

Community of Grosmont

Current Community Format

1. The current community arrangements in Grosmont consist of four wards, Grosmont, Llangattock Lingoed, Llangua and Llanvetherine. The community has a total electorate of 673 and is represented by nine community councillors. The electorate per ward and number of councillors is as follows:

Community Ward	Electorate	Number of Councillors
Grosmont	420	5
Llangattock Lingoed	89	1
Llangua	43	1
Llanvetherine	121	2

Natural Boundaries / Key Features

2. Boundaries to the north and east of the community of Grosmont are local authority boundaries that will not be considered as part of this review. The working group consider natural and easily identifiable boundaries with the Grosmont Community area as the A465 as well as Grosmont Castle.

Electorate Forecast

3. There are no proposed developments within the Grosmont area that would affect the current electorate within the area.

Representations Received

4. No representations were received regarding the community of Grosmont.

Recommendations

External Boundary

5. As already noted in the proposals for Crucorney, the working group propose to alter the existing boundary between Crucorney and Grosmont as the current boundary follows Great Park Road and splits properties along it between two communities. The boundary will be moved further to the west to incorporate all the properties on Great Park Road in the community of Grosmont.
- 5.1. The working group also considered the positioning of the Llanvetherine ward in relation to the rest of the community of Grosmont and its surrounding communities. The working group considered that the Llanvetherine ward had more common links and channels of communication with the Llantilio Crossenny community than with the community of Grosmont.

The working group considered the ward in relation to both communities and when considered with the proposals for the community of Llantilio Crossenny, the working group believe that the Llanvetherine ward is best situated in the community of Llantilio Crossenny (proposed new community of Skenfrith) given its close ties with the B4521 and channels of communication east to west along the road rather than north to south.

Internal Boundaries

Grosmont and Llangua

- 5.2. The working group considered the arrangements for the Grosmont and Llangua wards and concluded that the Llangua ward has sufficient road and communication links with the rest of the Grosmont ward to enable the small area of Llangua to be incorporated in the Grosmont ward.

The current Llangua ward has an electorate of 43 which is significantly below the target ratio of 150 electors per community councillor as set in the Terms of Reference for the review. Given this lower ratio and the common links the Llangua ward has with the remainder of the Grosmont ward the working group propose to merge the ward Llangua with the Grosmont ward.

The working group propose the name of Grosmont for the ward but welcome suggestions as to suitable alternatives.

Llangattock Lingoed

- 5.3. The working group considered the current warding arrangements for the Llangattock Lingoed ward. The group believe that the Llangattock Lingoed area is a unique and isolated village which requires its own representation within a community, however, the group were unclear as to which community the Llangattock Lingoed ward should be situated.

The group considered the access arrangements to Llangattock Lingoed from the Grosmont ward in which it is currently situated and concluded that the only access arrangements to the village are through the adjoining communities of Crucorney or Llantilio Crossenny. However, the working group are unaware of any issues that the current arrangements cause and given the historical links between Llangattock Lingoed and Grosmont the group propose to retain the Llangattock Lingoed ward within the community of Grosmont.

The western boundary of Llangattock Lingoed will be altered as the boundary currently follows Great Park Road and divides properties on that road between two communities. The working group propose moving the boundary to the west incorporating all properties along this road into the Grosmont community.

Proposed Community and Community Ward Names

6. The working group propose no amendment to the community and community ward names of Grosmont but welcome representations as to more suitable names.

Proposed Electoral Arrangements

7. The working group consider the Grosmont community to fall within the rural category for elector/councillor ratio resulting in an ideal ratio of 150 electors per councillor. The above changes to the community boundaries will result in the following electoral arrangements for the community.

Whilst the working group understand that the community of Grosmont is less than the ideal 1,000 electors for a community as per the Terms of Reference for this review, the group consider the sparsely populated natural geography and channels of communication within the area lend itself to requiring its own community. Additionally, any further amalgamation of the community with its neighbours would result in the community be geographically large and difficult to represent effectively.

As per the Terms of Reference, it was agreed that a community must be represented by a minimum of seven councillors in order to conduct their business effectively. To that end, the Grosmont community will be represented by seven councillors rather than four as per the above ratio.

Community Ward	Electorate	Number of Councillors
Grosmont	463	5
Llangattock Lingoed	89	2

Working Group Individual Member Comments

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