Bearpark Parish Council

Flag Policy

Last Updated: 22/09/2026

Purpose

This protocol relates to the flying of the flag in Bearpark Parish Council.
The protocol sets out the circumstances in which the Parish Council will fly flags within the Parish boundaries and does not impact or influence other bodies including the County Council, Fire Brigade or Educational establishments within the Parish boundary.

Flags

Flags covered in this Protocol are:

- Union Flag

Union flag

The Union flag will be flown at all times except in exceptional circumstances.

In line with government advice, the flag should normally be flown from sunrise to sunset, but can also be flown overnight, where it is not illuminated. The Union flag takes precedence over other flags.

The Parish Council will follow guidance issued by the Flag Institute
http://www.flaginstitute.org/pdfs/Flying_Flags_in_the_United_Kingdom

Flags flying at half mast

From time to time, the council will fly the flag at half-mast as a mark of respect following the death of an individual or group of people.

The Union flag will be flown at half-mast from the Parish flagpole in line with government advice and special command from the Sovereign to do so. The normal circumstances in which the Union flag would be flown at half-mast are outlined in the guidance issued by the Flag Institute.

The Union flag should be flown at half-mast to mark the death of a serving Member of the council (a serving councillor). The flag should be lowered to half- mast on the day of the funeral.

Exceptions

In exceptional circumstances, following a discussion at a Parish Council meeting, council is minded to deviate from usual flag protocol as long as appropriate planning conditions are complied with and any necessary consents obtained by the organisation requesting that the flag be flown, wherever possible.

Exceptional circumstances could include:

a) specific instructions or requests from the government to fly a specific flag.
b) demonstrating support for campaigns which would benefit the county, for example economic or cultural promotions or host city bids.
c) promoting campaigns which would help to improve the health and wellbeing of local people.
d) recognising notable anniversaries or events of local significance.

In addition, in exceptional circumstances and following a discussion at a Parish Council meeting, Council may confer the honour of flying the Parish flag at half-mast as a mark of respect for notable individuals who have passed away.