

The Powers and Responsibilities of Parish Councils

Allotments	Powers to provide allotments. Duty to provide allotment gardens if demand unsatisfied.	Small Holdings Act 1908 ss23,26 & 42
Archives	Power to make records held available to the public and to support local archives	Local Government Records Act 1962 ss1 & 4
Baths & Washhouses	Power to provide public baths and washhouses	Public Health Act 1936 ss221, 222, 223 & 227
Burial Grounds, Cemeteries and Crematoria	Power to acquire and maintain	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10 Local Government Act 1972 s214
	Power to provide Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials	Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1970 s1
	Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries	Local Government Act 1972 s214 (6)
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953 s4
Bye Laws	Powers to make Bye Laws in regards to pleasure grounds	Public Health Act 1875 s164
	Cycle Parks	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s57
	Baths and Washhouses	Public Health Act 1936 s223
	Open Spaces and Burial Grounds	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss12 & 15
	Mortuaries and Post-Mortem Rooms	Public Health Act 1936 c198
Car Sharing Schemes	Power to establish, maintain and assist others	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s26
Charities	Duty to receive accounts of parochial charities	Charities Act 1960 s32
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Parish Councils Act 1957 s2
Closed Churchyards	Powers as to maintenance	Local Government Act 1972 s215
Commons and Common Pastures	Powers in relation to enclosure, as to regulation and management, and as to providing common pasture	Enclosure Act 1845; Local Government Act 1894 s8(4); Smallholdings & Allotmentst Act 1908

		s34; Commons Act 1899
Conference Facilities	Power to provide and encourage the use of facilities	Local Government Act 1972 s144
Community Centres	Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19
Delegated Functions	Power to assume a function delegated by another authority	Local Government Act 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
	Power to ensure effective discharge of Council functions	as above
	Power to employ persons to carry out Council functions	as above
	Power to deal with ponds/ditches, agreements with landowners and with English Nature to manage Council-owned reserve land as a nature reserve	Public Health Act 1936 s260
Legal Proceedings	Power to prosecute or defend	Local Government Act 1972 s222
Listed Buildings	Power to contribute to the preservation of historic buildings	Essex Act 1987 s48
Litter	Provision of receptacles	Litter Act 1983 ss5.6
Lotteries	Power to promote	Lotteries & Amusements Act 1976 s7
Nuisances	Power to deal with offensive ditches	Public Health Act 1936 s260
Open Spaces	Power to acquire land and maintain	Public Health Act 1975 s164; Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10; Commons Act 1899
Parish Property and Records	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972 s226
Planning	Right to be notified of and power to respond to planning applications	Town & Country Planning Act 1990 s1 ss8; Local Government Act 1972 s15 ss20
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 Cat 1953 s51; Telecommunications Act 1984 s97
Public Buildings and Village Halls	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1936 s87
Public Conveniences	Power to provide	as above
Public Enquiries	Power to make representations at public enquiries	Local Government Act 1982 s222

Publicise Functions	Powers to publicise council and local authority functions	Local Government Act 1982 s142
Raising of Finances	Power to raise money through the precept	Local Government Act 1982 s150
Recreation	Power to acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them	Public Health Act 1875 s164; Local Government Act 1972 s14 ss27; Public Health Acts Amendments Acts 1890 s44; Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9 & 10; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19; Commons Act 1899
	Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields and holiday camps	as above
	Provision of boating pools	Public Health Act 1961 s54
Taxi Fare Concessions	Power to reimburse operator	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s28
Tourism	Power to contribute to organisations encouraging	Local Government Act 1972 s144
Transport and Traffic	Power to conduct surveys to establish the transport needs of the community, the use of and need for roads and the management and control of traffic	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s29
	Power to collect and disseminate passenger transport information and make grants for bus services	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s29 (2) 27
	Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s26
Training	Powers to train Councillors	Local Government Act 1972 s175
Transport	Powers to spend money on community transport schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 ss26-29
War Memorials	Power to maintain, repair and adapt war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities Powers) Act 1923 s1; as extended by Local Government Act 1948 s123
Water Supply	Powers to utilise well, spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water there from	Public Health Act 1936 s125