

Powers and Duties of Parish Councils

FUNCTION	POWERS AND DUTIES	STATUTORY POWERS
Agency Arrangements	Power to arrange for the discharge of functions by another local authority	Local Government Act 1972 s.101
Allotments	Powers to provide allotments Duty to provide allotment gardens if demand unsatisfied	Small Holdings Allotments Act 1908 ss 23, 26 and 42
Archives	Power to make records held available to the public and support local archives	Local Government (Records) Act 1962, ss1 and 4
Baths and Washhouses:	Power to provide public baths and washhouses	Public Health Act 1936 ss 221, 222,223 and 227
Borrowing	Power to borrow money for statutory functions	Local Government Act 1972 Sch. 13
Burial Grounds, Cemeteries and crematoria*	Power to acquire and maintain	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10: Local Government Act 1972, s 214
	Power to provide	Local Government Act 1972, s.214
	Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials	Parish Council and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1997, s. 1
	Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries	Local Government Act 1972
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain	Local Government (Miscellaneous) Act 1953 s.4
Bye Laws	Power to make bye-laws for public walks and pleasure ground	Public Health Act 1875, s 164
	Cycle Parks	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s.57 (7)
	Swimming pools, bathing places, baths and washhouses	Public Health Act 1936, s 223

	provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces, and to manage and control them.	Local Government Act 1972, Sched 14, para 27; Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1980, s 44; Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s 19.
Parish Property and Records	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972, s226
Parking Facilities	Power to provide parking places for motor vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss 57 and 63
Planning	Right to be notified of and power to respond to planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1 para 8; Local Government Act 1972, Sched. 15 para 20.
Postal and telecommunications facilities	Power to pay the Post Office, British Telecommunications or any other public telecommunications operator any loss sustained in providing post or telegraph office or telecommunications facilities	Post Office Act 1954, s 51; Telecommunications Act 1984,s97
Public Buildings and Village Halls	Power to provide buildings for offices and for public meetings and assemblies	Local Government Act 1972 s 133
Public Conveniences	Power to provide	Public Health Act 19336, s 87
Public Enquiries	Power to make representations at public enquiries	Local Government Act 1982, s222
Publicise functions	Power to publicise council and local authority functions	Local Government Act 1982, s. 142
Raising of Finances	Power to raise money through them precept	Local Government Act 1982, s150
Records	Power to collect, exhibit and purchase local records	Local Government Act Records) Act 1962 ss 1 and 2
Recreation*	Power to acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds,	Public Health Act 1875, s 164; Local Government Act 1972, Sched 14 para 27; Public Health

	and open spaces and to manage and control them. Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps	Acts Amendment Acts 1890, s 44; Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s 19; Commons Act 1899
	Provision of boating pools	Public Health Act 1962, s 54
Seats and Shelters*	Power to provide roadside seats and shelters	Parish Councils Act 1957, s 1
Tourism*	Power to contribute to the encouragement of tourism	Local Government Act 1972, s. 144
Town and Country Planning	Right to be notified of planning applications	Town & Country Planning Act 1990, Sched. 1 para 8
Town Status	Power to adopt town status	Local Government Act 1972, ss 245 and 245B
Traffic Calming	Power to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s 26
Training	Power to train Councillors	Local Government Act 1972. s175.
Transport*	Power to (a) establish car sharing schemes (b) make grants for bus services, (c) provide taxi-fare concessions; (d) investigate public transport, road use and needs; (e) provide information about public transport services Community Transport Schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s 26-29
Village greens	Power to maintain, to make bylaws for and to prosecute for interference with village greens	Open Spaces Act 1906, s 15 Inclosure Act 1857, s 12, Commons Act 1876, s 29
War Memorials	Power to maintain,, repair, protect and adapt 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 there from.	Public Health Act 1936, s 125

Where a function is marked with an asterisk *. A council also has the power to give financial assistance to another person or body performing the same function.

NB: Please note that this is a guide to the powers and duties of Parish Councils and does not necessarily represent a comprehensive list of all powers and duties.