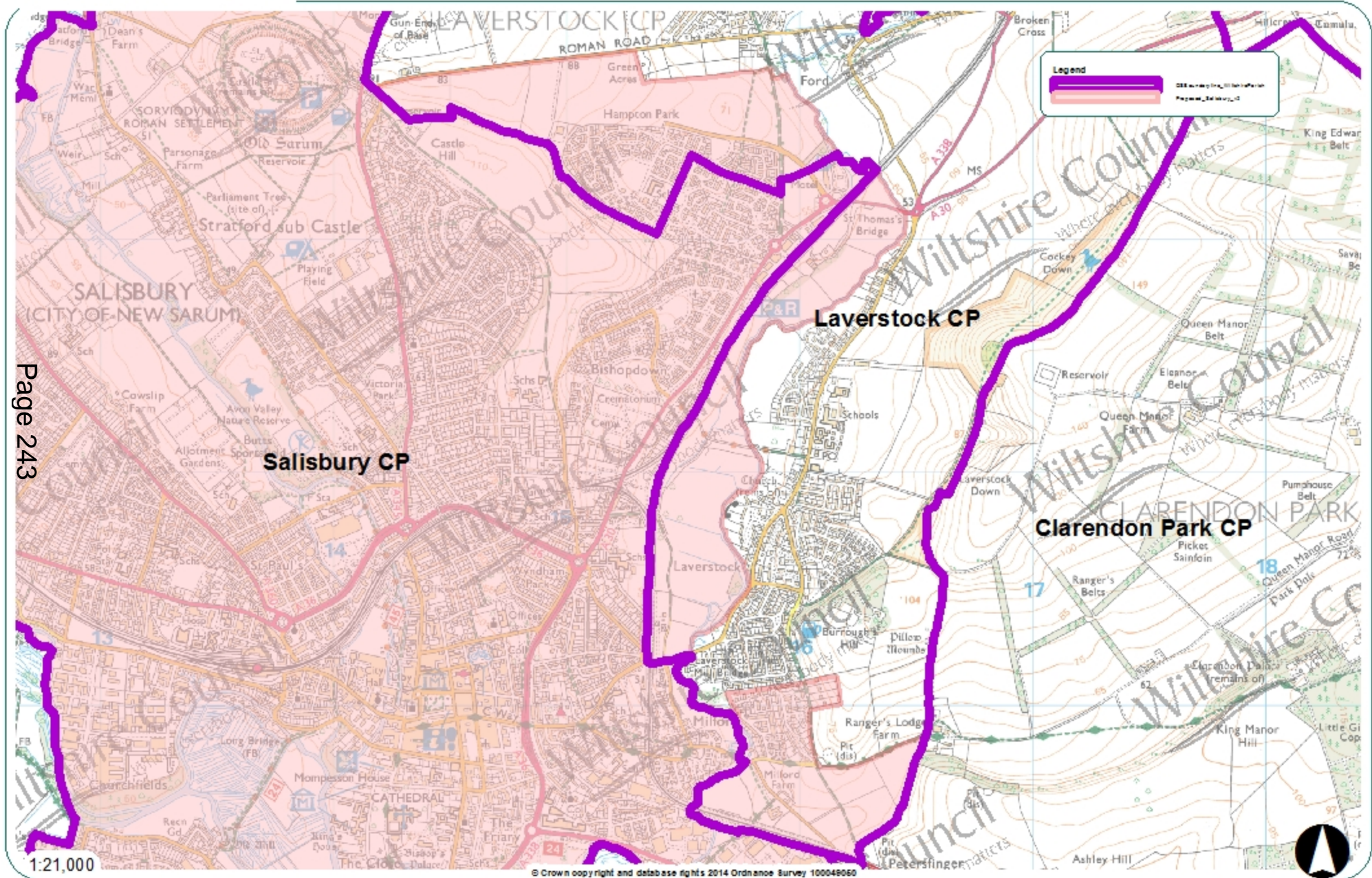




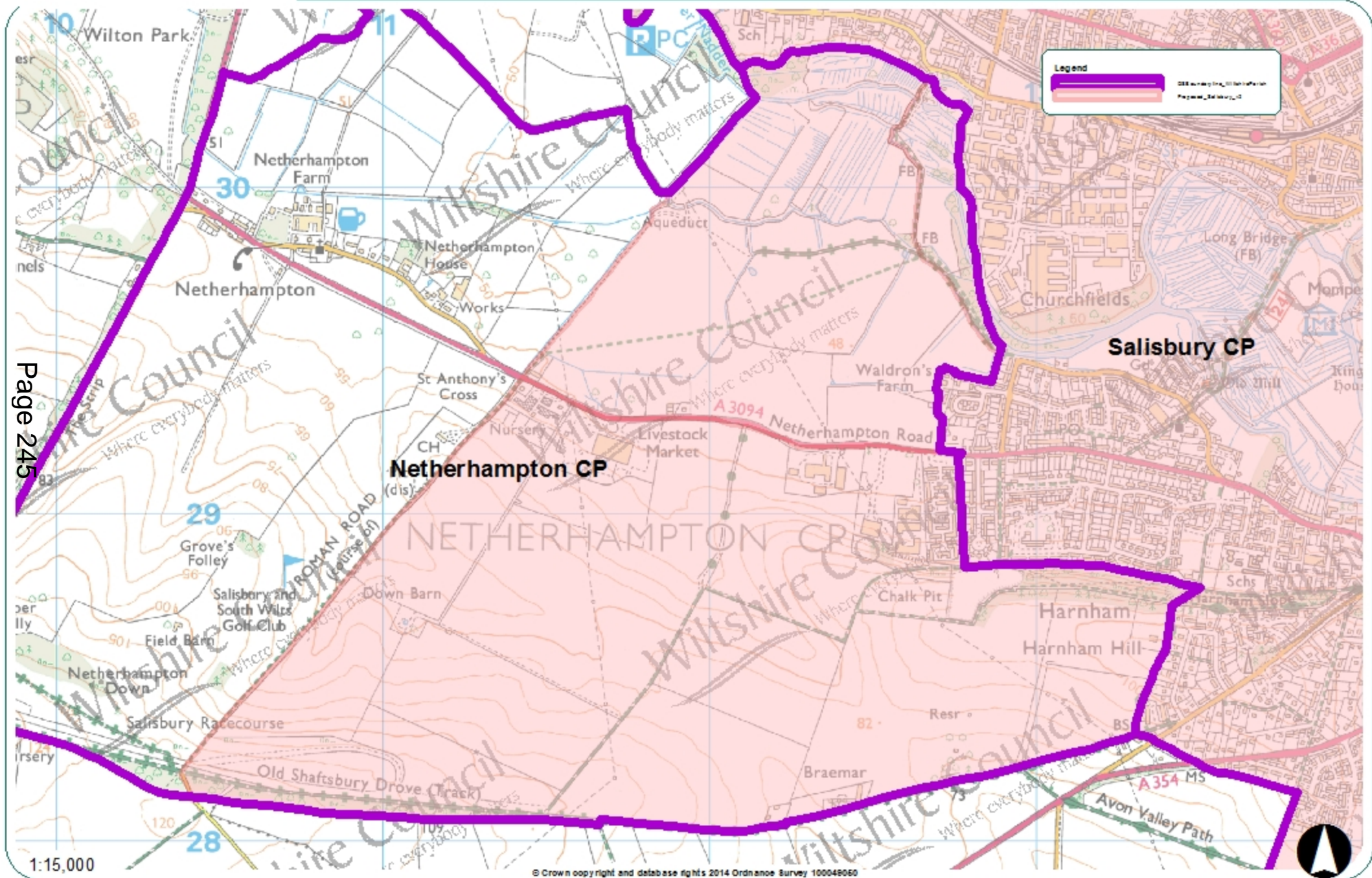
Page 241

This page is intentionally left blank

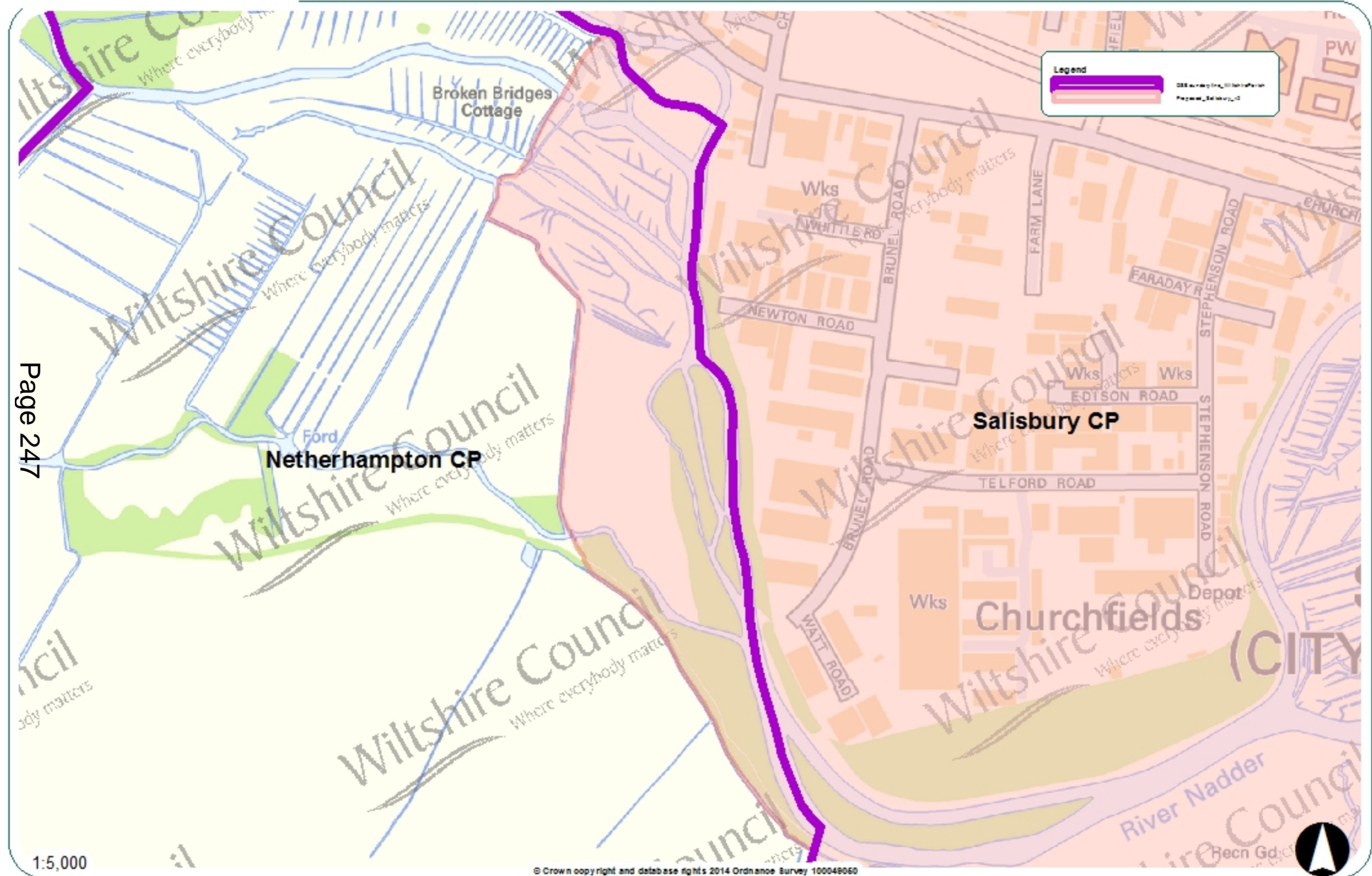
**Salisbury City Council  
Proposed Parish Boundary Changes Option 2  
(Laverstock)**



This page is intentionally left blank

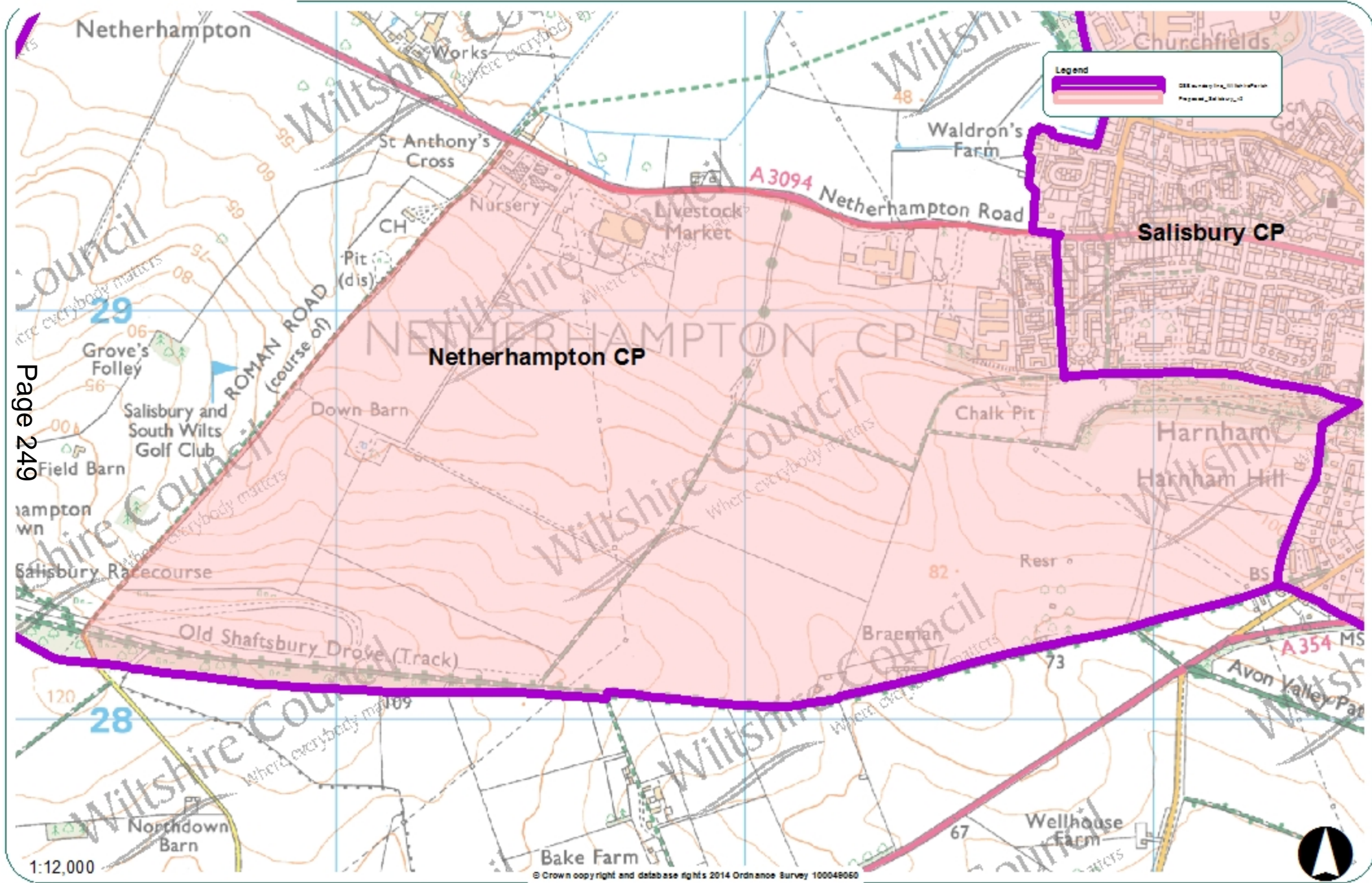


This page is intentionally left blank

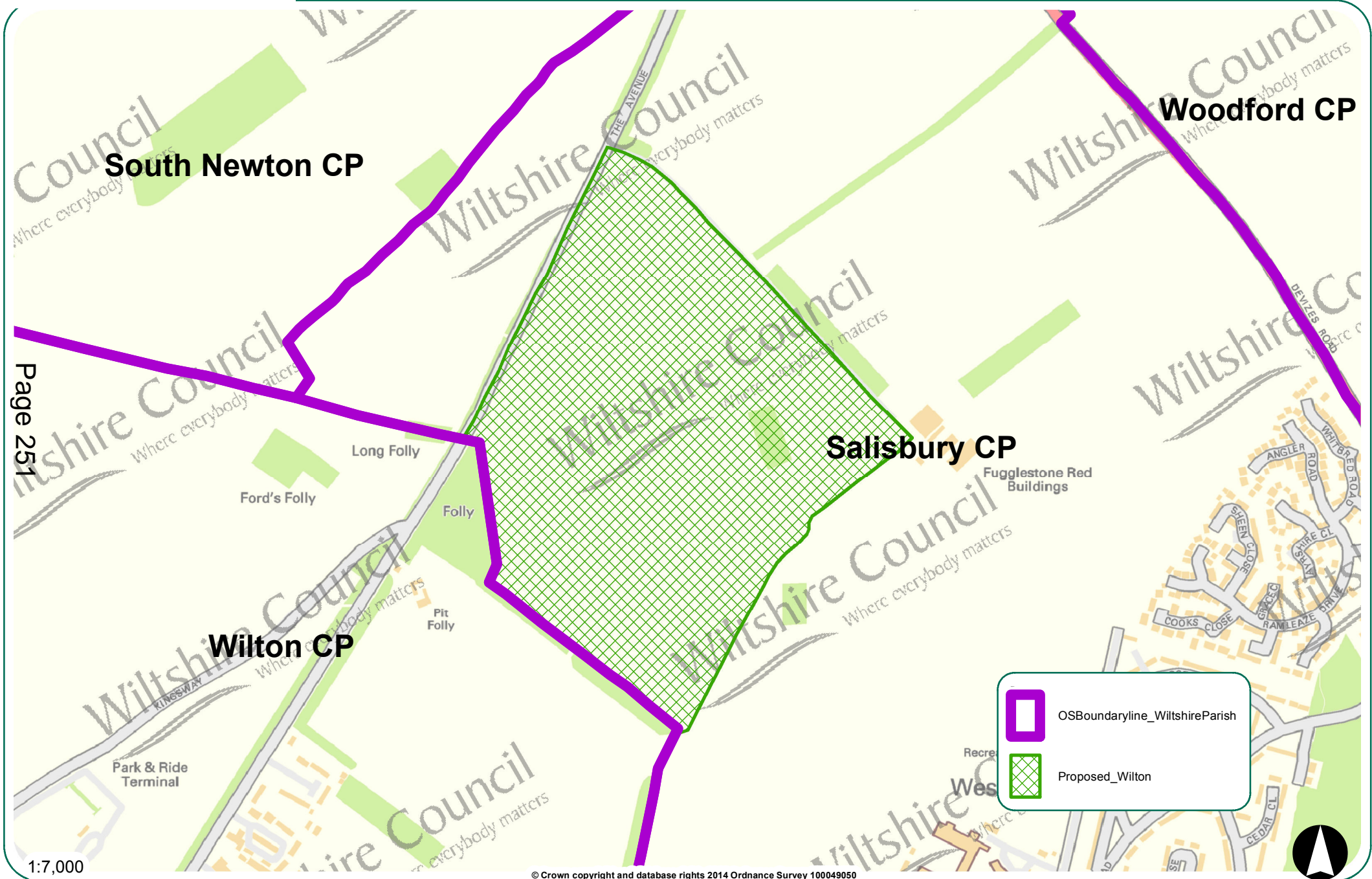


This page is intentionally left blank





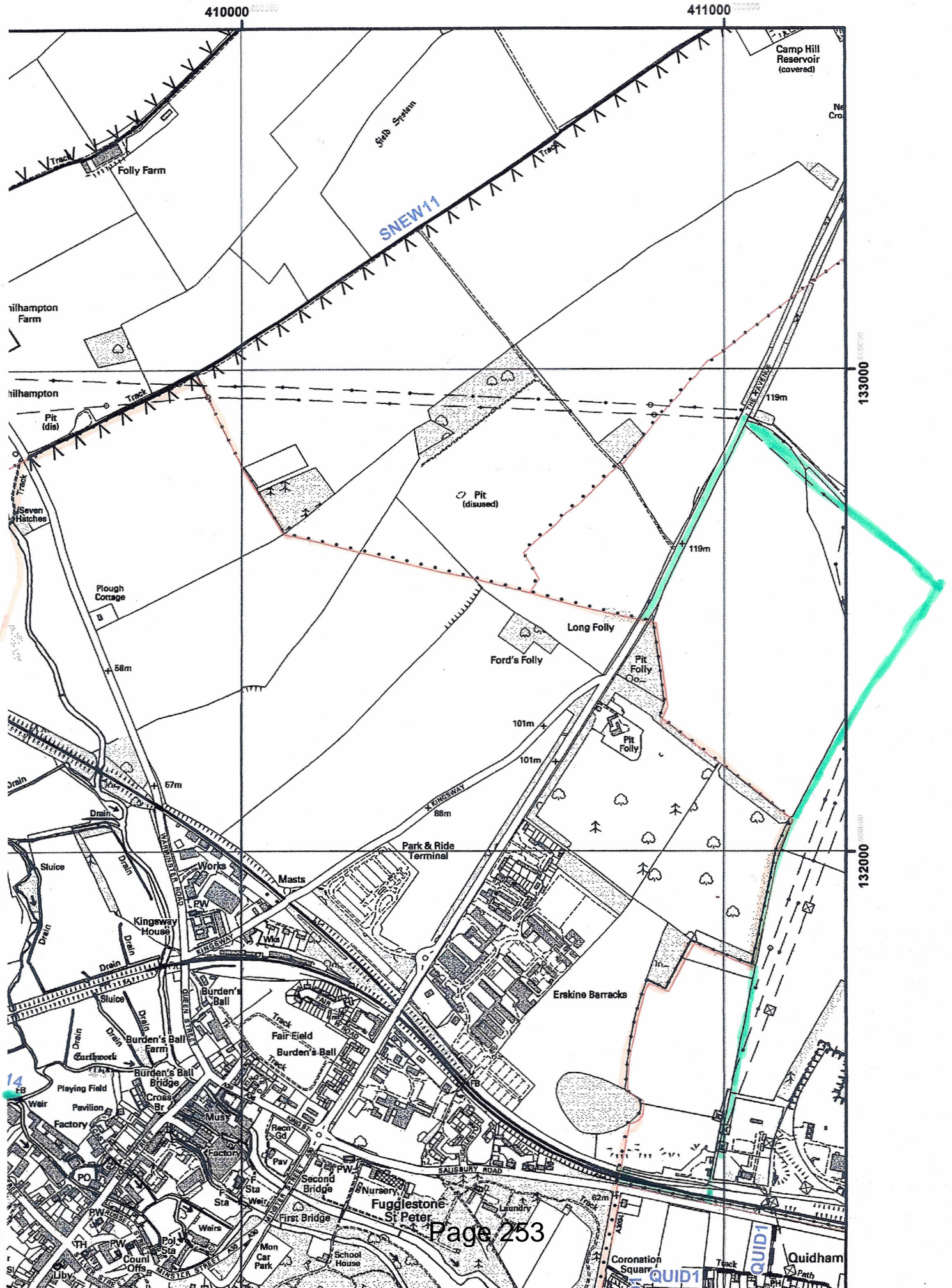
This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY FOR WILTON CP

MARCH 2014



This page is intentionally left blank

## Area A3 and A4 - Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes

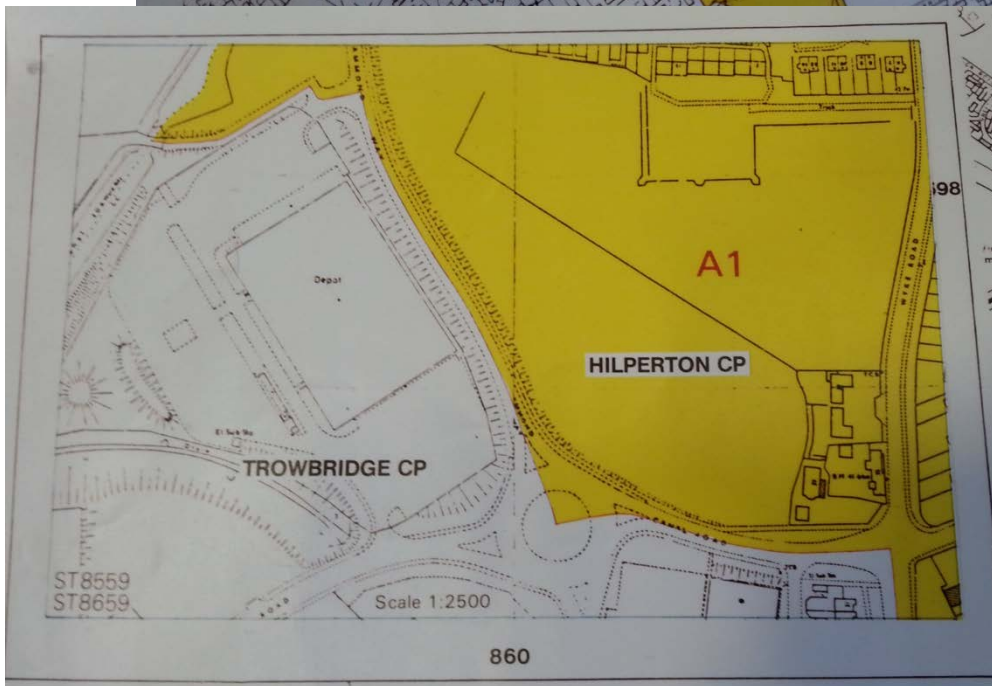
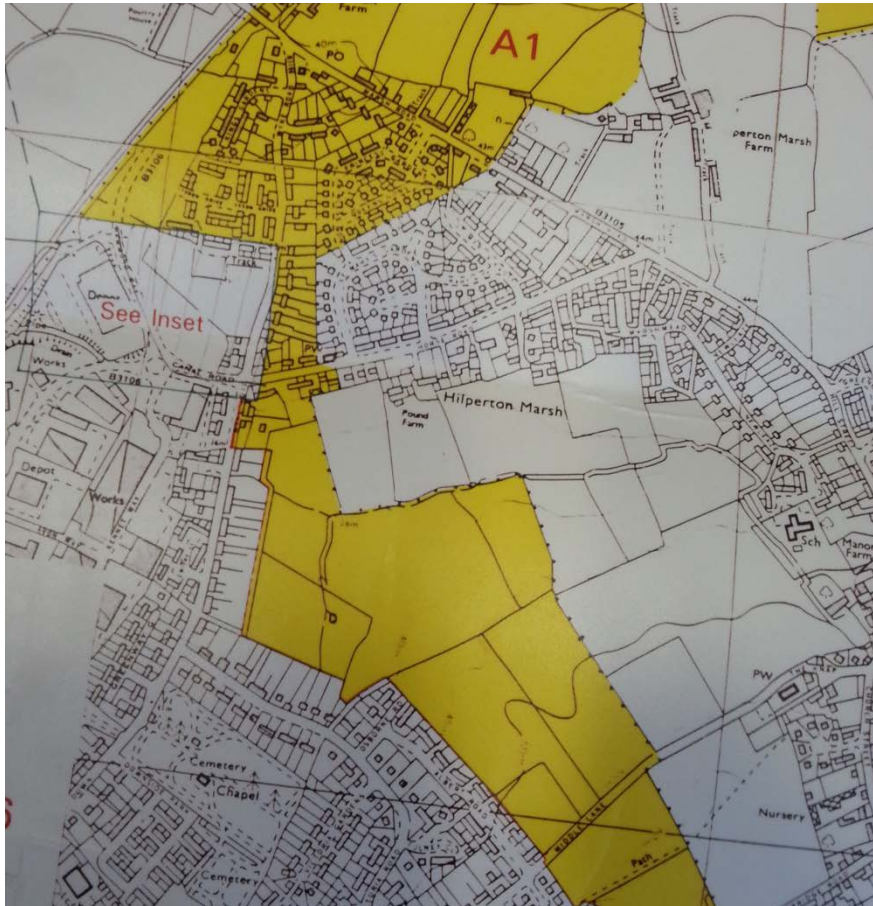
### Letters and other documents

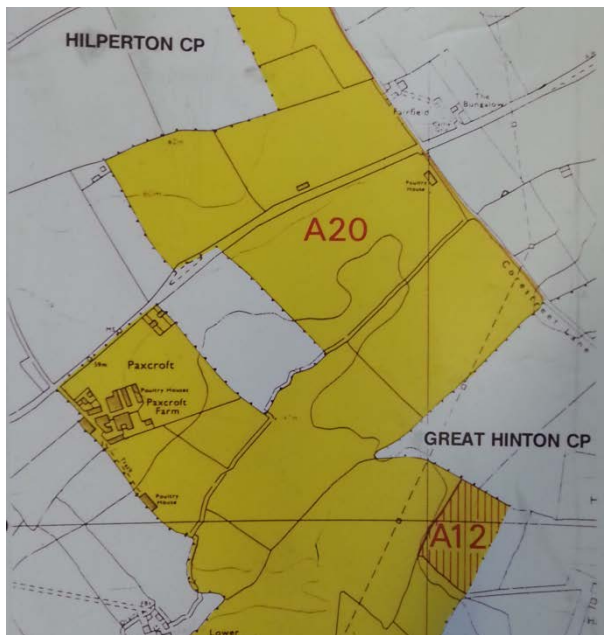
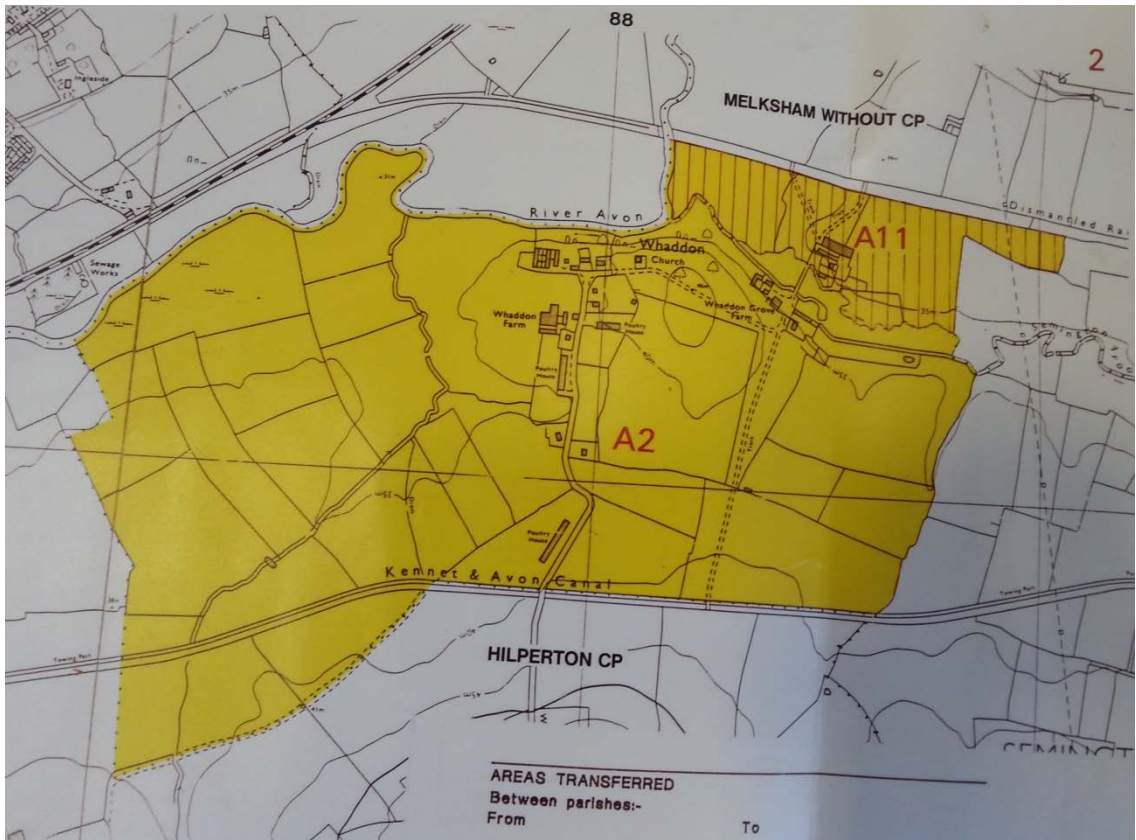
No	From	Date
1	1991 Parish Boundary Order West Wiltshire supplied by Trowbridge TC	1991
2	151001 Letter Sports Facilities Trowbridge Tigers FC	
3	151001 Letter Sports Facilities wasp 12 October 2015	12/10/15
4	151001 Letter Sports Facilities wasp	
5	151012 letter Sports Facilities headed paper Bath Lacrosse Club 12 Oct 15	12/10/15
6	Avon Valley Runners Community Governance Review	
7	Hilperton Parish Council - CGR 20 October 2015	20/10/15
8	Hilperton PC additional comments 30 July 2014	30/7/14
9	Hilperton PC Governance Review 28 July 2014	28/7/14
10	Letter from Ms Julie Baptista 14 October 2015	14/10/15
11	LETTER TO COUNCIL Natalie Hardy 12 October	12/10/15
12	North Bradley PC Letter to Eric Pickles Sept 14 final submission	24/9/14
13	PCLG Governance Review 060211 6 February 2011	6/2/11
14	Trowbridge Public Meeting Minutes - 13 October 2015	13/10/15
15	Trowbridge Rangers FC letter	
16	Trowbridge TC 4 November 2015a Response to Consultation CGR Trowbridge supplement Area3	4/11/15
17	Trowbridge TC 4 November 2015b Response to Consultation 4 November 2015	4/11/15
18	Trowbridge TC letter to residents Oct 2015	10/15
19	Trowbridge Town Council 101102 Governance Review Changes January 2011	
20	Trowbridge Town Council 140701 Updated report June 2014	6/2014
21	Trowbridge Town FC boundaries letter to cc for public meeting Oct 15	10/15
22	TTC 150923 Map Summary of Trowbridge Proposals _3_ _3_	23/9/15
23	TTC 150930 DISCOVER Trowbridge - a town council for all of the town _3_	30/9/15
24	West Ashton PC 2 October 2014 response to Trowbridge TC's proposals	2/10/14
25	Notes from Trowbridge CGR fact finding meeting 2 December 2014	2/12/14
26	Letter from Sport England 12 November 2015	12/11/15

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Ms T Mortimer	15/9/14	
2	Ms L Summerson	7/10/15	Supports TTC, inc W Ashton
3	Ms V Fahey	7/10/15	Supports TTC
4	Ms E Glover	8/10/15	Supports TTC, esp Paxcroft Brook
5	Mr J Ligo	9/10/15	Supports TTC
6	Mrs C Farnell	11/10/15	Supports TTC
7	Mr C Harris	12/10/15	
8	Mr K McCall	13/10/15	Finance queries
9	Mr and Mrs D Feather	26/10/15	Comment re consultation
10	Mr I Jamieson	7/11/15	Against TTC's Hilperton scheme only







Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Dear Councillor Wheeler

As the representative of a sports club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely

Tim Brown  
Trowbridge Tigers FC



This page is intentionally left blank

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

12/10/2015

Dear Councillor Wheeler

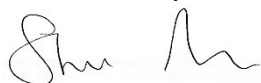
As the County Sports Partnership supporting the sports bodies providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the Town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the towns sporting community by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely



Steve Boocock  
CEO  
Wiltshire and Swindon Sport

This page is intentionally left blank

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Dear Councillor Wheeler

As the representative of a sports club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely

This page is intentionally left blank





[www.bathlacrosse.com](http://www.bathlacrosse.com)

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Nik Roberts  
4 Beatrice Way  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 7TX  
12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Dear Councillor Wheeler

Bath Lacrosse Club has a long association with Trowbridge, and has an established Youth programme in the Town. Many of the players from the programme have gone on to play for Bath, their respective Universities, county and in one case internationally for Wales.

The Lacrosse programme provides just one of many activities for residents of the Trowbridge community. As the Development Office for Bath Lacrosse Club, I would like to express my support for the boundary proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review in their entirety. It is clear to me, that the vast majority of the residents (both now and in the future), and therefore potential and current sports men and women in the highlighted areas, will look to Trowbridge as their natural administrative centre for common facilities, as well as social usage. The proposed boundary changes are more logical and will prevent future confusion, thus giving a better centralised council provision.

Trowbridge Town Council embraces the growth in the town's population and strives to develop services and facilities to cater for the extra population in the town. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities within the Trowbridge boundaries. Future investment will be jeopardised by the fractured nature of the current arrangement, the Town's identity, particularly on a sporting front is at risk.

Trowbridge Town Council has several projects underway:

- New sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road adjacent to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club
- A secure future for Woodmarsh football ground,
- Improved facilities in the Town Park,
- Negotiations with Wiltshire Council re control of Stallards and Seymour Recreation Grounds
- Development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities.

The neighbouring parish councils will not have a vested interest nor the capacity and resources to deliver these projects for Trowbridge.

Yours sincerely

N P Roberts, Bath Development Officer

This page is intentionally left blank

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Dear Councilor Wheeler,

As the representative of a sports club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it. Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively. Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Isaacs  
Honorary Secretary  
Avon Valley Runners

This page is intentionally left blank

# HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

### **Area 3a – Wyke Road**

Hilperton Parish Council supports the suggestion of the CGR working group that the residents of these houses should choose which civil parish they reside in. The Parish Council would be happy for the 'transfer in' of the Trowbridge residents if no decisive decision can be reached by the residents themselves. The Parish Council feels that having all the houses in Hilperton would reflect the identity and interests of the community in that area and would, in addition, be effective and convenient.

### **Area 3b – Hilperton Gap**

Neither the Parish Council nor the Town Council proposals were displayed at the meeting earlier this month. The Parish Council is led to believe that neither proposal is being taken forward by the working group and so the 'land grab' by the Town Council for greenfield land, with no designation for development, will fall. Hilperton Parish Council is content if this is correct and the *status quo* will prevail for this area of land.

### **Area 3c – Paxcroft Mead south of Hilperton Drive/Halfway Close and brook**

#### ***Trowbridge Town Council Proposal***

The Parish Council was surprised to see the Town Council suggestion for this area used in the presentation at County Hall, as the Parish Council understood that the working group had made a decision that the land to the east of Leapgate was not being taken forward; a decision the Parish Council would agree with as this is, basically, another greenfield 'land grab' (the 'cricket square' and surrounding open space) which would rip the heart out of the south of the parish. Only about thirty properties are in the area but it also contains one of the two Hilperton primary schools, the Community Centre (the Parish Council is the custodian trustee), all the shops in the Local Centre (including the local branch of Budgens, a fish and chip shop and a Chinese takeaway) and one of the three pubs in the parish (the Red Admiral).

The wish of the Town Council to seize the housing in the Painters Mead area is covered below.

#### ***Hilperton Parish Council Proposal***

The realignment of part of the Hilperton/Trowbridge boundary follows distinct physical features and, as demonstrated at the Trowbridge CGR meeting, meets with approval from the residents who firmly see themselves as residents of Hilperton.

In the FAQ paper supplied by Wiltshire Council, it states 'Therefore any changes made by a CGR **must** (our emphasis) improve communities and local democracy'.

Not 'maintain' but 'improve'. How would transferring these houses to Trowbridge meet this objective?

Bearing this statement in mind, the Parish Council would like to suggest that the proposed boundary suggested by it last year should be revised to more closely follow the fence line of the properties in Halfway Close/Hilperton Road so that all the open space to the north of Faverolle Way remains in Hilperton. It would also suggest that the boundary line should remain 'as is' in the area of Walmesley Chase/Montague Court.

### **Other Comments relating to area 3c**

At the recent Salisbury CGR meeting an item was discussed – at great length – as under:-

“Suggestions were received for the Hampton Park and Bishopdown Farm areas of Salisbury city, and Laverstock and Ford Parish. The two schemes seek to move properties into one parish or the other, hence the current consultation on the two proposals”.

Hilperton Parish Council understood that a similar scheme was under consideration for the Painters Mead area of Paxcroft Mead as shown by the powerpoint at the Trowbridge CGR meeting referring to proposals relating to '200 – 600 + properties being presented completely neutrally'; the idea being that the 600 houses would move either all into Trowbridge or all into Hilperton.

Is this proposal no longer under consideration? If not, why not? It would represent a consistent approach across the county.

Marylyn Timms  
Clerk to Hilperton Parish Council  
20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

“Following my e-mail which I sent yesterday regarding the Community Governance Review, I thought it might assist you if – on behalf of Hilperton Parish Council – I gave a little more information.

The figures involved for option Area ‘A’ are that Hilperton would lose approximately 31 properties (Halfway Close 4 ; Hilperton Road 5; Montague Court 2; Moyle Park 15; and Walmesley Chase 5). Areas ‘A’ and ‘B’ together would see the parish acquire about 105 properties gross (or 74 nett if you allow for the losses). Some would be from Trowbridge Adcroft Division and some from Trowbridge Paxcroft.

Neither of these changes would lead to an unacceptable variation from the ideal Wiltshire Council division size/numbers.

The rationale for moving the boundary as we have suggested is to follow more closely the guidance that boundaries are better if they follow a clearly defined physical visual point such as a stream or a road. The Parish Council fails to see how Trowbridge parish can be extended to the east using the line of a non-existent road which might never be constructed.

The Parish Council would like to emphasise that many non-Hilperton residents use facilities funded by the Parish Council, but we accept that this is balanced by Hilperton residents using the facilities of other parishes.”

I am afraid I do not have an electronic copy of this e-mail but I have hard copies.

So could this information, please, be added to our submission.

Many thanks,

Marylyn Timms  
Clerk to Hilperton Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank



# **HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **GOVERNANCE REVIEW, 2014**

### **Area ‘A’**

Hilperton Parish Council suggests moving the parish boundary between Ashton Road and Leapgate to the centre of Paxcroft Brook, then have it turn right along Leapgate before turning left at the first Painter’s Mead turning. It would then follow the centre of Painter’s Mead until after Corbin Road, when it would follow the cycle/footpath on the left, looping around the back of Faverolle Way and Castley Road to join Hilperton Road at the pedestrian crossing. The boundary would then continue north as now.

### **Area ‘B’**

After passing along the part of the Hilperton Gap adjacent to Fieldways Hotel, the boundary would turn left along Middle Lane for a few yards, then go right along the middle of Albert Road, left along the centre of Osborne Road, right along the middle of Victoria Road and then right along the middle of Wyke Road to join the current boundary near the Wyke Road/Horse Road junction.

**Marylyn Timms**  
**Clerk to Hilperton Parish Council**  
**28<sup>th</sup> July, 2014**

This page is intentionally left blank

For the last 9 years I have lived in Trowbridge. Previously I have lived in towns, both Calne and Chippenham, small villages and for 6 years in a new edge of town development namely Staverton Marina.

Some of the people who live on the Paxcroft Mead estate may technically be living in Hilperton Parish, at the moment, but they do not live in Hilperton nor do they live in a village. To my mind they live in an edge of town, new development. This does not prevent them from having community spirit but that community is not a traditional village community and never will be.

Similarly the people who live on the new Home Farm development, plus the 2,500 houses still to be built will always live closer to Trowbridge than West Ashton. Indeed the village community of West Ashton would be seriously changed and affected by such a large development in their Parish. Wiltshire Council would be wise to look to the future and take this opportunity to redefine this boundary now and ensure total clarity for all new residents moving in, as the additional houses are built.

It is a ludicrous situation which splits a street in half and / or separates a few houses from the rest of their neighbours. It is little wonder to me that individuals are reduced to arguing about 'dog poo bins' when Wiltshire Councillors are reluctant to see the bigger picture and make sometimes difficult but ultimately sensible decisions.

Several times it was mentioned that Trowbridge Town Council was 'looking to land grab'. What I heard at the meeting was that Trowbridge Town Council was looking to the future, not just for town residents, such as me, but also for all of those who live in the surrounding parishes. Trowbridge Town Council is looking to continue to build on and improve the changes already made and / or which are underway in Trowbridge.

- The Civic Centre development and the services provided by the Trowbridge Information Centre
- The Odeon development
- The development of the old Peter Black site
- The improvements made to the Trowbridge Museum
- The re-opening of The Town Hall as a viable venue
- The proposed sports development to complement the new Rugby Club
- Trowbridge town park, Biss Meadow, The Sensory Garden

These are just some of the things which Trowbridge Town Council have supported, been solely responsible for or strong partners with Wiltshire Council to ensure their success.

All of these facilities are open to and available to residents of our neighbouring parishes. Indeed Trowbridge residents are extremely generous in sharing our resources to ensure a strong and effective community area.

Trowbridge Town Council is the organisation best placed with staff already in post, experience and resources to ensure continued improvement and enhancements to our County Town.

Boundary changes do not change where you live, your home will still be in the same place nor do they change the community you live in.

If we can no longer rely on older, traditional boundaries such as field boundaries and hedgerows then we must look to the future and use other obvious landscaping such as roads or rivers and streams.

Therefore I would propose that the Hilperton / Trowbridge boundary should be set as the A361. Similarly the West Ashton / Trowbridge boundary should be set as the A350. Any roads or housing developments which are split should move into Trowbridge where they will get better provision of services and, I am sure, a speedy response to their requests for 'dog poo bins',

Julie Baptista  
Oldbrick Fields  
Trowbridge

Natalie Hardy  
32 Clarendon Avenue  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 7BN

12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Dear Councillor Wheeler

As the representative of Fitz Netball club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Hardy

This page is intentionally left blank



# NORTH BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

INCORPORATING

*NORTH BRADLEY, BROKERSWOOD AND YARNBROOK*

Coasters  
5 Chapel Close  
Southwick  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 9RY

24<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Eric Pickles MP  
Houses of Parliament  
Westminster

Dear Sir

## Governance Review, Wiltshire

I am writing on behalf of the Parish Council of North Bradley, regarding the proposed boundary changes that are being proposed by Wiltshire Council as part of the Governance Review.

The Parish of North Bradley is situated approximately four miles outside of Trowbridge, the county town of Wiltshire and the Governance Review is being carried out by Trowbridge Town Council.

We have 666 properties and our precept for 2014/15 is £14.27 per property giving a total fund for the year of £9,882.00p. There is a large development of 2,600 properties, including business premises and a school being undertaken on the outskirts of West Ashton, the next village to North Bradley. A portion of the development will come within the boundary of North Bradley Parish.

The Governance Review shows that Trowbridge Town Council are proposing to extend the boundary to take the area on which the new development is proposed and more, including existing properties at present within the Parish of North Bradley.

The premise of Trowbridge Town Council's argument is that the effect on the electorate numbers is minimal and completely ignores that the Parish Council loses out and only Trowbridge Town Council gains. There is no balance or benefit for the Parish, any reduction will severely impact on the viability of North Bradley Parish Council with the strong possibility that the precept could reduce by up to half and therefore the Precept income would be just sufficient to pay for a Parish Clerk. This would mean that there is a strong possibility Parishes such as North Bradley will find themselves having to ask their local Council to subsidise them as their property base has been eroded and there is insufficient money from the precept for the parish purse.

We also question that the proposed review/changes are premature. The 2,600 houses being built in West Ashton are likely to generate twice the number of voters and inevitably will need to establish a ward in its own right.

Whilst we understand that Wiltshire Council have the power to affect change with such reviews, taking into account population changes and the need for re-defined boundaries, it is also essential that they take into account the wishes of local inhabitants and the affect that such changes will have on village areas. With the eroding of the Parish boundary, it does lead us to fear that, Wiltshire Council could decide that North Bradley is too small to function on its own and join it with one of the other villages in the area or bring the village under the umbrella of Trowbridge town. It is already felt that Trowbridge Town Council have very little concern for the local villages, are lax in the managing of Parish needs and have no thought on the negative effect on rural and village life the proposed changes will make.

It is only a short time ago that in 2010 David Cameron championed giving more power to local communities and you were made Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in May 2010. A large amount of time, effort, expertise, organisation and money was spent on this idea, which was not only greatly welcomed but also felt to be of a great benefit to communities. I am sure North Bradley Parish Council were not the only ones who believed that these changes allowed communities to be able to help themselves, being the ones on the ground that knew what their community required and work along with local Councils to get the best for all concerned. We do not believe the changes were made so Trowbridge Town Council can hive off areas of local Parishes to subsidise larger towns to the detriment of the Parish.

We would be grateful if you would please review the boundary changes being proposed by Trowbridge Town Council with a view to allowing North Bradley Parish Council to remain, at least as it is now, with no change to its existing boundaries.

Yours faithfully

Roger Evans (Chairman of North Bradley Parish Council)

Mrs Lee Lee (Vice Chair of North Bradley Parish Council)

Judy Lane (Clerk to North Bradley Parish Council)

T: 01225 776260

e: [parishcouncil@northbradley.org.uk](mailto:parishcouncil@northbradley.org.uk)

[www.northbradley.org.uk](http://www.northbradley.org.uk)

Cc Andrew Murrison MP, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London  
John Watling, Head of Electoral Services, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road,  
Trowbridge BA14 8JN.



# Trowbridge Community Area Future Parish Councils Liaison Group

**Secretary:** Roger Coleman  
2 The Laurels  
Westwood  
Wiltshire  
BA15 2AX  
Tel: 01225 862770

**Chair:** Gaynor Polglase  
53b Frome Road  
Southwick  
Trowbridge  
BA14 9QG  
Tel: 01225 777023

E-mail: Roger.P.Coleman@btinternet.com

E-mail: gpolglase@hotmail.com

The Chief Executive  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
BA14 8JD

6 February 2011

For the attention of Mr Andrew Kerr.

Dear Mr Kerr,

Governance Review – Trowbridge Town Council.

The Parish Councils' Liaison Group (PCLG) represents the common interests of those parishes centred on Trowbridge and at its recent meeting held on 2 February 2011 the members expressed considerable concern about the Governance Review proposed by Trowbridge Town Council.

The representatives from the Parish Councils were particularly concerned about the lack of any consultation with the affected parishes, the financial implications to the parishes and the possible erosion of the established 'buffer' zones or existing green spaces.

The Parish Councils do not support the boundary changes as presently proposed by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Coleman (Secretary to TCAF PCLG)

***Giving a helping hand to the following Parish Councils.***

***Bulkington, Heywood, Hilperton, Keevil, North Bradley, Semington,  
Southwick, Staverton, Steeple Ashton, West Ashton and Wingfield.***

This page is intentionally left blank

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2015 AT ATRIUM, COUNTY HALL, BYTHESEA ROAD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 8JN.**

**Present:**

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

**Also Present:**

Ian Gibbons  
John Watling  
Paul Taylor  
Jessica Croman

---

**9 Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel.

**10 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.

**11 Proposals**

Maps were presented showing the proposals.

**11a Area 3C Halfway Close and Brook**

**Comments in support:**

Peter Fuller

- The whole area should be uniform and in the same parish. Those living there and local candidates are unsure which parish which houses are in.

- The whole of the Paxcroft area should fall into Trowbridge and be uniform.
- Residents think that they are part of the town with services not in a village.
- In order for Trowbridge town to improve its services they need to be able to expand.

Andrew Bryant - TTC Chair of Town Development

- Agree with the proposals – The services will diminish in the area including grass cutting/ maintenance and local facilities.
- TC can take on the capacity and improve the services.
- TC get more of the precept so have the finances to support the area properly.
- Painters Close etc use the services of TTC, Hilperton does not have or provide any services.
- The residents in that area associate their community identity as in Trowbridge.
- Most of the Paxcroft area is already in Trowbridge so it makes sense to make the whole area uniform.

**Comments against:**

Danny Faltford – Local Resident in Paxcroft

- Like area & community and do not want change.
- Hilperton PC has been outstanding.
- Cannot see the benefits of moving into Trowbridge TC.

Peter Frost

- Services provided within the area are adequate and not a good reason to move the area into Trowbridge.

Tony Rural – Local resident

- Feel as though I live in Hilperton.
- Residents do know where they live and they are proud to live there.
- Do not want to be consumed by Trowbridge.
- Using services in Trowbridge is the same as using services in Bath or any other surrounding town/city.

New Comment

- Trowbridge Town Cllrs are arrogant and do not know what the people

of Paxcroft want. They need to go out and speak to the people who live there.

**Additional comments/ questions:**

June Hawker

- What will happen with the Hilperton gap? Would that impact development?
  - Boundaries would not affect any planning issues.

Jenny Ragged – Campaign for Transport

- Is planning really unaffected? Any changes would affect the community infrastructure levy change?
- Council tax – what goes to PC compared to TC?
- Criteria for drawing the boundary?
  - The levy is still not set in place. Depending on where any development is built, if it is between two parishes then the levy would be split.
  - Council tax rates – the precept is set by the parish/ TC by themselves and Wiltshire Council collect the precept on their behalf. The working group is not allowed to take into consideration precept rates while making recommendations or full council when making the decision.

**12 Area 3a Wyke Road**

**Comments in support:**

Andrew Bryant (TTC)

- Prefer border to the right to tidy up the area.
- Unfair on houses below who pay the higher precept and that small area does not.

Shan Debashi – voluntary group

- The voluntary group have plans to hopefully help all areas to be proud to use facilities in Trowbridge.
- Parish lines can determine or deprive areas of step changes because of finances.
- All surrounding parishes are users of Trowbridge town.
- Only because of the perception of Trowbridge TC people are negative but that needs to change.

Derek Carville

- The area should be in Trowbridge and the boundary line should follow the Hilperton gap road.

**Comments against:**

None

**Additional comments:**

New comment

- Unfair if not giving everyone in the area a choice on whether they want to be in Trowbridge or Hilperton.

**12a Shore Place**

**Comments in support:**

Jeff Osbourne

- Logical move and agree with the proposal.
- Current boundary is based on old maps.
- Trowbridge is unable to sort local issues (dog droppings) as part of the area falls in Wingfield and Wingfield will not supply bins.

Helen Osbourne

- Currently unable to support residents on the same road who have the same problems as they are based in Wingfield. The whole area needs to be in the same parish.

Andrew Bryant Trowbridge TC

- Agree with the scheme

Tracey Sullivan – Town Hall Arts and Culture

- Agree with the proposal, will make a difference to the town.
- Will help make people feel proud to be part of Trowbridge (community identity).

**Comments against:**

None

**Additional comments:**

None

**12b Area 4a Old Farm, West Ashton**

**Comments in support:**

Alan Cooper– Biss Meadows Country Park

- If the Biss Meadows was under the Town Council then they would get more support.
- Country park is split part of it is in Trowbridge and part in West Ashton, makes sense to bring the whole area together as part of Trowbridge.
- The development land where houses are proposed will extend Biss Meadows. Need to move the whole area into Trowbridge before they are built.

Andre Bryant – Trowbridge TC

- Agree that the area should move into Trowbridge
- The current area is far extended away from the West Ashton parish
- Built right next to Trowbridge boundary

New comment – Castle Mead School

- Consider the school and area as part of Trowbridge and follows the Trowbridge admissions process
- Facilities are big benefit in Trowbridge and used by all
  - The school was already in the Trowbridge boundary.

Derek Callaway

- Old Farm Road is a new development so how did West Ashton live before? It should have little effect.

New comment

- Do not think it will effect West Ashton because Trowbridge has a good sense of community

**Comments against:**

Tim Lemare – Local Resident

- Do not want to move into Trowbridge, do not associate identity with Trowbridge
- See little benefit from being part of Trowbridge
- Many people find work and recreation outside of the area and do not necessarily use Trowbridge town but Bath and surrounding areas just as much.
- Percept is spent well in the West Ashton parish area
- The local village hall is used by the whole county
- 303 houses in West Ashton parish – 117 in old farm estate – if taken West Ashton will reduce by 38%.
- West Ashton as a parish will become unsustainable and unfeasible if Old Farm is taken away.

Richard Covington – West Ashton PC

- Castle Mead school is already in Trowbridge
- The whole Ashton Park area needs to be considered as one
- West Ashton PC have put plans forward to develop the Business Park with sport facilities and child care. If the whole area is looked at as one the area is going to grow and provide a democratic area for West Ashton PC.
- If the Old Farm Area is taken then there will be a significant hit on PC and services provided
- Weighting on survey results PC vs TC?
- 75% of children in Parish Council school come from Trowbridge

Roger Evans – North Bradley PC

- Supports West Ashton PC
- Trowbridge TC is land grabbing from parishes and it will get worst if they are allowed to take this land.
- Start taking small areas and will slowly grow and take more
- People live in parishes to be in a village setting and they do not want to be part of the town.

**Additional comments:**

Hayley Bell – Trowbridge TC

- Paxcroft is a great community area
- TC provided free activities for the children in those areas – funded by TC. The Parishes cannot offer that service.
- Investment would grow for sporting facilities if TC could grow
- TC planning on buying Woodmarsh and residents want to use those



facilities.

### 13 Close

The Chairman welcomed addition comments on schemes not included on the agenda.

Jeff Osborne

- Ashton Park – why has it not been considered?
- Would like to see the area resolved before it's developed and people live there.
  - CGR will take another look at the area.

New Comment

- Trowbridge residents use the parish council facilities just as much as parishes use Trowbridge facilities.
- PCs cannot provide services due to the size of the budgets and should not be comparable. This does not mean Towns should take over the villages for those reasons.

Richard Covington

- Support Jeff Osborn why has Ashton Park not been considered.
- Why put sport facilities on the other side of the town when building houses there?
- TC statutory powers are no different to PC – if PC grows they could offer the same facilities as the TC is offering. We should be working together and supporting each other not against each other.

Roger Evans - North Bradley PC

- If the area is given to TC the large area of West Ashton PC and North Bradley will be hugely effected. Want to see the overall picture considered and not little pockets.

Andre Bryant – Trowbridge TC

- If the parishes want to retain a unique image of being a village why try to compete and take on more and more stay as a village, don't grow.
- Parish pathways etc are paid for by WC not parishes.

New Comment

- Ashton Park/ Old Farm road residents who are there would like to stay where they are. They moved there for a reason.
- You would not be upsetting people if they are not there yet. It's better to move the Parish line now rather than later.
- Trowbridge is full and needs to expand in order to develop services.
- The TC has facilities in North Bradley and has no intention to take over that parish over.

#### Len Turner – Transforming Trowbridge

- Trowbridge has strategic significance and needs to grow.
- Additional housing in core strategy was to serve the needs of Trowbridge.
- Businesses look to the TC to provide support.
- The White Horse Businesses Park should be in Trowbridge.

#### Francis Morland – Southwick PC

- The process is flawed and residents have been consulted too late.
- Public need more notice and information about the proposals.
- It is a clear land grab by TC to take in the rural areas.
- If Trowbridge is expanding to that extent it will affect the Area Board's representation and it will not have a continuing function.

#### David Feather

- What is the process going forward?

Chairman gave information on the next steps of the process.

#### Mike Roberts

- How long will the process take?

The Chairman informed the meeting that recommendations will be taken to the Full council meeting on the 24 November. There would be the possibility to extend consultations if needed and the working party was not in a rush to make recommendations.

There was a question on declarations and an explanation was given.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 8.40 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

This page is intentionally left blank



# Trowbridge Rangers Football Club



Kevin Aylesbury  
6 Almond Grove  
Trowbridge  
BA140HY  
Trowbridge Rangers  
Chairman  
01225 755895  
07779028201  
[www.Trowbridgerangers.co.uk](http://www.Trowbridgerangers.co.uk)

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Dear Councillor Wheeler

As the representative of a sports club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground, improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely  
Kevin Aylesbury

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Supplementary Response to Wiltshire Council: Community Governance Review Consultation.**

In response to the submission made by Hilperton Parish Council (which is appended below) Trowbridge Town Council makes the following supplementary response to the CGR consultation.

- 1. Are you answering this survey as?**
  - A representative of a Parish or Town or City council affected by the proposal
- 2. Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)**

**Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes Area 3: Properties and land to the South and West of Elizabeth Way (the new Hilperton Gap Relief Road) and the A361/Hilperton Drive including properties in Wyke Road and Paxcroft Mead.**

- 3. What is your name and postcode or your business or organisation name?**

Trowbridge Town Council - Lance Allan, Town Clerk

- 8. Finally do you have any other views about this review that you feel should be taken into account?**

### **Area 3a - Wyke Road**

Where is it suggested by Wiltshire Council that the CGR Working Party is either able to suggest or has indeed suggested that the residents of this area can decide which parish they reside in? There is no information on the Wiltshire Council web site or in the government guidance which suggests that the residents can make a decision. Surely, as Trowbridge Town Council has repeatedly been told, it is a matter for Wiltshire Council to make a decision, based upon the evidence presented to it. Clearly part of that evidence, but only part, will be the views of the residents living in that area; additionally evidence relating to community identity, efficient and effective local government, but also strong clearly-defined boundaries tied to firm ground detail will also need to be taken into consideration.

Trowbridge Town Council would suggest that there is no clear evidence with regard to community identity and efficient and effective local government for the Wyke Road area.

Looking at the government guidance it is clear that; if there is a fine balance with regard to community identity and efficient and effective local government and if it is determined that there should be separate civil parishes for different communities to reflect community identity and facilitate efficient and effective local government, then the only issue is where the boundary between the two should be and then '*strong clearly-defined boundaries, tied to firm ground detail*' should be the determining factor.

In this area the main roads are the strongest and most clearly-defined boundaries and therefore the B3105 Canal Road and Elizabeth Way should form the boundary between Trowbridge and Hilperton. In fact this area and much of Hilperton Marsh and the Hilperton Gap was part of Trowbridge until 1991 and has only been part of Hilperton since then. (See the extracts from the West Wiltshire Parishes Order 1991 maps attached.)

Hilperton Parish Council has provided neither evidence nor reasoning why the main roads should not form the revised boundary.

### **Area 3b – Hilperton Gap**

Hilperton Parish Council should be careful when using emotive language such as 'land grab'. A significant proportion of the Hilperton Gap was part of Trowbridge for nearly 100 years, from the establishment of parish councils in 1894 to the change of the boundary in 1991. Almost all of the area to the south of the new Elizabeth Way was part of Trowbridge. Hilperton Parish might itself be accused of a land grab to a much greater extent than Trowbridge: As a result of the West Wiltshire Parishes Order 1991, the Civil Parish of Hilperton increased in land area, through 'grabbing' bits of Trowbridge, Semington and Melksham Without, by over 70%, from 436 hectares to over 750 hectares, (Trowbridge is 956 hectares). The areas of Hilperton which Trowbridge Town Council has suggested should now become part of Trowbridge are smaller than the areas of Trowbridge which were lost to Hilperton in 1991.

Hilperton Parish Council has provided neither evidence nor reasoning why the main road should not form the revised boundary.

### **Area 3c - Paxcroft Mead south of Hilperton Drive/Halfway Close and brook (sic)**

So, Hilperton Parish Council understood that the Working Party had made a decision. This is clear evidence that the Working Party had gone beyond its remit and was acting Ultra Vires. Perhaps this is why the officers responsible for the consultation ignored the decision of the Working Party and included the Town Council's suggestion in the consultation. The Working Party cannot claim that it was acting 'completely neutrally' if had decided that one parish's proposals would not be presented for consultation and another parish would be allowed to have additional proposals presented which had not been discussed at the meeting of the Working Party with the Trowbridge area parishes.



How can Hilperton Parish Council justify describing the area east of Leapgate, around Hackett Place as 'greenfield' when they themselves go on to explain that it includes; a Primary School, a community centre, shops, a public house and 'only' about thirty (in fact over fifty) residential properties? Yes, it also includes a cricket ground and parts of the Paxcroft Brook public open space, but this is hardly 'greenfield'.

Hilperton Parish Council has asked how the Trowbridge Town Council proposal would improve communities and local democracy. Trowbridge Town Council is grateful for the opportunity to do just that:

- The main A361/Hilperton Drive is the strongest and most-clearly defined boundary between Hilperton and Trowbridge. People living either side of the road would clearly understand and appreciate that this formed a boundary. Trowbridge would then be responsible for all parts of the town (which are not connected to neighbouring parishes).
- Hilperton is a parish of around 2000 houses, more than 10% of those houses are in Area 3c, yet none of the Hilperton Parish councillors live in Paxcroft Mead, that is all of Paxcroft Mead, (including Newhurst Park), some 500 houses or around 25% of the parish. Two of the Trowbridge Town Councillors (Councillor Roger Andrews and Councillor Nicola Blackmore) live in Paxcroft Mead. Hilperton Parish Council did not engage with the Paxcroft Mead Residents' Association (PMRA) about the boundary review. Trowbridge Town Council did engage with PMRA and circulated information to the residents and provided copies of all of the town council's reports to members of the public attending public meetings. Trowbridge Town Council can therefore already demonstrate that it is providing and can provide better local democracy to Paxcroft Mead.

Hilperton Parish Council then goes on to admit that its own proposal for this area is in need of further alteration, suggesting that changes are needed regarding the boundary in the area of open space adjacent to Faverolle Way, without, it would appear, providing a map to detail their latest proposal. Hilperton Parish Council also then suggests amending its own proposal to leave the boundary 'as is' in the area of Walmesley Chase/Montague Court. How can this be justified against their emphasis on the need to 'improve communities and local democracy'? Leaving the boundary 'as is' in this area of Paxcroft Mead would leave some residents of Walmesley Chase in Hilperton and some in Trowbridge, it would leave some residents of Montague Court in Hilperton and some in Trowbridge and it would leave some residents of Painter's Mead in Hilperton and some in Trowbridge. This is not an improvement, it is maintaining an anomalous boundary, contrary to the government guidance.

Hilperton Parish Council has provided neither evidence nor reasoning why the main roads should not form the revised boundary.

## **Other Comments relating to Area 3c**

Where have Hilperton Parish Council got the idea from that there is a proposal to transfer 600plus houses between Trowbridge and Hilperton? It certainly isn't a proposal that has been made by Trowbridge Town Council, it is not a proposal that was made at the meeting of the Working Party with the Trowbridge area parishes. Is there a secret proposal which has not been the subject of consultation? Surely it cannot be the case, that the Working Party (a body which cannot legally make decisions on behalf of Wiltshire Council) has been dreaming up its own proposals? After all the Working Party are determined to present the proposals 'completely neutrally'.

Which proposal does Hilperton Parish Council support, the first one it made, the revised one indicated above, adjusting its original proposal, or the secret proposal to transfer 600plus houses?

Trowbridge Town Council has consistently made the same proposal for all of Area 3.

Hilperton Parish Council are concerned that there should be a 'consistent approach across the county'. If that is the case, and in Melksham the proposal is that the town council should merge with the neighbouring parish council and in Devizes the proposal is that the town council should merge with the neighbouring parish council and in Salisbury there are calls for the City Council to merge with a neighbouring parish council, then where does that leave Trowbridge? Perhaps Hilperton Parish Council would like to take over the whole of Trowbridge.

**Lance Allan**  
**Town Clerk**

# **HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

### **Area 3a – Wyke Road**

*Hilperton Parish Council supports the suggestion of the CGR working group that the residents of these houses should choose which civil parish they reside in. The Parish Council would be happy for the 'transfer in' of the Trowbridge residents if no decisive decision can be reached by the residents themselves. The Parish Council feels that having all the houses in Hilperton would reflect the identity and interests of the community in that area and would, in addition, be effective and convenient.*

### **Area 3b – Hilperton Gap**

*Neither the Parish Council nor the Town Council proposals were displayed at the meeting earlier this month. The Parish Council is led to believe that neither proposal is being taken forward by the working group and so the 'land grab' by the Town Council for greenfield land, with no designation for development, will fall. Hilperton Parish Council is content if this is correct and the status quo will prevail for this area of land.*

### **Area 3c – Paxcroft Mead south of Hilperton Drive/Halfway Close and brook**

#### **Trowbridge Town Council Proposal**

*The Parish Council was surprised to see the Town Council suggestion for this area used in the presentation at County Hall, as the Parish Council understood that the working group had made a decision that the land to the east of Leapgate was not being taken forward; a decision the Parish Council would agree with as this is, basically, another greenfield 'land grab' (the 'cricket square' and surrounding open space) which would rip the heart out of the south of the parish. Only about thirty properties are in the area but it also contains one of the two Hilperton primary schools, the Community Centre (the Parish Council is the custodian trustee), all the shops in the Local Centre (including the local branch of Budgens, a fish and chip shop and a Chinese takeaway) and one of the three pubs in the parish (the Red Admiral).*

*The wish of the Town Council to seize the housing in the Painters Mead area is covered below.*

#### **Hilperton Parish Council Proposal**

*The realignment of part of the Hilperton/Trowbridge boundary follows distinct physical features and, as demonstrated at the Trowbridge CGR meeting, meets with approval from the residents who firmly see themselves as residents of Hilperton. In the FAQ paper supplied by Wiltshire Council, it states 'Therefore any changes made by a CGR **must** (our emphasis) improve communities and local democracy'.*

*Not 'maintain' but 'improve'. How would transferring these houses to Trowbridge meet this objective?*

*Bearing this statement in mind, the Parish Council would like to suggest that the proposed boundary suggested by it last year should be revised to more closely follow the fence line of the properties in Halfway Close/Hilperton Road so that all the open space to the north of Faverolle Way remains in Hilperton. It would also suggest that the boundary line should remain 'as is' in the area of Walmesley Chase/Montague Court.*

### **Other Comments relating to area 3c**

*At the recent Salisbury CGR meeting an item was discussed – at great length – as under:-*

*“Suggestions were received for the Hampton Park and Bishopdown Farm areas of Salisbury city, and Laverstock and Ford Parish. The two schemes seek to move properties into one parish or the other, hence the current consultation on the two proposals”.*

*Hilperton Parish Council understood that a similar scheme was under consideration for the Painters Mead area of Paxcroft Mead as shown by the powerpoint at the Trowbridge CGR meeting referring to proposals relating to ‘200 – 600 + properties being presented completely neutrally’; the idea being that the 600 houses would move either all into Trowbridge or all into Hilperton.*

*Is this proposal no longer under consideration? If not, why not? It would represent a consistent approach across the county.*

*Marylyn Timms  
Clerk to Hilperton Parish Council  
20<sup>th</sup> October, 2015*

**1. Are you answering this survey as?**

- A representative of a Parish or Town or City council affected by the proposal

**2. Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)**

**Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes Area I Shore Place**

**3. What is your name and postcode or your business or organisation name?**

Trowbridge Town Council - Lance Allan, Town Clerk

**4. Having studied the proposal for your area do you?**

- Agree with the proposal

Please give your reason for the response above

The Town Council supports the proposal which has been consulted upon, considers that the change would improve community identity and efficient and effective local government for the town of Trowbridge and the residents of this area.

Area I. Properties in Shore Place, Kingsley Place and Chepston Place currently in Wingfield Parish.

This proposal was made by the town council because the current boundary runs through the middle of residential properties and splits streets in two. These streets are part of the Broadmead development and are remote from Wingfield village.

This proposal would therefore improve both community identity and efficient and effective community governance, utilising an excellent natural boundary.

**5. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Community Identity"?**

The three roads, Shore Place, Kingsley Place and Chepston Place are part of the 'Broadmead' Estate, built over 40 years ago and are only accessible via other parts of the Broadmead estate, all of which is part of Trowbridge. Two of the roads, Chepston Place and Kingsley Place are split between Trowbridge and Wingfield. All other properties in Wingfield are part of Wingfield village or are independent farm related buildings. This proposal would improve community identity because properties which are part of the community of Trowbridge would be included in Trowbridge Parish.

**6. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Efficient**

## **and Effective Local Government"?**

The Town of Trowbridge provides a range of facilities and services for a wide community and should have a single town council to serve the whole of the town area, including areas of current and planned development where they are detached from the villages which are related to the neighbouring parishes, in order to continue to provide efficient and effective local government on behalf of the whole town.

### **7. How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors?**

**Strongly  
agree**

<b>A sense of civic pride and civic values</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong inclusive community and voluntary sector</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong sense of place and local distinctiveness</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Effective engagement with the local community</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Provide strong local leadership</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Enable local authorities to deliver quality services</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Create a parish of the right size</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

**1. Are you answering this survey as?**

- A representative of a Parish or Town or City council affected by the proposal

**2. Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)**

**Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes Area 2: Area to the south of the Kennet and Avon Canal including Ladydown Farm.**

**3. What is your name and postcode or your business or organisation name?**

Trowbridge Town Council - Lance Allan, Town Clerk

**4. Having studied the proposal for your area do you?**

- I would suggest the following amendment  
Please give your reason for the response above

The Town Council considers that the area should be consulted upon and that the change would improve community identity and efficient and effective local government for the town of Trowbridge and the residents of this area.

Area 2. Area to the south of the Kennet and Avon Canal including Ladydown Farm.

This proposal was made by the town council because; the current boundary is poorly defined, the existing three residential properties can only be accessed via Trowbridge and are within a few metres of properties in Trowbridge, across a bridge over the river Biss; the Canal, river Avon and railway line are all barriers without bridges between this area and Holt village, making this area and the residences within it remote from Holt.

This proposal would therefore improve both community identity and efficient and effective community governance, utilising an excellent natural boundary.

The government guidance says “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.”

This proposal has not been consulted on and Wiltshire Council has provided no justification for this lack of consultation and therefore no justification why this proposal is being treated differently from similar proposals, for example the proposal from Melksham Without that their boundary with Seend should be altered to the line of the canal.

**5. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Community**

## **Identity"?**

The area to the south of the Kennet and Avon Canal which includes Ladydown Farm is remote from Holt village, in fact the villages of Hilperton and Staverton and the towns of Bradford on Avon and Trowbridge are all closer to this area than the village of Holt. They are divided from Holt by the canal, the river Avon and the river Biss, a railway line and mature woodland. The area has no identity links with Holt and can only be accessed via a track to Trowbridge, with other residential properties within 100m. It is clear therefore that this area is identified as part of the community of Trowbridge.

### **6. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Efficient and Effective Local Government"?**

Holt Parish Council appears through its Neighbourhood Plan consultation draft to be unable to provide efficient and effective local government for the area to the south of the canal through its apparent failure to recognise that this area is protected by Greenbelt designation. Trowbridge Town Council would be able to provide efficient and effective local government of this area, in addition to other adjacent areas of the town which are in the Greenbelt.

### **7. How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors?**

	<b>Strongly agree</b>
<b>A sense of civic pride and civic values</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong inclusive community and voluntary sector</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong sense of place and local distinctiveness</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Effective engagement with the local community</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Provide strong local leadership</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Enable local authorities to deliver quality services</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Create a parish of the right size</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>



The answers to question 7 above relate to the proposals made by the Town Council to transfer this area to Trowbridge and not with the proposal of the Working Party in respect of Area 2.

1. **Are you answering this survey as?**
  - A representative of a Parish or Town or City council affected by the proposal
  
2. **Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)**

**Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes Area 3: Properties and land to the South and West of Elizabeth Way (the new Hilperton Gap Relief Road) and the A361/Hilperton Drive including properties in Wyke Road and Paxcroft Mead.**

3. **What is your name and postcode or your business or organisation name?**

Trowbridge Town Council - Lance Allan, Town Clerk

4. **Having studied the proposal for your area do you?**

- I would suggest the following amendment  
Please give your reason for the response above

The Town Council considers that the whole of the area should be consulted upon, particularly now that Elizabeth Way has been built and is open to traffic and that no other suitable or better natural boundary exists between Hilperton and Trowbridge than the main roads; B3105/Elizabeth Way and A361/Hilperton Drive, that the alternative proposals would be divisive, would diminish community identity, are not based upon good natural boundaries and would result in significantly less efficient and less effective local government for the town of Trowbridge, the parish of Hilperton and particularly for the residents of this area.

This proposal was made by the town council to resolve the anomaly of properties either side of Wyke Road being in different parishes and properties in Paxcroft Mead being built on the parish boundary. The only acceptable natural boundary which accords with the government guidance is the line of the modern main roads, which is clearly defined and is unlikely to change over time.

This proposal would therefore improve both community identity and efficient and effective community governance, utilising an excellent natural boundary.

The government guidance on CGRs says, "This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances, the council should consider undertaking a community governance review."

The Wyke Road section has been subject to consultation, with an alternative proposal from Hilperton Parish Council also being consulted on. The Hilperton proposal does not utilise a suitable natural boundary, proposing that neighbours would be in different parishes with no natural boundary between them.

The Paxcroft Mead section has been subject to consultation, with an alternative proposal from Hilperton Parish Council also being consulted on. The Hilperton proposal does not utilise a suitable natural boundary. The government guidance states "For instance, factors to consider include parks and recreation grounds which sometimes provide natural breaks between communities but they can equally act as focal points."

Paxcroft Brook is proposed as the boundary by Hilperton Parish Council, but is at the centre of an extensive area of Open Space which acts as a focal point for the whole community, with play areas, benches, cycle paths and bridges. In addition properties in Painter's Mead would still be split between two parishes.

The central section, bounded by the new Elizabeth Way has not been subject to consultation. This new road would make a much clearer and more permanent natural boundary between the town and the parish, compared to the existing boundary which crosses the middle of some of the gardens on Albert Road.

## **5. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Community Identity"?**

This area includes areas of historic development (Wyke Road) and areas of modern development (Paxcroft Mead). All of Wyke Road was part of the parish of Trowbridge until 1991. The majority of Paxcroft Mead is in Trowbridge Parish. The whole area is identified with the town of Trowbridge. The village of Hilperton is distinctive and is neither closer nor able to provide better identity to these areas, all of which are south and west of the main road routes, which provide a suitable boundary between the town of Trowbridge and the village of Hilperton, no other suitable boundary exists if it is accepted that Trowbridge and Hilperton should retain separate identities.

## **6. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Efficient and Effective Local Government"?**

Paxcroft Mead includes an extensive area of public open space called Paxcroft Brook which acts as a focal point for the whole of the community and includes a children's play area, cricket pitch, benches, cycle paths and bridges linking this area to the town centre and to other parts of the town. If the whole of the open space is to be managed and maintained and the range of services and facilities developed and enhanced efficiently and effectively then a single local council is needed which has the resources, capacity and willingness to undertake that role and provide leadership to the community. Only Trowbridge Town Council can do all of this.

Hilperton Parish Council is unwilling or unable to manage the whole of the Paxcroft Brook open space and none of their proposals include the whole of the Paxcroft Brook open space in a single parish.

**7. How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors?**

**Strongly  
agree**

<b>A sense of civic pride and civic values</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong inclusive community and voluntary sector</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>A strong sense of place and local distinctiveness</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Effective engagement with the local community</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Provide strong local leadership</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Enable local authorities to deliver quality services</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>Create a parish of the right size</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

The answers to question 7 above relate to the proposals made by the Town Council to transfer this area to Trowbridge and not with the limited or alternative proposals of the Working Party in respect of Area 3.

**1. Are you answering this survey as?**

- A representative of a Parish or Town or City council affected by the proposal

**2. Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)**

**Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes Area 4: Properties and land to the south of the town including existing developments at Old Farm and the White Horse Business Park, permitted developments at the West Ashton Road Employment Allocation and all of the Trowbridge Urban Extension at Ashton Park approved in the Wiltshire Core Strategy.**

**3. What is your name and postcode or your business or organisation name?**

Trowbridge Town Council - Lance Allan, Town Clerk

**4. Having studied the proposal for your area do you?**

- I would suggest the following amendment  
Please give your reason for the response above

The Town Council considers that the whole of the area should be consulted upon, particularly now that the whole of Ashton Park is the subject of a number of planning applications and that no other suitable or better natural boundary exists between West Ashton and Trowbridge and between North Bradley and Trowbridge and that the change would improve community identity, improve the economic prospects of the whole community and improve efficient and effective local government for the town of Trowbridge, and the residents and future residents of this area.

This proposal was made by the town council to reflect the existing and agreed expansion of the town's urban envelope which retains the green buffer between the Urban Extension and the villages of West Ashton, Yarnbrook and North Bradley. The outer extent of the development will provide a good natural boundary, following the line of mature and ancient natural woodland and the river Biss, as well as the White Horse Business Park itself.

This proposal would therefore improve both community identity and efficient and effective community governance, utilising excellent natural boundaries.

The Old Farm area, has after discussion and delay, been included in the consultation, but other than the direct communication from the town council the residents of the estate would not have known that a proposal affecting them was being consulted on. No alternative proposals for the Old Farm area have been presented as part of the consultation.

None of the other areas have been included in the consultation, some Wiltshire Councillors have suggested that they are green fields with no residents, but there are at least ten residential properties in the area which also only received direct communication from the town council. Wiltshire Council has failed to justify why this proposal was not subject to consultation. If the whole of Area 4 including Old Farm was consulted on as a single proposal, as have all other proposals in Wiltshire, then the area would have a population of around 300 people, greater than nearly all of the other proposals which are part of the consultation.

## **5. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Community Identity"?**

All of this area, including the existing development, the consented development and the Core Strategy Allocation which is now subject to planning applications will be closely or directly connected to the community of Trowbridge, the Urban Area of Trowbridge and therefore the town of Trowbridge. None of the areas will be closely related to the villages of West Ashton or North Bradley. (None of the area is in the parish of Southwick, as incorrectly suggested in the consultation. The Core Strategy identifies the Ashton Park Allocation as an Urban Extension of Trowbridge. The majority of the area, as well as being detached from West Ashton village has the main A350 primary route passing in the area between the village and the planned development. The whole area is detached from North Bradley village and the majority of the area lies across the A363 main road and the railway line from North Bradley. The identifiable community for all of Area 4 is therefore Trowbridge.

## **6. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Efficient and Effective Local Government"?**

The Old Farm Estate and the employment site include public open space which are parts of the Biss Meadows Country Park, other parts of Biss Meadows currently exist in Trowbridge, leading all the way to the Town Park in the Town Centre. Biss Meadows acts as a focal point for the whole of the community and includes benches, cycle paths and bridges linking this area to the town centre and to other parts of the town. Biss Meadows is being extended through the existing Castle Mead development, which is in the town boundary already.

Biss Meadows Country Park will be further extended as part of the Ashton Park Urban Extension, parts of which are already in the town boundary, with other parts in West Ashton and North Bradley parishes.

If the whole of the open space is to be managed and maintained and the range of services and facilities developed and enhanced efficiently and effectively then a single local council is needed which has the resources, capacity and willingness to undertake that role and provide leadership to the community. Only Trowbridge Town Council has a strategy to manage this and has the ability to manage and maintain this area and therefore provide efficient and effective Local Government.

**7. How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors?**

**Strongly  
agree**

<b>A sense of civic pride and civic values</b>	●
<b>A strong inclusive community and voluntary sector</b>	●
<b>A strong sense of place and local distinctiveness</b>	●
<b>Effective engagement with the local community</b>	●
<b>Provide strong local leadership</b>	●
<b>Enable local authorities to deliver quality services</b>	●
<b>Create a parish of the right size</b>	●

The answers to question 7 above relate to the entirety of the proposals made by the Town Council to transfer this area to Trowbridge and not with the limited proposal of the Working Party in respect of Area 4.

**8. Finally do you have any other views about this review that you feel should be taken into account?**

Wiltshire is a large strategic unitary authority which is fully parished and can best deliver for the residents of the county with each identified community effectively and efficiently delivering local facilities and services and working in partnership with Wiltshire Council via the parish, town and city councils. Each community whether a city, town, village or group of villages working together can achieve quality local government. Trowbridge is no exception and should have a single local council for the whole community of Trowbridge. Some would suggest that Trowbridge includes Staverton, Hilperton and even other villages. The Town Council has sought to achieve a proposal which taken together delivers excellent community identity, whilst retaining parish councils for the villages of Wingfield, Holt, West Ashton and North Bradley and in some cases new developments close to the villages for Staverton and Hilperton. The Town Councils proposals also utilise excellent natural boundaries and the best, most well defined and clearly identifiable features as boundaries. We would ask that Wiltshire Council supports all of the proposals made by the town council as a comprehensive singular review of the boundary of Trowbridge.

This page is intentionally left blank



# Trowbridge Town Council

Working with the Community



The Civic Centre  
St Stephen's Place  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8AH

Tel 01225 765072

Fax 01225 762439

Email [info@trowbridge.gov.uk](mailto:info@trowbridge.gov.uk)

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

VAT reg number: 139 8242 47

Dear Resident,

Wiltshire Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review, which could result in changes to the boundaries between the town and the neighbouring parishes of Wingfield, Holt, Hilperton, West Ashton and North Bradley. Trowbridge Town Council has proposed a change which would result in your property and areas around your property being included in the town boundary.

A Full Council meeting of Wiltshire Council held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September was told that Wiltshire Council would be consulting the residents of the Old Farm estate, West Ashton Road, about the proposal; that your estate and areas around it should be transferred from the parish of West Ashton Parish to the parish of Trowbridge. Wiltshire Council appears not to have advised you of these proposals, hence this communication from Trowbridge Town Council. The Town Council is ensuring that you are aware of these proposals and have an opportunity to respond to Wiltshire Council even if you do not support the proposals made by the Town Council.

As you will no doubt be aware the areas to the south of Old Farm estate have already been allocated as part of an urban extension for Trowbridge. Trowbridge Town Council therefore believes that the Town Council should be responsible for providing a range of services in these areas, rather than the villages which are separated from the town.

Being part of Trowbridge will result in an increase in Council Tax, typically town councils do charge more than parish councils, but in the case of Trowbridge this is only 8.6% more on your total Council Tax bill, the equivalent of less than £2.50 per week to support the provision of sports and leisure activities, events and local community facilities. West Ashton Parish Council currently spends less than £1000 on providing services and facilities, the vast majority of this in the village. You can be part of the Trowbridge success story or detached from a neighbouring village.

You can attend the public meeting at County Hall on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm or respond to the consultation using this link: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communitygovernancereviewsurvey2015.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communitygovernancereviewsurvey2015.htm)

Trowbridge Town Council believes that if the Town Council is responsible for the whole town it can continue to deliver a better Trowbridge. We hope you will support our proposal.

Yours faithfully

Lance Allan  
Town Clerk

## **DISCOVER Trowbridge – a town council for all of the town.**

Trowbridge Town Council believes that Trowbridge has made a step change in recent years, with its own investment in the Civic Centre and the Town Park and support for the development of new shops, the ODEON cinema and restaurants, the weekly market, new businesses and a growing population.

Trowbridge Town Council wants to ensure that this transformation continues into the future so that together we can all deliver a sustainable town that provides a full range of facilities and services for the whole community.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver;

- new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities
- improved cultural and heritage venues and activities in the Museum & the Town Hall
- a new health and well-being centre and other improvements in the town centre

It also wants to improve our car parks and make them more affordable for people who work in the town centre and visit Trowbridge, retain our town bus services, provide better children's play areas and new and improved youth facilities including skate-parks.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Wiltshire Council is currently undertaking a consultation on changes to the town boundary and everyone needs to respond to the consultation. If you think that Trowbridge Town Council should continue to deliver a better place, with better facilities, then please tell Wiltshire Council that:

### **Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and I/we support all of the revisions to the town boundary proposed by Trowbridge Town Council.**

Please attend the public meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in County Hall and complete the online survey at:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communitygovernancereviewsurvey2015.htm>

A map showing the proposed changes to the town boundary is attached, the map uses the Wiltshire Council approved Core Strategy map as its base, with only the current and proposed town boundaries superimposed. Alternatively, please e-mail your comments to [cgr@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:cgr@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Please contact me if you have any questions, and thank you for your support.

Lance Allan,  
Town Clerk

01225 765072

[lance.allan@trowbridge.gov.uk](mailto:lance.allan@trowbridge.gov.uk)

## Suggested Answers

2. Which of the following town and or parish reviews are you referring to? (please write the area name such as Area A1 Salisbury or A8 Corsham from the list of schemes shown on the Councils website)

All of the proposals made by Trow bridge Town Council including the ones you are not consulting on.

4. Having studied the proposal for your area do you?  
I would suggest the following amendment

Please give your reason for the response above

We support all of the revisions to the town boundary proposed by Trow bridge Town Council. Including the ones you are not consulting on.

5. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Community Identity"?

Trow bridge needs one town council for all of the town. All of the existing and new development within the urban area of Trow bridge will look to the town for services and facilities. The whole town needs one town council, not three or four.

6. What are the reasons for your response above in relation to "Efficient and Effective Local Government"?

Trow bridge needs one town council for all of the town. Only a single town council has the capacity and resources to provide services, facilities and infrastructure efficiently and effectively.

7. How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors?

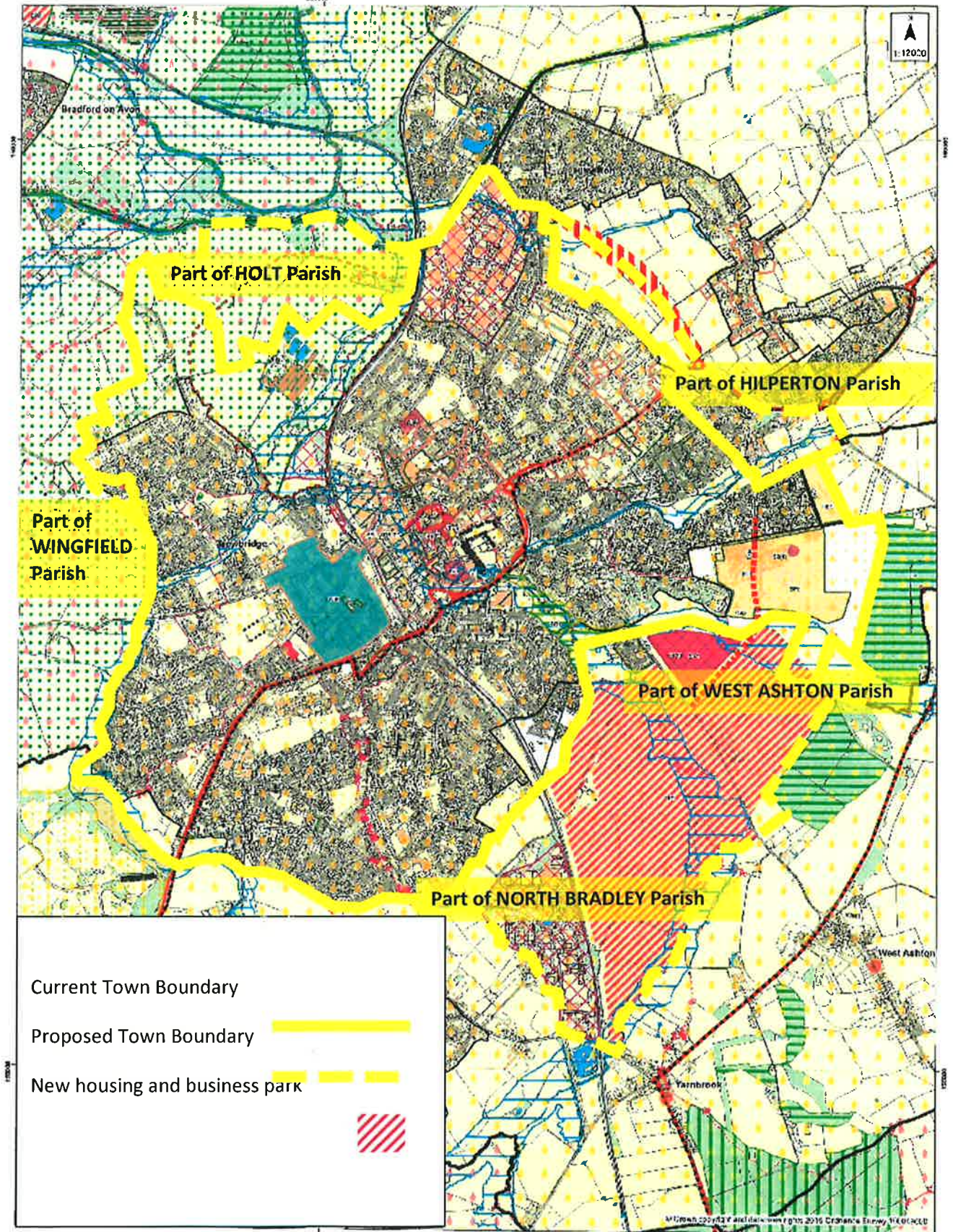
Strongly agree

- A sense of civic pride and civic values
- A strong inclusive community and voluntary sector
- A strong sense of place and local distinctiveness
- Effective engagement with the local community
- Provide strong local leadership
- Enable local authorities to deliver quality services
- Create a parish of the right size

8. Finally do you have any other views about this review that you feel should be taken into account?

Trow bridge needs one town council for all of the town. Without a single town council the answers given above to question 7 will not apply.

Inset Map 9: Trowbridge



## Governance Review Report – January 2011

### Introduction

When Area Board boundaries were set up by the Unitary Implementation Executive, concerns were expressed by it that both Area Board boundaries and Unitary Division boundaries, upon which the Area Boards were based, did not reflect community identity in a number of areas. It was indicated in a report to the IE that support would be given to undertaking a Community Governance Review in some areas to see if improvements to community identity within Area Boards could be achieved. This suggestion was strongly supported by senior members of the Council.

A number of boundary anomalies were resolved in the North of the County at the same time as Wiltshire Council was established (April 2009), such as at Chippenham around Cepen Park and in Calne, resulting from a long standing parish boundary review undertaken under the old system. For some time Trowbridge Town Council has been concerned that there are similar anomalies in other parts of the Wiltshire Council Area, such as:

The area to the north of Bishopdown where the parish boundary between the City of Salisbury and the Parish of Laverstock cuts through the middle of a housing estate, leaving Laverstock Parish part in South Wilts Area Board and part in Salisbury Area Board. The report to the IE on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009, in answer to an issue raised by Cllr Mary Douglas said; *'Confirmed that part of the Laverstock CP includes parts of Hampton Park housing estate which are within the Salisbury St Marks and Bishopdown ED in the Salisbury Area Board – suggested early electoral review of City boundary'*.

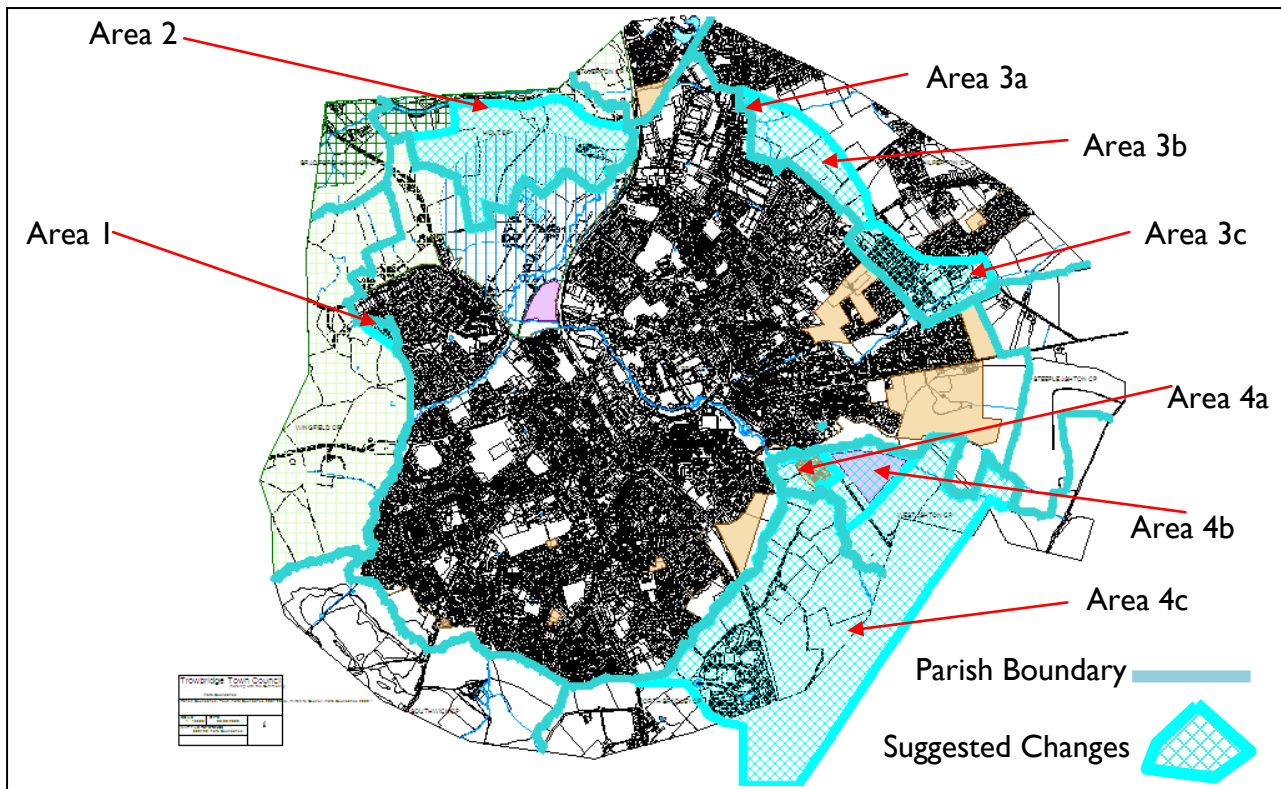
A number of areas around Trowbridge, are clearly part of the community of Trowbridge but attached to parishes in the Bradford-on-Avon Community Area. These include Shore Place, which is in Wingfield Parish but part of a Trowbridge housing estate and only accessible via Trowbridge. The report to the IE on 16<sup>th</sup> March in answer to representations from Trowbridge Town Council said; *'It is suggested that an electoral (governance) review of the Trowbridge area would be required to address the overlap of urban areas into neighbouring parishes.'*

In addition a Community Governance Review could resolve other community identity issues, not directly impacting upon Area Boards, around Salisbury, Westbury, Devizes, Melksham as well as at Trowbridge, where in Moyle Park and Walmesley Chase the parish boundary runs through the middle of houses. The Town Council would like to know:

1. Is Wiltshire Council committed to undertaking a Community Governance Review to address some of these anomalies?
2. Would the results of any review be implemented in time for the next Wiltshire Council and Parish Council elections in 2013?
3. Should any review also include changes to town boundaries to extend the area covered by the town to include areas likely to accommodate significant development in the next local plan period?
4. What would the next steps be in initiating any review?

## Suggested changes around Trowbridge supported by the Town Council

The areas which Trowbridge Town Council considers need to be addressed as part of any Governance Review are detailed on the attached map highlighted in cyan cross hatching and described as follows:



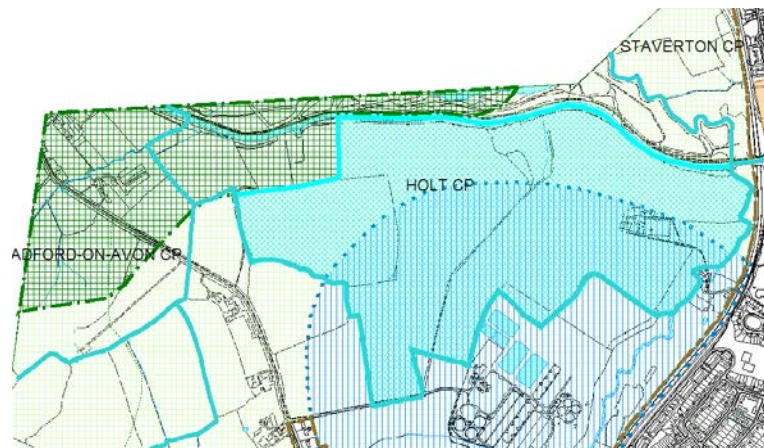
All of the suggested changes would involve revisions to the Unitary Division boundaries, but none result in an electorate with an unacceptable variation from the average. The following pages detail the suggested changes and provide an estimate of the changes in electorate for each Unitary Electoral Division affected.

**Area 1 – Shore Place**



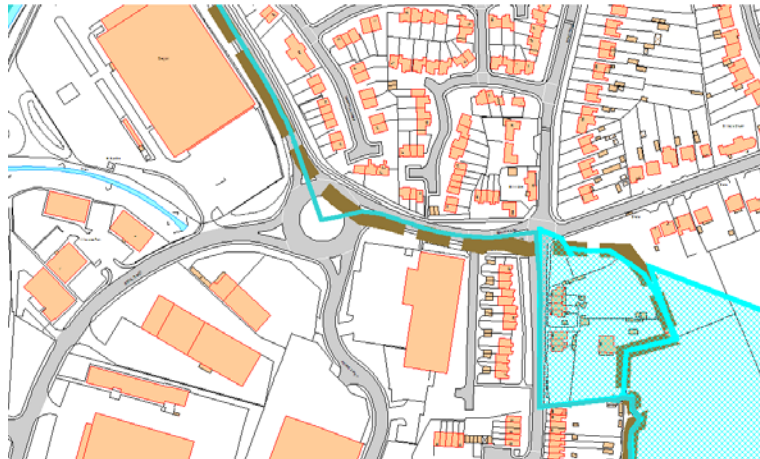
A small area to the West of the town which is part of the Broadmead Estate, but which is in Wingfield Parish (Winsley and Westwood ED), including addresses in Shore Place, Chepston Place and Kingsley Place. This area is only accessible from Trowbridge and is remote from the remaining population of Wingfield. Approximately 28 properties are affected. It is the only part of Wingfield not in the Green Belt. Assuming 59 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Winsley and Westwood ED to 3354 and would increase Trowbridge Lambrok ED to 3619.

**Area 2 – Lady Down Farm**



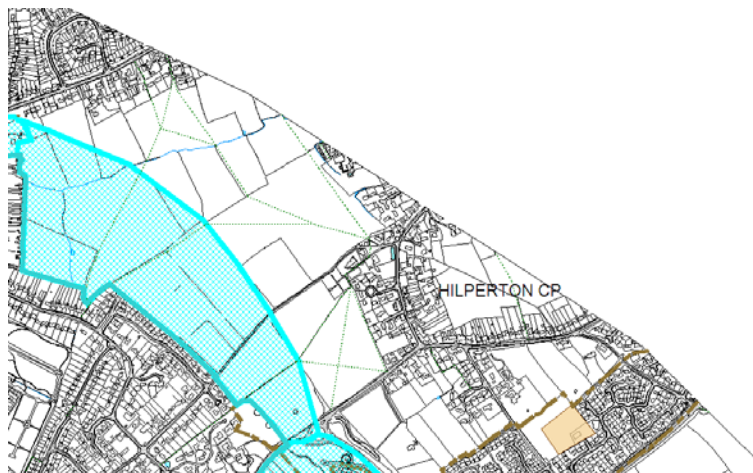
An area to the North West of the town, currently part of Holt Parish (Holt and Staverton ED), lying south of the Kennet and Avon Canal but outside the Bradford on Avon Landscape Protection Zone and including Lady Down Farm. Some of it lies within the Sewage Works Limit and all of it lies within the Green Belt. The Canal forms a good natural Boundary. The current boundary in a number of places is undefined by field boundaries. The area is not accessible from the remainder of Holt Parish. The only residence affected is only accessible from Trowbridge. Assuming 2 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of Holt and Staverton ED to 3428 and would further increase Trowbridge Lambrok to 3621.

**Area 3a – Wyke Road**



A small area of Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED) which was part of the town until the last review in 1991, including properties fronting onto Wyke Road. The nearest properties across the road and to the south fronting Wyke Road are all in Trowbridge. The area will lie to the south of the relief road when completed. Approximately 8 properties are affected. Assuming 17 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Hilperton ED to 3689 and would increase Trowbridge Adcroft ED to 3535.

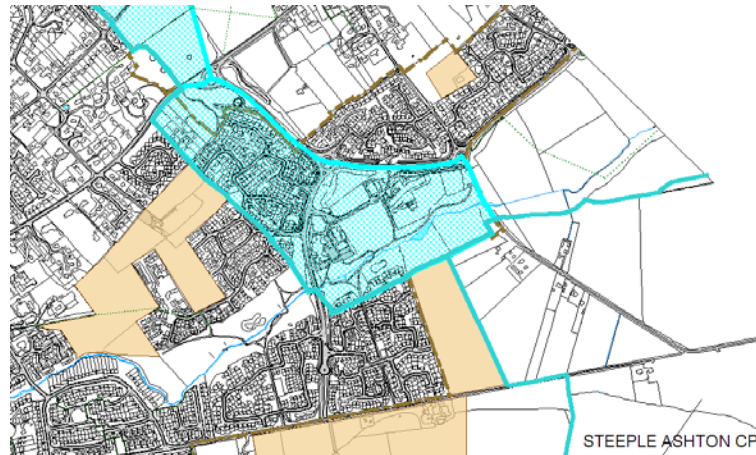
**Area 3b – Hilperton Gap Recreation Land**



This is the remainder of the area lying to the South and West of the relief road, (currently being prepared for construction). This is part of Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED) but was part of Trowbridge until the last review on 1991. The area is currently allocated in the adopted local plan as an area for the provision of recreational land. No properties are affected. The relief road will form a good natural boundary when completed.



**Area 3c Paxcroft Mead South of Hilperton Drive**



All of the area of developed land in Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED) lying to the South of the existing Hilperton Drive, which forms a good natural boundary. It includes properties in: Hilperton Road, Halfway Close, Castley Road, Painters Mead, Faverole Way, Gibbs Leaze, Fairwood Close, Montague Court, Leap Gate, Hackett Place and Moyle Park. Approximately 210 properties are affected plus businesses, the Community Centre and Mead School at Hackett Place. It is not considered appropriate to extend the boundary North of Hilperton Drive as Hilperton Drive forms a natural boundary to Hilperton village. The current boundary runs through the middle of properties in Moyle Park and Walmesley Chase and a number of streets are split by the current boundary (Montague Court, Walmesley Chase, Painters Mead, Hilperton Road and Halfway Close). Assuming 445 electors would transfer this would further reduce the 2012 electorate of the Hilperton ED to 3244 and would increase Trowbridge Paxcroft ED to 3963.

**Area 4a – Old Farm**



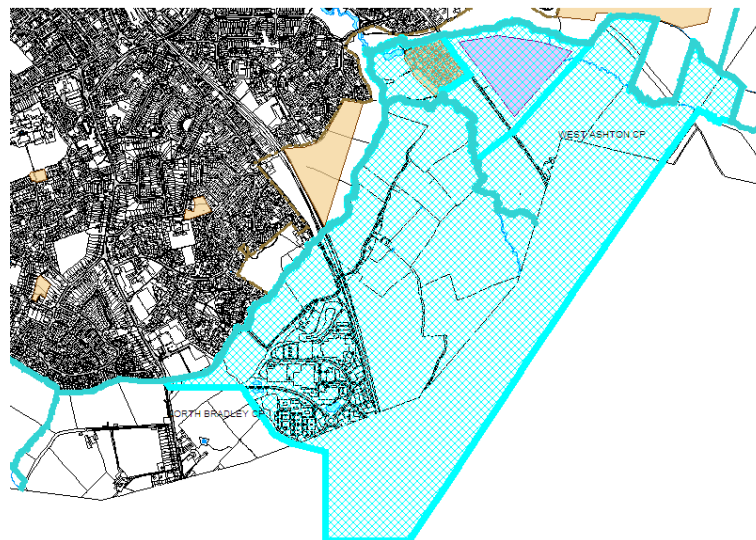
The area of developed land and adjacent floodplain at Old Farm, off the West Ashton Road, currently in West Ashton Parish (Southwick ED). This is within 100 metres of the main built up area of Trowbridge yet remote from the remainder of West Ashton village which is some 1600m away at the closest point near the A350 crossroads. Approximately 105 properties are affected. Assuming 223 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Southwick ED to 3197 and would increase Trowbridge Park ED to 3581.

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



An area allocated as employment development land and the adjacent flood plain to the east of the West Ashton Road and south of Trowbridge Lodge Park which will be west of the link road between Leap Gate and West Ashton Road. No existing properties are affected.

**Area 4c – Biss Farm and White Horse Business Park**



Areas of West Ashton and North Bradley Parishes (Southwick ED) which are expected to be included in the 2026 Local Plan Core Strategy allocations for residential and employment land. The area is bounded to the south by the high voltage power lines between Biss Wood and the River Biss, and then the River Biss as far as the A363 and the railway line, including the whole of the existing White Horse Business Park continuing on the A363 to the Bradley Road Roundabout where it rejoins the existing town boundary at Woodmarsh. Approximately 6 residential properties are affected as well as farm buildings and a large number of commercial buildings. Assuming 13 electors would transfer this would further reduce the 2012 electorate of the Southwick ED to 3184 and would further increase Trowbridge Park ED to 3591 and would also increase Trowbridge Drynham ED to 3413.

## **Other Changes NOT Supported by the Town Council**

A number of other changes could be made to further improve community identity, but the arguments for changes, such as those affecting parts of Staverton Parish to the north of the canal around the Marina and New Terrace and in Hilperton including parts of Paxcroft Mead to the North of Hilperton Drive and areas to the East of Hammond Way, are significantly less sound and therefore not supported by the Town Council:

### **Staverton Marina**

It is argued that parts of Staverton Marina are part of the community of Trowbridge. This is based upon the boundary of the town policy limit, (West Wilts District Plan, first alteration), which includes areas of Staverton bounded by the canal, New Terrace and the railway line. There are a number of difficult issues related to a revision of the boundary in this area. The Canal and river form an excellent natural southern boundary for Staverton Parish, the only other natural boundary would be the railway line. Removing all of this area from Staverton parish would remove the vast majority of the population from the parish and would have an impact therefore on the Holt and Staverton Unitary Division, resulting in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate. Much of the area borders residential parts of Hilperton Parish. It does not border residential parts of Trowbridge, those areas of Trowbridge bordering this area are industrial.

### **Paxcroft Mead North of Hilperton Drive**

It is argued that the remainder of Paxcroft Mead lying to the north of Hilperton Drive are part of the community of Trowbridge. This is based upon the boundary of the town policy limit, which includes this area. There are a number of difficult issues related to a further revision of the boundary on this area. Hilperton Drive (A361) forms a very good natural boundary between the urban area and the village of Hilperton. No other better natural boundaries exist in this area between the urban area and the village. This area, whilst within the town policy limit, is at a significantly greater distance from the centre of Trowbridge than other areas of existing or future residential development around the town. This change would have a very significant impact upon the electorate of the Hilperton ED and would result in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate.

### **East of Hammond Way**

It is argued that parts of Hilperton lying to the east of Hammond Way and North of Canal Road, close to the northern end of Wyke Road, Horse Road and Marsh Road are part of the community of Trowbridge. Some of this area was part of Trowbridge prior to the previous revision implemented in 1991. There are a number of difficult issues related to a further revision of the boundary in this area. There is no better natural boundary than Canal Road between this area and Trowbridge, which forms the current boundary. The proposals 3a and 3b above further improve the use of natural boundaries in this area. This area is contiguous with the centre of the village of Hilperton, along Marsh Road and is throughout generally residential development. The area is wholly contained within the current Hilperton Village development boundary. This change would have a very significant impact upon the electorate of the Hilperton ED and would result in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate.

**Summary of Supported Changes to Unitary Electoral Divisions:**

<b>Electoral Division</b>	<b>2012 electorate (estimate)</b>	<b>transfers</b>	<b>Revised 2012 electorate</b>	<b>Variance from average (3695)</b>
Winsley & Westwood	3413	-59	3354	-9.2%
Holt and Staverton	3430	-2	3428	-7.2%
Hilperton	3706	-17-445	3244	-12.2%
Southwick	3420	-223-13	3184	-13.8%
Trowbridge Lambrok	3560	+59+2	3621	-2.0%
Trowbridge Adcroft	3518	+17	3535	-4.3%
Trowbridge Paxcroft	3518	+445	3963	+7.3%
Trowbridge Park	3358	+223+10	3591	-2.8%
Trowbridge Drynham	3410	+3	3413	-7.6%

The average of 3,695 electors is based upon the total WC electorate estimate for 2012 of 362,128 electors across the 98 Electoral Divisions (EDs). None of these supported suggestions affecting the Trowbridge area give a greater variance from average than already established EDs of +15% for Malmesbury and Warminster Broadway and -18% for Winterslow.

**Lance Allan**  
**Town Clerk**



## Governance Review Report – June 2014

### Introduction

*This report is an updated version of a report which was originally presented to Wiltshire Council in 2011, was updated in June 2013 following the elections and has now been further updated in June 2014, following the commencement of the Community Governance Review by Wiltshire Council.*

Trowbridge Town Council has welcomed the commencement of the Community Governance Review by Wiltshire Council and presents this updated report. The first section below, whilst no longer directly relevant, as the review has now commenced, is presented as background to the issue, as it details the request made by the town council to persuade Wiltshire Council to undertake a review.

*When Area Board boundaries were set up by the Unitary Implementation Executive (IE) in 2009, concerns were expressed by the IE that both Area Board boundaries and Unitary Division boundaries, upon which the Area Boards were based, did not reflect community identity in a number of areas. It was indicated in a report to the IE that support would be given to undertaking a Community Governance Review (CGR) in some areas to see if improvements to community identity within Area Boards could be achieved. This suggestion was strongly supported by the IE and by those who are now senior members of the Council.*

*A number of boundary anomalies were resolved in the then North Wiltshire District area of the County at the same time as Wiltshire Council was established (April 2009), such as at Chippenham around Cepen Park and in Calne, resulting from long standing parish boundary reviews which were undertaken under the old system. The current system no longer requires input from the DCLG and the Secretary of State's approval. The review is the sole responsibility of Wiltshire Council. Whilst electoral arrangements have been reviewed, parish boundary reviews have not been undertaken in the former West Wiltshire area since the last ones were implemented in 1991. More than thirty years would, in all estimates be too long, particularly in an area which has experienced significant development and housing growth. For some time Trowbridge Town Council has been concerned that there are similar anomalies in other parts of the Wiltshire Council area, such as:*

*The area to the north of Bishopdown where the parish boundary between the City of Salisbury and the Parish of Laverstock cuts through the middle of a housing estate, leaving Laverstock Parish part in South Wilts Area Board and part in Salisbury Area Board. The report to the IE on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2009, in answer to an issue raised by Cllr Mary Douglas said; 'Confirmed that part of the Laverstock CP includes parts of Hampton Park housing estate which are within the Salisbury St Marks and Bishopdown ED in the Salisbury Area Board – suggested early electoral review of City boundary.'*

*A number of areas around Trowbridge, are clearly part of the community of Trowbridge but attached to parishes in the Bradford-on-Avon Community Area. These include Shore Place, which is in Wingfield Parish but part of a Trowbridge housing estate and only accessible via Trowbridge. The report to the IE on 16<sup>th</sup> March in answer to representations from Trowbridge Town Council said; 'It is suggested that an electoral (governance) review of the Trowbridge area would be required to address the overlap of urban areas into neighbouring parishes.'*

*In addition a Community Governance Review could resolve other community identity issues, not directly impacting upon Area Boards, around Salisbury, Westbury, Devizes, Melksham as well as at Trowbridge, where in Moyle Park and Walmsley Chase the parish boundary runs through the middle of houses.*

*In May 2011 when Wiltshire Council considered this issue, whilst recognising their statutory duty to undertake a Community Governance Review on a periodic basis Wiltshire Council resolved not to consider the matter further until after the 2013 elections. The 2011 report to Wiltshire Council says, "1.1 The Council is required to undertake Governance Reviews, i.e. to keep under review the boundaries and seating arrangements of parishes and parish wards within the county" . and, "2.3 The frequency of such reviews is not specified, although ten years would appear to be the generally accepted maximum."*

*With the expectation that the Core Strategy and Local Plan for Wiltshire will be adopted in 2014 it would be wholly appropriate for Wiltshire Council now to accept its responsibilities and undertake a CGR.*

*At a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee of Trowbridge Town Council it was resolved:*  
***That Trowbridge Town Council submits the report, with any appropriate updates if required, to Wiltshire Council as a formal request for a Community Governance Review, to ensure that the future boundaries of the town include appropriate areas and that the most appropriate Local Council represents the identified community of Trowbridge. And that the Town Council coordinates this approach with other Local Councils seeking a CGR from Wiltshire Council.***

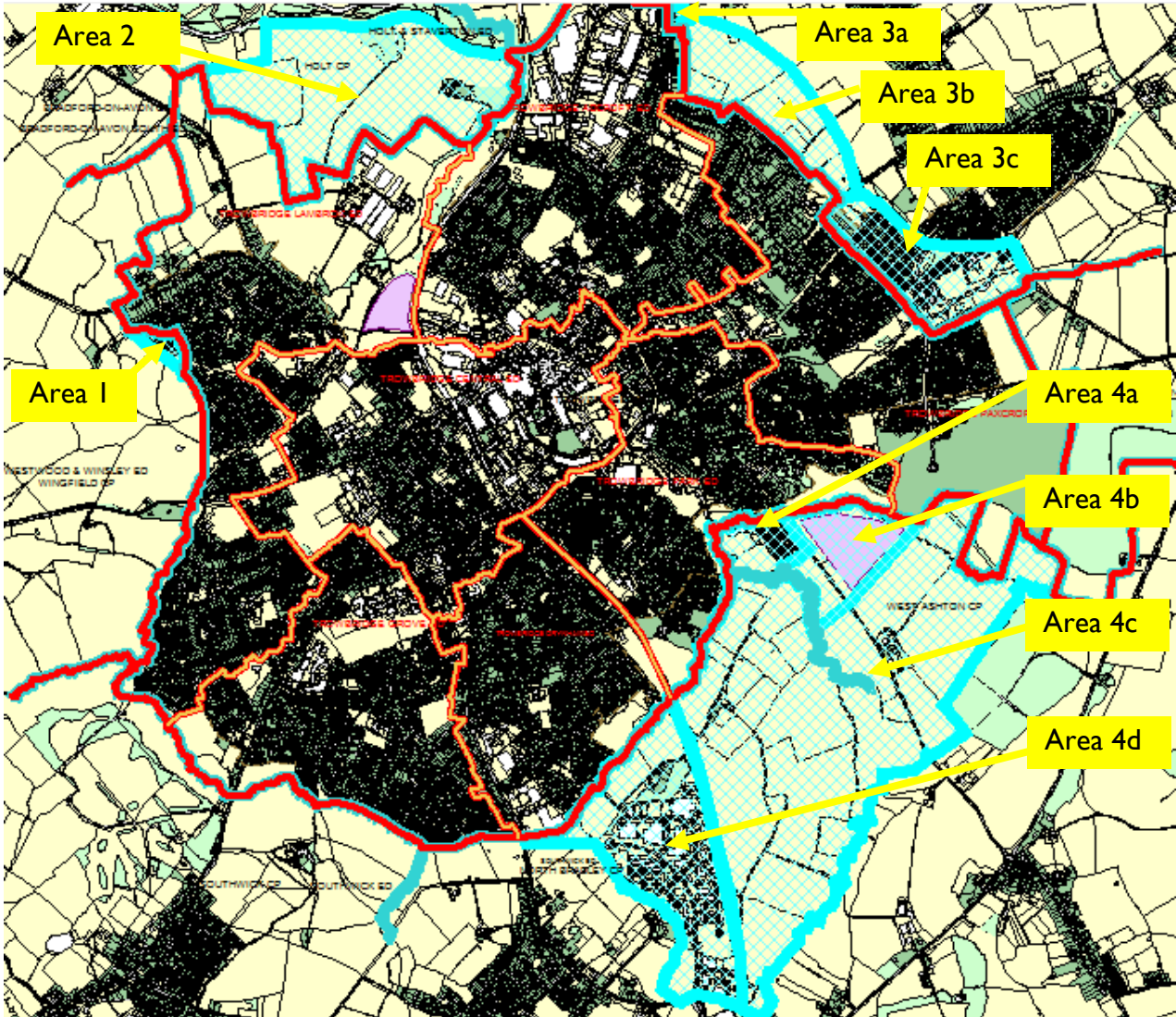
*Trowbridge Town Council would therefore request:*

- 1. That Wiltshire Council now commit to undertaking a Community Governance Review to address existing parish boundary anomalies and deliver clearer community identity across growing communities in Wiltshire.*
- 2. That Wiltshire Council ensures that, with four years in which to undertake a Community Governance Review and implement any changes, the results of any review will be implemented prior to the next Wiltshire Council and Parish Council elections in 2017.*
- 3. That Wiltshire Council ensure that any review includes changes to town and parish boundaries to extend the area covered by growing communities to include allocated for significant development in the local plan period covered by the Core Strategy which is scheduled to be adopted in 2014, so that the implementation of Neighbourhood Plans and Community Infrastructure Levy applies in a sensible and logical way, allowing constructive partnership between local councils and Wiltshire Council to support growth, economic recovery and service delivery.*

The remainder of the report is an updated version of the detail specifying the particular areas adjacent to the boundary of Trowbridge Town which the town council considers merit review and has been updated to reflect the most recent information available and presents more up to date mapping, particularly providing greater detail of areas (Area 4c and Area 4d) which were previously outside the scope of the town council's mapping software.

## Suggested changes around Trowbridge supported by the Town Council

The areas which Trowbridge Town Council considers need to be addressed as part of any Community Governance Review are detailed on the map below, highlighted in cyan cross hatching. All of the suggested changes also anticipate revisions to the Unitary Division boundaries, but none result in an electorate with an unacceptable variation from the average.



Existing Parish Boundary



Wiltshire Council Electoral Division Boundary



Town Council Ward Boundary



Suggested Changes



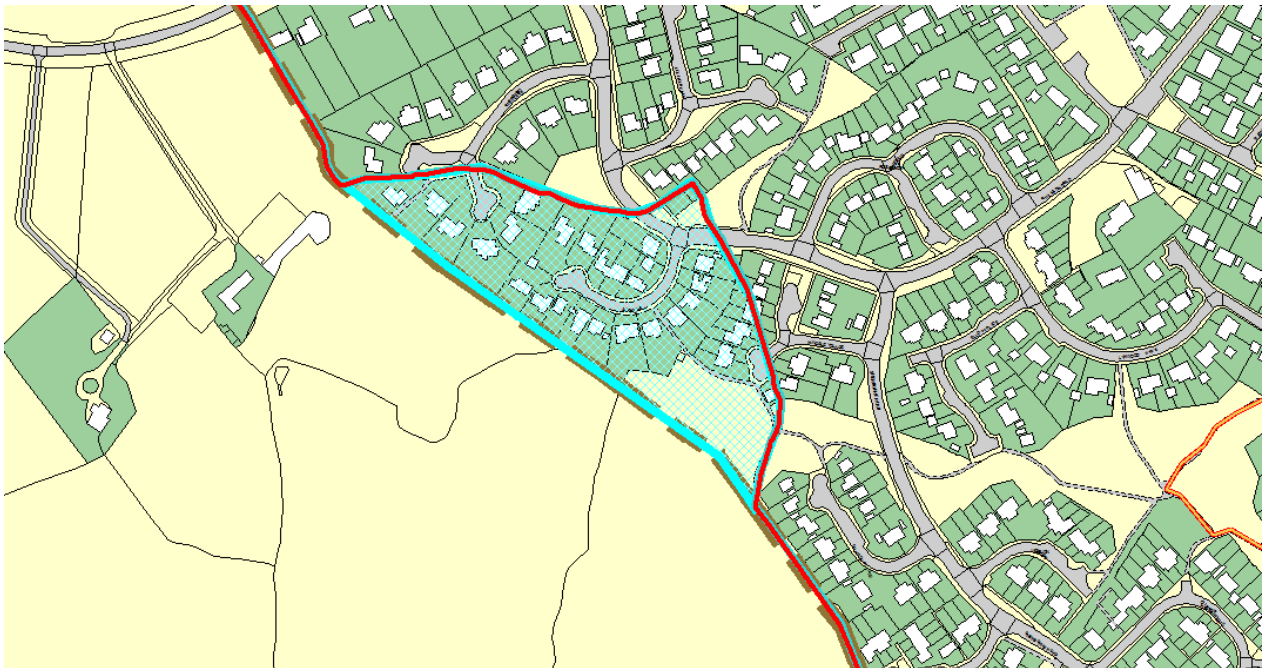
**Summary of Changes to Unitary Electoral Divisions:**

<b>Electoral Division</b>	<b>2012 electorate (estimate)</b>	<b>transfers</b>	<b>Revised 2012 electorate</b>	<b>Variance from average (3695)</b>
Winsley & Westwood	3413	-59	3354	-9.2%
Holt and Staverton	3430	-2	3428	-7.2%
Hilperton	3706	-17-445	3244	-12.2%
Southwick	3420	-223-10-3	3184	-13.8%
Trowbridge Lambrok	3560	+59+2	3621	-2.0%
Trowbridge Adcroft	3518	+17	3535	-4.3%
Trowbridge Paxcroft	3518	+445	3963	+7.3%
Trowbridge Park	3358	+223+10	3591	-2.8%
Trowbridge Drynham	3410	+3	3413	-7.6%

The average of 3,695 electors is based upon the total WC electorate estimate for 2012 of 362,128 electors across the 98 Electoral Divisions (EDs). None of these changes for the Trowbridge area give a greater variance from average than existing EDs of +15% for Malmesbury and Warminster Broadway and -18% for Winterslow. The following pages detail the suggested changes and provide an estimate of the changes in electorate for each Unitary Electoral Division affected.



**Area I – Shore Place**



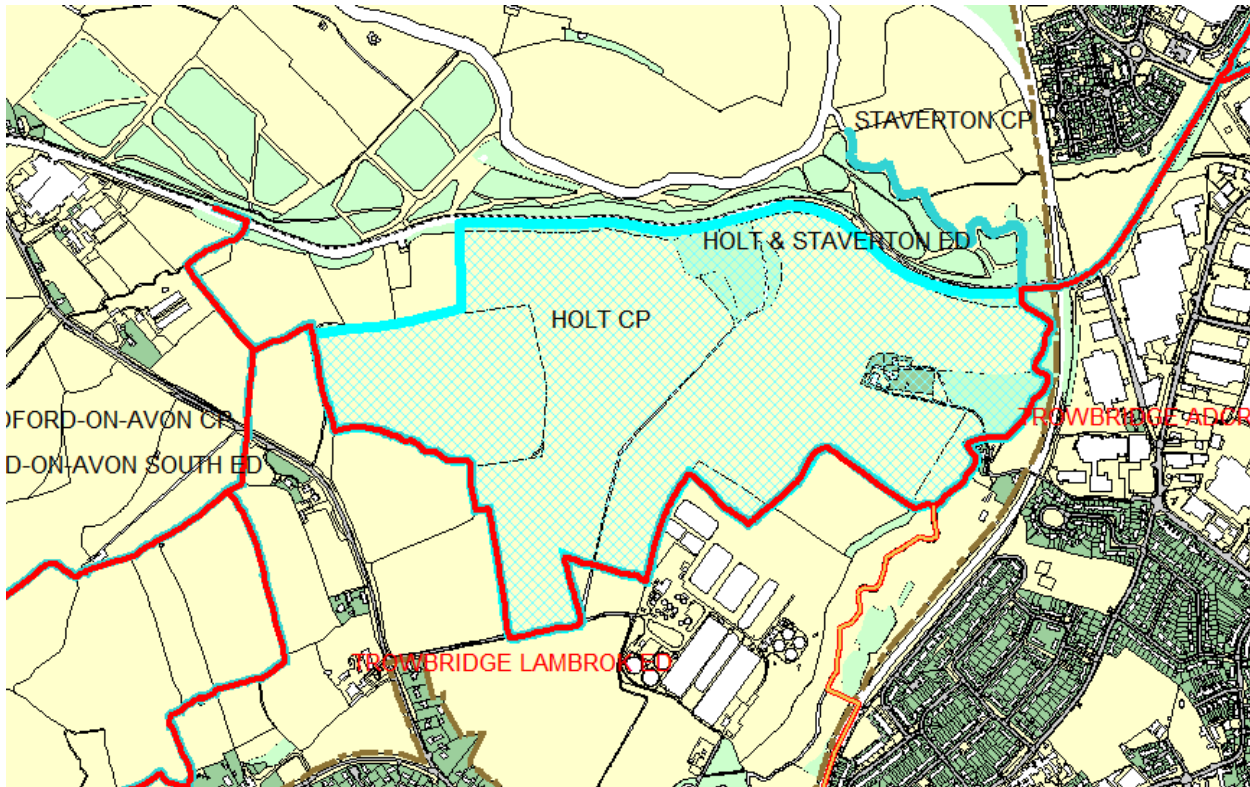
District Plan  
Town Policy  
Limit



Area I comprises a small area to the West of the town which is part of the Broadmead Estate, but which is in Wingfield Parish (Winsley and Westwood ED), including addresses in Shore Place, Chepston Place and Kingsley Place. This area is only accessible from Trowbridge and is remote from the remaining population of Wingfield. The boundary between the estate and therefore the built up area of Trowbridge and rural farmland within the Green Belt provides a significantly improved natural boundary. It is the only part of Wingfield not in the Green Belt.

Approximately 28 properties are affected. Assuming 59 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Winsley and Westwood ED to 3354 and would increase Trowbridge Lambrok ED to 3619.

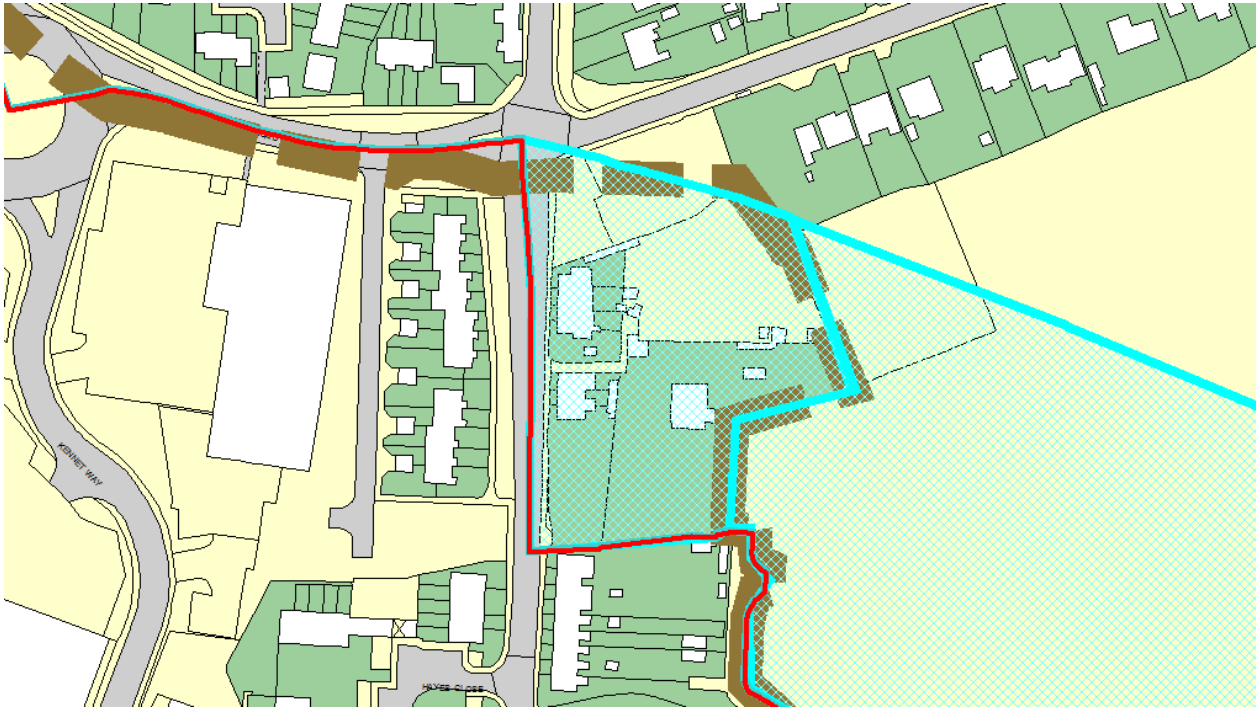
**Area 2 – Lady Down Farm**



Area 2 comprises an area to the North West of the town, currently part of Holt Parish (Holt and Staverton ED), lying south of the Kennet and Avon Canal but outside the Bradford on Avon Landscape Protection Zone and including Lady Down Farm. Some of it lies within the Sewage Works Limit and all of it lies within the Green Belt. The Canal forms a good natural Boundary. The current boundary in a number of places is undefined by field boundaries. The area is not accessible directly from the remainder of Holt Parish.

The only residence affected is only accessible from Trowbridge. Assuming 2 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of Holt and Staverton ED to 3428 and would further increase Trowbridge Lambrok to 3621.

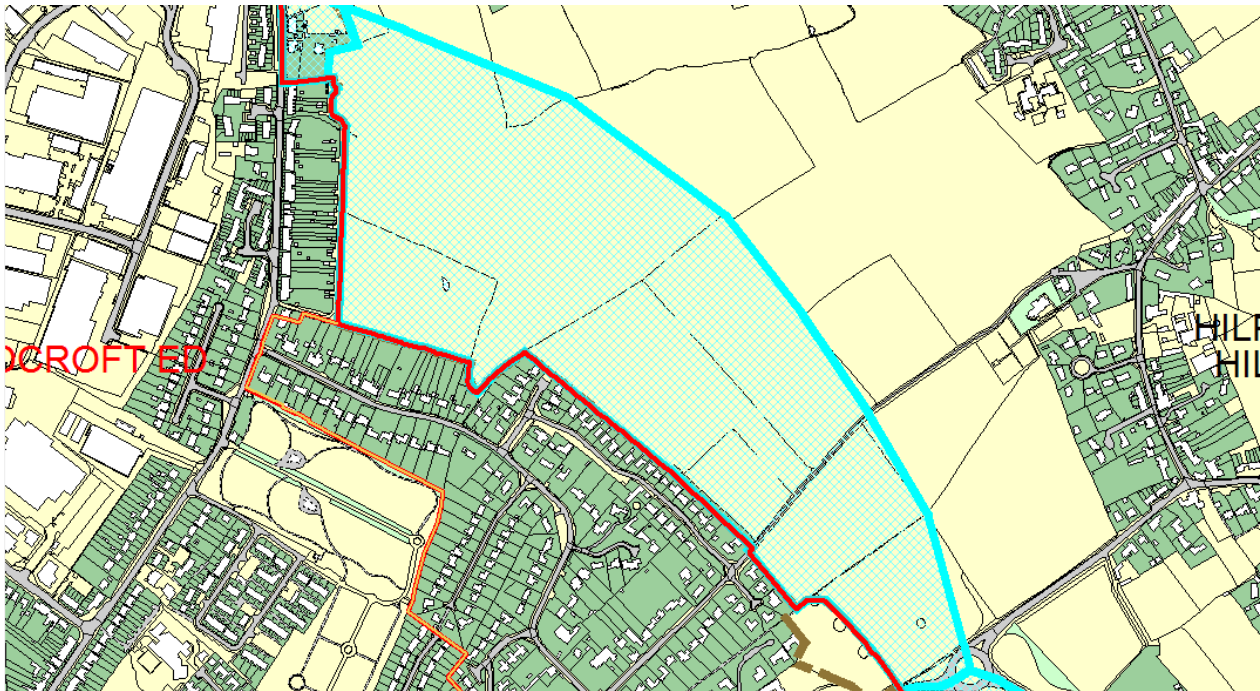
**Area 3a – Wyke Road**



Area 3a comprises a small area of Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED) which was part of the town until the last review was implemented in 1991, including properties fronting onto Wyke Road. The nearest properties across the road and to the south fronting Wyke Road are all in Trowbridge. The area will lie to the south of the Hilperton Relief Road when completed (due 2015).

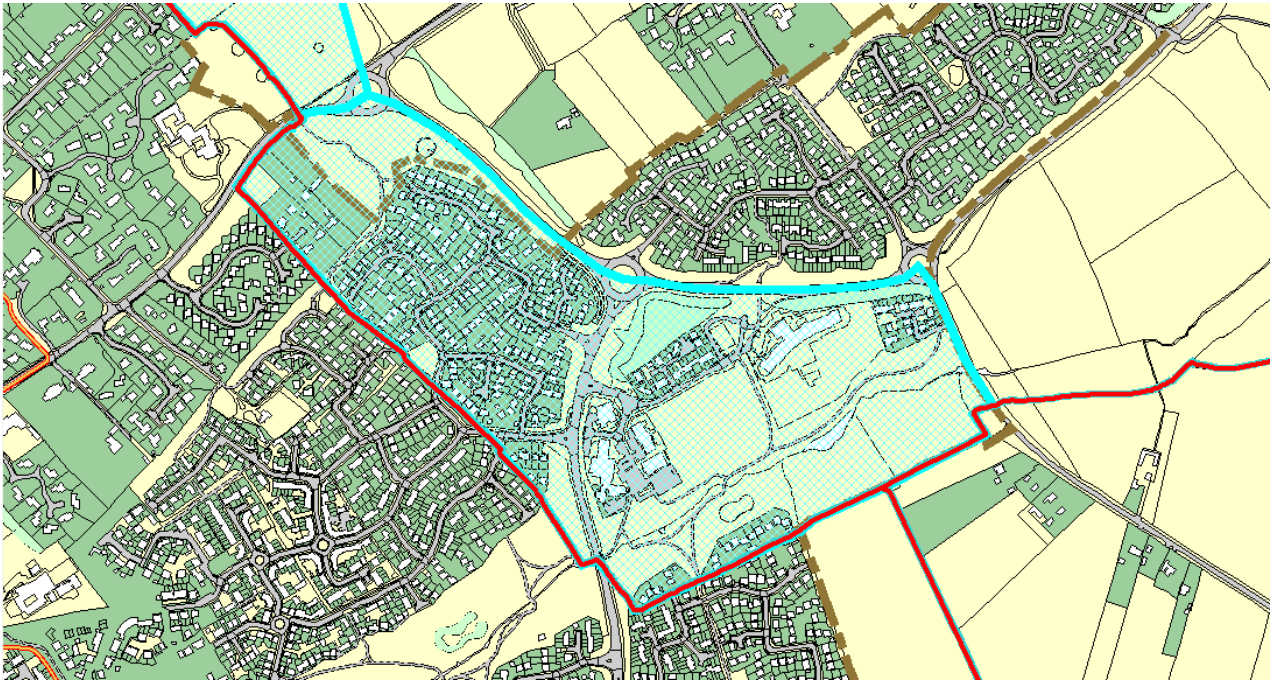
Approximately 8 properties are affected. Assuming 17 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Hilperton ED to 3689 and would increase Trowbridge Adcroft ED to 3535.

**Area 3b – Hilperton Gap South**



Area 3b comprises all of the remainder (after accounting for Area 3a) of the area lying to the south and west of the Hilperton Relief Road, (due to be completed by end 2015). This is part of Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED) but was part of Trowbridge Parish until the last review was implemented in 1991. The relief road will form a good natural boundary when completed.

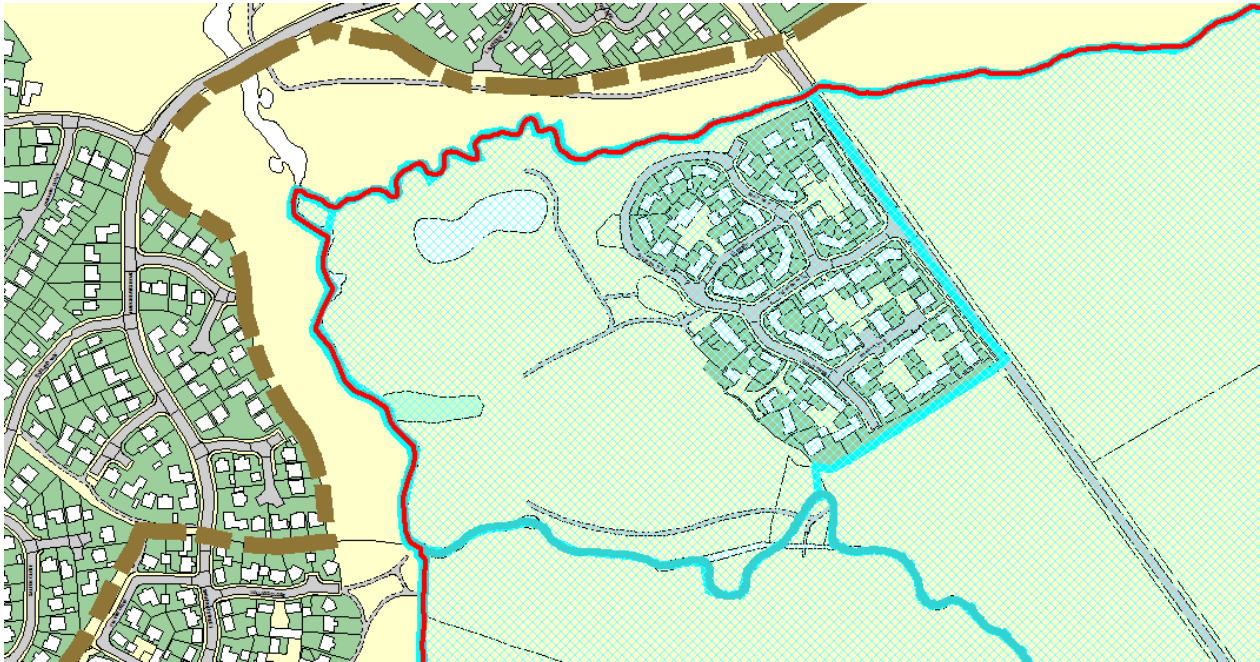
No properties are affected.

**Area 3c Paxcroft Mead South of Hilperton Drive**

Area 3c comprises all of the developed land lying to the South of the existing Hilperton Drive in Hilperton Parish (Hilperton ED), which forms a good natural boundary. It includes properties in: Hilperton Road, Halfway Close, Castley Road, Painters Mead, Faverole Way, Gibbs Leaze, Fairwood Close, Montague Court, Leap Gate, Hackett Place and Moyle Park. Approximately 210 properties are affected plus businesses, the Community Centre and The Mead School at Hackett Place. It is not considered appropriate to extend the boundary North of Hilperton Drive as Hilperton Drive forms a good natural boundary to Hilperton village and therefore Hilperton Parish. The current boundary runs through the middle of properties in Moyle Park and Walmesley Chase and a number of streets are split by the current boundary (Moyle Park, Montague Court, Walmesley Chase, Painters Mead, Hilperton Road and Halfway Close).

Assuming 445 electors would transfer this would further reduce the 2012 electorate of the Hilperton ED to 3244 and would increase Trowbridge Paxcroft ED to 3963.

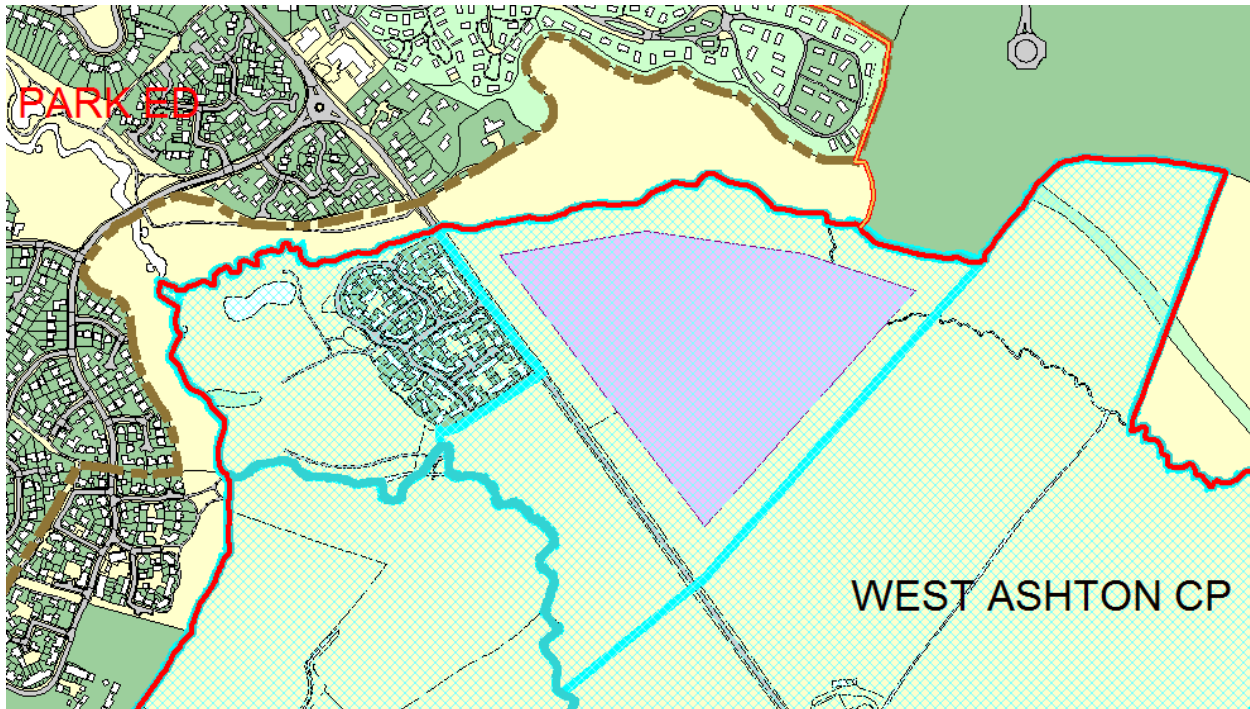
**Area 4a – Old Farm**



Area 4a comprises the area of developed land and adjacent floodplain at Old Farm, off the West Ashton Road, currently in West Ashton Parish (Southwick ED). This is within 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.

Approximately 105 properties are affected. Assuming 223 electors would transfer this would reduce the 2012 electorate of the Southwick ED to 3197 and would increase Trowbridge Park ED to 3581.

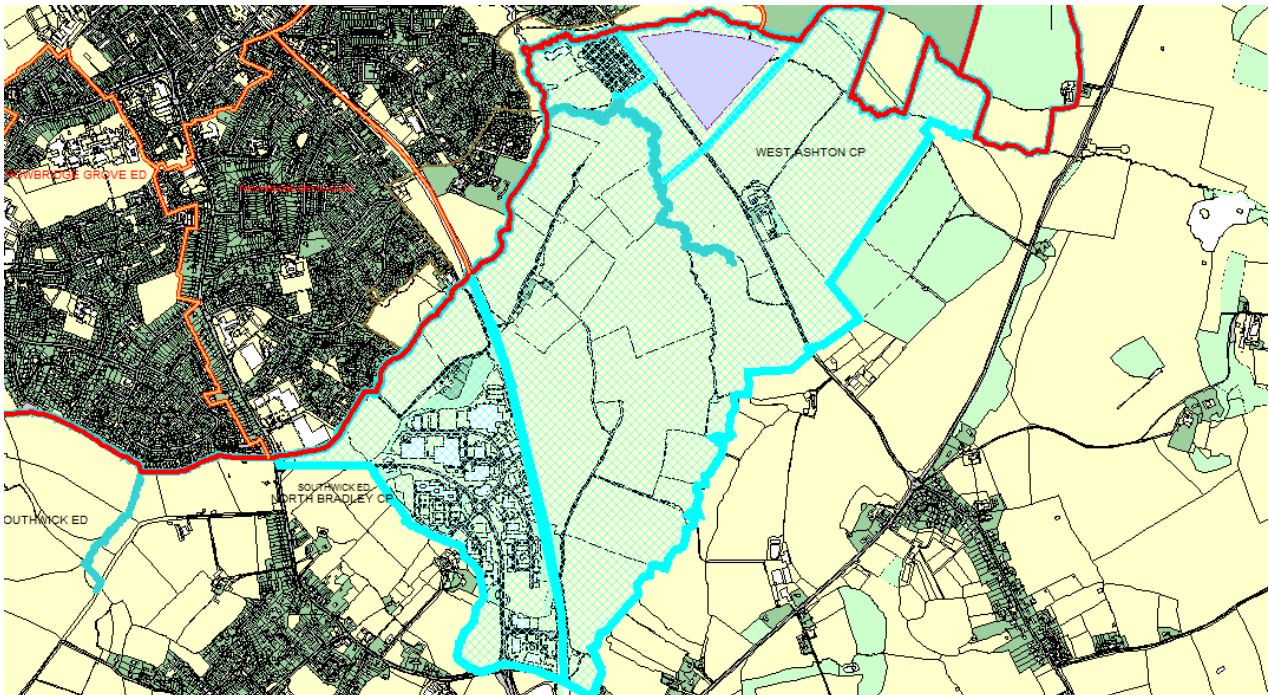
**Area 4b – West Ashton Road Employment Land**



Area 4b comprises an area allocated as employment development land and the adjacent flood plain either side of the West Ashton Road and south of Trowbridge Lodge Park which is west of the link road between Leap Gate and West Ashton Road.

No existing properties are affected.

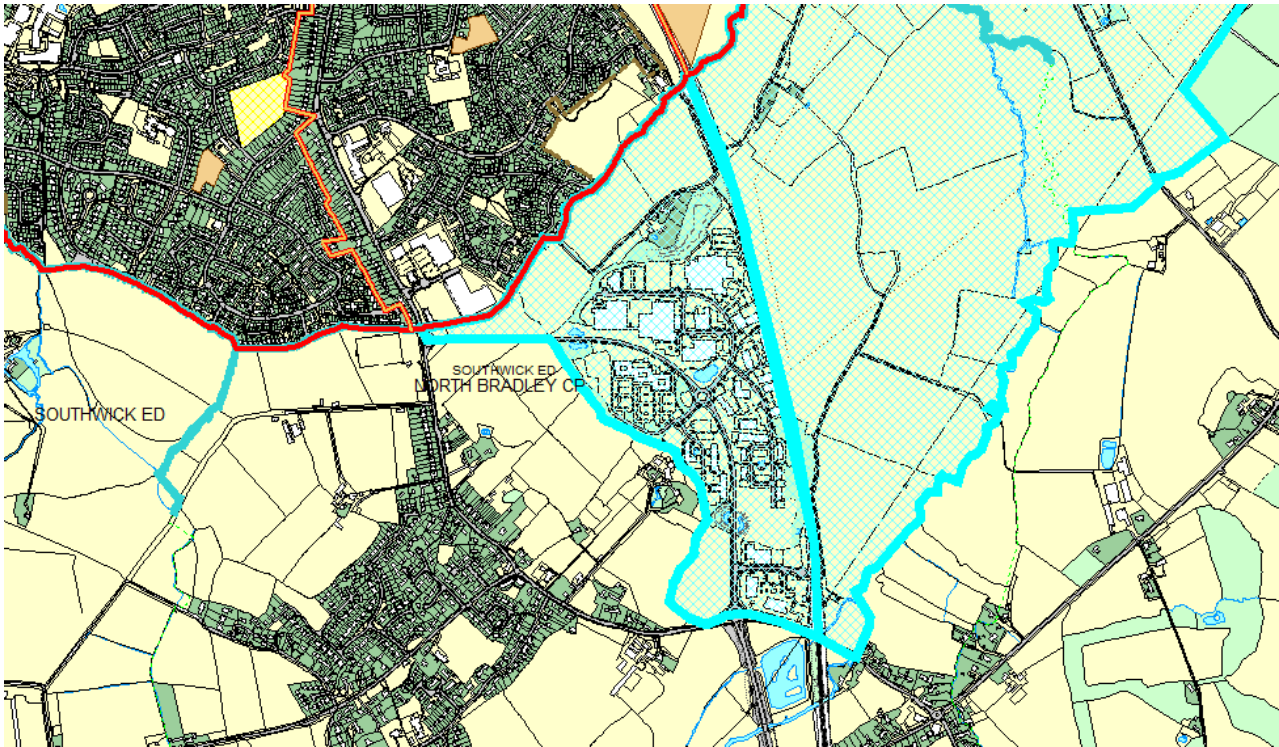
**Area 4c – Ashton Park Urban Extension**



Area 4 c comprises parts of West Ashton and North Bradley Parishes (Southwick ED) which are included in the Wiltshire Core Strategy allocations for residential and employment land, known as the Ashton Park Urban Extension. The area is bounded to the east and south by Biss Wood and the River Biss as far as the A363, all of which will form good natural boundaries for both the urban area of Trowbridge and therefore for the Parish Boundary. To the west it is bounded by the railway line.

Approximately 5 existing residential properties are affected as well as farm buildings. Assuming 10 electors would transfer this would further reduce the 2012 electorate of the Southwick ED to 3187 and would further increase Trowbridge Park ED to 3591



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

Area 4d comprises all of the White Horse Business Park and additional similar commercial development around the White Horse Business Park as well as the land between the Business Park and the town boundary. It takes the proposed new town boundary from the A363 railway bridge, encompassing all of the commercial development around the western edge of the White Horse Business Park and then continues on the A363 to the Bradley Road Roundabout where it rejoins the existing town boundary at Woodmarsh.

Only 2 residential properties are affected as well as farm buildings and a large number of commercial buildings. Assuming 3 electors would transfer this would further reduce the 2012 electorate of the Southwick ED to 3184 and would increase Trowbridge Drynham ED to 3413 electors.

## **Other Changes NOT Supported by the Town Council**

A number of other changes could be made to further improve community identity, but the arguments for changes, such as those affecting parts of Staverton Parish to the north of the canal around the Marina and New Terrace and in Hilperton including parts of Paxcroft Mead to the North of Hilperton Drive and areas to the East of Hammond Way, are significantly less sound and therefore not supported by the Town Council:

### **Staverton Marina**

It is argued that parts of Staverton Marina are part of the community of Trowbridge. This is based upon the boundary of the old town policy limit, (West Wilts District Plan, first alteration), which includes areas of Staverton bounded by the canal, New Terrace and the railway line. There are a number of difficult issues related to a revision of the boundary in this area. The Canal and river form an excellent natural southern boundary for Staverton Parish, the only other natural boundary would be the railway line. Removing all of the area south of the railway line from Staverton Parish would remove the vast majority of the population from the parish and would have an impact therefore on the Holt and Staverton Unitary Division, resulting in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate. Much of the area borders residential parts of Hilperton Parish. It does not border residential parts of Trowbridge, those areas of Trowbridge bordering this area are industrial.

### **Paxcroft Mead North of Hilperton Drive**

It is argued that the remainder of Paxcroft Mead lying to the north of Hilperton Drive is part of the community of Trowbridge. This is based upon the boundary of the old town policy limit, which includes this area. There are a number of difficult issues related to a further revision of the boundary in this area. Hilperton Drive (A361) forms a very good natural boundary between the urban area and the village of Hilperton. No other better natural boundaries exist in this area between the urban area and the village. This area, whilst within the town policy limit, is at a significantly greater distance from the centre of Trowbridge than other areas of existing or future residential development around the town. This change would have a very significant impact upon the electorate of the Hilperton ED and would result in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate.

### **East of Hammond Way**

It is argued that parts of Hilperton lying to the east of Hammond Way and North of Canal Road, close to the northern end of Wyke Road, Horse Road and Marsh Road are part of the community of Trowbridge. Some of this area was part of Trowbridge prior to the previous revision implemented in 1991. There are a number of difficult issues related to a further revision of the boundary in this area. There is no better natural boundary than Canal Road between this area and Trowbridge, which forms the current boundary. The proposals 3a and 3b above further improve the use of natural boundaries in this area. This area is contiguous with the centre of the village of Hilperton, along Marsh Road and is throughout, generally residential development. The area is wholly contained within the current Hilperton Village development boundary. This change would have a very significant impact upon the electorate of the Hilperton ED and would result in an unacceptable variation from the average electorate.

**Lance Allan**  
**Town Clerk**



# Trowbridge Town Football Club

Honorary President – Mr Ralph McCaldon



**FA CHARTER STANDARD  
DEVELOPMENT CLUB**

Community Governance Review  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wilts

Dear Councillor Wheeler

As the Chairman of a sports club providing activities for residents of the Trowbridge community, we would like to express our support for all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council to the Community Governance Review. It is clear that Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and that the proposals for changes to the town boundary made by Trowbridge Town Council will achieve this.

Trowbridge Town Council has been supportive of growth in the town's population and the development of services and facilities for that growing population. As well as improvements in the town centre, the town council has continued to support the provision of sport and active leisure facilities around the town and is now looking to invest in additional facilities, but the town council need to be able to do this for the whole town, not just parts of it.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities at Devizes Road next to the new Trowbridge Rugby Club, a secure future for Woodmarsh football ground,

**Chairman:**

Ralph McCaldon  
34 Kingsdown Road,  
Trowbridge,  
Wiltshire,  
BA14 0LD  
01225 769877

[r.mccaldon@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:r.mccaldon@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Secretary:**

Jodi Arberry  
40 Westmead Crescent,  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 0LY  
01225 754314

**Treasurer:**

Mr Jon Pennel  
14 Kingsley Place,  
Broadmead,  
Trowbridge,  
Wilts BA14 9TD  
07802337569

**Web Site:**

<http://www.trowbridgetownfootballclub.co.uk/>



THE FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to Wiltshire County Football Association Ltd GGW00366,GSW00367,GYW00368  
Members of the Mid-Wiltshire Youth and Minor Football League  
Members of the Wiltshire Football League  
Members of the Hellenic Football League  
Members of the Trowbridge and District Football League  
Members of the Wiltshire County Boys and Girls Football League

improved facilities in the Town Park, it is in discussion with Wiltshire Council about taking over the Stallards Recreation Ground and Seymour Recreation Ground and it is supporting the development of a new health and well-being centre including indoor leisure facilities. The neighbouring parish councils do not have the capacity and resources to deliver these changes for Trowbridge. Only a single town council can make these changes efficiently and effectively.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Please ensure that Trowbridge continues to invest in the future of the town by approving all of the proposals made by Trowbridge Town Council.

Yours sincerely,



Ralph McCaldon  
Chairman Trowbridge Town Fc



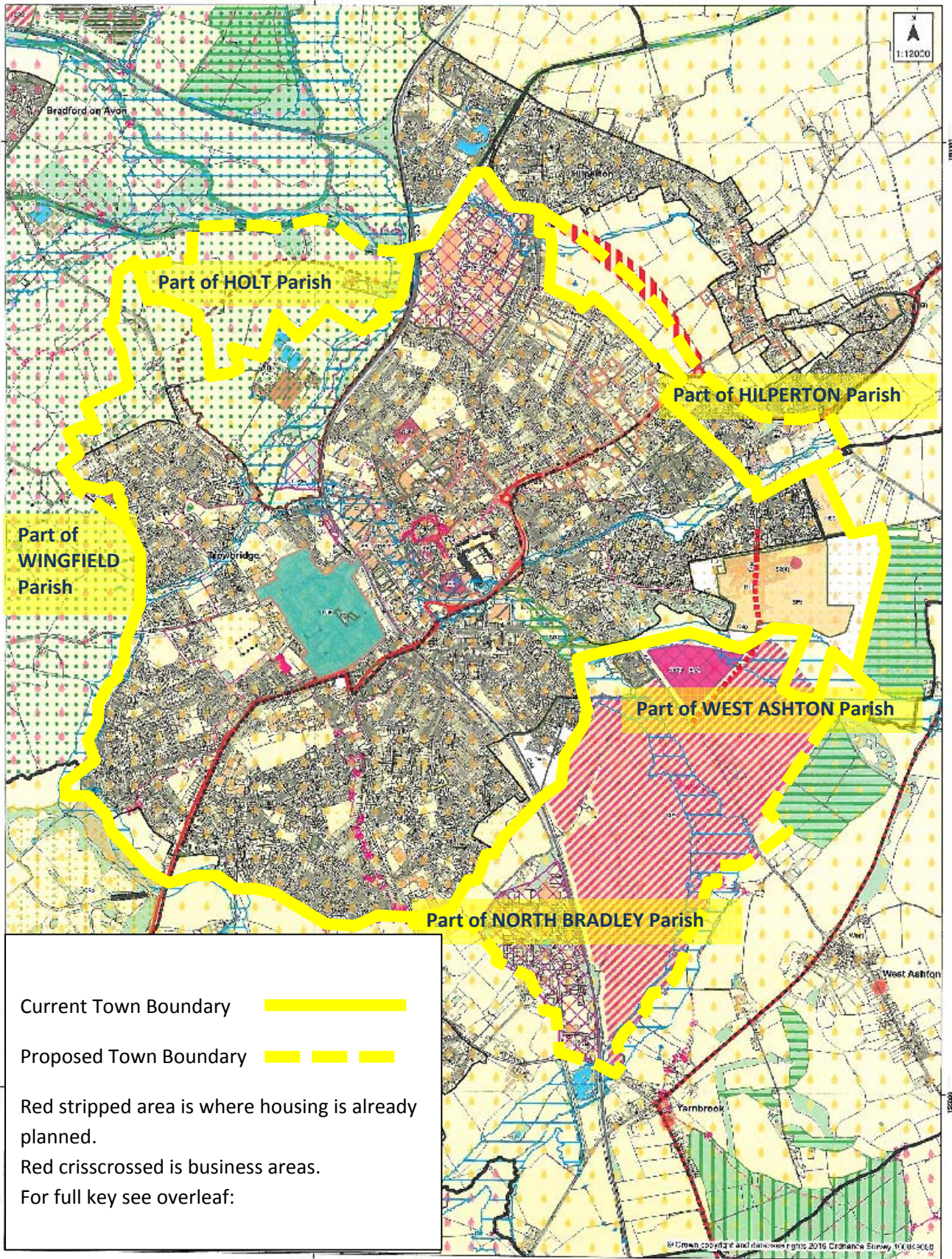


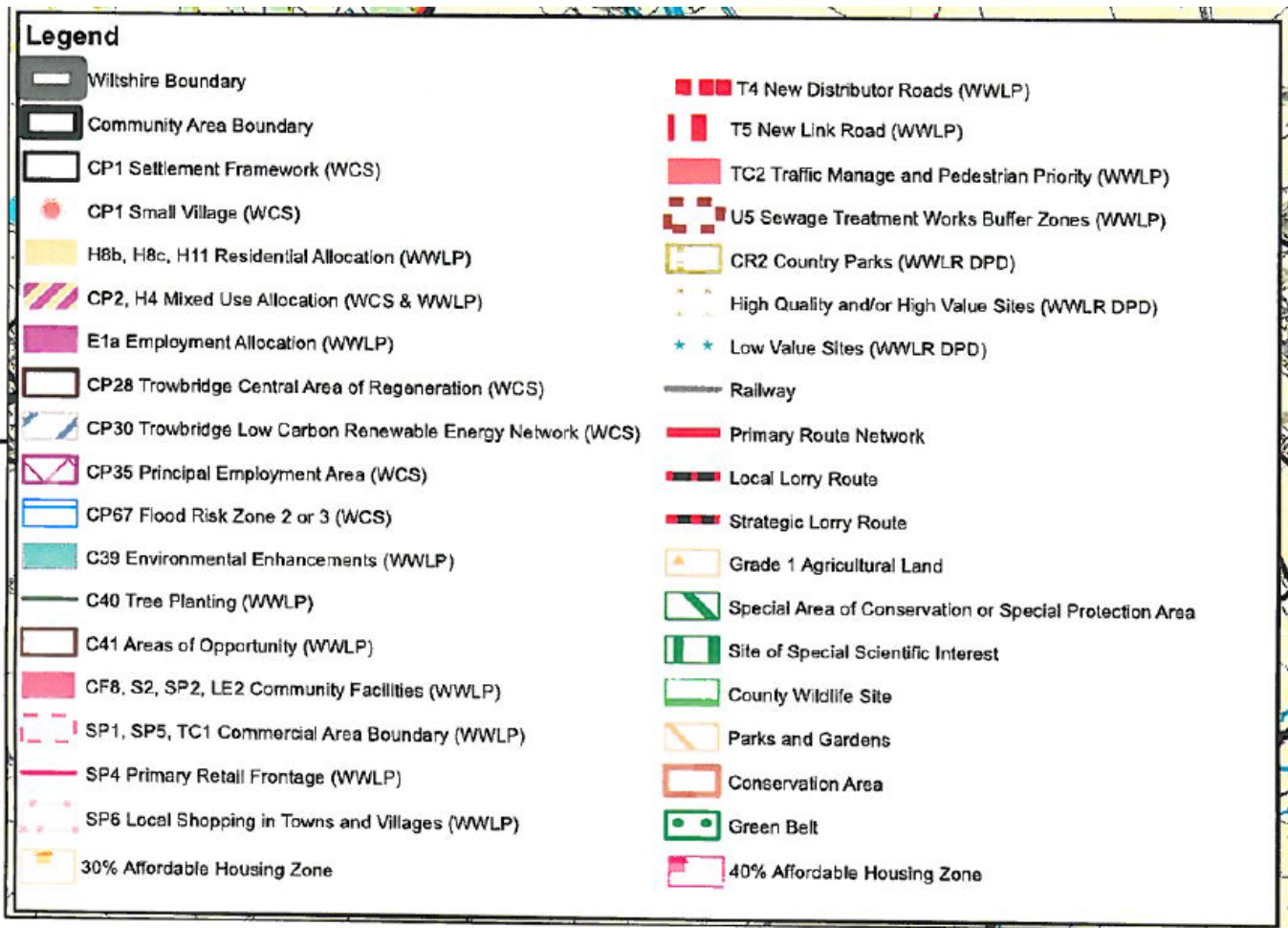
THE FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to Wiltshire County Football Association Ltd GW00366,GSW00367,GYW00368  
Members of the Mid-Wiltshire Youth and Minor Football League  
Members of the Wiltshire Football League  
Members of the Hellenic Football League  
Members of the Trowbridge and District Football League  
Members of the Wiltshire County Boys and Girls Football League

This page is intentionally left blank

**Inset Map 9: Trowbridge**





The Map overleaf is taken from the **Wiltshire Core Strategy** and has had the existing **Town Boundary** and the proposed **Town Boundary** superimposed on it. The map also includes additional text indicating the current parishes for the proposed areas of transfer.

Above is a key to aid interpretation.

The areas proposed by Trowbridge Town Council for adjustments to the town boundary include; areas of existing development in the **Broadmead** and **Old Farm** estates (part of **Wingfield Parish**), areas to the south of the canal (part of **Holt parish**), areas to the south of the new **Hilperton Gap Relief Road** & areas of **Paxcroft Mead** which are south of the **A361/Hilperton Drive** (part of **Hilperton Parish**), areas allocated in the **Core Strategy**, either side of the **West Ashton Road** and the **White Horse Business Parkn** (parts of **West Ashton Parish** and **North Bradley Parish**).

*Trowbridge Town Council*

*September 2015*



## **DISCOVER Trowbridge – a town council for all of the town.**

Trowbridge Town Council believes that Trowbridge has made a step change in recent years, with its own investment in the Civic Centre and the Town Park and support for the development of new shops, the ODEON cinema and restaurants, the weekly market, new businesses and a growing population.

Trowbridge Town Council wants to ensure that this transformation continues into the future so that together we can all deliver a sustainable town that provides a full range of facilities and services for the whole community.

Trowbridge Town Council is already working with partners on plans to deliver; new sports pitches and outdoor leisure facilities, improved cultural and heritage venues and activities in the Museum and at the Town Hall, a new health and well-being centre and other improvements in the town centre. It also want to improve our car parks and make them more affordable for people who work in the town centre and visit Trowbridge, retain our town bus services, provide better children's play areas and new and improved youth facilities including skate-parks.

Trowbridge Town Council can only do these things for the whole town if the areas of new development are included in the town boundary and everyone makes a contribution to our success. Wiltshire Council is currently undertaking a consultation on changes to the town boundary and everyone needs to respond to the consultation. If you think that Trowbridge Town Council should continue to deliver a better place, with better facilities then please tell Wiltshire Council that:

**Trowbridge needs one town council for all of the town and we support all of the revisions to the town boundary proposed by Trowbridge Town Council.**

Please attend the public meeting on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm in County Hall and complete the online survey at:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communitygovernancereviewsurvey2015.htm>

Thank you for your support.

Lance Allan  
Town Clerk



This page is intentionally left blank

# West Ashton Parish Council

Please reply to the Clerk – Mrs C Hackett, 23 Orchard Close, West Ashton,  
Wiltshire BA14 6AU. Tel: 01225 760372 email: carol-hackett@hotmail.com



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

2nd October 2014

Dear Mr Watling,

## **Re: Wiltshire Governance Review**

I am writing on behalf of West Ashton Parish Council, regarding the Governance Review currently being carried out by Wiltshire Council, and in particular the boundary changes that have been proposed by Trowbridge Town Council as part of that Review.

Councillors considered the proposals submitted by Trowbridge Town Council at a recent Parish Council meeting and resolved to strongly oppose the proposals for the following reasons -

- The premise of Trowbridge Town Council's argument is that the effect on the electorate numbers is minimal, changes follow natural boundaries, and in the case of 'Old Farm', it is because of its proximity to Trowbridge. However they have had a total disregard for the severe negative financial impact that their proposals to subsume key outlying development sites will have on neighbouring Parish Council's - there is no balance of benefit whatsoever for the Parishes.
- The Parish of West Ashton borders the County Town of Trowbridge on one side, with the River Biss forming the natural historic boundary. There are currently approximately 313 properties in the Parish, 136 of which make up the 'Old Farm' Housing Estate, on the West Ashton Road (area 4a). The precept for West Ashton, plus top-up grant from Wiltshire Council for 2014/15 totalled £4,230 (£13.46 per Band D equivalent property). The Governance Report - June 2014 shows that Trowbridge Town Council are proposing to extend their boundary to include this estate, which would effectively reduce the precept for West Ashton by almost a half, barely leaving sufficient income to fund employment of a part-time Clerk.
- Trowbridge Town Council have indicated that, mainly due to the effects of the proposal for 'Old Farm', the electorate of the current 'Southwick' division will be reduced by approximately -13.8% to 3184 - resulting in it being the smallest division in the Trowbridge Area, well below the average for all the Electoral Divisions in Wiltshire of 3,695 electors - this can surely not be regarded as a 'minimal' change?
- Trowbridge Town Council are also proposing to extend their boundary even further to encompass the 'Ashton Park Urban Extension' (area 4c). A large planned development of 2,600 properties, including employment land, 2 local service centres, a possible 3 schools and other associated facilities planned predominately within the Parish of West Ashton, with a portion of the development coming within the

# West Ashton Parish Council



Please reply to the Clerk – Mrs C Hackett, 23 Orchard Close, West Ashton, Wiltshire BA14 6AU. Tel: 01225 760372 email: carol-hackett@hotmail.com

boundary of our neighbouring Parish, North Bradley. West Ashton Parish Council consider that this proposed boundary change is premature - the proposed 2600 houses in 'Ashton Park' are likely to generate twice that number of voters and could inevitably result in the establishment of at least one new Electoral Division in its own right. In addition to the loss of potential precept income to West Ashton Parish Council as a result of this proposal, there will also be the loss of the considerable amount of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) revenue that will be generated from the development.

- In addition Trowbridge Town Council are also proposing to annex the employment land identified as “West Ashton Road Employment Land” (area 4b), there is no impact on the electorate at this time. The land has not been developed despite having planning approval since 1999, however there are now plans in a late stage to develop the area for recreational use with a sports centre and nursery amongst the proposed facilities. This area would form an integral part of the 'Ashton Park' development, and therefore it would seem perfectly reasonable for it to remain within the West Ashton Parish boundary.
- In 2013/14 changes in Government funding to Local Authorities, meant that the way the precept was being administered changed. Although an additional top up grant was provided by Wiltshire Council in 2013/14 to make up the shortfall, this level of support could not be sustained in 2014/15. As yet there has been no indication as to what/if any additional support will be offered by Wiltshire Council for 2015/16. The impact of these changes initiated by Central Government are already squeezing Parish budgets to the bare minimum, and any potential reduction in the size of the Parish population caused by any proposed boundary changes will inevitably severely affect the viability of West Ashton Parish Council.
- The Parish Council would urge Wiltshire Council during the review process to seriously consider the financial impact that these proposed boundary changes will have on West Ashton - The Parish Council **could not** function effectively as a result of these proposals. It is also essential that the wishes of the local inhabitants are taken into account, and the negative effect that such changes could have on rural and village life are seriously considered. The needs of a rural community are very different to those of a larger town, and since the introduction of the Localism Act in 2010, West Ashton Parish Council have welcomed the opportunity to take on more responsibilities and become more involved in dealing with the day to day issues affecting our community, actively working alongside the local Authority to get the best for all concerned. We strongly believe that the ideals of the Localism Act would not support the changes proposed by Trowbridge Town Council to hive off lucrative areas of development from local Parishes, to subsidise their own finances, to the detriment of the Parish Councils.

We would be very grateful if you will please give these comments your due consideration with a view to allowing West Ashton Parish Council to remain, at least as it is now, with no change to its existing boundaries.

Yours sincerely

*Carol Hackett*

Mrs Carol Hackett  
West Ashton Parish Clerk

cc Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London  
Andrew Murrison MP, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, London

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2014 AT ST JOHNS PARISH CENTRE, 2 WINGFIELD RD, TROWBRIDGE, BA14 9EA.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Cllr Dennis Drewett, Ian Gibbons, Cllr John Knight, Cllr Jeff Osborn, Cllr Horace Prickett, Paul Taylor, Cllr Simon Richardson (Staverton PC), June Jones (Staverton PC Clerk), Cllr Richard Covington (West Ashton PC), Nicola Duke (West Ashton PC Clerk), Cllr Tim Le Mare (Wes Ashton PC), Cllr Roger Andrews (Trowbridge TC), Bob Brice (Trowbridge TC), Lance Allan (Trowbridge TC Clerk), Kedrick Jackson (Hilperton PC), Vlc Bielecki (Hilperton PC), Marlyn Tims (Hilperton PC Clerk), Cllr Andrew Pearce (Holt PC), Cllr Steve Siddell (Holt PC), Cllr John Ellis (Steeple Ashton PC), Cllr Jan Wicks (Steeple Ashton PC) and John Watling

---

#### 1 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed all present and introduced the Members and supporting officers for the Working Group.

#### 2 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Ernie Clark declared a non pecuniary interest as shown on his Register of Interests in relation to property owned in Hilperton. As none of the proposals relating to Hilperton had any direct effect on Cllr Clark or members of his family, he declared he would therefore debate on and vote on any proposal relating to Hilperton parish.

#### 3 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

The procedure for the meeting was detailed, with it explained the purpose was to hear the proposals from the relevant Town and Parish Councils, and to seek the views of other affected Parishes and take questions including from the Working Group, who would produce a set of recommendations, to be consulted upon, which would be considered by Full Council in 2015.

#### 4 **Parish Proposals (10 Minutes each)**

##### 4a **Hilperton**

The proposal from Hilperton Parish Council was presented as detailed in the agenda papers.

##### 4b **Trowbridge**

The proposals from Trowbridge Town Council were presented as detailed in the agenda papers.

#### 5 **Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)**

The relevant parties responded to the proposals presented and sought additional clarification.

#### 6 **Consultation**

Consultation on any recommendation arrived at would be flexible and take the most appropriate form for a particular Town or Parish, including consideration at Area Boards, letter notifications and other measures.

#### 7 **Any other business**

There was no other business considered.

(Duration of meeting: 1030 - 1200)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718504, e-mail [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

#### **Consideration of Proposals**

##### **Area 1 - Shore Place**

The Working Group was in agreement with the reasoning of the Town Council for this area.

**Recommendation - To support the proposal from Trowbridge Town Council to amend the boundary of Trowbridge to include Area 1.**

## **Area 2 - Lady Down Farm**

While the Working Group acknowledged that the sole residential property within the large area could only be accessed through Trowbridge, it was not convinced that governance of the area would be improved or that the proposed new boundary was an improvement over the existing natural boundary.

**Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.**

## **Area 3a - Wyke Road**

The Working Group accepted the arguments for amending the boundary so that it did not run down the centre of Wyke Road, and met the line of the under construction Hilperton Relief Road.

**Recommendation - To support the proposal from Trowbridge Town Council to amend the boundary of Trowbridge to include Area 3a.**

## **Area 3b - Hilperton Gap South**

The Working Group considered that even with the construction of the Hilperton Relief Road through the Hilperton Gap, the existing boundary along the back fence line of Trowbridge Town properties formed an appropriate natural boundary, and it was not apparent what governance improvements would be obtained from amending the line as per the proposal.

**Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.**

## **Area 3c - Paxcroft Mead South of Hilperton Drive**

The Working Group considered the proposal in concert with those from Hilperton Parish Council, and partly accepted Hilperton's submission for Area B that the boundary be north to the brook to form a natural boundary. For the remainder of the properties south of Hilperton Drive, the Working Group considered whether the properties formed one contiguous whole which should be wholly within Hilperton or Trowbridge, or if there were grounds to consider the properties did form part of separate communities. If the properties did form one whole, it was discussed whether the less residential and more distinct properties on the other side of the Leap Gate road formed part of the same community.

**Recommendation - For the boundary to run south along Hilperton Drive to the Leap Gate roundabout**

## **Area 4a - Old Farm, Area 4b - West Ashton Road Employment Land, Area 4c - Ashton Park Urban Extension**

While Old Farm Estate was currently far removed from the rest of West Ashton Parish and much closer and connect with Trowbridge Town, taking into account the arguments to consider plotted development for the next five years, the surrounding areas of 4b and 4c would be considerably more built up. As a result, Old Farm Estate would not be as isolated from other properties and other

development in what is currently West Ashton Parish as it might currently seem. As such, there was no need to adjust the boundary, and West Ashton would have the opportunity to further expand and develop as a community.

**Recommendation - To retain the current boundary.**

**Area 4d - White Horse Business Park**

The Working Group considered that as a result of the recommendation for parts 4a,b and c, Area 4d would not become more closely linked with Trowbridge Town that it was at present, and as such there was no reason it should be altered.

**Recommendation - To retain the current boundary**



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.

Sport 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)

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Area A3 and A4 - Trowbridge and Surrounding Parishes**

### **Mapping**

Scheme 18 22 23 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 v2

Scheme 18 22 23 - Hilperton PC Proposal Area A3, A4

Scheme 18 22 23 - Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3 150915

Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2a

Scheme 19 and 20 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2b

Scheme 21 - Area A3, A4 Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 1a

Scheme 24 - Trowbridge TC Area 2 Lady Down Farm

Scheme 25 - Trowbridge TC Area 3b Hilperton Gap

Scheme 26 - Trowbridge TC Area 4a Old Farm

Scheme 27 - Trowbridge TC Area 4b West Ashton Road Employment Land

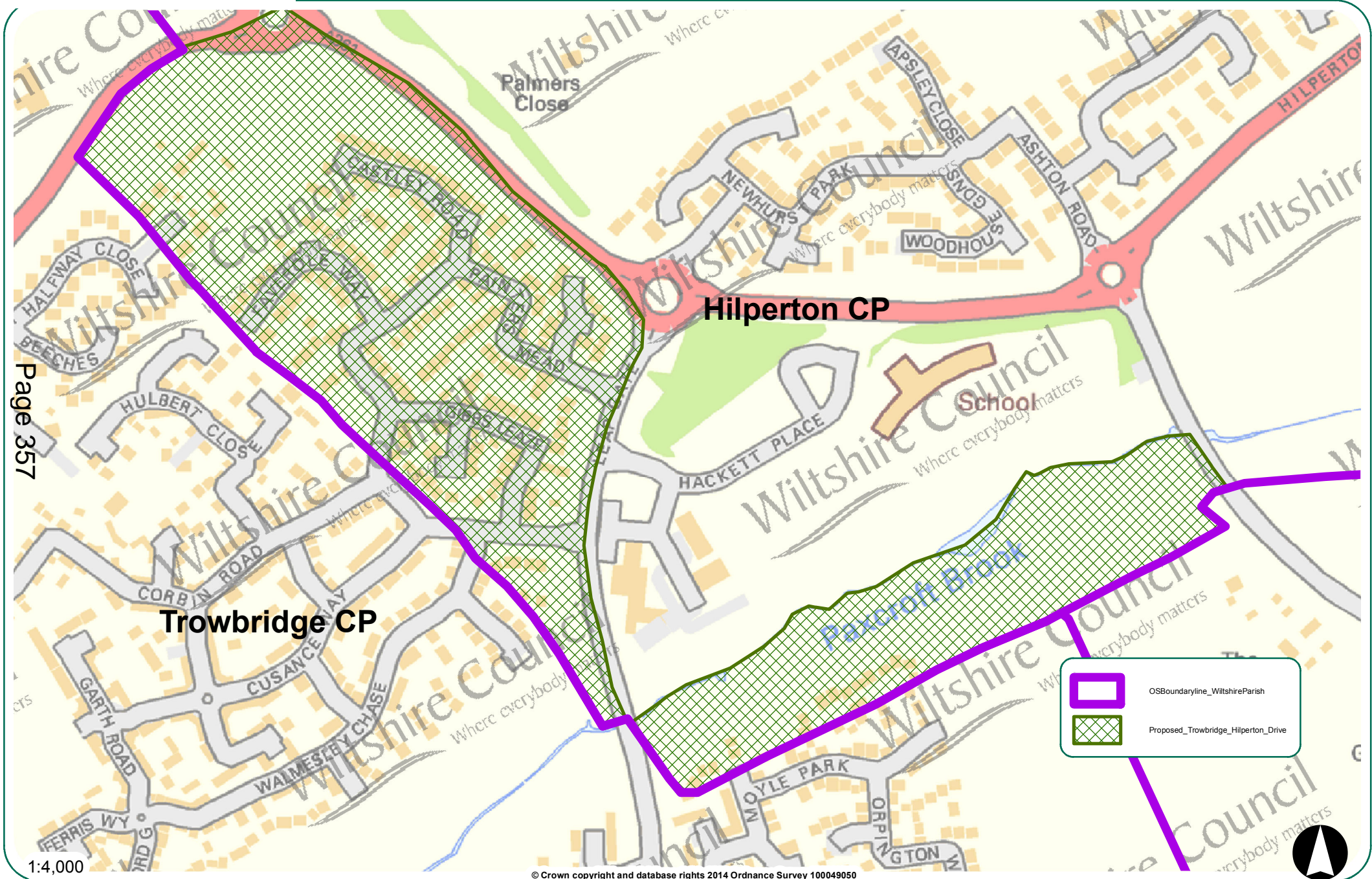
Scheme 28 - Trowbridge TC Area 4c Ashton Park Urban Extension v2

Scheme 28 and 29 Trowbridge TC Area 4c and 4d

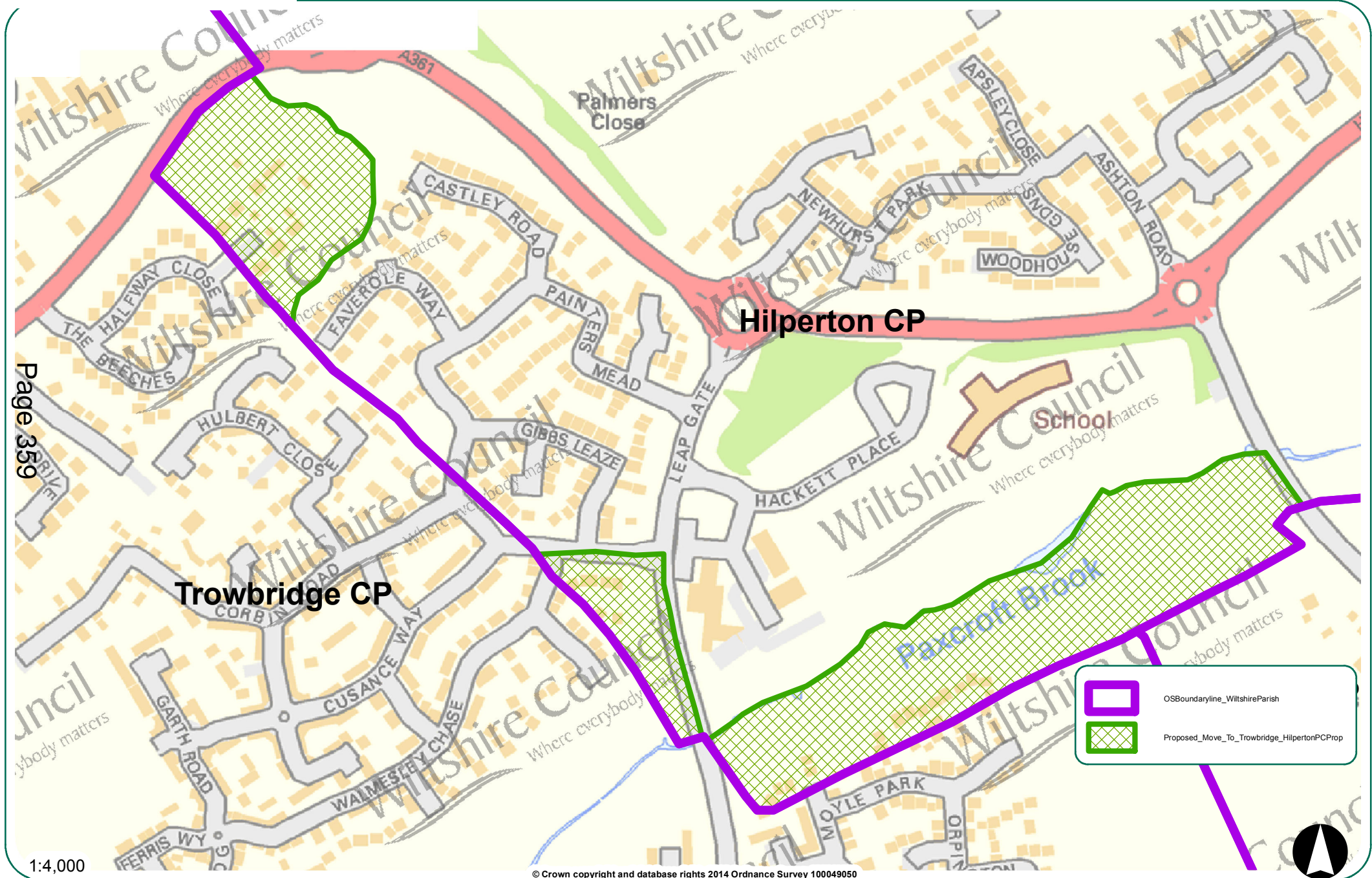
Scheme 18 to 29 Trowbridge TC Proposed Boundary

This page is intentionally left blank

Area A3, A4 - Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 3  
Hilperton Drive Area



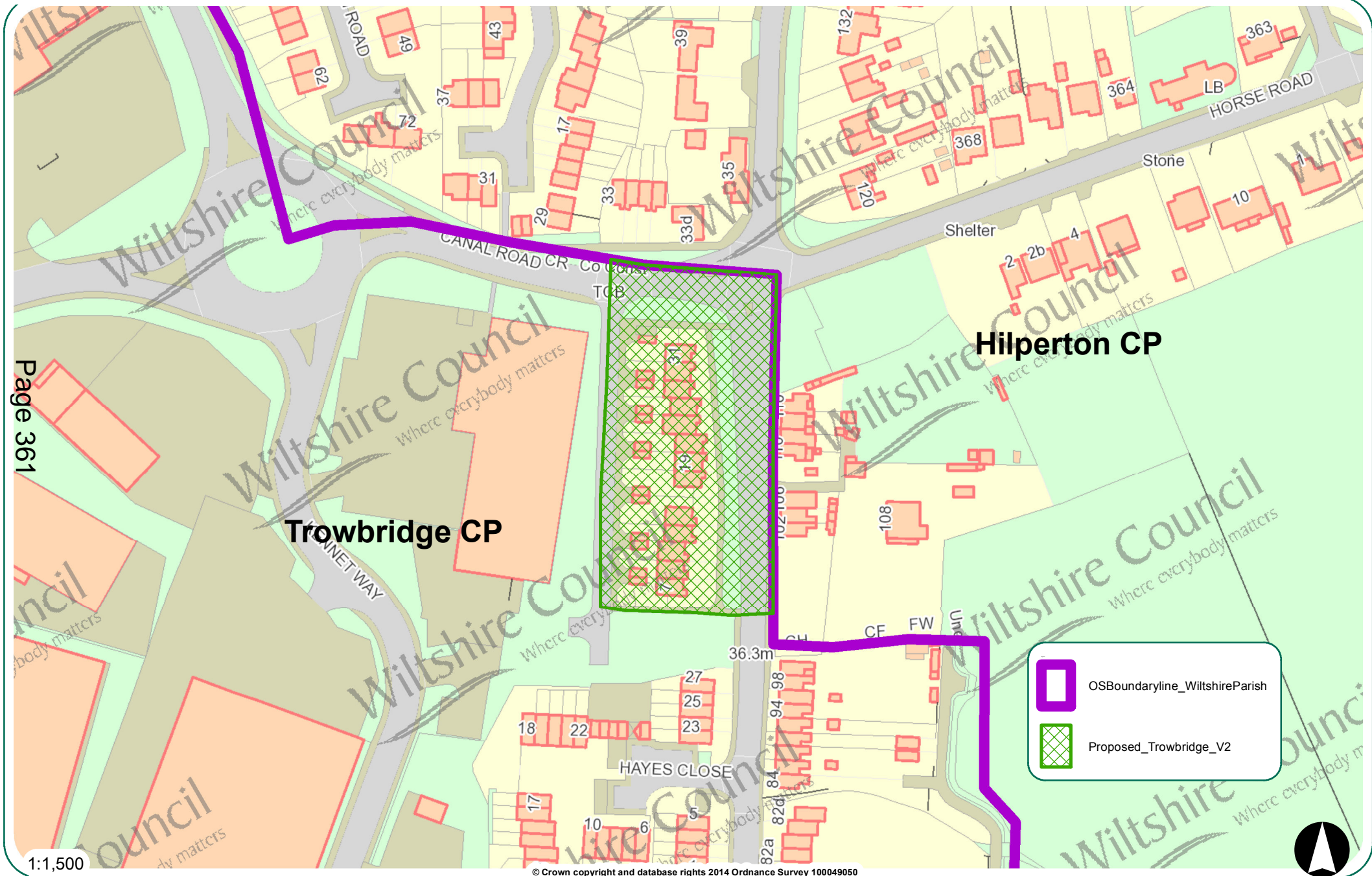
This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

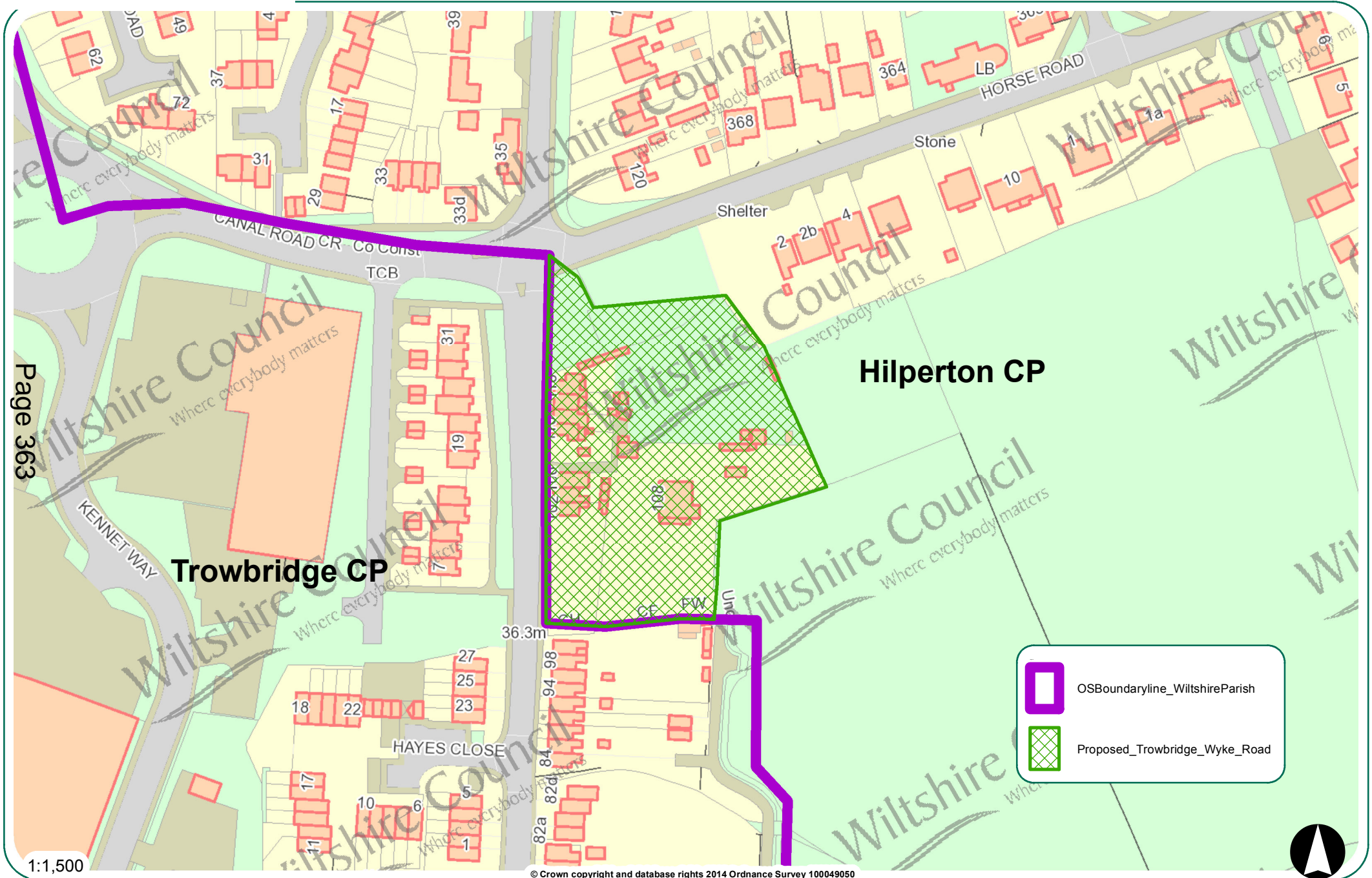


Area A3, A4 - Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2a  
Wyke Road (West) Area



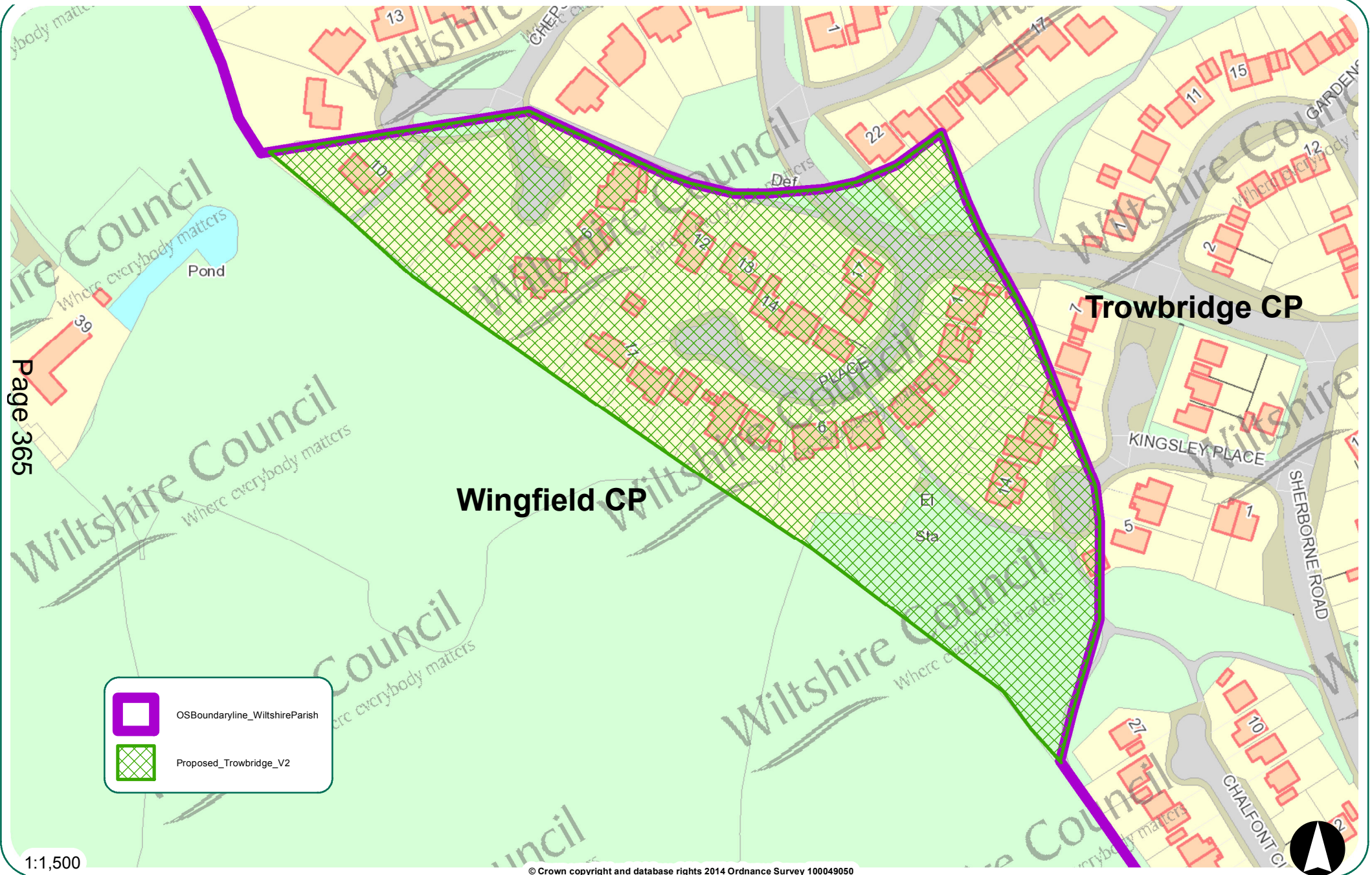
This page is intentionally left blank

Area A3, A4 - Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 2b  
Wyke Road (East) Area

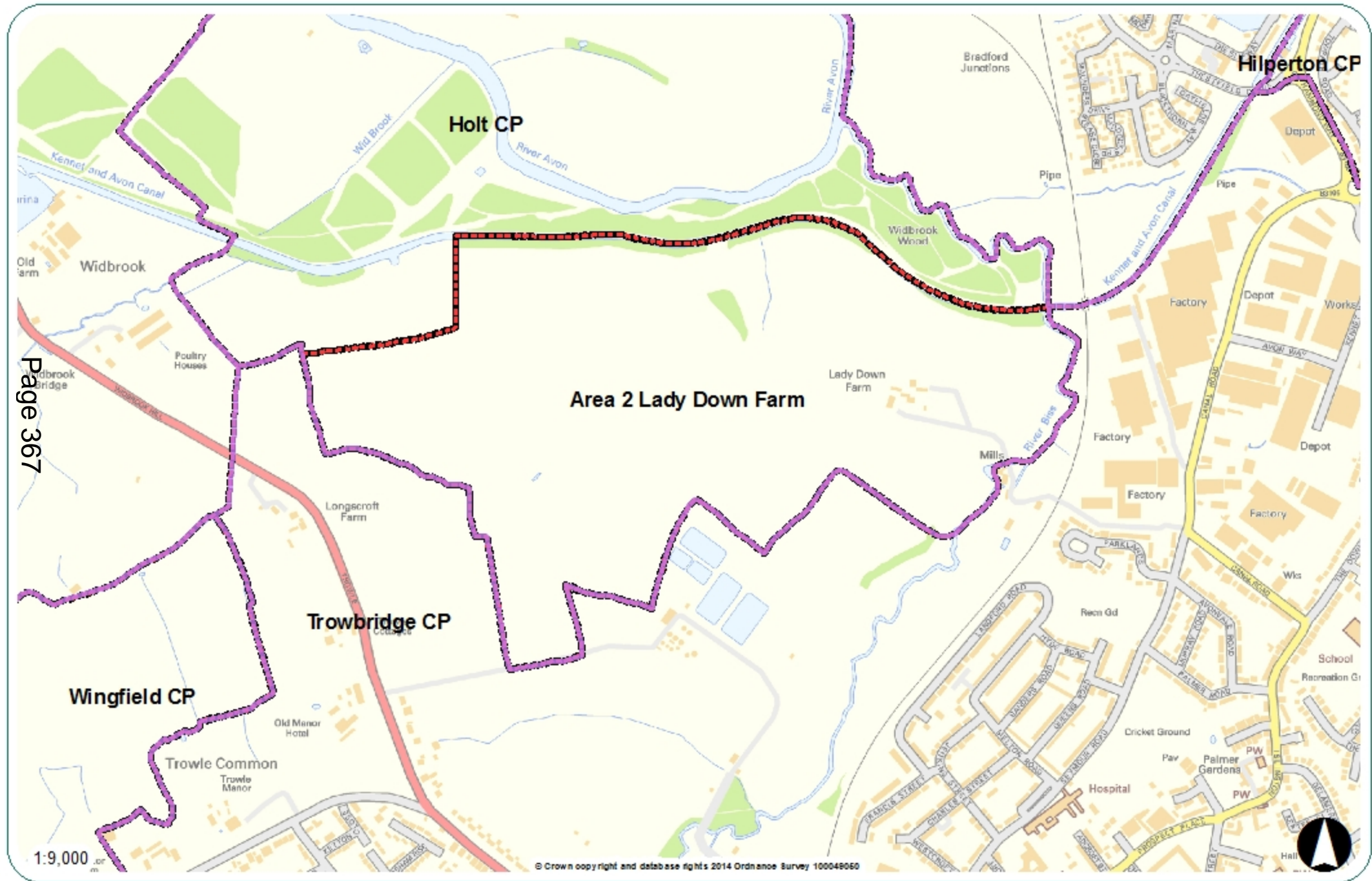


This page is intentionally left blank

Area A3, A4 - Trowbridge and surrounding parishes Map 1a  
Shore Place Area



This page is intentionally left blank



Page 367

1:9,000

This page is intentionally left blank

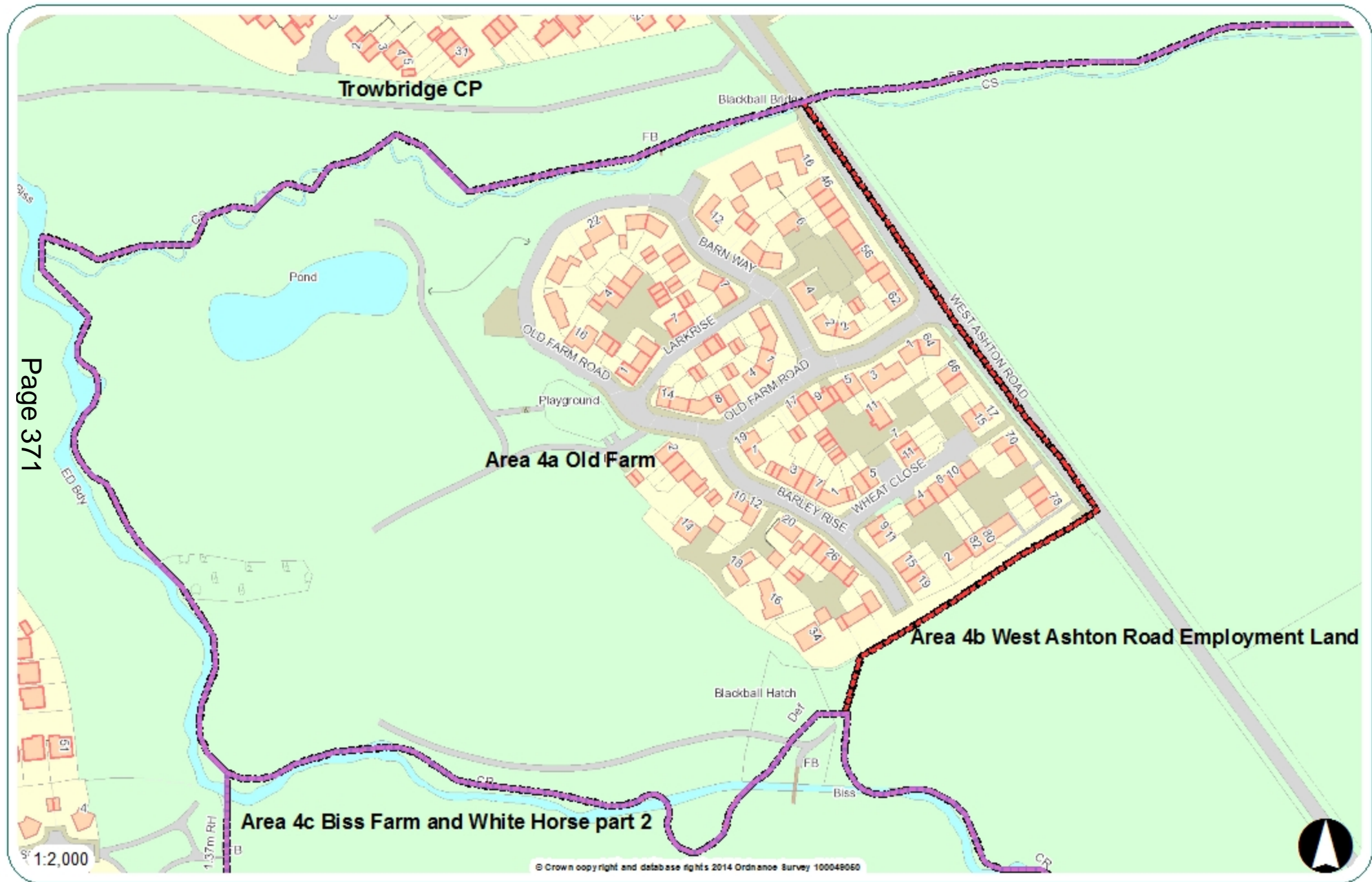




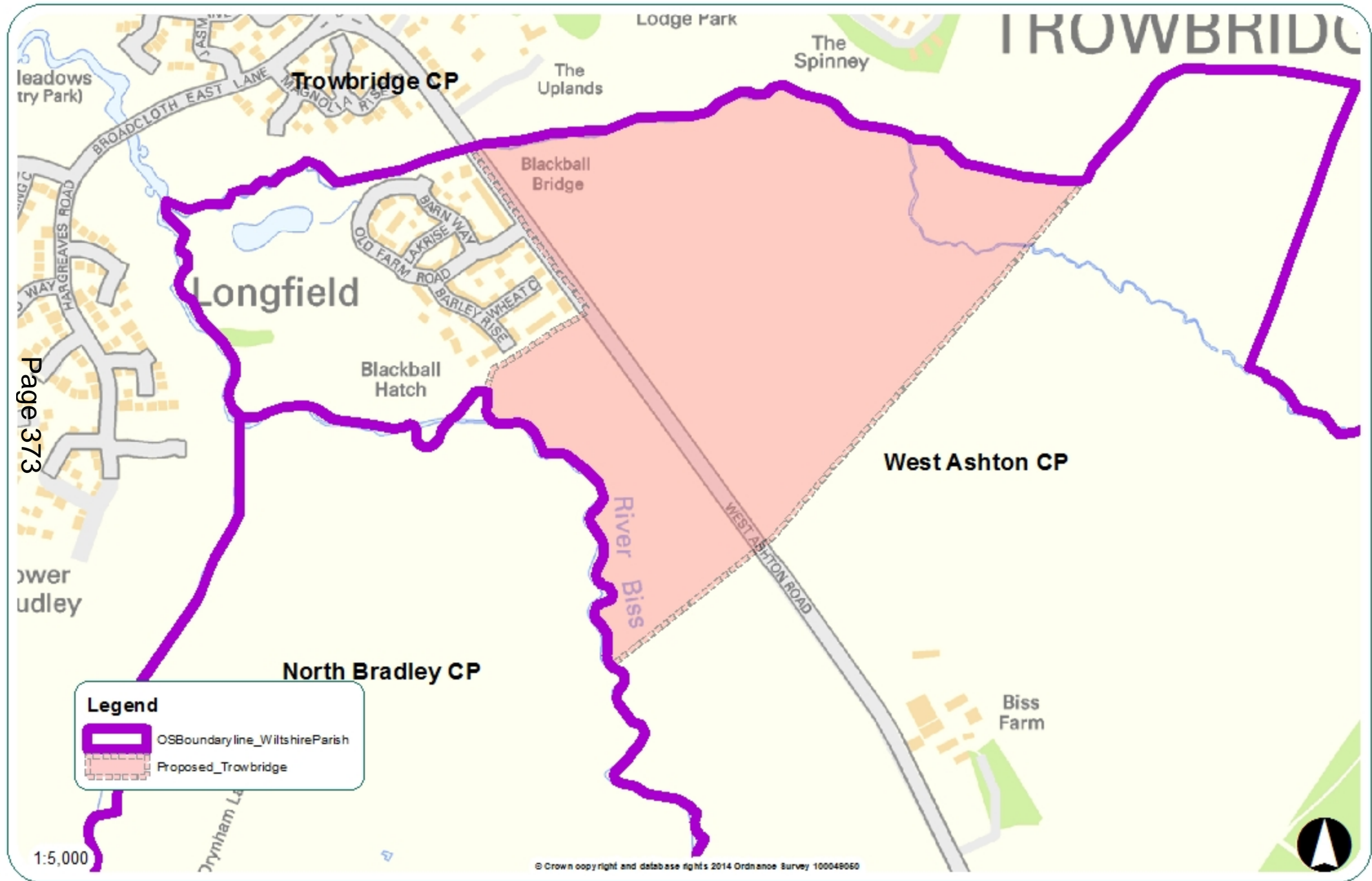
Page 369



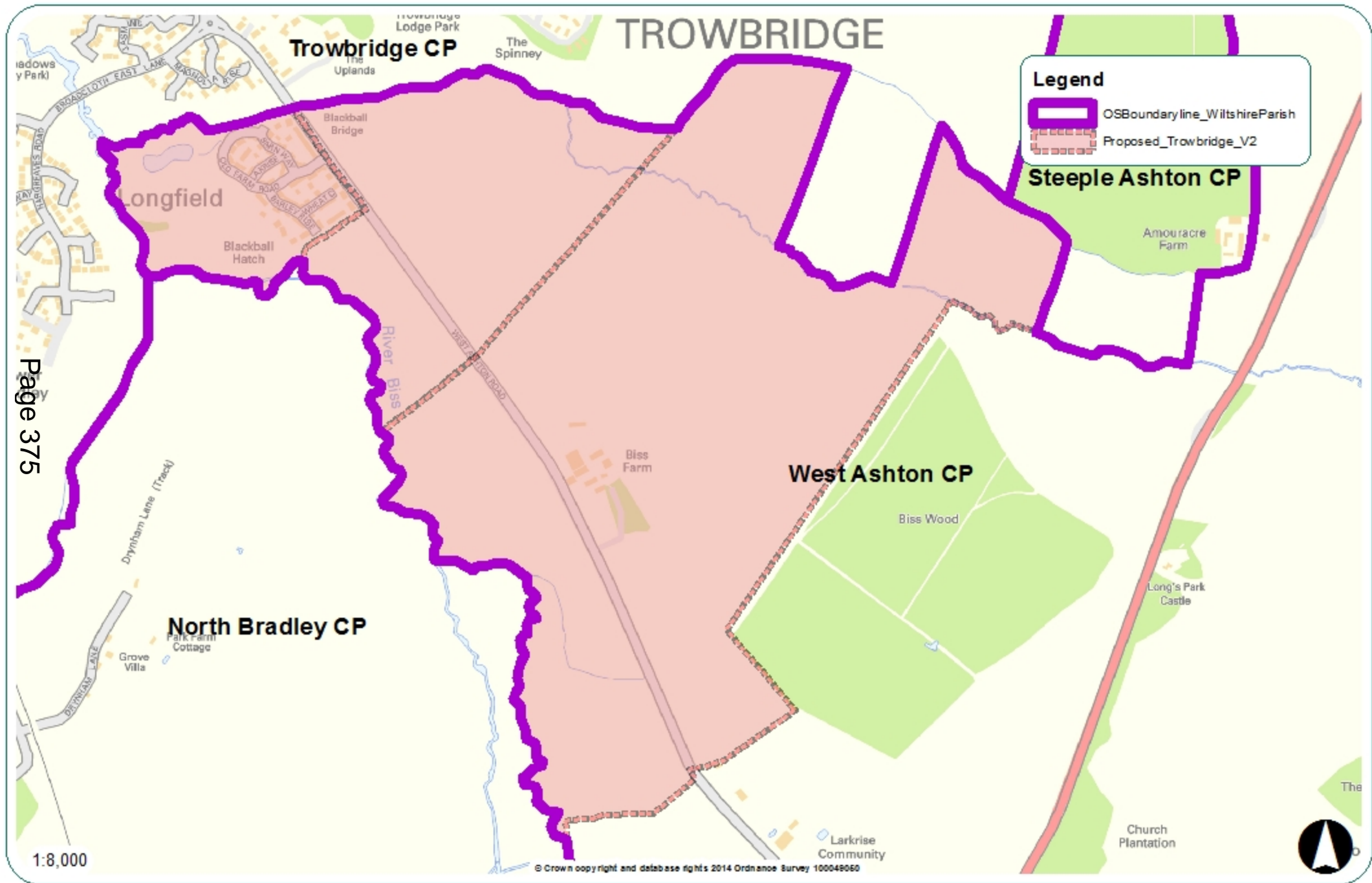
This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

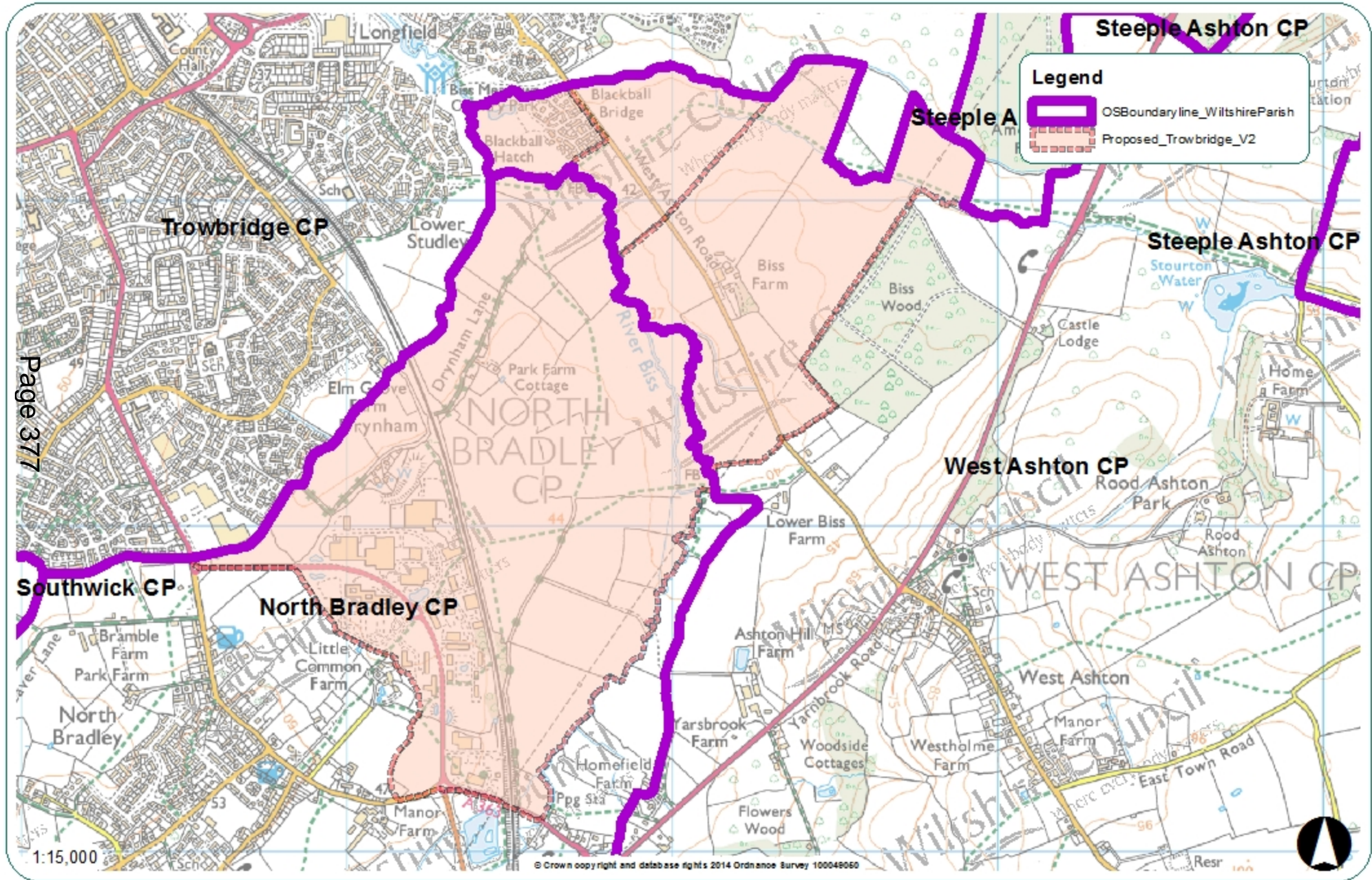


This page is intentionally left blank

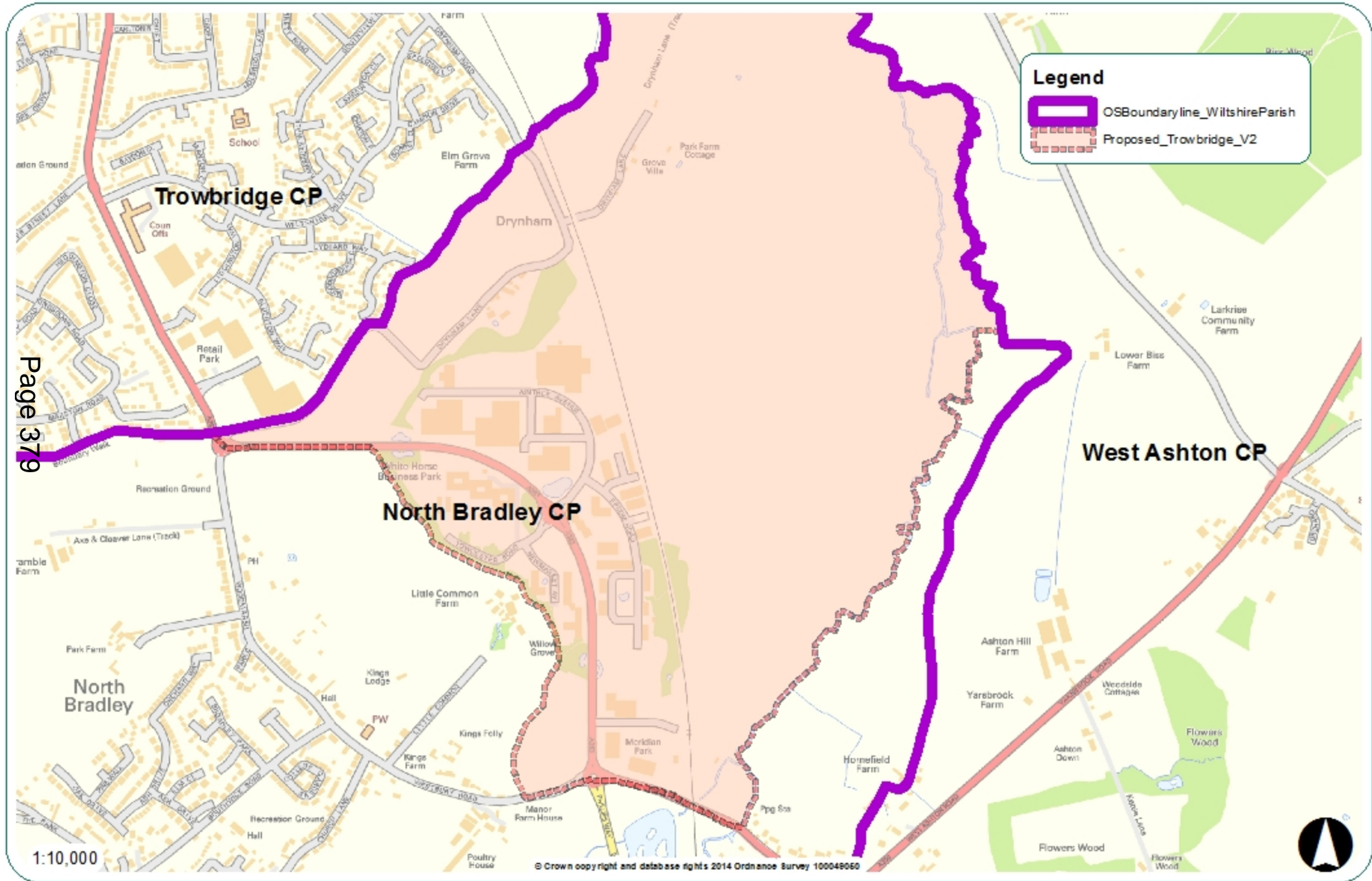


This page is intentionally left blank





This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

## Area A5 - Chippenham area

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bremhill_PC_submission_to_WGroup_v4 27 November 2014	24/11/14
2	Chippenham TC draft Map November 2014	11/14
3	Chippenham TC Planning Minutes 170714 Indicative map	17/7/14
4	Chippenham TC revised map 1 December 2014	1/12/14
5	Chippenham Without PC minutes Jan to Dec 2014	2014
6	Langley Burrell covering letter 3 December 2014	3/12/14
7	Langley Burrell suggestions 3 December 2014	3/12/14
8	PCG Fact Finding meeting notes - Chippenham 4 December 2014	4/12/14

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mr and Mrs Hartnell	30/4/14	Does not want change at Bremhill
2	Chippenham Without PC	2/12/14	No reason to alter boundary
3	Council tax (Paul Southway)	13/7/15	Possible (small) boundary anomaly
4	Mr I James	Various	Bremhill boundaries

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Bremhill Parish Council Submission to the WGPCGR**

### **Proposal to Change the Bremhill Parish Boundary**

Bremhill Parish Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Wiltshire Council's community governance review.

#### **With reference to the procedure note issued for the Council meeting to be held at the Neeld Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> December at Para 1.1.3**

Bremhill Parish Council proposes *an alternative proposal* to the boundary change submitted by Chippenham Town Council.

Bremhill Parish Council proposes that the parish boundary is returned to the 2012 boundary was drawn in the Core Strategy Pre-submission document figure 5.4 Chippenham Community Area. The black line identifies this boundary. This is submitted as map 1.

Bremhill Parish Council brings to the attention of Wiltshire Council that in 2013 the Council adjusted the Calne Area Boundary to take the farm buildings at Hardens Farm, and the Stanley Sports Centre into the Chippenham Community Area. This adoption of Bremhill Parish assets was undertaken with no consultation with the parish council and as such has been acquired without consideration to due process and therefore lacked legal soundness.

The parish council considers that at this time there is no justification or need to move the Chippenham boundary into the Calne Community Area and take over 150 acres of good farmland.

With reference to the Inspector's letter to Mr. Cunningham dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013, under the Wiltshire Core Strategy section 5 Settlement Boundaries. The Inspector said" The Council has not reviewed the extent of the boundaries to inform the core strategy, instead relying on the pre-existing development plan documents"

As mentioned above the Bremhill and Calne Area Boundary were illegally updated as recently as 2013.

The Inspector adds" To review boundaries, the Council needs to review community led planning as the vehicle to deliver the necessary updates"

Is this governance process in response to the Inspector's letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> December? If so it is related to the ongoing revision of the Core Strategy and the DPD process.

Bremhill Parish started the Neighbourhood Plan process in February 2013, and will complete the first draft of the plan for review by the Council in the next few weeks.

Far from adding any risk to the process the Neighbourhood Plan will offer a community lead process to inform the revised Core Strategy.

It must be remembered that Bremhill Parish is part of the Calne Community Area and not the Chippenham Community Area.

Therefore under CP8 Calne Community Area – Housing, Sustainability Assessment and in the addendum dated April 2014 it states:

3.5.1 it is proposed that an additional 200 dwellings will be required for Calne Town over the plan period, and an additional 25 dwellings proposed for the remainder of the community area.

The survey (July 2014) of the residents of Bremhill parish indicated that an additional 30 homes would be acceptable over the plan period. The use of the new MB Class for developing derelict farm buildings, the use of CP 49, and CP 44 may allow Bremhill Parish to achieve this sustainable growth to support this rural parish. There are 25 farms, including 3 of the largest dairy herds in Wiltshire having a joint turnover for the parish of £1.5 million. There is a need for good productive farmland and young people to be involved in this industry.

It was clear from the survey, which had a 47% response. The community voted overwhelmingly by 89% to keep the green open space between Chippenham and Tytherton Lucas. This has reinforced the determination of the public to keep the landscape and recreational green space for the communities of Chippenham and Calne. The wildlife in this area needs to be protected; there has been a loss of 40% of birds that feed off the land in recent years.

In response to a question raised by a resident of Tytherton Lucas regarding the removal of the rural buffer between Chippenham and Tytherton Lucas the Council stated “ Tytherton Lucas and Bremhill parish does not need a rural buffer, as it is protected by Wiltshire's rich and diverse nature, historic, and built environment, with steps to protect and enhance them including CP 51 Landscape, which seeks to enhance Wiltshire's distinctive landscape character”.



Bremhill Parish Council and the Calne Community Area welcome the opportunity for further consultation at the next stage of the governance process.

The Bremhill Neighbourhood Plan has a Landscape report for land to the west of the parish, and this is provided to the WGPCGR, as Report 1.

It appears that this proposed boundary change is being considered **before** any decision has been made on the DPD, **before** any consultation regarding proposed sites, and **before** any planning application has been submitted.

For the following reasons Bremhill Parish Council submits an application for an alternative proposal as allowed under the Para 1.1.3 of the procedure note.

The boundary between Chippenham Community Area and Calne Community should be shown as the boundary drawn for the pre submission documents for the Core Strategy of 2012. See map 1.

1. The Bremhill Parish Neighbourhood Plan has been completed with the designated area of the Bremhill parish. At this stage there is no core strategy or evidence to support any change to the 2012 boundary.
2. The Council has made boundary changes in 2012 & 2013 with no consultation with Bremhill parish council by taking the land from the Calne Community Area.
3. The Council proposal to extend the Chippenham community boundary to the rivers Marden and Avon is contrary to CP 51 – Landscape; the European Landscape convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning. The Sustrans route (the old railway track) runs from Calne to Chippenham and crosses this land. It allows walkers, horse riders, cyclists and wheelchair users to enjoy the countryside This land is important for recreation and tourism for both Calne and Chippenham.
4. From the Wiltshire Core Strategy pre submission document CP 51 Para 6.79

There is a need to protect the distinct character and identity of villages and settlements in Wiltshire and in particular issue has been highlighted in those parts of Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area, which adjoins the administrative area of Swindon Borough Council where there may be additional development pressure.

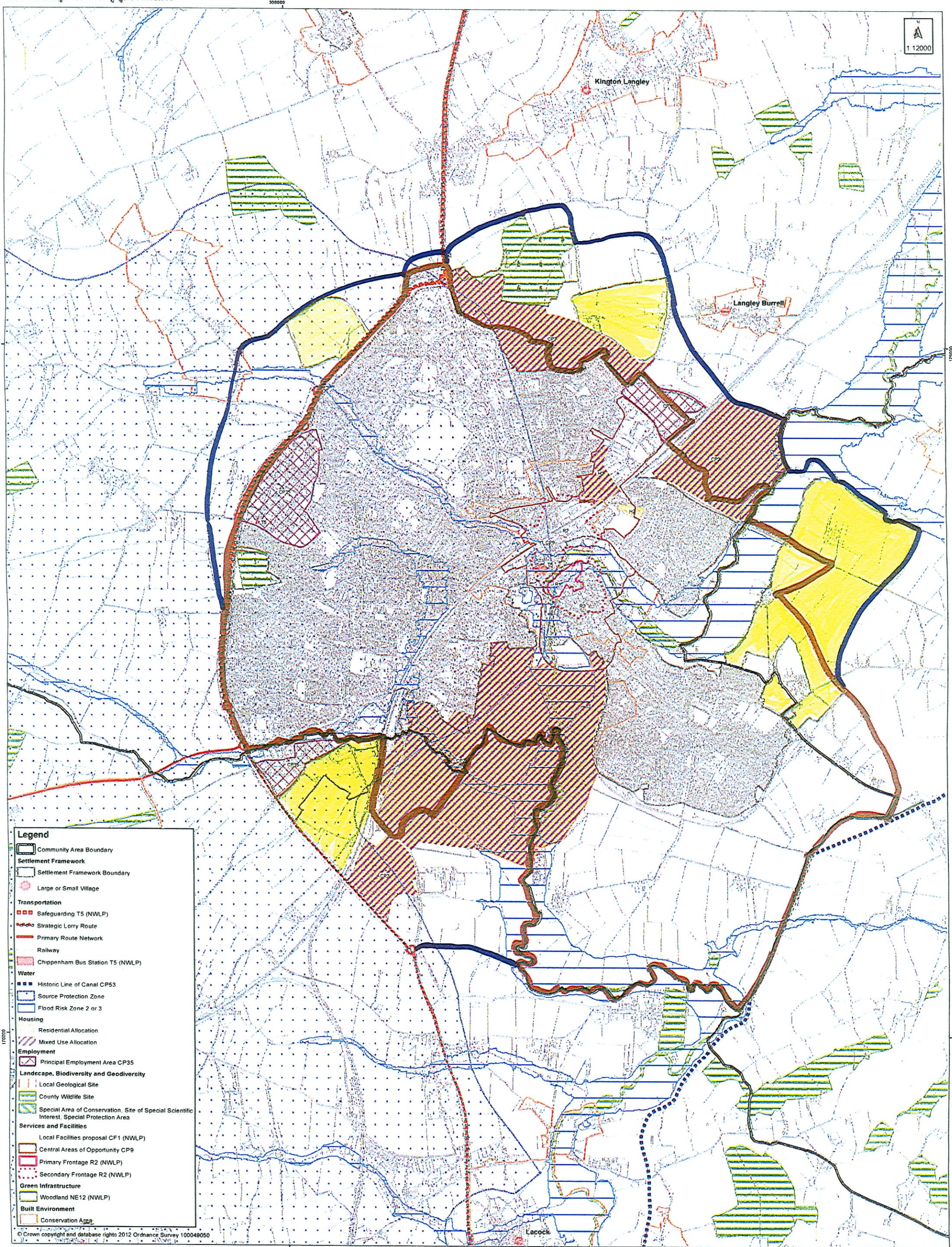
The separate identity of those settlements should be protected in line with CP 51.

The local community may also wish to consider this matter further in any community led plan, such as a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Bremhill Neighbourhood Plan is in the consultation phase with the community, a draft of the plan will be available to the Council in December 2014.

In view of the above submission Bremhill Parish Council respectfully requests that the WGPCGR takes into account the reasons submitted for the alternative proposal, which is backed by evidence and sound reasoning, and that the original boundary be re-instated.

Bremhill Parish Council will seek legal advice on the process undertaken to change the Bremhill and Calne Community Area boundary in recent years where no consultation occurred. The loss of governance for the lost areas is of concern the Parish Council.



- Legend**
- Community Area Boundary
  - Settlement Framework**
  - Settlement Framework Boundary
  - Large or Small Village
  - Transportation**
  - Safeguarding T5 (NWLP)
  - Strategic Lorry Route
  - Primary Route Network
  - Railway
  - Chippenham Bus Station T5 (NWLP)
  - Water**
  - Historic Line of Canal CP53
  - Source Protection Zone
  - Flood Risk Zone 2 or 3
  - Housing**
  - Residential Allocation
  - Mixed Use Allocation
  - Employment**
  - Principal Employment Area CP35
  - Landscape, Biodiversity and Geodiversity**
  - Local Geological Site
  - County Wildlife Site
  - Special Area of Conservation, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area
  - Services and Facilities**
  - Local Facilities proposal CF1 (NWLP)
  - Central Areas of Opportunity CP9
  - Primary Frontage R2 (NWLP)
  - Secondary Frontage R2 (NWLP)
  - Green Infrastructure**
  - Woodland NE12 (NWLP)
  - Built Environment**
  - Conservation Area

© Crown copyright and database rights 2012 Ordnance Survey 100049050

TOWN BOUNDARY  
 RECOMMENDED CHANGES

This page is intentionally left blank

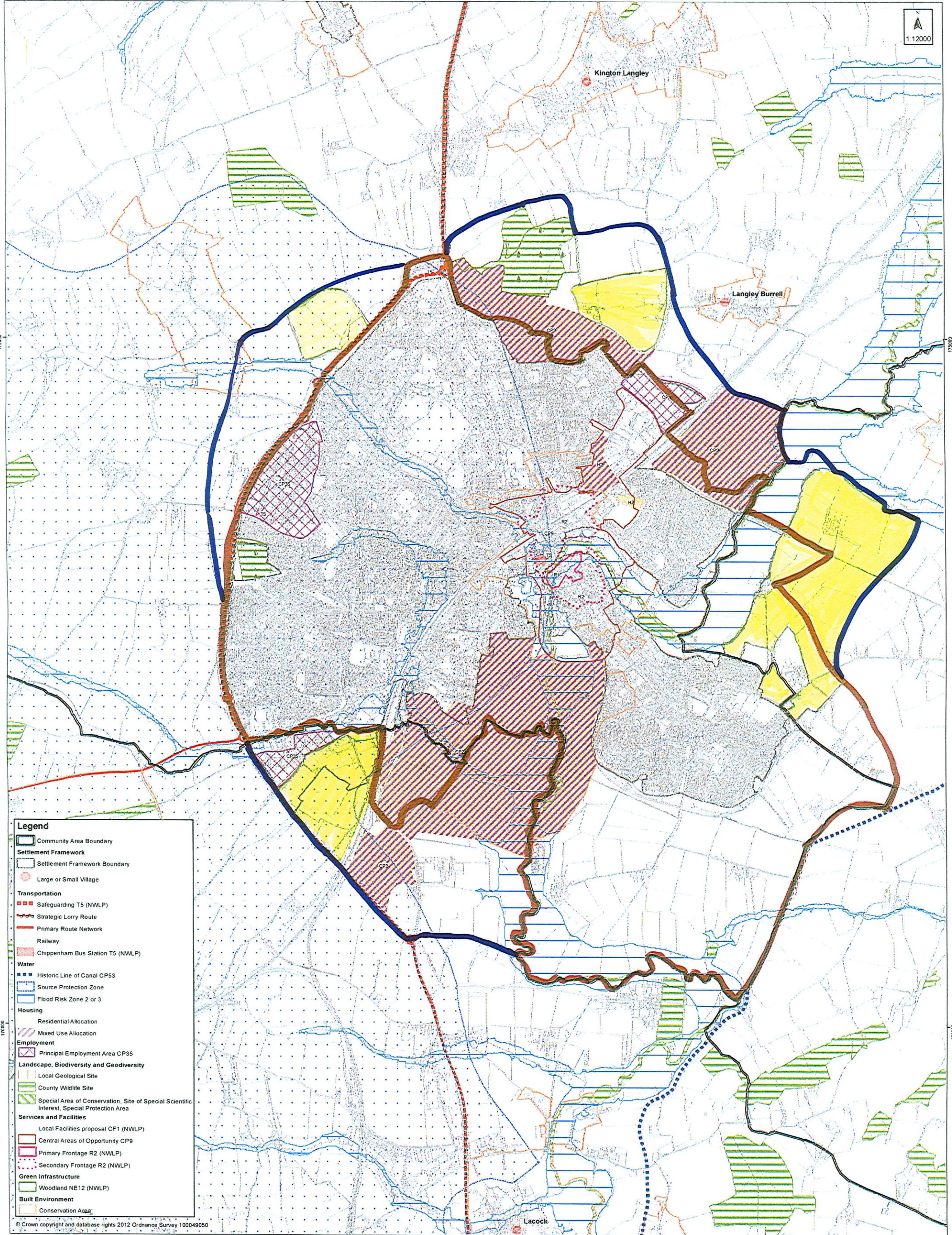


1:10,000



This page is intentionally left blank

**Inset Map 4: Chippenham**



- Legend**
- Community Area Boundary
  - Settlement Framework**
  - Settlement Framework Boundary
  - Large or Small Village
  - Transportation**
  - Safeguarding T5 (NWLP)
  - Strategic Lorry Route
  - Primary Route Network
  - Railway
  - Chippenham Bus Station T5 (NWLP)
  - Water**
  - Historic Line of Canal CP53
  - Source Protection Zone
  - Flood Risk Zone 2 or 3
  - Housing**
  - Residential Allocation
  - Mixed Use Allocation
  - Employment**
  - Principal Employment Area CP35
  - Landscape, Biodiversity and Geodiversity**
  - Local Geological Site
  - County Wildlife Site
  - Special Area of Conservation, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area
  - Services and Facilities**
  - Local Facilities proposal CF1 (NWLP)
  - Central Areas of Opportunity CP9
  - Primary Frontage R2 (NWLP)
  - Secondary Frontage R2 (NWLP)
  - Green Infrastructure**
  - Woodland NE12 (NWLP)
  - Built Environment**
  - Conservation Area

© Crown copyright and database rights 2012 Ordnance Survey 100049050

*Town Boundary*

*RECOMMENDED CHANGES*

**Page 391**

This page is intentionally left blank



# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

**Vivian A Vines MBE**  
**Clerk of the Council**

**Tel 01249 890759**  
**Email [clerk@chippenhamwithoutparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@chippenhamwithoutparishcouncil.co.uk)**

**Dauntsey House**  
**1 Beeches Lane**  
**Dauntsey Lock**  
**Nr Chippenham**  
**Wiltshire**  
**SN15 4TL**

14 August 2014

Deborah Frith - Assistant Planning Officer  
Economic Development & Planning  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire BA14 8JN

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Deborah

## **Chippenham Settlement Boundary Review Consultation**

I refer to your Email and enclosures of the 25 July 2014 in regards to the above. As you know I indicated to you that this arrived just at the right time to be considered at their Meeting held on the 30 July 2014.

As a result of proposals for a major Distribution and Retail Centre hitting the headlines, proposed to be sited on the western side of the A350 and all within Chippenham Without Parish, the Meeting was well attended with not only Chippenham Without Parishioners voicing their concern but also many Chippenham Town residents living on Cepen Park North and Action Groups against the proposals have already been formed.

Your Consultation therefore was welcomed and it has to be said that all were pleasantly surprised that the A350 is proposed to be retained as the settlement boundary. In response to your request for views I think it best if I simply copy you the Minute from the Meeting:

30/14 v) Wiltshire Council Informal Consultation – Chippenham Development Plan “Settlement Boundaries”. The Council had been consulted on proposed changes to the settlement boundaries as part of preparing the Chippenham Site Allocations Plan. The Council considered that comment should be made in regards to proposals that affected Chippenham Without Parish and that no comment should be offered in regards to other Parish areas. With this in mind **the Council agreed that** the A350 should continue to form the settlement boundary between Chippenham Town and Chippenham Without Parish and that no development should be allowed that breached this boundary. The Council also agreed that the area shown for potential expansion to the north of Chippenham Golf Club should be omitted from the proposals.

I hope that this gives you a clear picture of what the feelings of Chippenham Without Parish are and that they will be taken into consideration when the matter is determined.

Yours sincerely

*Viv*

For Chippenham Without Parish Council

# **CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES**

## **Council Meeting**

**held at 7.45pm**

**St Peter's Church, Lordsmead, Chippenham**

**26<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

### **51/14 CLERKS REPORT**

The following items were received for decision, information, and circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s.

- e) Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review. The Council had received an invitation to attend a private Community Governance Meeting to discuss Chippenham proposals to be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 in the Neeld Hall. Start time had been notified as 11.00am. Council agreed that it was essential that they were represented at the Meeting to ensure that previous representations made were supported by Wiltshire Council. All endeavours should be made to retain the A350 as the settlement boundary for Chippenham and to remain as the Parish Ward Boundary. It was agreed that Cllr P Reynolds and Cllr Mrs L Selman should be the formal Council representatives with substitutes in position in case of last minute difficulties. The Clerk would also attend.

# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

## APPROVED MINUTES

**Full Council Meeting**  
held at 7.45pm  
St Peter's Church, Lordsmead, Chippenham

**29<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

### **61/13 CLERKS REPORT**

The following items were received for decision, information, and circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s.

- e) The Council received notification of Wiltshire Council proposals for a Parish/Community Governance Review (Parish Boundaries & Electoral Arrangements) and considered whether there are any proposals for further consideration and discussion, including changing the Parish Council's name to Allington & Sheldon Parish Council. The Council also noted that Wiltshire Council were also raising the issue of amalgamation of smaller Parish Councils and shared services. **It was agreed that the contents be noted and that Council Members would give further consideration at a future Meeting.**
- f) The Council noted receipt of Corsham Town Council's notification to Wiltshire Council to seek a Parish/Community Governance Review (Parish Boundaries & Electoral Arrangements) **It was agreed that the contents be noted and that Council Members would give further consideration at a future Meeting.**

# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

## APPROVED MINUTES

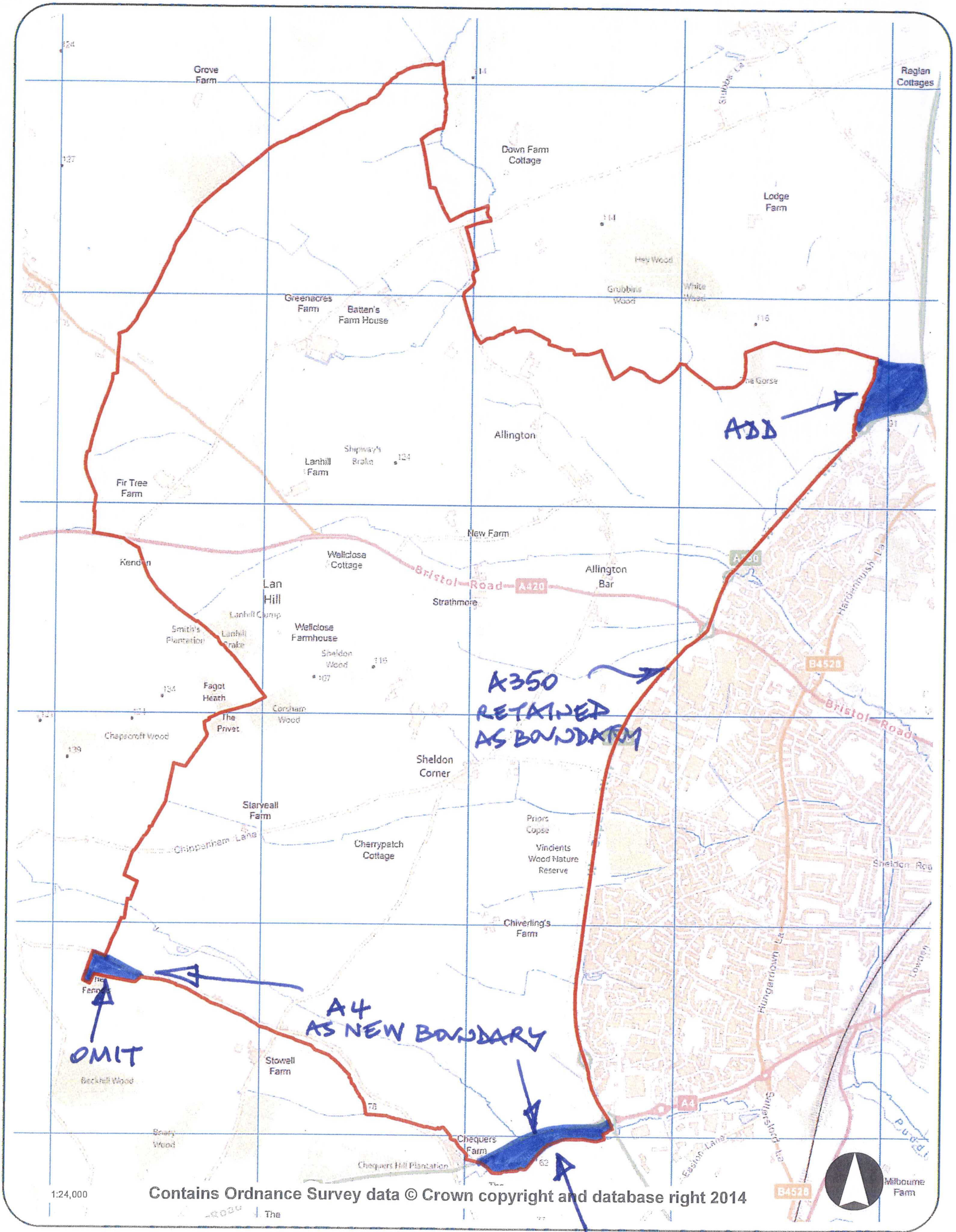
**Full Council Meeting**  
held at 7.45pm  
St Peter's Church, Lordsmead, Chippenham

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

### **76/13 CLERKS REPORT**

The following items were received for decision, information, and circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s.

# Chippenham Without Parish Council Boundary



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2014



- d) The Council, following deferral from the last Meeting and discussions at their informal session held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2014, agreed to respond to Wiltshire Council proposals for Parish/Community Governance and Parish Boundaries and Electoral Arrangements Review. The Acting Clerk had provided a Ward Boundary Map and agreement was reached on amendments that followed more sensible lines than that which existed. The Council asked the Acting Clerk to prepare an updated Map for the next Meeting. **The Council agreed** that the following should be forwarded to Wiltshire Council:
- i) Propose the change of name to Allington & Sheldon Parish Council
  - ii) Recommend that Parish Ward Boundaries are adjusted to follow a more sensible natural line as the attached Map
  - iii) Recommend that the Parish Council should remain as an independent and self-governing Authority and not be amalgamated with others
- e) The Council noted receipt of Corsham Town Council's notification to Wiltshire Council to seek a Parish/Community Governance Review (Parish Boundaries & Electoral Arrangements) **It was agreed** that there should be no amalgamation with Corsham Ward should the Wiltshire Council make such proposals.

## **CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL**

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

#### **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

held at 7.45pm

St Peter's Church, Lordsmead, Chippenham

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

#### **MIN 7. Public Questions and General Discussion of Parish Issues:**

- a) **Boundary & Electoral Review** – The Parish Council had received notification from Wiltshire Council that they intended to carry out a Boundary and Electoral Review. Those present were advised that the Council would be making representations that the Parish name should be changed to Allington & Sheldon Parish Council, that the Parish Boundaries should be adjusted to follow a more natural and sensible line and that the Parish Council should remain an independent and self-governing Authority and not be amalgamated with others.



Dear Jessica

I acknowledge receipt of the Agenda for the meeting on 4th November in Chippenham.

I wish to put on record that, owing to the regrettable e-mail communication breakdown from Wiltshire Council, this Council only became aware of this meeting by chance and rumour, only a week ago - 26th November to be precise. Consequently, this Council has not had opportunity to hold a formal review of the proposals on the table. Following brief discussion earlier this week with a partial Council, I set out the following as our initial reaction to these boundary change proposals.

(a) It is accepted, albeit reluctantly, that some adjustment of the boundary between Chippenham Town and Langley Burrell Parish may be necessary in consequence of the proposed North Chippenham development (between Hill Corner Road and Birds Marsh). However, we believe the new boundary should follow the line of the proposed "Link Road" (Eastern by-pass). This development has been approved in principle, and some boundary adjustment here seems fair and reasonable once the first houses on proposed development have been built and are completed.

(b) Similarly, the "Rawlings Farm" development, as and when it occurs, would appear to be a logical extension of the Monkton Park estate, but again the perimeter road should define the revised boundary line, once the first houses on proposed development have been built and are completed.

(c) Immediately south-east of the B4069, the curtilage of the Wavin Plastics site, subject to any extensions currently under consideration, might be an acceptable variation, depending on precise details of the proposals as and when they become available. Otherwise, in the absence of an agreed variation, and any such agreed work envisaged being undertaken, the current boundary position following the line of Parsonage Way should remain unchanged.

(d) While it does not appear to be proposed on the Chippenham map, the area to the west of the A350 (principally comprising the golf course and Retirement Home) could realistically be realigned to fall within any new Chippenham boundary - the area is small compared to the rest of the Langley Burrell parish, is clearly separated from the rest of Langley Burrell by the A350, and is effectively a continuation of the Chippenham conurbation to which it is conjoined and has ceased to share the essentially rural characteristics of the rest of the parish.

(e) We do however find it utterly astounding that there is a suggestion to extend Chippenham Town boundary northward as far as Jacksoms Lane and north-eastward as far as Langley House and St Peter's Church. This proposal would embrace the whole of Birds Marsh, and vast areas of open countryside on which no planning consent has been given, and is in conflict with both public opinion and the emerging Langley Burrell Neighbourhood Plan. Langley Burrell is recognised as a 'small village' under the latest version of the Core Policy 10 and any development would be expected to be consistent with such status. This attempt at a pre-emptive land grab is deeply flawed on several levels and should be rejected. Several key issues make such a proposal totally unacceptable:

The position of Langley Burrell village as a distinct and historic village community would be lost (there are references to the settlement in the Domesday Book, and St. Peter's Church has Saxon origins dating to the time of Alfred the Great)

- The rural buffer zone which at present protects the village and its environs, would be threatened.
- Expansion of the town in this direction would impact on the setting of many of the Listed Buildings in the parish, and the village Conservation Area itself.
- Historic heritage connections and settings such as the Victorian "Kilvert's Diaries" (the parish is known as "Kilvert Country") and the 15th Century "Maud Heath's Causeway" (recognised as a rare, if not unique, protected Ancient Monument of this type, having worldwide acclaim) would be lost.
- Bird's Marsh woodland is a valuable asset and an integral part of Langley Burrell parish.
- The whole area around the B4069 and St Peter's Church is a rich archaeological site, and it is befitting that it remains an integral part of its historic parish setting.

Furthermore, we are unable to see any legal justification for this proposal under the Government Guidelines on Boundary Changes. The aim of a boundary change is supposed to reflect new development that is agreed/approved, and not to anticipate potential development about which no decision has been made yet. Wiltshire Council have not yet finalised the Chippenham Plan and as far as we are aware no decision has yet been made (or made public) which area(s) from A to E will be selected. It is only once the area(s) have been selected that Wiltshire Council can decide what part of such areas will be built on, and it is wholly inappropriate to propose moving a large area of Langley Burrell into Chippenham on the hope of a developer that he may get planning consent one day to build houses (number not decided!).

We therefore find the whole suggestion of losing these valuable assets totally reprehensible, and therefore OBJECT most strongly to the proposals as indicated between the A350 and the Railway Line.

The attached map indicates IN BLUE this Parish's suggestions as described above.

Yours sincerely

*David*

David J Kilmister BA(Hons)

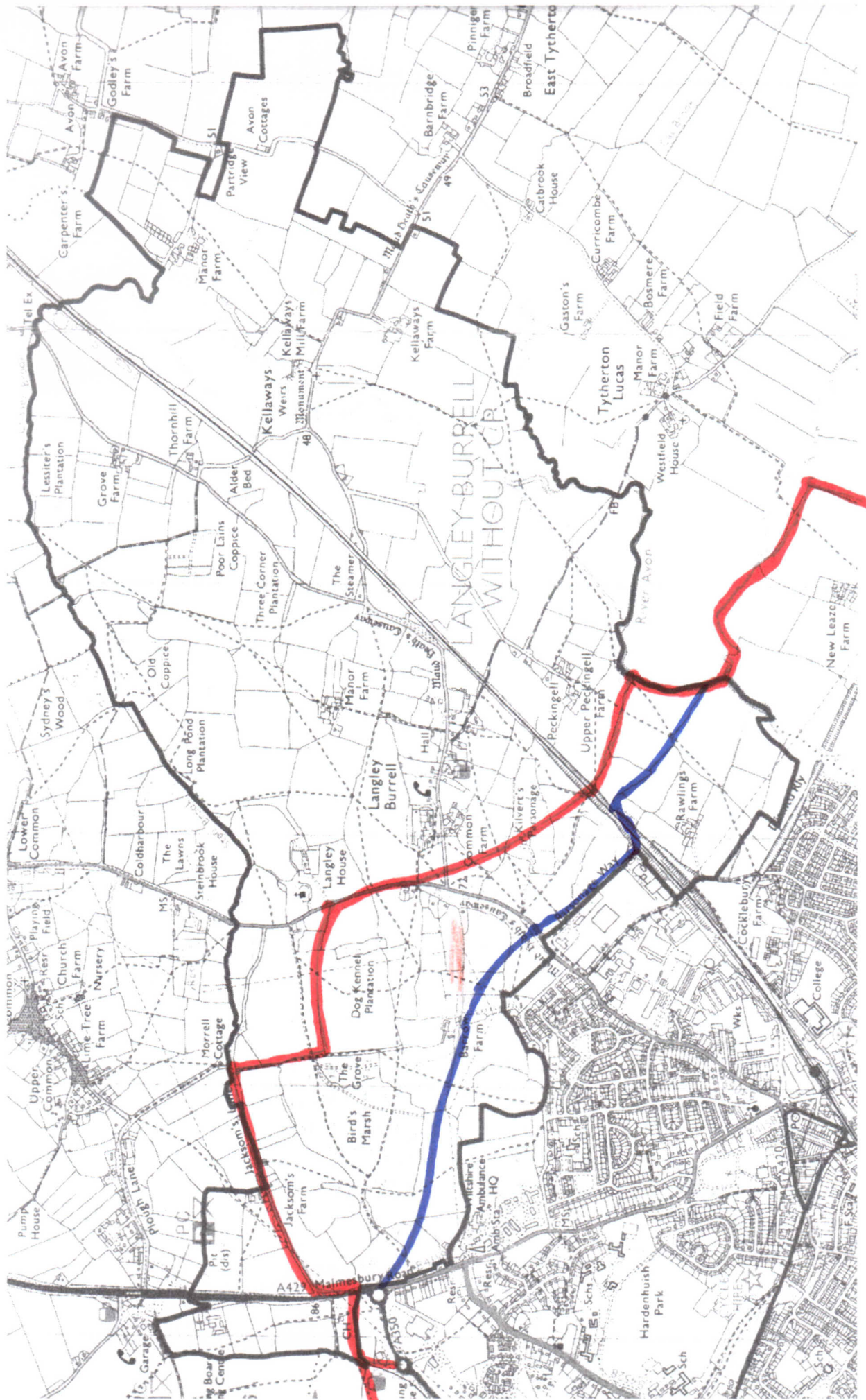
**Clerk to LANGLEY BURRELL PARISH COUNCIL**

22 The Common, Langley Burrell, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 4LQ

Tel/Fax: 01249 650926 - Mobile: 07747 331971

Email: [langleyburrellpc@live.co.uk](mailto:langleyburrellpc@live.co.uk)





**LANGLEY BURRELL WITHOUT PARISH BOUNDARY FROM APRIL 2009**

Scale: 1/20000 (or 3" to 1 mile approx.)

- CTC Proposal
- LBPC Proposal

This page is intentionally left blank

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 4 DECEMBER 2014 AT NEEDL HALL, HIGH ST, CHIPPENHAM SN15 3WL.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Adam Brown, Jessica Croman, Ian Gibbons, Cllr Nina Phillips, Paul Taylor (Senior Solicitor),  
Cllr Dick Tonge and Cllr Nick Watts

---

#### 10 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the Working Group introduced themselves to those in attendance.

#### 11 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 12 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to meet and hear from those affected by the proposed boundary changes.

#### 13 **Parish Proposals (10 Minutes each)**

#### 14 **Bremhill**

The Chairman of Tytherton Lucas Parish Council, Ian James, gave a summary of the proposals.

- The best alternative was stated as being a return to the 2012 boundary.
- It was stated that the Bremhill neighbourhood plan had been completed as a community.
- The separate identities of the different settlements should be protected.
- Numerous boundary changes and adjustments in the past had led to confusion.
- There was no need to take 150 acres from the Calne community area.

- It was stated to be important for rural parishes to build within their boundaries to sustain and develop themselves.

## 15 **Chippenham**

The Chief Executive of Chippenham Town Council, Susan Wilthew, gave a summary of the proposals.

- The Chippenham Town Council view was that they had looked at the best information received on planning applications likely to come through the Chippenham area.
- It was stated that there was currently no core strategy in place.
- It was said that the proposed boundaries aimed to make those present aware of what effect the large developments could have.
- People's predominant use of Chippenham's facilities makes them feel like residents of Chippenham.

The meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes to consider the circulation of different agenda copies due to late submissions.

After the meeting was reconvened it was stated by Cllr Wheeler that all information submitted would be welcomed but that additional meetings may be asked for to properly consider the information.

## 16 **Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)**

Corsham Town Council stated that permission for 300 houses at the Hunter's Moon development east of the A350 was out of scale with Corsham.

The Clerk of Langley Burrell Parish Council, David Kilmister, stated that they accepted some change was necessary and that the boundary should follow the roads. It was suggested that the golf course and adjacent retirement home west of the A350 could be realigned to fall within the Chippenham boundary. The effect of changes to Langley Burrell's history and heritage was expressed, and it was stated that it was inappropriate to move a large part of the area into Chippenham,

It was heard that the core strategy with regards to the Chippenham area would be unclear until consultation had taken place and a new map approved. Until this point it was stated that all proposals were speculative until an agreement had been reached.

Chippenham Without asked why the natural boundary to Chippenham was not constructed from the road system.

Questions were asked on the proposed new road on the North Eastern side of Chippenham and the direction it would follow. Langley Burrell Parish Council stated that had not had the opportunity to discuss if they supported this as being the boundary between them and Chippenham.

Lacock Parish Council stated that the Bristol to London railway line was considered as marking the southern boundary. They were stated as being against Chippenham taking more land, which was said as being irrelevant to the function and development of Chippenham town.

Chippenham Town Council stated that they would consider any logical boundaries.

#### 17 **Consultation**

The Chairman explained that as the core strategy had not been agreed in Chippenham that they would be acting ahead of themselves.

The following decisions were made:

- To delay consideration of redrawing boundaries until there was the benefit of a consultation from the inspector within the Chippenham area, with the exception of the A350 boundary line.
- It would be noted that Chippenham Without Parish Council wished to change their name to Allington and Sheldon.

#### 18 **Any other business**

There was no other business.

#### 19 **Close**

(Duration of meeting: 11.00 am - 12.35 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

This page is intentionally left blank

**Area A5 - Chippenham area  
(No Council maps)**

This page is intentionally left blank



## Area A6 B6 Devizes area

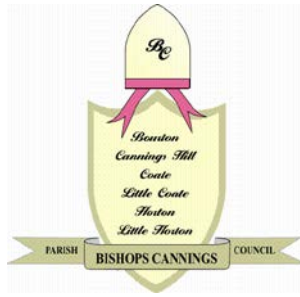
### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bishops Cannings PC 21 September 2014	21/9/14
2	Bishops Cannings PC Map 21 September 2014	21/9/14
3	Devizes Public Meeting Minutes - 12 October 2015	12/10/15
4	Devizes TC - boundary review - 2 Sept 2010	2/9/10
5	Devizes TC Governance Review 2014 4 July 2014	4/7/14
6	Devizes TC Hopton Boundary Changes	10/15
7	Devizes TC Proposed Boundary Map 3 April 2014	3/4/14
8	Devizes TC Resolution - 31 March 2015	31/3/15
9	Devizes TC Windsor Drive Boundary Changes 26 October 2015	26/10/15
10	Meeting Devizes TC and Roundway PC 10 February 2015	10/2/15
11	Roundway PC Minutes 27 April 15 Item 337	27/4/15
12	Roundway PC Resolution 27 April 2015	27/4/15

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Bishops Cannings PC	17/7/13	Warding comment

This page is intentionally left blank



Bishop's Cannings Parish Council

c/o 3, The Island

Horton

Near Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 3LY

21st September 2015

John Watling

Head of Electoral Services

Wiltshire Council

Dear Mr. Watling,

### **Community Governance Review**

Thank you for your letter of 2nd September regarding the two proposed schemes that affect Bishop's Cannings parish. These were considered by the parish council at its meeting on 10th September and it was determined to make the following response:

(i) With regard to the scheme covering the Le Marchant barracks area - the council fully concurs with the suggested boundary change.

(ii) With regard to the Broadway House area (known locally as Little Coate) - the council disagrees with the suggested change and wishes to make a counter proposal.

The council does not believe that the change in boundary suggested in this latter case is consistent with DCLG CGR guidance, which states that " a community governance review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to **firm ground features**" (our emphasis).

The attached map sets-out the council's proposed boundary change encompassing both of the schemes described above. The blue lines are existing parish boundaries and the black broken line represents the council's proposed change.

In detail this involves:

From the point on the A361 where the current boundary runs SE of Prince Court and parallel to Hambleton Avenue,

- the new boundary will continue along the A361 to the junction with Windsor Drive and then follow Windsor Drive to the mini-roundabout junction at Nursteed School;

- the boundary will then travel East along Roundway Byway 14 to the point where it becomes Bishop's Cannings Byway 28. From this point on the current boundary, the rest of the parish boundary will remain unchanged.

The implications of this change will be:

- All of the houses in the following roads, currently in Roundway, will be transferred to Bishop's Cannings:

Franklyn Road	Canal Way	Kingsmanor Wharf	Kingfisher Drive
Beechwood Close	Mallard Close	Le Marchant Close	Cygnets Close
Ash Walk	Beechfield Drive	Waterside Park	Willow Drive
Hillier Road			

- Clayhole Cottages and Coate Field House will be transferred from Roundway to Bishop's Cannings.
- Nursteed School will remain in Roundway reflecting its primary catchment and the area known as Little Coate will remain in Bishop's Cannings reflecting its historical association.

The parish council gave consideration to the value of using this opportunity to align the parish boundary south of Nursteed School with the road network rather than the Nursteed Brook as at present. This would make the boundary coincident with a more obvious ground feature. However, this would involve a change for the houses in Nursteed Village and is probably an unnecessary complication and thus has not been pursued.

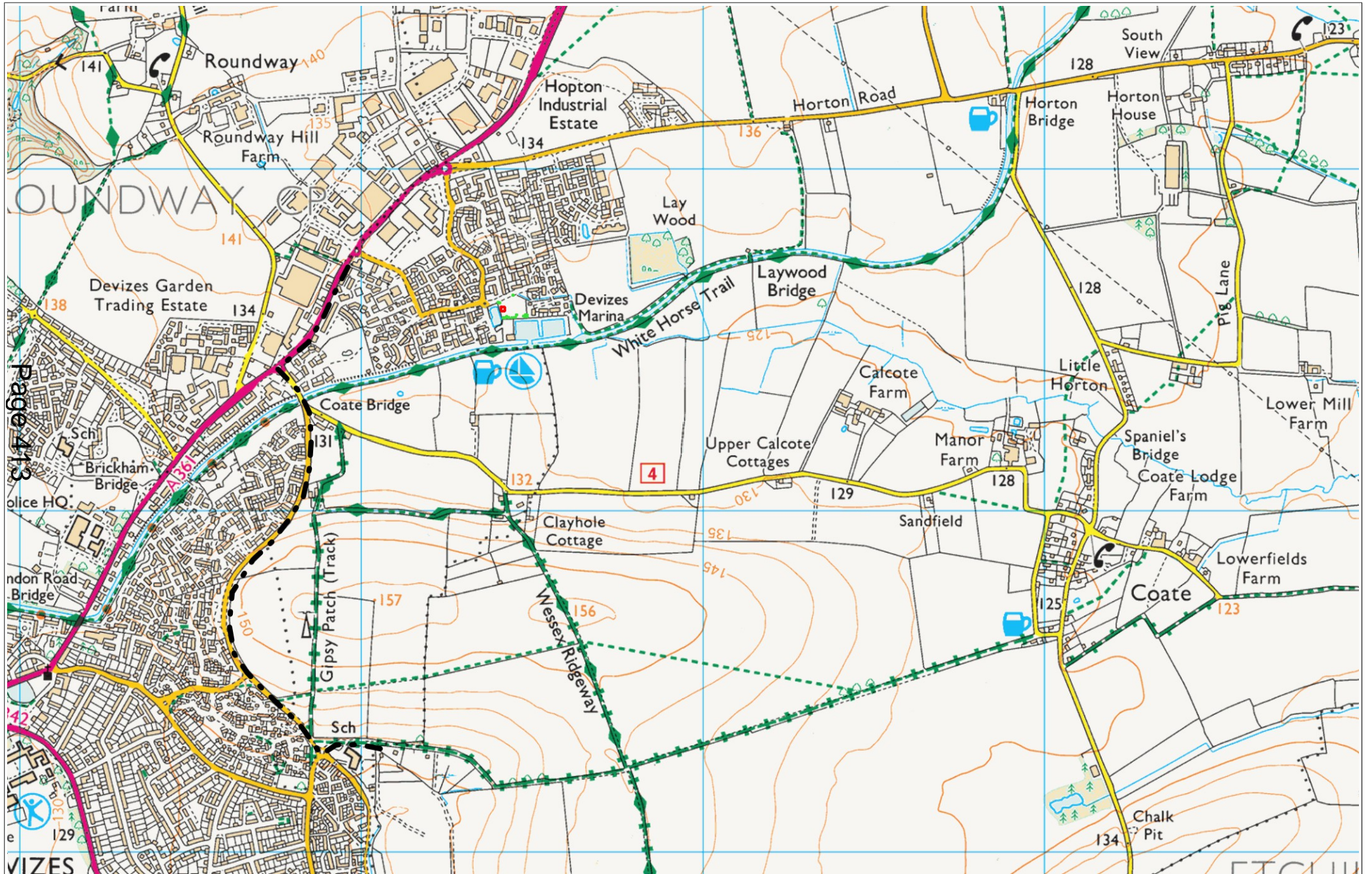
Although reference is made in the Le Marchant barracks scheme to a review of warding in Bishop's Cannings parish - no formal proposal has been put forward.

The parish council strongly believe that the existing warding arrangement should be abolished and a unified wardless parish established. The DCLG CGR guidance states that "when considering ward boundaries principal councils should consider the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and will remain easily identifiable." The current situation with some roads in the Cannings Hill Ward area allocated to the Bishop's Cannings Ward simply to redress the numerical imbalance is confused and illogical. This situation is likely to be exacerbated when homes in the new development at Laywood are constructed.

Yours Faithfully,

Eric Clark

Clerk to the Parish Council.



Page 413

This page is intentionally left blank

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 12 OCTOBER 2015 AT CERES HALL, CORN EXCHANGE, MARKET PLACE, DEVIZES, SN10 1HS.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Stuart Wheeler (Chairman), Ian Gibbons, John Watling and Paul Taylor.

#### Also Present:

Cllr Peter Evans and Cllr Laura Mayes.

---

#### 1 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel.

#### 2 **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.

#### 3 **Proposals**

Maps were presented showing the proposals.

##### 3a **Roundway and Devizes Parishes**

Comments in support:

- Devizes Town Council- Supports the merger
- Roundway Parish Council- Supports the merger

There were no comments against the proposal.

Other comments:

- Re-warding likely once boundaries changed, all parish councillors to remain as they are until re-warded
- No rule as to the number of councillors needed per head but a minimum of 5 councillors needed per parish area. Generally warding aimed to keep each ward roughly equal in population

### **3b Bishops Cannings and Roundway (Le Marchant Area)**

Comments in support:

- Roundway Parish Council- Supports the proposal as logical
- Bishops Cannings Parish Council- Supports the proposal as logical and prevents confusion

There were no comments against the proposal.

### **3c Bishops Cannings to Roundway (Broadway House southwards)**

There were no comments in support of the proposal.

Comments against:

- Bishops Cannings Parish Council- The properties in questions were historically inside Bishops Cannings and the proposal could make the boundaries unclear. The Parish Council would submit an alternative proposal to John Watling (Head of Electoral Services), the proposal was: From London Rd, the boundary should come down Windsor Drive and rejoin the current boundary at Nursteed School towards Little Coate and Nursteed Brooke. This alternative proposal would include two additional properties currently in Roundway.

Other comments:

- Devizes Town Council- Would like the allotments (near the Byway) to stay within Roundway, and therefore be part of the new merged parish.
- Town and Parish boundaries has no significance in determining planning applications

### **3d Hopton Industrial Site Area (request of Devizes Town Clerk)**

Comments in support:



- Bishops Cannings Parish Council- In support of the proposal as logical.

There were no comments against the proposal.

### **3e Bishops Canning Parish Warding**

Comments in support:

- Bishops Cannings Parish Council- Would prefer to be unwarded

Other comments:

- Rewarding would take place after boundary decisions and likely at the same time as warding for Devizes

There were no comments against the proposal.

## **4 Close**

Other comments:

- The names of merged parishes would be decided by Council, on the advice of the parishes in question.
- A merger would not impact upon the constitution of parishes/their ability to have a mayor
- Consultation meeting dates had been public from 28 September 2015.

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 7.40 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Libby Beale, of Democratic Services,  
01225 718214 [elizabeth.beale@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth.beale@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

This page is intentionally left blank

Ref 5227

SJT/L/2178

2 September 2010

Andrew Kerr  
Chief Executive  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN



**Devizes**  
Town Council

[www.devizes-tc.gov.uk](http://www.devizes-tc.gov.uk)

Please Ask for: Sarah Todhunter  
Direct Line: 01380 722160  
Email [SarahTodhunter@devizes-tc.gov.uk](mailto:SarahTodhunter@devizes-tc.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Kerr

**RE: GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

I am given to understand that officers of Wiltshire Council will be preparing a report with regard to a number of areas where boundary anomalies exist. Accordingly I am writing to request that the issues that are experienced in Devizes are considered within this report and that the anomalies that exist in the Devizes community can be resolved.

As you may be aware, the Parish of Devizes is virtually landlocked by the Parish of Roundway and the boundary between the two parishes is indistinguishable. Indeed the majority of residents of Roundway would actually consider themselves to be living in Devizes.

Devizes Town Council is a very proactive council, providing high quality services for its community. These include children's play, sporting facilities, parks and gardens, the Corn Exchange and Town Hall venues, to name but a few. The Town Council also has a strong tradition of partnership working with other organisations, especially the principal authorities – previously Kennet District and Wiltshire County Council and now Wiltshire Council.

Essentially, Devizes Town Council is providing these services not just for the people of Devizes but also of Roundway and the equitable solution to this situation, Devizes Town Council believes to be a realigning the boundaries to form a natural urban boundary to the town of Devizes.

I would be grateful if you could confirm that the review of boundary anomalies will include Devizes.

Yours sincerely  
**For Devizes Town Council**

Sarah Todhunter (Mrs)  
Town Clerk

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Devizes Town Council - Governance Review**

### Extent of Review

Devizes Town Council propose that the boundaries of the parish of Devizes Town Council are reviewed to incorporate the whole of Roundway Parish Council and that built environment in Bishop Cannings Parish that extends the urban line of development.

In addition, the proposals include rationalising the eastern boundary to Bishop Cannings.

Map attached

### Community Identity

For many years the parish boundaries of Devizes Town Council represented an urban centre surrounded by the rural hinterland of Roundway Parish; the Roundway Parish being based on the land previously forming the Roundway Estate.

The parish of Devizes is now a largely built environment, where there is very little capacity to expand, and the bulk of development over the last 40 years has mushroomed just over its boundaries into the parish of Roundway, as evidenced by Wiltshire Council's published population statistics. Indeed the development attached to Devizes has extended beyond Roundway into the Cannings Hill area of the parish of Bishop Cannings.

Roundway and Bishop Cannings are not defined as separate entities within Wiltshire Council's Core Strategy in terms of the housing allocation for Devizes Town even though the majority of that housing allocation will necessarily be satisfied by developments within Roundway and Bishop Cannings parishes. Likewise estate agents do not distinguish between Roundway or the Cannings Hill area of Bishop Cannings – properties within these areas are marketed as "Devizes".

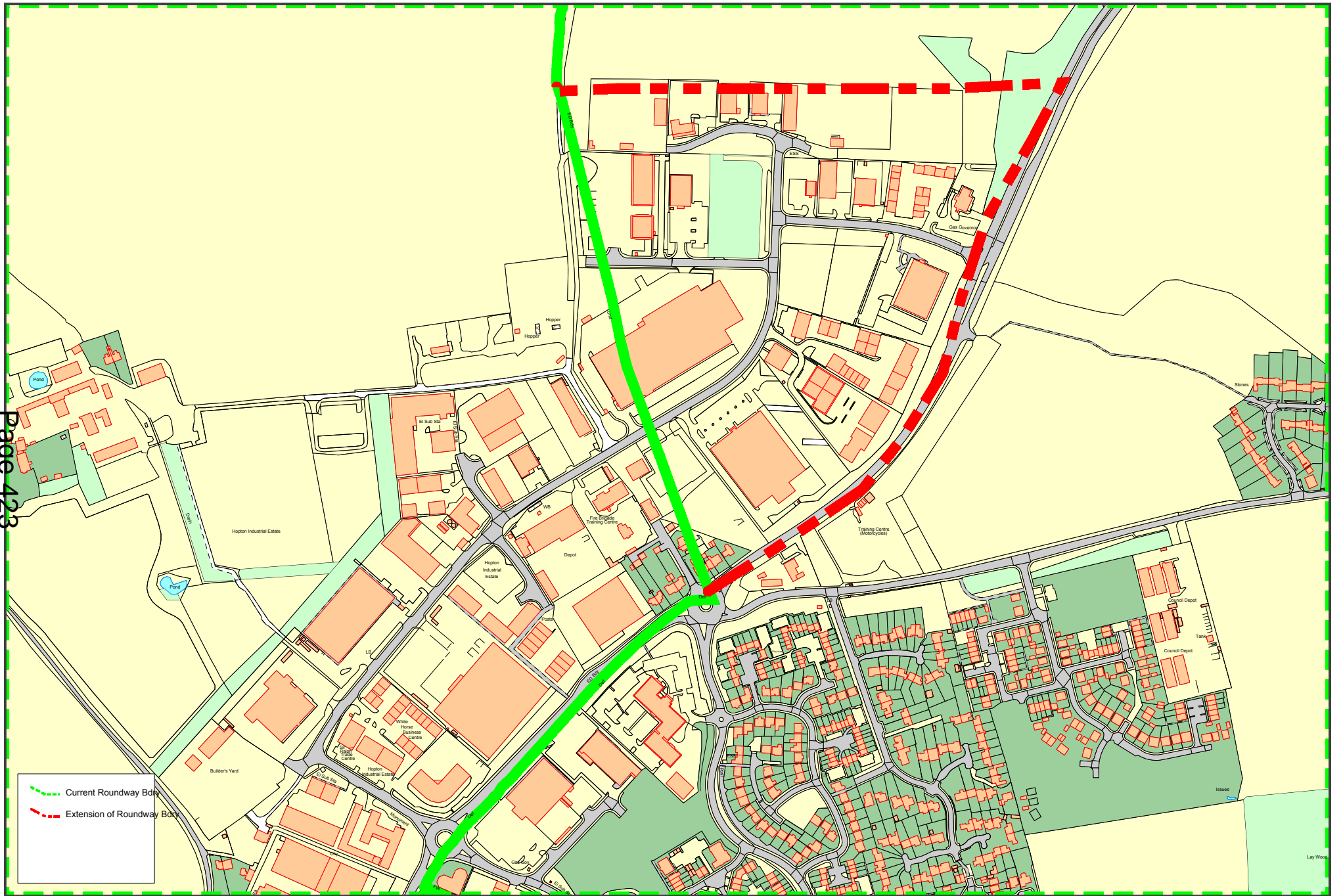
The town provides the heart of the community and boundary between Devizes and Roundway is indistinguishable. The estates that have grown up around the perimeter of the town are considered, for all practical purposes, to be Devizes, extending into the development in Bishop Cannings. Indeed it is impossible to travel from certain parts of Roundway, such as Broadleas Park and Downlands, without crossing through Devizes.

Because of its shape Roundway Parish Council effectively surrounds Devizes like a ring doughnut. There is no geographical centre to Roundway and no appreciable sense of community. The residents, who live in the developments within Roundway, consider themselves to live in Devizes. This has been evidenced over the years through consultations where, when asked where they live, people living in Roundway will state "Devizes". It is also understood that Roundway Parish Council have undertaken consultation revealing the same outcome.

There is little by way of services and infrastructure provided within the parish of Roundway and the "Cannings Hill" area of Bishop Cannings Parish Council and people living within the developments in these parishes look to Devizes Town for goods and services.

Devizes Town Council is making these proposals to ensure more effective representation at parish council levels across the area which is considered to be "Devizes". The Council does intend to enter into discussions with the affected parishes, to ensure an open dialogue exists between all parties.

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



# Devizes Town Council

## Boundary Layout

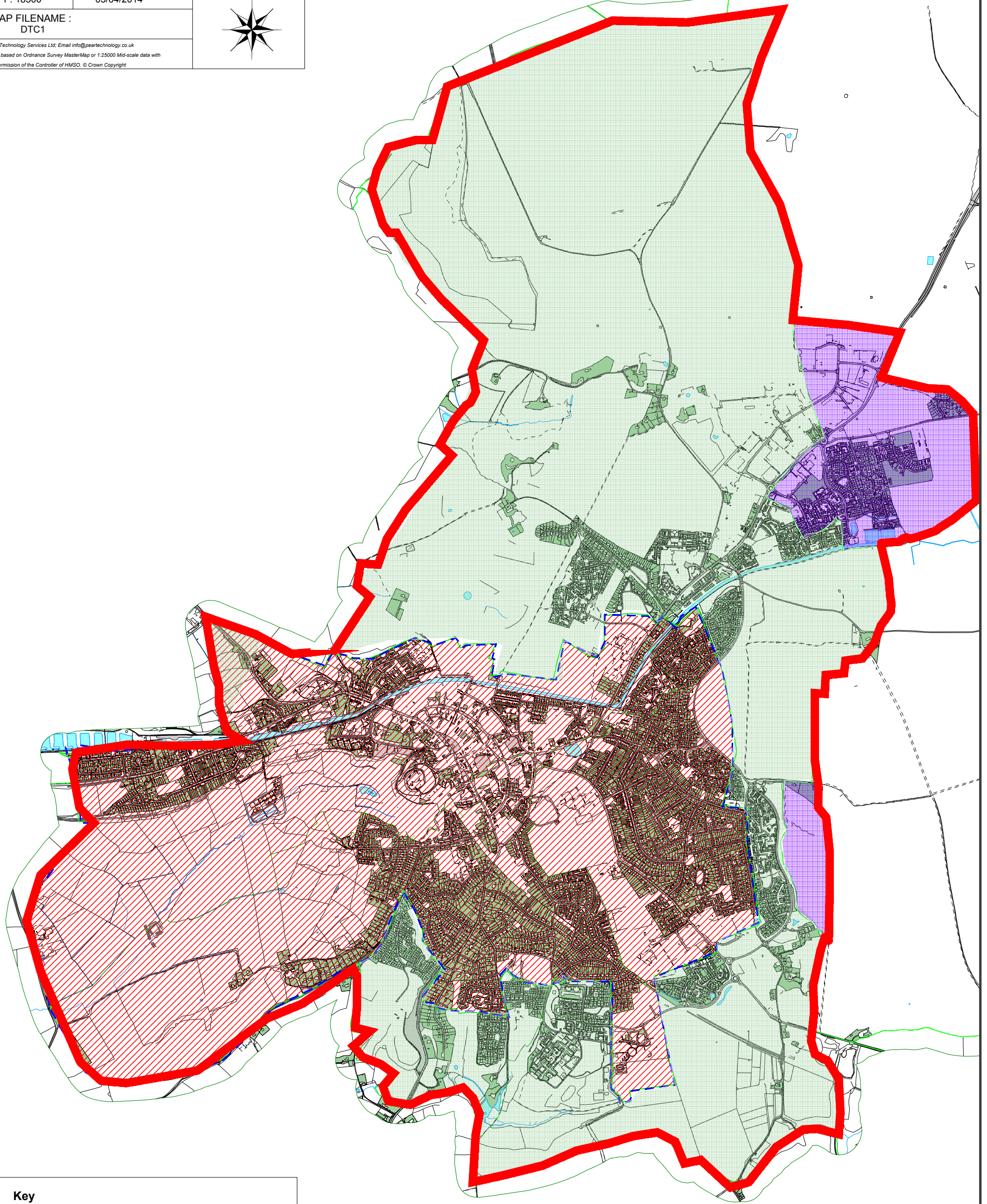
SCALE :  
1 : 18500

DATE :  
03/04/2014





MAP FILENAME :  
DTC1



Pear Technology Services Ltd; Email info@peartechology.co.uk  
Maps based on Ordnance Survey MasterMap or 1:25000 Mid-scale data with  
the permission of the Controller of HMSO. © Crown Copyright



### Key

-  Devizes Parish
-  Roundway Parish
-  Bishops Cannings Parish
-  Proposed New Boundary

This page is intentionally left blank

**COMMUNITY & CIVIC RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**31 MARCH 2015**

Present: Mayor: Councillor Mrs Bridewell  
Chairman: Councillor East

Councillors: Corbett                      Evans                      Geddes  
                    Giraud-Saunders      Nash                      Smith

Officers: Sarah Todhunter, Town Clerk  
            Elanor Oddy

Members of the Public: One

**625. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 February and 17 March 2015 having been circulated to all Members were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

**626. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs Burton and Hopkins.

**627. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

Councillor East declared an interest in minute number 634 as a member of the Trust for Devizes; he did not leave the Council Chamber.

Councillor Geddes declared an interest in minute number 636 as a member of Roundway Parish Council; he did not leave the Council Chamber.

**628. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was one member of the public present.

**629. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – NARRATIVE INCOME & EXPENDITURE**

The committee received and noted the report.

**630. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS PAID**

The committee received and noted the report.

**631. REPORT FOR INFORMATION – WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT**

The committee received and noted the report.

**632. REPORT FOR DECISION – COMMUNITY GRANT AWARDS MARCH 2015**

It was proposed by Councillor East, seconded by Councillor Evans and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT the committee agrees to the Community Grants, as set out below

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Brief Description of application</b>	<b>Amount of grant recommended</b>
<b>COMMUNITY FIRST GOOD NEIGHBOURS</b>	Build a local team of volunteers to support older members of the community	<b>£100</b>
<b>DEVIZES AND DISTRICT PHAB</b>	Towards providing our members/volunteers with a Christmas Party in 2015	<b>£150</b>
<b>DEVIZES BLIND &amp; PARTIALLY SIGHTED CLUB</b>	To make up for shortfall in grant funding occurring in 2015	<b>£100</b>
<b>THE CROWN CENTRE</b>	New Water Heaters for Tea & Coffee	<b>£100</b>
<b>THE GOLDEN-OLDIES CHARITY</b>	Devizes singing & Activity session	<b>£100</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY CLUB</b>	Increase in charges for transport and rent	<b>£100</b>
<b>WILTSHIRE MIND</b>	Running costs of Devizes You in Mind Beer Support Social Group+over next 12-month period.	<b>£50</b>

**633. REPORT FOR DECISION – BEAT THE STREET**

It was proposed by Councillor Giraud-Saunders, seconded by Councillor Nash and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT the committee agrees to financially support Beat the Street initiative to the value of £50.

**634. REPORT FOR DECISION – MEDIEVAL TOWN TRAIL**

Mr Roseaman spoke for the Trust for Devizes. It was proposed by Councillor East, seconded by Councillor Giraud-Saunders and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT this committee defers making a decision until clarification can be sought from the Trust for Devizes as to whether they would take on the project.

**635. REPORT FOR DECISION – DEVIZES FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL**

It was proposed by Councillor Nash, seconded by Councillor Evans and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT to give support the Devizes Food and Drink Festival and to allow concessionary use of the Town Hall for their event in the Town Hall on 22 May 2015, to the value of £122.

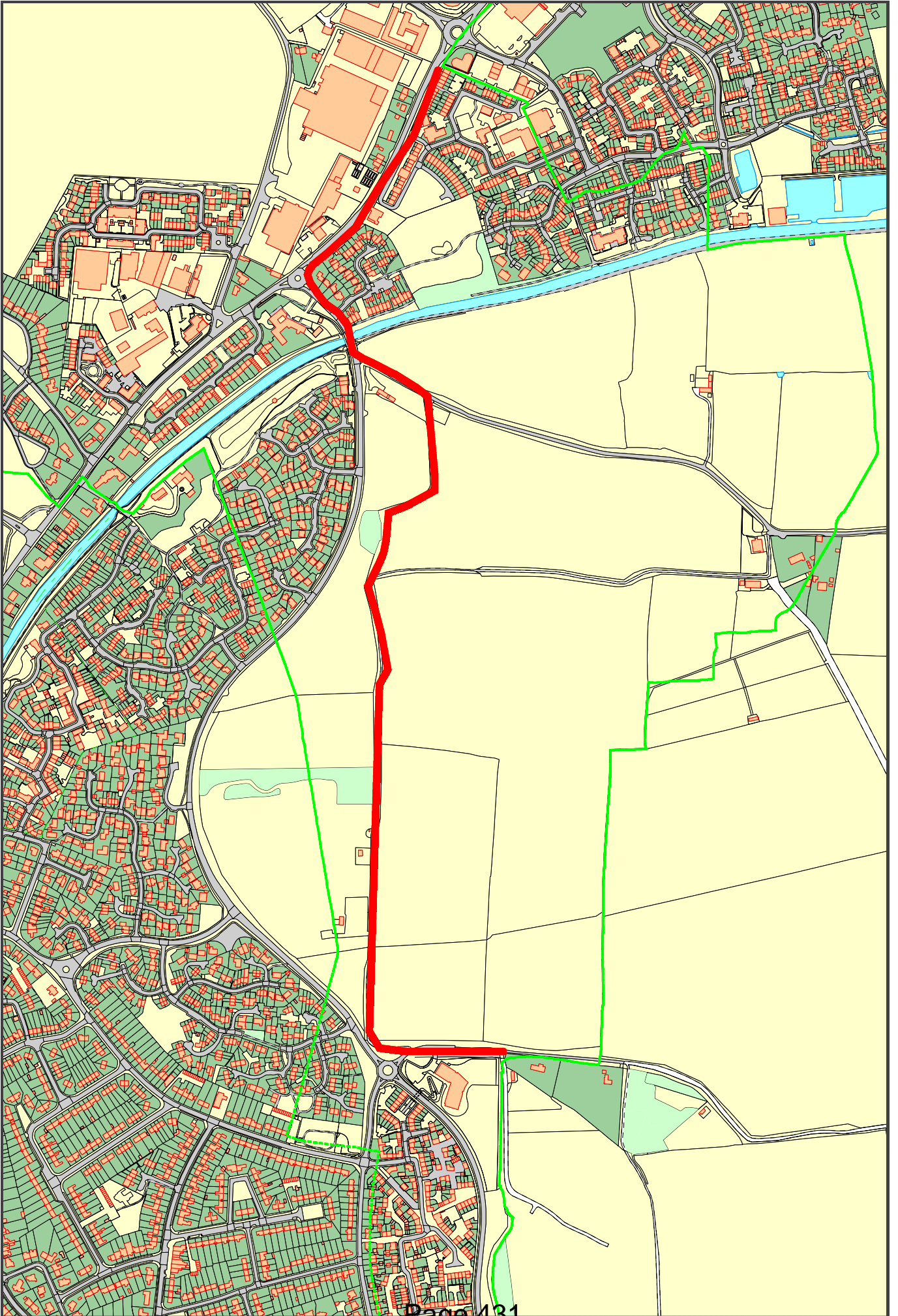
**636. REPORT FOR DECISION - GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

It was proposed by Councillor East, seconded by Councillor Evans and UNANIMOUSLY agreed

THAT the committee confirms its desire to continue to see the merger of Devizes and Roundway Councils and authorises the Devizes members of the working party to represent the Town Council.

CHAIRMAN

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



# Meeting Notes

<b>Subject :</b>	Governance Review Working Party
<b>Date:</b> 10 February 2015	<b>Venue:</b> Town Hall
<p><b>Those Present:</b>            Cllr Tony Batchelor – RPC            Cllr Chris Callow – RPC            Cllr Ray Parsons - RPC            Cllr John Stevens – RPC</p> <p>Cllr Ted East - DTC            Cllr Peter Evans – DTC            Cllr Albert Wooldridge – DTC            Town Clerk, Sarah Todhunter – DTC            Deputy Town Clerk, Simon Fisher - DTC</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b>            Cllr Kelvin Nash - DTC            Parish Clerk, Stan Johnson – RPC</p> <p>Sarah Todhunter took notes</p>	

Item	Notes:	Action:
1.	<p><b><u>Cost of shared services</u></b>            As instructed at the meeting held on 22 January, DTC officers distributed a financial model that shows the value of services provided by Devizes but with shared use by the parish of Roundway.s</p> <p>There was broad agreement, that the services as listed as being shared were a fair reflection of the position to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twinning</li> <li>• Grants</li> <li>• Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Community Spaces</li> <li>• Christmas activities</li> <li>• Community Safety</li> </ul> <p>It was agreed that the revenue surplus &amp; deficit arising from the Corn Exchange and Town hall should be apportioned</p> <p>In the event that these shared services were recharged on the basis of benefit derived from the parish of Roundway it would represent a significant cost to Roundway that it was acknowledged that it was not currently paying.</p> <p>The inevitable increase in Council Tax for Roundway parishioners continues to be of concern for the Roundway representatives although it was generally recognised that there was inequity in the current arrangements</p>	

## Meeting Notes

	<p>Roundway representatives were concerned about how the increase could be “sold” to their residents although are mindful that the decision actually lies ultimately with Wiltshire Council</p> <p>It was also noted that the financial model of shared services whereby Roundway Parish Council might be cross charged for the services received but currently not paid for, would actually be more expensive for Roundway parishioner than the model previously submitted on the basis of merged councils.</p> <p>This would be the result of economies of scale in operation service delivery and procurement as well as removing duplication of services.</p>	
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Community Boundaries</u></b></p> <p>It was again agreed that if no existing boundaries were in place the natural boundary would encompass all of the urban development that includes Devizes, Roundway and parts of Bishop Cannings although previously it has been recognised that if the Marina area of Bishops Cannings be removed from Bishops Cannings parish, then the Parish would become unsustainable.</p> <p>There is no desire on the part of either Roundway or Devizes Parish Councils to undermine the viability of Bishop Cannings</p> <p>The arrangement for potential warding was discussed and broadly agreed that the current Wiltshire Council ward arrangements, perhaps with some minor tweaks would serve as well as any other arrangements.</p>	
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b><u>Next Steps</u></b></p> <p>The only main obstacle for the two councils formally coming together would seem to be the increase in council tax for Roundway parishioners.</p> <p>Although the Roundway Parish representatives agree that the current situation is not equitable, Roundway Parish Council needs to formally consider its position with regard to a coming together of the two councils</p> <p>It was noted that Devizes Town Council has an agreed position that it supports the areas of Roundway and Devizes coming together as a single municipal parish area.</p>	<p><b>Roundway Parish Council to formally agree a position</b></p>
	<p><b>Next Meeting – None Arranged</b></p>	

# ROUNDWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk-Stan Johnston. 306 Marsh Road, Hilperton. BA14 7PL 01225401359

## MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Date: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Place Nursted School, Brickley Lane, Devizes.

Time 7.00 pm

#### PRESENT

Councillors:	Batchelor	Callow	Collis	Corbett	Geddes*
	Parsons	Stevens	Valentine	Wooldridge*	Vonberg
	Rowland	Steel			

\* Also Devizes Town Councillor

#### 327 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Rugg, Cllr. Mayes & Cllr. Jacobs. These were accepted by the meeting.

#### 328 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

#### 329 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015, which had been circulated, are approved as being a correct record and signed as such by the chairman.

#### 330 UNITARY COUNCILLOR`S ITEMS

Neither Cllr Mayes nor Cllr. Jacobs were available to attend.

#### 331 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public attended.

POLICE REPORT - PC Chris Mead reported on local issues and recent activity. He then answered questions from members.

#### 332. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION REGARDING PLANNING MATTERS.

There were no new applications.

#### 333. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON WINDSOR DRIVE

Cllr. Batchelor reported on the issue of a pedestrian crossing on Windsor Drive. He will continue to monitor progress. It was proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr. Geddes and approved unanimously' that the council support Cllr. Rowland in his effort to to alter the location.'

### **334 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

The clerk advised that the council should have a formal complaints procedure and a draft policy had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Geddes, seconded by Cllr. Collis and approved unanimously that ' the council formally adopt the complaints procedure as previously circulated.'

### **335. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Resolved** – To accept the financial report, previously circulated.

**Resolved** – To approve items of expenditure as detailed, totalling £6893.12

### **336 GRANT APPLICATIONS – To consider applications for funding from: 1.**

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

It was proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Batchelor and approved unanimously 'that the council to make a donation of £100 to the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.'

### **337 GOVERNANCE REVIEW – Dissolution of Roundway & Devizes to create a new council.**

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Callow, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and approved unanimously 'that the council support the dissolution of Roundway Parish and Devizes Town councils to create a new council, with the opportunity taken to resolve the existing boundary anomalies.'

### **338 ALLOTMENTS.**

Cllr. Wooldridge provided an update and passed rental receipts totalling £1,312.50 to the clerk. He described the need to purchase a 10 ft. container and lock for allotment equipment. It was proposed by Cllr. Callow, seconded by Cllr. Collis and approved unanimously 'that the council purchase a 10 ft. green shipping container and lock for allotment equipment, at a cost not exceeding £2,500.'

### **339. WILTSHIRE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

Alex North was unable to attend.

### **340. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

Cllr. Collis advised of a proposed development between Drews Park Estate and McNeil clinic.

### **341. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 18 May 2015**

**342. CLOSE** - The meeting closed at 20.24 hrs.

# ROUNDWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk-Stan Johnston. 306 Marsh Road, Hilperton. BA14 7PL 01225401359

## MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

Date: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Place Nursted School, Brickley Lane, Devizes.

Time 7.00 pm

#### PRESENT

Councillors:	Batchelor	Callow	Collis	Corbett*	Geddes*
	Parsons	Stevens	Valentine	Wooldridge*	Vonberg
	Rowland	Steel			

\* Also Devizes Town Councillor

#### 327 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr. Rugg, Cllr. Mayes & Cllr. Jacobs. These were accepted by the meeting.

#### 328 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

#### 329 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**Resolved:** that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015, which had been circulated, are approved as being a correct record and signed as such by the chairman.

#### 330 UNITARY COUNCILLOR`S ITEMS

Neither Cllr Mayes nor Cllr. Jacobs were available to attend.

#### 331 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public attended.

POLICE REPORT - PC Chris Mead reported on local issues and recent activity. He then answered questions from members.

#### 332. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION REGARDING PLANNING MATTERS.

There were no new applications.

#### 333. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON WINDSOR DRIVE

Cllr. Batchelor reported on the issue of a pedestrian crossing on Windsor Drive. He will continue to monitor progress. It was proposed by Cllr Rowland, seconded by Cllr. Geddes and approved unanimously' that the council support Cllr. Batchelor in his effort to alter the location.'

### **334 COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE**

The clerk advised that the council should have a formal complaints procedure and a draft policy had been previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Geddes, seconded by Cllr. Collis and approved unanimously that ' the council formally adopt the complaints procedure as previously circulated.'

### **335. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Resolved** – To accept the financial report, previously circulated.

**Resolved** – To approve items of expenditure as detailed, totalling £6893.12

### **336 GRANT APPLICATIONS – To consider applications for funding from: 1.**

Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust

It was proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Batchelor and approved unanimously 'that the council to make a donation of £100 to the Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust.'

### **337 GOVERNANCE REVIEW – Dissolution of Roundway & Devizes to create a new council.**

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Callow, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and approved unanimously 'that the council support the dissolution of Roundway Parish and Devizes Town councils to create a new council, with the opportunity taken to resolve the existing boundary anomalies.'

### **338 ALLOTMENTS.**

Cllr. Wooldridge provided an update and passed rental receipts totalling £1,312.50 to the clerk. He described the need to purchase a 10 ft. container and lock for allotment equipment. It was proposed by Cllr. Callow, seconded by Cllr. Collis and approved unanimously 'that the council purchase a 10 ft. green shipping container and lock for allotment equipment, at a cost not exceeding £2,500.'

### **339. WILTSHIRE GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**

Alex North was unable to attend.

### **340. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION**

Cllr. Collis advised of a proposed development between Drews Park Estate and McNeil clinic.

### **341. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 18 May 2015**

**342. CLOSE** - The meeting closed at 20.24 hrs.

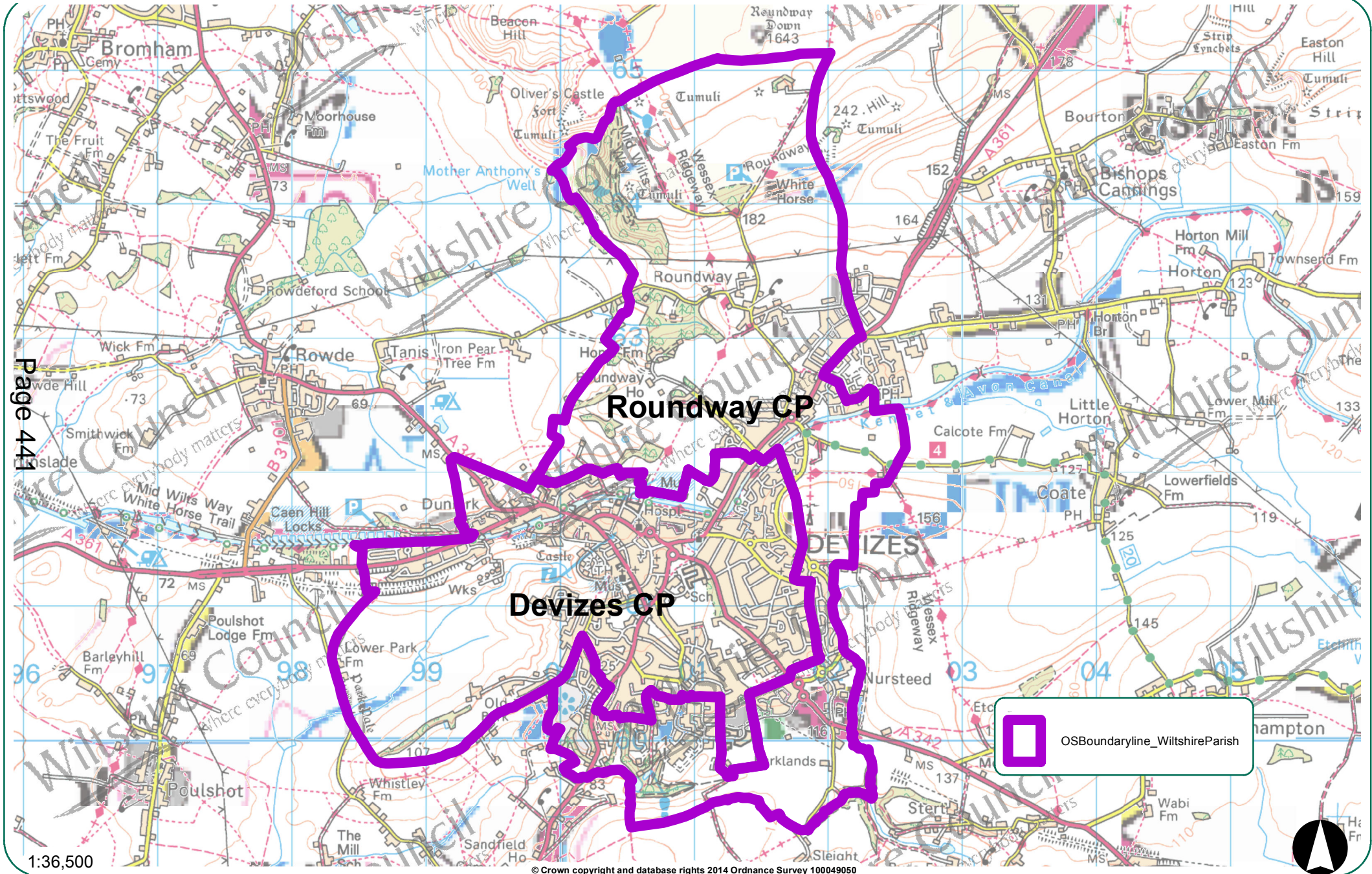
## **Area A6 B6 Devizes area**

### **Mapping**

- Scheme 32 and 33 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Devizes and Roundway Map 1
- Scheme 34 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 2
- Scheme 35 - Area A6 and B6 Devizes area- Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 3
- Scheme 35b - Hopton Boundary Changes 12 October 2015
- Scheme 35c – no map

This page is intentionally left blank



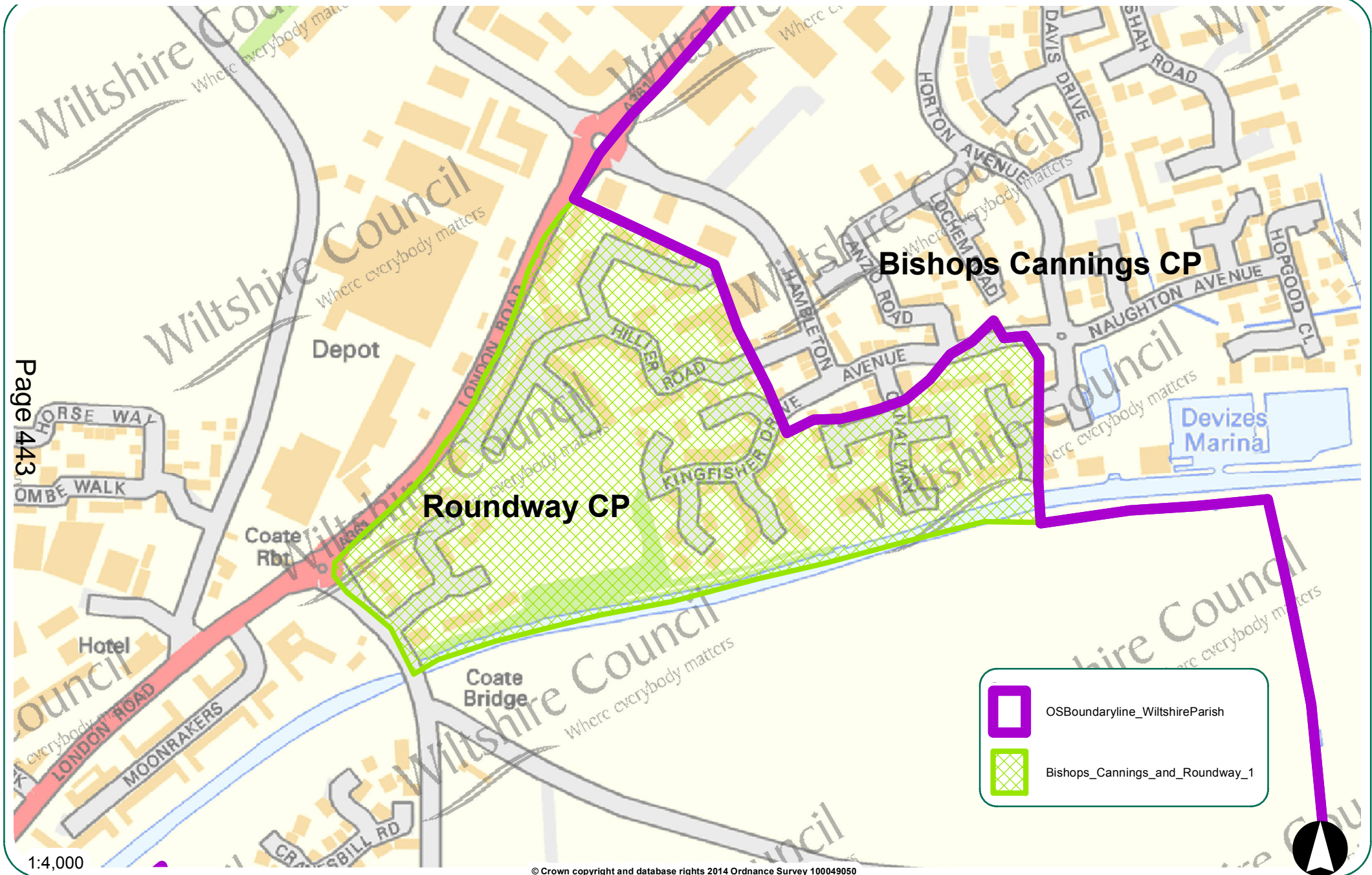


Page 441

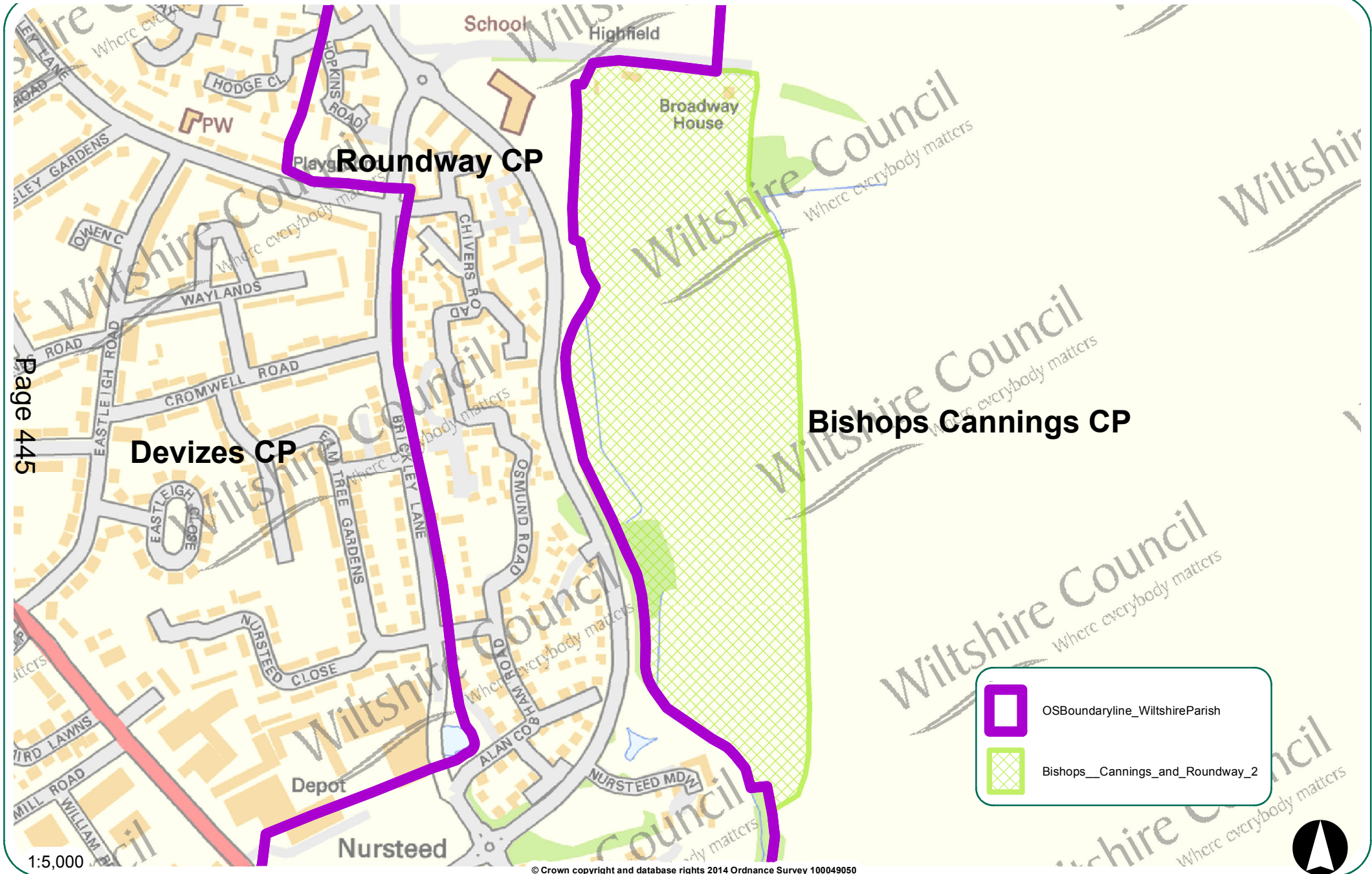
1:36,500

This page is intentionally left blank

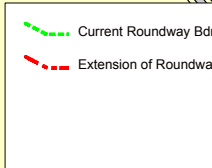
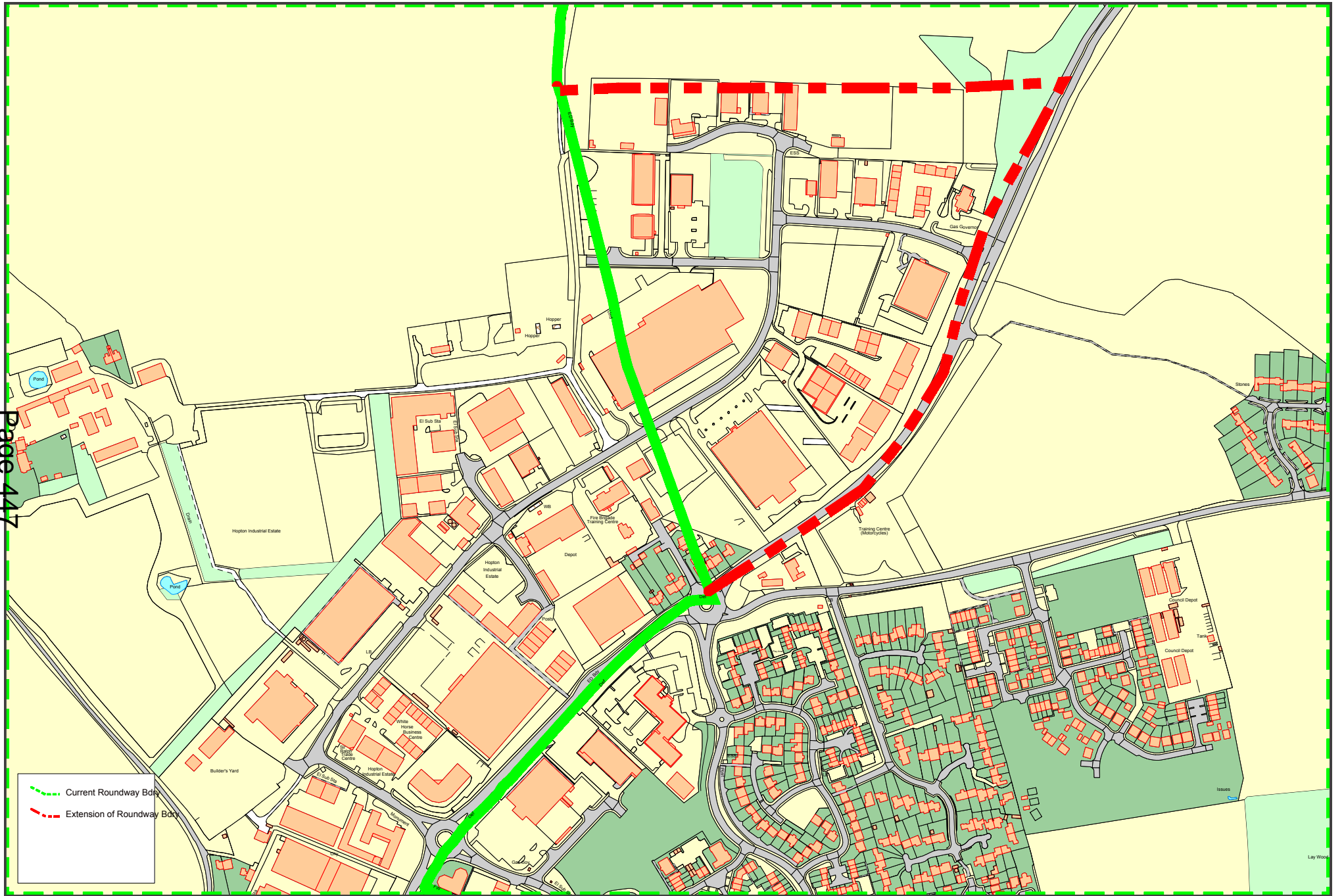
Area A6 and B6 - Devizes Area  
Bishops Cannings and Roundway Map 2



This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



## A7 Calne area

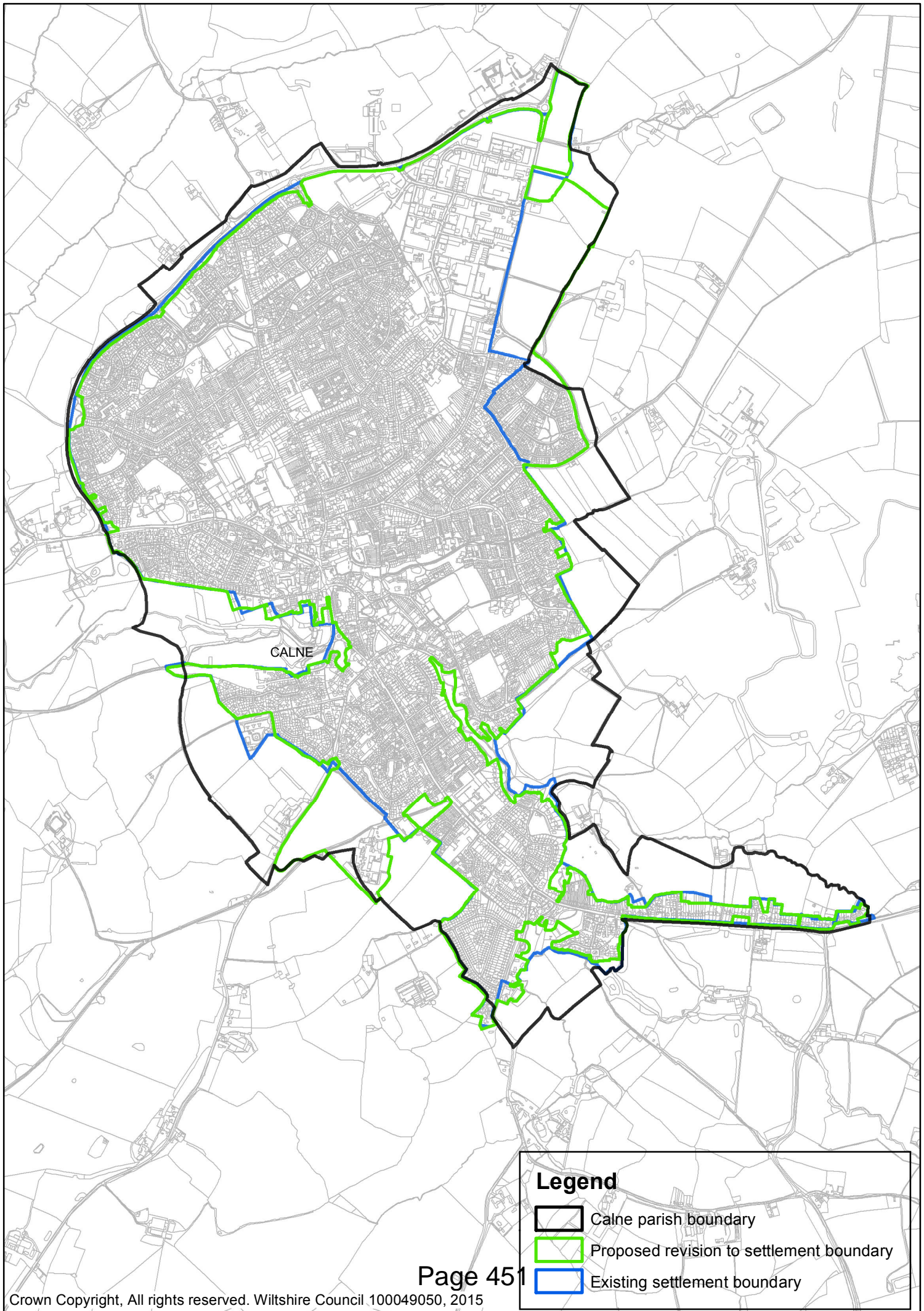
### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Calne Settlement Boundary Revised_town civil boundary 23 January 2015	23/1/15
2	Calne TC resolution	2/10/15
3	Calne Without PC Settlement 5 November 2015	5/11/15

### Summary of e-mails received




No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Cllr A Hill	20/1/15	Future at High Penn
2	Calne Without PC	13/9/15	Query re The Knoll and Marden Farm development
3	Mr and Mrs Warnett	26/10/15	Against
4	Calne Without PC	23/9/15	Accepts proposals

This page is intentionally left blank



CALNE

**Legend**

-  Calne parish boundary
-  Proposed revision to settlement boundary
-  Existing settlement boundary

This page is intentionally left blank

Calne Town Council resolution by e-mail, reproduced in Word

**From:** Linda Roberts  
**Sent:** 02 October 2015 12:11  
**To:** 'john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk'  
**Subject:** Boundary Review - Calne

Dear John

Council resolved the following,

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that housing sites currently outside the town boundary, yet to be constructed but with permission granted, should be included within the proposed boundary review currently being conducted by Wiltshire Council.

Kind regards

**Linda**

Linda Roberts BA (Hons), Fellow ILCM  
[Town Clerk](#)

Calne Town Council  
Bank House  
The Strand  
Calne SN11 0EN  
Tel: 01249 814000  
[www.calne.gov.uk](http://www.calne.gov.uk)



This page is intentionally left blank

## **CALNE WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL**

Studley House Farm Cottage, Studley, Calne, SN11 9LL

5th November 2015

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

### **Proposed Settlement / Parish Boundary Review**

Dear Mr Watling

At our council meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015, Calne Without Parish Council had additional discussions, taking into account comments received from Calne Without residents; we would like to make the following comments concerning the Community Governance Review.

Overall we feel that it is premature to have a discussion about the parish boundary around The Knowle as there is significant building being undertaken at Marden Farm. This is a development by Redrow Homes for 125 houses (with potentially another 54) which currently lies in Calne Without but borders Calne Town parish and Rookery Park. It seems highly likely that the settlement boundary will need to be altered to take into account these additional properties. Calne Town has taken both the housing numbers and the Section 106 contribution from this development. It will effectively be an urban development that identifies with the town and Calne Town has claimed its residents will be using all of their facilities.

However, the residents of The Knowle firmly identify with rural Calne Without. It is a private road owned by four of the households and is maintained by and at the expense of the five households. There are no streetlights or pavements, their local infrastructure does not cost the council anything to maintain. They consider their properties to be in a rural setting with countryside to three aspects. All the residents deliberately chose their house for this reason. They currently identify with all aspects of the wider community – changing the boundary would not make them any more community focused than they already are. There would be no impact at all on community cohesion, size or population.

The building of the access road has formed a natural new boundary for Marden Farm. The new development was only achieved through the demolition of a property allowing the access to be created. It was an extremely contentious planning process that was only won at appeal. Using the new road as a separation point between town and rural would make perfect sense.

As I am sure you are aware, the only reason that permission was achieved (at Appeal) for Marden Farm was because a dwelling was demolished to provide access. Any changes to the parish boundary should then be discussed.

Yours faithfully,

G Turner  
Parish Clerk  
Calne Without Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

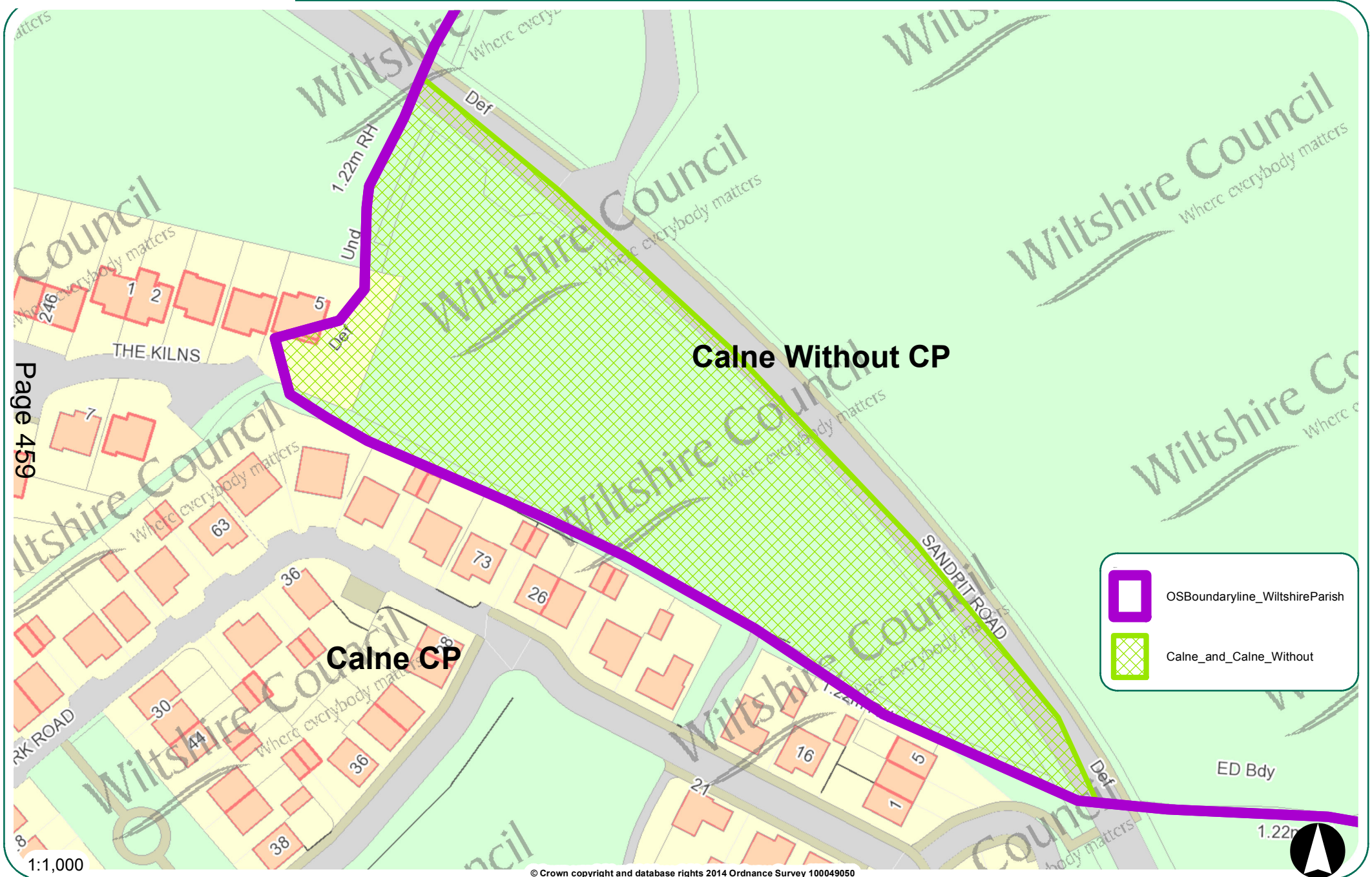


## **A7 Calne area**

### **Mapping**

- Scheme 36 - Area A7- Calne Area Sandpit Road Map 1
- Scheme 37 - Area A7- Calne Area Wenhill Heights Map 2
- Scheme 38 - Area A7- Calne Area John Bentley School Map 3
- Scheme 39 - Area A7- Calne Area The Knowle Stockley Lane Map 4



This page is intentionally left blank



Page 459

Calne Without CP

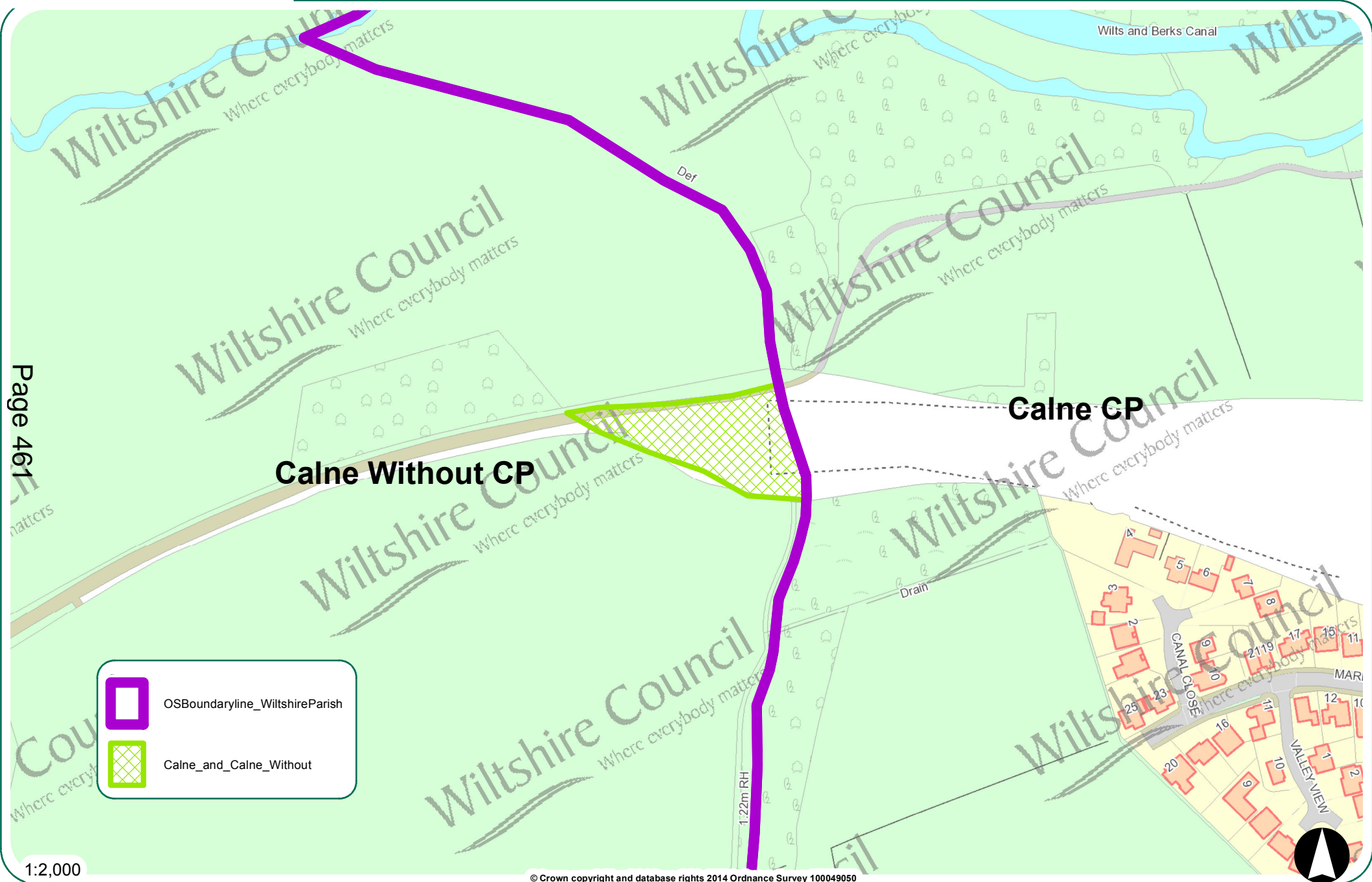
Calne CP

-  OSBoundaryline\_WiltshireParish
-  Calne\_and\_Calne\_Without



1:1,000



This page is intentionally left blank

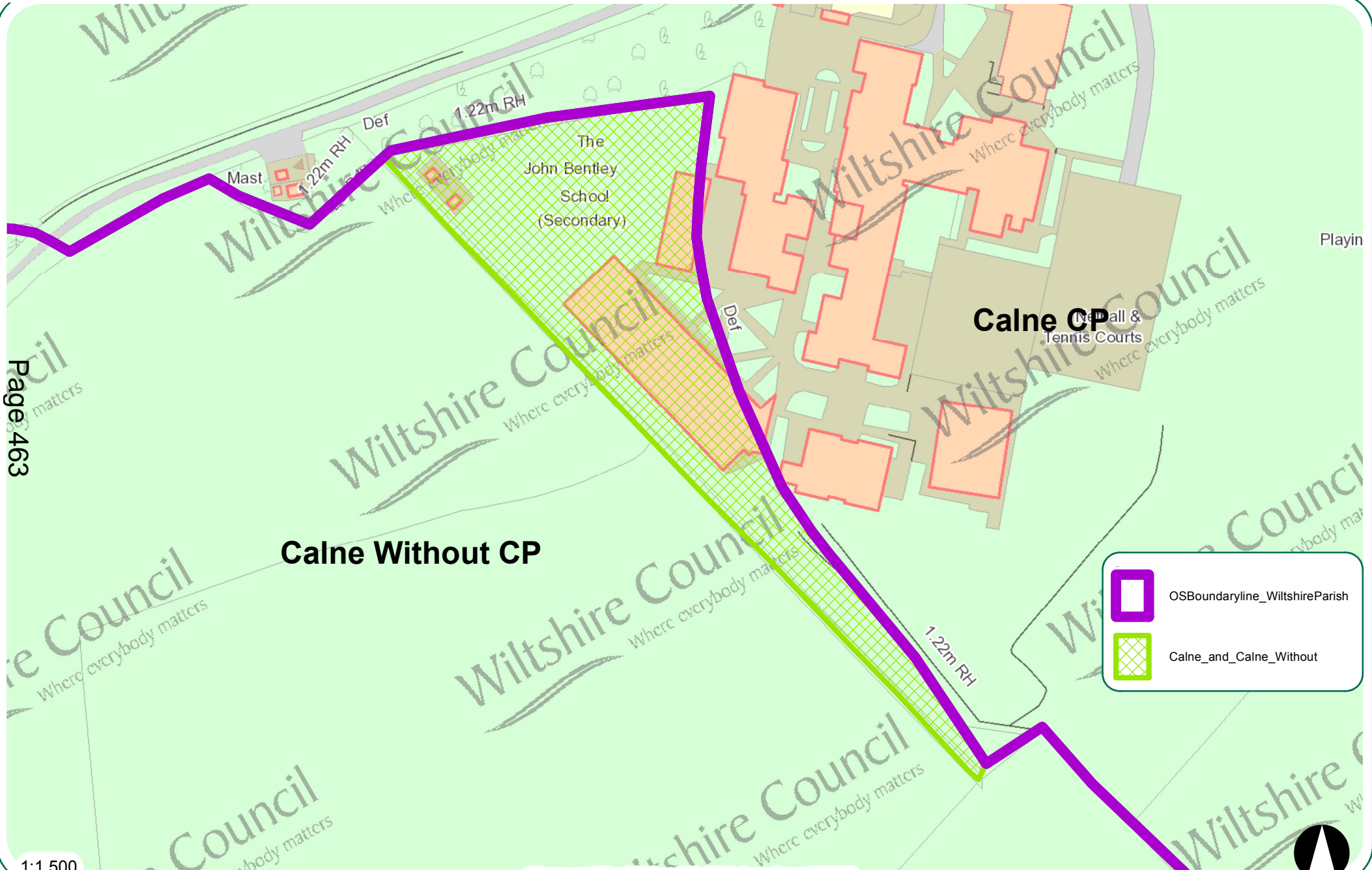


Page 461

-  OSBoundaryline\_WiltshireParish
-  Calne\_and\_Calne\_Without

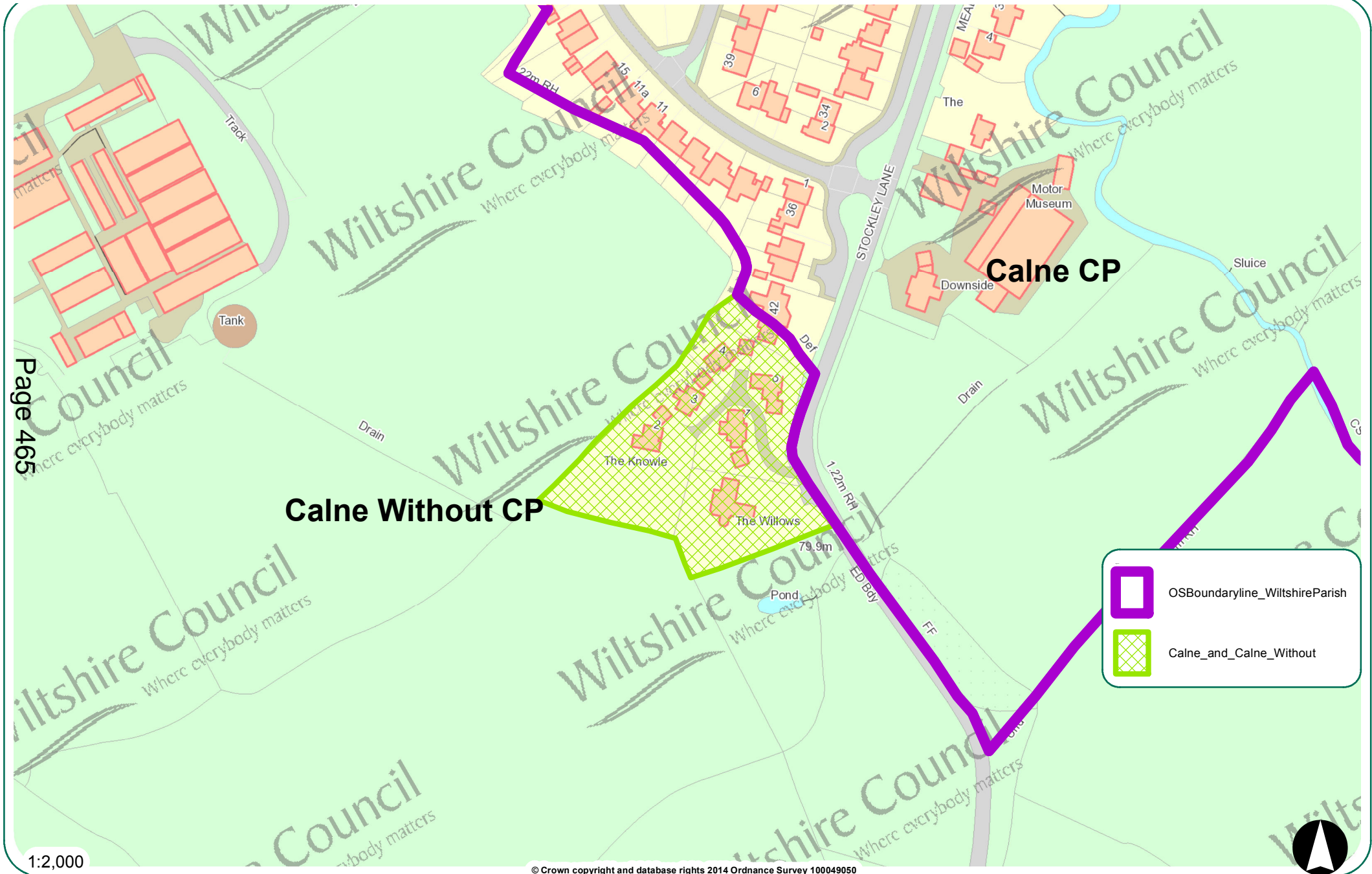
1:2,000

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank





This page is intentionally left blank

## Area A8 - Corsham and Box

### Letters and other documents

No	From	Date
1	Box PC 5 February 2014	5/2/14
2	Box PC letter 30 June 2014	30/6/14
3	Box PC letter to Corsham TC 10 July 2014	10/7/14
4	Box PC Proposal to move Rudloe estate into Box 22 December 2014	22/12/14
5	Box PC response Corsham's revised submission 22 December 2014	22/12/14
6	Corsham Public Meeting Minutes - 14 October 2015	14/10/15
7	Corsham TC CGR for Corsham Sept 15 (leaflet) - FINAL 060915	9/15
8	Corsham Vice Chairman notes 14 October 2015	14/10/15
9	E-mail from Rvd Dr Anderson KacKenzie and Mr I MacKenzie 27 July 2014	27/7/14
10	E-mail from the Springfield and Clift Close Residents Association – 12 July 2014	12/7/14
11	Extract from a second email form Mr P Turner 15 October 2015	15/10/15
12	Extract from an e-mail from Ainslie Goulstone 29 September 2015	29/9/15
13	Extract from an e-mail from Jane Browning 29 September 2015	29/9/15
14	Extract from an e-mail from Margaret Wakefield 1 October 2015	1/10/15
15	Extract from an e-mail from Mr and Mrs R Eaton 29 September 2015	29/9/15
16	Extract from an e-mail from Mr D Ibberson 29 September 2015	29/9/15
17	Extract from an e-mail from Mr L Dancey on 7 October 2015	7/10/15
18	Extract from an e-mail from Mr M Devon on 3 October 2015	3/10/15
19	Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Rayner 29 September 2015	29/9/15
20	Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Turner 10 October 2015	10/10/15
21	Extract from an e-mail from Mr R Alderman on 9 October 2015	9/10/15
22	Extract from and e-mail from Mr R Parry 14 October 2015	14/10/15
23	Extract from Corsham TC e-mail 24 July 2014	24/7/14
24	Extract from e-mail from Mr A Payne – 12 October 2015	12/10/15
25	Extract from email from Mr B Mennell 21 October 2015	21/10/15
26	Extract from e-mail from Mr T Jones – 29 September 2015	29/9/15

27	Extract from e-mail from Ms A Keat 22 August 2014	22/8/15
28	Extract from e-mail from Patricia Crowe 12 October 2015	12/10/15
29	Extract from second e-mail from Jane Browning on 10 October 2015	10/10/15
30	Extract of e-mail from Mr J Currant 12 October 2015.	12/10/15
31	Extract of e-mail from Mr R Duxbury 31 July 2014	31/7/14
32	Letter and email from Mr and Mrs D Brighten 13 October 2015	13/10/15
33	Letter from James Gray MP 30 April 2014	30/4/14
34	Letter from Mr and Mrs Allen 25 July 2014	25/7/14
35	Letter from Mr I Johnson 29 July 2014	29/7/14
36	Letter from Mr J Beeson 29 October 2015	29/10/15
37	Letter from Mr J Whitford 5 October 2015	5/10/15
38	Letter from Mr J Whitford to Baroness Scott 21 October 2015	21/10/15
39	Letter from Mr N Crocker 19 August 2014	19/8/14
40	Letter from Mrs E Arkell 19 August 2014	19/8/14
41	Letter from Mrs M Rousell 16 September 2014	16/9/14
42	Letter from Ms Sally Mitchell 15 October 2015	15/10/15
43	Letter of 21 July and email of 12 October 2015 from Mr G Jones	12/10/15
44	Mr A Paynes summary of public meeting held on 14 October 2015	14/10/15
45	Second email from Mr T Jones 15 October 2015	15/10/15

### **E-mails and hard copy**

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mr C Ward	29/5/14	Request for information
2	Mr C Todd	16/6/14	Against Corsham
3	Ms A Lucas	14/7/14	Against Corsham
4	Mr J Peplar	16/7/14	Against Corsham
5	Mr and Mrs E Callaway	21/7/14	Objects to change
6	Mr P Smith to Box PC and Cllr Thomson	22/7/14	Against Corsham
7	Ms M Short	15/10/15	Why split MOD properties
8	Mr and Mrs J Connell	18/10/15	Against changes
9	Mrs C Ross	30 October 2015	Against Corsham

# BOX PARISH COUNCIL

**Mrs.M.S.CAREY**  
Clerk to the Council

**Office Hours**

Monday & Thursday  
9.30 – 12.30  
or by appointment

E-mail: [mailbox@boxparish.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@boxparish.org.uk)  
Website address: [www.boxparish.org.uk](http://www.boxparish.org.uk)

**COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**THE PARADE**  
**BOX**  
**CORSHAM**  
**WILTS SN13 8NX**

Telephone: 01225 742356  
Fax: 01225 744049

Our ref: PFC/MC

5<sup>th</sup> February 2014

Mr John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
Monkton Park  
Chippenham  
Wilts  
SN15 1ER

Dear Mr Watling

**Review of Parish Boundaries/Community Governance Review for Corsham**

Box Parish Council has received an email from David Martin at Corsham Town Council stating that the Town Council had requested Wiltshire Council to carry out a Community Governance Review (Boundary Review) to ensure that the parish boundary is appropriate in the future.

The Box Parish Council would have serious objections to any proposed changes to the parish boundary as the parish has a very strong identity as it is, particularly those residents who are at Rudloe and share a boundary with Corsham and are fiercely protective of being part of Box.

It would be grateful if these objections could be borne in mind when the review is being carried out.

Yours sincerely,



**Margaret Carey**  
**Clerk**

This page is intentionally left blank

# BOX PARISH COUNCIL

**Mrs.M.S.CAREY**  
Clerk to the Council

**Office Hours**

Monday & Thursday  
9.30 – 12.30  
or by appointment

E-mail: mailbox@boxparish.org.uk  
Website address: www.boxparish.org.uk

**COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**THE PARADE**  
**BOX**  
**CORSHAM**  
**WILTS SN13 8NX**

Telephone: 01225 742356  
Fax: 01225 744049

Our ref: PFC/MC

30<sup>th</sup> June 2014

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

Dear Mr Watling,

**Parish Boundary Review**

The Box Parish Council is formally objecting to the proposal by Corsham Town Council to alter the Parish boundary and move a considerable amount of Box Parish into Corsham Parish.

The proposal would mean that Box Parish would lose nearly a third of its population. This would have a considerable impact on the remainder of the Parish and would result in a loss of services, loss of parish identity and affect the viability of Box Parish to enable it to actively and effectively promote the well-being of its residents.

At this moment in time no rationale for this proposal has been given by Corsham Town Council.

Box Parish Council will be holding a public meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July and will be carrying out a survey of its parishioners. A further letter will be sent to you after that date.

Yours sincerely,

**Pauline Lyons**  
**Chairman of the Council**

This page is intentionally left blank



35 Highlands Close  
Rudloe  
Corsham  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0LA

Town Clerk  
Corsham Town Council  
Town Hall  
High Street,  
Corsham,  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0EZ

10 July 2014

Dear Sir

RE: Proposed Parish Boundary Change - Part of Rudloe and Wadswick moving from Box to Corsham

I sent an email to Ruth Hopkinson, Chairman of the Council and to Councillor Peter Antsey, as in the past he was a resident of both Rudloe and Wadswick, requesting a list of the benefits for the residents of both Rudloe and Wadswick if this proposal is accepted. As neither has taken the trouble to reply to the emails the only conclusion I can make is that there are absolutely no benefits at all for the residents of both Rudloe or Wadswick.

I strongly object to the proposed boundary change as quite clearly it is a land grab for the following reasons:-

- Corsham will gain with more proposed house building becoming available.
- With approximately 450 properties moving from Box Parish to Corsham Town, Corsham gains substantially from the Council Tax Town Precept.
- Box on the other hand loses the Council Tax Parish Precept for approximately 450 properties.

- The remaining properties in Box can now expect their Council Tax Parish Precept to rise to make up what has been lost from Rudloe and Wadswick.
- Rudloe and Wadswick residents will find their Parish Precept rise as Corsham's is substantially higher than that of the Box Precept.
- Valuable Council Tax revenue is being spent on the proposed Parish Boundary change, which could have been spent on essential services.
- Richard Tonge, County Councillor for Corsham Without and Box Hill in an email to me states 'I am against the change as I can see no advantage for Box'.

I have been a resident of Rudloe for some 42 years and as I said earlier I strongly oppose the proposed boundary change.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Graham D Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Graham D Jones

# BOX PARISH COUNCIL

**Mrs.M.S.CAREY**  
Clerk to the Council

**Office Hours**

Monday & Thursday  
9.30 – 12.30  
or by appointment

E-mail: [mailbox@boxparish.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@boxparish.org.uk)  
Website address: [www.boxparish.org.uk](http://www.boxparish.org.uk)

**COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**THE PARADE**  
**BOX**  
**CORSHAM**  
**WILTS SN13 8NX**

Telephone: 01225 742356  
Fax: 01225 744049

Our ref: PFC/MC

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2014

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

Dear Mr Watling,

**Community Governance Review – Corsham**

Following the meeting of the Working Group held at Corsham Campus on 12<sup>th</sup> December please find attached a response from the Box Parish Council to the revised proposal by Corsham Town Council which was tabled at that meeting.

At the Box Parish Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December the Council resolved to make a formal submission to move the remaining housing at the Rudloe estate, currently in Corsham Parish but remote from the town, into Box Parish as this will form a natural boundary. This is shown edged red on the attached map.

The rest of the parish boundary **must** remain as it is.

Yours sincerely,

**Margaret Carey**  
**Clerk**

cc. Cllr Ernie Clark; Cllr John Hubbard; Cllr Ian McLennan; Cllr Stuart Wheeler

This page is intentionally left blank

## Community Governance Review

### Response to the Revised proposal by Corsham Town Council submitted on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014

The Box Parish Council representatives who attended the meeting at Corsham Campus on 12<sup>th</sup> December were extremely dismayed that Corsham presented these new proposals at the start of the meeting. Under the Procedure Guidance circulated by Ian Gibbons PA it stated “full details of any proposals to change the community governance arrangements within a local area **should be provided to Wiltshire Council by the Town or Parish Council at least five workings days before the scheduled meeting. This will enable members of the Working Group to familiarise themselves with the proposals and to identify what additional information or clarification they may require.**”

The revised proposal was dated 12<sup>th</sup> December, the day of the meeting and it is not clear if this had been agreed by the full Corsham Town Council.

There was no time to read or digest the contents of this submission at the time but after having time to consider it the Box Parish Council would like to state that it finds some of the contents to be petty, insulting and unnecessary.

Faced with this situation Councillor Wheeler had to make a difficult decision – whether to rule out the new proposal and use the previous papers; insist on a new meeting or include the new report. By a narrow balance we feel he made the right decision, having registered our very strong objections.

The Box Parish Council’s response to this is as follows:

#### Page 1 – The Proposals and Benefits

“The case for a Community Governance Review is made more urgent by wishing to set sensible boundaries for our Neighbourhood Plan.” Neighbourhood Plans are purely a planning issue and boundaries can be set without any change to the actual Parish boundary.

#### Page 2 – A Community Governance Review of Corsham would:

- *“Correct parish boundary anomalies through Rudloe and Westwells.”* **There are no anomalies in our view.**
- *“Replace the arbitrary parish boundaries which dissect and divide Rudloe housing estate and would avoid people living in different parishes to their neighbours.”* **The housing in Rudloe is not 'new build' it is mostly fifty years old. The small amount of housing not in Box Parish could now be moved into Box. We had been minded to suggest this in the summer, but were told the closing date was past, so had not sought to suggest new proposals at this late stage. However, at the Council meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December, the Parish Council resolved that a formal submission should now be made. Please see the attached covering letter.**

- *“Put in place clearer settlement boundaries ...”* **Settlement boundaries are nothing to do with parish boundaries, they are presently being reviewed as part of the core strategy and are about planning, not parish identities.**
- *“Facilitate the future sustainable development and expansion of Corsham.”* **Future development and expansion of Box parish, including provision of affordable housing would be stopped by a boundary change. Green Belt and AONB policies that cover the majority of our parish only allow for limited infill.**
- *“Provide clearer and effective governance of Corsham and Box, with more inclusive participation, representation and leadership.”* **Rudloe and Wadswick have presently five councillors on Box PC in the Box Hill Ward. Two live in Rudloe and three live nearby. In the recent past two Box parish chairman and vice chairman have lived in Rudloe and two chairman from Wadswick. These hamlets are not 'outposts' of Box parish, indeed during NWDC both Box elected representatives lived in Rudloe. Therefore governance and leadership is inclusive.**
- *“Offer more efficient, cost-effective and convenient delivery of council services at a local level.”* **For whom? Where is the evidence?**
- *“Enable a clear and effective Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for Corsham.”* **Neighbourhood plans are again purely a planning issue and are not part of this process. They can be carried out across parish boundaries.**
- *“Build a stronger, cohesive and more engaged Rudloe community which feels part of one place.”* **The answer to the second bullet point covers this and what has changed now?**
- *“Improve democracy, electoral accountability and representation with increased elected representation in a new/merged ward”* **Wards cover several hamlets as in Box Hill, it is not possible to dictate where councillors live, especially co-opted members.**
- *“Update out-of-date historic boundaries.”* **It has not been demonstrated why they are out of date.**
- *“Bring Corsham Primary School (Broadwood Site) into Corsham where the majority of pupils reside. Up until 2007 this was known as Box Highlands School and was one of two primary schools in Box. It was because the school ran into extreme financial difficulties that the Local Education Authority stepped in. By closing the school and reopening it as part of Corsham Primary School it was classed as a “new initiative” and attracted funding from Central Government. It was Box Highlands for*

**over twenty years with the majority of pupils being from Box but as the demographic changes it now has more pupils from outside of Box.**

Page 3 The Proposals (Existing and Revised)

**The new suggested boundary shown in appendix C quoted a planning consent for a road that has not yet been constructed and may not ever be. The planning consent for Royal Arthur now called Wadswick Green has been active for approx 15years and not constructed. This road is private and had restrictions on its use for residents only.**

Page 3 Addressing Box Parish Council's Concerns

**Box Parish Council concerns to the original proposal were based on the guidelines issues by Wiltshire Council on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014 entitled Parish/Community Governance Review with particular reference to Appendix C General Principles to be applied in the Review and reference to finance relating to the paragraph on viability.**

Page 4 – Other Factors

The proposed planning application for the Rudloe No 2 site does bear a relationship to Box Parish as this is the only area where Box can develop and provide new housing including low cost housing. The Royal Air Force who occupied Rudloe No 2 site have always been involved in Box parish.

*“It is unfortunate that Box Parish Council does not know its own boundary and the community which it serves.”* This comment is completely unnecessary and petty. The vast majority of MOD Corsham is in CORSHAM Parish and we accept that.

If this review were allowed it would fail to meet the needs of Box parish residents in their demonstrated desire to remain one community. It would not allow Box to expand or develop. The amount of land involved in any transfer is not the only factor, it is the number of dwellings. This would, we repeat reduce the parish residents by approximately one third. WHY?

The Chairman of Corsham Town Council stated at the meeting that the residents of Rudloe all look towards Corsham for its services. We would ask where the proof of that is and whether a survey has been carried out to substantiate this.

The Working Party will now put forward its recommendations on these proposals and a public meeting will be held as part of the consultation process. There was a discussion as to who would be suitable to chair that meeting and we would suggest that any local councillor would not be appropriate.

This page is intentionally left blank



## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2015 AT SPRINGFIELD CAMPUS, BEECHFIELD RD, CORSHAM, COTTINGHAM SN13 9DN.**

**Present:**

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

**Also Present:**

---

**14 Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel.

**15 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.

**16 Proposals**

Maps were presented showing the proposals.

**17 Rudloe excluding Wadswick Area**

**Comments in support:**

Peter Pierson - Corsham

- The proposal is not a land grab.
- Can see strong feeling from all of the Box residents here.
- Opportunity to look at things as times are changing.
- Communities are growing – Copenhagen, Rudloe and Corsham should have joint voice on what happens in the growth.

- About the School whose named had been changed – children come from both areas and makes no difference.
- Lots of ideas of how we can develop.
- Looking to the future and asking both areas how we should grow and work together.
- Corsham has long history as well and been working with Box parish throughout.
- There will be lots of development and families moving into the area. We need to prepare for that and properly integrate them and have their say whilst being supported.

Philip Whalley –Corsham TC

- Concerned at being obsessed with top part of the proposal – need to look at the entire area not just Rudloe.
- There is a large area which could be reconsidered away from Rudloe.
- The debate has not addressed 2/3rds of proposal.
- Need to tidy the boundary line.

Mr Docherty – Disabled representative

- Parishes need to listen to the disabled – Corsham does a good job for disabled people.

**Comments against:**

Pauline Lyons (Chairman Box PC)

- Disappointed with the proposals as Box PC have had no justification on the proposals and they should not have to fight neighbouring council over this. It should have been done in communication.
- The parish boundaries have been reviewed many times but not changed.
- Services and facilities in Box are regularly used by residents and they do not rely on Corsham.
- If the proposal is agreed then 1/3rd of Box parish will be gone.
- Too much of the precept will be lost and Box PC will not be able to continue.
- Box is a close community and does not want to be split up.

Margaret Rousell

- The parish of Box is a rural village and not a town like Corsham and should be kept that way.
- Live in village and want to be in a village (rural life) not a town.
- The local school has already been taken by Corsham (previously Box Highlands), and should be returned.
- Box is a very close community.

Ian Johnson – Resident Rudloe

- The Corsham proposals are requesting development land from Box and can only be justified by financial gains.
- The large turnout at this meeting from Box residents shows we have a strong community feeling.
- Corsham plan divides Box parish
- Council tax will increase

Anthony Lennon – Box resident

- No-body would not be here if Corsham had not asked for the land. All of the benefits are for Corsham not one advantage for Box.
- Guidance states that any change must improve all parishes concerned & their democracy – this is not apparent in this proposal.

Bob Smith – Box resident

- Expected to be told what the plans were and why they were made and pros and cons of the changes including council tax, at this meeting. This has not been done and people are confused.

Rev Doc Janet Anderson McKenzie (rev of church)

- Community cohesion in Rudloe will be seriously impacted.
- The change (Park Avenue - military) would stay in Box but the rest of the military houses would go into Corsham. This would make it even more difficult to bring cohesion and integrate the areas and I have big concerns.
- People need uniform support from their parish which would work well with the Box PC Proposal. It would not work well with Corsham proposal.

Robert Davis – Resident Rudloe

- I use all of Box facilities and want to remain a Box resident.
- Insulted about the Corsham proposal and residents had not been informed previously by Corsham TC that they had put these proposals together.
- Want to remain as we are.

Charles Fuller – Neston

- Boundary should follow hard lines – clear boundaries
- If the parish needs to change then other lines are better – West Wells Road for example.

- Should not take over a 3rd of Rudloe and break it up.
- Proposal does not make sense.
- Allow Box to have land to develop and contain itself which will benefit its own residents.
- If Box develops so will Corsham.

Alan Pain

- Current I run the Box People and Places Community websites.
- Rudloe has been part of Box for 880 years and shows why the people of Box are concerned about losing their neighbours, friends etc.
- In Box there is a yearly war memorial - 9 Rudloe servicemen lost their lives with pals from Box - not Corsham. Box also supported their families.
- Box has a large history which should be kept.
- Box villagers are proud.
- The proposals are a short term fix to financial problems.
- Will do considerable damage by breaking the community identity.

Chris Tarbin – Rudloe resident

- Box has a real sense of community cohesion.
- The Corsham leaflet referred to – does not refer to community only a land grab

John Currant - Box resident

- Family has been in Box for over 100 years and own/ worked in businesses throughout that time.
- Always associated self as a Box resident and from Box.
- Facilities are always full and people are proud.
- Corsham have not spoken to us about why they want this review.

Chair of Box Link – Rodney Weasley

- Provide services in the Rudloe/ Box area
- Box area supports Rudloe residents via link service
- Cannot see a better example of local community support
- Proposal will destroy community feeling

David Hofford - Resident

- During the last review I was moved into Box (was in Corsham).
- Now the proposal would mean I have to move again – I'd rather stay

Ann Keat

- Costing not made – how much would box loose? Can we have figures?
  - No as panel are not allowed to take into account the precept.

#### Palmer – Box Village

- The proposal looks like a land grab.
- All Box residents present tonight are wearing Box stickers which shows how proud and passionate we are.
- Nowhere better to live and we do not want to live in Corsham.

#### Shift Taylor – Rudloe - Leafey Lane

- Agree the proposal looks like a land grab.
- What's in it for Rudloe?
- Do not feel part of Box or Corsham
- Use Corsham more
- If precept the rose what benefits etc will Rudloe see?
- Rely on busses which are not great, how would that change?
- If moved into Corsham and developed, will we get better amenities?

#### Juliet Palmer -Rudloe

- Looking at people not here yet. Why are we not taken into consideration we are already living here!

#### Dr William Richards – Box

- Looking at the criteria (guidance), I am struggling to match Corsham's reasons to the criteria in which the decision is made.
- The proposal only refers to development.
- No mention of community cohesion.

#### Steve Wheeler – Box Hill

- At least 1 person from Corsham spoke thanks! Where are they all?
- Corsham have suggested that Box would not integrate new community's rubbish who said we can't?

#### Richard Cambell

- With Box losing so much in this proposal and there being no other areas for develop due to the conservation area. This would leave Box with no options and struggling significantly due to financial pressures.

#### **Additional comments:**

**Comments in support:**

Rebecca Richards – Box PC

- Rudloe is a split community and Box is happy to help them integrate

Margaret Rousell

- We have worked very hard to integrate both communities – We asked Corsham for help and they refused all but one request.
- Need to bring community together and not split them up.

Jenny Eden – Box Resident

- Box parish belongs to the church within the parish and not to anyone else.

**Comment against:**

**Additional comments:**

**18a Land to the East of the A350 Main Road**

**Comments in support:**

New comment – Corsham

- The proposal is not about a land grab but integrating communities for the future.

**Comments against:**

Jane Browning

- There is no reason for the change but a tidying up exercise which not good enough.
- Usually the train line was the boundary.
- All down to changes in the core strategy.
  - Parish lines have no significance in planning terms.
- In core strategy, areas are put in community areas which are based on parish lines. The change is only proposed to gain development areas.

**Additional comments:**

New comment

- What is the deadline for submissions?
  - November 24<sup>th</sup> the working group are hoping to have recommendations to take to full council. Although no proposal will be rushed if it is not clear. The end of October is the deadline for survey responses.

Alan Pains - Parish website Box

- That date may be difficult for residents. If you can tell Box PC the end date I will have it on the website.

19 **Close**

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and comments.

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 8.30 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

This page is intentionally left blank





## **CORSHAM AND BOX BOUNDARY REVIEW**

### **Public Consultation Meeting**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at Corsham Community Campus**

Wiltshire Council is in the process of undertaking a Community Governance Review (CGR), which includes looking at the boundaries between the parishes of Chippenham, Corsham and Box.

A public meeting is being held at Corsham Community Campus on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, from 7pm to 9pm, and an online questionnaire is available at: [http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/communitygovernancereview2015.htm#corsham\\_and\\_box](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/communitygovernancereview2015.htm#corsham_and_box).

The public meeting will give people the opportunity to hear a brief summary of the scheme and then participate in an extended discussion and question and answer session. Please read the information below and attend the public meeting and/or complete the online survey with your views.

You may already be aware that Corsham Town Council has made a request to bring the whole of the Rudloe community and the Westwells area around MOD Corsham, currently in Box, into Corsham.

A Community Governance Review must reflect the identities and interests of the communities in that area and be effective and convenient. Consequently, a review must take into account the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion, and the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.

The reasons for Corsham Town Council requesting a Review include:

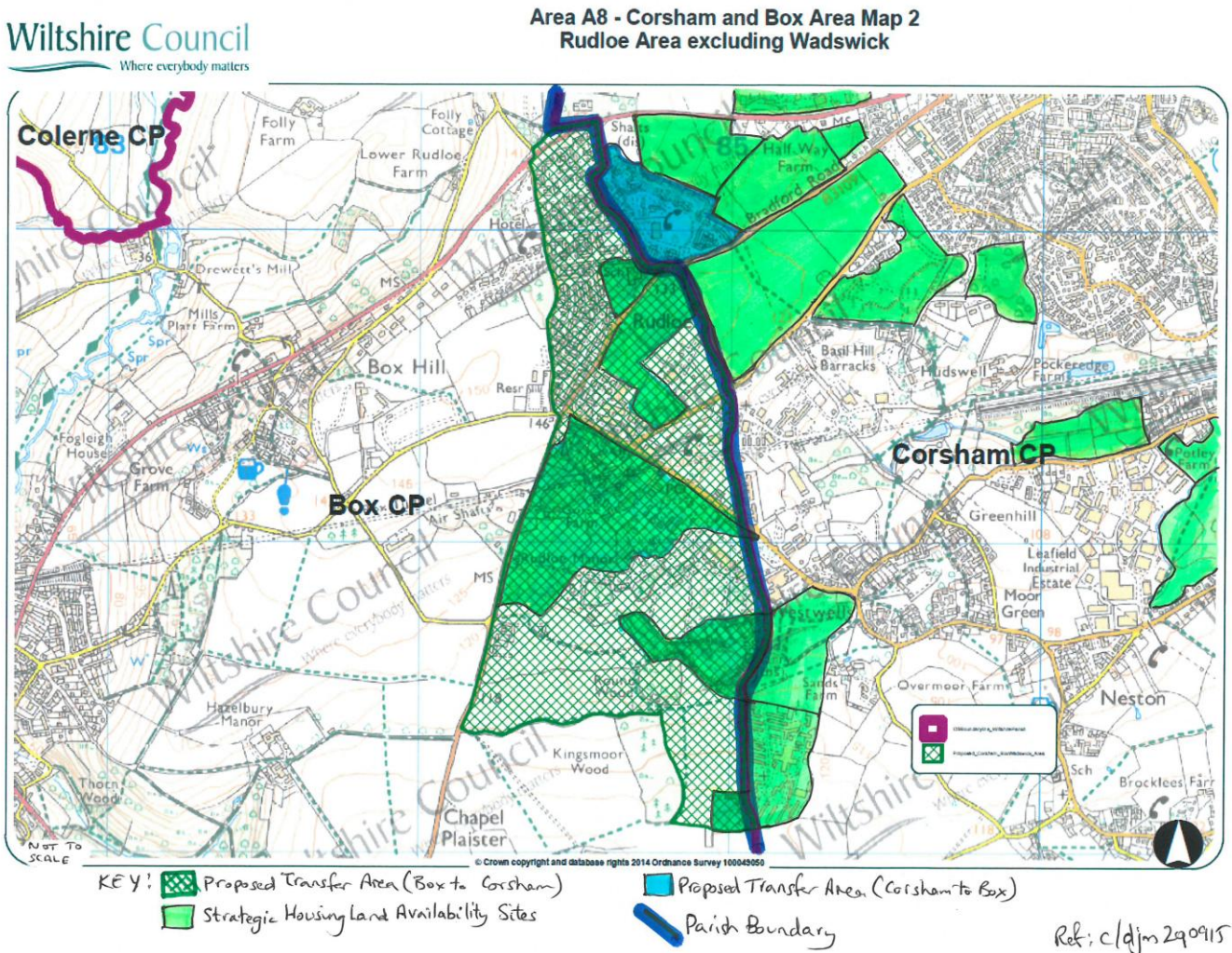
- The boundaries at the moment have not been reviewed in over 100 years so do not allow for any development since that time. This has resulted in the Rudloe community being dissected with some residents living in Corsham and others in Box.
- Corsham's current boundaries have little relevance to our current communities or planned development under the Draft Core Strategy or the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Plan.

A Community Governance Review of Corsham would aim to:

- Correct parish boundary anomalies through Rudloe and Westwells
- Replace the arbitrary parish boundaries which dissect and divide Rudloe housing estate and would avoid people living in different parishes to their neighbours
- Put in place clearer settlement boundaries and identities for Corsham and Box, based on fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years. The current proposal follows the established and recognised Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the new access road to Wadswick Green retirement village as boundaries
- Facilitate the future sustainable development and expansion of Corsham
- Provide clearer and effective governance of Corsham and Box, with more inclusive participation, representation and leadership
- Offer more efficient, cost-effective and convenient delivery of Council services at a local level
- Enable a clear and effective Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for Corsham
- Build a stronger, cohesive and more engaged Rudloe community which feels part of one place
- Improve democracy, electoral accountability and representation with increased elected representation in a new/merged ward

- Strengthen relationships with MOD Corsham and businesses to the west of Westwells Road, promoting an economically vibrant community
- Align the boundary to likely changes in housing and employment land as indicated in the Wiltshire Core Strategy and Wiltshire and Swindon Strategic Economic Plan
- Bring Corsham Primary School (Broadwood site) into Corsham, where the majority of its pupils reside

The Proposals Plan (see Fig. 1 – Proposals Plan) helps explain what the changes would mean. The hatched area indicates the land which the Town Council wishes to see transferred. The areas shaded green are those that landowners have submitted as potential housing development sites – some of which already have planning permission. The area shaded blue indicates an alternative proposal which would move the part of Rudloe estate currently within Corsham, into Box. The thick blue line shows the current parish boundary between Corsham and Box.



(Fig. 1 – Proposals Plan)

Corsham has grown by over 20 percent in the last 10 years and the settlement is due to expand much further in the next decade. The Town Council is positive about managing development and there is a strong desire for us to take the lead through the Core Strategy, Strategic Plan and Neighbourhood Plan. It is critical that this growth is sustainable. This means balancing economic, social and environmental considerations. In order to achieve this sustainable growth, the geographical area covered by the Town Council must be critically reviewed. The Community Governance Review (CGR) is very clearly the most appropriate review mechanism. So, when the opportunity arose in 2013/14 to put forward a case for a Community Governance Review of Corsham, the Town Council was, and still is, very supportive.

Corsham Town Council believes that a Community Governance Review is long overdue, and essential if Corsham is to expand and develop in a sustainable and manageable way. It has considered Box Parish Council's concerns and acknowledged them through submitting a revised proposal which reduces the area to be transferred by over 50 percent. This new proposal should meet the needs of both communities now and in the foreseeable future.

CORSHAM  
VILLE-COMMUNITY  
14/10/15

## Community Governance Review

The reasons why Corsham Town Council made its proposal for a boundary change with Box are all set out in our formal proposal which conforms with Government guidance. I would just like to highlight a few of the main points and address some misconceptions.

We took what is at best a once every 10 year opportunity, to have our boundaries reviewed in order to ensure the parish was in the best possible position to serve it's communities. Over the past two decades Corsham's population has grown by about 20% and almost all of that growth has been to the West of the Parish. It is growth that has been led from the outside by developers, conforming with the National Planning Framework and Wiltshire Council policies which has left little or no voice for local people in what they want or where they want it.

Much of Box Parish lies within the AONB and therefore, as a relatively small Parish, has not considered it necessary or affordable to produce or cooperate in a neighbourhood plan. That means that the residents outside the AONB have little chance of influencing future development and planning policy which affects them, but not the remainder of the Parish. Corsham Town Council wants to give all its residents and communities both existing and planned, the strongest possible voice in shaping their future. Work on the Corsham Community Area Framework has identified the lack of identity for the developing communities in the area between Box and Corsham and we are keen to address this in a positive manner.

Opportunities now exist and are indeed encouraged by Wiltshire Council, for the devolvment of services they currently provide down to a more local level. Corsham is keen to explore these opportunities, but they depend on us having the capacity to do so. The Boundary change which we have requested would increase our capacity to take on additional services from Wiltshire Council to the advantage of all our residents and communities.

Corsham is already a Council with some capacity and a proven record of integrating it's services for both town and village communities within it's boundaries. Any growth to the West will only increase its capacity, in a very cost effective manner, to serve all the communities better. The proposal was never based on simply increasing revenue at the expense of Box.

Corsham started the process of examining its boundaries in accordance with the Government's guidance on this process. This led us, initially, to consider all of the area East of the AONB as a clear division unlikely to change over time. We were however persuaded by the arguments of Box Council and the opportunity offered by the new access road to The Wadswick Green Development to revise and reduce the area covered by our proposal. That is the proposal that is now on the table for this review and is one that makes sense in planning as well as governance rules.

In conclusion the Corsham Town Council proposal is inclusive, offering to all those who live now, or who will come to live in the new developments, a clear sense of identity and a real and effective say in how their neighbourhoods meet the opportunities and challenges of the future. Taking power back from speculative developers and generalised policies and putting it in the communities own hands through their own local, democratically elected council.

It does seem strange that Box Parish Council has now put forward an alternative proposal, since their position appeared to be that there was no need for a change to boundaries that had been in place for over 100 years.

Dear Mr Watling,

We write to make a submission under the current Community Governance Review and, in particular to note our concern with the proposal by Corsham Town Council to seek to change the boundary between Corsham and the Parish of Box.

We are surprised at the proposals given that there have been no demographic changes or significant development in the area under review.

The residents of Rudloe see themselves as part of Box and generally look to Box for community cohesion and parish identity. Rudloe is part of the ecclesiastical parish of Box with Hazelbury and indeed Box Church run a fortnightly family worship service in the Rudloe Military Community Centre as well as running the local 'tots group' at the Rudloe Community Centre. We are concerned that any move to redefine the boundaries will undermine these good developments in terms of community cohesion and identity.

The current parish boundary is aligned with the ecclesiastical parish boundary which is a distinct and historic boundary. The hamlets of Wadswick and Chapel Plaister have for many generations been part of Box and indeed the chapel at Chapel Plaister is part of the Parish of Box with Hazelbury, a historic parish dating back hundreds of years. To redefine the boundary and move Wadswick and Chapel Plaister into Corsham and sever the links with Box seems of little benefit to anyone.

Of course, any changes would not affect ecclesiastical boundaries and, should the boundaries change, there would be confusion across Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister as to the Parish Church for baptisms, marriages and funerals (since this would remain as Box).

We also note with concern the financial implications on Box Parish of losing just under one third of the current dwellings and what this would mean for services and precept for local residents, as well as the potential deterioration of local services for those residents impacted by any boundary change.

We would be grateful if you could note both of our objections to these proposals and consider the above points as part of the review.

Yours sincerely

Revd Dr Janet Anderson-MacKenzie, Priest in Charge of the Parish of Box with Hazelbury  
Mr Ian MacKenzie

Both of

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Box, Wiltshire, SN13 8NR

Copy to Margaret Carey, Clerk, Box Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

E-mail from the Springfield and Clift Close Residents Association – 12 July 2014

**From:**  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 12, 2014 12:52 PM  
**To:** [mailbox@boxparish.org.uk](mailto:mailbox@boxparish.org.uk)  
**Subject:** Proposed Boundary Change

The Springfield and Clift Close Residents Association is opposed to boundary changes proposed by Corsham Town Council.

We are concerned that there appears to have been no consultation with Box Parish Council before this was put before Wiltshire Council and believe that this is a land grab as a direct result of the houses that are due to be built on green field and brown field sites that are currently within Box Parish. Many of us wasted a time trying to stop the development on green fields on the Bradford Road, we hope that at least we are listened to about this as we are Box residents many of us use the facilities in Box and wish the boundaries to remain as they are.

Regards

Robert Davies

This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from a second email from Mr P Turner 15 October 2015

Dear John

Paul Turner wishes to raise an objection to the development plans included in both Box and Corsham's proposals.

Sincerely

Alan Payne

**From:**

**Sent:** Thursday, 15 October 2015 13:31

**To:** [Alan Payne](#)

#### **14th October 2015 - Community Governance Review meeting at Corsham Community Campus**

This meeting of the Working Group on Parish & Community Governance Reviews was arranged in order to take views on the proposals for the Corsham and Box parishes. The meeting agenda, which includes 'frequently asked questions' and a three-page survey can be found in the pdf file at the foot of this article (note that there is no 'Page 2' which was blank).

Probably a couple of hundred people attended the meeting, principally Box and Rudloe residents, and many good points were made for keeping the status quo. The impression was that if any proposal were to be accepted, it would be the 'counter' proposal from Box Parish Council (agenda item 3b) for the part of Rudloe Estate which is presently in Corsham Parish to be moved to Box Parish.

[To the shame of both councils (Corsham and Box) support was given for proposed speculative development on this pastureland at Rudloe when there are more than enough brownfield sites to satisfy housing demand. Photo courtesy Paul Turner.]

As the photo indicates, when it comes to throwing Rudloe to the development wolves both parish councils are happy to do so without any thought for the problems that existing householders have. There are no services at Rudloe - the only shop, on Rudloe Estate, closes this month. Do the councils not appreciate that a substantial amount of money is foregone on bus or taxi fares in order simply to get to shops? Parts of Rudloe have been described by Wiltshire Council as "deprived". So where better to put another 88 homes than in a deprived area without services?

Corsham Town Council (CTC) Planning Committee voted "unanimously" to support the 88-home development at Rudloe and, interestingly, voted unanimously against the 150-home proposal at

Pickwick. This, I believe, indicates CTC's true view of Rudloe - that they care little for the community. At tonight's meeting, the only arguments we heard from CTC were about "new" residents (of new developments) and what community they would wish to be part of (we heard nothing about how they support or propose to support existing residents) and the boundary anomalies (however, CTC's proposal would simply replace one set of anomalies with another - see next para). The author of the Corsham proposal, the former Town Clerk, now CEO, was conspicuous in his silence.

So, no good rationale was offered by CTC for their proposal. Even their proposed boundary which was to be based "on fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years" has been arbitrarily modified to follow a new access road to Wadswick Green which divides Manor Farm's holdings (so part of Manor Farm would be in Box, another part in Corsham). The poor showing from CTC indicates that there really is no solid foundation to their plan.

Returning to sporting analogies, as made in my piece in the 7th October article, if this was a boxing match, Box won by a KO in round 1 or if a tennis match, by a WO (walkover).

With regard to the meeting agenda below, the included survey is a bit of a minefield as, for example, question 7 says "How far do you agree or disagree that the proposed changes to the parish boundaries where you live will improve the following factors". But what proposed changes? Those proposed by Corsham or those proposed by Box? The only solution is not to insert any ticks in boxes but to provide a narrative answer. Surveys should be returned either to the email or postal address given on 'Page 8' of the survey by 30th October.

Paul Turner of [www.rudloescene.co.uk](http://www.rudloescene.co.uk) .

Sent from Windows Mail



This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Ainslie Goulstone 29 September 2015.

*Ainslie lives in Lower Shockerwick, Bathford, Somerset but she and her husband, David, have always been associated with Box, Box Church and Box Revels.*

Alan Payne

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:** Ainslie Goulstone

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015 16:56

**To:**

Dear Alan,

On the boundary debate I not sure how much weight my opinion will carry, as I live in a different county...

However, there is a PRECEDENT to note ! I'm not sure how many years ago ( maybe thirty, Penny Newbould will know ) there was a move afoot in Shockerwick to move the hamlet into Wiltshire as part of Box, Box being willing to receive the extension. Some residents were upset about the council tax difference between Bath and Wiltshire, some felt more part of Box than the slightly distant Bathford ( historically now cut off by the railway ); other residents opposed the move, worried about the value a BA1 post code gave their property.... The debate caused some rift...

In the end the move was opposed on the grounds of HISTORY : the ancient boundary of 957, the gift of our land and hamlet to the monks of (Bath) Ford of the same date, all the centuries of history tied up with being where we were.....

Probably no help at all as the cases are different, still history was the deciding factor...

Sent from my iPad

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Jane Browning 29 September 2015.

*Jane lives in Corsham and has innumerable family ties with Box. She is a committee member of Box NATS and Box People and Places as well as several similar Corsham Societies.*

Alan Payne

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015 19:57

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Alan,

I am totally against the proposal to re-draw the boundary. Does history count for nothing? I understand it is due to Chippenham wanting to re-draw their boundary to include parts of Corsham Parish due to Wiltshire Council identifying (in the Core Strategy) a certain amount of land for housing and employment needs for Chippenham, which Chippenham cannot meet within their current boundaries. Corsham Town Council has, in effect, agreed this without consulting its parishioners. The whole process has been rather "under the radar". I think there are very few people in Corsham who know of this review. Certainly I know of no proposal to have a similar meeting for the proposed new boundaries for the parish of Corsham.

So it is all due to the WC's Core Strategy that we are in this position. WC usually get their way - consultation is purely that; a way to put a tick in the box to say they have consulted. They do not have to follow the views of those consulted.

Although, again, they do not have to take account of such a vehicle, I wonder if, if WC still do not listen, Box Parish could call for a referendum. Indeed, if the proposals were more widely known in Corsham, I believe there would be sufficient people in Corsham to demand such a vote as well.

Jane Browning

This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from an e-mail from Margaret Wakefield 1 October 2015.

*Margaret moved to Box at the age of three and after a spell away has moved back to the village.*

*Her ancestors are the Lambert and Richards families who managed the stone quarry wharves for many years.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Thursday, 1 October 2015 10:51

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Alan & Carol,

I've read your comments about the proposed changes to the parish boundary.....and agree with your protest for all sorts of reasons. I don't like the sort of tinkering that happens with monotonous regularity with the old, established boundaries, which can often be reversed or further tinkered with a few years down the line, almost at the whim of the latest body in control. I certainly appreciate all the historic connections that could be broken. But it also seems that Box would be the poorer in population and housing with all the social and economic ramifications that the boundary shift would bring. I AM curious to know what the feelings of the residents of the parts of the parish that would be affected are about it all. I shall go to the meeting on the 14th. if I can.

kind regards ....Margaret

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Mr and Mrs R Eaton 29 September 2015.

*Jenny and Roger Eaton have lived in Box for decades taking an active part in the Box Community since the 1970s.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015 22:30

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Hi Alan,

Both Roger and I are totally opposed to transferring Rudloe etc to Corsham. It will significantly effect the financial status of Box. More importantly, I know that people in Rudloe, Wadswick & CP feel they are part of Box. They are part of the parish of Box and very involved with St Thomas a Becket.

We hope to be at the meeting at the Springfield centre.

Jenny

Sent from my iPad

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Mr D Ibberson 29 September 2015

*David lives in Corsham and had previously run Box Scouts and Box Jubilee Centre as well as writing numerous historical articles and books about Box.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 September 2015 20:53

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Alan

I can see no logical reason why Corsham seeks to extend its boundaries or indeed any advantages to the residents of Wadswick or Rudloe. My suspicions are that there could be an hidden agenda to do with jobs, housing and grants.

However, my real objections are that I object to actions that sweep away the past.

We will try and get there health permitting.

Kind Regards

Dave Ibberson

Sent from Samsung tablet

----- Original message -----

From: [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Date: 29/09/2015 10:18 (GMT+00:00)

To:

Subject: Autumn Issue

Dear Dave - FYI

Herewith the link to new issue: <http://www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk/index.html>

In particular please see the article about transferring a substantial part of Box to Corsham and let us have your comments about this:

<http://www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk/rudloe-wadswick--chapel-plaister-in-box.html>

**Health and Leisure in Victorian Box****Care Before The National Health Service**

We reveal the untold history of Kingsdown House, Box's Asylum for the mentally ill. David Ibberson traces the story of the owners of the house and Jenny Hobbs takes us on a tour inside its locked doors (left).

But few people know about the female Dipsomania Establishment in Box for the cure of women who suffered the *madness* of alcoholism.

And the Comrades Legion Club set up in Hardy House (sometimes called Alpha House) was started to offer friendship and company to those returning mentally and physically disabled by the Great War.

**PEOPLE IN BOX****Enjoy the Light Fantastic**

The Gay Nineties Dance Club brought grace and sophistication to Box in the years of rationing after the Second World War.

**Box Horse Show**

Pictures of the Horse Show held in Box for a decade, its formation by Eric Bayliss and Bill Peters and its demise after calling out the Fire Brigade.

**Sports Clubs**

The Victorians spawned many of our current clubs in the village. We recall the origins of these organisations with original photos. And the story of a single football match between villagers and Hungarian refugees.

**Women of Box Arise**

Starting our series on women who affected life in Box is Maud Cogswell (right). Can you add to this on-going series with your female ancestors?

**PLACES IN BOX****More About Ashley**

If you thought you knew the history of this area, think again. The saw mill caused the deaths of at least two residents and the failure of the Waterworks caused severe problems. Seen right Wormcliffe pilgrim chapel.

**Heleigh House**

Martin Devon recounts the story of this house, the origin of its name and family connections with Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

**Railway Station Remains**

We tell the story of the last remnant of the Railway Station still in existence in Box.

**More Photos Needed**

Still want more? Try the fabulous photos of George Reeves, quarryman ganger, and WI Centenary Celebrations.



GET ON-LINE AT: [www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk](http://www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk)

or contact us directly see below

We are a Community History Project open to everyone interested in Box, its history and its inhabitants.

Contact details: email: [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Write: Old Jockey Farmhouse, Old Jockey, Box, Corsham, Wilts, SN13 8DJ

Extract from an e-mail from Mr L Dancey on 7 October 2015

*Les was born in the Market Place, Box, and now lives in Christchurch. His memories of Box are undiminished with time and he is a great supporter of the village, often coming to local functions.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Wednesday, 7 October 2015 22:49

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Hi Alan,

I get hot under the collar when I think about how things are. The world just seems to be getting more corrupt, including here in the UK. The problem is that people like me are too lazy to do anything about it.

I hope these changes don't go through. I like to think of everything going on as I left it more than fifty years ago. I have no right to feel that way but it an anchor in my life that I treasure.

I am amazed that there should be any consideration for boundary changes between Corsham and Box. The very thought smells of skullduggery to me. They, no doubt have plans already in place as to what they want to do with the land as soon as they get their grubby little fingers on it, and by then the residents of Box will be powerless to do anything about it. Strikes me of those awful western films that John Wayne was always fighting for justice in.

With all the underground workings it is a sensitive area and, to my mind, it is such an interesting area, it should be turned into a National park. Everywhere local government are looking to where they can make a fast buck. Let them look to themselves! Ministers are saying that they get very little pay for running the country but, when you look at their overall cost with functions and exhorbitant expense claims it trebles their cost to us, money they don't pay tax on. OK, so I digress but it's all part of the big con.

This is another call to the trenches for the Box people. It will be irreversible and no amount of wailing after the event will have any effect on the outcome. Though I have been away from the village a long time, it is always in my mind and will always be home to me. Have you looked into whether a petition might be a step in the right direction? They seem to have worked for some people.

Good luck to everyone,  
Les Dancey

This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from an e-mail from Mr M Devon on 3 October 2015

*Martin & Elizabeth Devon are two of the most respected people in Box because of their archaeological work on the Box Roman Villa, restoration of Box Church and the amount of community events that they support.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:** [martin.devon@heleigh.org.uk](mailto:martin.devon@heleigh.org.uk)  
**Sent:** Saturday, 3 October 2015 11:12  
**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Alan

Not a lot of positive evidence we can offer, but the following may help:-

In Kidston pp 101-102 tithes for Hazelbury and Wadswick were taken together in a document of Walter Crok III 1219-1220

In Jackson;s Aubrey p.59 quoted in Kidston p. 107 "In this parish [Box] is the chapel of Playster.."

On the map of 1630 in Kidston the boundary of Corsham Lordship lies clearly well to the east of the line of the B3109.

The Vicar of Box is also Rector of Hazelbury and is paid £10 per annum for the sinecure. She also has specific duties in the Rudloe area.

As to the shopping argument, it is quite absurd. We do our weekly shopping in Melksham where there is a choice of shops, all with free parking. Any building stuff is from Chippenham.

In short, we think that there are no good reasons why the current situation should be changed.

Hope this helps

Martin R Devon MSc  
Consulting Engineer, Box, Wiltshire, UK

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Rayner 29 September 2015.

*Philip lived in Mills Platt, the hamlet next to Corsham, for about ten years and was an active participant on Box Parish Council until recently.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015 10:34

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Hi Alan

I am sorry that we will not be able to attend the meeting on 14th as we will be in France. It is obviously important that as many people as possible attend.

I am not sure what the criteria is that will be the basis of the decision on the boundary but assume that it is partly economic, partly social and only to a limited extent historical I am afraid. I think your article is a good rallying cry and points to past links of the various hamlets with Box but at the meeting we attended in Selwyn Hall there were a lot of people from the various hamlets, particularly Rudloe who talked of seeing themselves and their families as Box residents, attending Box School, Box Surgery etc. and I think it is these more contemporary links that will carry more weight; so all those people need to express their feeling of identity with Box. Your article and readers responses on the website would one means of doing that, writing to the Boundary Commission would be another and attending the meeting will be another.

There is a strong economic argument for maintaining the status quo as if the boundary changes then Box Parish will be severely financially weakened and in effect Corsham Parish will be enriched at the cost of services to the people of Box Parish. This is an argument that I think the Parish Council will strongly argue.

There is an argument to be made on the basis of what (if anything) can Corsham do for the hamlets of Rudloe, Wadswick & Chapel Plaister. Will the new residents have increased Council Tax bills? Will they get improved services as a result of the change? What services will they lose that are currently supplied by Box Parish i.e. street cleaning? Again I think that Box Parish Council will highlight these.

I don't think Corsham Town Council has a strong case but these are uncertain times!

Philip Rayner  
3 Sion Hill Place  
Bath  
BA1 5SJ  
UK

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from an e-mail from Mr P Turner 10 October 2015

*Paul Turner is a long-standing Rudloe resident who is the popular author of the website Rudloescene*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Saturday, 110 October 2015 13:29

**To:** [Alan Payne](#)

Alan,

The change in Corsham's plan is illuminating. Initially, the proposal was to follow fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years – these were the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Leafy Lane, the B3109 and the A365. Whether or not one agreed with the concept, this appeared to make topographical sense. However, the change in plan while 'pulling back' the proposed annexation also reveals underlying motives.

In the new plan, instead of following the B3109 and A365, the proposed boundary now follows the new access road to Wadswick Green (for part of its length) and the eastern boundary of Kingsmoor Wood, thus putting part of Manor Farm's land and holdings in Corsham Parish with the rest remaining in Box. This arbitrary divide would mean that all the Strategic Housing Land Availability Sites would become part of Corsham Parish with the relatively 'unprofitable' major part of Manor Farm (farms pay no rates) and the hamlets of Chapel Plaister and Wadswick remaining in Box.

The hundreds of existing homes and many businesses in Rudloe and Hawthorn and the planned and proposed new homes (Hannick's 88 homes, Frampton's 180 homes) and businesses (Bath ASU's existing and planned expansion at Corsham (!not really Corsham but Hawthorn) Science Park and Ark Data's expansion at Hawthorn) would, unsurprisingly, be annexed by Corsham.

Through this change, one gets an insight into the real reason for Corsham's proposal - income, power and status - to the detriment of its smaller neighbour.

Any road up (as they say up north) I have just been watching Ian Nairn's 1970s comparison between neighbours Halifax and Huddersfield in the form of an architectural football match. Surprisingly, Halifax won the contest 5-2. I wondered how Corsham and Box would compare, not architecturally but simply as communities, so let's have a go ...

Both places have many clubs and activities for their communities. Rudloe did have a thriving community centre until the turn of the century but interference from outside agencies (the County Council and the local housing association principally) has seen an unnecessary replacement building constructed (completed in 2000) at a cost not far short of £1 million. And just a few years after

completion, it was described, by Wiltshire Council itself, as “not fit for purpose”. This community centre, within Corsham Parish, has been a financial, planning and community disaster. Would or should Corsham Town Council take any responsibility for this debacle? I’m not aware of any such disasters in Box (at least not on such a scale).

#### 1-0 to Box

Clearly Corsham, being the far larger community and also a town rather than a village, has more shopping, dining and watering (cafes, pubs) facilities than Box. But while Corsham Town Council, in its plan, states “Corsham has grown by over 20 per cent in the last ten years and the settlement is due to expand much further in the next decade. The Town Council is positive about managing development ...”, what has it done to arrest the decline of its heart, the town centre itself? National businesses such as Nationwide, NatWest and HSBC have all withdrawn from Corsham, the last just days ago (October 2015), indicating that they see no future for the town. Similarly, local businesses have gone: Higos Insurance Brokers have closed their Corsham office concentrating their business in Calne and Devizes; the best restaurant in the Town, Cinnamon and Madison ladies fashion have closed recently; the small Martingate Precinct has two empty premises and two charity shops indicating a town in decline and the Wiltshire College Corsham Enterprise Centre, also in the Precinct, closed its doors in 2014.

With regard to the last, I wrote to the college, the local MP and Corsham Town Council asking how such a fine facility with purpose-built classrooms including a well-equipped computer lab could be lost to the community. While the college and MP responded, the Town Council did not, indicating a lack of interest in Corsham’s facilities and future.

It is all very well trumpeting the outward expansion of the Corsham settlement but without a vibrant town centre, Corsham will be just a large, satellite conurbation with residents of existing and new developments creating more pressure on our roads by using the much better facilities of Melksham, Chippenham, Bath and Trowbridge.

#### 2-0 to Box

We have just returned from a tour of the north of England and the Scottish Borders and were surprised to find that parking was free everywhere – car parks and streets. There were no parking meters and no parking attendants in any of the towns we visited (except one posh, touristy town in North Yorkshire). Some years ago, I parked in Newlands Road Car Park in Corsham (where charges apply) but didn’t have any change. While I was away trying to get some (change) I met an old friend I hadn’t seen for perhaps thirty years. Now here’s a question for anyone who happened to chance on this article ... What should one do in such circumstances? Engage in conversation about the intervening years, what has happened in our lives, our families etc or say “Sorry mate, I know we haven’t met for thirty years but I must go and find some change for the parking meter”. We should not succumb to having our lives dictated by bureaucratic, mercenary, exploitative schemes. If ‘we’ want to encourage the use of our town and village centres we shouldn’t have restrictive parking schemes. Both Corsham and Box (as far as I know) have restrictive parking so it remains ...

2-0 to Box

Having experienced the goings-on of the Corsham and Box councils (particularly the planning committees) I can say, without fear of contradiction (you're welcome), that they are both equally useless. Just two recent examples: the Corsham Strategic Plan states that there should be no development between Corsham and outlying settlements such as Rudloe. Yet the Corsham Planning Committee supported the application for a new mine entrance on the Bradford Road without mentioning the supposed 'Strategic Plan' (this was the very body that created it!). Box Planning Committee supported a half-baked planning application that would have seen the 15-mile view from Wadswick Lane across to Salisbury Plain and Pewsey Vale obliterated. And both Corsham and Box committees supported the Hannick greenfield application at Rudloe when there are more than enough local brownfield sites to satisfy housing targets. Both useless so it remains ...

2-0 to Box at the final whistle (as I reckon two pages are enough!)

Paul Turner

This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from an e-mail from Mr R Alderman on 9 October 2015

*Bob and Sheila Alderman are important members of the Box Community. Bob has served for a number of years as chairman of Julian House, Bath, and was formerly headmaster of Hardenhuish School, Chippenham.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Friday, 9 October 2015 15:05

**To:** [john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Cc:** [alantpayne@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alantpayne@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Mr Watling,

My wife and I have been residents of Ashley for 34 years. We have read all the literature on the suggested boundary changes of Rudloe etc and can see absolutely no reason to support what appears to be a really cynical land grab on the part of a handful of Corsham people who have in any case totally failed to make a case. We shall be attending the 14 October meeting and will be voicing my total opposition to the proposals.

Yours sincerely

Bob Alderman

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from and e-mail from Mr R Parry 14 October 2015.

Dear John

Thank you for your very clear presentation at Corsham yesterday.

We are still receiving responses from residents see below from long-standing Box resident Robin Parry who runs various clubs in Box such as Box GIGs which provides considerable support to elderly men in Rudloe and his wife runs the Box WI.

Kind regards

Alan Payne

**From:**

**To:** [john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015 6:17 PM

**Subject:** Proposed Corsham Boundary changes

Dear Mr Watling

#### **Proposal by Corsham for a Boundary Change**

I wish to express my concern at the changes to Box Parish boundary proposed by Corsham Council.

There has been no population shift in the 16 years I've lived in the Parish to warrant a change to the already easily defined boundary bordering currently developed land.

Box parish precept provides for the maintenance of approximately £2M of parish assets; The Council Offices, the Cemetery, The Pavilion the Blind House, The Pound, the War Memorial, Box Hill Common Lacy Wood and the Recreation Ground. The latter includes a bowling green, tennis courts, netball court, mountain bike course, play areas for under 5s and 6-12s, football ground, cricket ground plus support for the Pavilion used by youth groups and some of the many organisations in this active and vibrant community.

It also provides for street cleaning and maintenance of verges and floral displays leading to Box regularly being among the top entrants for the Best Kept Village awards.

The proposals, if implemented, would result in some 450 homes out of a total of approximately 1500 being transferred out of Box Parish and with them the associated revenue. This may bring into question ability of Box Parish to continue to provide such services to its residents and indeed the viability of the Parish.

The foregoing was my response to the proposal in August 2014 ; the numbers may have changed marginally but the sentiments remain.

Now, a year later, may I ask why the meeting which so obviously affects the parishioners of Box is not being held in Box Parish.

Yours sincerely

Robin Parry

This page is intentionally left blank

Dear John,

Thank you for your email dated 27 June requesting further details in order to assist your Working Group regarding the Community Governance Reviews (CGR's) of Corsham and Chippenham.

Firstly, the position regarding the Chippenham CGR is that Corsham Town Council has no objection in principle to Corsham's boundary with Chippenham to the east of the A350 being reviewed and possibly re-aligned but that any change cannot be supported until details of a proposal are known.

Regarding the Corsham CGR, this is much more complex and a number of our reasons and justifications are set out below. You already have a copy of the plan regarding Corsham I sent previously and this has not altered. Further explanation and supporting material will be provided once Wiltshire Council's formal review process is underway.

Corsham's existing parish boundaries are not based on the current reality of where communities are, and planned to develop. A CGR would be able to address this. The case for a CGR is made more urgent by wishing to set sensible boundaries for our Neighbourhood Plan (NP). A failure to get boundary changes will not remove the need for a NP but would diminish its effectiveness in an area of considerable importance to the Town.

Corsham's current boundaries have little relevance to our current communities or planned development under the Draft Core Strategy or the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Plan. The Planned development of Chippenham to our East and developments to the West of Corsham demand a logical review of where community boundaries lie. The Government believes that effective local government should be judged on its ability to deliver high quality services economically and efficiently and give a democratic voice to the people who use them. The Town Council, which already serves both the town and surrounding villages, is in a strong position to deliver services to an expanding community in a very cost-effective and sensitive way, reflecting the needs of different communities. New boundaries will provide the basis of greater integration of our communities, around a common vision of how we meet the challenges and benefits from the opportunities the future offers.

A key feature, which the legislation and guidance sets out for boundaries, includes a 'No Man's Land' between Parishes. Any look at local maps would indicate that such a boundary can be identified to both the East and West of Corsham. To the East we will need to respond to Chippenham's view of their aspirations to the East of the A350 and we would wish to include the whole of the Rudloe community and the area around MOD Corsham in plans, leaving a clear, undeveloped area of countryside with sparse population between us and our neighbours.

The Town Council has the desire to provide the very best service possible to all the communities which can clearly be identified as being part of Corsham today and as it is earmarked to develop in line with the principles set out in the Draft Core Strategy and Swindon and Wiltshire Local Economic Plan. We are not a Council fixed in the past, but one seeking to achieve the very best possible outcomes from change. The

Town Council aims to realise the aspirations and needs of our whole community through protecting our heritage and environment, and being proactive in providing the required homes and economic growth, supported by the necessary infrastructure. We are not seeking to simply increase our revenues, indeed we would seek to reduce the burden on all our council tax payers by improving the services we provide while achieving economies of scale.

Several of the advantages of a CGR for Corsham are identified below. The list is not exhaustive.

A Community Governance Review of Corsham could:

- Correct parish boundary anomalies through Rudloe and Westwells
- Replace the arbitrary parish boundaries which dissect and divide Rudloe housing estate and would avoid people living in different parishes to their neighbours
- Put in place clearer settlement boundaries and identities for Corsham and Box, based on fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years. The current proposal follows the established and recognised AONB and A365 as boundaries
- Facilitate the future sustainable development and expansion of Corsham
- Provide clearer and effective governance of Corsham and Box, with more inclusive participation, representation and leadership
- Offer more efficient, cost-effective and convenient delivery of council services at a local level
- Enable a clear and effective Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for Corsham
- Build a stronger, cohesive and more engaged Rudloe community which feels part of one place
- Improve democracy, electoral accountability and representation with increased elected representation in a new/merged ward
- Update out-of-date historic boundaries which have not been reviewed in over 100 years
- Strengthen relationships with MOD Corsham and businesses to the west of Westwells Road, promoting an economically vibrant community
- Align the boundary to likely changes in housing and employment land as indicated in the Wiltshire Core Strategy and Wiltshire and Swindon Strategic Economic Plan

- Bring Corsham Primary School (Broadwood site) into Corsham, where the majority of pupils reside
- Provide a building block for the unitary council division ward boundaries
- Allow Chippenham parish to have a clearer settlement boundary, using the A350 as a boundary

I hope this information is sufficient to enable your Working Group to commence a CGR for Corsham at the earliest opportunity. Please let me know if you require anything else from me.

Kind regards  
Dave

David J Martin  
TOWN CLERK  
Corsham Town Council  
Town Hall  
High Street  
CORSHAM  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0EZ

01249 702130  
[www.corsham.gov.uk](http://www.corsham.gov.uk)



This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from e-mail from Mr A Payne – 12 October 2015.

## **Rudloe, Wadswick & Chapel Plaister: Can They Be Saved?**

Alan Payne

September 2015

I usually try to be impartial on the website but this time I feel the need to tell people my personal views. On Wednesday 14 October at 7pm at Springfield Campus, Corsham, there is to be a public meeting to consider the proposal to transfer Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister (marked yellow on the attached map) out of Box to Corsham Council.

### **Not About Shops**

One argument is that Corsham is the natural area for people of Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister to shop. It is true that many Box people do some shopping in Corsham but it makes no sense to use it as the defining argument. People shop where there are facilities; for example, clothes from Marks & Spencer in Bath, catch the train from Chippenham, buy chocolates from Aldi in Melksham, and buy computer needs on-line.

This doesn't make us residents of Bath, Chippenham, Melksham or aliens from outer space. Where we belong is much more complicated than that. In many senses belonging is about historic continuity, where we were born and bred, and about the inherited memory of the history of the area we live in.

### **Continuity**

Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister are some of the earliest hamlets named in the parish of Box with a continuous, unbroken connection of over 800 years.[1] In the reign of Henry III (1216-1272) Bartholomew Bigod granted the rectory and tithes of Box and *Ryddlow* to Monkton Farleigh Priory.[2] The first recorded reference to Wadswick was to *Wadeswica* in a charter in the British Museum from the 1100s. Chapel Plaister was first referred to as *Pleystede* in 1268. All of these references identify the areas as part of Box.

The name of Rudloe was *Riglawe* for centuries, until about 1713 when it was changed to *Rudlow*. [3] Chapel Plaister was closely identified with Hazelbury in 1340 when the Bishop of Sarum granted to William de Rysindon, Rector of Hazelbury, a licence for preaching in the Chapel of *Pleystede* in his parish of Hazelbury. The death of Captain John Hanning Speke, the African explorer who discovered Lake Nyasa, source of the White Nile, reminds us that the Spekes were the lords of the manor of Box for centuries.

These areas are like many of the other hamlets in Box (including Ditteridge, Ashley and Kingsdown) which are proud of their local community as well as pleased to be part of Box's rich history.

### **What Has Box Done for Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister?**

In 1600 and 1700s the ratepayers of Box supported the destitute and needy of these areas with outdoor relief and work schemes. They did so because the residents of these areas were their neighbours, compatriots and friends. The cost of that would now amount to millions of pounds - is Corsham planning to reimburse Box on any transfer?

This closeness was repeated more strongly at times of war. There are nine servicemen from the Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister areas who lost their lives in World War 1. Their names are recorded on the Box War Memorial and their families and those of returning soldiers from these areas were supported by Box's Comrades Legion Club after the war. Many died fighting with their Box Comrades in Pals groups. The same is true of survivors of World War 2, some of whom are still alive.

### **Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister**

#### **Should Continue as Part of Box**

People of Box are proud to have Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister as part of their story. For centuries people from these areas have been buried in Box Church and Cemetery and are part of Box's story.

This closeness was true when Box Revels (of which I was part) organised the play *Totterdown Tanzi* to be performed at Springfield Community Centre in 1988 and for Rudloe Village Green, a community promenade play involving more than 200 Rudloe people.

Where you belong should not be determined by short-term financial and political whims at an opportunistic moment. That attitude produced Avon Council, BANES and gave Box the post code of SN (Swindon).

### **What Can You Do?**

If you care about these issues please attend the public meeting at 7pm on 14 October at Springfield Campus, Beechfield Road, Corsham. Whether you agree with my views or disagree, it will be a done deal if we don't make our views plain by attending. If you can't attend please give me your comments via the website contact page or facebook page or pass them on to another person to express at the meeting. If we don't speak out Box will forever be diminished.

### **Sources**

[1] There is a reference in the Pipe Rolls of 1167 spelling the name as Riglega.

[2] Pamela Slocombe, Survey of Countryside Treasures, Box, 1969, notes in Wilts History Centre, Chippenham

[3] JEB Gover, Allen Mawer, and FM Stenton, The Placenames of Wiltshire, 1939, Cambridge University Press, p.84

Extract from email from Mr B Mennell 21 October 2015

Dear Mr Whatling

You will see from my address below that I live in that part of Rudloe that is within the Parish of Box.

I have given a huge amount of thought to what is best for the Governance of the two Parishes in the current boundary review. It has been very frustrating that from the outset eighteen months or so ago Corsham Council never gave any explanation of any supposed advantages of their proposal to transfer part of Box Parish into Corsham. Only with the calling notice for the Consultation Meeting to be held on 14th October has there been any attempt at an explanation for the people directly affected, and I did not find the reasons convincing – there is little if anything that could not be achieved by the area remaining part of Box Parish. I thought it very telling that the several members of Corsham Council present at the meeting on 14th October were unable to provide any good reasons at all. I therefore have to agree with those that say the real motive is indeed a 'land grab' to provide Corsham with more revenue from the houses they would gain in the enlarged Parish.

Against this is the damage to cohesion of the Box Parish and in particular the many links between the people of Rudloe (and elsewhere in the affected area) and those of Box itself. It is true of course that many of us in Rudloe use the facilities in Corsham, but I don't think that is relevant to the boundary review – if it was you would have to take account of the fact that we use those in Bath even more! I think therefore that if the Corsham proposal is accepted it would cause harm to community identity and does not have any apparent benefits to the people in the affected area. Additionally I know it would present very real difficulties for the remaining part of Box Parish.

**In summary therefore I disagree with/object to the Corsham Town Council proposal to change the Corsham/Box Parish Boundary.**

(Unusually) my wife who lives at the same address fully agrees with me.

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract from e-mail from Mr T Jones – 29 September 2015.

*Tudor has lived in Rudloe for some 20 years and has been an active participant on many Box Parish clubs and institutions including Chairman of Box Selwyn Hall Management Committee.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 September 2015 12:14

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Good morning: Not wishing to sound flippant but as a 'Rudlonian' I have never been so 'wanted' in my life; Box to retain us and Corsham to abduct us!

I would like to know:

Who? is the **individual** who thought up this grab and steal fiasco? ALL 'ideas' start with **one person** and only when initially outlined/offered/recommended/urged etc does the mass body of the individual's cohorts froth at the mouth with excitement and support!

From the outset WHY? were residents of the area in question not advised of the grabbing plan? That said, WHY? not ALL Box Parishioners; why? not, say, a referendum? (Doubtless because the result be obvious!)

Why? is a **Box Parish issue** being held in public in **CORSHAM**? Initially it was planned/booked for the Selwyn Hall in Box but postponed - due to the most lame of excuses ever heard - the pending General Election! (Let Box parishioners use their cars, spend on taxis/coach/bus etc or stay at home because Corsham is too far to go to unlike the nearby Selwyn Hall known to us all.)

Is there a compensation clause to this idea **IF**, God forbid, it is approved? Revenue lost by Box will be revenue gained/stolen by Corsham. And part of the gained/stolen revenue will be the higher charge for my Band D (and others') Council Tax Bill.

The notion that residents of the 'area being stolen' tend to shop etc in Corsham is poppycock! I (and many others I am sure) NEVER EVER shop in Corsham - the bank is the only place I visit IF I am not already in Chippenham!

Corsham is alien to many of us and we do not desire, want, need etc this 'Commrade Putin/Ukraine' onslaught.

One can go on and on but the message is clear; the whole concept is brutal and foolish and there has been total disregard towards residents of the area being stolen/grabbed. The individual who initially thought up this theft - and those who agreed with him/her - must realise they are not stealing/grabbing a plot of land/fields etc BUT an area where **PEOPLE live** and whose rights and voice have not only been totally ignored but never entered the equation of this grab and steal folly!

Tudor Jones

Rudloe Resident

Extract from e-mail from Ms A Keat

Dave,

I have just had the chance to read through the Community Governance Review you issued on July 25th '14. The second page, in which you list the effects of the changes to the boundary that you envisage, if you get your wish, really is a hotch potch of random thoughts brought up at one of your secret meetings. I say 'secret' because Charles Fuller, the Neston Councillor who was at the Box meeting on July 15th, had no idea that such changes had been mooted and certainly had not discussed them at Council meetings.

The sad thing is that you, and your team, quite obviously have no idea about the quality of life in a village like Box, where people appreciate the community far more than in a town like Corsham. We moved here in 1986 from Bath and have always felt secure in the knowledge that the Box team have our interests at heart. The Surgery is a case in point and an important focus for Box parishioners, as also the Churches, both Church of England and Methodist. I was not able to attend the meeting in Corsham Town Hall but mention was made about the Health and Social Care element in Box, goodness knows why as the village has three Nursing/Care homes and an active Community Nursing team.

The plans you have put forward would remove about one third of the income Box receives through the precept with little chance of raising monies to compensate this loss. There are no large developments envisaged, apart from Wadswick Green, in the Box area, whereas Corsham has several in the pipeline all of which will add to the income of Corsham.

I mentioned the 'random thoughts' in your list, several of which are just unsubstantiated, like the Broadwood School, whose pupils come from Rudloe, mainly, as Corsham children have the chance to attend several other schools in Corsham. If there are children affected by the boundary going through the estate what is wrong with Box having all the estate in its remit?

Using 'Chippenham parish' boundary as a reason for pinching part of Box is just a red herring as it has nothing to do with Box.

The idea that the changes will 'strengthen relationships with MOD Corsham and businesses to the west of Westwells, is ludicrous as many of the personnel live in Rudloe, within the Box area.

I could go on and on, picking holes in your arguments but I really cannot waste my time. I just hope that common sense will prevail and that your team give Box people the chance to state their case.

Sincerely, Anne Keat. (1, Clift Close, Rudloe, Wiltshire SN13 0JS 01225-810701)

This page is intentionally left blank



Extract from e-mail from Patricia Crowe 12 October 2015.

Subject: Proposed changes to Box Parish Boundary

From: Patricia Crowe

Sent: 13:27, Monday, 12 October 2015

To: [mjohn.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:mjohn.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

CC:

Dear Mr Watling,

I am Mrs Patricia Crowe, a Box parish resident living in Kidston Way, Rudloe. As I am on holiday in Spain until Saturday 17th October, I cannot attend the meeting, to discuss Corsham Town Council's unilateral hostile proposal to move the Box parish boundary, on Wednesday 14th October.

I wish to register my objection to this high handed unilateral proposal by Corsham Town Council.

I have lived in Box parish since 2009, when I came from Salisbury to care for my mother following the death of my father. My parents moved to Kidston Way in January 1973 and I have had a close involvement with Box since then.

Box is a rural parish comprising outlying hamlets centred on the village of Box. There is a strong community spirit in the parish and we have a good social network. We are supported by wonderful caring clergy in both our spiritual and social needs and an excellent GP surgery, which provides an outstanding service. My first contact with the surgery was when I used to take my parents for their doctor's appointments. I was soon recognised by all the practice staff and taken on as a temporary patient, when I moved in to care for my mother.

When I became a permanent resident I was taken on as a full patient. Even though it is an extremely busy practice, I was taken on as I am a parish resident.

Although both my parents were cremated, their ashes are interred in Box cemetery because, as Box parish residents, they had the right to be buried in Box cemetery.

My life is now centred on Box and I have made a social life within a most friendly parish. I live in a beautiful rural environment with a good bus service to shops and rail links in Bath and Chippenham.

I have no affiliation to Corsham, which has very little to offer except charity shops and tearooms.

My bank has closed it's Corsham branch, so I must go to Bath or Chippenham for banking services.

There is no NHS dentist in Corsham that accepts patients over the age of 18, so I have to travel to Trowbridge for NHS dental care.

The campus in Corsham is excellent, but parking there is a nightmare, so I don't use it as much as I could.

The only interest Corsham Town Council has in the areas of Rudloe, Wadswick and Chapel Plaister is the Council Tax revenue it will accrue from the development of the Brownfield sites and the Greenfield development on the Bradford Road.

Outline Planning Permission for the Greenfield site, in Box parish, was pushed through by Corsham Town Councillors, despite local opposition, only weeks after they had refused Outline Planning Permission for a Greenfield site within the Corsham parish boundary. That refusal was overturned on appeal.

At the time of the application for the outline planning permission for the Box parish greenfield site on the Bradford Road, one Corsham resident supported the application by saying "If

there is to be any development, let it be on the Bradford Road." Not a very good omen for Box parish residents who would be moved into Corsham parish!

Not long after the Outline Planning Permission was granted for the Bradford Road development, Corsham Town Council put in a unilateral proposal to move the Box Parish boundary so that all the Brownfield sites and the Bradford Road Greenfield site would move into Corsham Parish.

This is a hostile move by an unscrupulous and money grabbing Town Council, who will have no interest in the area except to exploit the development potential and revenue that will be derived.

Corsham Town Council even delivered a flyer to the residents affected by the move stating that the Box parishioners didn't have to worry about losing their right to be buried in Box cemetery, they could be buried in Corsham cemetery instead. How unfeeling is that! Another bad omen!

Corsham cemetery is on the other side of Corsham on the Laycock Road. Who wants to be buried in an out of the way place so far from home?

On less emotional points:

Corsham Parish is in a different Parliamentary Constituency from Box Parish; It has a different telephone area code; Higher Council Tax; Most importantly the boundary would split residents of the Leafy Lane area of Rudloe between the Box and Corsham parishes.

Furthermore, it does not make any logical sense to move a large proportion of a rural parish into another one, when it will destroy what is a longstanding integrated social and democratic community. It will also probably make Box Parish unviable.

Please leave Box Parish boundary where it is.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Crowe

Extract from second e-mail from Jane Browning on 10 October 2015

*Follow up report by Jane Browning concerning reaction of residents who have recently heard of the proposals.*

*Alan Payne*

Sent from Windows Mail

**From**

**Sent:** Saturday, 10 October 2015 18:08

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Dear Alan,

A development today which has left some parishioners feeling totally bemused, uncomprehending, let down and wondering what the thought process is.

The rudloe scene website has a copy of the latest communication from Corsham Town Council dated 1 October. The map on it appears to show that the proposal is that the whole of the Rudloe estate moves to Box (some of it is now in Corsham) whilst all the surrounding area goes to Corsham. Some residents were totally unaware of **any** proposed changes, and are only now being included in any communication because they may have a change of local authority. Although dated 1 October, some residents did not receive it until today. I have seen a copy of it and it appears to have been done in a hurry - the legend to the map is handwritten, not typed.

The result would be a Box "island" surrounded by Corsham. No reasons were given. A recipe for misunderstanding between the 2 authorities if it went ahead.

Wednesday's meeting should be interesting.

Jane Browning

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract of e-mail from Mr J Currant 12 October 2015.

Dear John

Thank you for your very speedy reply earlier today. Much appreciated.

We are still receiving responses from residents such as John Currant below, the son of a long-established and well-respected Box family, which indicates how people feel that these proposals will destroy the community identity of Box.

Sorry to overload your inbox but I can assure you that these are only the people who have asked me to ensure their comments are sent to you.

Sincerely

Alan Payne

01225 743614

Sent from Windows Mail

**From:**

**Sent:** Monday, 12 October 2015 17:30

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

Hopefully I am not too late but as my family have lived and worked in Box village for over a 100 years I am appalled by the actions of Corsham Council with so little consultation. Now we have a last minute change of proposal with no time to respond before the meeting on the 14th.

I left Box in 1961 and it was always my intention - God willing - to return upon retirement. This I managed 4 years ago and I have always called Box home even whilst living in London and Hertfordshire.

I feel this is the sense of identity being referred to and am proud of my history within the village. My father worked on the railway and was the steward of the Comrades Legion Club for many years.

I could go on but feel enough said.

Hopefully the STATUS QUO remains.

John Currant

This page is intentionally left blank

For The Attention of the Review Committee

I understand that the Committee is required to review this proposal by considering the consequences under various headings. Although I must declare my opposition to this completely pointless exercise in spending public money from the outset, I will list my objections in a logical way utilising the headings:

Parish Identity

I cannot see how the the inhabitants of Box can 'identify clearly ' with Corsham parish, particularly as Corsham is a town ie urban whilst Box is very much rural.

There is no doubt that there is a great feeling of animosity in Box towards the idea - 'the wishes of local inhabitants are primary considerations in the review.' As there have been no population shifts or additional development in the area, the proposal should fail at this first hurdle.

Parish Boundaries

As these boundaries have existed for a very long time already and already demonstrate the requirement of a buffer zone, there appears to be little reason for change. There might be a case for a minor change which would be to include all of the Rudloe Council estate within Box parish (instead of Corsham) which would tidy the boundary in that area, but for the rest - if it is not broken.....!!!!!!!!!!

Viability

Box parish is completely viable and meets all the requirements of the rules and regulations. The changes as proposed by Corsham Council would only destabilise the local funding of the whole area and result in nobody being happy apart from Corsham. With there being so much against the idea it does stir the imagination to wonder why the idea was proposed and what Corsham Council expect to gain from it.

Robin J Duxbury  
19 Springfield Close  
Rudloe  
SN13 0JR  
Box Parish

This page is intentionally left blank



Letter and email from Mr and Mrs D Brighten 13 October 2015

Dear Mr Watling,

My wife and I are residents of Box living on the Kingsdown Road. When the 'Parish Boundary Changes' were first proposed we wrote itemising the reasons why we felt (logically, economically and from a community perspective) that the *status quo* should be maintained. Most of these are encapsulated in the submission made by Box Parish Council this week, which we fully endorse. We have not spoken to any resident of the Village who would support the changes. Box is essentially a self sustaining, thriving community with a vibrant personality and active agenda. To become victim to the predations of a larger neighbour acting in a nefarious fashion will obviously engender a reaction - which is has done. The cancellation of the original meeting on the flimsiest excuse was inexcusable. Selwyn Hall, Box, is the obvious location for such a discussion as it is the venue with which most of the affected parties are familiar and have easiest access to. It is also the epicentre for the village's social activities. Moving to a fairly remote location out of the territory will mean that many of the residents will not be able to be present at the meeting - but cynically one may feel that fact did not escape the organisers attention. One may be tempted to observe that such surreptitious scheduling smacks of a group determined to 'railroad through' their agenda for change. We would love to receive tangible evidence to convince us to the contrary but suspect that it does not exist.

We also attach a copy of our original letter.

Richard & Denise Brighten



Richard & Denise Brighten

Berry Cottage, Blue Vein, Box, Corsham, WILTSHIRE, SN13 8DQ

Tel. 01225 744199 Mob. 07786 705497

E-mail [rbrighten@gmail.com](mailto:rbrighten@gmail.com)

Tuesday 22nd July, 2014.

Mr. John Watling,  
Head of Electoral Services,  
Wiltshire Council,  
County Hall,  
Trowbridge,  
Wiltshire, BA14 8JN.

Dear

We are somewhat puzzled why certain authorities should consider that Parish Boundaries need to change in respect of Box. As far as we can ascertain all of the criteria regarding an established Parish are fulfilled. We have always been struck by the strong currents of identity and community in the village and steadfast strength of the Parish Structure. In conversations with neighbours, friends, other residents of Box and those with and without commercial interests we have not yet identified one who would welcome a boundary change. It is difficult to think of any population shifts or additional developments in the Parish which warrant or justify boundary adjustments.

On reflection it would seem to us that the existing boundaries are exemplary features of what they are planned to be and any meddling or adjustments will only add an artificiality to the *status quo*.

Our perspective is that the Parish is a well-balanced and efficient unit supplying the services and facilities required and desired by the residents. As with any viable working model there is always somebody, or an external force, that thinks change would provide improvement. The implementation of this attitude generally leads to disaster or a deterioration in a fluent, effective system. "If it ain't broke don't try and fix it" should be the watchword and Box certainly

ain't broke!! There is a complete litany of lost or depleted services that will occur if boundary changes were to be introduced. These we can list if required.

In these situations we believe that it should be the responsibility of those proposing amendments to identify themselves and prove conclusively that change would be beneficial to the affected rather than the affected having to defend their position. Transparency!!

Yours, not so faithfully,

Richard & Denise Brighten

This page is intentionally left blank



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

30<sup>th</sup> April 2014

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

I understand that a consultation process is starting shortly for a Community Governance Review, as part of which Corsham Town Council have proposed that a very large part of Box Parish should be assimilated into Corsham Parish. I would be very grateful if you would take the following thoughts into consideration as you deal with the review.

First, if Chapel Plaister and Wadswick, both of which have always been part of North Wiltshire, were to be subsumed into Corsham Parish, there may well become a presumption in favour of changing the boundary of the Parliamentary constituencies of North Wiltshire and Chippenham to match, which I would very much regret.

More concerning than that is that Box Parish Council will lose a significant revenue generation to Corsham Town Council. While I can understand the rationale for moving Katherine Park into Corsham, I do not see why the other areas like Chapel Plaister, Wadswick and Lower Wadswick would benefit from being part of Corsham.

I am especially concerned about the financial implications for Box Parish Council, should the boundary change go ahead.

I would be grateful if you would keep me up to date on developments and register my objections to these plans.

cc Mrs Margaret Carey, Clerk to Box Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Mr, Mrs Terry Allen  
13 Kidston Way  
Rudloe  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0JZ

25 July 14

Dear John,

#### PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGES BY CORSHAM COUNCIL

Each household affected by the proposed changes received a flyer stating that there would be a Public meeting on 15 July 14 in Selwyn Hall Box to discuss the changes. We were told that one third of the Box Parish Residences would be affected and we believe that our lives would not be changed for the better and that there would be some disruption and loss of facilities that have been used by the Rudloe parishioners for many years.

Various items were discussed and some of those mentioned were facilities that we would lose which are listed below:

- (a). A good and well kept recreational area which include various sporting venue's.
- (b). The right to be buried in the Parish of Box which we would lose and would incur extra charges should we still wish to be buried there.
- (c). The loss of the Street Cleaner employed by Box Parish to cleans paths, walkway and cut grass when necessary in the local area.
- (d). No eligibility for allotments which are in demand.

The possible reasons for the boundary change were discussed and we could find no logical reason why the proposal was instigated other than for financial gain which we believe would happen when all new housing developments has been completed with the Box Parish area. Extra revenue would be in the form of council tax collected from all the new homes built within the area and from the existing houses.

We were informed that all the information the Box Council received was a letter containing the Map of the proposed changes. We would like to know who proposed the change and has it ever been discussed by Corsham Council.

We both believe that parishes should be viable and possess a precept that enables them too actively and effectively promote the well-being of all its residents and contribute to the

real provision of services in their areas in an economic and efficient manner, of which we are happy to say occurs in our Box community.

We would also point out that the wishes of the residents is paramount and electors in our Box Parish identify clearly with the community by adding strength to the Parish structure. Within Box, parishioners understand and recognise community interests and a sense of identity and the feeling of local community which we feel would be lost within the wider community of Corsham which is also a primary consideration in the review.

We bought our house many years ago after living within the community as members of the armed services and enjoy the life here with a sense of belonging and have made many friends with the Box parish we also enjoy the social and sporting events provided by the Box Parish Council and community and would not like to see it change.

Terry and I sincerely hope that you will see how passionate we are about our parish and support us by leaving the boundary as it is today so we can all live happily and content.

Yours sincerely  
Terry & Wendy



**I A B Johnston**  
5 Highlands Close  
Rudloe  
Corsham  
Wiltshire SN13 0LA

01225-810533 (Home)  
07702-433187 (Mobile)

[i.johnston945@btinternet.com](mailto:i.johnston945@btinternet.com)

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

July 2014

Dear Sir,

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW (CGR) 2014

May I place on record my formal objection to the proposal to move parts of Rudloe from the Parish of Box into the Parish of Corsham.

Rudloe currently sits within the Parish of Box, and the proposal to move some almost 450 properties from Box into Corsham represents approximately 30% of the parish of Box; this would bring into question the Viability of Box as a parish. There have been no significant population shifts or additional developments, and there is therefore little justification for making changes to the existing Parish Identity.

This proposal from Corsham has not (apparently) been discussed by the full Corsham Council, and is only an idea from the Planning Committee, which can only be viewed as a 'land grab' in order to offset any review from the East of Corsham by Chippenham and an effort to increase the Corsham Council income; I am informed that the Corsham parish precept is already higher than that in Box.

I have looked at the available evidence, and the justification and there are serious anomalies in the proposal. I have attached a list of the areas which Corsham hold could be resolved by the CGR, and have commented on each of them (my comments in red). If anything, the Western boundary of the Corsham Parish Boundary/Eastern boundary of Box Parish should follow the Bradford Road, which would leave Rudloe as a complete entity, unlike the divisive proposal from Corsham which, unfortunately, reveals a lack of local knowledge about Rudloe; this again weakens the case for Corsham's claims to 'take over' Rudloe.

I would be most grateful if you could ensure that I am informed in advance of the date, time and location of any County Council meetings which will discuss the issue as this is too important an issue to be discussed without full representation from the residents who might be affected by any change.

Thank you for your assistance, and I am happy to discuss further as necessary.

Yours faithfully

Iain Johnston

A Community Governance Review of Corsham could:

Correct parish boundary anomalies through Rudloe and Westwells; **Not correct as the proposal would leave the Rudloe properties on the West side of Leafy Lane in Box, with the East side in Corsham**

Replace the arbitrary parish boundaries which dissect and divide Rudloe housing estate and would avoid people living in different parishes to their neighbours; **Not correct, see above.**

Put in place clearer settlement boundaries and identities for Corsham and Box, based on fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years. The current proposal follows the established and recognised AONB and A365 as boundaries; **Irrelevant as Wiltshire County Council ignored the AONB when granting planning permission to the Rudloe Hall Hotel a few years ago despite local opposition. The boundary could equally easily be the Bradford Road.**

Facilitate the future sustainable development and expansion of Corsham; **An unsubstantiated statement**

Provide clearer and effective governance of Corsham and Box, with more inclusive participation, representation and leadership; **Speculation, and probably incorrect.**

Offer more efficient, cost effective and convenient delivery of council services at a local level; **this needs to be quantified and specified; eg exactly what services are being proposed to be provided by Corsham?**

Enable a clear and effective Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for Corsham; **this is based on Corsham's perceived requirements without consideration for 'neighbours'.**

Build a stronger, cohesive and more engaged Rudloe community which feels part of one place; **this has not been evidenced in the past, as exemplified by the saga of the Rudloe Community Centre, and also, see para 1 above. Why do Corsham feel the need to build a stronger Rudloe community; it is already a strong community.**

- Improve democracy, electoral accountability and representation with increased elected representation in a new/merged ward; again, this is an easy statement to make, but what does it actually mean?
- Update out-of-date historic boundaries which have not been reviewed in over 100 years; there have been previous opportunities to review the boundaries; this is not the first CGR in the last 100 years, so statement erroneous.
- Strengthen relationships with MOD Corsham and businesses to the west of Westwells Road, promoting an economically vibrant community; the (current MOD) area to the West of Westwells Road is annotated for housing development, so will cease to be part of MOD; this statement is misleading, but supports the economic justification for the boundary change, which is not a viable justification for a change.
- Align the boundary to likely changes in housing and employment land as indicated in the Wiltshire Core Strategy and Wiltshire and Swindon Strategic Economic Plan; this supports the economic motive behind the proposal
- Bring Corsham Primary School (Broadwood site) into Corsham, where the majority of pupils reside; I believe this to be incorrect. The majority of pupils live in the Rudloe area on the West side of the Bradford Road.
- Provide a building block for the unitary council division ward boundaries; this is purely a council administrative arrangement and does not add to the Corsham/Box case
- Allow Chippenham parish to have a clearer settlement boundary, using the A350 as a boundary; this is eminently sensible, but is irrelevant to the Corsham/Box issue.

This page is intentionally left blank

STUART WHEELER,  
CHAIR OF THE WORKING GROUP,  
WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW,  
SN8 3BL

13 Napier Crescent,  
Laverstock,  
Salisbury,  
Wiltshire SP1 1PJ.  
Tel: 01722 328575  
29 OCTOBER 2015

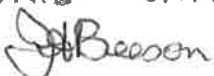
DEAR SIR,  
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW.

AS A LONG STANDING INHABITANT OF  
LAVERSTOCK (SINCE 1957) WITH GREAT FAMILY TIES, I  
WOULD LIKE YOU TO PLEASE TAKE NOTE AND RECORD  
MY FOLLOWING SINCERE WISH.

I AM, AND REMAIN ADAMANT, THAT OUR  
HAMPTON PARK AND RIVERDOWN PARK AREAS OF  
OUR PARISH MUST REMAIN AFTER SO MUCH HARD  
EFFORT HAS BEEN PUT IN TO DEVELOPING THEM  
IN RECENT YEARS. NO WAY MUST THEY BE LOST  
TO GREEDY SALISBURY CITY - ALSO BACKED UP BY  
THE RESULT OF THE RECENT LAVERSTOCK PARISH  
QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE OF 99.4%, VOTED TO  
REMAIN AN INDEPENDANT LAVERSTOCK PARISH, THAT  
INCLUDED HAMPTON PARK AND RIVERDOWN PARK.  
THAT IS OUR POSITIVE RURAL RESPONSE. PLEASE  
TAKE NOTE OF THIS.

IN THE SAME SPIRIT, I WOULD WELCOME  
BISHOPDOWN FARM, TO ALSO JOIN LAVERSTOCK PARISH  
COUNCIL. HOPEFULLY YOU AND YOUR WORKING GROUP  
COULD CONSIDER THIS AS A POSSIBILITY ALSO.

THE CURRENT LAVERSTOCK PARISH AREA IS A  
HAPPY AND FORWARD WORKING COMMUNITY FOR THE  
FUTURE - DON'T SPOIL THIS - WITH CHANGE!

YOURS SINCEALY  (MR. J.A. BEESON),

This page is intentionally left blank

John Whitford  
4. High Street  
Box, Wilts.  
SN13 8NB

Mr. John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services,  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wilts. BA14 8JN

05 October 2014

Dear Mr. Watling

Proposal by Corsham Council to change the boundary of Box parish

Posted to the Royal Naval Store Depot Copenacre in 1970, I resided in Corsham, with the exception of a period of service in Gibraltar until 1980, and I have been resident in Box since returning from a three year posting to Hongkong in 1983.

Box is a large village which possesses a strong sense of belonging, especially by "Boxonians" whose families have been resident for generations. This oneness, affects all, including relative newcomers such as my own family, and it would, in my opinion, be unforgivable should the viability of Box be destroyed by the proposals put forward by Corsham. This would occur should the bulk of the dwellings in Rudloe be lost. If there is any logic in local politics, the rump of Rudloe should be incorporated into Box, as has been pointed out by the Parish Council.

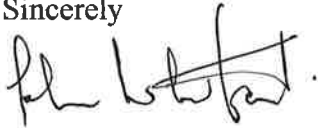
The item "Strengthen relationships with MOD Corsham and businesses to the west of West Wells road" typifies to me the weakness of Corsham Council's rationale and perplexes me as to what they really want. When I took up duty in 1970 as head of personnel and internal security, Copenacre had recently been upgraded by the Admiralty to a comprehensive Headquarters and Depot, in a fast growing electronic field, employing around 1200 personnel at Hartham, Monks Park and Spring Quarry, with a small factory unit a Leaffield. The staff were drawn fairly equally from Corsham and Box, Melksham and Chippenham.

All of my professional dealings were with the District Council, and other major employers in North Wilts. Westinghouse, Avon Rubber to name but two were represented on adult and youth employment committees chaired by District Council representatives. The Depot medical facilities, new entry medicals, assessment of long term sickness etc, were dealt with through Box Surgery. Other military establishments were also self supporting. HMS Royal Arthur, RAF Rudloe and the RAF Police HQ at the Manor, together with the Army school of Primary Education at what is now a different unit at Basil Hill Barracks, have virtually disappeared as has Copenacre. All that is left is the new build in Westwells road, a large office block with staff drawn from wherever. Corsham had little to do with the MOD (created 1966) when there was a significant presence in the area, what can they do now.

Corsham has grown significantly over the past 40 years, has lost a lot of Naval and Military activity and with the large housing estates culminating in Katherine Park, the town has become prima facie, more of a Dormitory for Bristol, Bath and even London. Box, however, has not significantly changed, there has been minor infill, but nothing to alter the tranquillity of village life, (other than the daily rush of commuters from Corsham and Chippenham on the A4)

I do apologise Sir, for this late submission, I am not politically minded, and belatedly put pen to paper after reading Box Parish Council's submission which I was able to download from the website. I was unable to find anything on the Corsham website, and trust that the foregoing may be of some use.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Whitford', written in a cursive style.

John Whitford



John Whitford  
4. High Street  
Box  
Wilts. SN13 8NB



Lady Jane Scott  
Leader of Wiltshire Council  
Trowbridge Wilts. BA14 8JN

21 October 2015

*Dear Lady Jane.*

Wiltshire Council - Community Governance Review 2014/15

I am a resident of Box, and have been so since I returned in 1983 from a tour of duty in Hongkong, eventually retiring from a career with the Royal Naval Supply and Transport Service/Royal Fleet Auxiliary. My acquaintance with the area dates back to the late 1960's when the Admiralty(now MOD) were developing RNSD Copenacre as central Naval electronics depot.

I am saddened by the way that Corsham Town Council is attempting to use the Boundary review as an undisguised attempt to increase it's financial interests at the expense of the neighbouring village. This would either lead to the inability of Box Parish Council to maintain it's standard of service, or to a significant increase in precept, as I understand that the proposal would mean the loss to Box of about one third of the village. There is I submit, no logic behind the proposal to annex two thirds of Rudloe into Corsham, when the transfer of the rump into Box would provide a clear Greenfield boundary and unite Rudloe as a community, and fully provide for what is now a pimple on the Corsham boundary.

There is also no reasoned argument to support the attempted land grab affecting the hamlets of Wadswick and Chapel Plaister and land surrounding them. The current boundary is clear, and the MOD establishments with whom Corsham have indicated they wish to strengthen relationships are already within their boundary, demonstrating yet another specious argument put forward by that Council.

Box village and the surrounding hamlets feature insignificantly in the National picture. In Wiltshire, it is a village within an AONB. Ditteridge is recorded in the Domesday book as a community and has recorded life back to the stone age. The Romans built and resided in Box, stone has been quarried for centuries, and Brunel brought his railway. None of these destroyed the viability or the environment, and I trust that Corsham's claim will not be allowed to do so now.

Box residents are proud of their little piece of England, and demonstrated that by the size of the attendance at the consultation meeting last week in Corsham. I know that James Gray is sympathetic; and may I ask that you, as our Leader in County politics and infrastructure, ensure that your Councillors are fully aware of all of the facts when the final decision is taken.

Yours Sincerely,

John Whitford

This page is intentionally left blank

Mr John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

2 Kidston Way  
Rudloe  
Corsham  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0JZ  
19 August 2014

Dear Sir,

**Community Governance Review – UPDATE 25 July 2014**

I have studied the above review and the reasons Corsham Town Council propose for the boundary re-alignment resulting in the control of Rudloe being transferred from Box to Corsham.

From the information I have received I see no benefit to those who are under the control of Box Parish Council if the proposal were to proceed. The reasons given to date are that the current boundaries do not take into consideration where communities are and assume that by re-alignment they can provide better and more efficient services as well as greater integration of those communities. These reasons seem to be more aspirational rather than factual.

I have lived in Rudloe for 10 years and have an affinity with Box under whose control has actively and effectively provided services in our area. I believe if that control were to be moved from Box to Corsham our Community Charge will be increased to reflect that of Corsham and Box will have to increase their charge to compensate for the lost revenue.

The proposed benefits set out are not tangible and seek to convince that boundary re-alignment will deliver a greater sense of identity assuming that those affected are not content with the current status. As far as I am concerned the current status works well so why change it for reasons which have not been clearly articulated. A far more convincing case should be submitted providing factual benefits to those who will be directly affected as opposed to the beliefs of what may or may not be achieved.

Some of the facts against the proposal are:

- There have been no population shifts or additional development in the area under review.
- There are already easily identifiable boundaries.
- Implementation of the proposals will render Box Parish no longer viable.
- Loss of services will include the street cleaner, Leafy Lane grass cutting & footpath clearance.
- Fees doubled to be buried as non-parishioners.
- No eligibility for our allotments.

I await promulgation of some facts in support of the proposal so I can be convinced of the benefits, especially to the residents of Rudloe and Box.

Yours faithfully

N Crocker

This page is intentionally left blank

Mr John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN

2 Kidston Way  
Rudloe  
Wiltshire  
SN13 0JZ

19<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Dear Mr Watling

Re: PROPOSAL BY CORSHAM COUNCIL FOR A BOUNDARY CHANGE UNDER THE  
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

I am writing, as a resident of Box Parish, to object to the above proposal by Corsham to incorporate Rudloe under the above Review.

I have lived in Box Parish for over 30 years. One of the reasons we bought our house in the area was because we wished to live in a village community and that holds true for me today. I have no association with Corsham. My identity is linked to Box Parish in everyday life. My Church, doctors surgery, chemist, butcher and other local businesses are all situated in Box.

Corsham Council state anomalies with the boundaries affecting Rudloe and Westwells need to be corrected to enable neighbours to be live in the same parish and to build a stronger and more engaged Rudloe Community. I fervently believe Box Parish already has this strong and engaged community and there is no problem identifying its boundaries. There are a wealth of Clubs and Societies available to bring people, both young and old, together in the Parish. My friends and neighbours live in Box parish..

Corsham Council say they have a desire to provide the best service possible to all communities. Box already does this efficiently and effectively.

By pursuing their ambitions all Corsham Council will be doing, as far as I am concerned, is increasing their revenues to the detriment of Box Parish. Corsham already have a higher parish rate than Box Parish, but Box would have to increase their parish rate if they lose one third of their housing. Why on earth would anybody think this enforced situation would be better for Rudloe and Box residents?

If Rudloe parishioners are absorbed into Corsham we would have to pay more to be buried in Box Parish. We would have no eligibility for allotments and I believe our footpaths would suffer.

From the information provided by Corsham Council I cannot see that there is any benefit for the residents of Rudloe or Box were these proposals to be adopted.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Elizabeth Arkell

This page is intentionally left blank

Dear Jane  
copy of my response to  
Corsham submission

Best wishes Margaret

28  
Pine Close  
Rudloe  
Box  
SN13 0LB

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

16<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Mr Watling

I have recently read the Corsham Town submission regarding their rationale for boundary changes and am incensed at the unsubstantiated statements they make

Most of the points they make are a good case for transferring some of the Rudloe houses from Corsham to Box, rather than the other way round. There appears to be no evidence to support the Corsham town Council's assertions.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Replace the arbitrary parish boundaries which dissect and divide Rudloe housing estate and would avoid people living in different parishes to their neighbours. T

**Response:** The majority of houses in Rudloe are within Box Parish Boundary (approx. 400 out of 500); there will be changes for fewer residents if the boundary change is reversed i.e. transferred from Rudloe to Box. This achieves the objective of replacing the arbitrary boundary between neighbours in Rudloe.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Put in place clearer settlement boundaries and identities for Corsham and Box, based on fixed features which are likely to remain in place for many years. The current proposal follows the established and recognised AONB and A365 as boundaries

**Response:** Current boundaries already offer clear boundaries. Moving the smaller number of houses to Box from Corsham will achieve the Corsham Town Council objective. Future housing development may well change the local scene, however many areas within England currently demonstrate that this is not an issue for councils. For major issues it is possible for Councils to communicate and work together.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Facilitate the future sustainable development and expansion of Corsham

**Response:** This comment is from the Corsham point of view. Whilst they may wish to increase their area, the impact of their ambitions on Box must be considered impartially. Any boundary change MUST ensure the sustainability of Box Parish. The 2010 census indicates a population in Corsham of c13, 000 and in Box of 3,500. . Rightly or wrongly I anticipate that decreasing the population of Box would adversely affect the efficiency of Box Parish Council with no compensatory gain for local residents. There is a proposal to include some of Chippenham within the Corsham population. This would assist in the expansion of Corsham. I am not commenting on the impact of that proposal.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Provide clearer and effective governance of Corsham and Box, with more inclusive participation, representation and leadership

**Response:** It is laudable that Corsham should aim to provide clear and effective governance for its own residents. To the best of my knowledge there is no evidence that Box Parish Council is failing in its governance. With regard to 'inclusive participation, representation and leadership', local residents already participate in the Box community rather than Corsham. Previous experience over many years has demonstrated a lack of participation by Corsham Town Council with those Rudloe Residents within their boundaries. My statement is based on experiences as a Trustee of Rudloe Community Centre and multiple appeals to Corsham Town Council for their participation and assistance, which never elicited a response of any sort.

**Corsham Town Comment** Offer more efficient, cost-effective and convenient delivery of council services at a local level.

**Response:** Increasing the size of a council decreases its convenient delivery and responsiveness to local needs as the needs of the majority overwhelm the needs of the minority. Reducing the population base of Box will reduce its opportunities for efficiency and effectiveness.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Enable a clear and effective Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for Corsham.

**Response:** moving the boundary will have no positive impact on Corsham Town Council's ability to produce a neighbourhood plan for Corsham. Quite the reverse, an increased population base will adversely affect the effective engagement of neighbourhood plans. Planning Portal Guidance indicates that neighbourhood plans should cover a maximum of 5,000 residents, therefore the proposed boundary changes will hinder, not aid, the production of a neighbourhood plan for Corsham.

**Corsham Town Comment:** Build a stronger, cohesive and more engaged Rudloe community which feels part of one place.

**Response:** where is the evidence? Many residents, me included, already feel part of the Rudloe/Box community. In fact the Box church has an outreach service in Rudloe; moving Rudloe into Corsham with decreases the cohesiveness in the Rudloe community.

**Corsham Town Comment** Improve democracy, electoral accountability and representation with increased elected representation.

**Response:** How does this work? Wouldn't increasing a population base dilate the views of the minority? Are the current democracy, electoral accountability and representation within Box unacceptable? Is it demonstrably evident in Corsham Town Council – with it' track record of making these proposals without involving the community it is annexing?

Having listened to debates and read documents I remain convinced that the proposed boundary move of Rudloe from Box to Corsham will not be to the advantage of Rudloes residents or Box Parish.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Rousell





Meadow View  
Henley  
Box  
Wiltshire  
SN13 8DB

15<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Dear People considering boundary changes

### **Changes to the Corsham Boundary**

I attended the consultation at the Springfield Centre last night and would like to make a few points:

The main reason given for the changes were that it was an exercise in tidying up the boundaries and then too, a support for new communities:

I just don't get it! What, administratively speaking, difference does a wiggly line make, has the request come from some graphics department because they are unable to draw wiggly lines anymore? And regarding the land the far side of the A350 bordering Chippenham, surely the simplest and easiest aesthetic answer would be to continue the existing northern boundary of the highlighted area along the watercourse (river) to fill in the area and bring the whole lot into Corsham, that would tidy it up much simpler. The reasoning behind the suggested plan was not fully explained.

And as for tidying up the lines in Box this clearly doesn't work either as the bottom section of the area remains clearly jagged.

Anyway all this tidying up is really a superficial reason and a façade. The people of the concerned areas have clearly not been consulted enough and little local debate has taken place. It appears from my point of view, that this is wholly in the case of Corsham and particularly in Box an exercise in bureaucrats needing to validate themselves and their work, and an unnecessary and costly exercise. It may be an opportunity for a review, but in my opinion we are ok thanks.

Many farms, hamlets and communities in the area are split over parish boundaries already, and yet don't shout about split identity. People will identify themselves with the people and places that are most meaningful to them, one cannot enforce a change.

Essentially I am writing to keep Box and Corsham as they are. There was no mention as to what benefit Corsham has in giving away land to Chippenham, once its gone its gone. And if there is to be a change I am in support of Box Parish Council's suggestion of embracing the fewer homes in Rudloe that are at present in 'Corsham' into Box.

I am also writing to say that there appears to be a total lack of reasoning why or need to mess with any of the boundaries and that those who have motioned the idea are not being clear, justified and transparent with the motives, The benefits to those living in the area were not given nor were the benefits of letting go parcels of land made clear. Also, it is really not justifiable as I can see either not to be able to talk about the money involved, any money effecting changes for the parishes or knock on effects to

council charges etc, for individuals and councils alike. Where did that 'rule' come from??? In these days of austerity and financial accountability I think it is disgusting that this is not being approached in an open and accountable way, so that individuals can consider financial consequence.

That's it for now  
Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally Mitchell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sally Mitchell

Letter of 21 July and email of 12 October 2015 from Mr G Jones

35 Highlands Close

Rudloe

Corsham

Wiltshire

SN13 0LA

Mr J Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

21st July 2014

Dear Sir

RE: Proposed Parish Boundary Change - Part of Rudloe and Wadswick moving from Box to Corsham

I strongly object to the proposed boundary change as quite clearly it is a land grab for the following reasons:-

- Corsham will gain with more proposed house building becoming available.
- With approximately 450 properties moving from Box Parish to Corsham Town, Corsham gains substantially from the Council Tax Town Precept.
- Box on the other hand loses the Council Tax Parish Precept for approximately 450 properties.
- The remaining properties in Box can now expect their Council Tax Parish Precept to rise to make up what has been lost from Rudloe and Wadswick to enable them to be to maintain their assets such as the tennis courts, bowling green, cemetery lodge, war memorial, Box common, blind house plus many more.

- Rudloe and Wadswick will lose the following services:-
  - There will be no street cleaner.
  - The grass at the top of the A4 and Leafy Lane will not be cut.
  - The footpaths will not be cleared.
  - The fee to be buried in Box cemetery will double as I am no longer a Box parishioner.
  - I will not be eligible for an allotment.
- Rudloe and Wadswick residents will find their Parish Precept rise as Corsham's is substantially higher than that of the Box Precept.
- I have lived in Rudloe for the last 42 years and clearly identify Rudloe and Wadswick as part Box Parish together with all the services and recreational activities they provide.
- There has been no population shifts or additional development that have led to different community identity with historic traditions.
- Boundaries between parishes should reflect a buffer between communities; these boundaries already exist and are easily identifiable.
- Valuable Council Tax revenue is being spent on the proposed Parish Boundary change, which could have been spent on essential services.
- Richard Tonge, County Councillor for Corsham Without and Box Hill in an email to me states 'I am against the change as I can see no advantage for Box'.

I sent an email to Ruth Hopkinson, Chairman of the Corsham Town Council and to Councillor Peter Antsey, as in the past he was a resident of both Rudloe and Wadswick, requesting a list of the benefits for the residents of both Rudloe and Wadswick if this proposal is accepted. As neither has taken the trouble to reply to the emails the only conclusion I can make is that there are absolutely no benefits at all for the residents of both Rudloe and Wadswick and therefore as I said initially I strongly object to this proposal.

Yours sincerely

Graham D Jones

Email of 12 October John

I wrote to you on the 21st July 2015 with by reasons why this proposal should not go through, a copy of this letter is attached.

I have just seen the Corsham Town Councils revised proposal, which has not addressed any of the objections I made in July. Also the original meeting for this review was to be in Box at the Selwyn Hall, now it is in Corsham a move which I suspect Corsham Town Council hope Box and Rudloe residents will not go on a cold October night.

This boundary change is just a land grab for future housing and with an increase in revenue for Corsham at the expence of Box.

I see an alternative proposal is for the Rudloe Estate to be moved into Box, this one can only assume is to give Box back some lost revenue.

This now leaves an island of Box Parish in Corshams Parish. How can this be making clear settlement boundaries between Box and Corsham.

I have lived in Rudloe since 1972 and clearly identify Rudloe as part of Box Parish together with all the services and recreational activities they provide so please not my strong objection to this proposal by Corsham Town Council.

Regards

Graham D Jones

This page is intentionally left blank

Mr A Paynes summary of public meeting held on 14 October 2015, with picture

Dear John

I wrote a summary of the meeting on 14 October, which I would like to present as part of the responses to the CGR:

## *Overwhelming Public Support for Rudloe to Remain in Box at Boundary Meeting*

One hundred and eighty members of the public packed the Springfield Centre, Corsham, on 14 October to attend a meeting called by Wiltshire Council's Working Group under the county's Community Governance Review. The consultation meeting was called to hear a summary of proposals to alter Box and Corsham's boundaries and to give the public an opportunity to give their views. The overwhelming support was for no change, expressed by about 150 people wearing "I LIVE IN BOX !" stickers.

There were three proposals on the table: a third version of Corsham Town's plan to transfer 445 properties in Rudloe from Box to Corsham together with considerable development land (map on website marked below left); a proposal from Box Parish Council to unify Rudloe by transferring 236 Rudloe houses currently in Corsham to Box (map below right); and a proposal concerning boundaries between Chippenham and Corsham (map not shown as not relevant to Box). Maps courtesy Wiltshire Council.

Twenty-three people voiced their views. Twenty people were implacably opposed to Corsham's proposal (about half identified themselves as Rudloe residents and the rest were from other areas of Box); two people wanted more details; and only one person, Corsham Town's vice chairman Peter Pearson, was in favour of Corsham's proposal. Every one of the objectors was greeted with considerable applause and the sole Corsham supporter with cries of disbelief.

Many speakers were surprised and deeply disappointed about Corsham's proposal which destroyed community identity. Several people referred to Corsham's plan as a "land grab". We were told that Corsham's proposal would result in Box losing one-third of its residents, devastating its ability to provide local services. Many were concerned that the proposal would result in higher rates for all residents but we were told that this could not be considered under the Governance Review.

Of special concern was the pressure on specific residents of Rudloe. Vicar Janet addressed the meeting to outline the work that St Thomas à Becket Church was undertaking in all areas of Rudloe including private residences, social and military housing areas.

The meeting isn't the end of this matter. The Working Party reports to a full meeting of Wiltshire Council who will make the decision about the proposals. The Working Party will still accept people's views and thought that the deadline for submission would be towards the end of October (see Box Parish Website for confirmation).

There are maps and further thoughts about this on the Box Parish Council website and Box People and Places website. It's not too late to give your views either to John Whatling at [cgr@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:cgr@wiltshire.gov.uk) or you can contact him directly via Box Community History website at [www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk](http://www.boxpeopleandplaces.co.uk). The Council promotes its care as *Where Everybody Matters* so give them your views.

Kind regards and appreciate your work in accepting these responses.

Alan

Sent from Windows Mail





This page is intentionally left blank

Second email from Mr T Jones 15 October 2015

Dear John

Please see follow-up email from Tudor Jones. As you see, the antagonism of some Rudloe residents to Corsham's proposals does not diminish. Everyone I met today in Box seems to be talking about their anger at both the process and the proposal, as well as their anxiety about the decision that Wiltshire Council will eventually arrive at.

Sincerely

Alan Payne

**From:**

**Sent:** Thursday, 15 October 2015 12:13

**To:** [boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:boxpeopleandplaces@yahoo.co.uk)

I arrived at the meeting at 8pm after a personal meeting which I was obliged to attend. My missive is 'emotional' and I opined that delivery at the meeting would have been counter-productive.

'Emotion' is of course widespread with this grab-and-take-over plan; there should have been a Box Parish referendum from the outset; of course the outcome is obvious hence no reference to the parishioners. A simple YES/NO speaks volumes by those who cannot see the logic of this land-grabbing plan and DO NOT want it; readily to mind comes the feeling (indeed the fact?) of 'to hell with the people therein, they matter not.'

With Voltaire in mind, our selfish land-grabbing and pathetic 'leaders' seemed to imply "*I disagree with everything you say but defend to the death your right to say it!*" Democracy? The meeting, in my opinion, was "*shrouded democracy*"; let the 'peasants have their say' seemed so Victorian and currently Communistic.

Tudor Jones

Sent from Windows Mail

This page is intentionally left blank

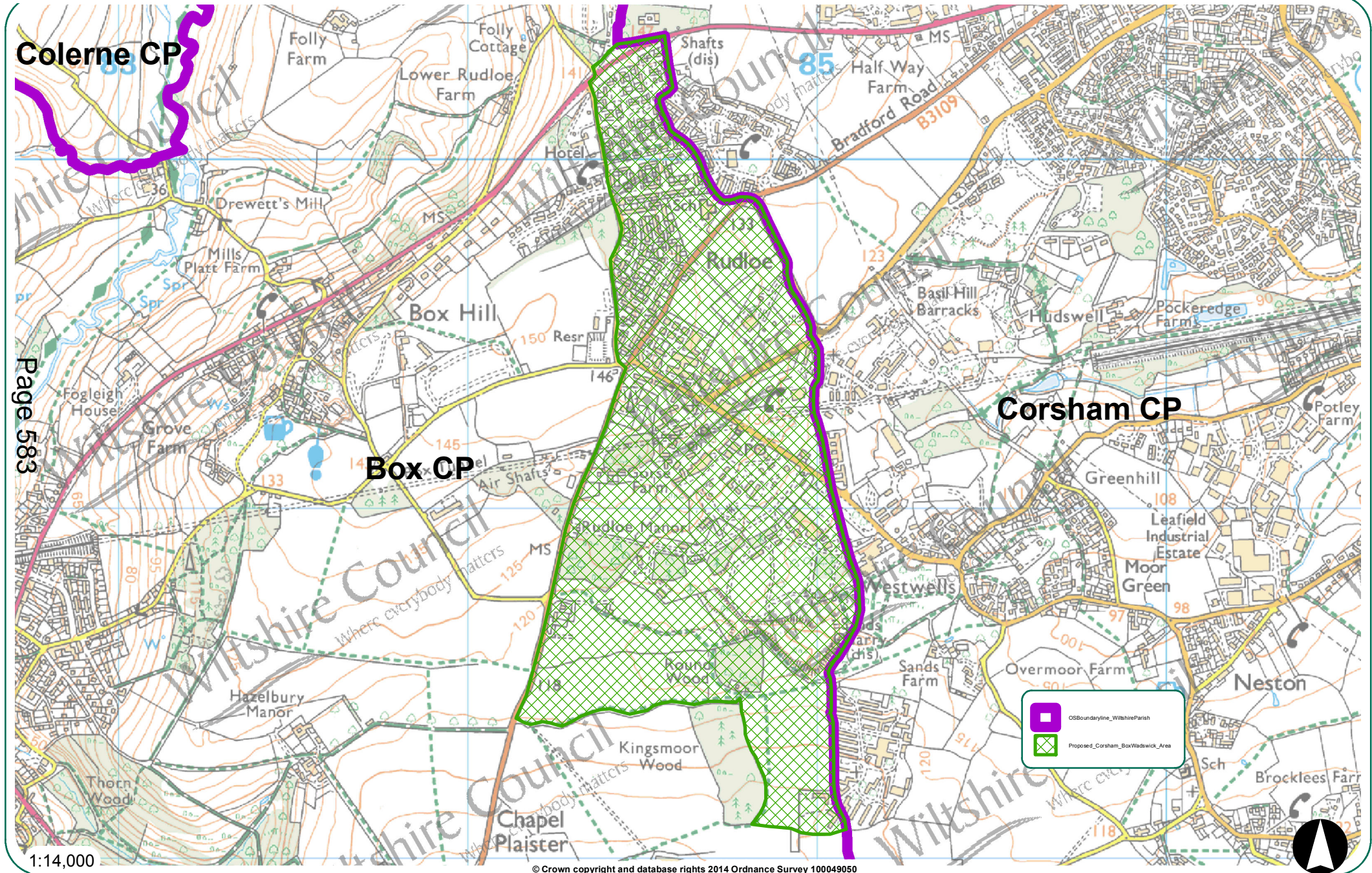
## **Area A8 - Corsham and Box**

### **Mapping**

- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 2
- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3 at 14000 scale
- Scheme 40 and 41 - Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3
- Scheme 42 - Area A8 - Corsham and Chippenham A350 Map 1

This page is intentionally left blank

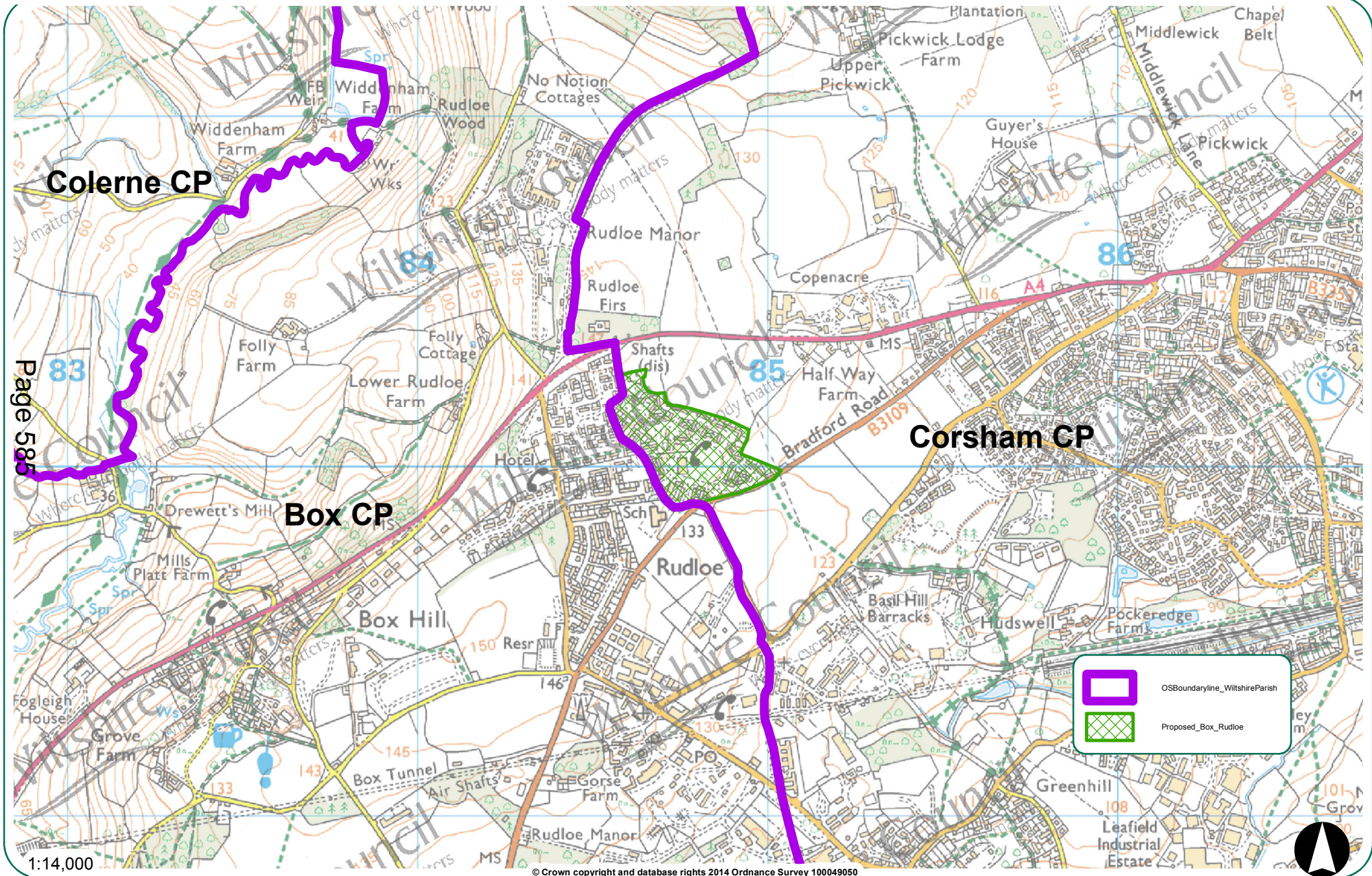
Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 2  
Rudloe Area excluding Wadswick



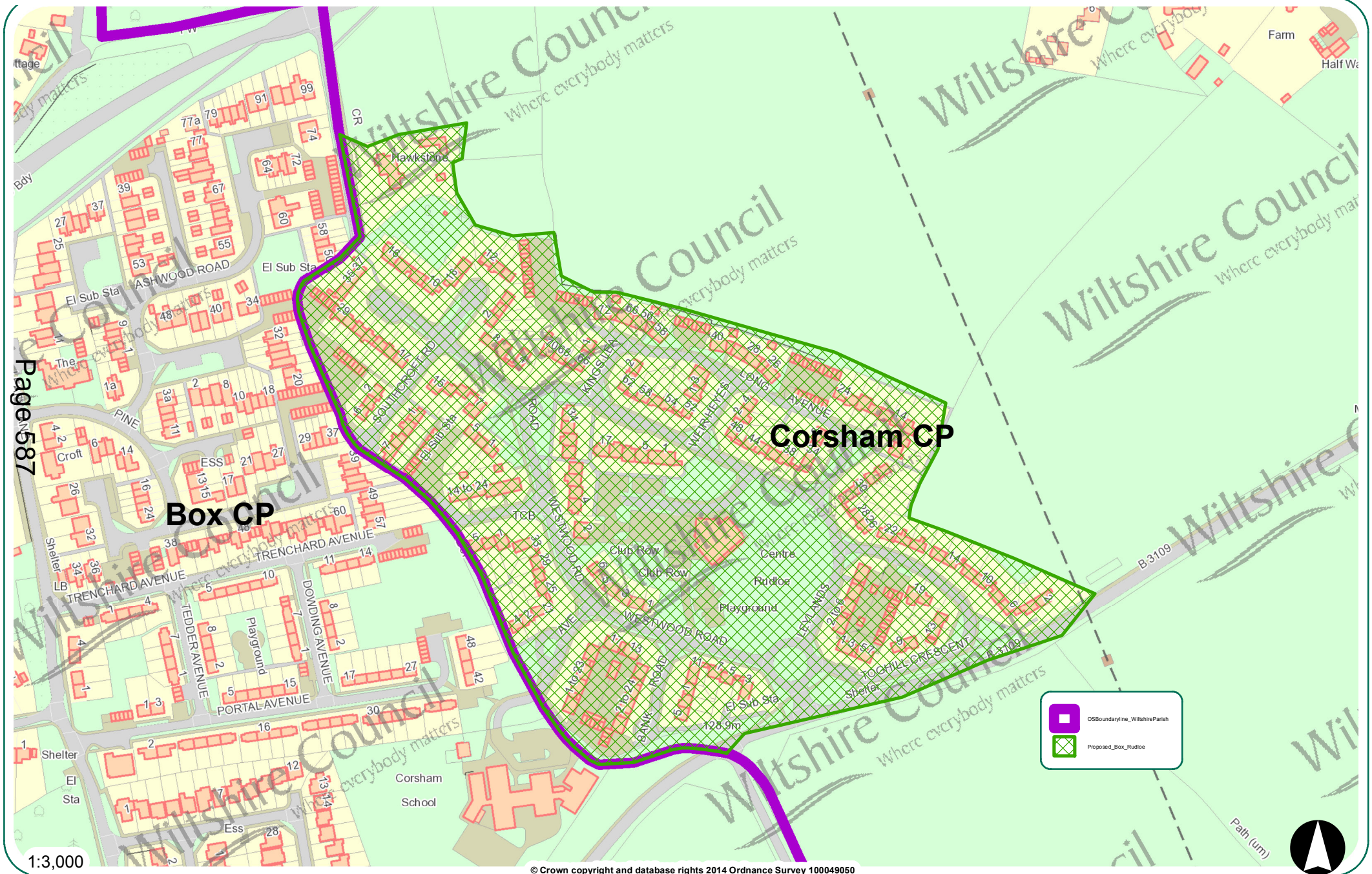
This page is intentionally left blank



Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 3  
Rudloe Area (part) scale 14:000

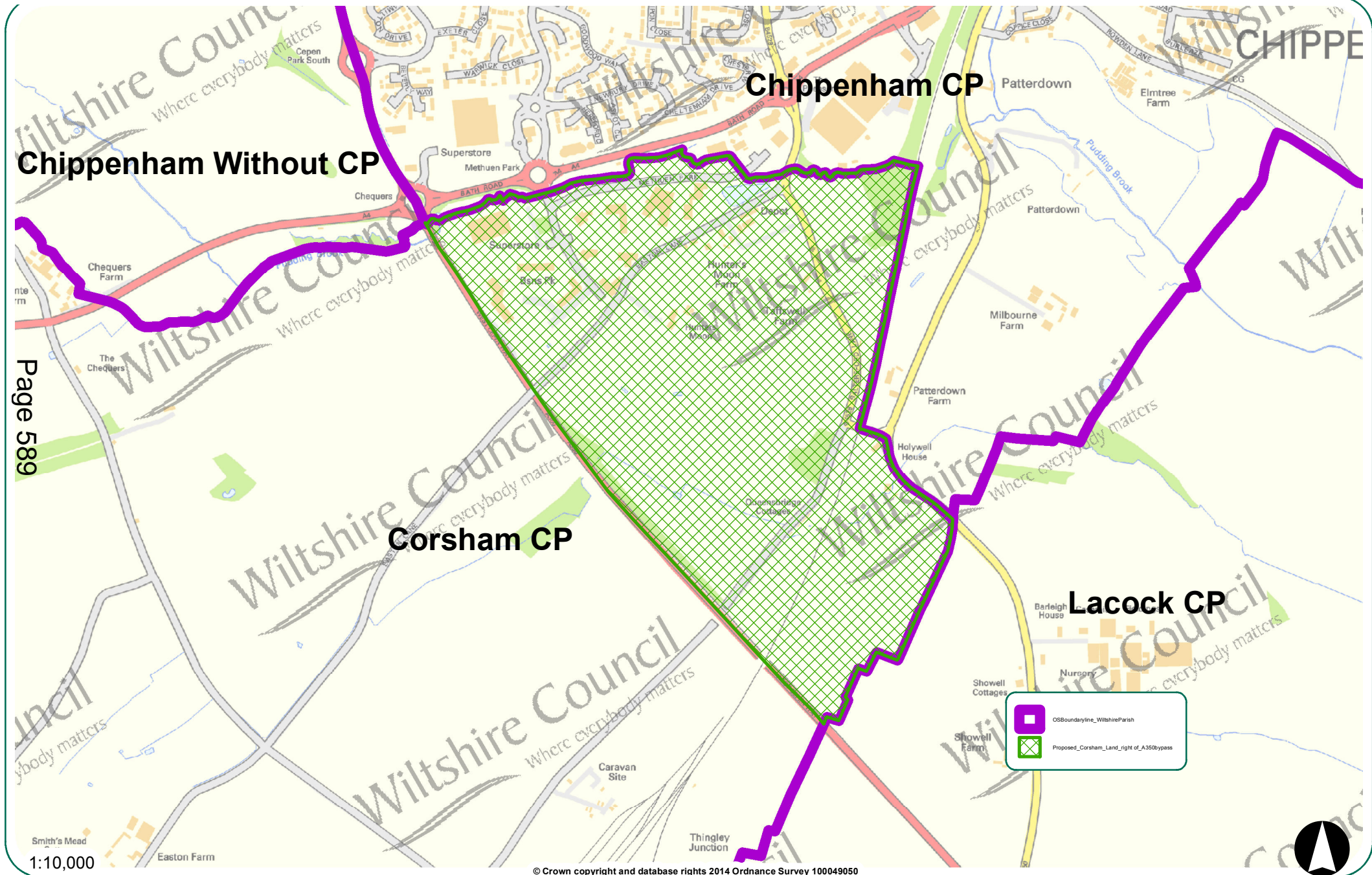


This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

Area A8 - Corsham and Box Area Map 1  
A350 Area between Corsham and Chippenham



This page is intentionally left blank

## Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Community Action Whitley and Shaw CAWS letter to Melksham Without PC 25 October 2015	25/10/15
2	Development and Streets - Former George Ward School November 2015	11/15
3	Extract from Melksham Town Council e-mail 19 February 2014	19/2/14
4	Extract from Melksham Town Council e-mail 30 July 2014	30/7/14
5	Extract from Melksham Without PC e-mail to Broughton Gifford PC 22 December 2014	22/12/14
6	Extract from Melksham Without PC e-mail to Seend PC 22 December 2014	22/12/14
7	Letter from Broughton Gifford PC 5 October 2015	5/10/15
8	Letter to Melksham Without PC 4 April 2014	4/4/14
9	Melksham Seniors Updated Boundary 2 November 2015	2/11/15
10	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 4 November 2015	4/11/15
11	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 20 October 2015	20/10/15
12	Melksham Public Meeting Minutes - 21 October 2015	21/10/15
13	Melksham TC letter 1 July 2013	1/7/13
14	Melksham Without PC letter 23 July 2014	23/7/14
15	Melksham Without PC letter 28 March 2014	28/3/14
16	Melksham Without PC Response on CGR 12 October 2015	12/10/15
17	Extract of email from Mr P Davis 11 November 2015	11/11/15

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Melksham Without PC	21/10/15	MWOPC "headlines" for residents

This page is intentionally left blank





Mrs T Strange, Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council

By Email

25 October 2015

Dear Teresa,

### **Community Governance Review: Proposed Merger**

Please take this letter as CAWS's response to the Wiltshire County Council-led Community Governance Review, and in particular to the proposed merger of Melksham Without Parish Council (MWOPC) and Melksham Town Council (MTC).

As you know, CAWS (Community Action: Whitley and Shaw) was established to represent the interests of the people of Whitley and Shaw, and to provide a forum for community engagement. CAWS was established by local residents, and has had the support of MWOPC. CAWS objects to the proposed merger of MWOPC and MTC.

#### *Local Representation*

CAWS is a good example of localism in practice. It enables local residents to have power over matters which might previously have been outside of their reach. It allows local residents to have a stronger voice. It is in many respects a devolution of power to the community. MWOPC's involvement with CAWS, and with similar groups representing other villages within its catchment, illustrates MWOPC's strong commitment to localism.

MWOPC provides very effective representation of the interests of the villagers falling within its catchment, and provides an accessible and competent forum for the consideration of local concerns. Because MWOPC's focus is on the villages that surround Melksham, it is perfectly suited to representing the people that live in those villages. This is particularly so where the interests of the villages are not entirely the same as the interests of the town. Furthermore, having a separate council to represent the villages helps ensure that the distinctive identities of the villages are maintained.

Were MWOPC and MTC to merge, the voice of those living in the villages would be less strong.



It follows that a merger of the two councils, particularly in circumstances where there may be a reduction in the overall number of councilors, will lead to a democratic deficit. In turn, all local residents (including those of the town) will receive less effective representation.

The Councils' approach in this exercise must be guided by the provisions of the Localism Act 2010. The Act codifies the national Government's policy of ever-greater decentralisation. As a matter of principle, the proposed merger runs contrary to that policy, and to the stated aim of the Act. Thus, as a matter of principle there is no good reason to merge MWOPC and MTC.

### *Financial considerations*

If there are no matters of principle with which to justify the merger, what then of matters of practice?

There is a dearth of published information setting out the practical benefits of a merger. There is, for instance, none shown on the relevant part of the Wiltshire County Council website ([here](#)). I assume that the chief justification for the proposed merger is financial, and I have in mind comments made by MTC member Cllr Hubbard, and quoted in the Melksham Independent News ([here](#)) that the proposed merger will reduce premises costs, and that "... the extra money can be spent on improving facilities in the town."

MTC is a significantly more expensive organization than MWOPC. This is demonstrated in the precepts charged by both councils. MTC charges a precept of £86.87 whereas MWOPC charges a precept of £41.63, i.e. less than half that charged by MTC.

A merger of the councils will inevitably lead to an increase in precept for those living in the MWOPC area; in addition to losing effective democratic representation, the residents will pay significantly more for their council-run services.

It is at least arguable that a merger could be justified if it would result in a significant saving in costs. Cllr Hubbard's statement refers to one saving, this being from premises costs. I note from MWOPC's published accounts for 2014/15 that its premises costs were £6,435.00. For the same year, MTC's total expenditure was £570,487.00 ([source](#)). The efficiency saving brought about by reduced premises costs would, therefore, be in the region of 1% of MTC's budget.

In any event, I note that Cllr Hubbard's comments only refer to there being financial benefits for the town.



*Summary*

CAWS considers that the proposed merger of the councils will not be in the best interest of the residents of Shaw and Whitley. The merger will weaken the effectiveness of local representation and in many respects runs contrary to the policy of localism.

Furthermore, any merger would increase the burden of taxation on local residents. It would at best result in an efficiency saving in the region of 1% of the MTC budget, and in any event, there would be no obvious financial benefit for village residents.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Ashkowski  
Secretary, Community Action: Whitley and Shaw

This page is intentionally left blank

# George Ward School, Melksham

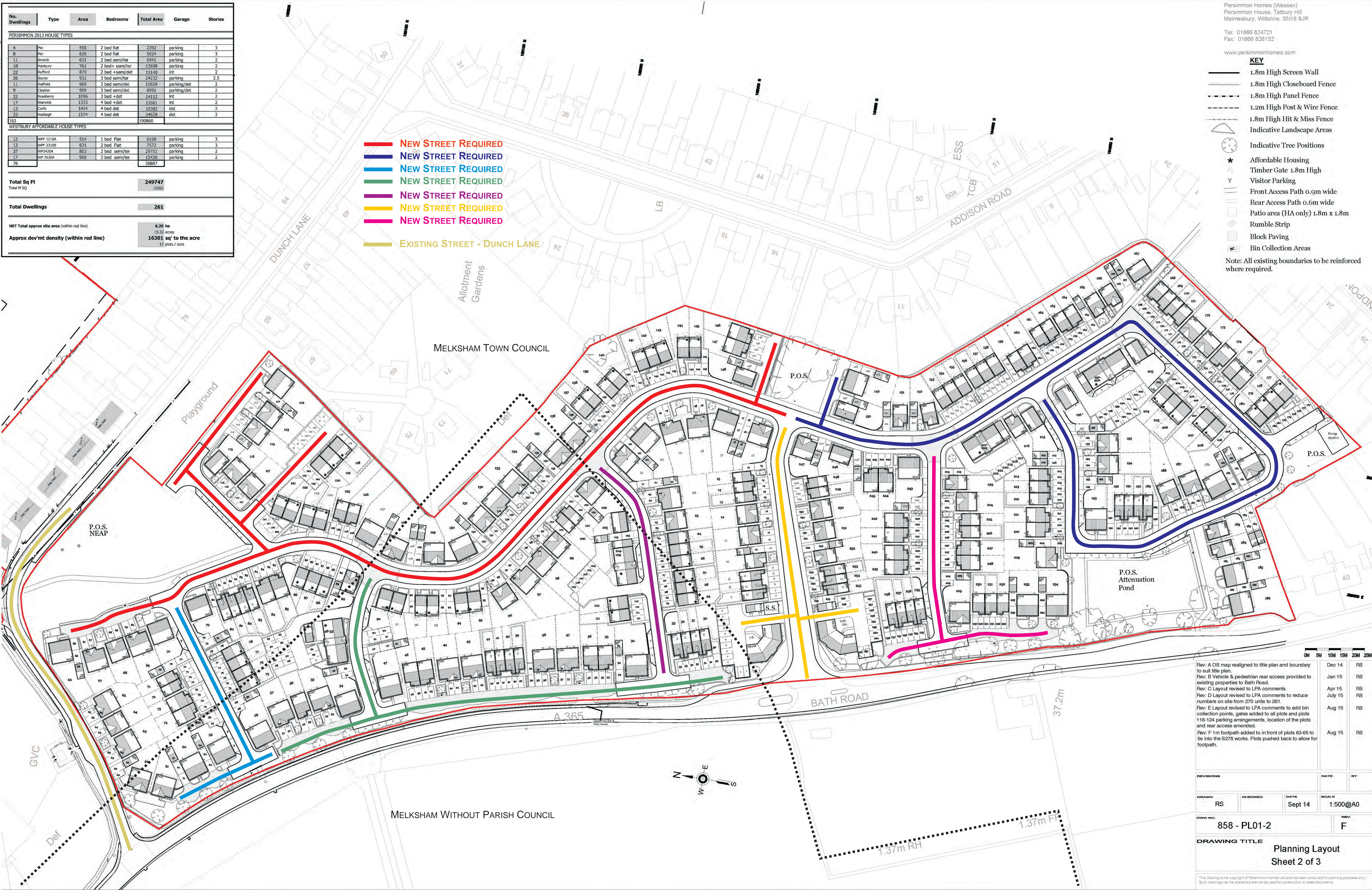
Persimmon Homes (Wessex)  
Persimmon House, Tetbury Hill  
Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9JR  
Tel: 01688 824721  
Fax: 01688 826152

www.persimmonhomes.com

- KEY**
- 1.8m High Screen Wall
  - - - 1.8m High Closeboard Fence
  - - - 1.8m High Panel Fence
  - - - 1.2m High Post & Wire Fence
  - - - 1.8m High Hit & Miss Fence
  - Indicative Landscape Areas
  - Indicative Tree Positions
  - ★ Affordable Housing
  - ▲ Timber Gate 1.8m High
  - ▼ Visitor Parking
  - Front Access Path 0.9m wide
  - Rear Access Path 0.6m wide
  - Patio area (HA only) 1.8m x 1.8m
  - ▨ Rumble Strip
  - ▨ Block Paving
  - Bin Collection Areas
- Note: All existing boundaries to be reinforced where required.

No. Dwellings	Type	Area	Bedrooms	Total Area	Garage	Stories
<b>PERSIMMON 2013 HOUSE TYPES</b>						
4	Flat	598	2 bed flat	2392	parking	3
8	Flat	628	2 bed flat	3026	parking	3
11	Arwick	631	2 bed semi/ter	6941	parking	2
18	Harbury	761	2 bed + semi/ter	13698	parking	2
22	Rufford	870	2 bed + semi/det	19140	int	2
26	Souler	932	3 bed semi/ter	24232	parking	2.5
11	Wadfield	969	3 bed semi/det	10659	parking/det	2
9	Clayton	999	3 bed semi/det	8991	parking/det	2
22	Rosberry	1096	3 bed + det	24112	int	2
17	Warwick	1333	4 bed + det	22661	int	2
13	Corfe	1414	4 bed det	18382	det	2
22	Madegh	1574	4 bed det	34628	det	2
183				190860		
<b>WESTBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSE TYPES</b>						
12	WPF 1210A	514	1 bed Flat	6168	parking	3
12	WPF 1210B	531	2 bed Flat	7572	parking	3
37	WP2420A	803	2 bed semi/ter	29711	parking	2
17	WP 3520A	908	3 bed semi/ter	15436	parking	2
78				58887		
<b>Total Sq Ft</b>				<b>249747</b>		
<b>Total M Sq</b>				<b>23202</b>		
<b>Total Dwellings</b>				<b>261</b>		
<b>NET Total approx site area (within red line)</b>				<b>6.20 ha</b>		
				<b>15.32 acres</b>		
<b>Approx dev't density (within red line)</b>				<b>16301 sq' to the acre</b>		
				<b>17 plots / acre</b>		

Page 597



- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- EXISTING STREET - DUNCH LANE

REV	DATE	BY
Rev: A	Dec 14	RS
Rev: B	Jan 15	RS
Rev: C	Apr 15	RS
Rev: D	July 15	RS
Rev: E	Aug 15	RS
Rev: F	Aug 15	RS

REVISIONS	DATE	BY	
DRAWN	CHECKED	DATE	SCALE
RS		Sept 14	1:500@A0
DWG NO. <b>858 - PL01-2</b>			REV. <b>F</b>
DRAWING TITLE <b>Planning Layout Sheet 2 of 3</b>			

This drawing is the copyright of Persimmon Homes Ltd and has been produced for planning purposes only. Such drawings can be scaled but are not to be used for construction or sales documents.

This page is intentionally left blank

Hi John,

Melksham Town Council understands that Wiltshire Council considered a report on a prospective community governance review at its meeting on 12 November 2013 and that as a consequence it was resolved to set up a cross party working group to undertake the necessary preparatory work for a community governance review; to request members to come forward with any known outstanding community governance issues; and to receive a further report with recommended terms of reference for the review in 2014.

In a briefing note to town and parish councils it was pointed out that if a Town or Parish has suggestions on their boundaries or amalgamation these should be forwarded to you via email. You are aware that Melksham Town Council believes that its boundary with Melksham Without Parish Council has become anomalous in the light of recent development, and our representations to Wiltshire Council in this regard are acknowledged as Refs: 12 and 16 on *Appendix A – Present Queries* which accompanied the report on Parish/Community Governance Review presented to Wiltshire Council on 12 November 2013.

In addition to these representations, at a meeting of Melksham Town Council held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, the Town Council expressed a desire to work with Melksham Without Parish Council to discuss and explore the possibility of working together to develop a unified council with a common agenda that will serve to provide a positive benefit for the wider Melksham community.

Melksham Town Council recognises that Wiltshire Council's stated vision is to create stronger and more resilient communities. The Town Council is of the view that greater responsibility will be devolved to town and parish councils over time to provide additional services, which will have the effect of placing yet greater demands on the ability of third tier councils to cope effectively. By working together as one council for Melksham, the Town Council considers that a unified Melksham council may be better placed to work in the best interests of residents in both parishes by working toward a cohesive strategic plan that will allow us to exploit synergies and generate efficiencies.

The Town Council understands that the prospect of one council for Melksham may be perceived as a radical departure from the established structure of local government within the locality. However given the challenges ahead, allied to the desire to do the right thing for the people of Melksham, the Town Council believes it is incumbent on the two parishes jointly to at least explore together whether a united council with a common agenda can be achieved and to identify the advantages and disadvantages associated with it.

The Town Council has therefore invited Melksham Without Parish Council to jointly explore the possibility of working as one council and I have been requested to make you aware of this in order that the possibility of amalgamating the two councils is considered as part of any forthcoming Community Governance Review.

This page is intentionally left blank



John,

In your email of 27 June 2014 you requested that Melksham Town Council's proposals as part of a prospective Community Governance Review be forwarded to you such that the Working Party can assess the extent and implications associated with those proposals. Accordingly, I detail below some observations for consideration as part of this process:

1. Melksham Town Council believes that the parish boundary between Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Council has become anomalous in the light of recent housing development particularly on land to the east of the town.
2. Furthermore, proposed residential development proposals have been submitted in respect of land south of Western Way, Bowerhill, Melksham; land east of Semington Road, Berryfield, Melksham and land east of Spa Road, Melksham. Should these proposals come to fruition the urban conurbation of Melksham will continue to spread eastwards whilst the urban footprint to the south of the town will expand and effectively link with Berryfield and Bowerhill.
3. The emerging core strategy dictates that some 800 new homes will need to be identified within the Melksham community area by 2026. Whilst the location of residential development has yet to be determined and is intended to be the subject of neighbourhood planning analysis, it is apparent that Melksham's expansion will continue and that community governance in turn will need to be effective and convenient, reflecting the identity and interests of the expanded community.
4. The Town Council notes that the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews ("the Guidance") issued in 2010 recognises that over time communities may expand with new housing developments which can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.
5. The Town Council notes also that it is suggested within the Guidance (para. 26) that it is good practice for a principal council to consider conducting a review every 10-15 years. In essence therefore any review conducted now should be cognisant of the need to ensure that the integrity of boundaries deemed necessary are sufficiently robust to remain appropriate during that time frame.
6. Melksham Town Council believes that a unified council with a common agenda will serve to provide a positive benefit for the wider Melksham community. It is not suggested that either Melksham Town Council should absorb Melksham Without Parish Council or vice versa. Rather, it is proposed that the two parishes should be dissolved in their current form and a new common parish created. The parameters of the new parish will effectively be those currently defining the outer boundary of Melksham Without Parish Council.
7. It is recognised that Shaw and Whitley may feel subsumed by such a proposal and, if that is perceived to be the case, and subject to appropriate consultation, it may be deemed appropriate that Shaw and Whitley be grouped under a newly defined parish council with Atworth for example.

8. Melksham Town Council understands that Wiltshire Council's stated vision is to create stronger and more resilient communities. The Town Council is of the view that greater responsibility will be devolved to town and parish councils over time to provide additional services, which will have the effect of placing yet greater demands on the ability of third tier councils to cope effectively. One unified council for Melksham may be better placed to work in the best interests of residents in the wider Melksham community thereby improving its capacity to deliver better services and being better placed to represent the community's interests. A united council, working toward a cohesive strategic plan, will allow synergies to be exploited and efficiencies generated.
9. The Town Council believes that Melksham Town and Melksham Without are interdependent on each other for social and economic cohesion. The rural communities all look towards Melksham town as the nearest shopping centre and focal hub in terms of retail, commerce, some sporting activities, transport interchange, library, banks, medical and other services, including the exciting community campus proposition. Melksham Without on the other hand, with Bowerhill 's vibrant industrial estate and secondary school, the parish sports facilities, open space and rural environment is essential to the residents of Melksham town for the provision of education, employment and recreation.
10. It is recognised that future residential growth should contribute towards delivering improved infrastructure and in particular growth should contribute towards town centre regeneration, including traffic management improvements. This clearly impacts upon all residents who identify with and frequent the town which sits at the heart of the wider community it serves.
11. The proposed Melksham link to join the Wilts and Berks Canal to the Kennet and Avon Canal via the River Avon through Melksham has major implications for both parishes. In Melksham Without, the Canal will traverse the village of Berryfield, providing extensive environmental benefits in terms of sustainable transport, cycling and walking. For Melksham, the canal link via the River Avon will increase tourism and provide the market place for a thriving recreation economy. A united council would ensure that this unique opportunity is tapped to its full potential.
12. The emerging Core Strategy's future vision for Melksham is described as a thriving and accessible town with a respect for its heritage and rural environment and a strengthened employment base. This chimes with a desire to create a cohesive, attractive and economically vibrant community with its own sense of place and local identity which, Melksham Town Council believes, will be best achieved through a united council which will be empowered to provide stronger local leadership, promote community cohesion, and encourage greater resident participation.
13. The Guidance states that *"the general rule should be that the parish is based on an area which reflects community identity and interest"* (para. 80) and makes reference to the ability to amalgamate two or more parishes (para. 87). Moreover the Guide suggests that in deciding what recommendations to make as part of a review *"the principal council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area and is effective and convenient"* (para. 94).

14. The Guidance acknowledges it may be preferable to group together parishes so as to allow a common parish council to be formed though this must be compatible with the retention of community interests (para. 114). Furthermore the Guidance expressly refers to a scenario where the principal council *“may conclude that the provision of effective and convenient local government and/or the reflection of community identity and interests may be best met by the abolition of a number of smaller parishes and the creation of a larger parish covering the same area”* (para. 117).
15. Melksham Town Council recognises that the prospect of one council for Melksham may be perceived as a radical departure from the established structure of local government within the locality. However given the challenges ahead, allied to the desire to do the best thing for the people of Melksham, the Town Council respectfully requests that Wiltshire Council explores the viability of creating a united Melksham Parish Council, with a common agenda, as part of any forthcoming Community Governance Review.

I hope this is helpful in explaining the Town Council’s current stance but please do not hesitate to contact me again should you and or the Working Party require anything further at this stage.

Best regards,

Steve

Steve Gray  
Town Clerk  
**Melksham Town Council**  
Town Hall  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6ES

T: (01225) 704187  
F: (01225) 707858  
E: [stephen.gray@melkshamtown.co.uk](mailto:stephen.gray@melkshamtown.co.uk)

Disclaimer and Confidentiality Notice

This email and any attachment are confidential to the intended recipients and access to this email by anyone else is unauthorised. If you should not have received this email, please notify us immediately by reply email and then destroy any copies and delete this message from your system. Unless authorised by Melksham Town Council, copying, forwarding, disclosing or using this email or its contents is prohibited. Melksham Town Council is not responsible for controlling transmissions over the internet and makes no representation or warranty as to the absence of viruses in this email or any attachment.

This page is intentionally left blank

For the attention of Broughton Gifford Parish Council

Copy to:

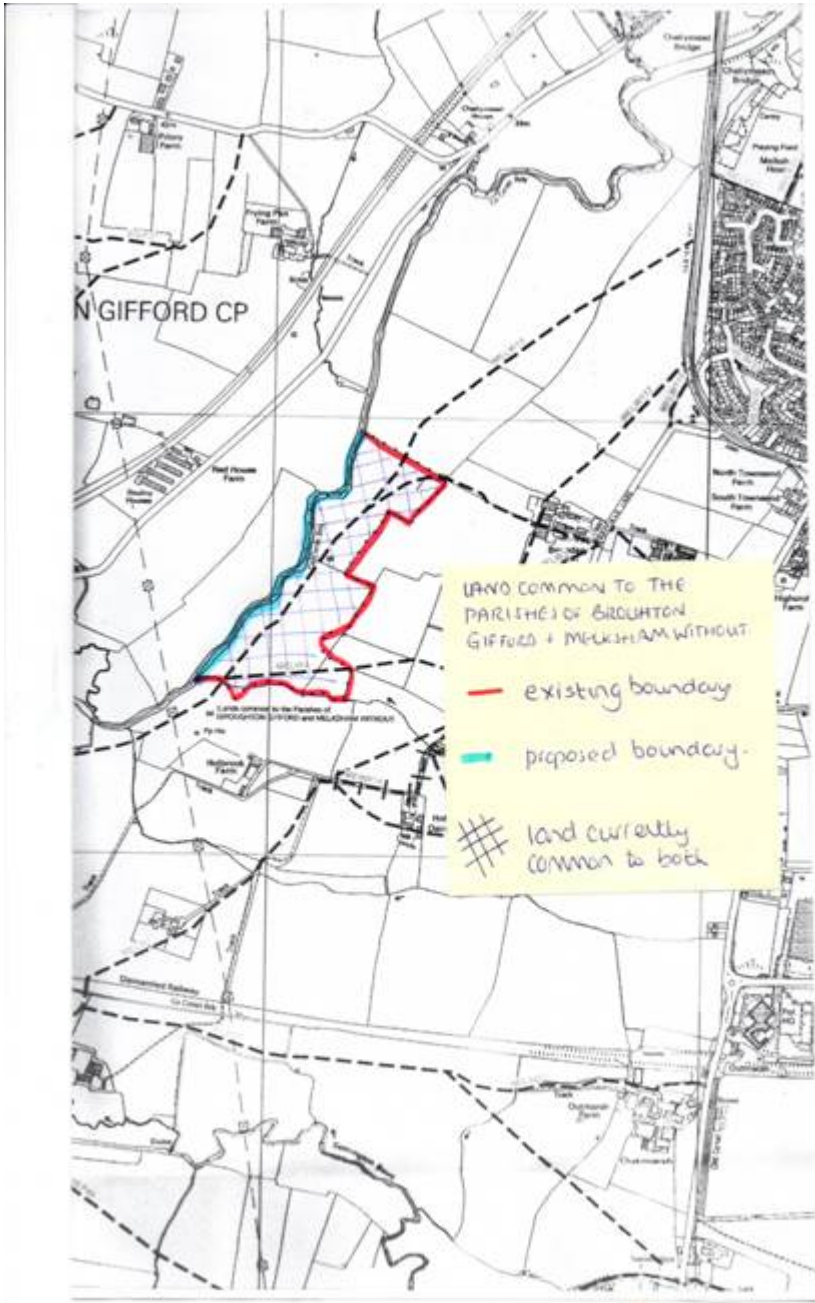
Roy While, Melksham Without South Cllr  
Terry Chivers, Melksham Without North Cllr  
John Watling, Head of Electoral Services  
William Oulton, Democratic Services

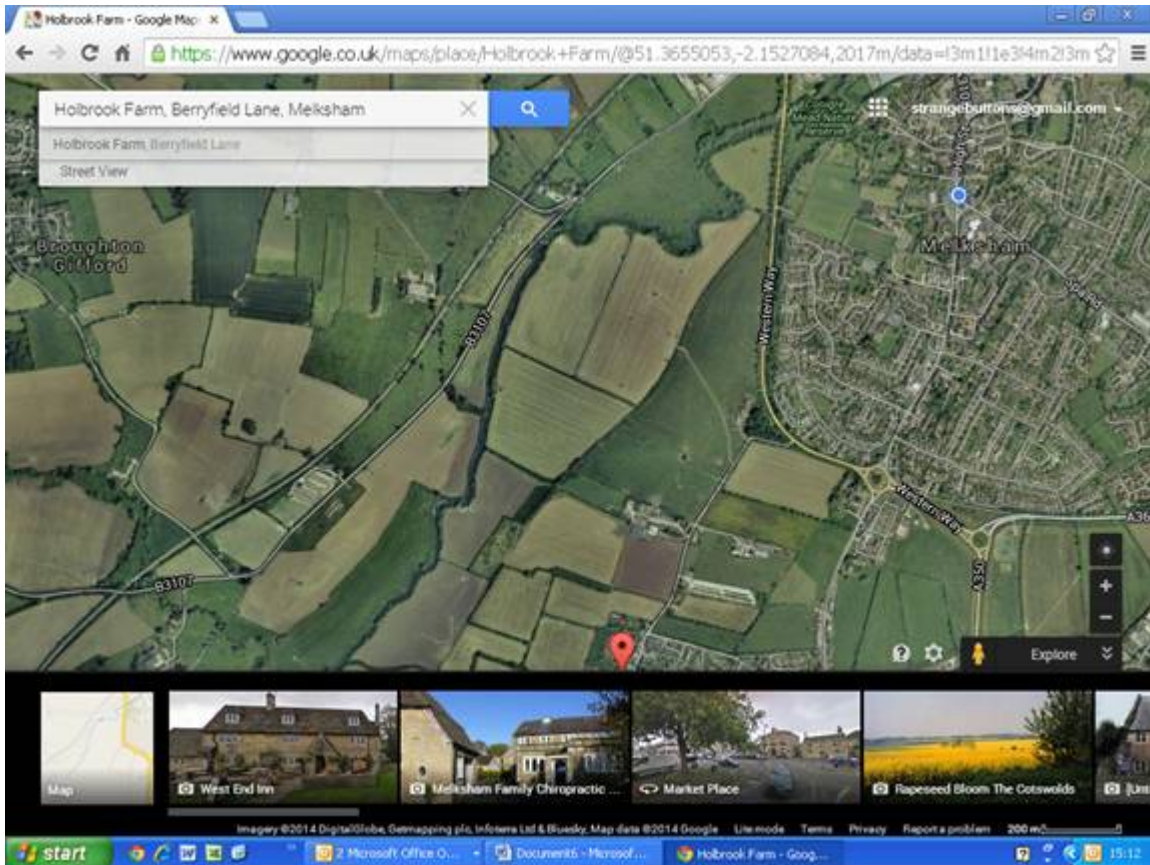
Dear Dawn

**Land common to Melksham Without & Broughton Gifford Parish Councils**

Please find details below of a Parish Boundary Review requested by Melksham Without Parish Council. This was discussed at the Community Governance Review meeting that Wiltshire Council held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December with Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils. At that meeting the Parish Council were asked if there were any other boundary reviews (other than the boundary with the Town) that they wished to be considered and the Council put forward the land common to both Melksham Without Parish and Broughton Gifford Parish; suggesting the River as the proposed boundary line.

It is noted that no residential properties are affected.





I hope that this boundary review meets with the approval of Broughton Gifford Parish Council and that you could let us know the view of the Parish Council in due course.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all at Melksham Without.  
Regards, Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
First Floor  
Crown Chambers  
7 Market Place  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6ES  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank



For the attention of Seend Parish Council

Copy to:

Roy While, Melksham Without South Cllr  
Jonathon Seed, Summerham & Seend Cllr  
John Watling, Head of Electoral Services  
Paul Millard, Senior Rights of Way Warden for West Wiltshire  
William Oulton, Democratic Services  
Mike Mills, Chair of BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group)

Dear Rosemary

**Melksham Without Parish Council boundary with Seend Parish Council.**

Further to our telephone conversation last week, please find details below of the Parish Boundary Review requested by Melksham Without Parish Council. This was discussed at the Community Governance Review meeting that Wiltshire Council held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December with Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils. At that meeting the Parish Council were asked if there were any other boundary reviews (other than the boundary with the Town) that they wished to be considered and the Council put forward the boundary with Seend Parish Council covering the area where BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) have established a picnic area on the bridleway from Locking Close to the K&A Canal.

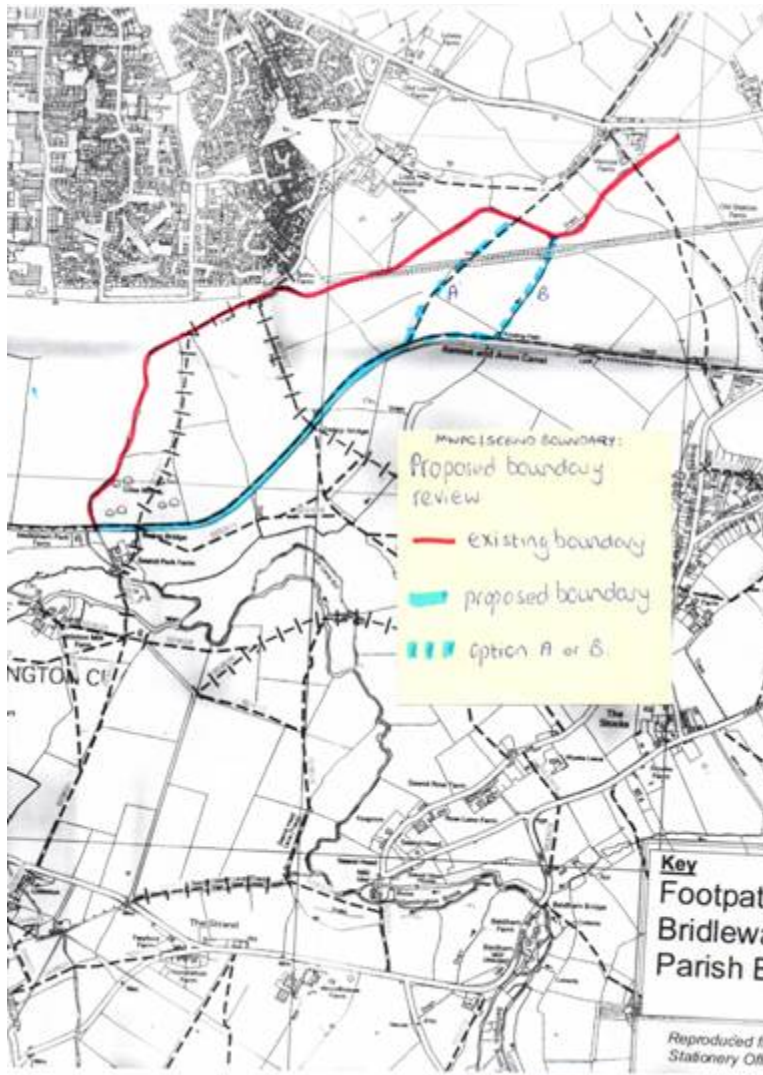
Melksham Without Parish Council proposed that the boundary between Melksham Without and Seend Council becomes the Kennet & Avon Canal as currently the boundary extends over the Canal into the land south of Bowerhill including the land that BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) have established a picnic area, enhanced the bridleway with tree planting, erected benches and a noticeboard. All assets have been donated by BRAG to Melksham Without Parish Council which they insure and maintain, in particular the "oil drum" bin which is emptied weekly by the Melksham Without Parish Council caretaker.

Melksham Without Parish Council suggest that option B is the preferred option for joining back up to the existing boundary as it follows an established field line with a hedgerow, whereas option A crosses an open field (both A & B follow existing Rights of Ways). *See map below.*

The land has several Rights of Ways within it, and these presumably would need to be renumbered from the Seend series to the MW series. The BR S17 would then be MW45 all the way to the canal, the section of S13 between the railway and the canal would need a new number, finally S18 would become a continuation of MW36. The section of canal towpath along the revised boundary would be MW16 instead of S52 over that length. (Due to these changes I have copied Paul Millard, Rights of Way Officer for West Wiltshire into the email for his information).

It is noted that no residential properties are affected.

Please note that BRAG have recently installed a series of benches in Bowerhill in the Melksham Without parish, and two benches – one either side of the brideway exit onto the canal footpath - in the parish of Seend.





I hope that this boundary review meets with the approval of Seend Parish Council and that you could let us know the view of Seend Parish Council in due course.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all at Melksham Without.  
Regards, Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
First Floor  
Crown Chambers  
7 Market Place  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6ES  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank

# BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Mary Jarvis B.A.Hons. (Local Policy)

Brambling Cottage,

78 The Common,

Broughton Gifford, Melksham,

Wiltshire SN12 8ND

Tel: 01225 782941 Email: [maryj@broughtoncommon.co.uk](mailto:maryj@broughtoncommon.co.uk)

[www.broughtongiffordparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.broughtongiffordparishcouncil.org.uk)

Office hours: Tues & Wed 2.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. Fri 9.30 – 1.00 p.m.

---

5<sup>th</sup> October 2015

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

Dear Mr Watling

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – MELKSHAM WITHOUT AND BROUGHTON GIFFORD LCP

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Broughton Gifford Parish Council OBJECTS to the proposal to give the lands common to the two parishes of Broughton Gifford and Melksham Without, to the Melksham Without parish for the following reasons:

1. These lands are a unique part of our parish and have been common to both parishes for many years without causing any problems to either party.
2. There are many other parish boundaries in Wiltshire that are not defined by a firm natural feature. The obsession with making everything uniform works against the individual characteristics and historical formation of the parishes.
3. Melksham Without is already the largest rural parish in Wiltshire and does not need these lands for any particular purpose.
4. No prior consultation took place with Broughton Gifford Parish Council as it did with Melksham Without and Melksham Town Councils. We found out about the proposal from Melksham Without initially, rather than Wiltshire Council as the Electoral Service for the area. As a Council we feel that the formulation of this proposal has therefore been biased in favour of one view. No reply was received to our letter of initial objection.
5. We understand that there is also a proposal being considered to make Melksham Town and Melksham Without one parish. Should this happen, the lands common to both parishes could change overnight from a very rural riverside meadow to part of the urban area of the Melksham Town parish

6. We understand that this area up to the river will in future be part of the overall planning site for the planned Wilts and Berks Canal development. Broughton parish would like to be involved in plans for this area, with a view to possibly benefitting in future by having a cycle bridge over the river to join up with a towpath/cycle path into Melksham Town. Having these lands common provides a good platform to work together for the benefit of both parishes.

Thank you for consulting with Broughton Gifford Parish Council.

Please would you let my Council know of any progress or outcomes in the Community Governance Review

Kind regards

Yours sincerely,

Mary Jarvis

Clerk



This page is intentionally left blank



4th April 2014

Economic Development and Planning  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

Ms Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
First Floor  
Crown Chambers  
7 Market Place  
Melksham  
Wiltshire SN12 6ES

Dear Ms Strange

## **Community Governance Review – Adjustment to the Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parishes**

I write in response to the letter sent to Dr Brand by Mary Jarvis on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Dr Brand has requested that I reply on his behalf. There are two matters raised in the letter, the first regarding the Community Governance Review and the second regarding the coalescence of Bowerhill with Melksham. I will respond to each matter in turn.

In terms of the Community Governance Review (CGR) that the Council is undertaking, this started on 1 April 2014 and will end March 2015. The CGR has been approved by Council and will be undertaken under a Working Party chaired by Cllr Stuart Wheeler. To that end we will be inviting comments on certain areas including many of the towns, based on requests we have received. The Council has a duty to consider all requests made, which includes a request regarding Melksham to consider boundaries.

Turning to the matter of coalescence, I understand that the 'possible development' of greenfield land referred to relates to a speculative proposal by a developer. Unfortunately, the Council cannot prevent developers submitting planning applications for land they wish to promote and will assess any applications on their merits against the policies within the adopted and emerging development plan for the area, as well as the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Council has committed to preparing a Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) to identify new housing sites, which will consider land at Melksham to meet the requirements of the Core Strategy and ensure sufficient land is identified for development in line with the emerging Wiltshire Core Strategy. This identifies 'Melksham and Bowerhill village' as a Market Town and states that "*Market Towns have the potential for significant development that will increase the jobs and homes in each town in order to help sustain and where necessary enhance their services and facilities and promote better levels of self containment and viable sustainable communities*" (Core

Policy 2). Core Policy 15, as recently proposed to be changed, requires about 2,240 new homes to be provided at Melksham over the period 2006 to 2026.

The Site Allocations DPD will involve an assessment of all potential site options for development around the town to identify the most sustainable options for growth. The Council considers that a plan led approach involving public consultation is the most appropriate mechanism to identify new sites at the town and will take into consideration factors including landscape constraints or allocated uses of land that may exist. In implementing the current version of the emerging Core Strategy consideration will also need to be given to paragraph 5.80, which states: *"it is recognised that both Berryfield and Bowerhill have functional relationships to Melksham and have important individual characteristics which should be protected, where practicable."*

I trust you will find this information of help.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alistair Cunningham', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alistair Cunningham  
Associate Director, Economic Development and Planning  
Direct line: 01225 713203  
Email: [alistair.cunningham@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.cunningham@wiltshire.gov.uk)

These Views are expressed by Melksham Seniors Executive Committee and Brian Warwick, Chair Melksham Community Seniors 55+ Forum, to the Wiltshire Council on Community Governance Review – October 2015

Comments are made on the basis of the "Guidance on community governance reviews" 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 this guidance which is issued by the Secretary of State, under section 100 (1) and (3), and the LGBCE under section 100 (2).

3. From 13 February 2008 .... Unitary County councils .... Have had responsibility for undertaking community governance reviews and have been able to decide whether to give effect to recommendations made in those reviews. In making that decision, they will need to take account of the views of local people.

Our views also take into account the submission of the Melksham Without Parish Council, which we fail to agree with, as it unlikely to provide the appropriate development of the desirable infrastructure to meet the needs of an expanding Melksham Community.

We are pleased that the County Council is carrying out wide consultation and seeking the views of residents and local organisations in Melksham as well as holding public meetings. Our local independent Newspaper in Melksham is also giving the public the opportunity to express their views and at the same time increasing the awareness of the importance of the review in the public domain at a low cost to the County purse.

We are also pleased that Melksham Town Council have also provided the public and local organisations with the opportunity to input their views during the period of their deliberations. It was the very wise views expressed by individuals and organisations on the economic opportunities and social benefits that we found to be of great value in helping members of our Forum to formulate our responses.

Melksham Town is a major retailing area with five six national supermarkets and a major department store, it also support a wide range of renowned restaurants, The three local surgeries are in close walking Town centre, as are the chemists and retailing establishments, even Melksham Without Parish Council recognise the importance of having their offices in the Town Centre because of the ideal geographical location in respect of the their dispersed communities. Having one Council would in our view create a closer social structure, particularly bearing in mind the majority of amenities are in the Town Centre and also the development and location of the campus in the centre of the Town, which will be serving all of Melksham.

There is also a desirable need to consider the wider issues around the Health and wellbeing of the the hard to reach members of our wider communities and the older people and disabled who are well served by the facilities within the Town compared with outlying communities, having one council would provide an opportunity to adopt a more strategic and economical opportunity to improve those services and links with the voluntary sector. Much has been made by Melksham Without in respect of their lower precept that of course is not a matter or consideration in this review, That fact however, that the Parish have referred to it, highlights the unfairness where close neighbours are actually subsidising many of the local amenities and facilities that all the local Melksham communities benefit from, though unfortunately they also fail to provide an equitable contribution to the local voluntary sector compared with support of the Town Council.

Yet, Melksham voluntary groups do not identify their level of support on Melksham Town or Melksham Without boundaries but on need and of serving the residents of Melksham without any discrimination as to parish or community boundaries. In fact, many of our own services and projects around social isolation are based on the needs of Melksham Without parish communities.

Melksham Seniors support services are provided on need, rather than based upon the Melksham Without support of reasonable equity per head in funding. This is making it extremely hard for the voluntary sector to provide the desirable levels of equitable services under the present boundary structures with the parish, with so few facilities and such low financial support for tackling loneliness and social isolation for they're ageing population.

The 2007 Act places a duty on principal authorities to have regard to the need to secure that any community governance for the area under review should reflect the identities and interests of the local community in that area, in the case of ONE council that would be the wider community as previously recognised in respect of Chippenham.

Whilst it is recognised that there is a distinct identities of the surrounding villages of Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill. They are all in fact individual communities with very little if any cohesion in its geographical structure other than historical for forming rural now outdated ring around Melksham Town which in 2015 provides their main retailing and allied services, alongside the majority of social infrastructure other than small village halls and school buildings and in the case of Bowerhill a soon to be defunct leisure centre.

A cohesive community is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities. We believe that a one Melksham council would best serve those needs. That the villages and all the local communities would still be able to readily maintain their local identities and these could be further enhanced by naming each new electoral ward by their chosen community name. The local Village Halls would also continue to be known as their chosen name as would local voluntary groups, exactly in the same way as similar long established local communities in Melksham Town, such as Forest and Queensway which have retained that close community identity without any problems. Forest of course going back more than 100" years. We are also mindful of the County devolution plan to ensure the town councils and community groups are cost effective and sharpens the focus of public services, brings in additional resources and achieves better outcomes. With local grant funding currently leveraging in £6 of community resources for every £1 awarded, one council would be better able to achieve that goal.

Principal councils have a duty to consider the wider picture of community governance in carrying out their reviews. In some areas there may be well established forms of community governance such as local residents' associations, or community forums which local people have set up and make a distinct contribution to the community, there is no reason what so ever that could not be further developed and even enhanced.

Throughout England local communities have retained and in some cases improved those links as a result of mergers. We also believe that the quality of life in our community can be enhanced for older people by a more cohesive community wide strategy in which the supply, design and location of homes are appropriate for the opportunities and challenges of later life; and in which decisions around the built environment and transport, cultural and leisure services create places in which growing old is a pleasure rather than a continuous battle because of a lack of strategic support. Melksham Seniors Forum is an excellent example of developing a strong Melksham cohesive community group without the constrains of the parish boundaries. The senior forum would not however be able to provide the regular ageing better active ageing activities and films shows, along with projects tackling loneliness and social isolation without the community infrastructure the Town provide and the £1,500 grant we received from Melksham Town, that is compared with the Melksham Without grant of £100, which does not even cover the community transport cost which is incurred for three activity events for older people living in the parish area's of Melksham.

The use of the Melksham Assembly Hall and the Town Hall for seniors projects and activities alongside the uses by many other community groups, clearly demonstrates that Older People in the Parish of Melksham Without, would not adequately have their social and active ageing support needs fully met without the use of the facilities provided by the Town and the welcome support of the Town precept.

We are of the view that there an extremely strong case for ONE council in Melksham to provide the right economical, commercial and health and well-being support which will assist in enhancing our community social structure for different generations, which will be needed even more as the Population of the Town grows. We believe there is a need to ensure that the right infrastructures will be able to be put in place to serve those needs by having one council , which would be more appropriately equipped to plan and cater for the needs of future generations. The present council structures would unlikely be able to provide the right level of dynamism to create the right cohesive community structure that meets the needs of an expanding and hopefully vibrant expanding community.

Brian Warwick & Melksham Community Seniors 55 + Forum.

This page is intentionally left blank

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 4 NOVEMBER 2015 AT ASSEMBLY HALL - MELKSHAM ASSEMBLY HALL, MARKET PLACE, MELKSHAM, SN12 6ES.**

**Present:**

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

**Also Present:**

Ian Gibbons  
John Watling  
Paul Taylor  
Jessica Croman

---

**1 Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel.

**2 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.

Cllr Jon Hubbard raised an objection due to the inadequate notification of the meeting. A leaflet distributed by Wiltshire Council did not provide the relevant information and made no reference to the meeting date, time or venue.

**3 Proposals**

Maps were presented showing the proposals.

**3a Snarlton Lane/ Thyme Road Area**

Comments in support:

Alan Baines – Woodrow resident

- It's the fourth time Melksham Town Council have expanded into the rural parish
- Logical development of a growing town
- Boundaries should follow distinct boundaries – the boundary is clear here. The eastern expansion road is clear boundary although it does not have planning consent, if it had consent then logical.

#### 4 **Whole Parish Merger**

Comments in support:

Bruce Sanders – Melksham Town Council

- The review is not about changing community identities as all areas will retain their identity
- The merger will enhance governance for the whole of Melksham and surrounding villages
- Currently issues affecting Melksham TC and Melksham Without are discussed separately and information is not being shared
- Melksham Without is not providing some facilities that Melksham TC can provide
- There is constant negotiation and the two councils are not working effectively and efficiently.
- One council can do a better job than two separate councils.

Terry Welsh – Melksham Town Council

- Rural buffer zone – always desire to keep the buffer zone
- Bowerhill is its own community, but Melksham has long established communities within Melksham and have built their own facilities. Eg Queensway community
- Communities can keep their own identity
- Melksham Town Council understands the needs of the rural communities
- Each area will have their own Cllrs to represent them.

Mick West – Neighbourhood Plan

- The Town Council and Melksham Without Town Council are composing a plan to keep developers away
- Identity of communities are crucial to the plan
- Other towns all have communities within communities but how are they represented? Some have decision making powers some do not



- If the councils do not join then the parishes are not big enough to be recognised because separately they cannot be provided with more facilities such as hospitals etc.
- Majority of people in the communities are new comers and do not understand where their council tax goes and do not care
- People want efficient services do not care otherwise

Comments against:

Michelle Tall – Chair of Cause for Whitley and Shaw

- The review is all about identity
- The councils can meet and talk about issues to make it work. Get people together. That is not an excuse to merge.
- Do not support
- Melksham Without do a great job and fulfil the needs of the villages
- Without Melksham Without our group would not have happened
- The needs of Melksham town would overtake the surrounding small villages
- People in the villages do care and that is why people are here at the meeting today.

Cllr Mike Mills – Melksham Without Parish Council - Bowerhill Resident

- Oppose plans
- Live in Bowerhill and have spoken to many people, no-one is in support of the proposal
- Solid community spirit
- The area was nominated as the best kept large village in the past and shows that people take great pride in their area
- The area has its own facilities
- Core strategy recognises Bowerhill as an individual area and planning has been refused based on that.

Teresa strange – Clerk - Melksham Without

- Identity of communities is essential – communities need to be effective and convenient for residents – should not be about saving costs
- If there is a full merger the focus will become town centric
- Villages should be utilised more and the Town Council do not do that.
- If merged then will the villages still have the same representation?
- A merger may be cheaper but will not necessarily be better for everyone.

Additional comments:

Phil Mcmillan – Melksham Community Partnership

- Currently groups are able to go to both Melksham Without and Melksham Town Council to apply for grants. Will the grant pot remain the same?
  - Unable to answer

Ian Cardy – Resident

- What will the representation of a whole merged council look like?
- Currently there are 15, would that be doubled? Or would the numbers be reduced?
- This is key information to amalgamation
- All areas need to be represented fairly
  - These are proposals put forward by the Town Council – if accepted then it would be necessary to re-ward the area. That is a separate exercise and would be looked at if that happens. It will not happen until Full Council decides on the merger

John Clover – Parish Cllr - Bowerhill Resident

- Schools and facilities like hospitals is nothing to do with the size of parishes but based on the whole population

## 5 **A365 and Dunch Lane Junction**

No comments

## 6 **Seend, Locking Close and the Canal**

Comments in support:

Chairman Bowerhill Nature Group

- The current boundary follows the old railway line and closed a long time ago
- It makes sense to move and tidy up the boundary
- The Bridal way is funded by s106 money by Bowerhill
- Bowerhill get grants from Melksham Without to maintain the area
- If we want any facilities we have to ask Seend for permission
- Want to ensure area stays a rural area

Teresa Strange – Clerk Melksham Without

- Melksham Without Parish Council current contribute a lot of time and money to the area
- Delighted to share the area and would Seend like to contribute funds?

Comments against:

Cllr Seed – Cllr for Seend Parish Council

- The Seend Parish Council met recently to discuss the proposal and the message was clear, we do not support the proposal
- The picnic area is within the boundary and so what, the whole area is for public use. The grant came from Melksham AB so for all people
- Other bridal ways are not shown on the map
- Charles wood was paid for by the Charles family who live on the other side of the canal. They are concerned that the land should not be split up. Want to keep it all in Seend. Charles wood should be kept in Seend
- Why stop on that bridal way? Why not carry the boundary along the whole canal? Because Melksham put a picnic area there without knowing it wasn't their land, but so what it's for everyone.

Tony Merch – Seend PC

- Seend Parish welcome sharing of the area
- No compelling reasons to change the boundary
- Fears of the land being developed
- Provides a rural buffer between areas
  - Boundaries have no significance by planning

Seend Resident

- If the boundary is changed how will Seend be affected?
- Melksham is growing which is making the villages worried
- Seend want a rural life and want to stay there not be closer to the growing development

**7 Land Between Berryfield Lane and River Avon**

No comments

**8 Close**

The Chairman thanked all those present for their attendance.

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 8.00 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Jessica Croman, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718262 , e-mail [jessica.croman@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jessica.croman@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2015 AT MELKSHAM OAK COMMUNITY SCHOOL.

#### Present:

Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Ian Gibbons, John Watling and Will Oulton

---

#### 1 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel. It was noted that Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Ernie Clarke had been unable to attend this meeting.

#### 2 **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. In making his presentation, the Chairman highlighted the following issues:

- That the Council was obliged to review boundaries where requests had been received.
- That all political groups were represented on the Working Group which would formulate proposals to be put to the meeting of the Full Council.
- The statutory guidance that had be given, and the key considerations that should be referred to in the deliberations;
- The Chair drew the meeting's attention the FAQs in the agenda papers;
- That the purpose of the meeting is to explain the proposals and to seek views;

That the Working Group intended to present recommendations to the November meeting of Council;

The Chairman emphasised that when the recommendations were considered by Council, he would not vote on the matter, so as to mitigate the appearance of bias; he also noted that none of the parishes in his division were subject to any reviews and that therefore he could take dispassionate view during the deliberations of the Working Group.

The Chairman invited Ian Gibbons, Wiltshire Council's Monitoring Officer, to reiterate the advice he had given throughout the process, with regard to the position of members in relation to discussion and the provisions of bias and predetermination, with regard to formulation of recommendations. It was specifically noted that Cllr Jon Hubbard would withdraw from the Working Groups debate of any proposals that affected parishes within his division or parish for which he is a member but that Cllr Jon Hubbard would be able to debate and vote as a Wiltshire Councillor when the matter was considered by the meeting of Full Council. Mr Gibbons emphasised that the Council had satisfied itself that the process thus followed was in accordance with a law.

The Chairman stated that the Working Group would hold a meeting in Assembly Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> October and 4<sup>th</sup> November, the latter scheduled in response to criticism that the first two meetings had not been adequately publicised.

The Chairman noted that the Working Group had received a full submission by Melksham WO Parish Council in response to proposals.

### **3 Proposals**

John Watling presented the maps showing the proposals. In summary the Working Group has looking at two options; the merger of the two parishes; or the 4 smaller schemes to be considered as an alternative.

At the meeting the agenda order was amended so that the larger scheme was presented and discussed first.

### **4 Whole Parish Merger**

Bruce Sanders – Melksham Town Council

- That Bowerhill is not an old estate, and is relatively modern, and that he did not agree that Bowerhill that lose its identify;
- That the Melksham Town Council and Melksham WO could share resources, and work together more on common causes doing more for the community;
- That a merged Council would be better able to bear the burden of more devolved responsibilities; and

- That Melksham Town Council should benefit from new housing developments on the edge of the town.

Steve Gray - resident of Bowerhill and employee of Town Council

- That he was proud to live in Bowerhill, but he saw it as part of Melksham town; and
- That he wanted to see more working together and merger is best way to do that.

**Comments against:**

Cllr Mike Mills - Bowerhill and Berryhill Ward in Melksham Without Parish Council

- That he had not found a single resident of Bowerhill in favour of merger;
- That Bowerhill has clear village identity and boundaries, with its own school, hall, and action group doing environment work; and
- Bowerhill had been identified as a separate community in Wiltshire Council's Core Strategy, which recognised that there is a rural buffer that protects the distinct boundary.

Cll John Glover – Melksham Without Parish Council

- Thanked the legal officer for his advice, and the clarity on the position of members with interests;
- That the parish of Melksham Without is divided by clear boundaries i.e. the roads and open countryside;
- That the villages have their own identity from Melksham and from each other, and that each has their own village and community facilities, some provided by the parish; and
- That he saw no benefit to the merger, as the Councils do work together already, separately, on the Local Planning issues.

Cll Richard Wood – Melksham Without Parish Council

- That Melksham Without Parish Council and the Town Council work well when it is needed;
- That he did not feel there will be a huge savings arising from a merger; and
- That Melksham Without Parish Council had made proposals were the boundary could change to take into account of proposed new housing.

Bob Whiffing – Bowerhill resident and Scout Leader

- That Bowerhill had separate troop, which was an indication of different community identity;

- That he was concerned that the merger would benefit Melksham Town Council more than the communities of Melksham Without Parish Council;

Chris Eileen – Bowerhill Resident;

- That he had concern of the impact on building.

Cllr Stuart Wheeler stated, in response to an issue raised, that Parish Council boundaries do not have a significant impact on planning applications; but that can be relevant to the development of neighbourhood plans.

## 5 **Snarlton Lane/ Thyme Road Area (Melksham Without)**

### **Comments in support:**

Cllr Alan Baines – Woodrow Road Resident, and Melksham Without Parish Council

- That the overhead powerline should mean that land near it may not be developed;
- That the new distributor road is a firm boundary; and
- That any new development would be well connected to the town, with residents using some facilities in the town

Cllr Rolf Brindel – Spa Road Resident, and Melksham Without Parish Council

- That he feels that Bowerhill has a separate identity; and
- That the proposed Eastern Road clearly defines the boundary for the eastern edge of the town.

### **Comments against:**

There were no further comments.

Cllr Stuart Wheeler stated, in response to an issue raised, and with reference the guidance, that the working group can consider evidence of likely population movements arising from potential development, and was not restricted to considering the impact of housing with planning permission.

## 6 **A365 and Dunch Lane Junction**

### **Comments in support:**

Cllr Richard Wood – Melksham Without Parish Council

- That the old boundary had followed an old estate boundary; and
- That it was an anomaly and needs to be moved to one parish.



**Comments against:**

There were no further comments.

**7 Seend, Locking Close and the Canal**

Cllr Mike Mills – Chair of Bowerhill Action Group, and Melksham Without Parish Council

- That the bridle path had been paid for by s106 agreement;
- That there is a community run picnic area on the land;
- That Seend Parish Council did not appear to be interested in managing the land; and
- That the Canal is the sensible boundary.

Teresa Strange – Melksham Without Parish Council

- That the Parish Council need to ask permission from Seend Parish Council to then collect rubbish on Seend's land.

**Comments against:**

Cllr Kevin Rigg – Seend Parish Council

- That he had replied to the consultation and was opposed to what he saw as a land grab;
- That he saw the land as a buffer between to the two villages, and had concerns over the impact of its removal on community identity;
- That in general, there is substantial investment in the community and large number of developments in the pipeline;
- That if the town continues to grow, then it may make sense to merge the councils, but until a plan is more clear supports Bowerhill remaining separate.

Steve Valks – Member of Seend Planning Group

- Land is important in Seend's Plan, concerned over negative impact.

**8 Land Between Berryfield Lane and River Avon**

**Comments in support:**

Cllr Alan Baines – Woodrow Road Resident, and Melksham Without Parish Council

- That it makes sense that it is joined to Melksham WO as that is the authority to the East of the river

**Comments against:**

There were no further comments.

**9 Close**

The Chairman informed the meeting that recommendations will be taken to the Full council meeting on the 24 November.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and drew attention to the additional meetings to be held in the Assembly Hall Melksham on the 21 October and 4 November.

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 8.07 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

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 2015 AT ASSEMBLY HALL - MELKSHAM ASSEMBLY HALL, MARKET PLACE, MELKSHAM, SN12 6ES.**

**Present:**

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard, Cllr Ian McLennan and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

**Also Present:**

John Watling  
Ian Gibbons  
Paul Taylor  
Fiona Rae

---

**10 Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed those present and introduced the panel.

**11 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.

**12 Proposals**

Maps were presented showing the proposals.

**12a Snarlton Lane/ Thyme Road Area**

**Comments in support:**

Nick Westbrook

- The new community in this area has been created in a similar way to Bowerhill. Most of the population is concentrated in two blocks and we

need to find ways of absorbing them into the wider community.

Lisa Ellis

- As a resident of Bowerhill, doesn't particularly identify with that area. Would you consider merging the area to the south?
- Cllr Wheeler: can only look at proposals in front of us for now. But alternative proposals could be suggested in the future.

John Glover

- Melksham Without suggested and support this proposal.

**Comments against:**

None.

**Additional comments/ questions:**

Richard Bean

- Resident of Shaw.
- A large number of houses about to be built between Shaw and Shurnhold. Will be large population expansion if Melksham town have to absorb them.

**13 Whole Parish Merger**

**Comments in support:**

Paul Carter, resident of Melksham

- Concerns about governance if the whole merger were to go ahead. Believes that Melksham would be best served by one council.
- All Wiltshire Council-owned assets in the area should be transferred to the parish council – e.g. playing fields, toilets. Then residents of town can decide what is best for the town. Stronger form of democracy.
- Cllr Stuart Wheeler clarified that this review does not deal with transfer of assets.

Terri Welsh, Melksham Town Council

- Melksham Town Council has to pay for Assembly Hall, etc. Wiltshire Council is transferring more services to the community.
- The bigger the area, the better the community will be placed to deal with increased financial pressures.

Adrienne Westbrook

- It is important that Melksham has a strong voice. At the moment, the voice is disjointed. Excellent councils but disjointed voices of inhabitants.
- The Town and Parish councils don't have the power needed to help Wiltshire Council put the money in this town. The only solution is through strength. Need united council.

Nick Westbrook, Melksham Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Community Area Partnership

- Size of Melksham when combined – population of 28,000 – just behind Chippenham. Third largest area in county excepting Salisbury.
- There are some governance concerns in Melksham Without. Will the proposal for a single council involve re-warding area so there is a fairer distribution of representation for the area – especially Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre etc? This information about the consequences of the merger is needed in order to make an informed decision, taking representation and precepts into account.
- Cllr Wheeler explained that if the whole parish merger was adopted by full council, the panel would then request authority to consider the area, including how it would be warded and what an appropriate number of councillors would be, in consultation with councils. It was also explained that the next elections were in May 2017 and no changes to boundaries would be made before then.
- Cllr Wheeler: precepts – government conditions – cannot take into account different precepts. Should not and cannot form part of deliberations. It was also explained that, under FAQs, there is information about precepts and variation and that the panel cannot predict the effect of proposals on precepts.

Brian Warwick, Older Persons' Champion, Melksham Seniors

- One council will overcome some equity and equality issues.
- Concerned about infrastructure side. Facilities required to service any community are closely linked to community identity. Majority of facilities are in Melksham Town Council.
- Seniors cover whole Melksham Area Board area – majority of activities are biased to town (52% in Melksham Town, 48% Melksham Without). There would be advantages for Melksham people if there were just one council.
- Opportunity to put right structures and support in place. Stronger voice for Melksham – focus on people of Melksham, support and facilities – one council speaking on our behalf. Need to be very positive and think about the future of Melksham.
- Strong community identity – from 'Melksham'. E.g. grants are given to out-of-parish areas.

Janet Giles, Seend resident

- If the whole merger goes ahead, would the secondary bits still happen?
- Cllr Wheeler explained that he did not want to anticipate the full council decision. But if whole merger was decided, the other proposals would likely be looked at again.

Elizabeth Bean, Shaw resident

- No idea of other people's comments or the bigger picture regarding the consultation. Would it be possible to make this a vote/ referendum?
- Cllr Wheeler explained that the decision was reserved to full council. NB he would not be voting on any of the proposals. Can contact unitary councillors. There will be a summary of responses.

Graham Ellis, Melksham Without resident

- Disappointed that the proposals don't look ahead to what local representation would be. Worries from some members of the public could be mitigated with some more information about this.
- There is very little funding for transport projects in Melksham – would argue that this is partly due to smaller size of Melksham. Combining numbers would help deal with this.

**Comments against:**

Alan Baines, Melksham Without Parish Council

- Advantages of large council are dubious. Almost creating a district – why stop there? Why not include Atworth, Broughton Gifford, Seend etc. But we had those previously before the creation of Wiltshire Unitary Council.
- The proposals will be Melksham centric. Qualities of smaller villages are being threatened – would be urban dominated council.
- Local Government Boundary Commission advice suggests (clause 114) that it may be preferable to group parishes to form common parish council. Creation of new parishes or abolition of very small parishes would be inappropriate to create an artificially large unit. E.g. Wiltshire doesn't include Swindon. Big difference between urban and rural areas. This proposal would create an artificially large unit.
- Separate urban voice and rural voice and balance between the two is very important. Melksham Without covers largest rural area in Wiltshire. Creates an artificially large unit, retrograde step.

John Glover

- In Melksham Without, different villages have their own identities, e.g. own village halls.

- There are limitations placed on councils and how much they can give out in grants – 2 councils doesn't equal 2x the grant.
- Some residents from Bowerhill commented that they did not identify with Melksham and believed that residents from other outlying areas would feel the same.
- Melksham Without provides a voice for the villages around Melksham. Some residents believed that this voice would be lost with the merger.
- Bowerhill has clearly designated boundaries and clear identity. People are proud to live there.

**Additional comments/ questions:**

Colin Goodhind, Longford Road resident

- Was in support of whole merger as it would be better funded, easier for people to understand. Needs to know what the opportunity will be to find out more information about re-warding and costs to local people.

John McNeilage, Shaw resident

- Confusion over the whole merger. Would like to know how many councillors would be in the new plan or the new ward layout. Without an idea of what the proposals would entail, people would be very uncomfortable in providing positive feedback.

14 **A365 and Dunch Lane Junction**

**Comments in support:**

Mr Bean

- Clear distinction of where boundary should run. Added advantage that it brings in more money to the town council.
- Current boundary goes through field – houses are already in the town. No change for them.

John McNeilage

- In favour of the logical and obvious new boundary.

**Comments against:**

None.

**Additional comments/ questions:**

Brian Warwick

- Hopes it will be very clear where boundary lines are and where individual properties are.
- Unclear splits have caused lots of problems in the past and it is always better not to split communities.

## 15 **Seend, Locking Close and the Canal**

### **Comments in support:**

Teresa Strange

- Picnic area in the proposed change area – developed solely by a Bowerhill group, including the maintenance of the site. Also funded by Melksham Without Parish Council. If the area of land was within Melksham Without, there would be more convenient and effective local services: volunteers would be covered under insurance, and Melksham Without would no longer have to ask Seend permission to go on land.
- Parish boundaries should align to obvious physical boundaries which the proposal ensures.

John Glover

- There is no reason why 3d and 3e cannot be decided alongside any decision of whether there is a whole merger.

### **Comments against:**

Janet Giles

- Other proposals concerned new property builds, large number. This change of land must mean that there are plans for a new development. Cllr Wheeler clarified that parish boundaries have nothing to do with planning permissions.
- Doesn't want to lose part of parish, no logical reason – all parishes are different sizes.
- It is a very small area.
- Doesn't want to have to ask permission to go on land. It was clarified that Janet Giles wouldn't have to ask permission to go on her land.

### **Additional comments/ questions:**

Mary Jarvis

- Create an area of land common to Seend and Melksham Without – both sets of residents enjoy usage of the area.



16 **Land Between Berryfield Lane and River Avon**

**Comments in support:**

Brian Warwick

- The proposal would overcome problems of ownership.

**Comments against:**

Mary Jarvis, Clerk of Broughton Gifford

- Defensive of territory. Think it's a splendid anomaly. Thinks that landscape will change anyway with the canal – the canal could be another physical feature to determine parish boundaries.
- Would prefer it to be left as it is.

**Additional comments/ questions:**

None.

17 **Close**

(Duration of meeting: 7.00 - 8.00 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Fiona Rae, of Democratic Services

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

This page is intentionally left blank



# Melksham Town Council

Town Hall, Melksham, Wiltshire, SN12 6ES

Tel: (01225) 704187

Email: townhall@melkshamtown.co.uk



Cllr Jane Scott OBE  
Leader – Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

1 July 2013

Dear Councillor Scott,

**Re: Community Governance Review**

Melksham Town Council believes that the parish boundary between Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Council has become anomalous in the light of recent housing development particularly on land to the east of the town.

Indeed, you may recall that the degree of confusion over the boundary between Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council initially resulted in incorrect tax base figures being provided by Wiltshire Council to the two councils for the purposes of determining the appropriate budget and precept requirement for 2012/2013.

Representations concerning the unsatisfactory Melksham/Melksham Without boundary issue have already been made to Dr Carlton Brand by letter dated 22 February 2012, and his response of 1 March 2012 is attached to this letter for your information.

As you will be aware, the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 devolved the power to take decisions relating to the creation or abolition of parishes; the boundaries of parishes; and the electoral arrangements of parish councils, to principal councils who have the responsibility for undertaking Community Governance Reviews and deciding whether to implement any recommendations made in those reviews.

The Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in 2010 by The Local Government Boundary Commission on behalf of the DCLG recognises that making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes will ensure that community governance arrangements continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. The Guidance recognises that over time communities may expand with new housing developments which can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances, it is suggested that the council should consider undertaking a community governance review, the terms

of reference of which should include consideration of the boundaries of existing parishes in order to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features.

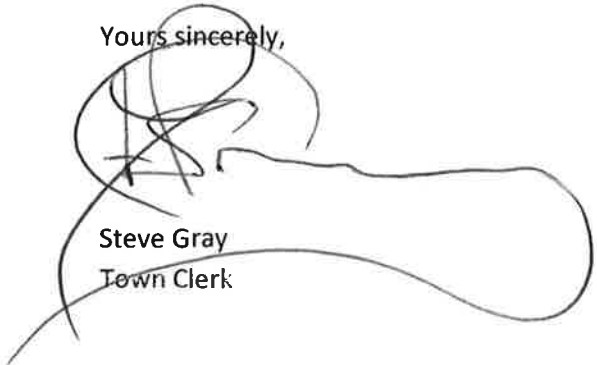
At Melksham Town Council's Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on 24 June 2013, Councillors reaffirmed their belief that the Melksham town boundary had become anomalous in the light of recent housing development and sought to impress upon Wiltshire Council the urgent need to undertake a Community Governance Review that would encompass and address this situation. In that vein, Melksham Town Council passed the following resolution:

*Further to the commitment made by Wiltshire Council that following the 2013 elections it would reconsider the issue of Community Governance Reviews to ensure that existing developments are allocated to the most appropriate parish, town or city council and that boundaries therefore better relate to a sense of place and community, could Wiltshire Council confirm to Melksham Town Council how it intends to take forward that commitment?*

Melksham Town Council would be grateful for, and looks forward to, your response in due course.

Thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Gray  
Town Clerk

1 March 2012

County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
TROWBRIDGE  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

Mr S Gray  
Town Clerk  
Melksham Town Council  
Town Hall  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6ES

Dear Mr Gray

Thank you for your letter of 22 February regarding the boundary between Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council.

I have forwarded your letter to John Watling, Head of Electoral Services. John will contact you directly to discuss this further.

We recognise that there is a degree of uncertainty about boundaries as there has been a lot of development on the boundaries between four of the parish wards. John and his team will be happy to go through this with you.

However, I understand that any alteration to boundaries will require a governance review and Council agreed that any such reviews would take place after the 2013 elections.

I hope that this is helpful.

I will ask John to contact you to discuss your concerns. In the meantime, if you would like more information please contact him on 01249 706599 or by email [john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.watling@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely



Dr Carlton Brand  
Corporate Director

This page is intentionally left blank



## MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Teresa Strange

First Floor, Crown Chambers  
7 Market Place, Melksham  
Wiltshire. SN12 6ES  
Tel/Fax: 01225 705700

Email: [clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
Web: [www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2014

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

Dear Mr Watling

### RE: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Further to your correspondence about the commencement of a Community Governance Review please find the Parish Council's initial response.

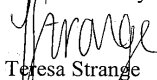
As previously expressed in a letter to Dr Carlton Brand (dated 28<sup>th</sup> March 2014) following a letter from Melksham Town Council suggesting that talks begin with a view to amalgamating the two parishes, the Parish Council agreed not to pursue this invitation.

While the Council accepts that a boundary revision is required to take in the new development east of Melksham which is constructed mainly outside the current boundary of Melksham Town, and also considers that the whole school site (ex George Ward) proposed for housing development should all be within the Town's boundary; the Parish Council cannot see any reason at all to explore the amalgamation of the two Melksham parishes.

Melksham Without is primarily a rural parish with a variety of villages and communities. These range from such ancient settlements as Beanacre and Shaw to the more modern village of Bowerhill. All the settlements are separate from the town and are far more rural area than the town and distinct as village communities.

The Parish Council looks forward to hearing from you in more detail as the Community Governance Review progresses.

Yours sincerely

  
Teresa Strange  
Clerk

Serving rural communities around Melksham



First in Wiltshire

This page is intentionally left blank





MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL  
Clerk: Mrs Mary Jarvis BA Hons. (Local Policy)

First Floor, Crown Chambers  
7 Market Place, Melksham  
Wiltshire. SN12 6ES  
Tel/Fax: 01225 705700

Email: [mary.jarvis@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:mary.jarvis@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
Web: [www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

28th March 2014

Dr. Carlton Brand,  
Corporate Director,  
Wiltshire Council,  
County Hall,  
TROWBRIDGE,  
Wilts. BA14 8HD

Dear Dr Brand

**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – ADJUSTMENTS TO THE  
MELKSHAM TOWN AND MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISHES**

Melksham Without Parish Council recently received a letter from Melksham Town Council to suggest that talks begin with a view to amalgamating our two parishes. This matter was discussed at a Special Meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> March when my Council unanimously agreed NOT to pursue this invitation

I am therefore writing to emphasise that while as a Council we accept that a boundary revision is required to take in the new development east of Melksham which has been constructed mainly outside the current boundary of Melksham Town, my Council cannot see any reason at all to explore the amalgamation of the two Melksham parishes.

Melksham Without is primarily a rural parish with a variety of villages and communities. These range from such ancient settlements as Beanacre and Shaw to the more modern village of Bowerhill. All the settlements are separate from the town and are far more rural areas than the town and distinct as village communities.

Melksham Without Parish Council also wishes to emphasise its opposition to seeking to make Bowerhill and Berryfield part of the town. Both these villages are sustainable communities in their own right. Bowerhill for example has its own Community Hall, Sports Field, School, Shops, 2 play areas as well as many village community groups. Berryfield too has its own village hall and village association and allotments.

## **COALESCENCE THREAT - BOWERHILL & MELKSHAM**

The Parish Council is particularly dismayed to find out in the last few days that consultation is taking place re possible development on the green land between Bowerhill and Melksham town. *See enclosed leaflet.* How has this been possible, given that at least half of this land was allocated in the West Wilts. Local Development Framework as recreational land? If development were to take place on the two fields being put forward, there would be complete coalescence of Bowerhill with the town; a situation vigorously opposed by the people of Bowerhill. The draft Core Strategy was also adjusted by the Inspector at its recent examination to ensure Bowerhill is cited as a village. It cannot remain a village if it has no visual green space around it.

My Council therefore seeks immediate confirmation from your Department that the past and present policies which are designed to protect this most important green visual gap between Bowerhill and the town are still in place and are being applied. How is that a proposed development between Bowerhill and Melksham is being put forward when the latest edition of the Core Strategy states 5.80 Pg 86 : *The identity of these separate communities will need to be preserved through the planning process. ?*

Such development too would also spoil the visual setting of The Spa buildings; one of Melksham's few historic settings. The Core Strategy 5.80 (Pg 86) also states: *Development at Melksham should protect the historic environment and in particular should protect the historic setting of The Spa.* Apart from one field being designated as recreational land in the WW Local Development Framework, both these fields are extremely important visually to retain an appropriate setting for the large Spa buildings that are surely the most prominent feature of Melksham as one drives along A365 toward the town.

Please would you therefore confirm as soon as possible and before our next Council Planning Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> April that not only does Wiltshire Council recognise the importance of preventing any coalescence between Bowerhill village and the town but will be proactively opposing this development.

Thank you for your help in this matter. We look forward to hearing from you. Please note I am stepping down as Clerk today so please would you address your reply to the new Clerk Ms. Teresa Strange.  
Yours sincerely,

Mary Jarvis  
Clerk  
Encl.

Copies to: John Watling, Deputy Returning Officer & Head of Electoral Services  
Alistair Cunningham, Director Economic Dev. & Planning Services  
Mike Wilmott, Senior Planning Officer, Wiltshire Council

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Response of Melksham Without Parish Council to Wiltshire Council on Community Governance Review – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

Comments against the "Guidance on community governance reviews" 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 this guidance which is issued by the Secretary of State, under section 100 (1) and (3), and the LGBCE under under section 100 (2).

**3. From 13 February 2008 .... Unitary county councils .... Have had responsibility for undertaking community governance reviews and have been able to decide whether to give effect to recommendations made in those reviews. In making that decision, they will need to take account of the views of local people.**

The Parish Council query how Wiltshire Council are seeking the views of local people if they are not contacting them directly by letter, as they are doing in other areas of Wiltshire under review? The Parish Council understand that the cost of writing to all residents of Melksham and Melksham Without was cited as the reason for not writing a letter to each household; but the Parish Council query this as a legitimate reason for not writing. In addition the population against both parishes is circa 20,000 which gives a cost of postage of £10,800 for sending 2<sup>nd</sup> class plus an element for stationery (even lower for franked mail or via a specialist company); and therefore question the quoted figure of £20,000 that was given at the Wiltshire Full Council meeting.

By distributing a leaflet to residents via the Melksham Independent News that is delivered the day after the two public meetings is not effectively seeking views. Wiltshire Council could have found out when the deadline and issue dates for the newspaper was, and set the meetings accordingly. At present public meetings in Melksham and Melksham Without are for Tues 20<sup>th</sup> October and Weds 21<sup>st</sup> October with the newspaper issue dated Weds 21<sup>st</sup> October of which most homes receive a delivery on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and some over the following days. The Parish Council therefore request that these meetings are put back by a fortnight to the beginning of November. (NB: The Council have been notified on 15/10/15 that an additional meeting will be held on Weds 4<sup>th</sup> November, again in the Town and not in the villages of Melksham Without but the meetings on 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

October are still to go ahead). It is noted that not all homes in Melksham Without are covered by the Melksham Independent News (e.g. Redstocks, Sandridge) or to some homes covered by the boundary reviews with those parishes on the outer ring of the Melksham Without boundary namely Seend and Broughton Gifford. There are local village publications, but the timescales are so short that the Parish Council is unable to advertise the meetings in the Bowerhill Villager (published monthly) and the Shaw & Whitley Connect (published every two months).

Melksham Town Council have provided no evidence that their request for both the Town and Parish Councils to be dissolved and a new Council to be created is as a result of the views of local people; or that they sought the views of local people before making the request.

**8. b) ..... the 2007 Act places a duty on principal authorities to have regard to the need to secure that any community governance for the area under review reflects the identities and interests of the local community in that area, and that it is effective and convenient; relevant considerations which influence judgements against these two principal criteria include the impact on community cohesion, and the size, population and boundaries of the proposed area:**

The Parish Council consider that they have a unique understanding of the distinct character of the 5 separate villages/areas in the Melksham Without Parish and that the dissolution of the Parish Council and the creation of a new Council with the Town & Without parishes together will mean that the separate, distinct identities of the villages of Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill and the East of Melksham housing development will be diluted and threaten their community cohesion. A cohesive community is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities.

Villagers feel passionately about retaining their village identities, so ably demonstrated by the strength of feeling at recent planning committee meetings when residents gathered together to protest against the recommendation of SHLAA sites (Strategic Housing Land Allocation Assessments) that could lead to the coalescence of Shaw with Whitley and of both to Melksham (see Mins 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015 MWPC Full Council meeting) and of that of the potential of coalescing Bowerhill with Melksham (see comments against planning application for "Pathfinder Way" W/14/04846 refused); the prevention of coalescence is also supported by the Core

Strategy. These separate village identities are recognized and encouraged by Melksham Without Parish Council who engage and support with grant funding the variety of action groups such as BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group), BASRAG (Berryfield and Semington Road Action Group) and CAWS (Community Action: Whitley & Shaw). There is a real danger that their voice will be lost if they became part of a much bigger boundary with areas of the town that are more densely populated having a louder voice. Melksham Without regularly conducts public consultation exercises in these distinct areas to seek their views, for example in Shaw & Whitley on 11th July 2015 and in Bowerhill on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015, and would query if this depth of seeking views in these areas would continue if the villages were to become part of a bigger town and parish area. The parish council also provide grant funding for local village magazines/newsletters in the parish including the Bowerhill Villager, the Shaw & Whitley Connect magazine and newsletters published by BASRAG (Berryfield and Semington Road Action Group).

The community cohesion in Bowerhill is very strong, demonstrated by the very good work of BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group); which has just been recognized as "outstanding" by the RHS It's Your Neighbourhood awards in September 2015, and yet the work they do in setting up, maintaining and developing the picnic area and bridleway at the Canalside is supported in practical and monetary ways by Melksham Without Parish Council despite the area being in the parish of Seend. The Parish Council provide grant funding for BRAG to enable them to obtain public liability insurance to cover their volunteers; they take on new assets to ensure ongoing maintenance and insurance cover and even provide the services of their Parish Caretaker to empty the large bin provided, on a weekly basis. The people of Bowerhill clearly have taken "ownership" of this area and the suggestion of the Melksham Without Parish Council is that the boundary should be moved to ensure that this land, on the opposite side of the canal from Seend, should be in Melksham Without, in the Bowerhill & Beanacre Ward. This does not affect any housing, but would address the fact that Melksham Without Parish Council already services the area.

**15. In many cases making changes to the boundaries of existing parishes, rather than creating an entirely new parish, will be sufficient to ensure that community governance arrangements to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. For example, over**

**time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours.**

Melksham Without Parish Council recognize this and have therefore recommended that the boundary in the Town at the edge of the former George Ward school site be redrawn so that all of the new housing proposed under planning application W/14/11295 is within the town, rather than approx 60 of 266 houses falling within the Parish. The boundary should follow the A365 and then follow Dunch Lane rather than cut across the line of the former tennis courts on the former school site.

The Parish Council also concedes that the new Eastern Distributor road that encapsulates the approx 800 new houses on the East of Melksham housing estate, would be a desired redrawn boundary for the 733 houses that are currently within the parish, but would be logical to become part of the Melksham Town boundary as the community has expanded with this new housing development. Currently, some houses in Skylark Road and Rosemary Way are in both the parish and town.

However, this is the only area where there has been an expansion of housing and the boundaries have become anomalous and built across boundaries, and so the Parish Council sees no need for the town and parish councils to be dissolved and one bigger council set up to cover both areas, the boundary between Town and Without is accentuated by the A350/A365 Western Way and rural buffers and therefore the redrawing of the boundary to the "Eastern Way" eastern distributor road would suffice.

**16. A community governance review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that exist in England.**

This stated reason is behind the requests of Melksham Without Parish Council for the 3 small schemes proposed.

1. Land at A365/Dunch Lane - boundary to be redrawn so that follows the A365 and then Dunch Lane rather than a former field boundary that predates the building of the George Ward school which is now being replaced by housing (reserved matters permission granted 23/09/15).



2. Land at Seend - boundary to be redrawn so that the boundary follows the line of the canal, rather than land on the opposite side of the canal from Seend belonging to Seend but serviced and maintained by Melksham Without Parish Council, with a clear sense of ownership and belonging to the people of Bowerhill.

3. Land common to both Broughton Gifford and Melksham Without - boundary to be withdrawn so there is a clear delineation, with the river becoming the boundary.

The Parish Council also concedes that the boundary at the East of Melksham may be better served if redrawn around the new housing development with the boundary to become the eastern distributor road, which the Parish Council has named "Eastern Way" with the Street Naming department at Wiltshire Council (Sept 2015) which would join and become continuous with the boundary at the other side of the parish which follows the A350/A365 Western Way.

**23. .... Ultimately, the recommendation made in a community governance review ought to bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.**

The Parish Council does not believe that the proposal to dissolve the Town and Parish Council and create one new Council demonstrates any of the above. In fact, it argues that there is better community engagement and local democracy now, under the current boundaries.

To enable a manageable council, a newly created council would presumably have approx 17 councillors and that number is still large and unwieldy. When added together, the population of the two councils together makes the representation per councillor very high. The councillors are volunteers and it imposes a high burden of responsibility on those councillors with such high representation. It would therefore discourage those of a working age to become councillors, and thus the council is not therefore representative of its electorate. There are some councils that struggle to fill seats, and so the parish council feels it is a waste to cut the number of councillors by so many.

As an example, the current Melksham Without Parish councillors represent a figure of 498 electorate each, 273 houses. However, if a new council was created covering both the town and parish, and 17 councillors were appointed then each councillor would represent 1,052 electorate each, and 606 houses. This change would not bring greater democracy.

The parish council already actively engages with the members of its communities, and actively supports and facilitates the start up of action groups, for example CAWS was set up in early 2015 and BRAG has been long established. Assets in the community are also community led with management committees, supported with practical advice as well as grant funding, running village halls and playing fields in the Melksham Without Parish area.

The parish council believes it already provides effective and convenient delivery of services to its residents. The average Band D cost across the 10,181 parishes (town and parish councils) in England for 2015-16 is £54.12<sup>1</sup>, for Melksham Without this was below this average at £53.32 whereas the Town Council charge is £87.82. This was a significant increase for Melksham Without on previous years, as £30,000 was added to the 2015/16 budget for a specific project at Shaw Play Area. The average Band D figure for 2014/15 was £41.62 and has remained under that level for many years.

The play area at Beanacre, owned and maintained by the parish council, is visited and used by many town residents, as are the playing field facilities at both Shaw and Bowerhill Playing fields - although owned and maintained by Melksham Without Parish Council both the playing fields have bookings from many town residents by a variety of football teams. The Bowerhill Sports field is the home ground to AFC Melksham, and this year to 14 Melksham Town Youth teams. This means that Melksham Without parish council is providing facilities for town residents. However, King George V playing field and play area in the Town, as with others in the town, are owned and maintained by Wiltshire Council and therefore residents of Melksham Without are also paying to support those facilities through their council tax.

- 
- <sup>1</sup> published by the Dept of Communities and Local Government  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/444971/Council\\_tax\\_statistics\\_for\\_town\\_and\\_parish\\_councils\\_2015-16\\_England.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444971/Council_tax_statistics_for_town_and_parish_councils_2015-16_England.pdf)

The Town Council proposal does not provide evidence of how this new council will improve the effectiveness and delivery of services to residents of Melksham Without. In fact, without such a clear line of communication, with elected councillors living and representing distinct areas in the parish one could question if the provision of services in the community facilities such as village halls and playing fields, such as toddler groups, friendship clubs and lunch provision for vulnerable groups could suffer. The parish council always supports the provision of services in the parish and that residents of the parish should not have to always make the trip into town to access services; this could be jeopardized if there was a more central, one stop shop approach to providing services in the town and without parish. The town council makes the argument that the services they provide in the town are used by the residents of Melksham Without and therefore they should contribute to them. However, the parish council takes issue with that claim and queries what services the town council provide. The majority of services in the town, such as public toilets, the library, King George V playing field is actually owned and maintained by Wiltshire Council and not the Town Council. The town council provide a couple of playing fields and allotments, but so do the parish council with residents of the town regularly using the playing fields at both Shaw and Bowerhill for training and matches as the pitches are hired by local teams. The Town Council provides the Assembly Hall, but the Parish Council owns Shaw Village Hall, and actively supports with grant aid Whitley Reading Rooms, Bowerhill Village Hall, Berryfield Village Hall and the church rooms at St Barnabas Church, Beanacre which undertakes the role of a village hall in Beanacre. The parish council also provides grant aid to halls in the town such as the Riverside Club and the Rachel Fowler Centre; as well as Melksham Christmas Lights, Melksham Carnival and Melksham Party in the Park which are events held in the Town.

**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.**

Can Wiltshire Council please explain when they would make an order relating to the abolition of the two councils and the setting up of a new one, does this guidance mean that the councils would be dissolved in April 2016? Would this trigger an election? Or would you wait and any change would not take place until the unitary elections in May 2017? Can you please provide your interpretation of these dates and reorganization orders, and you plan if this recommendation is approved.

**34 .....In the case of a community governance review where a parish council already exists as a local authority, it too should be consulted. Other bodies might include local businesses, local public and voluntary organizations – such as schools or health bodies. The principal authority must take into account any representations it receives as part of a community governance review.**

**AND**

**35. Principal councils must consider the wider picture of community governance in carrying out their reviews. In some areas there may be well established forms of community governance such as local residents' associations, or community forums which local people have set up and make a distinct contribution to the community.**

Melksham Without Parish Council asks how Wiltshire Council has consulted with local organizations, schools etc. Especially when there are well known local groups such as BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) who have regular contact with the Area Board through the grant funding process and planning process and therefore known to Wiltshire Council. Residents' Associations are alive and well in the parish such as at Ludlow Hewitt Sheltered Housing. The Parish Council have not been asked to provide details of any local groups, but Wiltshire Council will obviously know of the schools in the areas affected, and the businesses as they know who pays business rates. Could Wiltshire Council please share this consultation piece with the Parish Council including any responses received.

**37. Principal Councils are required to complete the review, including consequential recommendations to the LGBCE for related alterations to the boundaries of principal area wards and/or divisions, within 12 months of the start of the community governance review. The review begins when the council publishes terms of reference of the review and concludes when the council publishes the recommendations made in the review.**

Wiltshire Council began the process at the beginning of April 2014 and presumably will be 7 months past the 12 month deadline when it makes its recommendations on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

**38. Principal councils will need to build into their planning process for reviews reasonable periods for consultation with local electors and other stakeholders, for the consideration of evidence presented to them in representations, as well as for decision-making.**

The Parish Council does not consider that reasonable time has been given to local electors for consultation. See point 3 above, about taking into account local peoples' views. A decision is being made by Wiltshire Council on 24<sup>th</sup> November and dates set for public consultation meetings were only advised to the Parish Council on 6<sup>th</sup> October with leaflets going out to residents via the local newspaper on the 21<sup>st</sup> October which will be delivered over the next few days.

The Parish Council has not been advised of any cut off date for making representations online but presumably the cut off will not be the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, as officers and the working party will have to be collating the information and reporting on it. The parish council feel that a cut off date should be published to inform residents to ensure that they are not commenting after the closing date. This would also apply to any residents that are not online and completing a hard copy survey.

**45. As stated I the 2006 White Paper parish councils are an established and valued form of neighbourhood democracy and management. They are not only important in rural areas but increasingly have a role to play in urban areas.**

One of the reasons stated by the Town Council for the dissolution of both councils and the creation of a new one is that they see duplication of effort with both councils meeting on Monday evenings reviewing the same things. The parish council disputes this and maintains that it represents the rural view and therefore often has a different opinion than that of the Town Council. An example is the recent planning application for the former George Ward school site for 266 houses (approved 23/09/15). Although both councils' planning committees were consulted on the application as the boundary runs through the site. Only the parish council requested that an

adequate footpath be provided so that residents of the new housing could access the local facilities safely on foot or by cycle. This includes access to the local primary school at Shaw, the churches at Whitley and Shaw, the play group and other groups who meet at Whitley Reading Rooms and the whole host of activities at Shaw Village hall such as pre-school, friendship club, WI.

**47. An important aspect to approaching sustainable communities is allowing local people a say in the way their neighbourhoods are managed. 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:**

- a) representative, accountable governance systems which both facilitate strategic, visionary leadership and enable inclusive, active and effective participation by individuals and organizations; and**
- b) effective engagement with the community at neighbourhood level including capacity building to develop the community's skills, knowledge and confidence**

The parish council believes that this is already achieved by the existing two councils. The parish council believe that they already do this and it would be diluted and not enhanced by the dissolution of the two councils and setting up of a new, bigger one. The parish council already has resilient communities recently demonstrated by the active flood plan that the villages of Shaw and Whitley have with sandbags stored in place with means of distribution, products such as walkie talkies, pumps, generators and ration packs provided by grant funding from Southern Electric, and trained flood wardens in place; all supported and facilitated by the parish council. This demonstrates the building of the community's skills, knowledge and confidence, alongside their own action groups and recent consultation events and ability to obtain grants in their own right. The parish council have taken an holistic approach and are happy to cross boundaries and work with other councils when the need arises with the approach to the flood plan being based on the flow of water rather than parish boundaries and the trained flood wardens include those of Beanacre which is in the parish, but also those from Atworth (neighbouring parish) and Shurnhold (in the town boundary).

As per point 23 above, the town and parish residents have good representation per electorate by elected councillors. It is not that the

councils have vacancies and lots of co-opted councillors; there is currently effective representation, participation and leadership.

**50. Parish Councils continue to have two main roles: community representation and local administration. For both purposes it is desirable that a parish should reflect a distinctive and recognizable community of place, with its own sense of identity. The views of local communities and inhabitants are of central importance.**

The residents have a much better representation under the current system; see point 23 above about the numbers of electorate represented by councillors at present.

**51. The identification of a community is not a precise or rigid matter. The patterns of daily life in each of the existing communities, the local centres for education and childcare, shopping, community activities, worship, leisure pursuits, transport facilities and means of communication generally will have an influence. However, the focus of people's day to day activities may not be reflected in their feeling of community identity. For instance, historic loyalty may be to a town but the local community of interest and social focus may lie within a part of the town with its own separate identity.**

The parish council has a very clear understanding of this and fears that the five distinct identities of the separate parts of the parish will be lost if the parish council is dissolved and the villages become part of a larger council with the town. Children from Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre attend the secondary school in Corsham; and Broughton Gifford & Holt scouts; they also attend Atworth youth club. Children from Bowerhill attend play group and the primary school in Seend. These nuances are recognized by the parish council and these external volunteer groups are supported with grant funding by the parish council as they understand that they are attended by the residents of Melksham Without. There are concerns that the whole, new council will become Melksham Town centric, with much less regard for the relationships that residents from Without have with their other neighbouring parishes such as Atworth, Lacock, Broughton Gifford, Seend etc.

**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. ....**

Melksham Without Parish Council does contribute to the creation of successful communities already, and recognizes the diverse settlements in the parish such as the historic villages of Shaw, and Whitley; the industrial estate in Bowerhill and the new development East of Melksham. It actively seeks funding from a variety of sources and regularly requests and uses s106 funding. It has taken on community assets from Wiltshire Council such as Bowerhill Playing Field and has been instrumental in the project for the existing pavilion to be demolished and a new one rebuilt for the benefit of the local community; obtained Lottery funding towards new allotments; Landfill funding for a new MUGA at Shaw and s106 funding for a new one at Bowerhill. It consistently consults with its residents as to what their needs and aspirations are, and documents this with external bodies such as Wiltshire Council in the Open Spaces Study recently undertaken. The Parish Council does not see any improvement or better quality of contribution to successful communities if it became part of a larger council, more that it would become more diluted. The urban view will have a larger voice as a large population of a newly created council will be urban, not rural. At present the rural view is considered within the context of Melksham Without. As the majority of development will take place in Melksham Without, and not the Town, it is right that the rural view of these areas is respected. There is already a designated area for a Melksham Neighbourhood Plan that covers both the town and Without and so there is already joint working on cohesive planning issues without the need to create one new council.

**58. It is clear that how people perceive where they live – their neighbourhoods – is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities and depends on a range of circumstances, often best defined by local residents. Some of the factors which help define neighbourhoods are: the geography of an area, the make-up of the local community, sense of identity, and whether people live in a rural, suburban, or urban area.**

**AND**

**59. Parishes in many cases may be able to meet the concept of neighbourhoods in an area. Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognizable communities of interest, with their own sense of identity. Like neighbourhoods, the feeling of local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations.**



This guidance keeps coming back to the views of local people, their sense of identity and their rural or urban view. How will Wiltshire Council be receiving and interpreting the views of local people? Will it be weighting the views of an urban population of the town which has almost double the population of those in Without?

**65. Wider initiatives such as the Quality Parish Scheme and charters agreed between parish councils and principal councils also help to give a greater understanding of securing effective and convenient local government. In such cases, parish and town councils which are well managed and good at representing local views will be in a better position to work closely with partner authorities to take more responsibility for shaping their area's development and running its services.**

Melksham Without Parish Council is perfectly capable of taking responsibility for developing and running services in its own parish, without having to become a new council with the town. Melksham Without Parish Council was the first council in Wiltshire to become accredited as a Quality Council when the scheme was introduced in 2009. All but one of its Councillors are elected rather than co-opted and their Clerk is qualified to CiLCA level. The parish has a large enough electorate, precept and reserves to be able to manage its own affairs. It is not a small village satellite to a big town that would benefit from the experience and precept of the town. It has its own population of circa 7,500 and is the largest rural parish in Wiltshire, covering an area of 2,904 hectares (7,173 acres).

**78. The Local Government Commission for England in its 1993 Report *Renewing Local Government in the Shires* makes the point that there is a long history of attempts to identify ideal minimum and maximum sizes for local authorities. Instead its preference was for authorities to be based on natural communities and reflecting people's choices. This is even truer today, particularly at the most local level of government.**

The Parish Council believes that the current set up reflects the natural communities with the 5 distinct areas of the parish having their own identity, but grouped together to provide a cohesive group with a rural view, that has a large enough electorate already to be in a good position to develop and run its own local services.

**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.**

The number of electors in Melksham Without is 6,484 and in Melksham Town 11,405<sup>2</sup>. As the population of the Town is therefore already above the average 12,000 there should not be a need to create a much bigger Council with a much larger than average population. As per point 23 above, the Parish Council does not believe that one, new, bigger Council will improve local democracy, in fact it argues the opposite; that this would mean that the council would no longer closely reflect the identity of its communities.

**81. A parish council should be in a position to provide some basic services and many larger parishes will be able to offer much more to their local communities.**

The parish council feels strongly that it is already well placed to provide services to its community, is large enough with an electorate of 6,484 and precept for 2015/16 of £166,423.59; and does not need to join with the Town Council to achieve this.

**82. There may be cases where larger parishes would best suit the needs of the area. These might include places where the division of a cohesive area would not reflect the sense of community that needs to lie behind all parishes; or places where there were no recognizable smaller communities.**

Melksham Without parish council believes that it already has very recognizable smaller communities, for example, this is reflected by the annual entries into the CPRE Best Kept Village competition where individual entries are made for Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill. The new East of Melksham housing estate has its separate identity and the Parish Council have recognized that this may better fit within the town boundary.

---

<sup>2</sup> As per Jim Waite, Elections Officer in Feb 2014

**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.**

**AND**

**85. A review of parish boundaries is an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries.**

The 3 small schemes proposed by Melksham Without parish council, all request a boundary review to reflect the physical features on the ground. With the request for the boundary review at Seend to use the canal as the boundary; the request for Broughton Gifford to use the river and the request for the former George Ward school site to use the A365 and Dunch Lane. It also concedes that the boundary to the east of Melksham would be better served by the eastern distributor road.

The boundary between Melksham and Melksham Without is already secured by a natural rural buffer and the A350/A365 Western Way.

**90. If a principal council chooses to establish a parish council, or if an existing parish whose boundaries are being changed has a parish council, the principal authority must consult on, and put in place the necessary electoral arrangements for that parish.**

What would this look like for a newly created council? How can residents make an accurate judgement on the benefits of a new single council if they are not aware on what warding or representation would be proposed for such a new parish?

**114. In some cases, it may be preferable to group together parishes so as to allow a common parish council to be formed. Degrouping may offer the reverse possibilities perhaps where local communities have expanded. Such proposals are worth considering and may avoid the need for substantive changes to parish boundaries, the creation of new parishes or the abolition of very small parishes, where, despite their size, they still reflect community interests. It would be inappropriate for it to be used to build artificially large units under single parish councils.**

Melksham Without Parish Council believes that this would be an artificially large unit if both the town and parish council were dissolved and a new

council created. The parish and town councils are large enough in their own right to exist and the parish council sees little benefit in them being dissolved and a new one created.

**125. About 90% of the geographical area of England is covered by a parish, and this is mostly in rural and semi-rural areas. So, most populated rural areas already have a structure of local government that includes parishes and many of these have been in existence for hundreds of years. It is desirable that any changes do not upset historic traditions but do reflect changes that have happened over time, such as population shift or additional development, which may have led to a different community identity.**

Apart from the new development to the east of Melksham, which has its own boundary review proposed, the parish council sees no need to change the current boundaries to dissolve Melksham Without Parish Council which has been in existence since 1894.

**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.**

The parish council strongly believes that this is what they currently achieve for the rural and semi-rural separate communities that it represents in Melksham Without. Any proposal to dissolve the parish council and set up a new one with the town would detract from the statement above in point 127 rather than enhance it.

**147. The purpose of a review undertaken by a principal council ..... is likely primarily to concern the administrative boundaries or a new or existing parish. .... However, in addition to these primary concerns, principal authorities will also need to consider the governance of new or altered parishes. The principal council must have regard to the need for community governance within the area under review to reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, to ensure that the governance is effective and convenient.**

Points 148 - 176 cover Electoral Arrangements such as

- a) Ordinary year of elections
- b) Council size
- c) Parish warding

The guidance states that any *Governance Review* should cover *Electoral Arrangements*, and yet none of these have been proposed and therefore not consulted on for the proposal for the creation of a new council covering *Melksham and Melksham Without*.

Melksham Without Parish Council  
12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

This page is intentionally left blank

Extract of email from Mr P Davis 11 November 2015

Dear Sirs,

I understand you will shortly be asked to consider a proposal by Melksham Town Council, to amalgamate the authorities of Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council into one authority. I write to request you consider the following points before making such a decision.

Melksham Town Council administers and controls the centre of the community, but Melksham Without Parish Council, which really should be classified as a miniature District Council, administers eight communities that are situated on the peripheral boundary of the town, making up of a total of 7.5 thousand people.

These varying in size communities are - Bowerhill, Berryfield, Beanacre, Shaw, Whitley, Redstocks, Outmarsh, and Sandridge, plus the continuing to expand new development East of Melksham.

As somebody who has vast experience in serving on Parish, Town, District and the County Council authorities, I am apprehensive that should this application be successful, the communities outside of the town centre of Melksham may not continue to enjoy the level of local authority support they at present experience, due to funding, and other priorities being directed towards the town centre.

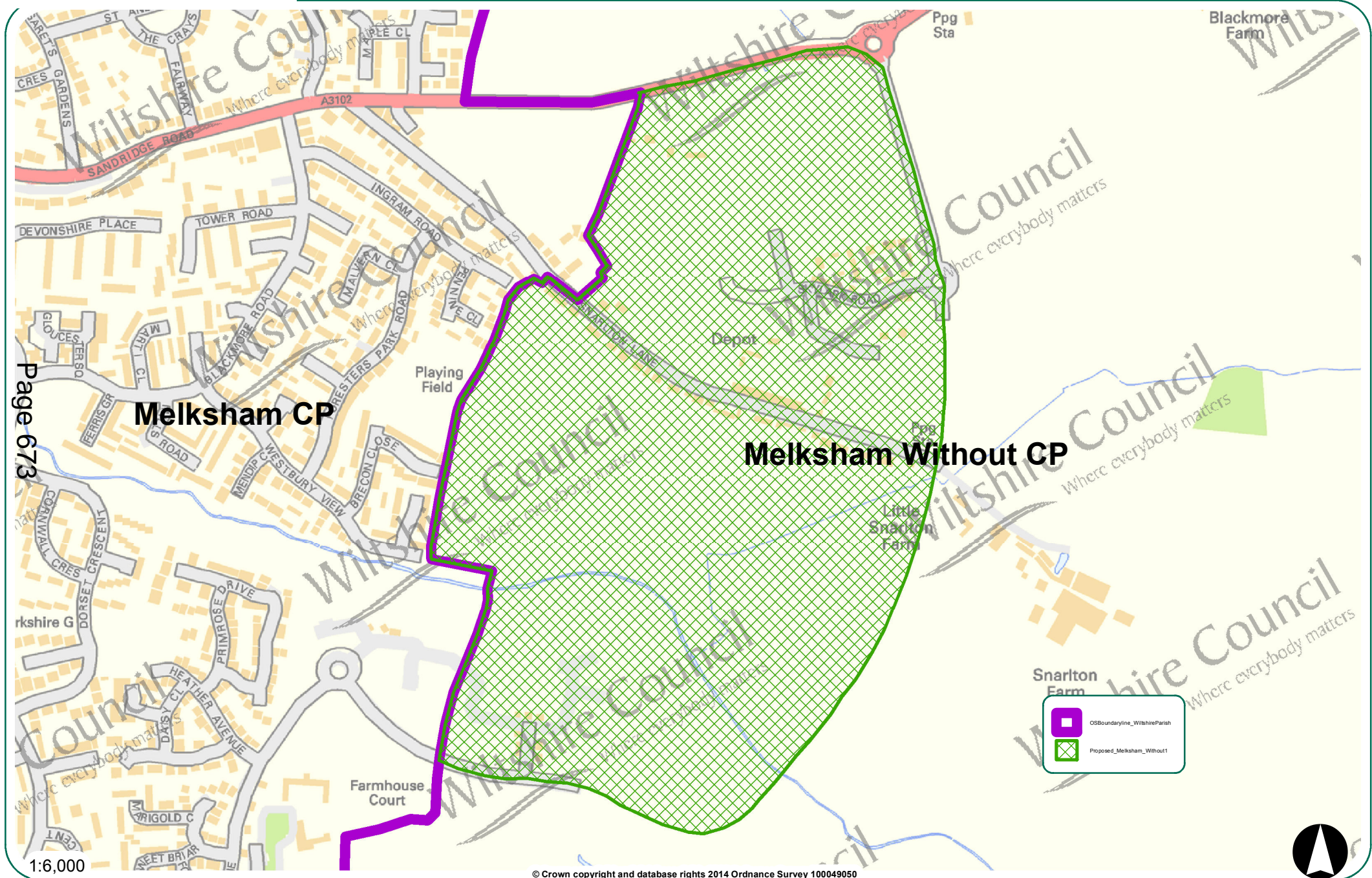
I appreciate there is a continuous drive towards reducing costs and modernising administrations, but in this particular instance, I respectfully request you do not support this proposal, to allow Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council to amalgamate, but continue to permit them to administer the areas to which they are best suited.

Regards Peter Davis

This page is intentionally left blank



Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 1  
Snarlton Lane and Thyme Road Area



Page 673

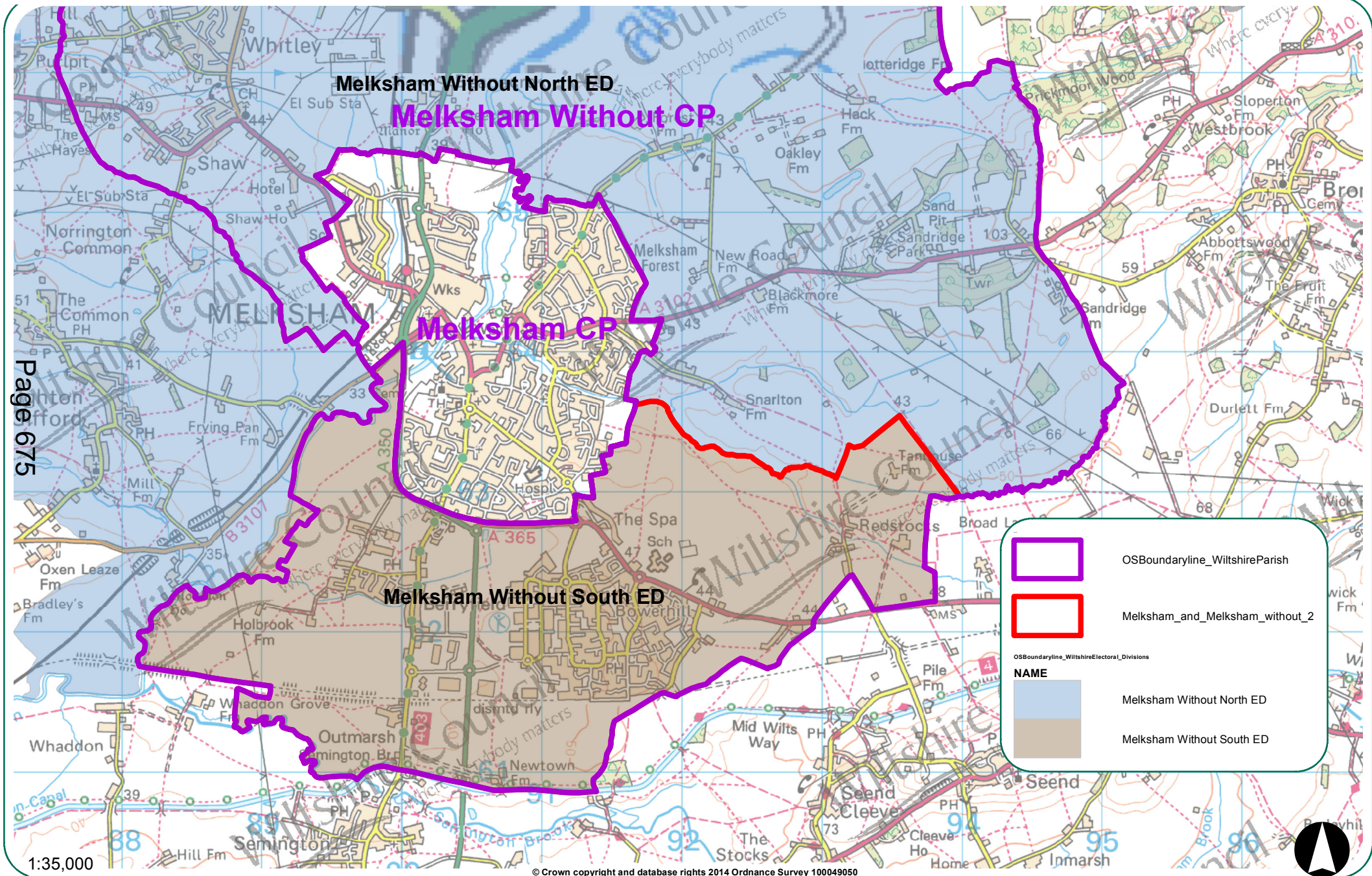
Melksham CP

Melksham Without CP

1:6,000

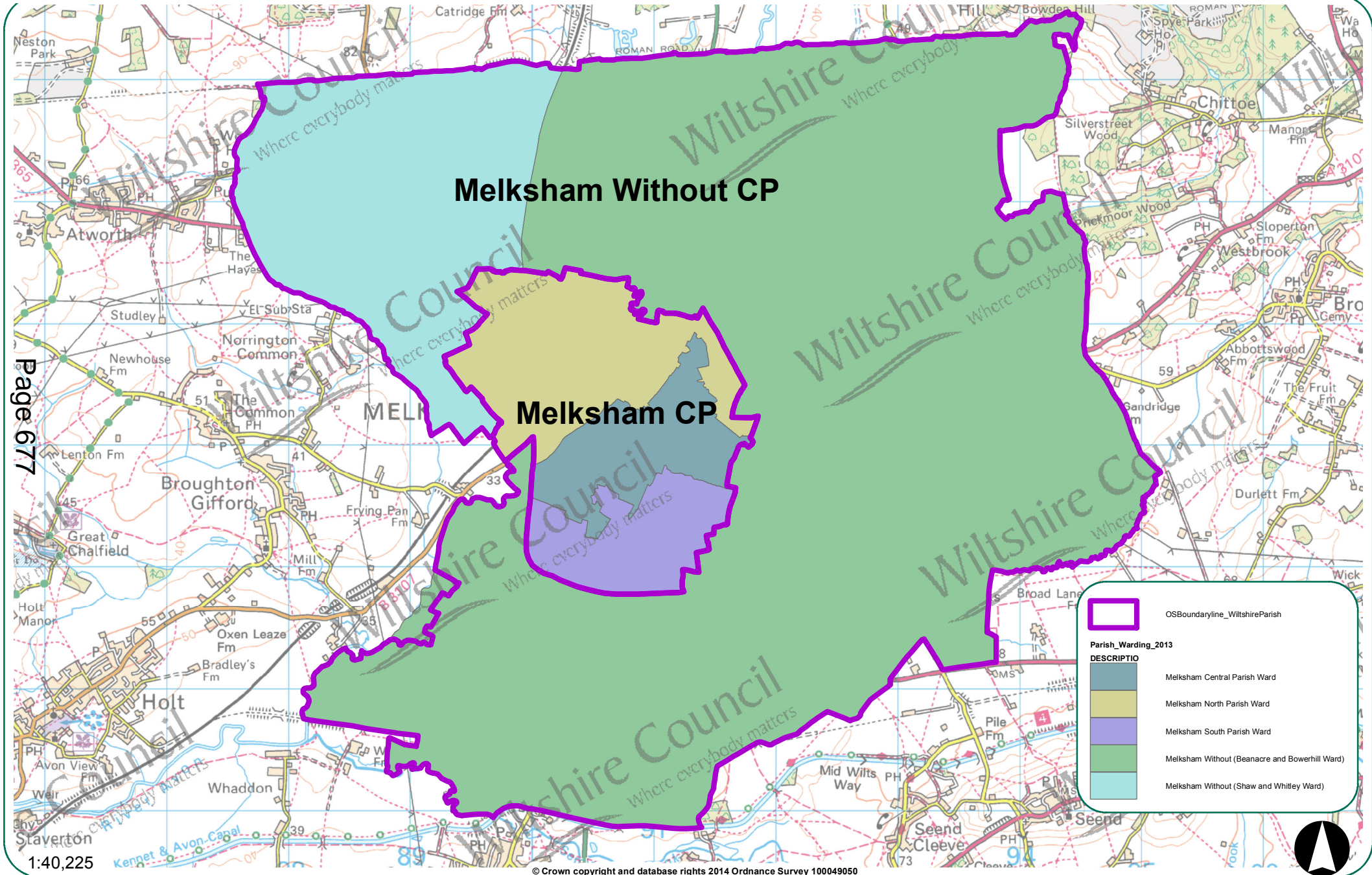
This page is intentionally left blank

**Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Area  
Proposed Parish Ward Boundary  
(in line with Unitary Division Boundary) Map 5**



This page is intentionally left blank

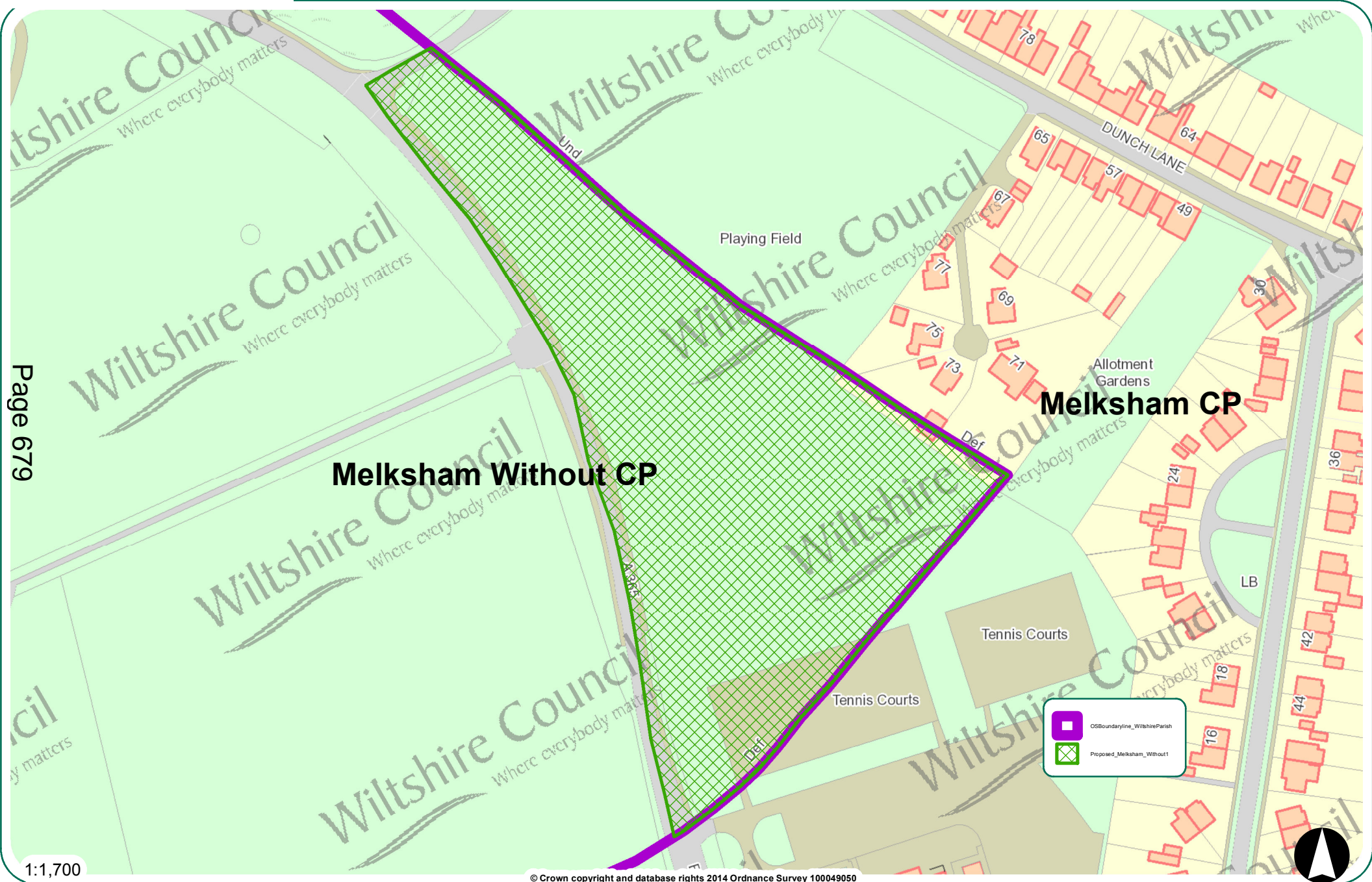
**Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 6  
Melksham and Melksham Without Parishes  
and Parish Ward Boundaries**



This page is intentionally left blank

Area A9 - Melksham and Melksham Without Map 2  
Dunch Lane Area

Page 679



This page is intentionally left blank



# George Ward School, Melksham

Persimmon Homes (Wessex)  
Persimmon House, Tetbury Hill  
Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9JR

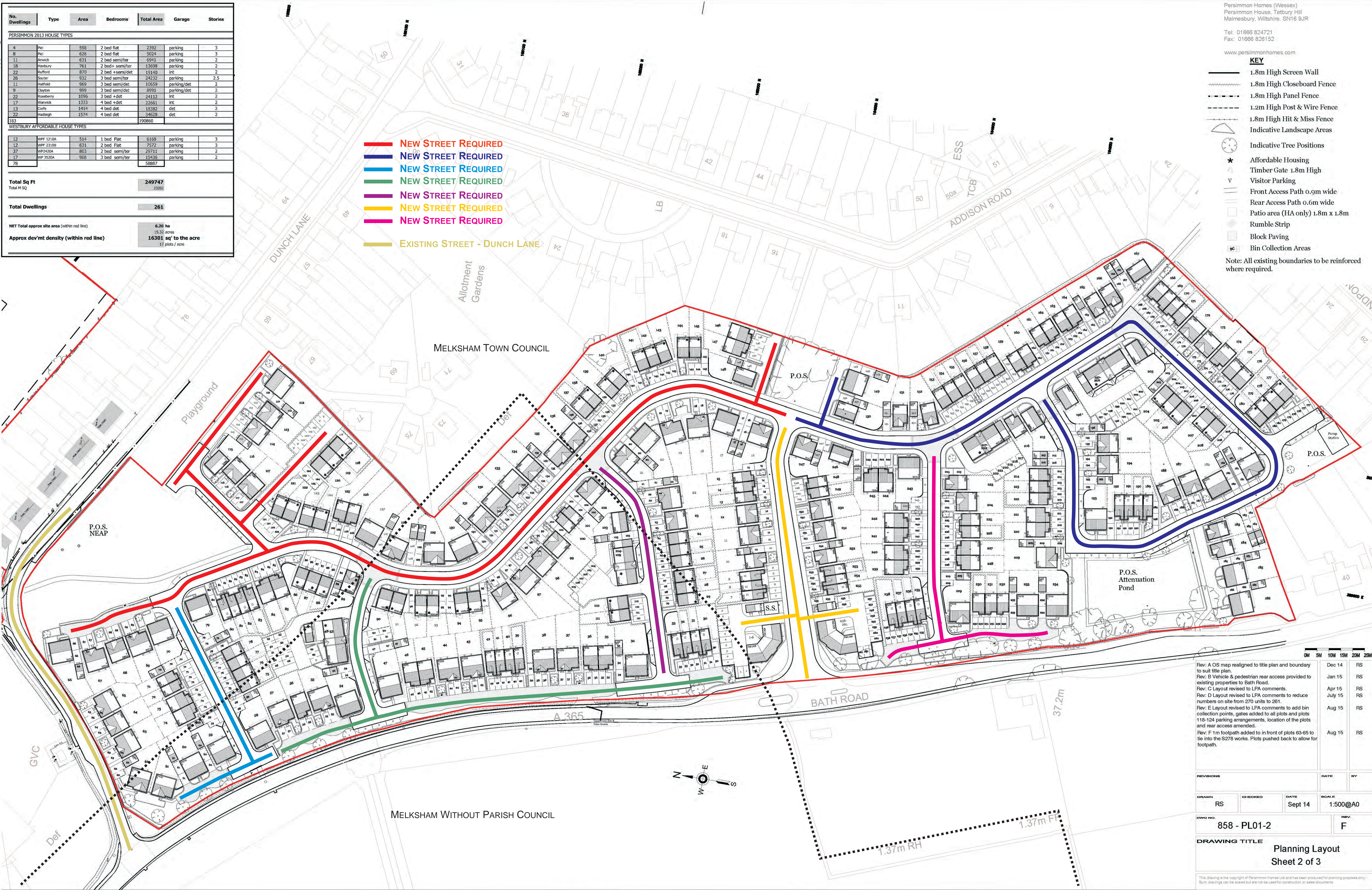
Tel: 01688 824721  
Fax: 01688 826152

www.persimmonhomes.com

- KEY**
- 1.8m High Screen Wall
  - - - 1.8m High Closeboard Fence
  - · - · 1.8m High Panel Fence
  - - - 1.2m High Post & Wire Fence
  - - - 1.8m High Hit & Miss Fence
  - Indicative Landscape Areas
  - Indicative Tree Positions
  - ★ Affordable Housing
  - ▲ Timber Gate 1.8m High
  - ▼ Visitor Parking
  - Front Access Path 0.9m wide
  - Rear Access Path 0.6m wide
  - Patio area (HA only) 1.8m x 1.8m
  - ▨ Rumble Strip
  - Block Paving
  - ⊞ Bin Collection Areas
- Note: All existing boundaries to be reinforced where required.

No. Dwellings	Type	Area	Bedrooms	Total Area	Garage	Stories
<b>PERSIMMON 2013 HOUSE TYPES</b>						
4	Flat	598	2 bed flat	2392	parking	3
8	Flat	628	2 bed flat	3026	parking	3
11	Arwick	631	2 bed semi/ter	6941	parking	2
18	Harbury	761	2 bed + semi/ter	13698	parking	2
22	Rufford	870	2 bed + semi/det	19140	int	2
26	Souler	932	3 bed semi/ter	24232	parking	2.5
11	Wadfield	969	3 bed semi/det	10659	parking/det	2
9	Clayton	999	3 bed semi/det	8991	parking/det	2
22	Rosberry	1096	3 bed + det	24112	int	2
17	Warwick	1333	4 bed + det	22661	int	2
13	Corfe	1414	4 bed det	18382	det	2
22	Madegh	1574	4 bed det	34628	det	2
183				190860		
<b>WESTBURY AFFORDABLE HOUSE TYPES</b>						
12	WPF 1210A	514	1 bed Flat	6168	parking	3
12	WPF 1210B	531	2 bed Flat	7572	parking	3
37	WP240A	803	2 bed semi/ter	29711	parking	2
17	WP 3520A	908	3 bed semi/ter	15436	parking	2
78				58887		
<b>Total Sq Ft</b>				<b>249747</b>		
<b>Total M Sq</b>				<b>23202</b>		
<b>Total Dwellings</b>				<b>261</b>		
<b>NET Total approx site area (within red line)</b>				<b>6.20 ha</b>		
				<b>15.32 acres</b>		
<b>Approx dev't density (within red line)</b>				<b>16301 sq' to the acre</b>		
				<b>17 plots / acre</b>		

Page 6/81



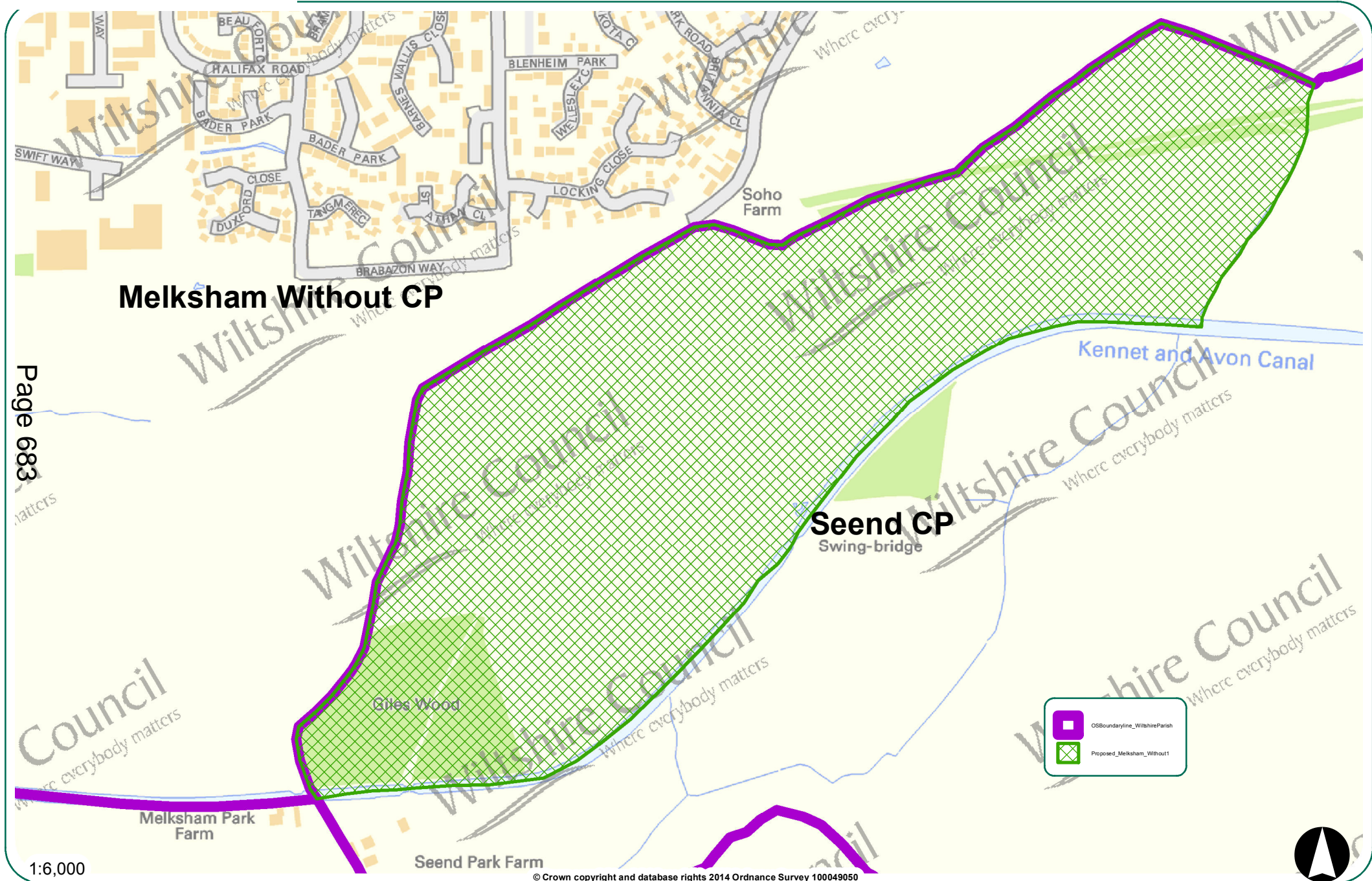
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- NEW STREET REQUIRED
- EXISTING STREET - DUNCH LANE

REV	DATE	BY
Rev: A	Dec 14	RS
Rev: B	Jan 15	RS
Rev: C	Apr 15	RS
Rev: D	July 15	RS
Rev: E	Aug 15	RS
Rev: F	Aug 15	RS

DRAWN	CHECKED	DATE	SCALE
RS		Sept 14	1:500@A0
<b>DWG NO.</b>			<b>REV.</b>
858 - PL01-2			F
<b>DRAWING TITLE</b>			
Planning Layout Sheet 2 of 3			

This drawing is the copyright of Persimmon Homes Ltd and has been produced for planning purposes only. Such drawings can be scaled but are not to be used for construction or sales documents.

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



Page 685

1:5,000

This page is intentionally left blank

## Area B1- Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Lyneham and Bradenstoke PC	14/12/11
2	Original List of Properties Mr Morison	
3	Original Proposed Change Mr Morison	
4	PCG Fact Finding meeting notes - Lyneham 4 December 2014	4/12/14
5	LBPC 11 December 2014 Council resolution	11/12/14

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	(None)		

This page is intentionally left blank





## Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Sue Webb

20 Haddons Close  
Malmesbury  
Wiltshire  
SN16 0JG

Telephone: 01666-824620

Email: [Clerk.Lyneham@gmail.com](mailto:Clerk.Lyneham@gmail.com)

14<sup>th</sup> December 2011

Mr P Gantlett  
Chairman and Action Clerk Clyffe Pypard Parish Council  
Woodhill Park Farm  
Bushton  
Swindon  
SN4 7PU

Dear Mr Gantlett

**RE: Possible change in Parish Boundaries to move Preston and Thickthorn into Clyffe Pypard.**

At the Parish Council last evening it was resolved to support the change in Parish Boundaries to move Preston and Thickthorn into Clyffe Pypard.

Good luck with the proceeding and please keep us informed of any progress.

Yours sincerely

Sue Webb (Mrs)  
Clerk  
Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

## List of Properties

Thickthorn (5 properties):

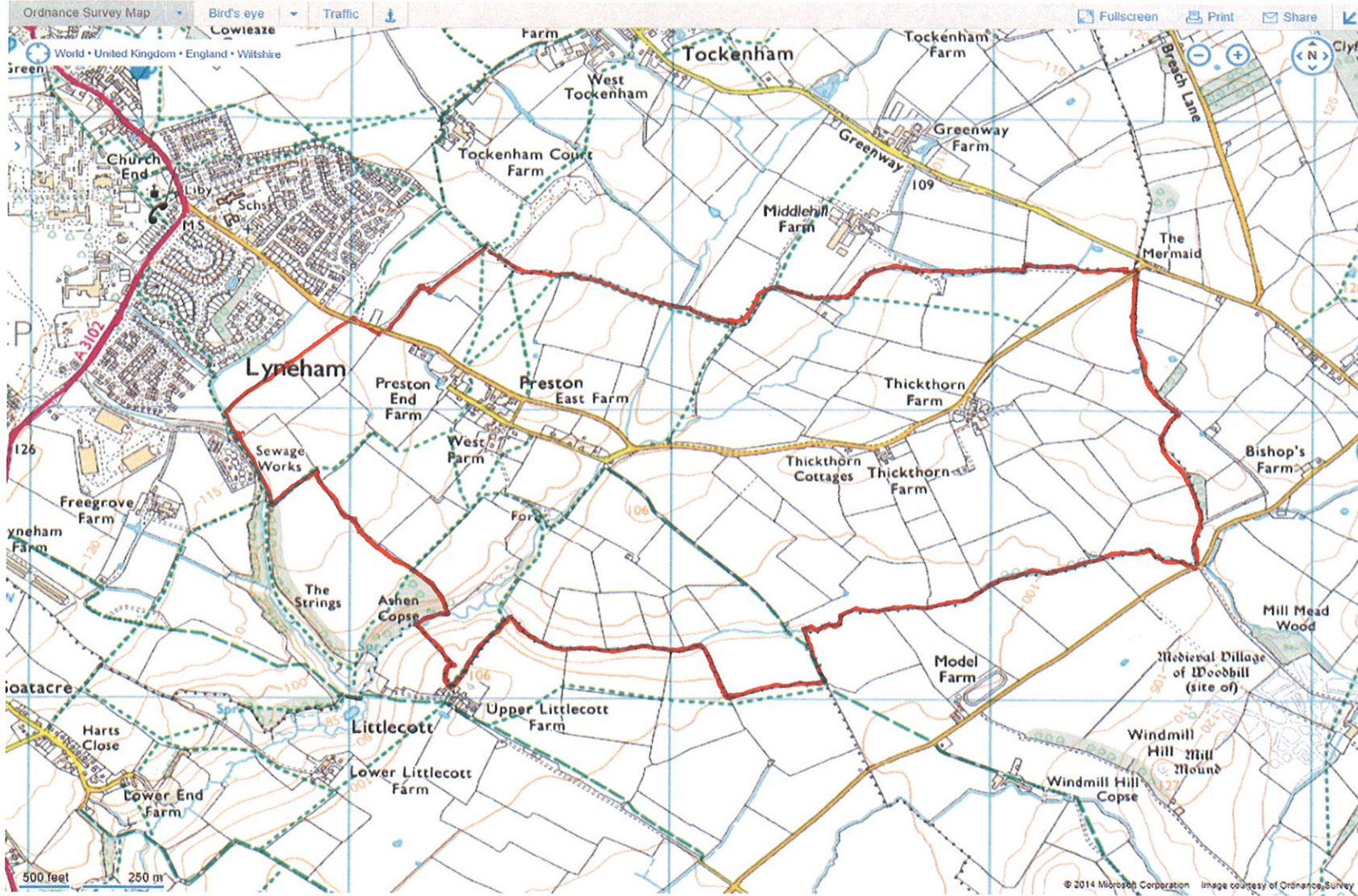
The Lodge; 2 @ Thickthorn Farm; 2 @ Thickthorn Cottages.

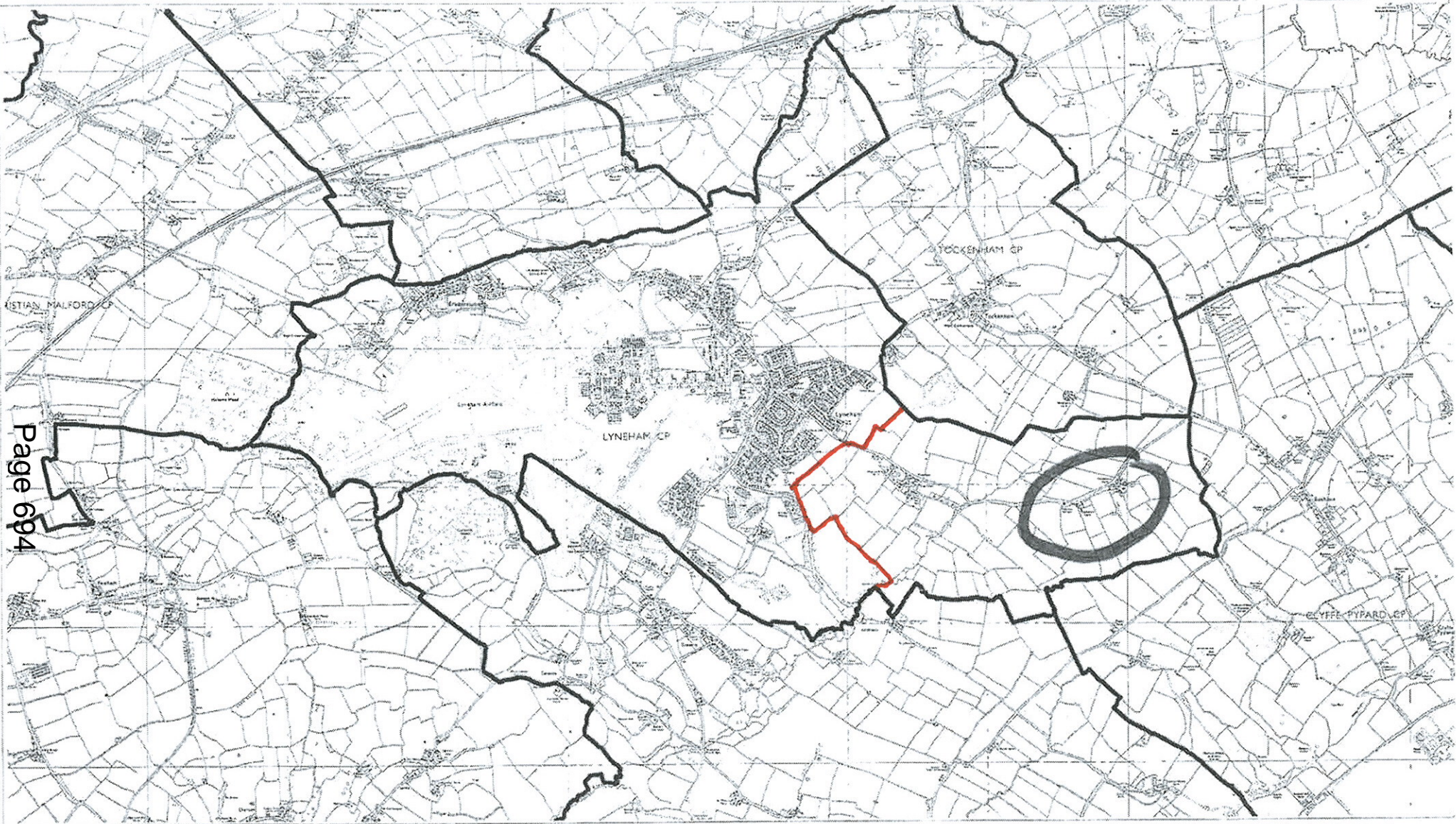
Preston (16 properties):

Star Cottage; Preston Cottage; Brookside; Preston Lodge; Benwell Cottage; The Old Farm House; Preston West Farm; Preston East Farm; The Old Dairy; Springfield; Bramble Cottage; Patrick's Cottage; Preston House; Preston End Farm; The Aspens; The Hollies.

All house property owners have been consulted with an overwhelming desire to move parishes (only 1 voted against). The proposed boundary change (outlined in red) is based on land ownership as well as the position of the properties in question. The owners of the land on the south side have not been consulted but I understand, from our local farmer, that the parish is not important when it comes to the location of farming land.

This page is intentionally left blank





*North  
Wiltshire  
District  
Council*

Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Boundary  
SCALE: 1:38000

Parish boundary Review

Customer Services 20/5/2003

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationary Office  
© Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.  
NORTH WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL- LA078840 2003

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 4 DECEMBER 2014 AT NEELD HALL, HIGH ST, CHIPPENHAM SN15 3WL.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Cllr Allison Bucknell, Jessica Croman, Paul Taylor (Senior Solicitor) and John Watling

---

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

The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the Working Group introduced themselves to those in attendance.

#### 21 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 22 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to meet and hear from those affected by the proposed boundary changes.

#### 23 **Parish Proposals (10 Minutes each)**

#### 24 **Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard**

The Clerk for Clyffe Pypard Parish Council, Peter Gantlett, gave a summary of the proposals.

- It was heard that following the 2010 Parish Council AGM that a request had been lodged to change boundaries. One year later the Parish Council voted unanimously to continue with this process.
- Residents were said to have been canvassed for opinion, and that a majority spoke in favour.

## 25 **Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)**

Parish Councillor for Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council, Reverend Richard George Selby-Boothroyd, stated that ecclesiastic boundaries would not be affected by the changes. Religious mobility and membership would not change as a result of any parish boundary movements.

Reverend Selby-Boothroyd stated that Thickthorn was separated by a large distance from Preston, and that Preston was closer to Lyneham.

It was explained by the Vice Chairman of Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council, Tim Webb, residents of Lyneham would rather stay in the parish than move to Clyffe Pypard.

The proposed boundary line in the north was described as following field boundaries.

The red proposed boundary line on page 8 of the agenda pack was described by Reverend Selby-Boothroyd as creating a good buffer between Preston and Lyneham. Moving Thickthorn and a number of properties in Preston was described as messy. Reverend Selby-Boothroyd stated that the whole of Preston and Thickthorn should be treated as single entity.

It was recommended that Lyneham Parish Council decide and pass a resolution stating their stance on the proposed boundary changes.

## 26 **Consultation**

The Chairman stated that the best option would be to go out and consult with locals with the community of Thickthorn.

Following discussion the Group decided the following:

- To consult the residents of Thickthorn.
- For three options to be on the consultation letter: no change; move one; move both.
- To send letters directly from Wiltshire Council to homes in Thickthorn.
- For the letters to inform residents of the three proposals.

## 27 **Any other business**

There was no other business.

## 28 **Close**



(Duration of meeting: 2.00 - 2.45 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

This page is intentionally left blank



## Lyneham & Bradenstoke Parish Council

Mrs J Henly (Clerk)  
Jays Cottage  
Compton Road  
Hilmarton, Calne  
Wiltshire SN11 8SG

11<sup>th</sup> December 2014

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

Dear Sir

**Ref: Proposed Boundary Change for Lyneham & Bradenstoke and Clyffe Pypard Parishes**

At the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th December 2014 members voted unanimously that the letter written by Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council dated 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011 supporting the boundary change for Lyneham and Bradenstoke and Clyffe Pypard Parishes should, after the interval of 3 years, be rescinded.

Members welcomed the prospect of an independent survey, to be carried out by Wiltshire Council, seeking the opinions of residents in Preston & Thickthorn and will await any further response on the matter until the results of the survey have been collected and the Community Governance Review Panel has issued its proposals.

Kind regards

Jacquie Henly  
Clerk for Lyneham and Bradenstoke Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

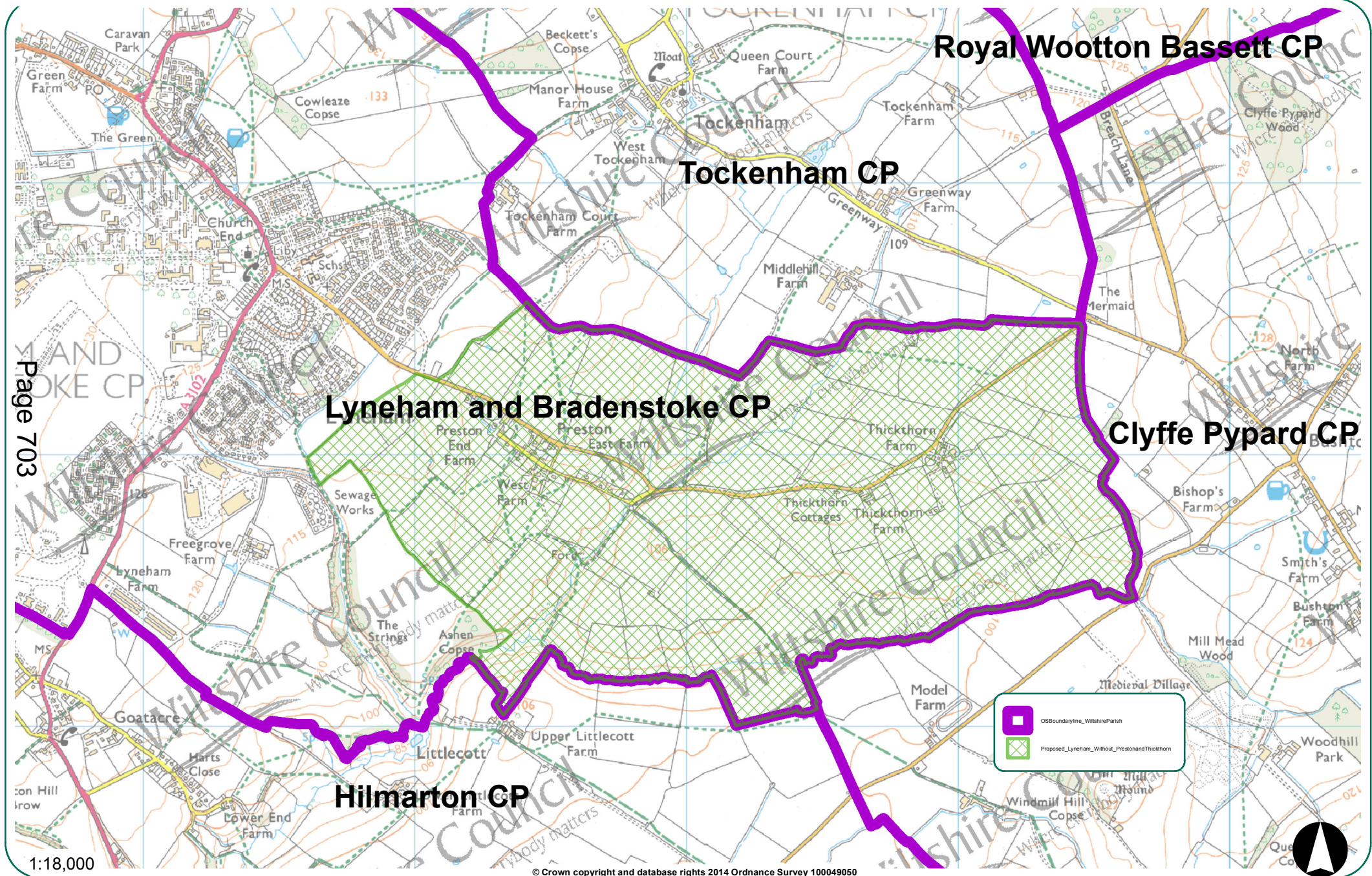
## **Area B1- Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard**

### **Mapping**

- Scheme 49 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2
- Scheme 50 - Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 1

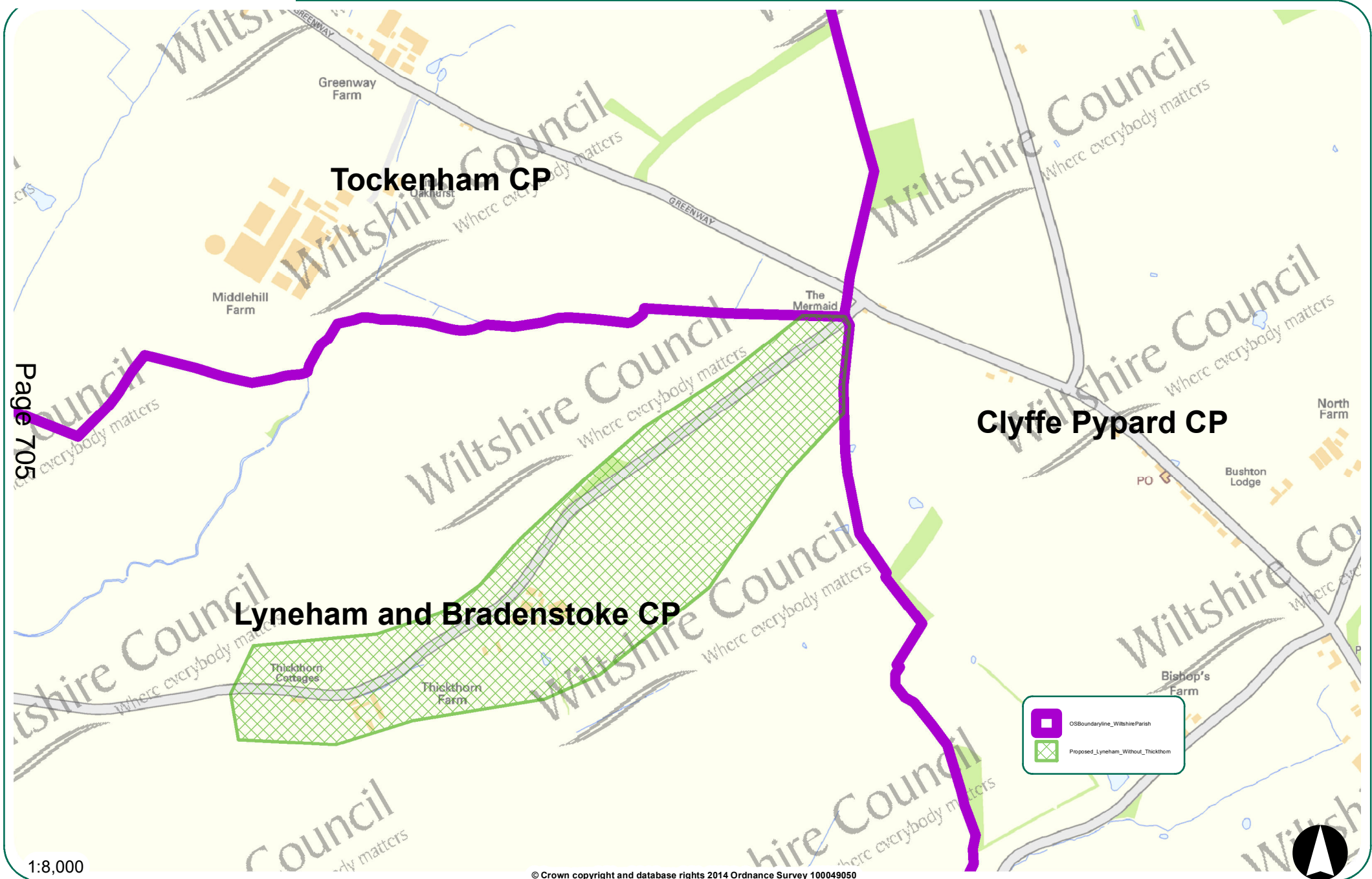
This page is intentionally left blank

Area B1 - Lyneham and Clyffe Pypard Map 2  
Preston and Thickthorn Area



This page is intentionally left blank





This page is intentionally left blank

## Area B2- Bishopstrow

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Bishopstrow Boundary Review paper 2014 - FINAL	2014
2	Bishopstrow Parish meeting letter including map 29 April 2009	29/4/09
3	Warminster TC minutes 17 November 2014 Minute number 296 refers	17/11/14
4	Notes from Bishopstrow CGR fact finding meeting 2 December 2014	2/12/14

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Bishopstrow PM	16/12/10	
2	Cllr C Newbury	15/7/14	Supports change at river
3	Sutton Veny PC, via Bishopstrow PM	6/12/14	No objection to boundary with Sutton Veny
4	Bishopstrow PM	6/12/14	Suggest 2009 map should not be used.
5	Cllr C Newbury	28/8/15	Points out possible house numbering conflicts
6	Bishopstrow PM	28/8/15	Proposals would still leave anomalies

This page is intentionally left blank

## **BISHOPSTROW BOUNDARY REVIEW INFORMATION @ JULY 2014**

1. Since 2006, Bishopstrow's Parish Meeting Chairmen have annually requested a review of the Village boundary in response to requests by residents whose properties are near its current boundary.

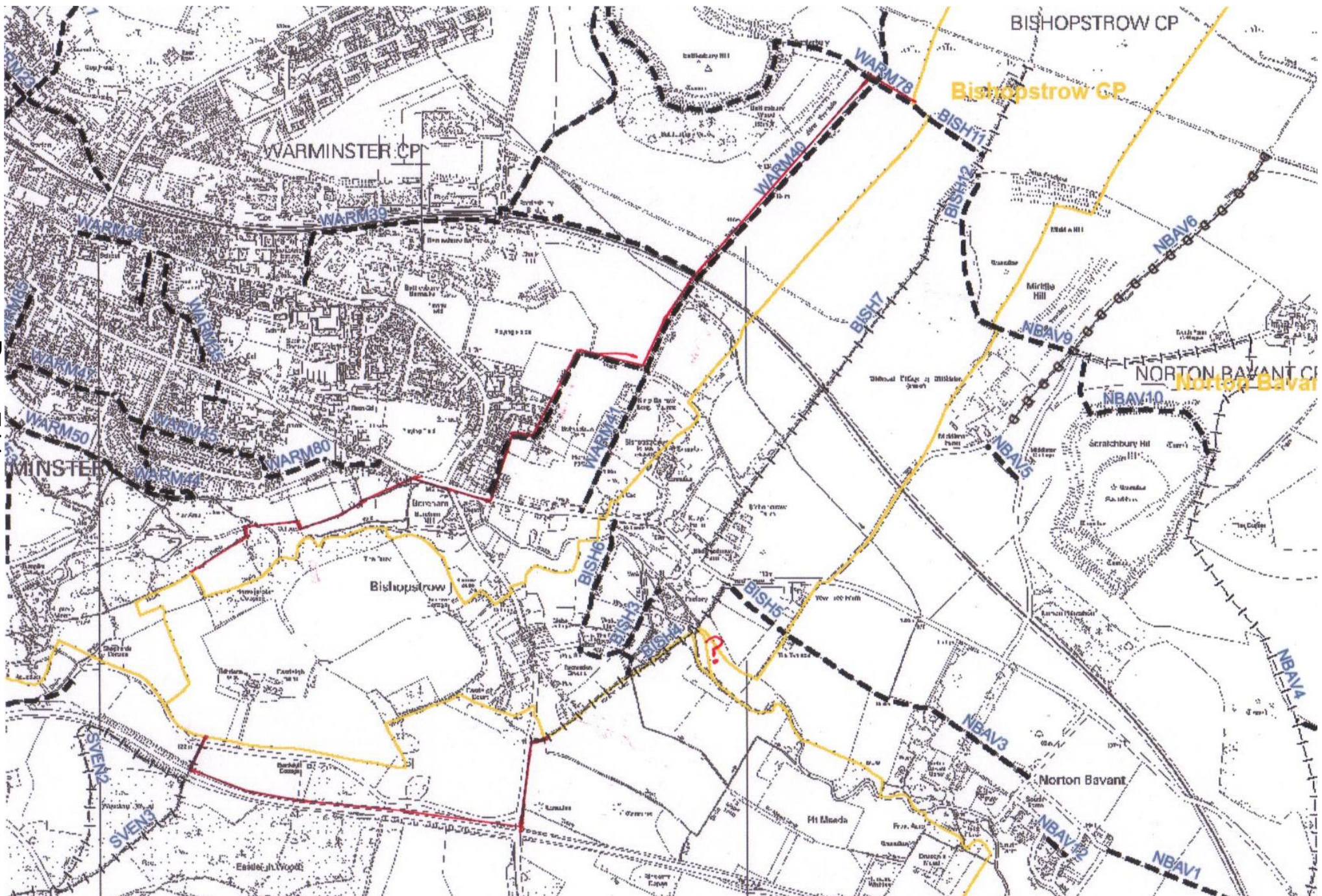
Essentially, this review allows the Village to recognise and update any such historic boundary anomalies brought about by land ownership changes, inaccurate address and signage development by the relevant authorities over many years and address the changing needs, expectations and opportunities of village and local residents to better meet and comply with the increasing development of 'Localism' now and in future whilst maintaining its unique village identity.

1. A. At a Village meeting in 2006, it was agreed by attendees that the residents of properties addressed as Nos 3, 4 (Riverside House), 5, 6, 7 and 8 Bishopstrow should be recognised as being part of the Village. The residents have, for many years, been thought of and treated as such in terms of awareness and involvement in village life and activities.  
B. There are also many residents in properties that lie within and between our boundary of Bishopstrow's main street and our boundary at Yew Tree Farm junction with Middleton Farm Lane on the A3414 to Norton Bavant who, historically, consider themselves to be part of Bishopstrow and again, who have been contributory to the historic success of the village and its activities.  
C. There are also properties whose buildings and grounds and land ownership are partially within our boundaries and those of Warminster, Norton Bavant and Sutton Veny.  
D. A request was made to Wiltshire Council in 2006 relating more particularly to A above, and has annually been followed up with it. The reasons for not progressing with this request, in the main, have been the transforming and subsequent settling of Wiltshire Council as a unitary authority and the regularity and occurrence of elections, be they local or national.
2. Bishopstrow consists of 65 households and approximately 125 residents.
3. The attached map indicates our current boundary in **yellow**.
4. After initial consultation between the current Parish Meeting Chairman, Parish Clerk and the most recent Parish Meeting Chairman with whom contact has been maintained with Wiltshire Council, the attached map indicates a proposed altering of Bishopstrow's boundary in **red**.
5. A. This proposal seeks to correct the above mentioned anomalies and requests of local and village residents.  
B. It seeks to strengthen Bishopstrow's status as a village settlement encompassing its Areas of Archaeological Interest, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens, and Conservation Area as defined in WC's West Wiltshire District Plan 2004.  
C. The proposal also strengthens Bishopstrow residents' wish to remain a village settlement and separate from Warminster's future conurbation – keeping its unique community identity.  
D. It also supports the Village's recent discussions with Cranborne Chase AONB for clarification and inclusion of the AONB next boundary review.  
E. The proposal, as suggested in the relevant Guidance document provided, uses natural elements of rivers, copses, land ownership, Rights of Way, Bridlepaths, etc to provide a marked boundary line.  
F. The proposed new boundary would encompass approximately 25 more households.  
G. The Village's current discussions about establishment of a Parish Plan would include this development, thus providing a platform for involvement by a greater number of residents' and community identity.  
H. It may also provide the Village with an opportunity to seriously consider development in to a Parish Council if its future health as a community is seen to be beneficial by doing so.

Sheila Thomson  
Past Parish Meeting Chair  
August 2014.

On behalf of Mike Perry, Bishopstrow Village Chair, and Andy Pragnell, Bishopstrow Village Parish Clerk





This page is intentionally left blank



**Chairman  
Bishopstrow Parish Meeting  
50 Bishopstrow  
Warminster  
Wiltshire  
BA12 9HW**

Office: 01985 222911

E-Mail: [chairman@bishopstrowvillage.co.uk](mailto:chairman@bishopstrowvillage.co.uk)

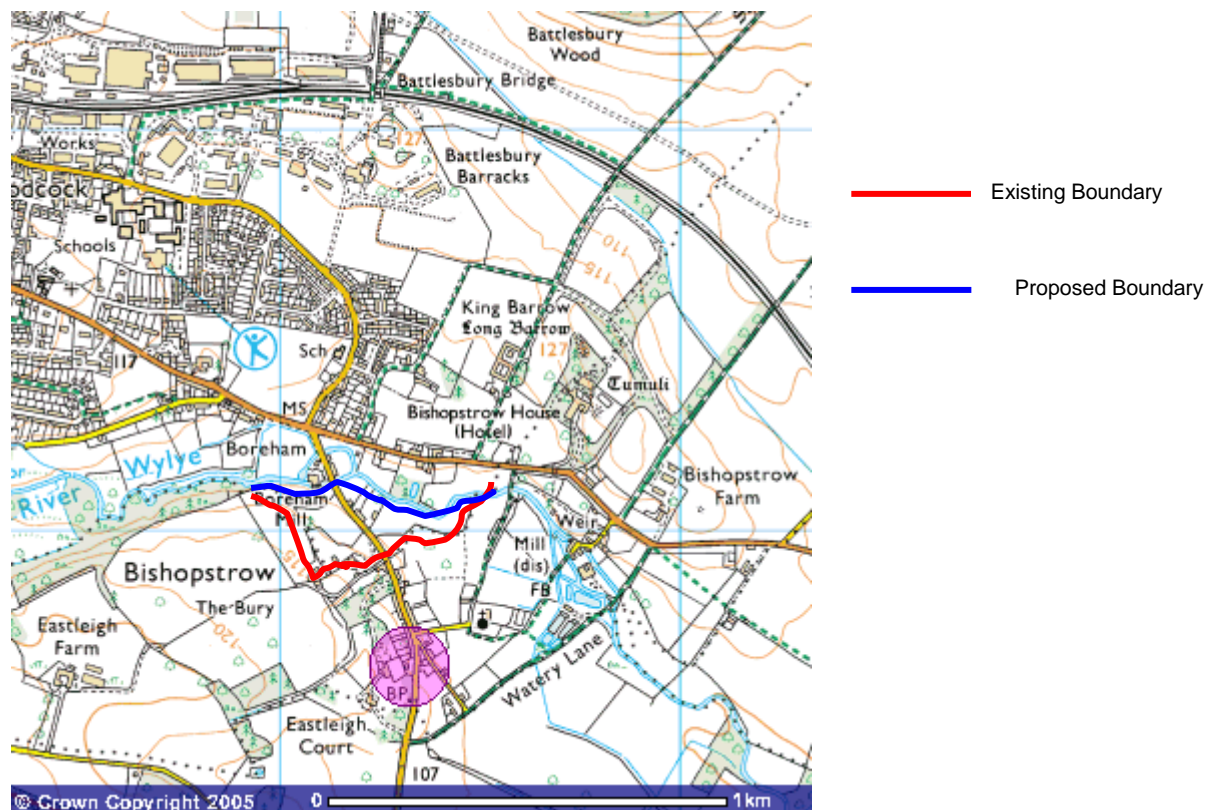
John Watling  
Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
Monckton Park  
Chippenham  
SN15 1ER

29<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Dear Mr Watling

**Bishopstrow Parish Boundary**

In 2005 I was in discussion with the then WWDC about the subject of the Bishopstrow Parish boundary. At a recent Parish Meeting I was asked to re-investigate a change to the existing boundary in order to incorporate the Barrow House complex in its entirety and the 5 cottages that are between the River Wylde and the present boundary. The request was made by an occupant of one of the cottages and has the support of the other residents. The proposal is shown on the map below: (please excuse the slight inaccuracies)



The aim is to move the boundary North to follow the South Bank of the River Wylde. This would correct an historical anomaly, match the boundary to the location of the existing Parish Road sign and incorporate the 5 properties on the Bishopstrow Road. The all the occupants consider themselves in Bishopstrow rather than Boreham and include Bishopstrow in their address.

How do we go about this?

Yours Faithfully

Anthony Potter  
Chairman

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Warminster Town Council  
held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.00pm**

The Mayor, Councillor Andrew Davis in the Chair

**Present:** Councillors J Cullen, S Dancey, A Davis, N Dombkowski, S Fraser, K Fryer, R Fryer, K Humphries, P Macdonald, P Macfarlane and P Ridout

**276. Apologies** – Councillors P Batchelor (hols) and G Jolley (hols)

**277. Minutes**

The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and the Extraordinary Full Council held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014 were approved as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

**278. Mayor's Announcements**

Wiltshire Council's Christmas Carol Service is being held at the Minster Church on 9<sup>th</sup> December. Because Warminster is the host town all town councillors are invited, but they do need to send confirmation of attendance to the Town Council office.

**279. Questions** – None.

**280. Mayor's Engagements** – NOTED.

**281. Correspondence List** – NOTED.

**282. Public Participation**

**J Staward, Warminster** said he was 'jolly cross' that the Neighbourhood Plan had been sent to the Council members for their deliberation before it had been agreed by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) itself, and before it had undergone scrutiny by the Town Development Committee. He also wished to understand more about the 'disgusting treatment' the people of the west of the town had been subjected to at the hands of the various committees in the Town Council. All the same folk appear to be on the committees, and not because they are councillors. He asked what the NPWG is for, and whether it is now a 'toothless wonder' as the Town Council have thrown out half of the NPWG's recommendations before they have actually been tabled. He questioned why EBRAG, 'a beacon to all NIMBY organisations worldwide', is allowed to have a member on the NPWG and no one representing the area that is being used as a housing dump for the town is allowed to be there to put the case for the 'Worthless West'. He has seen the EBRAG propaganda that says it is the West's fault that all the housing will blight that end of town because they were not clever enough to organize like EBRAG did and therefore it is tough luck, and heard Councillor Dancey's rallying everyone behind him in a 'let's limit the damage' rally cry – 'let's limit the damage by keeping it in the West he means'.

Mr Stadward said it was ridiculous that Bishopstrow were trying to get the boundary of Warminster changed so that more council taxpayers could get themselves out of the threat of being built upon by being part of a village. He felt it odd that the Council seems to give equal air time to folk from Bishopstrow at Council meetings. He said it is time that the Town Council started looking after the whole community, not just those who shout the loudest. When the Council has finished, the only spaces that will be available 'for the little pleasant infrastructure enhancements you get from the 106 pieces of silver you get from betraying us will be in the East – quelle surprise! J'accuse.'

**Tracy Clifford, Folly Lane** spoke on the following agenda items:

**'Agenda item 13**

I support the dog warden with litter collection added to the role. Excellent as it complements the voluntary work currently taken by local residents at their own cost because they love where they live.

**Agenda Item 14**

I support the NP as a vital tool to help the town shape its future. I question if we are making the most of this localism opportunity. It should be an inspirational time for us to build our infrastructure and prosperity for generations and deliver on all the UK objectives not just the numbers. Explore iconic ideas (SANGS, a living pedestrianized/cycle bridge) and feed grass roots enthusiasm through the NP into the CS Master Plan and stop being so developer led. We need to take this creativity and inspire residents, councillors and visitors by making our town a great place to live not just a housing estate. Take control of the future, work towards the amazing vision outlined by Richard Haes from Warminster Civic Trust and direct where our community infrastructure, access, transport and housing are best placed.

Some areas are not referenced in the NPWG letter, why? Please include the following:

- SHLAA 631 is described as excluded for housing and is under consideration for protected site status.
- Settlement Boundary exclusion for the Cricket Club and the Recreation Ground in Fore Street, in-line with the football club and St Georges Field.

**Point 1** – I ask why land from Westbury Road to Bath Road is not shown as any SHLAAs despite development to date and I request a reason as to why more land here is not approached as a consideration and reasons clarified to the public if not.

**Point 3** I ask why a SHLAA outside of the West, to deliver the remaining 317 dwellings is not identified via NP and included within the boundary or given as a vote.

Invite and fully utilise the NPWG to challenge ad hoc, unsustainable, developer applications received e.g. Grovelands. Let's take the power of localism and stand up for what we all want which is a wonderful sustainable future for Warminster.

**Point 4** – I support

**Point 5** – Recommending 317 dwellings target across Warminster is not exactly balancing but more of a minimal uptake in preparation of 2026.

**Point 7**

*Flag 2* – As we all know, land West of St Andrews Road has now been rejected for housing 5 times to date, for very valid statutory reasons. This must be a key point to designate the high quality land to better use for the recreational, wellbeing and green space infra-structure also a dictated requirement for Warminster CS.

It is the intention of the major developer and should be reflected in the NP.

It supports the recommendation NP make to limit the CS to 900 dwellings.



It delivers on local residents' support of the CS and is right for Warminster town flood protection.

The settlement boundary issue should correctly reflect this current knowledge and the existing St Andrews house lines should denote the boundary, then follow Victoria Road to join up with the reinstated buffer zone.

Flag 1 5 7 9 15 19 20 21 22 23 27 30 31 – I support, other flags I request clarification of the descriptions and numbers referenced.

I am still unclear as to the settlement boundary methodology statement – Do these 3 questions remain open or have council identified what criteria changes are to be recommended. Please clarify.

**Item 15 – I support original bronze statue.**

**Item 19 – I support the gully emptying.**

**Item 21 – I do not support, totally disagree with the Bishopstrow Boundary.'**

**Tony Nicklin, Bath Road** spoke on three items on the agenda.

**(1) item 14, Neighbourhood Plan** – he wished to offer the opportunity for members to question anything they are unsure of in the Neighbourhood Plan. There had been some false premises from Wiltshire Council which had led to the need to make changes, and he was happy to clarify.

**(2) item 16, Athenaeum Trust** – the trustees were having a meeting with the estates management and legal teams from Wiltshire Council on 18<sup>th</sup> November to discuss taking over the youth building as an asset transfer. It is believed that the building still belongs to the Athenaeum Trust, and the trustees would like to create a combined centre for arts facilities. Because the Trust received no grant from Warminster Town Council this year they were unable to obtain professional advice on costings.

**(3) item 21, Community Governance Review – Bishopstrow and Warminster** – he believed the request from Bishopstrow to be insidious.

**Chris Montagu, Boreham Road** spoke on item 14, Neighbourhood Plan:

'As a contributor to the draft Neighbourhood Plan, I am somewhat bemused by the views expressed in your agenda that the decisions made at your meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> October somehow places the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group at odds with the Town Council.

As many of you will be aware, the Neighbourhood Plan continues to evolve in light of many factors including, emerging policy, advice and guidance from Wiltshire Council, views expressed by the Town Council, issues gleaned from benchmarking, consultation, and many other sources.

As the draft document has evolved, it has deliberately tested the bounds of what may, or may not be appropriate. This approach has helped to spark focused debate amongst the various contributors to the Plan. You will therefore find draft proposals in some earlier versions that have been discarded as the group's thinking has been refined. This process continues to this day which is why the draft version you have seen is only indicative of our current thinking, rather than necessarily presenting the final version which will go out to public consultation. None of this places the working group at odds with the Town Council.

If there is any issue here, it is that recent topics such as the core strategy, future housing provision and settlement boundaries have inflamed local passions. Unfortunately this has only served to polarize views. Ultimately someone, somewhere in Warminster will have new housing in their proverbial back yard. It will not be possible therefore to appease every expressed view. But, what the

Neighbourhood Plan can do is to take a step back and look at the town from a strategic perspective, offering in the process a balanced view. It is not just about housing since there is also a need to address the wider consequences of growth of the town's population.

If our Neighbourhood Plan successfully navigates its way through all of the required hurdles, it will represent a powerful document. I therefore urge you to recognise the benefits that it can offer and ask you to continue to support the process. Assuming you do so, I equally urge that you recognise that work is on-going work and that you await the eventual outcome rather than anticipate the findings. To do otherwise may raise expectations that are not subsequently delivered.'

**Chris March, Member of the NPWG** speaking on item 14, Neighbourhood Plan, said that as a proud member of the NPWG he was here to support his colleagues. Without the Neighbourhood Plan fully approved Warminster will be in dire trouble.

**Nick Parker, Chair EBRAG** speaking on item 14, Neighbourhood Plan, said he would like to congratulate the NPWG which he thinks is doing a sterling job for Warminster. His criticism is that it is taking too long, and there would be greater benefit if it were produced sooner. He wished to correct a previous speaker – EBRAG does not have a member on the NPWG although there are members on the group who support EBRAG. This is not a question about West and East, there is a need to focus on Warminster as one town with one aim.

**Mark Milton, Member of the NPWG** speaking on item 14, Neighbourhood Plan, said he believed in what Chris Montagu had said. The NPWG is not in conflict with the town.

**283. Acceptance of Petitions and Deputations – None.**

**284. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations Agreed**

Councillor Dombkowski said he is employed by Balfour Beatty Living Places who are responsible for the gully emptying (item 19 on the agenda).

**285. Proceedings of Committees**

The minutes of the following meetings were adopted:

<b>Town Development</b>	held on	4 <sup>th</sup> August 2014
<b>Finance and Assets</b>	held on	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2014
<b>Planning Advisory Committee</b>	held on	8 <sup>th</sup> August 2014 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2014 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2014
<b>HR</b>	held on	21 <sup>st</sup> August 2014

**286. Reports from Unitary Members**

Councillor Humphries gave the following report on Wiltshire Council:



## **Woodmead**

The home is now closed and handed back to Wiltshire Council. We are intending to build an extra care scheme with 40 units of accommodation on the vacant site. The Capital Assets Committee has approved the use of £8.5m funding to develop an extra care facility. Surveyors are assessing the constraints and opportunities of the site.

The indicative timetable is:

June 2015 – Planning Application submitted

October 2015 – Start on site

March 2017 – Practical completion

Extra care schemes enable older people to live in a safe and secure environment with 24 hour, 7 days a week care and support services available on site. They can include services such as hairdressing, shops, IT suites and cafes, which are also open to the public. The intention is to set up an advisory panel from the community and other stakeholders to assist with the development of the scheme under the governance of the Area Board. The Town Council will be approached in due course to ask if it would like to send a representative to the panel.

## **Campus**

The Campus programme continues with work by the SCOB and is about to prepare the second stage of the public consultation. The Cabinet have now agreed that the campus will now form part of a much bigger regeneration project for the town centre which is being led by the council's economic development unit. Work is starting to establish who exactly owns what in the town centre, both private and public bodies, to determine their future intentions and to establish whether any covenants exist. This is a huge opportunity for Warminster.

## **Car Park Review**

All documents including town-specific data are available from the consultation portal on the council's website.

## **Filming**

Full council meetings are now broadcast live online. We are experimenting with other committee and Cabinet meetings. Broadcasts can be accessed from the day of the meeting from the council website.

## **Budget**

We have completed the first cut of the budget. We need to make savings of £30m this year £24m next year and £20m the year after. This means there will be some very difficult decisions to be made.

Adult care and children's services remain a priority for the council and consume a large part of the total budget. Changes in demographics with rising costs of adult care and the average disability-free life now around 65 years compared with the average life expectancy around 80 years in Wiltshire are all contributing to a problem which is of national concern.

The cost of adult care, children's services and statutory costs such as school transport mean that the amount of money available for discretionary and 'nice to have' services is shrinking rapidly. There will opportunities for community/voluntary groups to take over the running of services which are important to them. Examples are the library service which now has over 400 volunteers and a waiting list, community transport schemes in many towns and even Warminster Town Council considering taking over the town park.

## **Anti-social Behaviour Regulations**

A briefing sheet has been issued on the new anti-social behaviour regulations.

Councillor Pip Ridout said she was on the budget task group. The council had to make £29.2m savings, and had a loss of grant of £12m. They had to make a greater investment in adult social care, but roads were also a priority for residents of Wiltshire.

### **287. Police Report**

Inspector Webb said there had been an increase in crime in the town centre due to night time activity. There were still several incidents of vehicle damage every week, which mainly occurred at night. All the pubs and clubs in Warminster are open, which indicates a vibrant economy. There does not appear to be any major drug issues in Warminster. The full report is attached to these minutes.

### **288. Dog Warden Working Group**

Councillor Macdonald said the last meeting was useful as it had been attended by a Wiltshire Council enforcement officer and a dog warden. Wiltshire Council's dog wardens deal with strays and dangerous dogs so they had requested that the term dog warden should not be used for anyone employed by the town councils, as they would be in an educational role. The group was looking at costings and how these would be shared with Westbury. The report from the group was NOTED.

### **289. Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillor R Fryer said:

'First of all I would like to say that some people may have been misled by website indications concerning the inclusion of the draft Neighbourhood Plan document with the minutes to councillors. I had nothing to do with its inclusion with the minutes and I have objected to the request to keep it secret. I was told that it was only included to show the amount of work done on it to date. I will therefore not discuss it. I serve on the Working Group and I had never seen this edition, so it can hardly be said that I agree with it.

I bring this item to the agenda because the motion concerning Settlement Boundaries carried at the Extraordinary Meeting on Black Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October now puts the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group at odds with this council. We have had to cancel a meeting of the Working Group because of this, thus delaying the delivery of the Plan.

As a member of the Working Group I feel that our 9 points submitted to the Extraordinary Meeting were treated dismissively by the Council. "Is it worth our while continuing?" I thought afterwards. "Should the Working Group be disbanded?" "What is the point?" However, without a Neighbourhood Plan this would leave the developers a window of opportunity open for as long as this situation continues. Therefore I support it continuing its work.

Should we instruct the Working Group to follow our Settlement Boundaries motion of 14<sup>th</sup> October? We could no doubt try this, but I have to say that it smacks of 1984. Do we really want to go down this path and become like Big Brother? "You will think what I tell you." etc. No we cannot tell the Working Group what to think. However the Town Development Committee can and must scrutinize the Plan (something this Full Council failed to do on Black Tuesday.) and enforce revisions and corrections as they think fit. No rubber stamping.





No, Mr Mayor, we in Warminster, surely have not yet reached the days of Big Brother. We must ask them to continue their work as they think best, without any thought instruction from above.

I propose that we ask the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group to continue their work and to deliver their work as they think best to the Town Development Committee as soon as possible.'

Seconded Councillor Ridout.

Councillor Cullen said:

'I wish to associate myself with the comments of Cllr Fryer. I agree with him wholeheartedly that we should continue with the neighbourhood plan, and I share in his deep concerns for its future. With this in mind, I wish to look at the agenda item pragmatically, as I feel that this is not being achieved. The plan itself, and by proxy, the localism act, are being undermined by flawed democracy. The core strategy is essentially the spanner in the works. The neighbourhood plan can only be effectively implemented by giving full autonomy to the working group, that which was envisioned in its formation and can not work without. I insist on focusing on a viable solution to this situation. Why the core strategy is a negative influence to the neighbourhood plan: the strategy is implemented through this distorted and disillusioned council! It has essentially been given the power to squabble and perpetuate indecision, and has inadvertently engaged in what I know to be structural classism.

There is an appropriate place for selfish preservation of property, or the maintenance of one's status and lifestyle, and it is not when it is at the expense of the whole community. The East ward must desist from belligerently shirking responsibility for the load the community is required to bear in the coming years. Altruism, compassion, empathy and concern for all others within your social sphere. This is the essence of community. I don't see enough of it from my fellow citizens. This farcical paradigm is what we see nationwide, and we need to break away and shape a unique future for our community that benefits all of us, and not perpetuate a fading general attitude towards the class culture of society. I wish to see a fairer, more equal community. One that is, in its grass roots, endorsed by a united council, and not hindered by the demands of the few.

The community has been asked to provide 1920 new homes by 2026 on behalf of Wiltshire County Council. My assumption is that the new citizens would source work outside of the community boundaries, notably Trowbridge, and I wish to appeal to you that this is economic suicide on our part.

The global economic and energy resource crisis is a real and present danger so long as considerations for these impending catastrophes aren't taken into account at every level of society.

Depletion of our natural resources especially oil is fast approaching. By many estimates from professionals within the science community this could be as soon as 2050. The fact that in 35 years time our citizens will have limited personal transport to get to these out of the community jobs is an obvious signal for action on our part now, to ensure optimal efficiency for the community's layout and what we have in it.

To place 1200 new homes in the WUE without optimised planning, i.e. without asking where these local jobs will come from simply allocating a plot of land and assuming jobs will come does not constitute as placing appropriate work nearby. We will only consign ourselves to future problems.



Where do these jobs come from? I assert that we need to localise, creating the jobs from within, perhaps asking for assistance from innovative initiatives such as the Transitions Network. Encouragement and genuine support for the community to trade and grow within the community. Keeping the wealth inside our borders for the betterment of those we represent, so that we may set a trend and a positive example for those communities that are stagnating in the face of wage repression and forced poverty through inequality. Then, we may just have a chance at satisfying the demands of Wiltshire County Council whilst ensuring the sustainability of the growth of our community.

A fair distribution of homes in the community is imperative at this time, as we already have central facilities, i.e. the town centre, it is simply logical to permeate from the centre of the town and its main community hub. This would demand, by default logic, that the East Ward is distributed a more equal allocation of new homes. I also assert that Boreham Road is ideal to cope with a greater traffic load, and when considering a route of optimal efficiency to the town centre and its main parking facilities, it is far more appropriate than the many junctions and narrow roads with considerable on road parking on the West side of town.

To sum up, I can only assert infallible logic in the hope that I gain this support. It is a true opportunity for this council to embody altruistic values on a fundamental level, on this local level, and also practice fluent democracy that considers all of our futures.'

Councillor K Fryer said she agreed with Nick Parker. Her concern was that the friction between east and west would result in an extension of development. She had been confused that the agenda at the extraordinary meeting was not followed. She agreed with Councillor Cullen that the east should take some development as this seems fair. She would like to review how the Town Council handles a meeting like that on 14<sup>th</sup> October, as she does not feel it was the right outcome.

Councillor Dancey reminded the councillors of the comment by Chris Montagu that nothing in the Neighbourhood Plan conflicts with anything put forward by the Town Council. Planners look to the future and it is inevitable that development will be on the west as this is the closest area to the national highways. He supported Councillor R Fryer's motion.

Voting on the proposal that the NPWG be asked to continue their work and deliver their work as they think best to the Town Development Committee as soon as possible: In Favour 10, Against Nil, Abstentions 1. Proposal carried.

### **290. World War I Project**

The minutes and Lottery project were NOTED.

### **291. Athenaeum Trust**

Councillor Macdonald said he was a keen supporter of the Athenaeum Trust who had done sterling work, but was worried that if the Council committed to this project it would take too much of the CIL monies available. He proposed that the Council notes that the correspondence has been received. Seconded Councillor Ridout. Councillor Cullen agreed that the Athenaeum is a small part of Warminster and should be added to the wish list for all CIL monies. Councillor K Fryer supported the request in principle but would like to see what other benefits could be gained, such as microphones for the Town Council. She asked what process was in place for



managing the finances from CIL. The Clerk said this was an ideal project for inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan 'shopping list'. Councillor Ridout was happy to reinforce this as one of the items on the list. The money from CIL would come through in bits and pieces, and decisions would need to be made as to what is to be prioritized. Councillor Fraser said the Athenaeum is an important part of Warminster and should be include in the Neighbourhood Plan. The letter from the Athenaeum Trust was NOTED.

**292. Local Youth Network (LYN)**

Councillor Ridout said LYN had replaced the Youth Action Group (YAG), of which she had been a Wiltshire Council member and Councillor Cullen a Town Council member. Councillor Ridout proposed that Councillor Cullen be reappointed from YAG to LYN, and Councillor Cullen said he would like to continue. Seconded Councillor Dombkowski, voting unanimous In Favour.

**293. Budget 2015–2016**

The Clerk said the Finance and Assets Committee had discussed the first draft of the budget and were proposing a 1.63 per cent increase in the precept. Wiltshire Council had not yet provided any financial information on the transfer of the park. Councillor Ridout said the Finance and Assets Committee had gone through the budget thoroughly, and proposed the draft budget be submitted to Finance and assets for further honing and brought back to Full Council. Seconded Councillor Cullen, voting unanimous In Favour.

**294. Gully Emptying**

Councillor Macdonald was concerned for the safety of citizens and the flood risk from the lack of gully emptying. He had been thrown off his bicycle into the road because of a blocked gully at East Street where standing water had obscured a pothole. He had experienced in the past that when a problem was reported to Wiltshire Council the gullies would be cleared, and if not he would ask the Town Council to report it which also got results. In the case of this particular gully several reports had been made but nothing had been done. Wiltshire Council has a contract with Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) but the gullies are no longer being routinely emptied. They are meant to be a reactive force but they are not reacting. With budget cuts this service will be reduced further and the problem will get worse. He would like to remove the vote of no confidence in Highways and transport Cabinet member from his proposal but otherwise wished to move his proposal as written:

'Warminster Town Council has no confidence in the ability of Wiltshire Council to undertake its responsibilities that would alleviate the risk of flooding by emptying the hundreds of gullies provided for that purpose around the town. This Council also notes that the Town Clerk and a local Councillor held a meeting to discuss this issue earlier this year. Warminster Town Council further notes that Wiltshire Council now advises that the residents of the town should clear the gullies themselves in its 'Wet Weather and Gully emptying' Councillor briefing note No. 215. This council further notes that the 'B' and 'C' and unclassified roads that exist within the town may not be emptied until March next year. This council resolves to: Give permission to the Town Clerk to write a strongly worded letter to the

relevant principal officer at Wiltshire Council and submit the 100 most urgent gullies for immediate attention; and circulate this notice of resolution to every parish and town council in Wiltshire.'

Seconded Councillor Cullen, who said that people were paying for something to be done that wasn't being done, and this was a matter of urgency.

Councillor R Fryer said he is the 'unofficial Portway gully emptier' and uses a stick. He is aware that some gullies have been blocked solid from rubble. He assumes it is not economical to send out teams for all the gullies in town.

Councillor Humphries made the following response as a Cabinet member of Wiltshire Council:

'This proposal is disappointing in that it makes no acknowledgment of the seriousness with which Wiltshire Council and the Cabinet view the issue of flooding and the amount of work which has, and is, being undertaken with partners to address the issues and for which the council has received national recognition. Firstly, flooding is an awful and distressing experience. It happened to my family when we were living in a property abroad so I have first-hand experience as in fact do other Cabinet members.

Wiltshire Council is a member-led organisation. The cabinet operates in a corporate manner and not in silos. Flooding issues are not dealt with by a one man band. For information the Cabinet members involved are John Thompson (Deputy Leader and Highways), Jonathon Seed (Flooding), Dick Tonge (Finance and Assets) and myself (Emergency Planning) and the portfolio holder for StreetScene (but not a member of the Cabinet), Philip Whitehead. Flooding and associated issues have been discussed regularly every few weeks since last December and a huge amount of work has taken place. The last discussions, in fact, took place this morning and with the community area manager this afternoon. The council is also part of the statutory Local Resilience Forum where our partners include The Environment Agency, The FRS, The Police, and Public Health England. The council also receives expert advice from Atkins who are the Council's consulting engineers and who provide hydrological modelling, design work, assessments of planning applications and scheme development. There is no shortage of expert advice and guidance.

This proposal is hostile and misleading. Warminster Town Council's relationship with the Primary Authority has always been excellent and to the town's advantage. It has been held up as an example for other areas to follow. This is not the way in which two councils should expect to work together in the modern era. There are at least six different methods for members of the community to directly report concerns to Wiltshire Council which would have been far more effective than bringing this proposal to the town council. Flooding advice and contact information is also on page 8 of the current Your Wiltshire magazine which is delivered to every household in the county.

To bring members up to date: clearing the council's 80,000 roadside gullies is a major plank of the work in prevention of flooding and is rostered on a county-wide basis. Despite best efforts, in severe weather the capacity of the drainage system, or the sewer system maintained by the water companies, is simply overwhelmed by the amount of water trying to run off from the road. Many gullies were designed to cope with a 1 in 50 occurrence but we have seen increasing and more frequent heavy rain storms in recent years. In January we experienced the highest level of rainfall for



over 100 years. Important though it is, clearing gullies on a regular basis, is not a cure-all. The ability to discharge water is a function of the level of sediment and grill blockage but also pipe diameter, velocity flow, pipe gradient and downstream problems such as plant roots and blocked grills which are the responsibility of other public bodies. There is also a problem with parked cars blocking access to gullies when due to be cleaned.

£1 million has also been spent by Wiltshire Council to improve drainage systems throughout the county in the last 12 months. There are also six emergency repair schemes being funded by the Environment Agency for a total of £282,000 and another £160,000 for a scheme at Aldbourne. There is a comprehensive and continuous rolling programme of gully clearance in place but there is an unavoidable backlog following on from the severe weather earlier in the year. The flooding, which started in December 2013 and which in some places continued until March 2014 involved river, surface water and groundwater flooding and fully stretched the council's resources for over three months during which gully clearance could not take place. However we are still well within the time-frame for the clearing of gullies as recommended in The Well Maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance Management which is the bible for local authorities. To assist with the work load we have now increased the resource by doubling the number of gully tankers.

In Wiltshire known problem areas are cleaned usually twice a year. Operators assess the condition of the drains every time they are cleaned and the frequency is adjusted within the overall programme so that those that require more regular cleaning can be targeted but this has to be prioritised across the whole county. This may mean that those in good condition are cleaned less frequently. If local concerns are reported by the community then these are considered for prioritisation when the tankers visit the area. We are, however, considering moving to a new county-wide intelligence led targeted model rather than continually adjusting a cyclical programme of gully cleaning. We are finding that recent weather patterns are producing high volumes of rainfall in a very short time frame. This means that some gullies need cleaning much more frequently than in the past whilst others remain clean for a much longer period than they did making the cyclical model less appropriate. Regrettably there are some properties which are located in pockets which due to geography, topology and geology are liable to flood as even clean gullies are not effective in some circumstances. Work continues with partners to find solutions to prevent flooding in these areas but ultimate responsibility for protecting properties against flooding lies with the owner.

The council recently announced a new Community Flood Resilience Scheme for Towns and Parishes to bid for sand bags, aqua sacks, and sand and portable flood warning signs to be stored locally so that parishes and their flood wardens can act quickly to protect their communities in the event of flooding.

Moving on, the wording of the proposal on the agenda is misleading. It reads "Warminster Town Council further notes that Wiltshire Council now advises that residents of the town should clear gullies themselves in its "Wet Weather and Gully emptying Councillor briefing note No 215". It does not. The actual wording in the document is: "If a resident thinks a gully is blocked superficially, with leaves or grass, they can, with care on the highway, clear it themselves. If the blockage is not easy to clear or they have any other concerns, these can be reported to Wiltshire Council using one of the following methods:" It goes on to list three different methods of discussing and reporting concerns to Wiltshire Council directly: by telephone on

0300 456 0105, online at [www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/mywilts) or using the MyWilts app on a smart phone.

There are three further options that could have been used. The Issues Reporting System is available on the council's website for members of the community to raise their issues. There is a progress update on issues at every area board meeting. Alternatively concerns can be reported to the Community Area Manager to take forward. Finally we are unusual in having two Cabinet members in our community area who could also have raised issues directly.

To summarise: Wiltshire Council and the Cabinet takes the issue of flooding, including gully clearance, very seriously and are working hard with partners and with their expert advice to carry out their duties and responsibilities under the Flood and Water Management Act as the Lead Local Flood authority for Wiltshire. This proposal is unhelpful, inaccurate and does not deal with the operational detail of the issue. I shall be voting against. I ask that we move to the vote and request a recorded vote.'

Voting In Favour of the proposal: Councillors Cullen, Dombkowski and Macdonald.  
Against: Councillors Davis, Fraser, K Fryer, Humphries, Macfarlane, Ridout.  
Abstentions: Councillor R Fryer. Councillor Dancey did not vote. The proposal was not carried.

## 295. Complaint

NOTED.

## 296. Community Governance Review – Bishopstrow and Warminster

Councillor R Fryer said:

'Various reasons have been put forward for the expansion of Bishopstrow at the expense of Warminster. I will address them.

1. **A sign is erected in the wrong place**, so we are asked to move the boundary to correct this anomaly. This brings enormous, and unforeseen, importance to the job of the sign erectors. Should sign erectors be making such decisions? Or to be more accurate should their mistakes be guiding us? If we are to take sign erectors mistakes to guide our governance decisions then surely we should be electing sign erectors who are the most likely to make mistakes that are beneficial to our communities. I suggest that following such mistakes is not a valid reason to move a parish boundary.
2. The 2014 proposals fetch their reasons from even further afield. **Ownership of land** is cited as a reason for a boundary change. In medieval times yes, ownership of land was used to define boundaries, but today? Land is constantly being bought and sold and divided up or joined together. This is ever changing and to follow this logic we should allow for enclaves. So if I buy a paddock in Bishopstrow can I then request to transfer it to Warminster, where my main residence is? No of course not. There will always be interesting little anomalies. Land ownership as a boundary marker went out with Medieval times. These idiosyncracies are surely a part of the charm of old England, not something to be tidied up and sanitized.
3. **"Inaccurate addresses"**. I am sure this can easily be resolved by erecting notices in the correct places.
4. **"Bishopstrow is unique"**. Yes Bishopstrow is unique, but then so is Slough. Yes Slough is unique. Every town and village is unique. Being unique is no reason to expand a parish boundary.



5. **“Both churches are linked”** is another spurious reason for extending Bishopstrow’s boundary. Presumably this is St John’s Church and St Aldhelm’s in Bishopstrow. If the linking of these two churches is a valid reason then it would be a reason for amalgamating the whole of both parishes. In other words Bishopstrow would amalgamate with Warminster. Although Bishopstrow villagers show a lot of interest in Warminster by attending our Town Council meetings and Neighbourhood Plan Working Group I don’t believe their interest goes as far as joining us. For a start would we want to join Bishopstrow? They are a village and should remain so.
6. **“Rivers as boundaries”**. Rivers and roads may be easy to trace from maps, but they are not natural boundaries. Towns and villages are built around rivers, and roads, so to divide a community by a river or road is to divide a community. Natural boundaries are by watershed, and if none exists then the next best thing is uninhabited land.

Not mentioned is the elephant in the room. I think we all know that the real reason for this proposal **is to stop any building on Home Farm** or elsewhere near Bishopstrow. In my role as a representative for the people of Warminster I cannot agree to handing over huge swathes of our town to Bishopstrow. I trust that no councillors, councillors of Warminster Town, are thinking of supporting this, perhaps to enforce promises they may have made at election time. Now is the time to stand up for your town and be counted. Mr Mayor I am proud to stand up for Warminster. I am proud to speak for the town I love. I trust we all share this love.

We are of course not living in Donetsk, and Bishopstrow, does not, as far as I know have a Russian minority, but we should nevertheless consider the situation, should this boundary change go through. Don’t let anybody kid themselves that moving a parish boundary will stop Hallam Land from building on Home Farm. It will not. There are numerous cases where towns have expanded beyond their boundaries into neighbouring village parishes with up to 300 odd houses, including perhaps 40% Social Housing + Boreham Mead being added to the Bishopstrow electorate. Do they really want to be swamped by new housing estates? Would that be a natural community? No it would not. The newcomers would substantially outweigh the village community and building in the fields by Boreham Mill could be seen as infilling as it would no longer represent a demarcation between Warminster and the new parish of Bishopstrow. So in the long run, Bishopstrow might have grabbed some land, but it might end up merging visually with Warminster. Does anybody really want that? The boundary should remain where it is perhaps a little idiosyncratic but a far more natural boundary than the Grange Lane line.

I propose that we do not support this proposal, so that the parish boundaries remain as they are and I put myself forward to go to the meeting to discuss this on 2<sup>nd</sup> December to defend the integrity of our town. I also propose Councillor Cullen, who I know supports Warminster, and to allow for substitution.’

Seconded Councillor Ridout.

Councillor Dancey asked for clarification that the only money Warminster would lose would be the rateable value of the six properties. This was confirmed. Councillor Davis said he would be attending the meeting as a unitary councillor, and the Clerk and two town councillors also needed to attend. The proposal put forward by Bishopstrow covers a much larger area than that occupied by the five cottages and Bishopstrow College. Councillor Macdonald suggested this should be put to the next Town Development Committee. The cottages are obviously in Bishopstrow, and he

would like to talk to an officer at Wiltshire Council about this. Councillor Dancey said the cottagers feel they live in Bishopstrow so the river should be the boundary. Councillor Ridout said she would agree if it were only the college and five cottages that were being included, but this was not all that Bishopstrow was requesting.

Councillor Dancey proposed an amendment to Councillor R Fryer’s proposal: at least one councillor from the East Ward should attend the meeting. Seconded Councillor Macdonald. It was pointed out that although Councillor Davis was attending in his unitary role, he was also a town councillor for the East Ward.

Councillor K Fryer felt there was not enough detail in the paper submitted. The Clerk said that the meeting will be to discuss the five cottages and the college. A final decision will not be made at the meeting, but the Town Council needs to be clear on what it wants.

Councillor Dancey requested a recorded vote on the amended proposal that one of the two town councillors should be a member of East Ward. Councillor Cullen asked to move to the vote.

Voting In Favour of the amendment: Councillors Dancey, Dombkowski and Macdonald. Against: Councillors Cullen, Fraser, K Fryer, R Fryer, Humphries, Macfarlane and Ridout. Abstentions: Councillor Davis. Amendment not carried.

Voting In Favour of the proposal that Councillors Cullen and R Fryer attend the meeting, and to allow for substitution: Councillors Cullen, Davis, Fraser, K Fryer, R Fryer, Humphries, Macfarlane and Ridout. Against: Councillors Dancey and Macdonald. Abstentions: Councillor Dombkowski. Proposal carried.

**297. Communications – None.**

**Meeting closed 8.50pm**



**Crime and Community Safety Briefing Paper  
Warminster Town Council  
17<sup>th</sup> November 2014**



**1. Neighbourhood Policing**

Ps Debra ASHLEY

Town Team:

Pc Sam Withey  
PCSO Lorraine Rice  
PCSO Mary Moore

Rural Team:

Pc Vicky Howick  
PCSO Debbie Robbins  
PCSO Liz Harmsworth

**2. NPTs - Current Priorities & Consultation Opportunities:**

Up-to-date details about Neighbourhood Policing Teams including team membership, current priorities and forthcoming community consultation events can be found on our Wiltshire Police Website.

□ Visit the new and improved website at: [www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)

**3. Performance and Other Local Issues**

I have reviewed the crime for the area and we can see that there remains an increase in victim based crime for the Warminster Area. When I break the figures down into Town and Rural you can see that the majority of the crime is coming from Warminster Town Centre. On reviewing this beat area I see that there has been an increasing trend since 2012. The crime increase are mainly within Criminal Damage and Violence against the person. A proportion of which is linked to night time economy. I have seen an increase in Theft offences including shoplifting. Shop owners have been able to reduce thefts by making some structural changes and also the employment of security guards, and the introduction of polycarbonate glasses within a late night venue has reduced the severity of assaults.

NPT work in the past month has included

Pc WITHEY and PCSO RICE gave a talk to Warminster School Nursery, allowing them to see a police vehicle as well as learn about stranger danger and how to contact the emergency services.

PCSO RICE and MOORE have recently identified shoplifters stealing from local supermarkets through their excellent local knowledge when they viewed the CCTV footage and were able to identify the suspect as they had dealt with him as part of a group of youths who frequent the area to the rear of Morrison's.

PC WITHEY and PCSO RICE attended the scene of a burglary in Warminster, and following their initial investigation, CID have been able to identify an offender who is currently wanted.

**CRIME & DETECTIONS (August 2012 – August 2013 compared to previous year)**

Wiltshire Police - 170 years of public service

1

ER Warminster NPT	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014
Victim Based Crime	965	1151	+186	+19.3%	24%	21%
Domestic Burglary	38	37	-1	-2.6%	18%	11%
Non Domestic Burglary	86	85	-1	-1.2%	7%	2%
Vehicle Crime	89	92	+3	+3.4%	13%	3%
Criminal Damage & Arson	183	258	+75	+41.0%	17%	19%
Violence Against The Person	227	276	+49	+21.6%	45%	40%
ASB Incidents	752	759	+7	+0.9%		

ER11 Warminster Town	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014
Victim Based Crime	614	830	+216	+35.2%	29%	22%
Domestic Burglary	21	31	+10	+47.6%	0%	3%
Non Domestic Burglary	21	34	+13	+61.9%	14%	3%
Vehicle Crime	41	42	+1	+2.4%	20%	2%
Criminal Damage & Arson	144	208	+64	+44.4%	21%	16%
Violence Against The Person	181	231	+50	+27.6%	43%	37%
ASB Incidents	632	652	+20	+3.2%		

\* Detections include both Sanction Detections and Local Resolutions

ER12 Warminster Rural	Crime				Detections*	
	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014	Volume Change	% Change	12 Months to October 2013	12 Months to October 2014
Victim Based Crime	351	321	-30	-8.5%	14%	18%
Domestic Burglary	17	6	-11	-64.7%	41%	50%
Non Domestic Burglary	65	51	-14	-21.5%	5%	2%
Vehicle Crime	48	50	+2	+4.2%	8%	4%
Criminal Damage & Arson	39	50	+11	+28.2%	5%	32%
Violence Against The Person	46	45	-1	-2.2%	52%	56%
ASB Incidents	120	107	-13	-10.8%		

\* Detections include both Sanction Detections and Local Resolutions

Alan Webb  
Warminster Sector Inspector

17/11/2014

Wiltshire Police - 170 years of public service

2



## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 2 DECEMBER 2014.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Jon Hubbard and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Cllr Andrew Davis and Cllr Christopher Newbury, Julian Snell (Bishopstrow), Mike Perry (Bishopstrow), Cllr Rob Fryer (Warminster TC), Cllr Jamie Cullen (Warminster TC), Heather Abernethie (Warminster TC Clerk), Paul Talyor, Ian Gibbons, John Watling.

---

#### 1 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed all present and introduced the Members and supporting officers for the Working Group.

#### 2 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations

#### 3 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

The procedure for the meeting was detailed, with it explained the purpose was to hear the proposals from the relevant Town and Parish Councils, and to seek the views of other affected Parishes and take questions including from the Working Group, who would produce a set of recommendations, to be consulted upon, which would be considered by Full Council in 2015.

#### 5 **Bishopstrow**

The proposal from Bishopstrow Parish Meeting was presented as detailed in the agenda papers, supplemented with late received documents expanding upon the proposal. The working Group subsequently agreed that the views of the other affected Parish, Sutton Veny Parish Council, be invited to comment upon the amended proposal prior to any recommendation being formed.

#### 6 **Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)**

The relevant parties responded to the proposals presented and sought additional clarification.

## 7 **Consultation**

Consultation on any recommendation arrived at would be flexible and take the most appropriate form for a particular Town or Parish, including consideration at Area Boards, letter notifications and other measures.

## 8 **Any other business**

There was no other business considered.

(Duration of meeting: 1.55 - 3.00 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718504, e-mail [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

## **Consideration of Proposals**

The Working Group considered the initial proposal to raise the boundary north to the natural line of the River Wylve to be appropriate and reasonable, and subject to the comments of Sutton Veny Parish Council, accepted the reasoning to adjust the southern boundary south to the line of the A36 at Bishopstrow Road.

The working group did not consider there was any governance or natural boundary justification to increase the boundary of the Parish north of the river to the line of Grange Lane, west of Home Farm.

## **Recommendation**

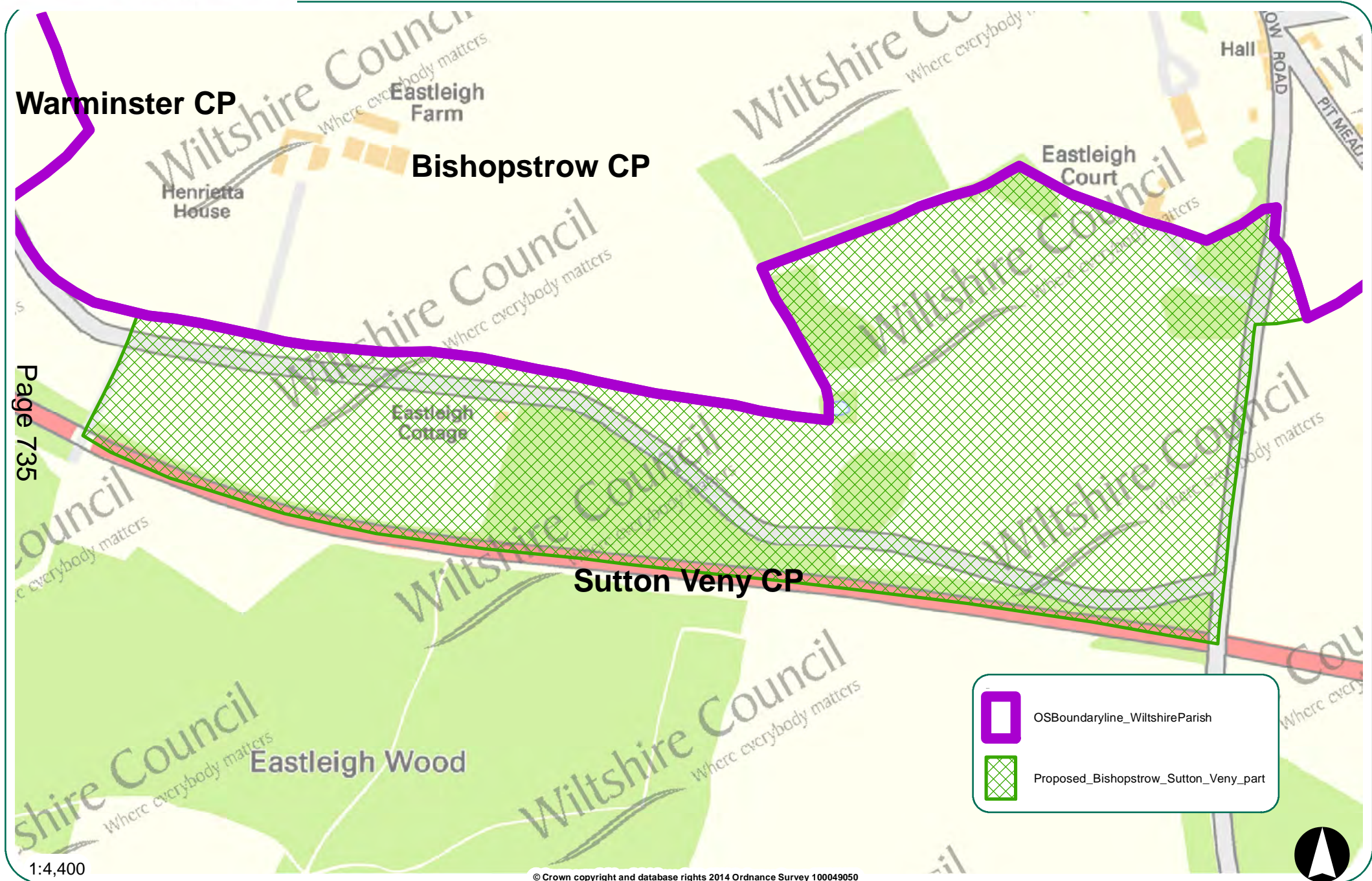
**Subject to comments from Sutton Veny Parish Council, to amend the boundary north to the River Wylve and south to the A36 at Bishopstrow Road.**

## **Area B2- Bishopstrow**

### **Mapping**

- Scheme 51 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 2
- Scheme 52 - Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 1
- Scheme 52b - Bishopstrow Proposed Change between Warminster and Bishopstrow

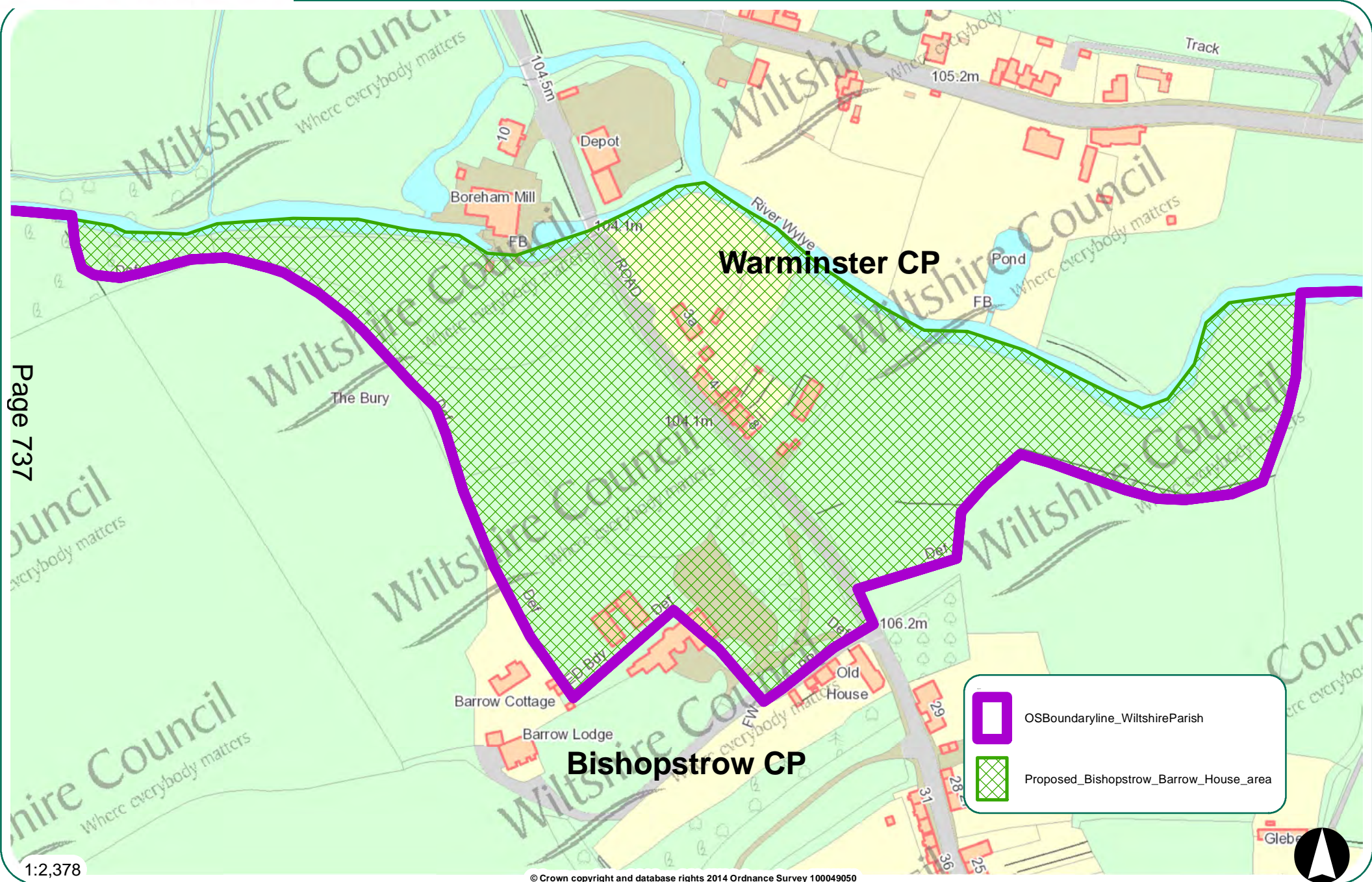
This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank

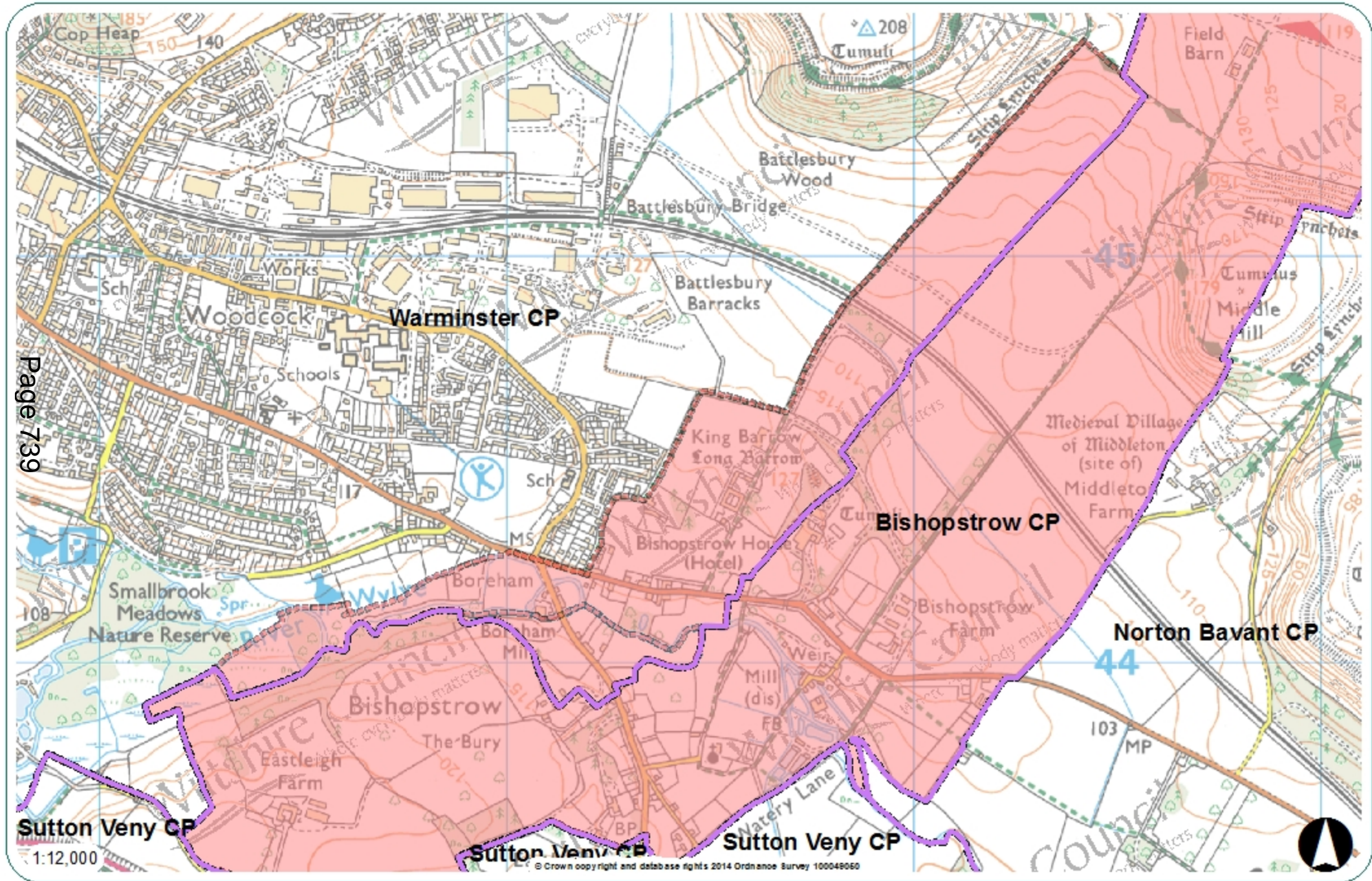


# Area B2 - Bishopstrow Map 1 Barrow House Area



This page is intentionally left blank

**Bishopstrow Proposed Parish Boundary Changes  
Between Warminster and Bishopstrow**



Page 739

1:12,000

This page is intentionally left blank

## Area B3- Nomansland (Redlynch and Landford)

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Extract from e-mail from Cllr Randall 5 May 2013	5/5/13
2	Extract from e-mail from Cllr Randall 25 July 2014	25/7/14
3	Notes of fact finding meeting Nomansland 19 November 2014	19/11/14
4	Letter and map from hamptworth estate	3/11/2015

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Cllr L Randall	22/1/14	Link between Hamptworth and Nomansland
2	Mr D Anderson	1/9/15	Will supply alternative map for Hamptworth estate. Subsequently received in hard copy

This page is intentionally left blank

**From:** Randall, Leo  
**Sent:** 05 May 2013 14:53  
**To:** Watling, John  
**Subject:** Nomansland

Dear John,

You will recall the discussions we had last year regarding the village of Nomansland. It is currently a Ward of Redlynch Parish Council and it is suggested that instead it be a ward of Landford Parish Council. There are a number of reasons why this change should be considered, and in no particular order here are some of these:

There were two schools, but now Landford and Nomansland schools have merged to become a single school on two sites, one in each village.

There are a range of clubs and societies that cover both villages, such as the Landford and Nomansland WI and the Nomansland and Landford football club.

From Nomansland it is about 5 miles to the start of the houses in the rest of the Parish and the route is indirect, this means that it is remote from the main part of the Parish and Councillors from each Ward do not know each other's Ward.

Nomansland is physically joined to Landford and so many residents already consider it to be a single community.

Many of the services are shared such as the single shop and single post office that serves both communities. Also Nomansland only has a reading room, so Nomansland residents use Landford village hall for social, sporting and recreational purposes.

I have had a joint meeting with the Chairs and deputies of Redlynch and Landford Parish Councils to discuss the possibility of this move and all could see the sense in the move.

Currently Redlynch PC has 15 members, 12 from Redlynch and 3 from Nomansland, Landford has 7. If the change were to happen then Redlynch would have 12 members and Landford would have 10, this gives 2 good sized Councils in my view.

It is proving impossible to attract Parish Council members for the Nomansland ward on Redlynch Council. I am told that this is because the current Parish Council is seen as remote and not relevant to their village. There are 3 seats and only 1 candidate stood for election again this year. This councillor has retired once from the Parish Council and only stands now because when he retired then there was no representation on the Parish Council. A person has just offered himself for cooption onto the Nomansland ward, he is however already a member of Landford Parish Council and is standing only because he is concerned about the lack of representation.

The possibility of linking the two communities democratically as well as physically is not a new suggestion, in fact it has been discussed for very many years. The first reference that I can find that proposes such a union is from the Bishop of Salisbury in 1655. I think it has been talked about for long enough now and we really should get on with it. I included the proposal that this should happen in my election leaflet and this was delivered to every property in the village, I have had no adverse comment to the suggestion from Nomansland or anywhere else.

Please will you inform me if there is anything I should do to begin the process, or anything else I can do to progress the matter so we can get a decision at the earliest date.

Very best wishes,

Leo.

This page is intentionally left blank



Dear John,

A working group of Parish Councillors met on the 23rd July to discuss the proposed consultation in relation to the boundary change that would move the village of Nomansland from Redlynch Parish to Landford Parish. There were 2 members from Landford and 4 from Redlynch, that is - 2 from Nomansland, 1 from Hamptworth and 1 from outside the affected area.

The group discussed in detail the proposed boundaries. It must be stressed that it was the unanimous view of the group that there should be 2 concurrent consultations and 2 boundaries to consider, one for each of Nomansland and Hamptworth. This supports the views of the previous joint Parish Council working groups. It would have to be made clear that Hamptworth could only move into Landford if Nomansland was also moved because Nomansland is only attached to Redlynch via Hamptworth. As well as providing boundaries for the villages, a couple of minor historic errors have been addressed, such as one property that is within Hamptworth but is included on Landford's electoral register.

Note that historically, the large majority of Nomansland was part of the old parish of Hamptworth, but Nomansland has grown and is now a larger, somewhat separate community.

The map of the proposed routes is in the process of production, and will be sent to you as soon as it is complete, in the next couple of days I hope. We considered many factors when deciding on the boundaries and all agreed that the final routes were logical and clear on the ground.

#### **The Nomansland boundary.**

The Lyburn Estate, that is Lyburn House along with the land associated with the house, is included within the proposed Nomansland boundary. The house is clearly within Nomansland so it would seem inappropriate for the land to be in a different parish. The proposed boundary therefore runs in part along the boundary between Lyburn Estate and the Hamptworth Estate. The other end of the boundary picks up those properties at Smallbrook that are close to Landford and are often assumed to be in Landford, and follows a footpath the the existing Landford boundary. The middle section runs along a fairly straight watercourse.

#### **The Hamptworth boundary.**

The hamlet of Hamptworth is closely associated with The Hamptworth Estate, and we agreed that it would be inappropriate for the hamlet to be split off from the estate. As the Estate is in the process of being sold it has been convenient to use the sale details as a guide to the proposed Hamptworth boundary. For nearly all of the route the group used rights of way as the boundary, indeed the land being sold is mainly bounded by footpaths or bridleways which simplified the task. The exception is the small section at the north end from the Hamptworth Road to the current Landford boundary, in this case it is proposed that the boundary follow the stream.

#### **Consultation.**

Members of the working group discussed the consultation arrangements and a number of points were made and questions asked.

- The Councillors from both Councils agreed to distribute the consultation literature to all dwellings affected.

- It was agreed that the intention of the Parish Councils was to inform and get views, not to persuade.
- They presumed that Wiltshire Council would produce the consultation document and print it.
- There was a preference that these should be in named and addressed envelopes for distribution.
- Councillors hoped that it would be possible to respond to the consultation via email or through a website as well as by more traditional means as this would probably improve the response numbers.
- Would it be possible for Wiltshire Council to produce an article for the parish magazines to advertise the consultation. The Parish Councils would ensure that this was published?
- Would it be acceptable for signs to be erected in the village saying "have you voted" (or other wording that Wiltshire Council finds acceptable), to encourage residents to respond to the consultation?

It is difficult to produce a rationale for the scheme without it sounding like I am advocating the change. From a personal perspective it makes little difference to me as both parishes are in my Division, but I would have thought that for the residents concerned it would be of advantage to have a local rather than remote Parish Council. A Parish Council that debates matters that related to them and their services rather than those of communities some miles away. Certainly I believe that residents deserve to be given the opportunity to have their view heard on this matter, and for an informed decision to be made. Both I and Parish Councillors have been approached by residents of Nomansland and Hamptworth asking for this change, some wonder how we ever got into this strange situation where we have effectively a single moderately sized community split in two with the smaller half being joined to a large Parish Council 5 miles away. As I mentioned before, it was the Bishop of Salisbury who first suggested that Hamptworth should be annexed to Landford Parish, this was in 1650 , I think it is time that we had a decision.

I hope that gives you all you need, please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Regards,

Leo.

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2014 AT ALAMEIN SUITE - CITY HALL, MALTHOUSE LANE, SALISBURY, SP2 7TU.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Ian West and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Cllr Leo Randall  
Landford Town Council  
Redlynch Town Council

Ian Gibbons – Associate Director Legal & Governance  
John Watling – Head of Electoral Service  
Paul Taylor – Senior Solicitor  
Jessica Croman - Democratic Services Officer

---

#### 34 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the Working Group introduced themselves to those in attendance.

#### 35 **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of Interest.

#### 36 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to meet and hear from those affected by the proposed boundary changes.

#### 37 **Parish Proposals (10 minutes each)**

Wiltshire Councillor for Redlynch and Landford, Councillor Leo Randall gave a summary of the proposals.

- Landford was historically a part of Hamptworth parish.
- Nomansland and Landford were effectively one community, which shared local facilities, including the school, post office and shop.
- Following discussions with Landford and Redlynch parish councils, Hamptworth had asked that if Nomansland was to join Landford, then could they join also.
- Therefore as well as moving the boundary for Nomansland, if the people in Hamptworth wished to move, then it would also be moved within the boundary.
- There were six remote houses along the county boundary, which currently had not yet been included in the proposals. It was unknown whether they would want to join Nomansland in the boundary move to Landford or not.

### 38 **Parish Responses**

Chairman of Landford Parish Council, John Martin endorsed the proposals as detailed by Cllr Randall, adding that both communities had grown to the point where there was no distinction between the two.

It was felt that the current boundary was not particularly helpful, part of it ran along Pear Tree Drive, which meant that neighbours on opposite sides of the road were in different parishes.

Landford Parish Council was very much in support of the proposed changes to move Nomansland and most of Hamptworth, including the estate, into the boundary of Landford.

Redlynch Parish Councillor Bill Dunn explained that the parish and village of Nomansland had been expanding over the years, schools had merged and a natural alliance had been formed.

The current boundary was indistinguishable to the point that it ran through one residents house. The Parish felt that the proposed new boundary as detailed by Cllr Randall, seemed to be a good settlement.

There were no questions.

### 39 **Consultation**

The Chairman explained that as both parishes were in agreement, the next step would be to consider the best approach for consultation.

Following discussion the Group decided the following:

- Cllr Leo Randall would send a copy of the map with the proposed new boundary for Nomansland, Landford and parts of Hamptworth, to the Officer/Working Group.
- One letter and map would be produced for circulation to all residents in Nomansland detailing the proposals for change to the boundary, asking whether they agree or disagree and an opportunity to submit comments.
- A second letter and map would be sent to the residents in Hamptworth, informing them of the proposals to move Nomansland in to the Landford boundary, and asking them whether or not they wished to join them in the move.
- The six houses at the bottom of the county, along the boundary, would be identified and contacted to ask the residents whether they wished to join Nomansland in the boundary move to Landford.
- Letters would be distributed by members of the parish councils. A list of addresses would be provided by the Elections team.
- Based on the responses received back, if there was a clear positive response, there would be no further public meeting required. The proposals would be sent with recommendation for approval to Cabinet.

40 **Any other relevant business**

41 **Close**

(Duration of meeting: Times Not Specified)

The Officer who has produced these notes is Lisa Moore, of Democratic Services, e-mail [lisa.moore@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.moore@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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

This page is intentionally left blank

FROM: N.D. ANDERSON,  
MANOR FARM,  
HAMPTWORTH,  
SALISBURY,  
WILTSHIRE SP5 2DR  
Telephone: (01794) 390368 (Home)  
390700 (Office & Fax)

Map Reference: SU 245 195

Your Reference:

My Reference:

J Watling Esq  
Electoral Services  
County Hall  
By-the-Sea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8JN

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015

*From Mr Watling,*

**COMMUNITY GOVERNMENTS REVIEW – HAMPTWORTH & NOMANSLAND**

Many thanks for your letter and the enclosed maps and following our telephone conversation of 10 days ago I would like to suggest that the new boundary for the Redlynch and Landford Parishes should be as coloured red on the enclosed copy of your map.

For ease of clarification I have also enclosed a copy of the Hamptworth Estate map with this proposed boundary marked.

The reason for this suggestion is in fact very simple. Both Nomansland and Hamptworth Villages are very much closer to Landford in both location and for example for using shops, garages and other public facilities. The bulk of the Hamptworth Estate to the west of Hamptworth village is virtually all woodland with a little bit of farmland and as the owner of the property I believe it would be easier for all land management reasons but particularly in relation to public rights of way for the whole of my property to be included in the Parish of Landford and that is why I have marked the enclosed maps accordingly. I am sure you will understand that this will give a much easier management scene for both the parishes in all their respects as well as easing my personal situation.

The map which you sent me suggesting the expansion of the Landford Parish to the west does include a good deal of my property which I much appreciate for the above mentioned reasons but I hope you will feel that my suggestion with regard to this new boundary between Redlynch and Landford should lie as I have suggested to make life easier for all of us.

I am very happy to make an arrangement to come to Trowbridge to discuss this with you if you think this will be helpful and/or if you would wish to visit to have a look for yourself on the ground and I would be only too happy to make an appropriate arrangement with you.

I hope this is all helpful and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

*Yours Sincerely,  
N.D. Anderson*

N. D. ANDERSON

# HAMPTWORTH ESTATE

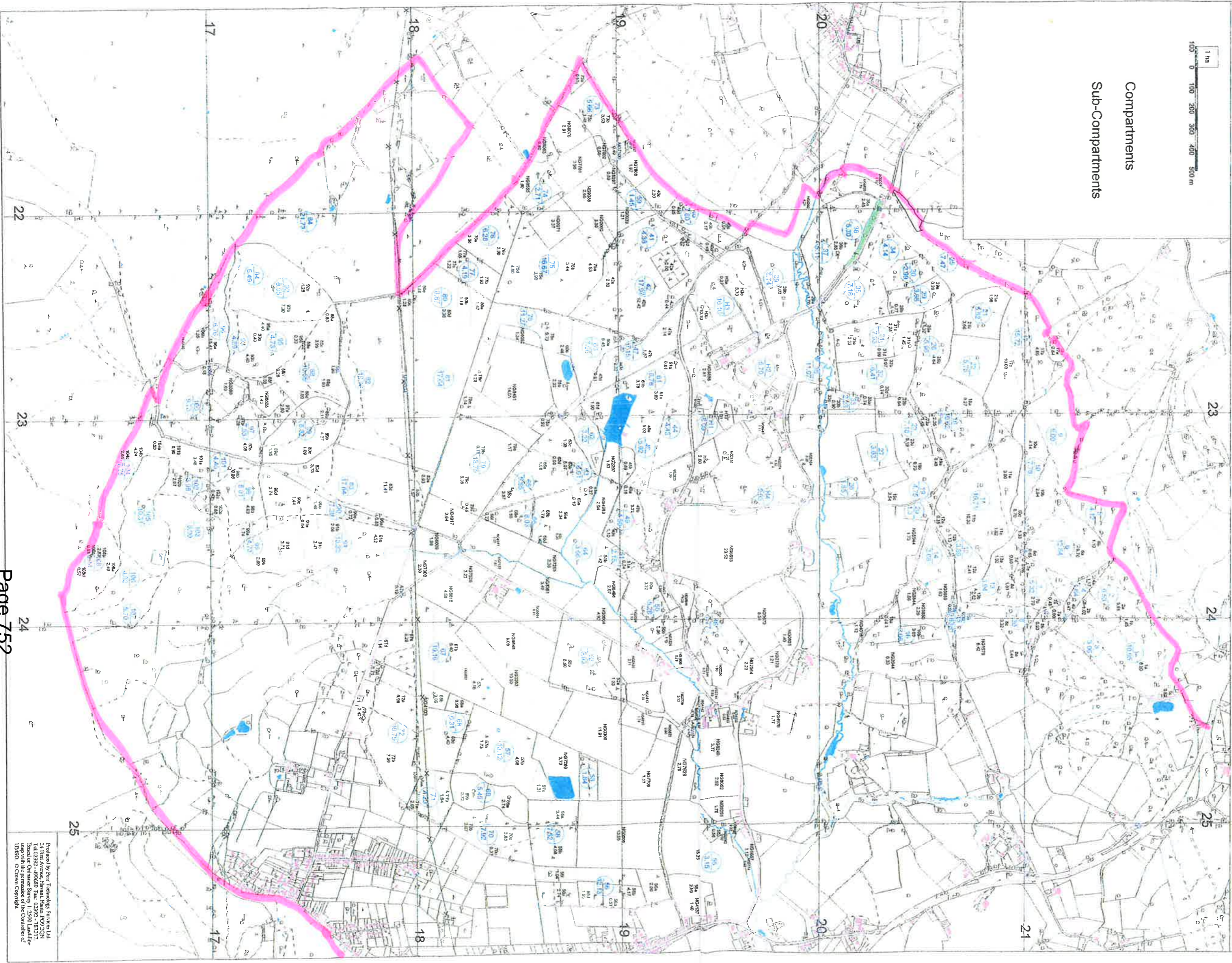
Hamptworth Lodge, Hamptworth, Landford, Salisbury, Salisbury SP5 2EA

enquiries@hamptworthestate.co.uk www.hamptworthestate.co.uk

Telephone: 0044 (0) 1794 390 700



Compartments  
Sub-Compartments





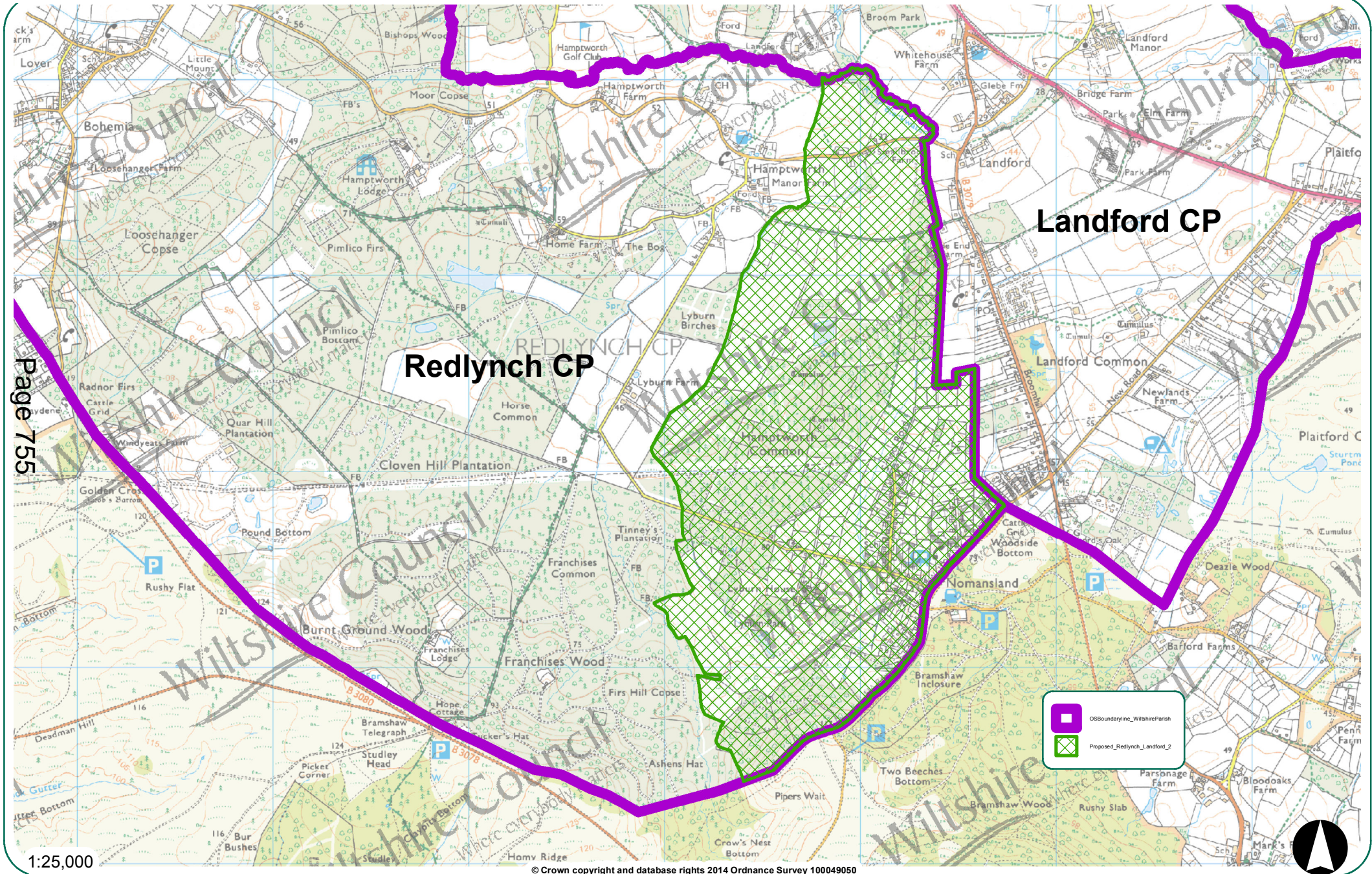
## **Area B3- Nomansland (Redlynch and Landford)**

### **Mapping**

- Map: Area B3 – Redlynch and Landford Map 1 - Properties within Nomansland Proposal Only
- Map: Area B3 – Redlynch and Landford Map 2 - Properties within Hamptworth
- Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford Hamptworth Estate
- Scheme 54 Redlynch and Landford with National Park area

This page is intentionally left blank

Area B3 - Redlynch and Landford Map 1  
Nomansland

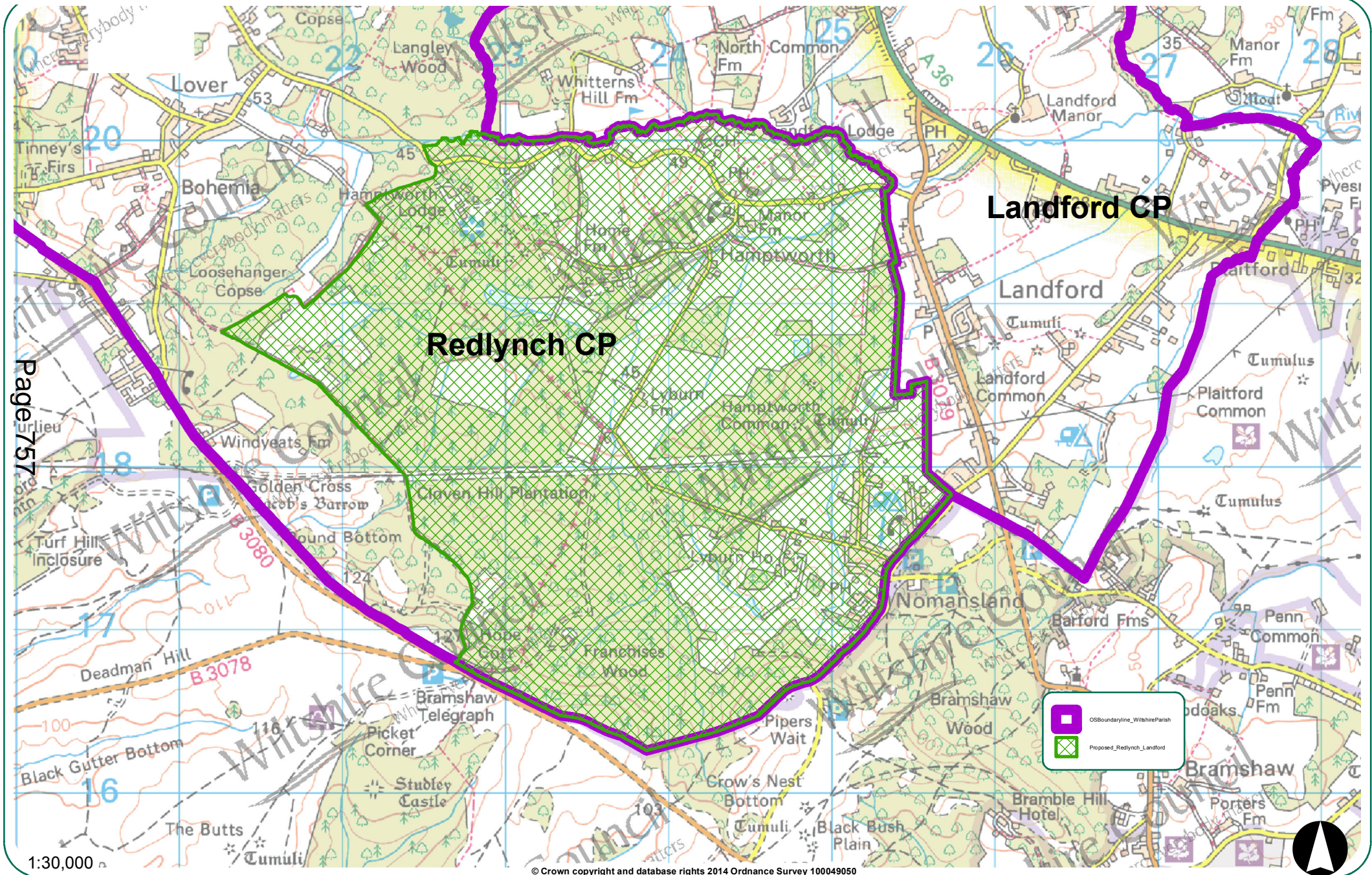


Page 755

1:25,000

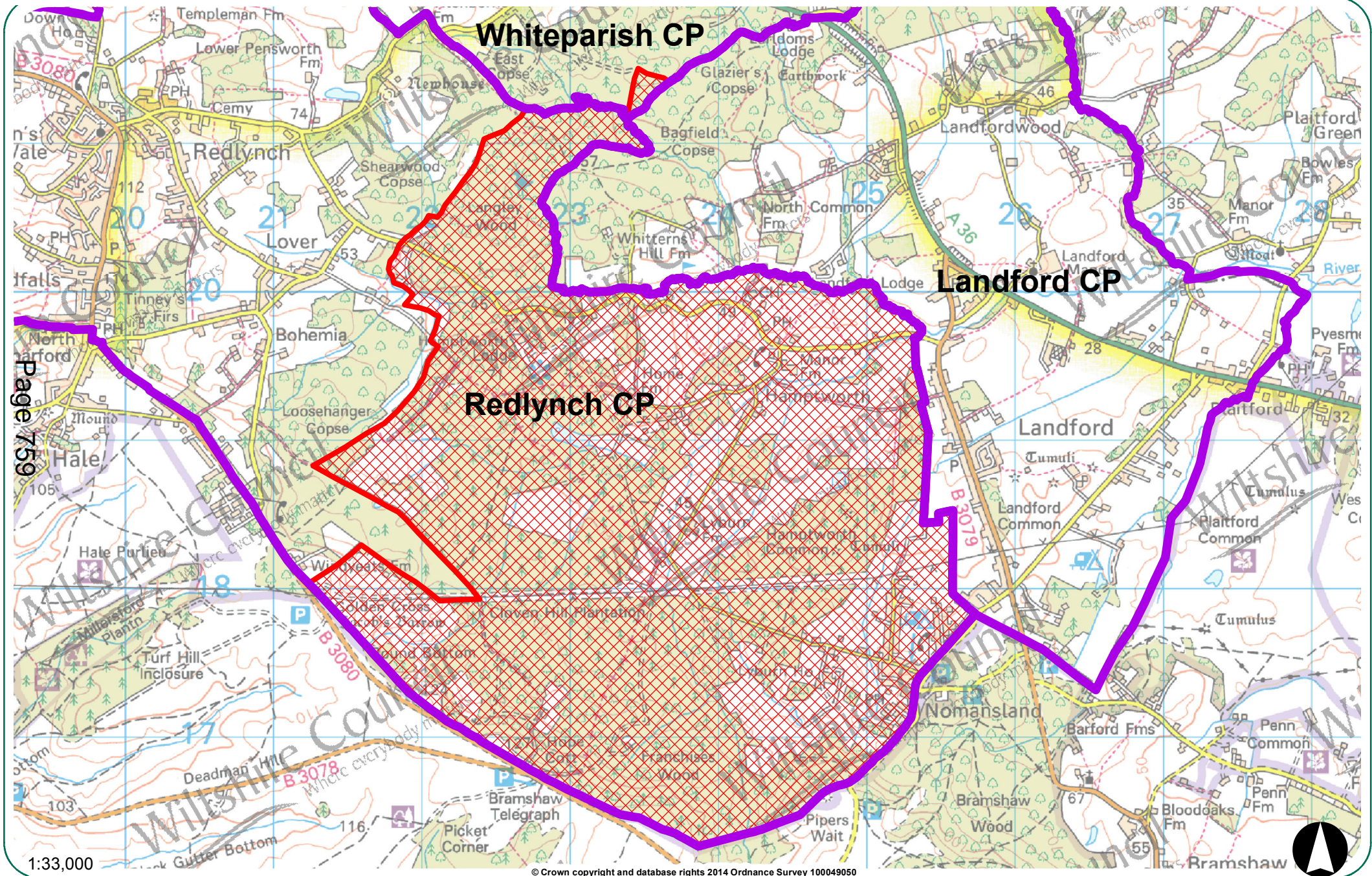
This page is intentionally left blank

Area B3 - Redlynch and Landford Map 2  
Hamptworth and Nomansland



This page is intentionally left blank

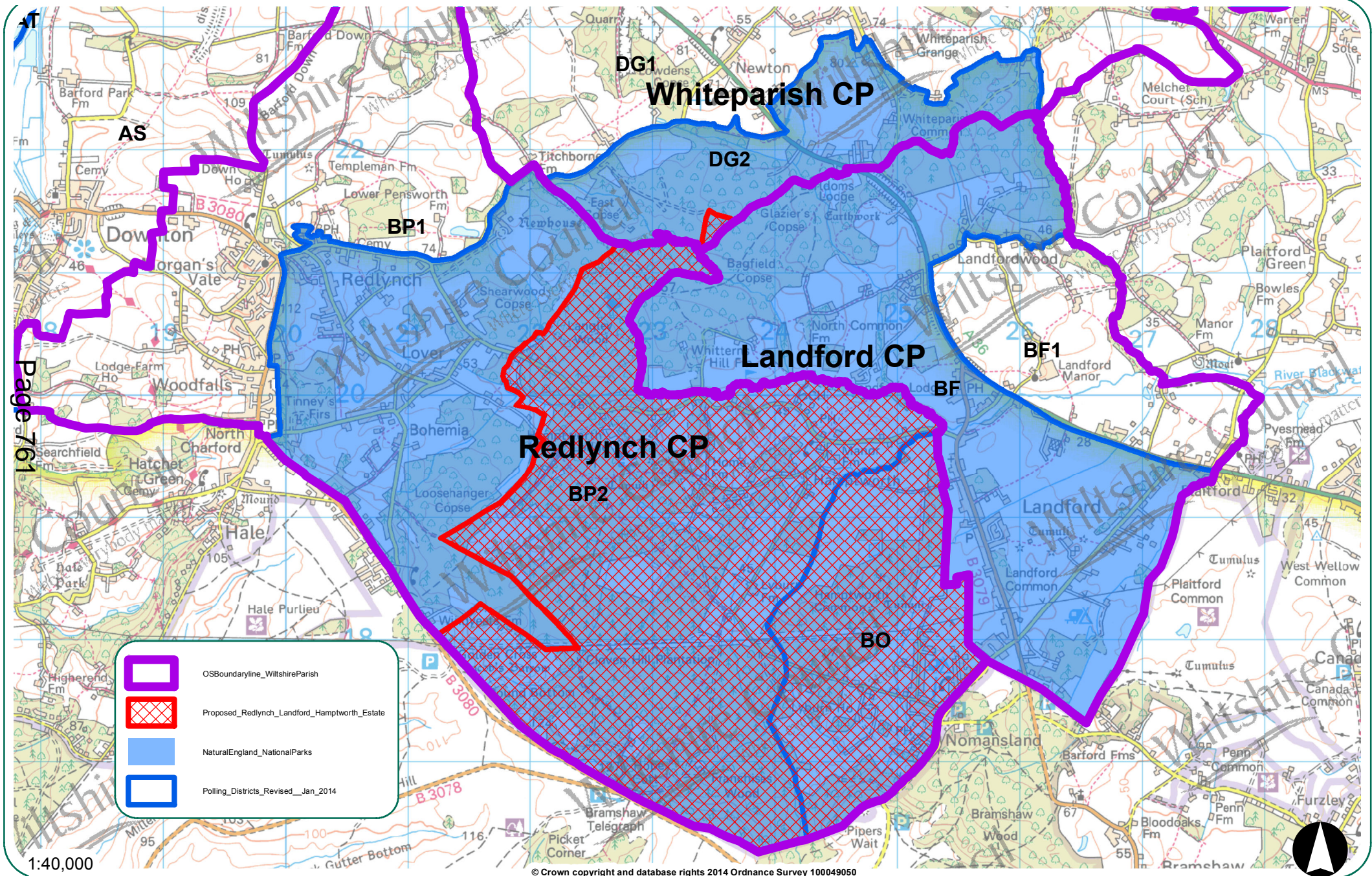
Redlynch, Landford and Whiteparish  
Hamptworth Estate



Page 759

This page is intentionally left blank





This page is intentionally left blank

## Area B4 - Tisbury and West Tisbury

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Extract from Tisbury PC e-mail 6 July 2014	6/7/14
2	Extract from West Tisbury PC e-mail 22 October 2015	22/10/14
3	Letter from Mr J Pope 18 May 2010	18/5/10
4	Letter from West Tisbury PC 8 March 2014	8/3/14
5	Map to accompany extract from e-mail from West Tisbury PC 22 October 2015	22/10/15
6	Notes of Tisbury fact finding meeting 19 November 2014	19/11/14
7	Tisbury PC 18 June 2015	18/6/15
8	West Tisbury PC 5 July 2014	5/7/14
9	West Tisbury PC 17 June 2015	17/6/15
10		

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	Mrs T Austreng	30/6/14	Against merger

This page is intentionally left blank

Dear John

Tisbury P. Cllrs informally discussed the potential changes, but as I thought, there was no definite proposal mooted and each councillor was asked to send their thoughts to me by Friday last.

As I did not receive any comments I will put the issue on the August agenda, but I think this will be too late for you to feed back.

I can give you insight into previous discussion - but this would be my personal view of what was said, but does boil down into 2 key issues:

- a. Tisbury village is a very different environment to that of the surrounding area - it has a car park, public toilets, swim pool, sports centre, High St shops etc., i.e. it is urban in nature and the precept reflects this. Residents in the surrounding much more rural environment pay the same council tax as the vast majority of Tisbury residents, but without the immediate facilities.
- b. The proposal to amalgamate the 2 parishes would combine more rural homes into the mix and did not find favour; however the *potential* for a Tisbury PC and a Tisbury Without PC could be considered more logical.

As a third point, the boundary between the 2 parishes broadly follows natural geographic features such as the Oddford Brook. This may well have been logical in the past, but now further houses have been built on the outskirts of Tisbury village so that the boundary passes between houses on the same development - an anomaly and confusing to residents who sometimes turn up at meetings not knowing that they live in West Tisbury and not Tisbury. Look at Springfield Gardens in West Tisbury with St John's Close/Brook Close in Tisbury; also The Mallards, Castle Mount and High View - all in West Tisbury.

Perhaps you would let me know if you still wish a more formal response following the August 4th meeting.

best wishes,  
sandra

from Mrs S. Harry - Clerk to Tisbury Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank

Dear John

Thank you for your email. I am responding on behalf of both West Tisbury and Tisbury Parish Councils following discussion with Sandra.

As per our previous correspondence, the two councils had prepared an option for a review of the boundary, which would essentially move the more rural parts of the parish from Tisbury to West Tisbury and the more urban parts of the parish from West Tisbury to Tisbury.

I attach a map demonstrating the suggested changes and list for you below the detail behind that.

**Tisbury residences to West Tisbury:**

Ansty - 1  
Chicksgrove - 12 (but keeping Chicksgrove Lane – SP3 6LU –4 – these are Tisbury side of the cemetery)  
Jobbers Lane – 1  
Squalls Lane – 10  
Tisbury SP3 6NZ/6SG – 3 (Lower Lawn House / Nadder Barn / Meadow Cottage)  
Tisbury Row – 27  
Wardour – 55 Total = 109

**West Tisbury residences to Tisbury:**

Springfield Park - 23  
The Mallards - 9  
Monmouth Road - 26  
High View Close - 26  
Castle Mount – 24 Total = 108

I trust that this provides you with the necessary information however, please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information or clarification.

Kind regards

Nicola Duke  
Parish Clerk  
For and on behalf of  
West Tisbury Parish Council

This page is intentionally left blank



Wyndham's, Quarry Lane,  
Upper Chicksgrove, Tisbury,  
Salisbury, Wilts. SP3 6LY.

01747 870326 e.mail ://pionono@tiscali.co.uk

Steve Milton Esq.  
Head of Community Governance  
Wiltshire Unitary Authority.

Tuesday, 18 May 2010.

Dear Steve Milton,

TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL and  
WEST TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL.

I was delighted to read in the Draft Minutes of the Tisbury PC that there seemed to be some sort of a dialogue running concerning local Governance.

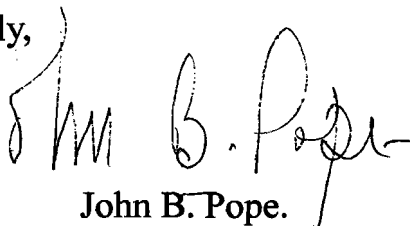
As a Tisbury Resident I would like to see Tisbury Village as but one Civil Parish, with but the one Parish Council, and one Parish Clerk, and with fewer Parish Councillors than now hold office under the two Parish System. At my last count West Tisbury fielded one councillor for every fifty electors. An amalgamated single ward Parish would need to find fewer Councillors, thereby increasing the chances of holding an election in 2013. For near eighteen years Tisbury Parish wont have had an Election, because it never had a sufficiency of candidates to precipitate one, but there is a need for us to elect our own Councillors rather than have them happen upon us.

Tisbury Village is no longer a 'one horse town', and the expansion of Gillingham will affect us too. There's no merit in retaining our status quo. When I informally raised the matter of amalgamation before a Tisbury Parish Council Meeting at the time of the last Unitary Authority Election, the only Parish Councillor against amalgamation was the West Tisbury Parish Clerk, who 'moonlights' as a Tisbury Parish Councillor. West Tisbury continuously wishes to be consulted about, and be involved in Tisbury's Governance, but resists any suggestion of

amalgamation. One receives the impression that apart from hurt susceptibilities all that West Tisbury has against amalgamation is its reluctance to contribute to the cost of those facilities that Tisbury alone pays for. It is time for change!

Whilst not sure whether you are the right man to put the proposition to, I wish to propose that from the date of the next election which I understand should be in 2013, the Parishes of Tisbury and West Tisbury become one single ward Parish, governed by a single Parish Council of circa a dozen Councillors.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John B. Pope'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'P'.

John B. Pope.

West Tisbury Parish Council  
c/o Post Office House, High St, Tisbury, SP3 6LD

8 March 2014

John Watling  
Wiltshire Council

Dear Mr Watling

GOVERNANCE & BOUNDARY REVIEWS

Thank you for letting W Tisbury Parish Council have sight of Cllr Tonge's paper on Parish & Town Council Grant Options. The Councillors have asked me to respond as follows:

We note that suggestions were invited on boundaries and potential amalgamations.

It could be argued that superficially, there is a case to amalgamate this council with that of Tisbury; clearly the village of Tisbury, based around the use of its railway station, does act as a centre of gravity for this whole area of SW Wiltshire. This certainly also encompasses Hindon, the Fonthills, Chilmark, Fovant, Chicksgrove, Ansty, Swallowcliffe, Wardour, the Donheads, Semley and E Knoyle and, arguably, the Teffonts and Dinton. The attraction is clear. Tisbury, with its varied range of retail businesses, including a busy Post Office, medical and dental facilities and social, educational and religious entities, provides by far the largest centre within that area, limited only by its relatively poor road links and parking. It is also highly likely that the attractiveness of the village to residents of surrounding parishes will only grow with the completion of Tisbury Community Campus. The majority of residents in these surrounding areas will have an interest in maintaining the viability of Tisbury.

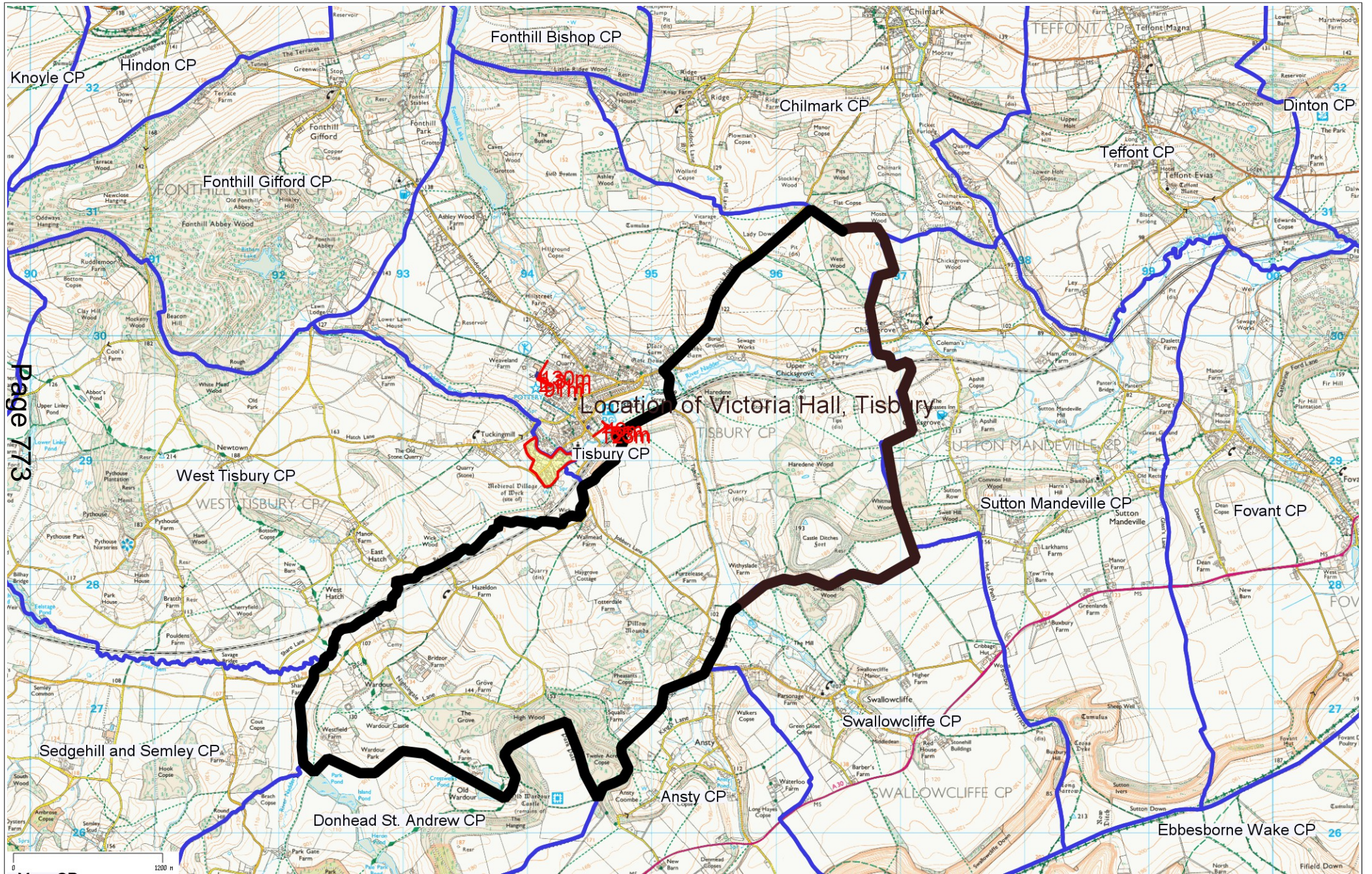
The converse, however, is not necessarily true. Tisbury dwarfs the other parishes and its demographic make-up is very different from that of its hinterland. Tisbury parish is predominantly semi-urban in its character given the relatively high density of population in the community. Other than the part of W Tisbury (Monmouth Road and Tuckingmill) that is contiguous with Tisbury, the remainder of the area is a mix of individual dwellings, hamlets and agricultural premises. The needs and wishes of the two populations diverge in many ways. For these reasons, therefore, West Tisbury would not wish to become a part of 'Greater Tisbury'.

Yours sincerely

*Sent by email*

Janet Amos  
Clerk to the Council

This page is intentionally left blank



Page 773

This page is intentionally left blank

## WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

---

### NOTES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PARISH & COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2014 AT ALAMEIN SUITE - CITY HALL, MALTHOUSE LANE, SALISBURY, SP2 7TU.

#### Present:

Cllr Ernie Clark, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Ian West and Cllr Stuart Wheeler

#### Also Present:

Sandra Harry – Tisbury  
Patrick Duffy – Tisbury  
John Berkley-Mathews – Tisbury  
Nigel Noyle – West Tisbury

Ian Gibbons – Associate Director Legal & Governance  
John Watling – Head of Electoral Services  
Paul Taylor – Senior Solicitor  
Jessica Croman – Democratic Services Officer

---

#### 42 **Welcome & Introductions**

The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Wheeler welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the Working Group introduced themselves to those in attendance.

#### 43 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 44 **Purpose and Procedures of the meeting**

Working

The Chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to meet and hear from those affected by the proposed boundary changes.

#### 45 **Parish Proposals (10 Minutes each)**

Patrick Duffy, Chairman of Tisbury town council, noted that Tisbury had not initiated the review, which had already been a long standing proposal.

Tisbury put forward their views on the review highlighting three options they had considered;

- 1) Split the Parishes into Tisbury within and Tisbury without
- 2) Correct the anomalies around the boundary lines
- 3) Merge both parishes together

Tisbury views included:

- Tisbury is a much larger area than West Tisbury
- Different focus of the parishes – Village/ rural
- Minor cost saving
- Merging would create simplified communication
- Presently Tisbury struggle to get Cllrs, merging would give to more competition and attract more quality.
- The services in Tisbury are equally used by West Tisbury although the precept is different.

#### 46 **Parish Responses (5 Minutes each)**

West Tisbury was against a full merge noting that the Hamlets may be lost or unrepresented and noted that most communities associated themselves to be in West Tisbury other than a housing estate which had been identified as an anomaly.

The working party Members asked questions about the anomalies and populations and it was noted that West Tisbury's population would increase slightly.

Due to the new ideas emerging out of the meeting, It was agreed that Tisbury and West Tisbury should discuss their proposals further and produce maps for the working party in reasonable time. It was noted that if the working party did not hear from them then the scheme would be pushed into the next cycle.

#### 47 **Consultation**

The consultation arrangements were discussed and it was agreed that Wiltshire Council would send the letters to the Parishes for distribution to the areas that would be affected for their views.

#### 48 **Any other business**

#### 49 **Close**



(Duration of meeting: 2.00 - 2.30 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

This page is intentionally left blank

**TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

THE CASTLE, BROOKWATER  
DONHEAD ST ANDREW  
SHAFTESBURY, SP7 9LG

telephone: 01747 828699; email [tisburypc@gmail.com](mailto:tisburypc@gmail.com)

18<sup>th</sup> June 2015

J. Watling Esq.  
Deputy Returning Officer and Head of Electoral Services  
Wiltshire Council  
(by email)

Dear Mr Watling,

Potential Boundary Change between Tisbury and West Tisbury Parishes

Further to our meeting in December 2014 and subsequent emailed information, Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Councils have liaised, mostly through the Parish Clerks, and discussed at some length a potential solution that involves swapping post code areas to make a better distinction between the semi-urban and rural nature of the 2 parishes; the detail of the swap is available if required.

However, although Tisbury Parish Councillors were 'supportive' of the potential post code swap, they agreed (on a majority vote) that a merger of the 2 parishes would be preferable.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sandra Harry - Clerk to Tisbury Parish Council

c.c. Councillor Tony Deane

This page is intentionally left blank

**WEST TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
c/o 18 Nightingale Drive, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 3XY  
01373 864127 e: westtisburypc@aol.com

5<sup>th</sup> July 2014

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

*By email*

Dear Mr Watling

**Community Governance Review**

I am writing in response to the information sent to the Parish Council regarding a proposal to merge Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Councils. This issue was debated at a meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 3 July 2014.

Following discussion the Chairman and members resolved to reject the proposals for any merger with Tisbury Parish Council and to re-iterate the Council's response to the original proposal. I copy for you below the relevant extract from the draft minutes:

*d) Community Governance Review – information had been received from Wiltshire Council and circulated to members. The Clerk read out the parish council's previous response to the proposal that West Tisbury and Tisbury Parish Councils be amalgamated. Following debate it was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Noyle, **SECONDED** by Cllr Little and:*

**RESOLVED:** *That West Tisbury Parish Council rejects the proposal to merge West Tisbury and Tisbury Parish Councils and re-iterates its original response to Wiltshire Council.*

The original response to the proposal was quoted in your letter however, I copy it below for convenience:

*Thank you for letting W Tisbury Parish Council have sight of Cllr Tonge's paper on Parish & Town Council Grant Options. The Councillors have asked me to respond as follows:*

*We note that suggestions were invited on boundaries and potential amalgamations.*

*It could be argued that superficially, there is a case to amalgamate this council with that of Tisbury; clearly the village of Tisbury, based around the use of its railway station, does act as a centre of gravity for this whole area of SW Wiltshire. This certainly also encompasses Hindon, the Fonthills, Chilmark, Fovant, Chicks Grove, Ansty, Swallowcliffe, Wardour, the Donheads, Semley and E Knoyle and, arguably, the Teffonts and Dinton. The attraction is clear. Tisbury, with its varied range of retail businesses, including a busy Post Office, medical and dental facilities and social, educational and religious entities, provides by far the largest centre within that area, limited only by its relatively poor road links and parking. It is also highly likely that the attractiveness of the village to residents of surrounding parishes will only grow with the completion of Tisbury Community Campus. The majority of residents in these surrounding areas will have an interest in maintaining the viability of Tisbury.*

*The converse, however, is not necessarily true. Tisbury dwarfs the other parishes and its demographic make-up is very different from that of its hinterland. Tisbury parish is predominantly semi-urban in its character given the relatively high density of population in the community. Other than the part of W Tisbury (Monmouth Road and Tuckingmill) that is contiguous with Tisbury, the remainder of the area is a mix of individual dwellings, hamlets and agricultural premises. The needs and wishes of the two populations diverge in many ways. For these reasons, therefore, West Tisbury would not wish to become a part of 'Greater Tisbury'*

The next meeting of the parish council is on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and I would be pleased to pass on your response/comments to the members at that meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

Nicola Duke  
Parish Clerk  
For and on behalf of  
West Tisbury Parish Council

cc Cllr Tony Deane (by email)

**WEST TISBURY PARISH COUNCIL**  
c/o 21 Hackney Way, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 2GE  
01373 864127 e: westtisburypc@aol.com

17<sup>th</sup> June 2015

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

*By email*

Dear Mr Watling

### **Community Governance Review**

I am writing in respect of the Community Governance Review. This issue has been widely and fully debated by West Tisbury Parish Council and a number of discussions have taken place with Tisbury Parish Council.

Following these discussions the Parish Council has now resolved its position in respect of the options for the review. I am directed by the Chairman and members of the Parish Council to inform you of the resolution, which was passed at a meeting of the PC held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015. I copy for you below the relevant extract from the minutes:


*Community Governance Review – Members debated the options for a review of the boundaries in Tisbury and West Tisbury. It was proposed by Cllr Little, seconded by Cllr Matthews and:*

**RESOLVED:** *That following extensive discussions the preference of West Tisbury Parish Council would be to relocate the more urban areas of the parish to Tisbury Parish Council with West Tisbury Parish Council taking responsibility for the rural areas. This would better reflect the differing nature of the parish councils whilst ensuring that neither parish suffered any financial disadvantage.*

The next meeting of the parish council is on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 and I would be pleased to pass on your response/comments and any update as to the Community Governance Review process to the members at that meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to be 'Nicola Duke'.

Nicola Duke  
Parish Clerk  
For and on behalf of  
West Tisbury Parish Council

Cc Cllr Tony Deane (by email)  
Sandra Harry, Clerk to Tisbury Parish Council (by email)



## **Area B4 - Tisbury and West Tisbury**

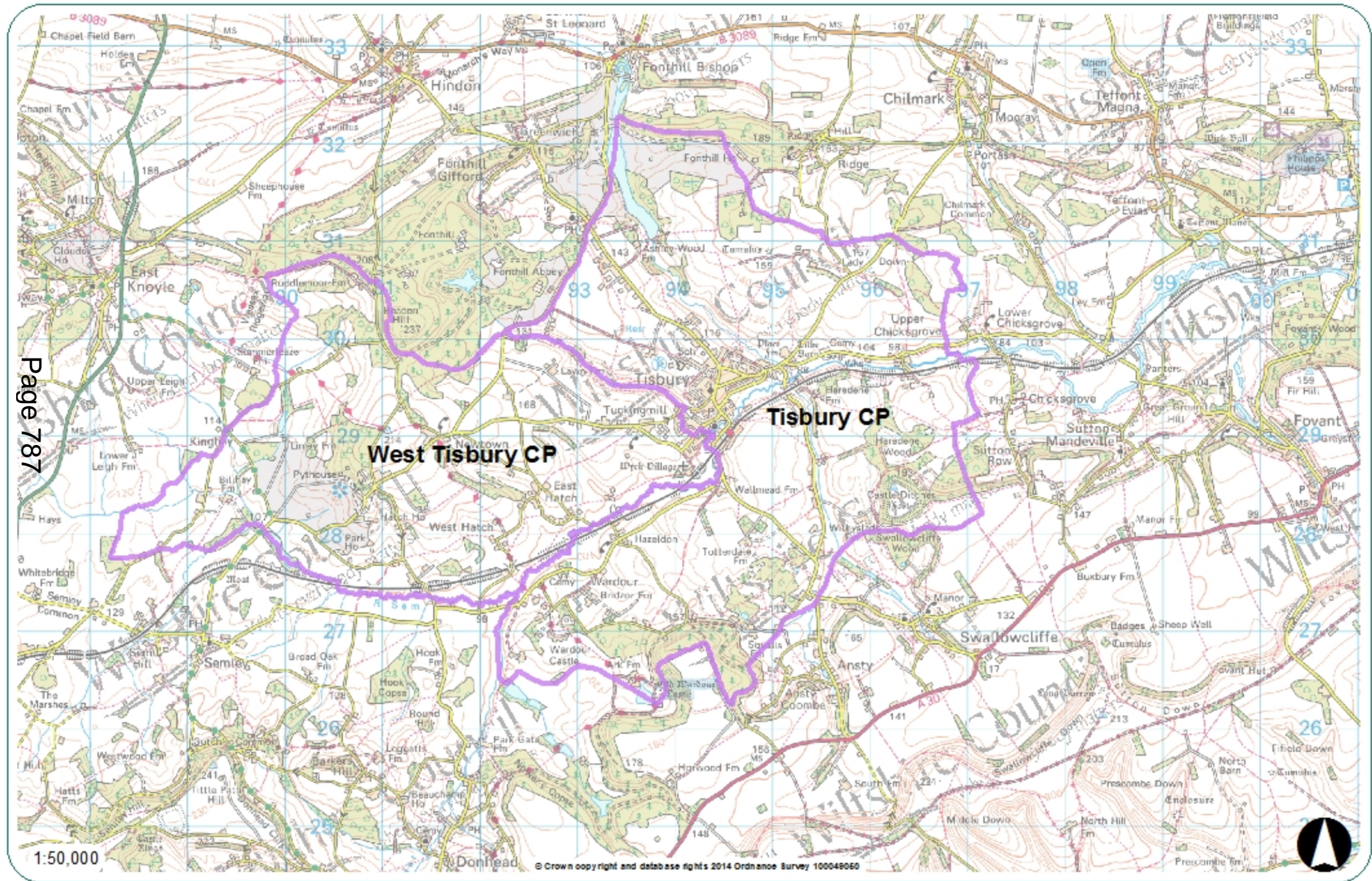
### **Maps**

Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 1

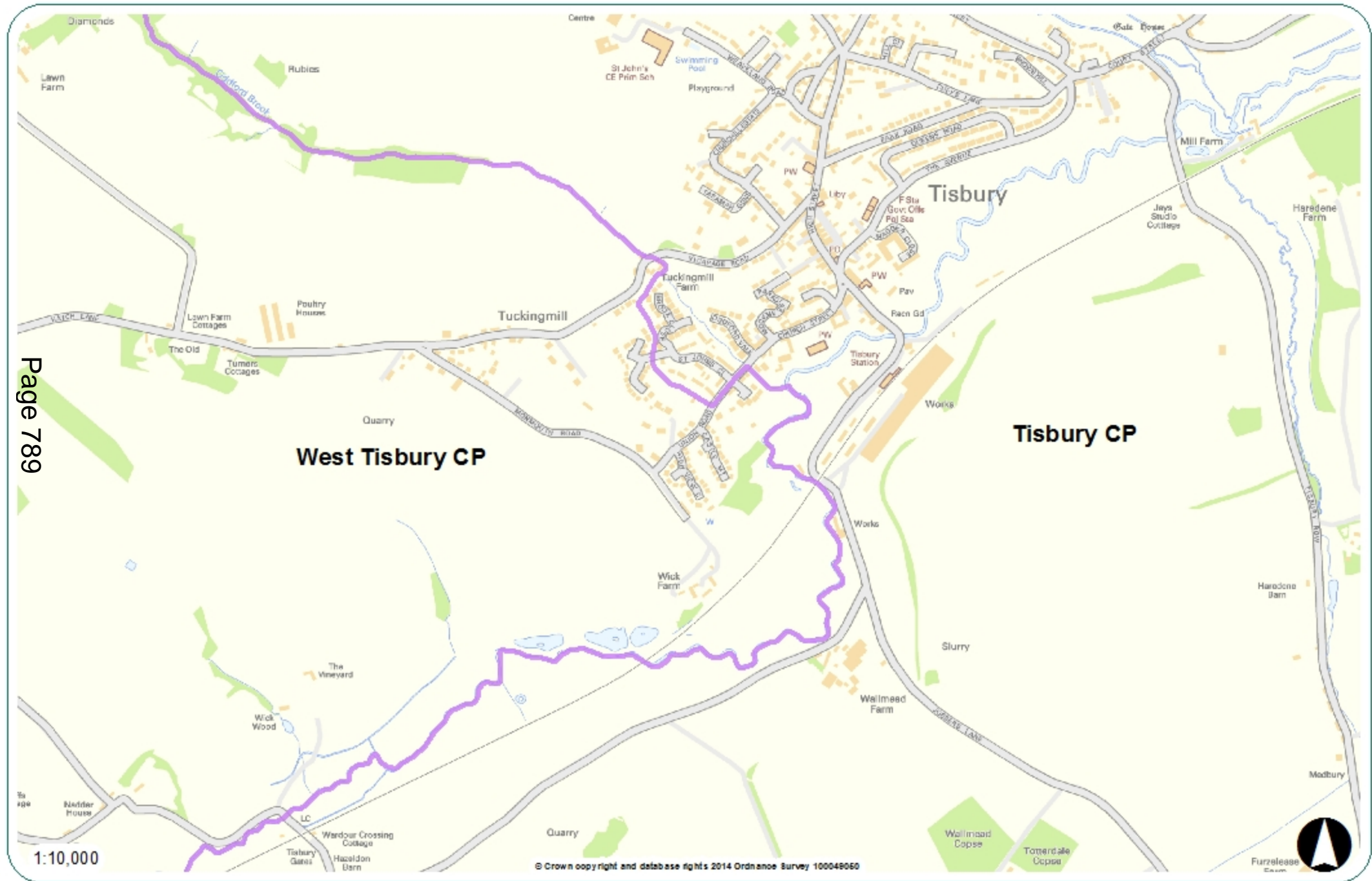
Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 2

Scheme 55 and 56 Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Boundaries 3

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



Page 789

1:10,000

This page is intentionally left blank



This page is intentionally left blank



## Tidworth

### Letters and other documents

No.	From	Date
1	Tidworth 2004 Order Text	

### Summary of e-mails received

No.	From	Date	For / Against
1	(No recent e-mails)		

This page is intentionally left blank

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RATING ACT 1997**

**DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KENNET**

**TIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL ORDER 2004**

Order establishing a separate parish council and warding arrangements for the Parish of Tidworth

The Secretary of State for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has made the Kennet (Parishes) Order 2003 directing Kennet District Council to establish a new Parish Council for Tidworth and Kennet District Council has conducted a review of the electoral arrangements for the Parish of Tidworth and has determined that the following changes should be made

Kennet District Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 16 and 17 of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 and of all other enabling powers, hereby makes the following order:

- 1        There shall be a separate parish council for the Parish of Tidworth established on 1 April 2004
- 2        The Parish of Tidworth has been established from the amalgamation of the existing parishes of North Tidworth and South Tidworth with some amendment to the boundaries as delineated on the map contained in the Kennet (Parishes) Order 2003 and deposited in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) Regulations 1999. The map attached to this Order ('the Order Map') gives a general guide to the area concerned.
- 3        The number of parish councillors shall be 19
- 4        For the purposes of elections of parish councillors, the parish of Tidworth shall be divided into 3 wards having the names and boundaries specified in column 1 of the Schedule to this Order.
- 5        The number of councillors to be elected for each ward shall be that specified in column 3 of the said Schedule opposite the name of that ward.
- 6        In accordance with Section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 the first parish councillors shall be elected on the ordinary day of election of such councillors in 2004. The persons elected shall come into office on the fourth day after the appointed day of election, and shall retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2007

- 7 Until the councillors elected to the council of the new parish of Tidworth come into office, the new parish shall be represented by those persons who are the elected councillors holding office immediately before 1 April 2004 for the existing parishes of North Tidworth and South Tidworth.
- 8 The annual meeting of the Tidworth Parish Council in 2004 shall be convened by the Chief Executive of Kennet District Council and shall be held on or within 14 days after the day on which the Councillors elected on 10 June 2004 take office.
- 9 In accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972 the first annual assembly of the Parish Meeting for Tidworth shall be held on or before 1 June 2004 on such day as the Parish Council may determine.
- 10 The electoral registration officer for the district shall make such rearrangement or alteration of the register of local government electors as may be necessary on account of the coming into force of this Order.
- 11 All property and liabilities vested in or attaching to the Parish Councils of North Tidworth and South Tidworth shall by virtue of this order on the 1 day of April 2004 be transferred to and vest in or attach to the Parish Council of Tidworth.
- 12 All contracts, deeds, bonds, agreements and other instruments subsisting in favour of, or against, and all notices in force which were given by, or to, the Parish Councils of North Tidworth and South Tidworth shall as from such day be of full force and effect in favour of, or against, the Parish Council of Tidworth
- 13 Any action or proceeding or any cause of action or proceeding, pending or existing at such day, by, or against, the Parish Councils of North Tidworth and South Tidworth shall not be prejudicially affected by this order, and may be continued, prosecuted and enforced by, or against, the Parish Council of Tidworth.
- 14 The Parish Councils of North Tidworth and South Tidworth shall cease to exist on 1 April 2004 as stated in Statutory Instrument 2003 No.3025 Local Government, England, The Kennet (Parishes) Order 2003.
- 15 This order may be cited as the Kennet District Council (Tidworth Parish Council) Order 2004 and shall come into operation on the making hereof.

**SCHEDULE**

Name of Ward	Boundary of Ward	Number of Councillors to be elected
Tidworth (East Ward)	That part of the parish to the east of the line commencing at point A and ending at point B, and to the west of the line commencing at point C and ending at point D as shown on the Order Map.	10
Tidworth (Perham Down Ward)	That part of the parish to the east of the line commencing at point C and ending at point D as shown on the Order Map.	2
Tidworth (West Ward)	That part of the parish to the west of the line commencing at point A and ending at point B as shown on the Order Map.	7

THE COMMON SEAL OF  
KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL

was hereunto affixed

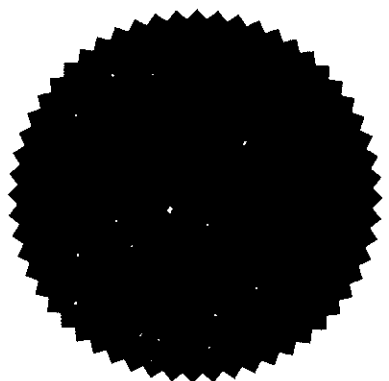
this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 2004

in the presence of

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Chairman of Resources Executive

Clairie Kent  
Solicitor to the Council



MIN No.	Chris Actis 03/04 03-02-04
CHK'D BY	[Signature]

This page is intentionally left blank

# Tidworth




## Mapping

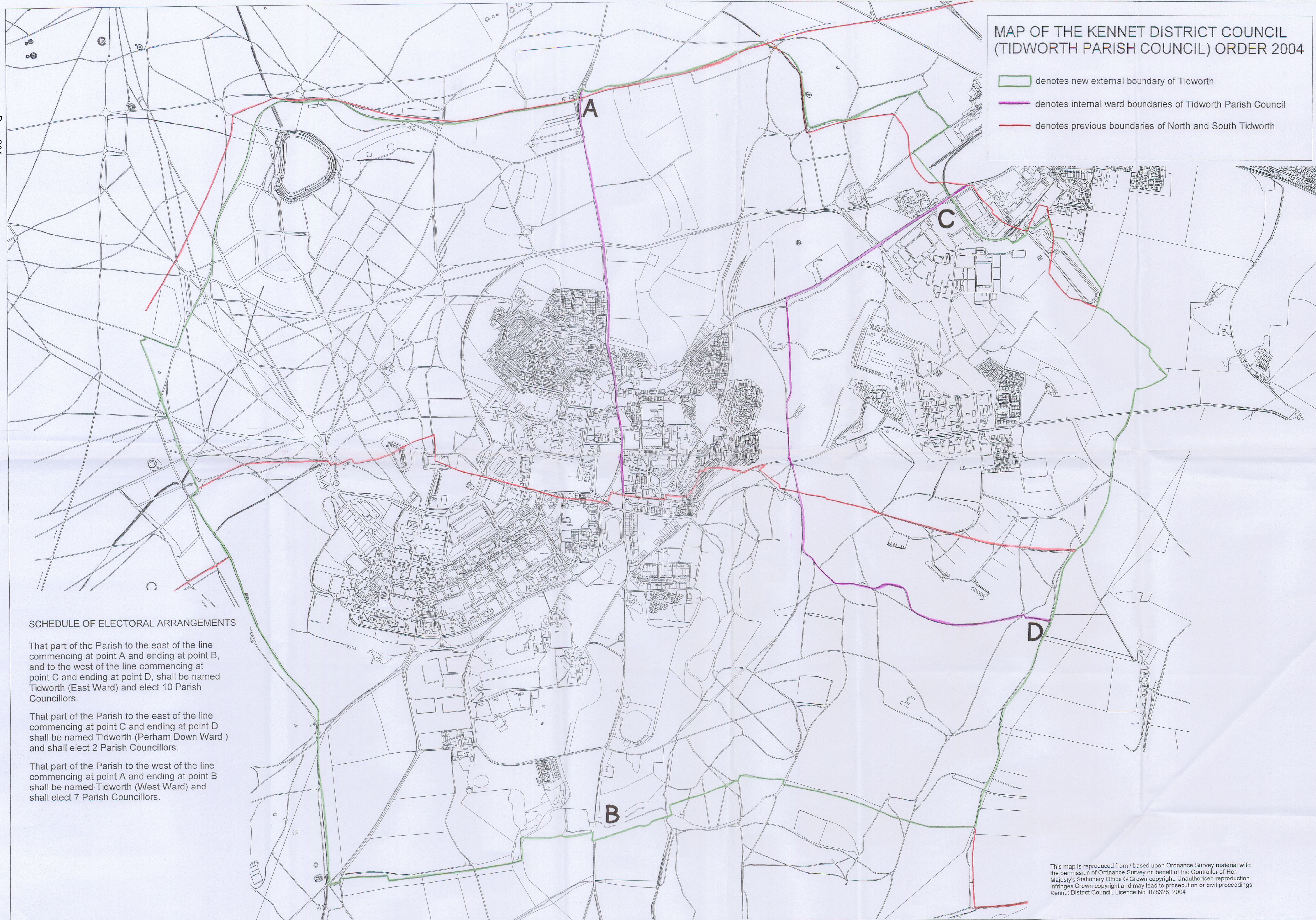
Map: Scheme 56b - Tidworth 2004 Map with Order

This page is intentionally left blank



# MAP OF THE KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL (TIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL) ORDER 2004

-  denotes new external boundary of Tidworth
-  denotes internal ward boundaries of Tidworth Parish Council
-  denotes previous boundaries of North and South Tidworth



## SCHEDULE OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

That part of the Parish to the east of the line commencing at point A and ending at point B, and to the west of the line commencing at point C and ending at point D, shall be named Tidworth (East Ward) and elect 10 Parish Councillors.

That part of the Parish to the east of the line commencing at point C and ending at point D shall be named Tidworth (Perham Down Ward) and shall elect 2 Parish Councillors.

That part of the Parish to the west of the line commencing at point A and ending at point B shall be named Tidworth (West Ward) and shall elect 7 Parish Councillors.

This map is reproduced from / based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings Kennet District Council, Licence No. 078328, 2004

This page is intentionally left blank