

## FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

### The General Power of Competence (GPC)

The general power of competence is a power available to local authorities. Brought into force 2012, it is found in the Localism Act 2011 sections 1 to 8.

Councils no longer need to ask whether they have a specific power to act. The GPC (LA 2011 s1(1)) gives local authorities, including eligible local councils, “the power to do anything that individuals generally may do” as long as they don’t break other laws. It is a ‘power of first resort’; this means that when searching for a power to act, the first question you ask is whether you can use the GPC.

Ferring Parish Council adopted the General Power of Competence at its meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Ferring Parish Council confirms that it meets the criteria for eligibility as follows:

- Has an electoral mandate of at least two thirds.
- Qualified Clerk

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