



## Bayston Hill parish Council Flag Policy

### Overview

In the event that flags of any kind are mounted onto Parish Council property, this policy outlines the actions that will be taken by the Parish Council.

1. Bayston Hill Parish Council currently does not have any flagpoles on which to display flags.
2. BHPG recognises the meaning and significance attributed to flags. They are emotive symbols which can boost local and national identities and strengthen community cohesion. They are ways for communities to express feelings of joy, pride and loyalty.
3. Like all symbols, flags are open to wide-ranging interpretation and therefore also have the potential to cause controversy and create tension between community groups whose opinions may differ. The flying of any flag must be viewed in the context in which it is flown or displayed. Factors affecting the context include the manner, location and frequency with which flags are flown. The Council has a responsibility to carefully consider the potential impact upon its communities of flying flags from its properties and how that action may be interpreted.
4. This policy is intended to provide a modern approach. It also seeks to maintain the dignity of national flags and avoid these flags being the subject of political controversy.

### Conclusion

Flags are not permitted to be displayed on Parish Council property without permission, those wishing to do so should contact the Parish Office for advice. Any flags displayed on Parish Council property without permission will be removed when resources (staffing/finance) allows us to do so. If possible costs will be recouped from the individual(s) who acted contrary to this policy.