

Town & Parish Councils
Powers & Duties
(this list is not exhaustive)

Function	Powers & Duties	Statutory Provisions
Allotments	Powers to provide allotments. Duty to provide allotment gardens if demand unsatisfied	Smallholdings & 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 s214; Parish Councils and Burial Authorities (Misc Provs) Act 1970 s1; Local Government Act 1972 s215(6)
Bus Shelters	Power to provide and maintain shelters	Local Government (Misc Provs) Act 1953 s4
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 s164 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s57(7) Public Health Act 1936 s223 Open Spaces Act 1906 s15 Public Health Act 1936 s198
Charities	Duties re parochial charities	Charities Act 1903 s79
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 and Allotments Act 1908 s34
Conference Facilities	Power to provide and encourage the use of facilities	Local Government Act 1972 s144

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Community Centres	Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives	Local Government (Misc Provs) Act 1976 s19
Crime Prevention	Powers to spend money on various crime prevention measures	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s31
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds and ditches	Public Health Act 1936 s260
Entertainment and the Arts	Provision of entertainment and support of the Arts	Local Government Act 1972 s145
Gifts	Power to accept	Local Government Act 1972 s139
Highways	Power to repair and maintain public footpaths and bridleways Power to light road and public places Provision of litter bins Power to provide parking places for vehicles, bicycles and motorcycles Power to enter into agreement as to dedication and widening Power to provide roadside seats and shelters, and omnibus 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 District Councils as to protection of rights of way and roadside wastes Power to provide traffic signs and other Notices Power to plant trees, etc, and to maintain roadside verges	Highways Act 1980 ss 43, 50; Parish Councils Act 1957 s3 Highways Act 1980 s301 Litter Act 1983 ss 5, 6 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ss 57, 63 Highways Act 1980 ss 30, 72 Parish Councils Act 1957 s1 Highways Act 1980 ss 47, 116 Highways Act 1980 s130 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s72 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 land Power to accept gifts of land	Local Government Act 1972 ss 124, 126, 127 Local Government Act 1972 s 139

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Litter	Provision of receptacles	Litter Act 1983 ss 5, 6
Lotteries	Power to promote	Lotteries and Amusement Act 1976 s 7
Mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Powers to provide mortuaries and post-mortem rooms	Public Health Act 1936 s 198
Nuisances	Power to deal with offensive ditches	Public Health Act 1936 s 260 Public Health Act 1875 s 164
Open Spaces	Power to acquire land and maintain	Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9, 10
Parish Property and Documents	Powers to direct as to their custody	Local Government Act 1972 s 226
Postal and telecommunications facilities	Power to pay the Post Officer, British Telecommunications or any other public telecommunications operator any loss sustained providing post or telegraph office or telecommunication facilities	Post Office Act 1953 s51; Telecommunications Act 1984 s 97
Public buildings and Village hall	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 1936 s 87
Recreation	Power to acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces to manage and control them Power to provide gymnasiums, playing fields, holiday camps Provision of boating pools	Public Health Act 1875 s 164 Local Government Act 1972 sched 14 para 27. Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890 s 44 Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9, 10 Local Government (Misc Provs) Act 1976 s 19; Public Health Act 1961 s 54
Town and Country Planning	Right to be notified of planning applications	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 sched 1 para 8
Tourism	Power to contribute to organisations encouraging tourism	Local Government Act 1972 s 144

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Traffic Calming	Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s 26
Transport	Powers to spend money on community transport schemes	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s 26
War Memorials	Power to maintain, repairs, 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 therefrom	Public Health Act 1936 s 125