



YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS YOU TO ACT NOW

Against the wishes of both Wiltshire Council (WC) and your local Laverstock and Ford Parish Council (LFPC), the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has recommended, as part of its review of the WC electoral divisions (wards), **dividing Laverstock and Ford Parish (L&FP) into three separate electoral divisions.**

This will split Laverstock village into two electoral divisions along Church Road and **combine two of the three divisions which contain areas of our Parish together with areas of Salisbury City Parish**, calling them: **Salisbury** Milford & Laverstock South and **Salisbury** St Marks and Bishopdown. **The proposed subdividing is both inappropriate and unnecessary and diminishes the Parish's community identity and cohesion.**

It means that whilst we would have three Wiltshire Councillors rather than the current two, **two of them will represent divisions split across parts Laverstock and Ford Parish and Salisbury City Parish.** It would not deliver **effective local governance** for a unitary councillor to attempt to represent a half city/half semi-rural division when they have such divergent views on critical issues.

In summary, the Commission's recommendations do not align to their own statutory criteria of community cohesion and effective and convenient local government, nor are 3 Wiltshire Councillors necessary to achieve the third requirement of electoral equality.

WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP: To write to or e-mail the Local Government Boundary Commission for England before the 15th APRIL 2019

continued overleaf

to express your support for our (LFPC) and WC's original proposals which were:

Two electoral divisions each with a Wiltshire Councillor who is either dedicated to our parish or at least combines their responsibilities in our parish with other rural or semi-rural parishes rather than the City Parish.

That the names of the two divisions are:

- **Laverstock and Ford West** (Bishopdown Farm, Longhedge and Old Sarum (part))
- **Laverstock & Ford East** (Laverstock, Milford (part), Ford and Old Sarum (part) and a number of small rural parishes)

If you are writing in support, **your submission must set out reasons using the Commission's statutory criteria of:**

- **Electoral equality**
- **Community identity / cohesion**
- **Effective local government**

There is more info and suggestions you can use for the above in the last edition of the Newsletter and on our web site: www.laverstock-ford.co.uk.

Details of where to find the full LGBCE recommendations and how you can submit your comments are on page 10 of this Newsletter.

WC HAS SPOKEN TO THE COMMISSIONERS; THEY SAY: "IF THERE IS AN OVERWHELMING AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE FROM THE COMMUNITY, THEN WE WILL MAKE THE CHANGE THEY REQUEST".

If you have any queries on the above please contact Parish Councillors Vic Bussereau 01722 339571 or Karen Beard 01722 504728 or e-mail them (addresses listed on page 36 of the Newsletter).

PLEASE SHARE OUR MESSAGE ON YOUR OWN LOCAL SOCIAL MEDIA