Uffculme Parish Council – Flying of Flags Policy

Introduction

This policy sets out Uffculme Parish Council's approach to the flying of flags on council-owned property. The Council recognises that flags are symbols of national identity, civic pride, remembrance and celebration. All flag flying will be undertaken respectfully, safely and in accordance with UK Government guidance on flag protocol.

The Council will not fly flags representing political parties, campaign groups, sporting teams or organisations that may compromise neutrality or community cohesion.

Governance and Responsibility

- Uffculme Parish Council is responsible for one flagpole located in The Square, Uffculme.
- The Council will designate authorised persons to raise, lower and flags.
- Flags will normally be raised before 1000 hrs on designated days and lowered the following morning unless otherwise specified.
- Where a designated day falls on a weekend, the flag will be raised before 1700 hrs on the preceding Friday and lowered before 1000 hrs on Monday, unless otherwise required.

Default Flag

- The Devon Flag will be flown as the default flag when no other flag is designated.
- The Union Flag must always be flown the correct way up, with the broader white diagonal stripe above the red diagonal on the side nearest the flagpole.

Designated Flags

The Council may fly specific flags (where owned) to mark national occasions, civic events, remembrance or other appropriate observances. These include, but are not limited to:

9 March: Commonwealth Day (second Monday in March)
9 April: His Majesty The King's Wedding Anniversary
23 April: St George's Day (in England)
6 May: Coronation Day
13 June: Official Birthday of His Majesty The King
21 June: Birthday of HRH The Prince of Wales
17 July: Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen
8 September: His Majesty The King's Accession
8 November: Remembrance Day (second Sunday in November)
14 November: Birthday of His Majesty The King

Additional flags may be flown for exceptional national events, subject to approval at a full meeting of the Council.

Adopted:
Reviewed:

Half-Mast Protocol

Flags will be flown at half-mast only in accordance with official instructions issued by His Majesty's Government and UK Flag Protocol for periods of National Mourning only. Flags will not be flown at Half Mast for any other occasion.

- Half-mast means the flag is positioned two-thirds up the pole, leaving at least the height of the flag between its top edge and the top of the pole.
- When raising to half-mast, the flag must first be hoisted to the top and then lowered to position.
- When lowering from half-mast, it must again be raised to the top before being fully lowered.
- During periods of National Mourning, designated flags will not be flown unless specific instructions are issued by the Palace or Government.

Designated Flagbearer

The Parish Council will nominate a member of the Council to be responsible for tasks associated with the flying of flags including:

- Inspecting flags for damage and requesting replacements where necessary
- Ensuring safe storage of Council-owned flags
- Raising and lowering flags in accordance with Government guidance and this policy

Adopted:
Reviewed: