

# Beckingham Parish Council

Lincolnshire

Chairman: Lawrence Tatton

[www.beckinghamvillage.co.uk](http://www.beckinghamvillage.co.uk)

## **FLAG FLYING POLICY**

Flags are traditionally flown by the Parish Council for a variety of reasons: to show allegiance, support, respect or to celebrate. The Parish Council will always be sensitive to the views of all sectors of its community and will never use flags for political purposes.

Although it is free to fly the Union Flag at its discretion, it will as far as be appropriate follow national guidance. The Union Flag (in accordance with guidance from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport) flies as follows:

- 6 February - Her Majesty's Accession
- 1 March – St David's Day
- March (2nd Monday) - Commonwealth Day
- 21 April - Birthday of Her Majesty the Queen
- 23 April – St George's Day
- 2 June - Coronation Day
- 10 June - Birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh
- June (date varies) - Official Celebration of Her Majesty's Birthday
- June (date varies each year) – Armed Forces Day
- November (2nd Sunday) - Remembrance Sunday
- 11 November – Armistice Day
- 14 November - Birthday of the Prince of Wales
- 30 November – St Andrew's Day

The Parish Council have discretion to fly the Union Flag at other times:

- To celebrate and support sporting events of significance
- In recognition of a royal visit in consultation with the Lord Lieutenant.
- In recognition of a formal visit by another significant dignitary
- A special significant event or success in the Village
- Formal Village occasions
- By request from other Parish bodies

If in the future the Parish Council chooses to adopt a Parish flag, it could be flown for civic occasions in the Parish or to celebrate local events at the discretion of the Chairman.

A Village/Parish flag would also be flown at half-mast on the death/funeral of a serving local Councillor, serving local Member of Parliament or serving Councillor representing the village, or at the Chairman's discretion the death of another Parish dignitary.

On St George's Day, 23rd April, the Flag of St George should be flown. At the Chairman's discretion, the Flag of St George may be flown to celebrate support sporting events of significance of an England Team. At the discretion of the Chairman, the Cross of St. George may be flown to commemorate local civic and community dignitaries who have recently passed away.

How should the Union Flag be flown?



The correct way up for the Union Flag when flying is with the broader diagonal white stripe at the top left-hand side of the flag nearest the flagpole. The Union Flag will be flown on the flagpole situated at the Village Hall from 8:00am until sunset.

Flags should be flown at half-mast on the following occasions:

- From the announcement of the death up to the funeral of the Sovereign, except on Proclamation Day (the Day of the announcement of the Accession of the new Sovereign), when the flags are hoisted right up from 11:00am to sunset,
- In the event of the death of a member of the Royal Family, flags should be lowered from the day of death to the day of the funeral, subject to special commands from Her Majesty in each case,
- The funerals of foreign rulers, subject to special commands from Her Majesty in each case,
- The funerals of Prime Ministers and ex-Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, subject to special commands from Her Majesty in each case. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport will inform of any other occasions where Her Majesty has given a special command.

Flags will not be flown during severe weather warning and planned maintenance.

Flags will only be erected by authorised members of the Parish Council in order to comply with Health & Safety and insurance requirements.

In most circumstances the Parish Council will fly the Union Flag and/or the Lincolnshire County flag.

This Flag Flying policy was adopted by Beckingham Parish Council at a meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019