

Parish Council Powers (this is not an exhaustive list)

| Function | Powers & Duties | Statutory Provisions |
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| Allotments | Duty to provide allotments. Power to improve and adapt land for allotments, and to let grazing rights | Small Holding & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42 |
| Baths and washhouses | Power to provide public baths and washhouses | Public Health Act 1936, ss. 221, 222, 223 and 227 |
| Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria | Power to acquire and maintain Power to provide Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries | Open Spaces Act 1906, Ss 9 and 10; Local Government Act 1972, s. 214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970, s. 1 Local Government Act 1972, s. 214(6) |
| Bus shelters | Power to provide and maintain shelters | Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953, s. 4 |
| Bye-laws | Power to make bye-laws in regard to pleasure grounds Cycle parks Baths and washhouses Open spaces and burial grounds Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms | Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(7) Public Health Act 1936, s.223 Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15 Public Health Act 1936, s.198 |
| Clocks | Power to provide public clocks | Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2 |
| Closed churchyards | Powers as to maintenance | Local Government Act 1972, s.215 |
| Common pastures | Powers in relation to providing common pasture | Smallholdings and Allotments Act 1908, s.34 |
| Conference facilities | Power to provide and encourage the use of facilities | Local Government Act 1972, s.144 |
| Community centres | Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or recreational objectives | Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19 |
| Crime prevention | Powers to install and maintain equipment and establish and maintain a scheme for detection or prevention of crime Power to contribute to police services e.g. PCSOs Duty on Parish Councils to consider crime reduction in every policy and action | Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31 Police Act 1996, s.92 s17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) |
| Drainage | Power to deal with ponds and ditches | Public Health Act 1936, s.260 |
| Dogs | Power to make a Dog Control Order Power to take enforcement action against those who commit an offence against a Dog Control Order | Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 |
| Entertainment and the | Provision of entertainment and support | Local Government Act 1972, s.145 |

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| arts | of the arts | |
| Flyposting and Graffiti | Power to take enforcement action against those that flypost or graffiti | Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 |
| Gifts | Power to accept | Local Government Act 1972, s.139 |
| Highways | Power to maintain footpaths and bridleways Power to light roads and public places Provision of litter bins Powers to provide parking places for bicycles and motor-cycles, and other vehicles Power to enter into agreement as to dedication and widening Power to provide roadside seats and shelters Consent of parish council required for ending maintenance of highway at public expense, or for stopping up or diversion of highway Power to complain to highway authority as to unlawful stopping up or obstruction of highway or unlawful encroachment on roadside wastes Power to provide traffic signs and other objects or devices warning of danger Power to plant trees and lay out grass verges etc. and to maintain them | Highways Act 1980, ss.43,50 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301 Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss.57,63 Highways Act 1980, ss.30,72 Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1 Highways Act 1980, ss.47,116 Highways Act 1980, s.130 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.72 Highways Act 1980, s.96 |
| Investments | Power to participate in schemes of collective investment | Trustee Investments Act 1961, s.11 |
| Land | Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of Power to accept gifts of land | Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972, s.139 |
| Litter | Provision of receptacles Power to take enforcement action against those that litter | Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 Cleaner Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 |
| Lotteries | Powers to promote | Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976, s.7 |
| Mortuaries and post mortem rooms | Powers to provide mortuaries and post mortem rooms | Public Health Act 1936, s.198 |
| Open spaces | Power to acquire land and maintain | Public Health Act 1875, s.164 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10 |
| Parish documents | Powers to direct as to their custody | Local Government Act 1972, s.226 |
| Telecommunications facilities | Power to pay public telecommunications operators any loss sustained providing telecommunication facilities | Telecommunications Act 1984, s.97 |
| Public buildings and village hall | Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies | Local Government Act 1972, s.133 |

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| Public conveniences | Power to provide | Public Health Act 1936, s.87 |
| Sustainable communities | Able to be represented on a panel of representatives to be consulted on proposals that would contribute to sustainable communities | Sustainable Communities Act 2007 |
| Town and country planning | Right to be notified of planning applications | Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched.1, para. 8 |
| Tourism | Power to encourage visitors and provide conference and other facilities | Local Government Act 1972, s.144 |
| Traffic calming | Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes | Highways Act 1980, s.274A |
| Transport | Powers in relation to car-sharing schemes, taxi fare concessions and information about transport Powers to make grants for bus services | Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26, 28 and 29 Transport Act 1985, s.106A |
| War memorials | Power to maintain, repair, protect and alter war memorials | War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, s.1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133 |
| Water supply | Power to utilise well, spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water from them | Public Health Act 1936, s.125 |
| Well-Being | Power to well-being of the area (for eligible councils) | s2 and 4 of the Local Government Act 2000 |

Source: Governance Toolkit for Parish & Town Councils (Published jointly by ACSeS [The Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors], SLCC [The Society of Local Council Clerks], The Standards Board for England, NALC [The National Association of Local Councils]) and LGA [The Local Government Association], 2009