

Freedom of Information Request 002/2025 Castle Cary Town Council – Engagement with Merger Petition Organisers

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 concerning Castle Cary Town Council's involvement with the organisers of the petition proposing a merger between Ansford Parish Council and Castle Cary Town Council.

I would be grateful if you could provide the following:

- **Whether any councillors or staff of Castle Cary Town Council engaged in any capacity with the organisers of the merger petition.** No. One Town Councillor confirmed that they did not engage personally but were aware that the petition was organised by Unitary Councillor Henry Hobhouse with support from other people.

- **If such engagement occurred, please specify:**

The nature of the engagement. N/A

The dates and circumstances in which it took place. N/A

- **Copies of any relevant correspondence or records, including:**

Emails N/A

WhatsApp or other messaging exchanges N/A

Letters N/A

Notes or records of telephone conversations N/A

Minutes or notes from face-to-face meetings N/A

- **Whether any councillors or staff of Castle Cary Town Council considered informing Ansford Parish Council about the petition, and if so, how this was discussed or actioned.**

No. The Town Councillor who was aware that the petition was organised said their assumption was that the organiser, Henry Hobhouse, must have consulted with APC.

Please note that Councillor Henry Hobhouse reported at the CCTC Full Council meeting in July that he had submitted a petition to Somerset Council <https://castle-cary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/MINUTES-OF-CASTLE-CARY-TOWN-COUNCIL-MEETING-v2.docx.pdf>