

## **FINAL PROPOSALS**

### **Community No. M10 - CASTLE CAEREINION**

#### **Introduction**

1. The present community of Castle Caereinion largely comprises hill country that falls to the river Banw or Einion in its north and the river Severn in its south. The small village of Castle Caereinion is centrally located in this community; it has seen a significant amount of development in recent years; it has a good range of local community services and facilities, and just over one third of the population of the community now lives here. The remainder of the population lives in scattered farms and dwellings and in the rural settlement of Cyfronydd. The community is traversed by the B4385 and the A458(T) which provide easy links with Berriew, Llanfair Caereinion and Welshpool, settlements which, to some extent, negate the influence of Castle Caereinion over the community.

2. The community has a population of 509, an electorate of 435 (2005) and a council of 7 members. The precept required for 2005 is £2,311, representing a Council Tax Band D equivalent of £9.53.

3. The community of Castle Caereinion was enlarged in the 1986 Review, following the dismembering and redefining of the community of Welshpool. Until that date, Castle Caereinion was a divided community; the western half of the community formed the community of Castle Caereinion (Rural) with its own council, while the eastern half of the community was part of the then community of Welshpool. There was complete unanimity that these two halves should be brought together. The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales therefore made its final recommendations for a community council of seven members in an un-warded community.

#### **Summary of representations received prior to preparation of Draft Proposals**

4. A form of submissions has been received from Castle Caereinion Community Council. The council proposes that properties along Fronhaul Lane should all be brought into Castle Caereinion community. The council indicates that the properties along this lane are divided between their community and the community of Llanfair Caereinion. "The lane does not go anywhere and residents can't leave their properties without going into the community of Castle Caereinion... Including all properties along this lane in Castle Caereinion would make things simpler and would avoid the confusion which now exists."

## Assessment

5. We consider that there is some merit in the proposal of Castle Caereinion Community Council that all the properties along Fronhaul Lane should be transferred to their community. The residents of the affected properties – Tan y Coed, Ty Newydd, The Grange, Glynhwdog, Ochr and Ty'n y byrwydd – would all look in the first instance to Castle Caereinion for the provision of local services because of the lie of local roads. We are satisfied that they would consider themselves part of the community of Castle Caereinion rather than of Llanfair Caereinion, and we are aware of the confusion that has arisen in this area in local and parliamentary elections in the past. We consider that an appropriate western boundary to the community could be found by moving the existing boundary to the west to follow a stream to the west of Ty'n y byrwydd and then following field boundaries southwards to the existing community boundary.

6. The electorate of Castle Caereinion has increased from 300 in 1980 to 435 in 2005. At Castle Caereinion, apart from an extant planning permission for seven dwellings, further development in the Unitary Development Plan will be limited to infill development and opportunities for affordable housing development adjacent to the settlement development boundaries. There are also opportunities for affordable housing development in the rural settlement of Cyfronydd in accordance with Policy HP9 of the Plan, for a limited number of dwellings in the open countryside in accordance with Policy HP6 of the Plan, and for conversions in accordance with Policy GP6 of the Plan. At the village of Castle Caereinion, the new housing estate of Dol-y-wennol has been excluded from the settlement boundary in the Plan. There is planning permission for 56 dwellings on this estate, of which 18 have been occupied to date. We note that this community's electorate may, therefore, nudge towards 500 electors, and, lying within the range of 400-600 electors, would suggest an entitlement in accordance with Table 7 - Guide to Allocation of Councillors to Community Councillors to eight councillors.

## Draft Proposals

7. That there should be a community of Castle Caereinion comprising the present community of that name together with that area at Fronhaul Lane which we propose to transfer from the community of Llanfair Caereinion;

That the community should have a council of eight members.

| (Ward) | Electorate | No of Councillors | Electors per Councillor |
|--------|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
|        | 435        | 8                 | 54                      |

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## **Responses to the Council's Draft Proposals**

8. No comments or submissions were received on the Draft Proposals.

## **Final Proposals**

9. That there should be a community of Castle Caereinion comprising the present community of that name together with that area at Fronhaul Lane which we propose to transfer from the community of Llanfair Caereinion;

That the community should have a council of eight members.

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