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## NEWENT TOWN COUNCIL

AND BURIAL AUTHORITY



Mr Peter Williams Group Manager Planning and Housing Forest of Dean District Council High Street Coleford GL16 8HG

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8<sup>th</sup> August 2018

Dear Mr Williams

## Re: Newent Town Council Neighbourhood Development Plan

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Newent Town Council, being a 'relevant body' as required by legislation under Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations, would like to formally apply for the Parish of Newent to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area, for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

A resolution to make this application was passed at the Newent Town Council meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2018.

We confirm that Newent Town Council, which is accountable to the community that it serves, is a relevant body for the purpose of Section 61G of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended.

The Neighbourhood Area defined by the Parish Council is the whole of the civil parish of Newent.

We consider the defined area to be an appropriate area for designation as a Neighbourhood Area for the following reasons:

1. The area defined has been widely recognised as a defined community and the electorate within the defined area are distinguishable as a voting community.

- 2. Consultation with residents of neighbouring Oxenhall parish concluded that while willing to contribute, do not wish to be formally included. Consultation with Clifford's Mesne residents, a settlement within Newent parish, concluded they do wish to be included in the plan.
- 3. The residents within the area defined have been consulted about neighbourhood planning. A week of consultation has been held from 12<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018.
- 4. Significant numbers of residents within the defined area have demonstrated concerns about conservation and forward planning and have a desire to shape the way in which the area within the parish boundary develops. Opinion during the consultation week was overwhelmingly in favour of going ahead with the plan. In addition, previous plans have been drawn up for Newent demonstrating the wish to shape development for the future.

We envisage that the NDP will address the housing needs, facilities and services of the community to enable sustainability whilst balancing the need to protect the landscape character and setting. Early research and consultation with the parish community will provide the basis for the NDP.

Yours sincerely

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Town Clerk