

DOCKING PARISH COUNCIL

Operation London Bridge Policy

Throughout the country there is one event which will affect the whole community, from the largest city to the smallest hamlet. With the date of this event still unknown the Parish Council need to be prepared.

The event is Operation London Bridge – the code name given to the passing of HM Queen Elizabeth the Second.

Following her departing and the official announcement from Buckingham Palace, a period of ten days state mourning will follow. D Day being the death and D10 the date of the full state funeral in Westminster Abbey, unless D10 falls on a Sunday, then the funeral will be held on the D11 Monday. On D +1 the new king/queen will be announced. On D+2 the Parish Council will then make their official announcement and any flags lowered.

In recognition of 'Operation London Bridge' – Docking Parish Council have adopted the below procedures. These will be implemented following the formal announcement:

- A condolence book will be put in place in St Mary Church, Docking for those wishing to leave any messages. Loose pages will be taken to Docking House, Care Home and Docking Primary School for messages to be written and these will be added to the condolence book. This will then be stored in Norfolk archives and a letter sent to the Private Secretary at Buckingham Palace to acknowledge this. An official portrait of the Queen will be placed by the condolence book for the period of mourning only. This will be obtained from NALC.
- The Chair will prepare suitable wording which will be posted on the Parish Council website and Facebook page.
- Any events arranged by the Parish Council during the 10 day mourning period are subject to be cancelled with a view to re-arrange.
- A list of any changes in events and details on what the Parish Council will undertake during this period will be advertised on the website

If any local buildings are floodlit these must have a purple screen or be switched off for 10 days.

Flowers – There will be a designated area in the Church/Churchyard for residents to lay floral tributes during the period of mourning. Details will be placed on the web page. It is important to note that all of the plastic wrap should be removed before laying flowers. At the end of the mourning period (D +11) there should be a ceremonial removal of the flowers. All flowers should be taken away to be composted, with

the compost, a tree may be planted at a location in the community to be agreed by the Council, in memory of the sovereign.

Day of the funeral - Councillors will meet on the village green/at the church to collectively mark the 2-minute silence.

- The date of the State Funeral will be a Public Holiday unless the date falls on a Saturday.

Adopted: November 2021

Reviewed and adopted: November 2022