

Wiltshire Councillor Ian McLennan

Boundary Viewpoint

Twitter: @CllrIanMcLennan Email: IanMcLennan@btinternet.com



*24 Years as your Local Labour Councillor - Laverstock, Ford & Oia Sarum
Previously also Hampton Park from the beginning*

My personal plea to all residents of Laverstock & Ford Parish



Your Parish Needs
YOU!

**Wiltshire
Boundary
Review
Spells
Danger!**

Please Help!

We all remember the Parish Boundary war with Salisbury, when every one of us stood united, in defiance of being swallowed entirely by our near neighbour, who openly said that they wanted our money, to pay their bills! Our resident response far exceeded everyone else's.

Where others failed and lost sections of their parish to towns in Wiltshire, together, we succeeded in retaining our whole parish and re-united the original Bishopdown Farm residents (334 homes) with the rest of its community (Hampton Park & its extension, Riverdown Park), all within Laverstock & Ford.

This can be challenged at any time, for a future parish review, so we need to 'future proof' ourselves, against that possibility. I am pleased to say that Wiltshire Council want to do this and Salisbury City Parish Council, has voted unanimously to support WC and US *-in my words -* to keep the city and Laverstock & Ford WC Divisions pure and separate, to avoid conflict.

Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Wiltshire Review

Unfortunately for us, LGBCE has ignored WC and L&F parish submissions, totally! Instead of 2 Wiltshire Councillors, for our parish, with no Salisbury connection, they have sliced us in THREE, linked two divisions with the city and split Laverstock into two – half in a city division and all in Salisbury Area Board, by default!

They say we don't look to the Southern Area Board rural parishes, instead, we look to Salisbury. Every parish in Southern Wiltshire looks to Salisbury! It doesn't mean we want to be integrated!

For once, we are all on the same side and need to demonstrate clearly, to LGBCE, that they have totally misjudged the depth of community feeling. They have, also, failed to recognise the strength of our case for independence, which works to the benefit of every community in Southern Wiltshire Area Board – we will have 2 of the 5 councillors if successful – and to the benefit of Salisbury residents, who can happily enjoy all our green space, right on their doorstep.

The LGBCE has stated that **if an overwhelming number of Laverstock & Ford parish residents** (*not a home - each resident*) put their personal reasons, why the WC/L&F/Salisbury City plan meets **the 3 main criteria**, better than the LGBCE recommendation, then they will accept it.

What do we have to do Ian?

Please send your views, without delay, as Wiltshire Council will ratify their view on **25th March** – it would be good for WCllrs to understand, again, our strongly held wishes. If you are unable to meet that date, **the key action is your views to LGBCE by 15 April latest.**

Email: reviews@lgbce.org.uk On the same email, copy it to committee@wiltshire.gov.uk
(Even if past 25th March, copy in WC)

OR: www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk Choose Wiltshire and input direct online.

Or: Review Officer (Wiltshire), LGBCE, 1st Floor Windsor House 50 Victoria Street London SW1H 0TL

The 3 Criteria we must answer and persuade the LGBCE

Electoral Equality # Community Identity # Effective & Convenient Local Government

Electoral Equality is each councillor representing a similar number of Electors.

We want 2 not 3 WC Cllrs representing our parish, not be shared with Salisbury and become insignificant.

Our two Divisions: **Laverstock & Ford West** – Bishopdown Farm (all 1334 homes), Longhedge & the west of Old Sarum

Laverstock & Ford East – Laverstock, Ford, East and original Old Sarum + Clarendon Park, Firsdown & Britford

We want an equal voice in Southern Wiltshire area Board, not no voice in Salisbury – mention the boundary war, lots!

PLEASE ASK FOR THESE NAMES TOO (Including to WC, who want other names!)

Community Identity - reflects the identity and interests of local communities.

Here you can make a lot about how our parish plan, created by us residents, confirms that we want to live near, not in Salisbury and how we spent almost 2 years fighting for our lives when Salisbury wanted to swallow us whole, just for the money! (Remember what you said then and why we all like to preserve our green spaces (we will have 300 acres of publicly owned land by the end of the year!) and look to the rural communities in Southern Wiltshire, where we all respect and help each other. Make that black and white and why splitting Laverstock village in two and having two Salisbury based Divisions for our parish, is the worst possible mix of very urban and semi rural – full of conflicts of interests – build on the space v retain the green space for us.

Effective & Convenient Local Government – helping your council discharge its responsibilities effectively

Again, this comes down to 2 Wiltshire Cllrs, wholly with our parish interests at heart and in Southern Wiltshire Area Board, or 3 all placed in Salisbury Area Board, so at risk of 3 cllrs being elected with Salisbury City as their priority and not L&F parish or the other tiny parishes attached to L&F East...*not to mention a possible future takeover bid!*

I have no space for more. However, If you email me, IanMcLennan@btinternet.com I can send you my ten page submission to the LGBCE – there might be some ideas for you there!

Also, <http://www.laverstock-ford.co.uk> the parish website front page has links to lots of suggestions and all the detail. We are all in this together – let's make sure we stay that way!

That's all folks. Thank you, in advance, for taking action and preserving our independence from Salisbury at all levels, now and for the future. Ian

PS It's a tall order to get round in time – any volunteers to deliver any, would be very welcome.

Printed, Published and Delivered by Cllr Ian McLennan. 47 Church Road, Laverstock, Salisbury SP1 1QY 01722 332233 IanMcLennan@btinternet.com