

Tarbolton Place Planning

Priorities for Action

Engagement outcomes June 2022



THRIVING PLACES
POSITIVE • PROUD • AMBITIOUS
PLACEMAKING IN SOUTH AYRSHIRE

Introduction

South Ayrshire Council is currently undertaking Place Plans with many of the communities in South Ayrshire. These plans are at the heart of a new approach to placemaking in South Ayrshire, one that is embedded within, and driven by the Community's own concerns and aspirations. The aim is to develop plans collaboratively with the community that are a true reflection of the priorities of those who live and work in the towns and villages of South Ayrshire. The plans will provide a series of actions that the community, the Council and other partners can work together in delivering.

Between August and October 2021, the Council undertook a series of Community Conversations with the community in Tarbolton, that sought to identify the main concerns facing residents. This report presents the findings from the engagements and provides the basis from which the next round of conversations can take place where actions to address priorities will be developed.

Outcome of Engagement

The Community Conversations in Tarbolton began in August 2021 and continued through October 2021. The engagement consisted of a number of focused meetings with community groups as well as an online survey. The Scottish Government designed Place Standard toolkit was used to measure and assess the community's priorities.

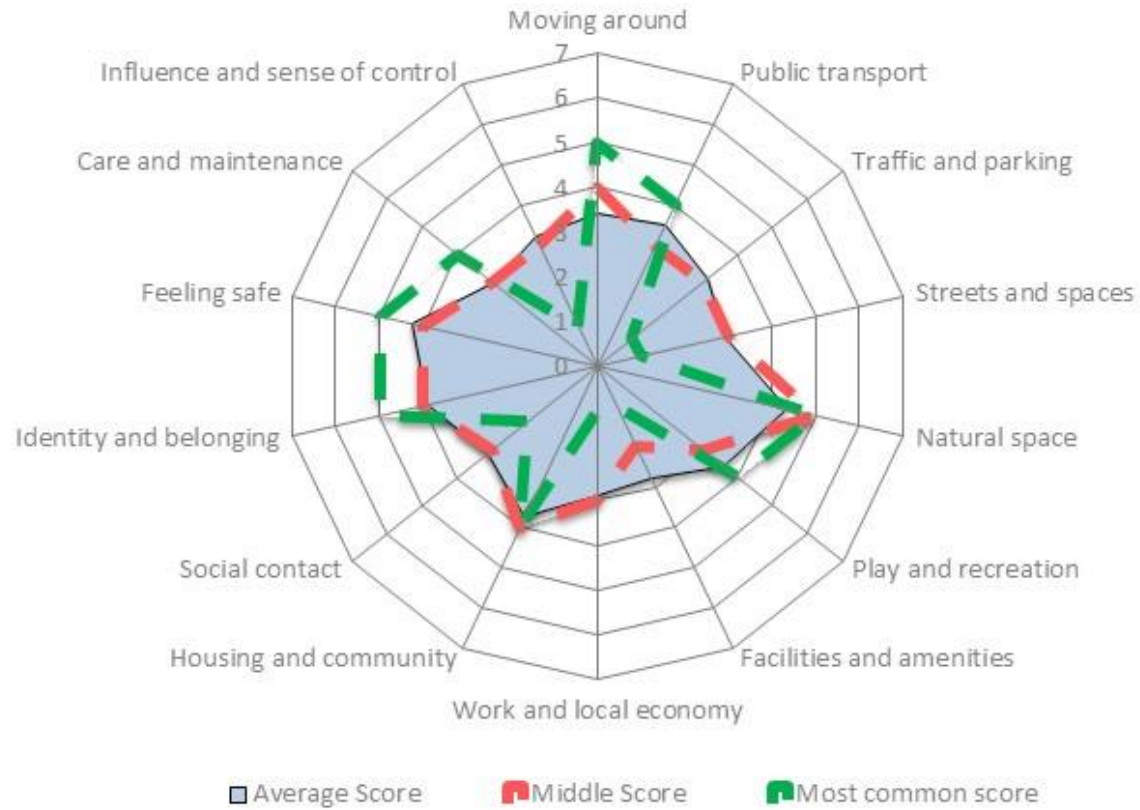
The Place Standard sees a score awarded for each of the identified topics that make up a successful place. This ranges from 1, where most improvement is needed, to 7, where no improvement is needed. The scores given by each member of the community who took part were averaged to give an indication of priorities. A total of 123 people took part in the consultation including from 3 community groups, 13 paper surveys and 83 online surveys.

The findings of the consultation are laid out in the table below, and in the diagram on the following page. There were eight areas that were identified as being of particular concern, with scores below the median of 3.5. These were the topics of Facilities and Amenities, Streets and Spaces, Work and Local Economy, Care and Maintenance, Social Contact, Traffic and Parking, Influence and Sense of Control and Moving Around.

At the other end of the scale Feeling Safe, Identity and Belonging and Natural Space scored above average.

Topic	Average
Facilities and amenities	2.8
Streets and spaces	2.9
Work and local economy	2.9
Care and maintenance	3.0
Social contact	3.1
Traffic and parking	3.1
Influence and sense of control	3.2
Moving Around	3.4
Public transport	3.5
Play and recreation	3.6
Housing and community	3.7
Identity and belonging	3.9
Natural space	4.3
Feeling safe	4.3

PLACE PLANNING : TARBOLTON



As part of the conversations, participants were invited to provide comments relating to the topic areas. These provide an insight into the reason for the scores, as well as some of the possible solutions. A sample of some of the comments received are set out in the boxes below.

Facilities and Amenities

Average Score = 2.8

Positive

- Good variety of establishments
- School and nursery are great
- Good pub/restaurant

Negative

- No access to health services / GP surgery
- No post office
- Community wing limited access / cost prohibitive
- Limited library hours
- No youth groups / older people groups

Suggestions/Comments

- More shops
- More open in the evening to meet and socialise
- Sports club during holidays for teenagers

Work and Local Economy

Average Score = 2.9

Positive

- Farming good aspect of local economy
- Small businesses who offer jobs locally
- Active local economy

Negative

- No opportunities locally
- Not a good range of jobs
- Need for childcare

Suggestions/Comments

- Knock down derelict building and create business units
- Offer local apprenticeships to maintain area
- Better more affordable transport

Streets and Spaces

Average Score = 2.9

Positive

- Cross area is lovely
- Good volunteers who do regular litter picks
- Lots of open natural space

Negative

- Poor lighting / dark
- Derelict buildings – dangerous / used for antisocial behaviour
- Town Hall a disgrace
- Appearance of public spaces and building – look neglected
- Litter and dog mess

Suggestions/Comments

- Cross area needs maintained
- Street cleaner / weed control
- Planters, historical notices

Care and Maintenance

Average Score = 3.0

Positive

- Bins ok
- Not much litter or vandalism
- Individual effort is made by community

Negative

- Dog fouling
- Poor maintenance of spaces/buildings
- No effective community groups
- No litter picking

Suggestions/comments

- The village needs a facelift

Traffic and Parking

Average Score = 3.1

Positive

- Adequate parking in Main Street and at school
- No issues with parking

Negative

- Parking at school limited / dangerous
- Speeding cars through village
- Heavy vehicles coming through village

Suggestions/Comments

- Traffic calming measures needed
- More parking spaces needed

Social Interaction

Average Score = 3.1

Positive

- Church good social aspect
- Good meeting places – café, pub, school room
- Active social media pages

Negative

- Not much community spirit
- Lack of groups since covid
- No good meeting spaces
- No local community events

Suggestions/comments

- Need inside space if it rains
- Need more intergenerational activities
- Abandoned garage could be community hub

Influence and Sense of Control

Average Score = 3.2

Positive

- Everyone can attend meetings and voice their opinion
- Helpful and supportive community facebook page
- Good community spirit

Suggestion

- Certain areas get resources directed to them

Negative

- Not listened to
- No influence over anything
- Kept out the loop over surgery closure
- Long history of feeling ignored
- Falls on deaf ears
- Loaded questions

Moving Around

Average Score = 3.4

Positive

- Lots of nice areas to walk or cycle
- Natural woodland
- Good amount of benches
- Lucky to live in countryside

Suggestions/Comments

- More bus stops
- A proper cycle route
- More pavements and footpaths

Negative

- Pathways and roads very poor condition
- Park dark at night and floods
- Not enough walking/cycling routes
- Narrow rural roads – not safe with traffic
- Dog fouling

Public Transport

Average Score = 3.5

Positive

- Plenty of buses to hospital
- Buses ok / satisfactory
- Regular bus service

Negative

- Not as frequent as they used to be
- Limited connections to other areas
- Expensive
- Don't use

Suggestions/Comments

- Better links to train station
- More bus stops
- More destinations

Play and Recreation

Average Score = 3.6

Positive

- Plenty outdoors
- Variety of groups (scouts, etc)
- Number of playparks
- Spaces and facilities accessible

Negative

- Play areas neglected / not maintained
- Not much indoors
- Equipment gets muddy
- Loss of community centre
- Swing park floods

Suggestions/Comments

- Bigger slide / Bigger park
- Playparks need updated
- Woods could be improved for walking/cycling

Housing and Community

Average Score = 3.7

Positive

- Good variety and range of housing
- Tenures sit well together

Negative

- Don't look good – old
- Need appropriate facilities for new housing built
- Slanted towards private ownership
- New developments spoiling landscape
- Poor quality housing

Suggestions/Comment

- Introduce sheltered housing so older people can remain
- Need more affordable homes for younger

Identity and Belonging

Average Score = 3.9

Positive

- Good community spirit
- Has history and heritage
- Inclusive
- Welcoming

Negative

- Village run down – appearance poor
- Bad reputation
- Feels like it has been left behind

Suggestions/Comments

- Paint buildings in Main Street
- More historic connections could be celebrated

Natural Space

Average Score = 4.3

Positive

- Good natural space
- Lots of people helped with Clean Up Woods campaign
- Accessible
- Lovely park
- Lots of countryside

Negative

- Grass cutting poor
- Landfill an issue
- Very few spaces centrally that can be used by all
- Access issue for people with mobility issues
- No variety within village - just park

Suggestions/Comments

- More bins
- Improve appearance of public spaces
- Walks around fishery
- Advertise what we have for new people to village

Feeling safe

Average Score = 4.3

Positive

- Generally feel safe
- No real issues
- Routes are well lit

Negative

- Derelict buildings drinking dens
- Dark / concerns at night
- Broken glass
- Youths gathering
- No CCTV in vulnerable areas

Suggestion/comment

- More Community Police officers
- Install security lighting (church)

Next Steps

The community conversations undertaken to date have established the strengths and weaknesses and priority issues facing Tarbolton. This information will be used as the baseline for developing actions that will form the final Place Plan in due course. A number of workshops will now be held with community groups to further investigate the issues and possible actions that could be undertaken to address these. Following these workshops a draft Place Plan will be prepared and published online for comment and further input from the wider community.