

Flag flying

Proposed: Alex Wagner

Seconded: Rob Wilson

This council notes:

1. The Union Flag is the national flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Crown Dependencies and the Overseas Territories. It is a symbol of national unity and pride. The first Union Flag was created in 1606 and combined the flags of England and Scotland; the present Union Flag dates from 1801.
2. There are designated days when the Union Flag must be flown on UK government buildings by command of Her Majesty the Queen. However, UK government buildings are encouraged to fly the Union Flag all year around.
3. Local authorities and other local organisations are encouraged to follow suit where they wish to fly flags.
4. The Union Flag currently flies daily from the flagpole in the Quarry Park.
5. The flag in use by Shrewsbury Town Council is a banner-of-arms from the town coat of arms. It can be described in heraldic terms as "Azure, 3 leopard faces Or."
6. The three leopard loggerhead pattern, referred to as "loggerheads" locally, was used by local lords of the area on their shields. The use of Loggerheads on the Shrewsbury town arms, first recorded in 1623, is an example and the symbol has become part of the local identity over the years.
7. With the upcoming move of the Town Council from Rigg's Hall to a more prominent town centre location, there is an opportunity for the Town Council to proudly fly its own flag daily.
8. The Government defines specific days that the Union Flag should be flown in precedence ([Union Flag flying guidance for UK government buildings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)).
9. There are other specific days that the Town Council may decide to fly an alternative flag, for example Shropshire Day (23rd February), St George's Day (23rd April).
10. There are other specific occasions that the Town Council may decide to fly an alternative flag, for example the White Ensign when HMS Talent are on an official visit, or the Rainbow Flag during Pride Month.

This council resolves:

1. To ensure that the new Shrewsbury Town Council HQ can fly at least one flag from either the front elevation or roof of the building.
2. That the Civics Committee should develop a flag flying schedule for the Shrewsbury Town Council HQ and the Quarry Park taking account of UK Government advice.
3. To fly the Shrewsbury Town Flag daily on the HQ, except on other designated days.
4. To continue to fly the Union Flag daily in the Quarry Park, except on other designated days.
5. To publish the flag flying schedule on the Shrewsbury Town Council.
6. To purchase new flags of standard size as required to fulfil the schedule.
7. To implement the flag flying schedule on the new Shrewsbury Town Council HQ and the flag pole in the Quarry Park as soon as possible.

8. That the Mayor may, with the agreement of the Leader of the Town Council and Town Clerk, request for other flags to flown.