

Powers and duties of parish councils

| Function | Powers & Duties | Statutory Provisions |
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| Access land | Power to enforce byelaws made by another authority | Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, s. 17 |
| Allotments | Duty to provide allotments. Power to improve and adapt land for allotments, and to let grazing rights | Small Holdings & Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23, 26, and 42 |
| Baths and washhouses | Powers relating to provision of public baths, washhouses and bathing huts | Public Health Act 1936, ss. 221 - 223 and 225 - 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 Provisions) 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 Conveniences | Public Health Act 1875, s. 164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57(7) Public Health Act 1936, s.223 Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.15 and 12 Public Health Act 1936, s.198 Public Health Act 1936, s. 87 |
| Clocks | Power to provide public clocks | Parish Councils Act 1957, s.2 |
| Closed churchyards | Powers as to maintenance | Local Government Act 1972, s.215 |
| Commons | Power for parish council to contribute to expense relating to scheme for the regulation and | Commons Act 1899, s.5 |

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| | management of a common | |
| 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 | Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31 |
| Drainage | Power to deal with ponds and ditches | Public Health Act 1936, s.260 |
| Entertainment and the arts | Provision of entertainment and support of the arts | Local Government Act 1972, s.145 |
| Financial assistance | Duty to require information | Local Government Act 1972, s.137A |
| General powers | Power to incur expenditure for certain purposes | Local Government Act 1972, s. 137 |
| Gifts | Power to accept | Local Government Act 1972, s.139 |
| Highways | Power to maintain footpaths and bridle-ways 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 Highways Act 1980, ss.43,50 | Highways Act 1980, ss.47,116 Highways Act 1980, s.130 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.72 Highways Act 1980, s.96 |

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| | <p>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 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</p> | |
| Investments | Power to participate in schemes of collective investment | Trustee Investments Act 1961, s.11 |
| Land | <p>Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of Power to accept gifts of land</p> | <p>Local Government Act 1972, ss.124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972, s.139</p> |
| Litter | Provision of receptacles | Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6 |
| 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 | <p>Powers to direct as to their custody Local Government Act 1972, s.226 Public buildings and village hall Power to provide buildings for public meetings and assemblies</p> | Local Government Act 1972, s.133 |

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| Public conveniences | Powers relating to provision of public conveniences | Public Health Act 1936, s.87 |
| Recreation | <p>Power to acquire land for or to provide public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them</p> <p>Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps</p> <p>Provision of boating pools</p> | <p>(see Local Government Act 1972, Sched.14 para.27)</p> <p>Public Health Act 1875, s.164 Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 s.44</p> <p>Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10</p> <p>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19</p> <p>Public Health Act 1961, s.54</p> <p>Town and country planning</p> <p>Right to be notified of planning applications</p> <p>Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched.1, para.8</p> |
| 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 | <p>Powers in relation to car-sharing schemes, taxi fare concessions and information about transport</p> <p>Powers to make grants for bus services</p> | <p>Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26, 28 and 29</p> <p>Transport Act 1985, s.106A</p> |
| 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 |