

ref No 2556

CYNGOR TREF ABERTEIFI

SWYDDFA'R CYNGOR
STRYD MORGAN
ABERTEIFI
SA43 1DG



CARDIGAN TOWN COUNCIL

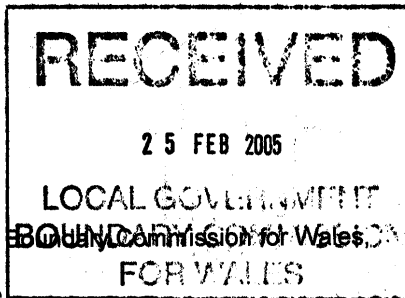
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Eich cyf/Your ref. :

Dyddiad/Date:

Fy nghyf./My ref. :



The Secretary,
The Local Government Boundary Commission for Wales,
Caradog House,
1 – 6 St Andrews Place,
Cardiff,
CF10 3BE.

23 February 2005

Dear Sir

Re:- Review of Part of the Boundary Between the County of Ceredigion and The County of Pembrokeshire in the Area of the Communities of Cardigan and Cilgerran.

Please find attached our response to your review document December 2004. We also wish the Commission to include in their considerations our original statement dated August 2004 which was contained in Appendix 3 of your Review a copy of which is attached.

Yours faithfully

The Mayor, Cllr Linda Grace

Enc.

Cardigan Town Council

Response to the Boundary Commissions' Draft Proposals 22/02/05

In response to comments raised by authorities we have the following comments to make:-

Letters from 9 Residents/Cilgerran Community Council (Appendix 4&5)

- We deny that there is a natural affinity between Penybryn and Cilgerran. Their shopping, cultural and social needs are based in Cardigan Town. Most, if not all of their needs in Cardigan.
- Better Value for Tax Payers money – we believe that Ceredigion gives equal value, if not better, particularly in matters of Education, Social Services and especially in sustainability.
- School Transport – this is a divisive issue which has greater complications than the simplistic approach made by Cilgerran's response. Ultimately the issue only affected the transport of three children.
- This dispute has not affected the area to the south of the river and has no relevance for Cilgerran.
- Social Services – it is incorrect to claim that many of Ceredigion's services are based in Aberystwyth. Other than Education, all other services are based in Aberaeron which is 22 miles from Cardigan. As for Social Services this has been centred in Aberaeron since formation of the Council.
- Cardigan considers itself as a rural community which supports and provides many services for its residents, whether they live in town or on its perimeter.
- Council Rates – This reinforces our original suspicions that the primary motivation of the petitioners is financial. This should not be a reason to change the boundary. It is a matter for the local Community Council to determine the rates and the level of support they give to services enjoyed by their Community. The petitioners might save rates in joining Cilgerran but they would still continue to use the facilities offered by Cardigan Town which is not an equitable situation.
- Public Transport – it is relevant to point out that bus passes within the area are provided at Cardigan through Ceredigion County Council. There would be no gain in effectiveness or convenience in this instance.
- In boundary situations there have always been agreements made between adjoining local authorities regarding gritting and other services in order to provide an efficient service to the residents. The same applies to this area.
- Isolation – we strongly deny that the area referred to is "forgotten" territory. The Town Council has a nominated councillor for the area whose special duty is to look after the residents. Ceredigion, at great cost, has made substantial road improvements at "Burtons Bend" on the A478 approaching Penybryn and also the Town Council has provided lights at TroedyRhiw.
- Nantperchellan – we note that the residents are satisfied with the situation and we do not understand why Cilgerran Community Council make such an issue of the matter.
- Glanpwllafon – again we are unable to understand the issue raised by Cilgerran Community Council; the old road bridge and adjoining road has been resurfaced by Ceredigion County Council within the last three years.
- In conclusion we cannot understand Cilgerran Community Councils' reasoning that the vast majority of residents are in favour of joining Pembrokeshire. We don't believe that 9 out of 40 is "a vast majority". Cilgerran are overly biased in their assessment.

St. Dogmaels Community Council

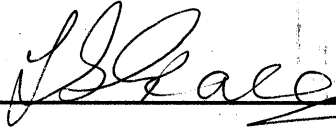
- References are made in the report to St. Dogmaels Community Council yet there is no response from St. Dogmaels.

Conclusion

We reiterate all the arguments made in our submission of August 2004 and do not wish to repeat our arguments in this statement.

Taking into consideration what has been said above we feel that there is already effective and convenient local government in this area. Any change recommended would therefore cause devisive and unnecessary disruption to these services.

Signed on behalf of Cardigan Town Council



The Mayor, Councillor Linda Grace, February 22nd 2005