

## Community of Caerwent

### Current Community Format

1. The current community arrangements in Caerwent consist of five wards, Caerwent, Dinham, St Brides Netherwent, Crick and Llanvair Discoed. The community has a total electorate of 1510 and is represented by 10 community councillors. A breakdown of the electorate and number of councillors per ward is as follows:

Community Ward	Electorate	Number of Councillors
Caerwent	599	4
Dinham	262	1
Crick	166	1
Llanvair Discoed	252	2
St Brides Netherwent	231	2

### Natural Boundaries / Key Features

2. As Caerwent borders the local authority boundary the western boundary of the community cannot be altered as part of this review. The group considered the M48, A48 and the army camp to provide natural boundaries for the Caerwent community.

### Electorate Forecast

3. The electorate in the Dinham ward is proposed to increase from 262 electors to 526 electors based on the property:elector ratio of 1:2.

### Representations Received

4. Representation was received from Caerwent Community Council requesting an additional councillor for the Dinham ward due to the additional development within the ward.

### Recommendations

#### External Boundaries

5. Due to the proposed change of the northern boundary of Magor with Undy to follow the M4 motorway, all the properties contained in the Salisbury ward north of the motorway will be incorporated into the St Brides Netherwent ward of Caerwent. This will include all properties on St Brides Road and Bowdens Lane.
  - 5.1. The working group also considered the arrangements to the East of the community up to the Parkwall roundabout. Whilst the group understood that the current boundary between Caerwent, Mathern and Portskewett utilised the easily identifiable boundary of the M48, they

felt that splitting the properties east of Caerwent along the A48 between Mathern and Portskewett did not lead to effective and convenient local government as it appeared that those properties were more closely associated with the Crick area of Caerwent than the communities that they are currently situated. The working group therefore propose to extend the eastern boundary of Caerwent up to, and including the properties on Parkwall Roundabout incorporating all properties adjacent to the A48 into the Caerwent area. The boundary will then follow the A48 up to the flyover of the M48 and return west along the M48. From there the boundary will follow the drain northwards just south of Lavender Well Farm, where it will join and follow the edge of St Pierre Wood. All properties within this area including Runston Farm, Broadwell and Green Meadow Farm will be included in the Crick ward of Caerwent.

## **Internal Boundaries**

### **Caerwent**

- 5.2. The working group considered the boundary of the Caerwent ward and propose a change to the boundary in the Caerwent Road area. The current boundary follows Caerwent Road to the boundary of Caldicot and divides properties along this road between the Caerwent ward and St Brides Netherwent ward which does not lead to effective and convenient local government. It is proposed that the new boundary continues down Dewstow Road and follows the edge of the quarry to join with the external boundary.

### **Dinham**

- 5.3. The working group considered the boundary of the Dinham ward and felt that the army camp would be better associated with the Dinham ward rather than the Crick ward which it currently lies within. The working group believe that given the large residential developments within the Dinham ward and the close proximity of the two areas, that any proposals for the army camp would have a greater effect on those properties than it would the properties in the Crick ward and that the those electors should have adequate representation for those proposals. It is therefore proposed that the north eastern boundary of Dinham ward will follow the perimeter of the army camp where it will join the external Caerwent community boundary in the north of the area. The boundary for the Caerwent ward which follows the A48 will be removed and the eastern boundary that follows the railway line will be extended to join the proposed ward boundary. This will result in the property New House Farm being moved from the Crick ward to the Caerwent ward.

The working group also propose a change in name for the Dinham ward to Merton Green as this covers the majority of the populated area of the ward as it is commonly known.

### **Crick**

- 5.4. As noted above see paragraphs 5.1 and 5.3 for proposed changes to Crick ward.

### **Llanvair Discoed**

5.5. The group considered the current boundary for the Llanvair Discoed ward and consider that the properties 'Trewen' and Five Lanes Cottages are more closely associated with the other wards of Caerwent due to their close proximity to the A48 than they are to their current ward of Llanvair Discoed. Whilst the group understood that the A48 acted as a natural boundary between Llanvair Discoed and other wards, the group considered that the main channels of communication for these properties are across the A48 and to the other wards of Caerwent. The working group therefore propose that the southern boundary for the Llanvair Discoed ward is amended to follow the road behind Five Lanes Cottages up to the junction south of Blackpool Hall. The boundary will then head South and follow a field boundary East to join the brook which will continue south to join the existing ward boundary on the A40. This would result in the properties at Trewen and Five Lanes Cottages being included in the St Brides Netherwent ward.

### **St Brides Netherwent**

5.6. As noted see Paragraph 5, 5.2 and 5.5 for proposed changes to St Brides Netherwent ward.

### **Proposed community and community ward names**

6. The working group propose a change in name for the Dinham ward to Merton Green as stated in 5.3 above. The group welcome representations as to suitable alternative names for the community and community wards.

### **Proposed Electoral Arrangements**

7. The working group consider the Caerwent community to fall within the mixed category for elector/councillor ratio resulting in an ideal ratio of 250 electors per councillor. The above changes to the community boundaries will result in the following electoral arrangements for the community.

<b>Community Ward</b>	<b>Electorate</b>	<b>Number of Councillors</b>
Caerwent	617	3
Merton Green	534	2
Crick	192	1
Llanvair Discoed	211	1
St Brides Netherwent	279	1

### **Working Group Individual Member Comments**

8. All members of the working group approved the proposals for the community of Caerwent.