

Ermington Parish Council

Operation London Bridge Protocol

This protocol sets out the action to be taken in the event of the death of:

- His Majesty, King Charles III

and shall only be implemented when an official announcement is made by Buckingham Palace.

A 10-day period of state mourning will commence and the State Funeral shall be held at Westminster Abbey on the 10th day; unless this falls on a Sunday in which case the funeral will be on the Monday. The Clerk will be the lead for this protocol in the event of the Royal death, in liaison with the District Council. The following actions will be undertaken to mark the occasion:

- **Cancellation of meetings/business** – EPC meetings pre-arranged to be held anytime within the 10 days of mourning will be cancelled/rescheduled. Unless falling on a Saturday, the day of the state funeral will be a public holiday and no business should be transacted.
- **Letter of Condolence** – The Parish Council shall send a letter offering condolences to next of kin to be sent to the Royal Archives on the day following death. Before posting the Clerk in conjunction with the Chair shall review the wording to ensure appropriateness.
- **Words of Condolence** – The Chair of the Parish Council will prepare suitable wording which will be posted on the Parish Council's website, along with a photograph of the Queen.
- **Condolence Book** – This shall be placed in the Ermington Store to be made available for parishioners to write their messages of condolence from the first working day after the day of death until the day after the state funeral has taken place. Following completion of the open period for signing (approximately 10 days) the pages will be reviewed and kept in the council archives.
- **In Mourning Veil on Website** – From the first day after death a grey veil shall be placed on the Main web page of <https://www.ermingtonparish.com/>. This shall be arranged by the current website developer and remain in place until the day after the state funeral has taken place.
- **Area for Laying Floral Tributes** – Floral tributes may be laid at the war memorial. This opportunity will be published accordingly at the time. Only cut flowers in compostable wrappings (with no plastic ribbons/ties or rubber bands) may be laid. The area shall be checked regularly during the week of mourning. These will remain in place until the day after the state funeral has taken place. The flowers will then be removed for composting.

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