

Minutes of the Castle Cary Annual Town Meeting
Held on Wednesday 15th May 2024 in Caryford Hall 7pm

Present: Chair of Town Council: Judi Morison
Town Councillors: Frances Alden, Linda Ball, Margaret Bebbington, Phillipa Biddlecombe, David Gill, Pek Peppin, Andrea Piggott, Trevor Oats, Tom Trouton
Somerset Councillors: Henry Hobhouse, Kevin Messenger
Town Clerk: Lisa Davis
Deputy Clerk: Katie Armstrong

17 Local clubs' societies & organisations & their representatives attended the meeting bringing their display stands from 6.15pm onwards.

Approximately 33 members of the community attended the meeting

1.	Welcome JM welcomed everyone and all Town Councillors introduced themselves
2.	Apologies: None.
3.	Approval of the 2023 Annual Parish Meeting Minutes between Ansford & Castle Cary. The 2023 Minutes been circulated prior to the meeting and were accepted.
4.	Chairs Report Judi Morison presented her report and finance presentation. It was noted that Ansford and Castle Cary have a joint Neighbourhood Plan and as one community, S106 goes into one pot. Pek Peppin reported that Listed Building and Planning consent had finally been granted for the works to the Market House which would be completed in phases. A Market House group has been established which includes CCTC Councillors, residents, businesses, experts and advisors. The Architect is working on cost estimates for all works to enable CCTC to apply for grants.
5.	Presentation from Somerset Councillors Cllr Henry Hobhouse expressed his sadness that Ansford Parish Council were not here and had decided to hold a separate meeting this year.

	140 objections were received by Somerset Council regarding the TRO for Foxes Run which led to the application being refused. A flood warning system is being setup following 160 houses being flooded along the River Cam on 9 May 2023. Henry thanked the Trustees of the Toybox Preschool for running Fun on the Field and The Newt for all their support with the event.
6.	Local Community Network (LCN) update Judi Morison gave an update on the LCN and reported that Working Groups had been setup in response to issues raised regarding highways, footpaths and flooding. The pilot LCN led to Castle Cary TC, Bruton TC, Wincanton TC and Milborne Port PC contracting Youth Connect South West to deliver youth provision in the South East Somerset LCN area. Judi Morison expressed her thanks for the support from Officers at Somerset Council.
7.	Pavilion project update Charles Gillespie (Architect) gave an update on the very exciting Pavilion project that will be of huge benefit to residents in Castle Cary and Ansford and the wider community. The project is progressing well and it is hoped that the planning application would be submitted at the end of May. The Pavilion has served a fantastic purpose for over 40 years but is no longer fit for purpose and the sports clubs have outgrown the building. There has been a huge amount of background thinking and a decision was arrived at to re-build quite quickly after considering a refurbishment. Philippa Biddlecombe reported that lots of girls want to play football and cricket but the current facilities are not fit for purpose or able to support this demand.
8.	Town events diary Laura Tilling provided an update on the town events diary. She thanked everyone who had provided information and Catrin Loxton for her support.
9.	Questions and other matters for discussion A member of the public noted that during the presentations it had twice been said “better together” and asked that CCTC and APC go back to holding joint annual meetings. They also expressed it was really unfortunate what had happened about the newsletter to the detriment of the Ansford residents and the community but would like to thank CCTC for all that they do.

	Another resident thanked CCTC for their work and felt that they had not been trying to take over APC but wanted to work together for the one residential community. In response to a query, Trevor Oats confirmed that planning consent had been granted for residential development on the old Constitutional Club site.
	Judi Morison thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 8.20pm Next meeting 2025 to be agreed.