

Principal Powers and Duties of Parish and Community Councils

Function	Powers and Duties	Statutory Provisions
Allotments	Power to provide allotments. Duty to provide allotment gardens if demand unsatisfied.	Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908, ss. 23-33
Areas of outstanding natural beauty in England	Duty to have regard to purpose of enhancing natural beauty of area of outstanding beauty when performing functions in relation to or so as to affect land in such an area.	Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, s.85
Baths and washhouses	Power to provide public baths, washhouses and bathing places	Public Health Act 1936, ss.221, 222, 223 and 227
Burial grounds, cemeteries and crematoria	Power to provide	Local Government Act 1972, ss.214 and 215. Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953,s.4
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s.4
By-laws	Power to make by-laws in regard to- Pleasure grounds, etc. Cycle Parks Baths and washhouses Public Bathing Open Spaces Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms Power to enforce by-laws made by another authority as respects access land in its area	Public Health Act 1875, s.164, Public Health Act Amendment Act 1890, s.45. Local Government Act 1894, s.8 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.57 Public Health Act 1936, s.223 Public Health Act 1936, s.231 Open Spaces Act 1906, s.15 Public Health Act 1936, s.198 Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, s.17(8)

Charities	Power to transfer property of parochial charity to parish council; power to appoint charity trustees	Charities Act 1993, s.79
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 and common pastures	Powers in relation to enclosure and as to regulation and management	Enclosure Act 1845 Local Government Act 1894, s.8(4). 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 educational objects	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Consultation	Right to be consulted in designated matters by country or district council	Local Government Act 1972, s.33A, Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.21
Crime prevention	Power to establish and maintain crime prevention equipment or scheme	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.31
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds and ditches	Public Health Act 1936, s.260
Education	Right to appoint school governors	School Standards and Framework Act 1998, Sch,10,para.15
Entertainment and the arts	Provision of entertainment and the support of the arts	Local Government Act 1972, ss.144 and 145
Gifts	Power to accept	Local Government Act 1972, s139
Highways	Public to repair and maintain public footpaths	Highways Act 1980, ss.30, 43, 50
	Power to light roads and public places	Parish Councils Act 1957, s3 Highways Act 1980, s.301
	Provision of litter bins	Litter Act 1983, ss.5
	Power to provide parking places for bicycles, motorcycles and other vehicles	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, ss.57-60
	Power to acquire rights of way	Highways Act 1980, ss.30,72

	<p>Power to provide roadside seats and shelters, and omnibus shelters</p> <p>Consent of parish council required for stopping up or diversion of highway</p> <p>Power to complain to district council as to maintenance of highways or protection of rights of way and roadside wastes</p> <p>Power to prosecute unlawful ploughing of a footpath or bridleway</p> <p>Power to contribute to traffic calming works</p> <p>Power to provide traffic signs and other notices</p> <p>Power as to roadside verges</p> <p>Right to be notified of order requiring operator to provide tunnel or bridge for footpath or bridleway over railway</p>	<p>Parish Councils Act 1957, s.1. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, s.4</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, ss.47, 116</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.130</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.134</p> <p>Highways Act 1980, s.273A, inserted by the Local Government Rating Act 1997</p> <p>Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s.72</p> <p>Highways Act, 1980, s.96</p> <p>Transport and Works Act 1992, s.48</p>
Investments	Power to participate in schemes of collective investment	Trustee Investments Act 1961, s.11, as amended
Land	<p>Acquisition</p> <p>Rights of way, over land (other than highways)</p>	<p>Local Government Act 1972, ss.124-127</p> <p>Local Government Act 1894, s.8(1)(g)</p>
Litter	Provision of receptacles	Litter Act 1983, ss.5,6
Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Power to provide mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1936, s.198
National Park	Duty of Secretary of State to appoint parish members of National Park Authorities	Environment Act 1995, Sch.7

	Duty of parish council to have regard to purposes for which National Parks are designated	National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, s.11A
Nuisances	Power to deal with offensive ponds, ditches and gutters	Public Health Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Open Spaces	Power to acquire land	Public Health Act 1875, s.164, Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Parish and property and documents	Management and custody	Local Government Act 1972, s.227
Postal and telecommunications facilities	Power to pay any public telecommunications operator any loss sustained in providing or continuing to provide telecommunications facilities	Telecommunications Act 1984, s.97
Public buildings and village halls	Power to provide buildings for offices and for public meetings and assemblies	Local Government Act 1972, s.133; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Public conveniences	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1936, s.87
Recreation	Power to acquire lands for recreation grounds, public walks and open spaces and to manage and control them Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps Provision of boating pools	Local Government Act 1894, s.6. Public Health Act 1890, s.44. Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19 Public Health Act 1961, s.54
Town and County Planning	Right to be notified of planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990, s.252, Sch.1, para.8, Sch.14, para.1
Tourism	Power to encourage	Local Government Act 1972, s.144
Transport	Power to establish car-sharing scheme Power to make grants for bus services	Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26 Transport Act 1985, s.106A, inserted by the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.27

	<p>Power to make arrangements for taxi fare concessions</p> <p>Power to publicise information about public passenger transport services and to investigate such services, the use of roads and traffic control</p>	<p>Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.29</p> <p>Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.29</p>
Village Greens	Power to provide	Public Health Act 1875 s.164, Local Government Act 1972, Sch.14, para.27
War memorials	Power to maintain, repair, protect and adapt war memorials	War Memorials (Local Authorities' Powers) Act 1923, as amended by Local Government Act 1948, s.133
Water Supply	Power to utilise well, spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water therefrom	Public Health Act 1936, ss.125, 260
Wellbeing	Power to promote well-being	<p>Local Government Act 2000 Section 2 (4)</p> <p>Applicable when meet prescribed conditions under Parish Councils (Power to Promote Well-Being) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2008</p>