**Powers and Duties Exercised by Salehurst & Robertsbridge Parish Council**

**The parish council has a wide range of powers which it can exercise but not all are appropriate to a parish of this size. Below is a list of the powers currently exercised with some clarifying details where appropriate.**

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| **Function** | **Statutory Power and Duty** | **Details** |
| Burial grounds and cemeteries | Power to acquire and maintain  Power to provide  Power to agree to maintain monuments and memorials  Power to contribute towards expenses at cemeteries | The Council owns and maintains the parish cemetery in Beech House Lane (Salehurst Cemetery). Application for burial permission is available from the Clerk |
| Bus Shelters | Power to provide and maintain | The Council owns and maintains one bus shelter on George Hill, southbound near Heathfield Gardens and one on Northbridge Street, southbound near Rutley Close |
| Bye Laws | Burial grounds | Regulations are in force for the maintenance of the Cemetery |
| Charities | Duty to receive accounts of parochial charities |  |
| Clocks | Power to provide public clocks | The Council owns and maintains the clock at the War Memorial |
| Community Centres | Power to provide and equip buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives  And for public meetings and assemblies | The Council owns the football pavilion at the Recreation Ground |
| Crime prevention | Power to spend money on various crime prevention measures |  |
| Drainage | Power to deal with ponds and ditches |  |
| Entertainment and the arts | Provision of entertainment and support of the arts | The Council nominates a Representative to Robertsbridge Arts Partnership |
| Highways | Power to repair and maintain public footpaths and bridleways  Power to light roads and public places  Power to provide parking places for vehicles, bicycles and motor-cycles  Power to enter into agreement as to 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 district council as to protection of rights of way and roadside wastes  Power to provide traffic signs and other notices  Power to plant trees etc. and maintain roadside verges | The Council carries out or contributes to small scale repairs. etc to footpaths  The Council owns and maintains all street lights within the parish except those on the A21 trunk road.  The Council manages the Station Road Car Park  The Council provides a number of bench seats within the parish, on the roadside and in open spaces. |
| Land and open spaces | Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of | The Council owns or leases four areas of land – Recreation Ground, Pocket Park, Bishops Meadow and Pipers Field (including Jubilee Garden) |
| Litter | Provision of receptacle | Roadside bins are provided by Rother DC but the Parish Council provides bins in open spaces |
| Lotteries | Powers to promote |  |
| Nuisances | Power to deal with offensive ditches |  |
| Neighbourhood Planning | Power to act as lead body for a NP | The NP was ‘made’ in July 2018 |
| Newsletter | Power to provide information in relation to matters affecting local government | The council produces periodic Newsletters, delivered by volunteers to every household |
| Parish property and documents | Power to direct as to their custody |  |
| Public buildings and village halls | Power to provide buildings for offices and for public meetings and assemblies | The council rents the Parish Office.  The council contributed to the building of the village hall and has provided grants for refurbishments |
| Public conveniences | Power to provide | The council provides maintains public toilets at Station Road car park and the Recreation Ground |
| Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO’s) | Open spaces and burial grounds | The Council in cooperation with Rother DC has implemented PSPO’s against dog fouling in open spaces, dogs on leads and prohibition of dogs in some areas. |
| Recreation | Power to acquire land for or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to control and manage them  Power to provide playing fields | See under Land and open spaces  The council provides play equipment and outdoor exercise equipment at the Recreation Ground, and play equipment at Bishops Meadow |
| Right to challenge services provided by a principal authority | Right to submit an interest in running a service by a district or county council |  |
| Right to nominate and bid for assets of community value | The right to nominate assets to be added to a list, and right to bid to buy a listed asset when it comes up for sale |  |
| Town and country planning | Right to be notified of planning applications | The council comments on planning applications in the parish |
| Tourism | Power to contribute to organisations encouraging |  |
| Traffic calming | Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming  Schemes | The council paid for the scheme in Heathfield Gardens (speed bumps and build-out) |
| Transport | Powers to spend money on community transport schemes | The council periodically grants funds to the Battle Community Bus. |
| War Memorials | Power to maintain, repair, protect and adapt war memorials | The council owns and maintains the War Memorial Clock Tower |
| Websites | Power to have own websites | The council has its own website  [www.salehurst-pc.org.uk](http://www.salehurst-pc.org.uk) |