REPORT PC26.139 Silver Salisbury Grant October 2026
Author: Jon Sloan, Parish Clerk
Date: November 11, 2026

1. REPORT SUMMARY
   A report to Councillors regarding grant applications received in October 2026.

2. BACKGROUND
   The Parish Councils grant policy invites applications from charities, clubs and community groups to benefit the residents of the parish.

3. SUMMARY
   One grant application was received from Silver Salisbury.

   No further information was requested.

   Councillors should note that Silver Salisbury applied for a grant of £1,875 in July 2025 and were awarded £1,000. The remaining £875 was awarded in April 2026 as part of the Council's end of year grant considerations.

   Our 2026 Grants budget is £10,000. Council has a committed spend YTD of £3,326.93. Though, that may increase to £3,790.93 as last month's grants were awarded at 75% of the applied for amounts and Council informed the applicants that they may wish to return at a later date to apply for the difference.

4. RECOMMENDATION
   That the Council considers a grant of £1,818 to Silver Salisbury to finance the engagement of a paid local outreach worker to maintain and develop the monthly coffee morning at Laverstock and Ford Village Hall under the power provided by s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

incorporating Bishopdown Farm, Ford, Hampton Park, Laverstock, Longhedge, Old Sarum, River Down Park and parts of Milford

Application for Grant for Voluntary Organisations Local Government Act 1972, Section 137

Please be advised that all applicants are invited to attend and address the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Meeting deciding your application. Although this is not compulsory it is seen to be beneficial especially for grant applications over £500.

1	**Name of Organisation and date** (the name of your club, charity etc. plus date of application)
	Silver Salisbury Group 30th October 2026
2	**Amount of Grant aid being requested** (how much money are you asking for?)
	£1,818
3	**Tell us about the project or activity you are applying for financial support for** (this space is for a summary, you can also include further detail and supporting documents with this application).
	This grant is to finance the engagement of a paid local outreach worker to maintain and develop the monthly coffee morning at Laverstock and Ford Village Hall started in autumn 2024. It is supported on the day by two volunteers who met at the Old Sarum coffee morning and then volunteered. They set up and clear away the furniture and kitchen, serve refreshments and chat to individuals. They enjoy supporting the group but don't wish to take on the additional responsibility of running it. The Silver Salisbury monthly drop in coffee morning at Laverstock and Ford Village Hall was started in the autumn of 2024 with a one-off grant from a charitable trust. There have been about forty individuals participating over the past year, with an average attendance of between 10 and 15. The activity involves facilitating the group, consulting with members regarding topics for occasional speakers, sourcing and engaging speakers, designing and getting flyers for forthcoming programmes printed. Speakers' topics have included, local history, local charities and the client group(s) it supports, legal issues and interspersed with topics for pleasure and the occasional discussion group. Being part of Silver Salisbury also ensures access to all of Silver Salisbury publications and information about special events and encouragement and support to visit and engage. The key aspects of the outreach worker role are

	• promoting the coffee morning using a range of methods and reaching out to older people who may be isolated or lonely and introducing them to the opportunity for social engagement. • Ensuring new comers to the group are welcomed and supported in initial engagement • Having the skills and experience to facilitate conversation between people with varying interpersonal skills before and after a talk and also occasional meetings without a speaker • Having the skills and experience to maximise networking opportunities to identify a range of speakers • networking people such as housing and healthcare professionals who may be more aware of and in communication with isolated people. • We have met with Louisa Speight the recently appointed Age UK community connector for the Parish and are committed to maximising the potential of working together to identify and support isolated older people in the Parish. • An aspiration is that for people who drive develop a lift scheme as the bus service is not very frequent. The coffee morning is actively targeted at residents of Laverstock and Ford: occasionally specific speakers draw in people from further afield

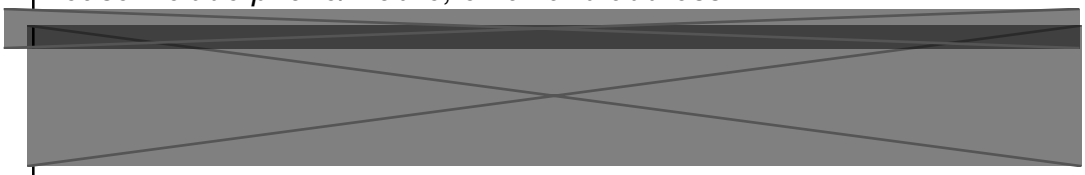
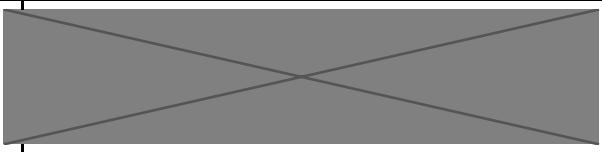
4	**Please explain how your project or activity supports the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council's Parish Plan** (available to view at www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk)
	Supporting Community resilience and cohesion Silver Salisbury and this project aim to alleviate isolation and loneliness amongst older people; social engagement enhances health and wellbeing resulting in a healthier happier older community. This should lead to a more active older community making fewer demands on support services, family, friends and neighbours. The coffee morning was initially started as we were aware that people who might have been in financial need weren't accessing "warm spaces" which is what we provide through the coffee mornings. We are aware that in the current financial climate, more older people are going to be in need. The coffee mornings provide potential opportunities to • Receive and share information about what is happening locally or further afield • Enjoy and be informed by the topic being presented • Socially engage in a warm space • Provide mutual support and share/receive information about support services such as food bank, money advice • To discuss local issues and if they choose, feedback to the Parish Council. Invite Community transport to speak . • With the support of the community connector know there is a safe place to venture to as initial steps to social engagement. To ensure inclusivity, it is essential to engage with older people face to face or with hard copy literature which is a priority with Silver Salisbury. Whilst social media is fantastic for reaching more people in general, many older people do not go on line, do not engage with social media, may not be on line and these are the very people who may be isolated and lonely.

	As well as the benefit of the coffee morning, members will have access to and if appropriate, be encouraged to participate in other activities and events through the Silver Salisbury programmes and thus widen their horizons and have things in their lives to look forward to. By supporting individuals, developing group cohesion through facilitation, community cohesion develops.
5	**Please tell us how your project or activity meets the criteria set out in the Laverstock and Ford Parish Council's grant policy** (available to view at www.laverstockford-pc.gov.uk)
	Silver Salisbury Group is a registered charity number 1198019 Our report to the Charity Commission was submitted on time. Silver Salisbury operates in Stonehenge, South West Wiltshire, Southern Wiltshire as well as Salisbury. In Southern Wiltshire, Silver Salisbury is operational in Old Sarum, Longhedge, Laverstock and Ford. This project is based in Laverstock and the majority of beneficiaries will be resident in Laverstock and Ford Parish. This application is for work which is planned to commence for 12 months from 1st January 2027. I will be able to attend the Parish Council meeting on 16th November and answer any questions which may arise Reserves: We have £3,000 unrestricted reserves which are designated funds to ensure we can tie up ends and meet commitments should we fail to raise the funds we need. We will keep records of numbers of participants and whether they are Laverstock & Ford Parish residents. People not used to participation in groups may find an expectation for regular attendance threatening so this is a drop in with no formal register. We will seek permission to photograph. Please let me have your reporting requirements and happy to report at the end of the year

6	**Approximately how many people who will benefit from your project or activity are residents of Laverstock and Ford Parish?**
	Once we have a new facilitator contracted, and relationships established with the community connector, we aim for numbers to be regularly 12 + baring adverse weather conditions and that 75% will be Laverstock & Ford Parish residents.

7	**What will be the TOTAL cost of your project/activity** (not just the money you are applying for in this application but the overall cost of the project)
	The total cost of the project will be £1,918 **Budget** 60 freelance outreach hours at £18 per hour £1,080 12 hours support and supervision @ £25 £0,300: this will be funded within the other grant application if successful Rent for hiring L&F village hall for 12 months £0,288: still don't know whether there will be additional charge for heating in winter. Refreshments £0,000 the group now has a small float from donations that covers the cost of refreshments Travel for contractor, volunteers and speakers £0,100 Printing and office supplies £0,050 Supply of Silver Salisbury publications 50 copies of directory: 25 each autumn and spring £0,100 Silver Salisbury will provide these **Total £1,918**
8	**Have you applied for grant/s for this project or activity from any other source?** (Please give details and tell us the dates of when these monies will be awarded)
	This project is located in Laverstock and Ford Parish and as this is a discreet local project based in Laverstock, and Laverstock Parish Council has supported our work in the past year, I don't know of another such local potential funder who would consider this very local ongoing project. Other Wiltshire County wide funders are already funding Silver Salisbury across the whole of its area of operation. We do have a funding application across our area of benefit, currently being assessed by the Community Foundation: the application is to fund the role of a paid co-ordinator to support and develop all our six groups and recruit volunteers to support the groups. This line in my full budget to support and supervise the outreach contractor will be provided by the co-ordinator role if the application is successful. We should know by the end of November whether the application is fully or partially successful (or unsuccessful). If this application for the outreach hours is successful, we would want to recruit immediately so there is no gap in the delivery of the coffee mornings.

9	**If the TOTAL cost of your project/activity is more than the grant being applied for how will you fund the remaining costs?**

10	**Name and Address of your Organisation/Charity/Club etc.** (as detailed on the bank account that any funds awarded will be paid to. Please include your Charity Registration number if you are applying as a Charity)
	Silver Salisbury Group Charity No.1198019 Address registered with the Charity Commission 2, The Maples, Devizes Road, Salisbury SP2 7LL
11	**Name and contact details of primary contact** (the person who has responsibility for making this application within your group/organisation)
	Please include phone/mobile, email and address: 
12	**What is your role within the organisation?** (group/club/charity etc.)
	I chair Silver Salisbury Group Board of Trustees
13	**Bank Account details for payment of successful applications (please include account name, sort-code and account number)**
	

Any accompanying documentation can be attached as PDFs and must be clearly labelled with the name of your organisation/club/group etc., and the month and year of application.

Please return this completed form and any accompanying documentation to:

Jon Sloan, Parish Clerk, Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Email: parish-clerk@laverstockford-pc.gov.uk

Address: Parish Office, Hampton Park Pavilion, Ash Crescent, Bishopdown, Salisbury SP1 3GY

Silver Salisbury Group

Charity No. 1198019

To Laverstock and Ford Parish Councillors

Parish Clerk

This is the additional information I submitted last year and it is still valid

We are aware there are successful well attended regular groups and activities available to Laverstock and Ford residents who are seeking what is on offer and have the confidence to go into an unknown situation or have a friend or partner to go with them. The people we expect to engage with might be overwhelmed by large numbers of people and take a while to get to know other people even in a small group.

Laverstock and Ford gives an outer appearance of the older population being comfortably off, but we are aware that it is quite a mixed area. Loneliness and isolation doesn't have boundaries, but is more difficult to address when people are on a very tight budget which is why Silver Salisbury maintains no or low cost on its activities.

The Silver Salisbury coffee mornings were set up based on the negligible take up of "warm spaces" when it was known that many older people were struggling to meet the vast increases in their heating costs as well as the increase in the cost of living. This was exacerbated by the follow-on effects of Covid with many older people still reluctant to go outside their homes for anything but essential needs such as shopping and medical appointments: some have become institutionalised to stay at home. Both of these situations lead to loneliness and isolation which are known to be a major cause of death. Loneliness and isolation lead to poor health which is a drain on health and social services: unhappy unhealthy people are potentially a drain on the resources of the local community.

Some of the people who come to our coffee mornings are referred/signposted - or rather, encouraged to come - by social workers, social prescribers, prevention and well-being team and council housing engagement team. Feedback from a council officer was that "there is a lower number of older people needing statutory service support in Salisbury and its surrounds, than in the rest of the county and we think that is partly responsible to Silver Salisbury". Once someone has come to the group, as well as social engagement and stimulus in the group, they get information about what else is going on in the area and when they are ready, can move on. We also get feedback from people who move into the area that Silver Salisbury helps them to get to know people, find their way around the area and what is going on locally. It gives us a real buzz when we see people exchanging phone numbers.

One of the most difficult and time-consuming tasks in this project is identifying and finding the lonely and isolated people who are usually hidden behind closed doors: and having found them, encouraging them to engage. Finding them starts with being networked with a range of groups and both statutory and voluntary workers in the area which is why it is important to have a local outreach worker.

Irene Kohler

Chair Silver Salisbury Group