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| A picture containing text, slot machine  Description automatically generated | **THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HELLINGLY**The Community Hub, The Drive, Hellingly, East Sussex, BN27 4EP Tel: 01323 449415e-mail: clerk@hellingly-pc.org.ukWebsite: [www.hellingly-pc.org.uk](http://www.hellingly-pc.org.uk) |

**Hellingly Parish Council**

**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 the Parish Council are free to fly the Union Flag at its discretion, it will as far as is appropriate follow national guidance.

The following flags will be flown on the dates indicated:

**The Union Flag**

**Designated days for flying the Union Flag on UK government buildings 2023**

**Designated days for flying the Union Flag on UK government buildings 2023**

* **1 March:** St David’s Day (in Wales)
* **13 March:** Commonwealth Day (second Monday in March)
* **17 March:** St Patrick’s Day (in Northern Ireland)
* **9 April:** His Majesty’s Wedding Day
* **23 April:** St George’s Day (in England)
* **6 May:** Coronation Day
* **17 June:** Official Birthday of His Majesty The King
* **21 June:** Birthday of The Prince of Wales
* **17 July:** Birthday of The Queen Consort
* **8 September:** His Majesty’s Accession
* **12 November:** Remembrance Day (second Sunday in November)
* **14 November:** Birthday of His Majesty The King
* **30 November:** St Andrew’s Day (in Scotland)

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 Parish
* Formal Civic occasions
* By request from other Parish bodies

The union flag will be flown at half-mast on the death/funeral of a serving local Councillor, serving local Member of Parliament or serving Wealden Councillor representing the Parish, or at the Chair’s discretion the death of another Parish dignitary.

On St George's Day, 23rd April, the Flag of St George should be flown. Under the flag flying guidance from the Department of Communities and Local Government, the Cross of St. George may be flown on St George’s Day from UK Government buildings in England with two or more flag poles. At the Chair’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 Chair, 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?**

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|  | CORRECT |  | INCORRECT |

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.

Should additional flagpoles be erected in the future, then the Union Flag must always be flown in a 'superior' position:

* On the highest flagpole
* On the centre flagpole where there is an odd number of poles of the same height, or
* On the left centre flagpole viewed from the front of the building, where there is an even number of the same height.

**When and how should flags be flown at half-mast?**

When flags are to be flown at half-mast they should be two-thirds up between the top and bottom of the flagstaff with at least the height of the flag between the top of the flag and the top of the flagpole.

When raising the flag it should always be hoisted right up and then lowered back down to half-mast. Likewise before it is lowered at sunset, it should first be hoisted right up and then lowered back down.

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 His Majesty in each case
* The funerals of Prime Ministers and ex-Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom, subject to special commands from His Majesty in each case. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport will inform of any other occasions where His Majesty has given a special command
* When flag flying days coincide with days for flying flags at half-mast, flags should be flown right up: although a member of the Royal Family, or a near relative of the Royal Family, may be lying dead, unless special commands are received from His Majesty to the contrary, and although it may be the day of the funeral of a foreign ruler
* On the death/funeral of a serving officer in the Armed Forces from the Town
* On the death/funeral of a serving Parish Councillor, District Councillor, County Councillor or local Member of Parliament
* At the discretion of the Chair, to commemorate local civic and community dignitaries who have recently passed away

**Other Considerations**

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

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

Further information : <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/designated-days-for-union-flag-flying#designated-days-for-flying-the-union-flag-on-uk-government-buildings-2022>

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| **Adopted** | **Reviewed** | **Next Review** |
| 13th December 2023 |  | Dec 2025 |
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