

PROTOCOL FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF HER MAJESTY ELIZABETH THE SECOND, BY THE GRACE OF GOD, OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, AND OF HER OTHER REALMS AND TERRITORIES, QUEEN, HEAD OF THE COMMONWEALTH, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH

Summary of what needs to happen and when:

Day of Death	a) On the formal announcement of the death, immediately lower the Union Jack flag outside of the Crediton Council Offices.
	b) Initial statement to be issued by the Council expressing the Authority's sadness on hearing the announcement. Detailed statement to follow (it may be prudent to wait to issue a detailed statement until formal arrangements have been confirmed by Buckingham Palace).
D+1 (the day following the death) – Principle	a) Detailed statement to be issued including details of the Book of Condolence at Crediton Council Offices, a link to the national e-Book of Condolence, flag flying, the Proclamation and the 2 minutes silence. To be signed by the Chairman.
Proclamation Day in London	b) From 9 am, open a Book of Condolence in the reception area of Crediton Council Offices.
	c) At 11:00 hrs raise the flag to mast head and keep there until 13:00 hrs the following day (D+2). After this return the flag to half-mast until the morning after the day of the funeral.
D+2	At 16:00 hrs the Chairman of Crediton Town Council reads the Proclamation outside Crediton Council Offices.
D+10 Funeral Day	At 11:00 hrs the Chairman of Crediton Town Council leads a 2 minute silence outside Crediton Council Offices.
D+11	a) Union Jack flag taken down at 08:00 hrs.
	b) Book of Condolence to be closed at 17:00 hrs.
	c) Letter of Condolence from the Council to be sent to the new Sovereign's Private Secretary.
	d) Agree where the Book of Condolence (signed in Crediton Council Offices) shall be kept for posterity and future inspection.



Adopted by Crediton Town Council on 17th January 2017 minute number 1701/228 Next review date: January 2018



Detailed guidance

Immediately

Action required	Who by?
The Town Clerk will ensure contact is made as a matter of urgency (using the contact numbers provided in a separate appendix) with the following individuals:	Town Clerk
The ChairmanTown CouncillorsStaff	

Flag flying

Action required	Implemented by
On the formal announcement of the Death the Union Jack flag will be lowered to half-mast outside Crediton Council Offices until 08:00 hrs on the morning following the Funeral. (The funeral of the Sovereign will take place 10 days after the day of death.)	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk
Except: The day following the death will be Proclamation Day (the day when the new Sovereign is proclaimed). On Proclamation Day flags will, at the start of the day, be flying at half-mast. All flags will then be flown at the mast-head from 11:00 hrs on D+1 to coincide with the Reading of the Principal Proclamation (in London) and until 13:00 hrs the following day i.e. D+2 where they will be returned to half-mast.	





Statements by the Council

Action required	Implemented by
The Chairman will issue a statement via the Council Office	Statement to be issued by the
expressing the sadness of the Council and people of the	Council Office.
Town at the news of the death of HM the Queen. The	
statement will also appear on the home page of Crediton	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk.
Town Council's Website.	
The statement will confirm that flags are to be flown at half-	
mast and will give details of Books of Condolence. It will also	
mention any arrangements for an e-Book of Condolence on	
the Royal website, the reading of the Proclamation and the	
two minutes silence on funeral day.	

Books of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by
On the day following the announcement of the death of the Sovereign, a Book of Condolence will be opened at Crediton Council Offices.	The Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk to locate and set up a quiet area with a table and
Books of Condolence will be open from 10.00 to 14:00 Monday to Friday and will remain open until 14:00 on the day following the funeral.	chair.
A table and chair will be positioned in a quiet area. A Book of Condolence will be supplied by the Town Clerk for Crediton Council Offices as will a table cloth, a vase of flowers and a framed photograph of the Sovereign.	
When the Book of Condolence has been closed (the day after the funeral) the Town Clerk will discuss with the Chairman arrangements for binding and where the final bound version is to be lodged.	



Proclamation Day

Action required	Implemented by
The Principle Proclamation will be made in London on the day following the death D+1.	Notification of the reading of the Proclamation to be given by the Town Clerk.
At County level High Sheriffs are expected to make their Reading of the Proclamation at 2.00pm on D+2 in the County town.	Council Staff to ensure that the public are informed by way of a press release and item on the
The Chairman of Crediton Town Council will make the Proclamation later that day (D+2) at 4.00 pm (the words will be provided by Buckingham Palace) outside Crediton Council Offices.	Council's website.
A designated area will be identified for the public to lay flowers. (Town Square)	
Those to be invited:	
 Parish Chairmen (each to receive a copy of the Proclamation to take back to their towns and parishes to place on village notice boards). All Members (to wear black ties and black arm bands) Police Commander Fire Commander Others holding positions of responsibility within the town The public Staff 	

Events during the period of Mourning

Action required	Implemented by
It will be necessary to review the programme of	The Chairman with the Town
engagements undertaken by the Town Clerk and Chairman	Clerk.
to ensure it is appropriate in a time of national mourning and	
that it sits comfortably with the national mood.	





Dress Code

Action required	Implemented by
On the death of the Sovereign, the Chains of office will not be worn by the Chairman for the duration of the mourning period, instead the badge of office will be worn on a black neck ribbon.	Town Clerk
A stock of black arm bands and black neck ribbons will be held and made available by the Town Clerk for use by Councillors and senior officers at any official event during the mourning period.	

Marking a Silence

Action required	Implemented by
On the death of the Sovereign there will be a two minute	Council Staff to arrange access
silence outside Crediton Council Offices at 11.00 am on the	
day of the funeral (D+10). Precise details will be announced	Council Staff to ensure that the
by Buckingham Palace.	public are informed by way of a
	press release and item on the
The Chairman to preside.	Council's website.
Those to be invited:	Town Clerk
Parish Chairmen	
 All Members (to wear black ties and black arm bands) 	
Police Commander	
Fire Commander	
Others holding positions of responsibility within the	
town	
The public	
Staff	
The Public Observing of the Silence to be publicised.	
Maroons will be fired to mark the beginning and end of the two minutes silence in Tiverton, Crediton and Cullompton.	



Letters of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by	Other Notes
A letter of condolence should be sent to the new Sovereign's Private Secretary	The Town Clerk on behalf of	
asking that condolences be passed to the new Sovereign. Only one letter should be sent.		





Protocol to be used when HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, dies

Summary of what needs to happen and when:

Day of Death	a) On the formal announcement of the death, immediately lower the Union Jack flag outside Crediton Council Offices to half-mast until the day after the funeral.
	b) Initial statement to be issued by the Council expressing the Authority's sadness on hearing the announcement. Detailed statement to follow (it may be prudent to wait to issue a detailed statement until formal arrangements have been confirmed by Buckingham Palace).
D+1 (the day following the death)	 a) Detailed statement to be issued including details of the Book of Condolence at Crediton Council Offices, a link to the national e- Book of Condolence, flag flying, any 2 minutes silence. To be signed by the Chairman.
	b) From 9 am, open a Book of Condolence in the reception area of Crediton Council Offices.
Funeral Day	At 11:00 hrs the Chairman of Crediton Town Council leads a 2 minute silence in a public place (but wait for confirmation from Buckingham Palace before advertising this).
Day after the Funeral	a) Union Jack flag taken down at 08:00 hrs.
	b) Book of Condolence to be closed at 17:00 hrs.
	c) Letter of Condolence from the Council to be sent to Prince Phillips Private Secretary asking that condolences be passed to the next of kin and other members of the family.
	d) Agree where the Book of Condolence (signed in Crediton Council Offices) shall be kept for posterity and future inspection.





Detailed guidance

Immediately

Action required	Who by?
The Town Clerk will ensure contact is made as a matter of urgency (using the contact numbers provided in a separate appendix) with the following individuals:	Town Clerk
The ChairmanTown CouncillorsStaff	

Flag flying

Action required	Implemented by
On the formal announcement of the Death the Union Jack	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk
flag will be lowered to half-mast outside Crediton Council Offices until 08:00 hrs on the morning following the Funeral.	

Statements by the Council

Action required	Implemented by
The Chairman will issue a statement via the Council Office	Statement to be issued by the
expressing the sadness of the Council and people of the	Council Office.
Town at the news of the death of HRH Prince Phillip. The	
statement will also appear on the home page of Crediton	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk.
Town Council's Website.	
The statement will confirm that flags are to be flown at half-	
mast and will give details of Books of Condolence. It will also	
mention any arrangements for an e-Book of Condolence on	
the Royal website and whether a two minute silence will be	
observed.	





Books of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by
On the day following the announcement of the death of HRH	The Town Clerk or Assistant
Prince Phillip a Book of Condolence will be opened at	Clerk to locate and set up a
Crediton Council Offices.	quiet area with a table and
	chair.
Books of Condolence will be open from 10.00 to 14:00	
Monday to Friday and will remain open until 14:00 on the	
day following the funeral.	
A table and chair will be positioned in a quiet area. Books of	
Condolence will be supplied by the Town Clerk as will a table	
cloth, a vase of flowers and a framed photograph of HRH	
Prince Phillip.	
When the Book of Condolence in Crediton Council Offices	
has been closed (the day after the funeral) the Town Clerk	
will discuss with the Chairman arrangements for binding and	
where the final bound version is to be lodged.	

Area for laying flowers

Action required	Implemented by
If appropriate to do so an area will be designated outside of	Town Clerk or Assistant Clerk
Crediton Council Offices for the laying of flowers.	
(Town Square)	

Events during the period of Mourning

Action required	Implemented by
It will be necessary to review the programme of	The Chairman with the Town
engagements undertaken by the Town Clerk and Chairman	Clerk.
to ensure it is appropriate in a time of national mourning and	
that it sits comfortably with the national mood.	





Dress Code

Action required	Implemented by
The Chains of office will not be worn by the Chairman for the duration of the mourning period, instead the badge of office will be worn on a black neck ribbon.	Town Clerk
A stock of black arm bands and a black neck ribbon will be held and made available by the Town Clerk for use by Councillors and senior officers at any official event during the mourning period.	

Marking a Silence (details to be confirmed by Buckingham Palace)

Action required	Implemented by
On the death of HRH Prince Phillip there may be a two	Council Staff to arrange access.
minute silence at 11.00 am on the day of the funeral. Precise	
details will be announced by Buckingham Palace.	Council Staff to ensure that the public are informed by way of a
The Chairman to preside at Crediton Council Offices.	press release and item on the Council's website.
Those to be invited:	
	Town Clerk
Parish Chairmen	
All Members (to wear black ties and black arm bands)	
Police Commander	
Fire Commander	
 Others holding positions of responsibility within the town 	
The public	
• Staff	
The Public Observing of the Silence to be publicised.	
There will be a firing of maroons to mark the beginning and the end of the two minute silence in Tiverton, Crediton and Cullompton.	



Letters of Condolence

Action required	Implemented by	Other Notes
A letter of condolence should	The Town Clerk on behalf of	
be sent to Prince Phillip's	the Chairman.	
Private Secretary asking that		
condolences be passed to the		
next of kin and other		
members of the family.		

