



Fishguard & Goodwick Town Council Cyngor Tref Abergwaun ac Wdig

FLAG POLICY

1. Background

Flags are traditionally flown by the Town Council to show allegiance, support and respect, or to celebrate. The Town Council needs to be sensitive to the views of its communities and in general, will only fly flags not identified in paragraph 2.1 with consent of the Full Council. The Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, has the authority to replace the Pan Celtic flag on occasion, with a flag highlighting a local community event or achievement. This policy has been written in line with national flag flying guidelines.

2. Introduction

2.1 All flags that fly, are subject to the same standards and must be:

- Maintained so as not to impair the visual appearance of the flag
- Be reinforced on the loose end, to prevent "ragging" during high winds and bad weather
- Rectangular, sewn and 2 yards in size.
- Unable to obscure the highway or hinder the interpretation of use of the highway in any way
- Removed carefully, dried out properly and stored safely - if fit for re-use.
- The Town Council flags will be flown in the following order, looking left to right, from the roadside:
Union Jack, Welsh Flag, Pembrokeshire Flag and the St. David's Flag on the set of four poles.
Union Jack, Welsh Flag, St. George's Flag (England), St. Andrew's Flag (Scotland), National Flag of Ireland (Tricolour), Pembrokeshire Flag, St. David's Flag, Pan Celtic Counties Flag, and the RNLI Flag on the set of nine poles.

2.2 There are three categories of flag:

- Flags that can be flown without permission of the planning authority
- Flags that can be flown without consent, provided they comply with restrictions.
- Flags that require planning permission/consent

Flags that do not need the permission of the planning authority:

- A counties national flag, civil ensign or civil air ensign
- The flags of the Commonwealth, the Council of Europe, the United Nations or any other international organisation of which the United Kingdom (UK) is a member
- A flag of any island, county, district, parish, city, town or village within the UK
- The flag of St David – different to the flag of Wales
- The flag of St. Patrick – different to the flag of Ireland
- Any flag of His Majesty's Forces
- By the authority or instruction of the Pembrokeshire County Council.

Flags that can be flown without consent, provided they comply with restrictions:

- House flag
- Any sports club
- The horizontal striped rainbow flag, such as the Pride flag
- Specified award schemes, Kings Awards for Enterprise and Investors in People

Green and blue environmental award scheme flags, can be flown from a flagpole on part of a beach or marina and a flag of the green award, can be flown in parks, gardens or other green spaces.

Flags which require planning permission or consent:

- Any flag not identified above
- Any flag promoting a private business

3. Flag Flying Protocol

- The Town Council owns and maintains 13 flagpoles in Goodwick. There are four in the middle of the Parrog and 9 at the end of the Parrog.
- The flags should be flown for as long as possible in good weather seasons. They will be put up in the week leading up to Easter Weekend and taken down in the autumn, date subject to weather and condition of the flags.
- Flags should not be flown in poor weather conditions.
- The flags will not be flown in the winter seasons, except for Remembrance weekend (weather permitting) unless there is a special occasion.
- Flags should never be flown that are worn or damaged as this displays a lack of respect.
- It is entirely the decision of the Town Council and the Councillors, what flags are flown. However, the Welsh Flag, the Union Jack and the Pembrokeshire flag will be flown at all times during flag flying season.
- The flags and the flagpoles, will be flown, monitored and maintained at all times.
- There will be a minimum of two people present whenever the flags are to be taken down or put up.

4. When to fly a flag at half-mast

The flags will be flown at half-mast under the following circumstances only:

- From the announcement of the death of, until after the funeral of a Sovereign
- Funerals of a member of the Royal family, as commanded by the Sovereign
- The funerals of foreign rulers upon command of the Sovereign
- The funeral of a prime minister or ex-prime minister, upon command of the Sovereign
- Other occasions as demanded by the Sovereign

POLICY ADOPTED DATE: 1st September 2026

Minute Reference: TC/26-09