

Community of Gwehelog Fawr

Llanbadoc Community Council

Alun Window – Llanbadoc Community Council Clerk

Please find below the observations from Gwehelog Fawr Community Council as agreed earlier.

This is a review of Town and Community Council councilors, not County Councilors, and therefore we don't really understand its purpose because reducing the number of community councilors will not have any cost saving benefit, but will potentially reduce the representation of the community through its elected representatives. The committee feel that having more than one representative from each ward assists the Community Council business when members are ill or not able to attend.

Looking at Gwehelog Fawr CC and Llanbadoc CC the number of electors in each ward currently is:

Gwehelog Fawr CC

- Trostrey.....85 electors
- Kemeys Commander.....34 electors
- Gwehelog.....265 electors

Total Electors Gwehelog Fawr CC 384

Llanbadoc CC

- Monkswood.....245 electors
- Glascoed.....221 electors
- Llanbadoc.....205 electors

Total Electors Llanbadoc CC 671

The proposed ratio of electors per councilor in rural areas is 150, but also no community will be represented by less than 7 councilors, so on the face of it both Gwehelog and Llanbadoc can have a maximum of 7 councilors.

The ominous note however is where it states that *"The bandings will be applied to a community (council area) once the boundaries of that community have been created"*. With this in mind, since Gwehelog and Llanbadoc are both in the same County Councilor constituency, it could be that they will be merged to form one community council of $384 + 671 = 1055$ electors. Under those circumstances the new community council would only be represented by $1055 / 150 = 7$ councilors.

If this illustration is correct, then the exercise seems to be in direct opposition to the current government philosophy which is to enable localism and to encourage public participation. We would wish to oppose any moves to reduce the current levels of representation in both Gwehelog and Llanbadoc Community Councils.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to participate in this.