

Coylton

Place Planning

Priorities for Action

Engagement outcomes July 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 November 2021 and February 2022, the Council undertook a series of Community Conversations with the communities in Coylton, 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 Coylton began in November 2021 and continued through February 2022. The Scottish Government designed Place Standard toolkit was used to measure and assess the community's priorities.

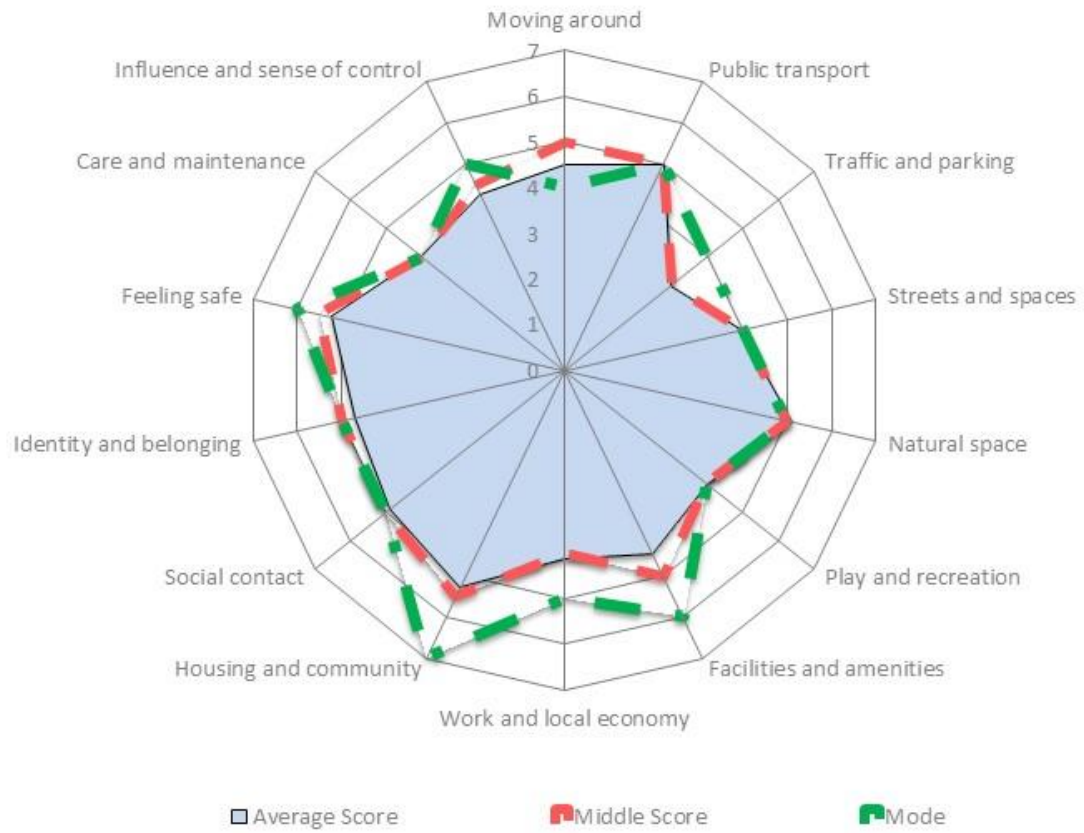
The Place Standard sees a score awarded for each of the identified topics that make up a successful place. This ranges from 1, where most improvement is needed, to 7, where no improvement is needed. The scores given by each member of the community who took part were averaged to give an indication of priorities. A total of 28 people took part in the online consultation.

The findings of the consultation are laid out in the table below, and in the diagram on the following page. one topic was raised as being of particular concern, Traffic and Parking (score of 3.0) scoring below the median of 3.5.

At the other end of the scale Natural Space, Housing and Community and Feeling Safe scored highly.

Topic	Average
Traffic and parking	3.0
Streets and spaces	4.0
Care and maintenance	4.0
Play and recreation	4.0
Work and local economy	4.1
Influence and sense of control	4.3
Moving Around	4.5
Facilities and amenities	4.5
Identity and belonging	4.7
Social contact	4.9
Public transport	5.0
Natural space	5.1
Housing and community	5.3
Feeling safe	5.3

PLACE PLANNING : COYLTON



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.

Traffic and Parking = 3.0	
<p><u>Positive</u> Traffic lights installed in the past few years have helped crossing roads for people</p>	<p><u>Negative</u> Parking for school isn't great and causes congestion on Main Street Inconsiderate parking – people don't use driveways, park on pavements Speeding vehicles</p>
<p><u>Comment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns for the future, particularly if the proposed development of a waste incinerator goes ahead at the Killoch site. This would definitely mean an increase in heavy traffic through the village. More needs to be done to control parking to prevent people from parking alongside the shop fronts. 	

Streets and Spaces = 4.0	
<p><u>Positive</u> Nice variety of shops and lots of lanes/streets Park is easily accessible and pleasant to walk around Residents benefit from countryside views</p>	<p><u>Negative</u> Litter can be a problem with overflowing bins Streets can be quite dirty Pavements bumpy and roads have potholes Lorries fast and loud Park is dark at night</p>
<p><u>Suggestion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would be nice to have somewhere safer to walk – especially for older members of community More tree planting Signs giving history and noteworthy names of villagers 	

Care and Maintenance = 4.0	
<p><u>Positive</u> Village seems to be neat and tidy Most residents keep their surroundings clean and tidy Most homes are maintained to good standards Most buildings well cared for and attractive</p>	<p><u>Negative</u> Dog mess – lane to primary school is bad Some homes are tired looking from the outside Graffiti and broken glass Litter and bins overflowing</p>
<p><u>Suggestion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flowers and planting would greatly improve the appearance of the village 	

Play and Recreation = 4.00**Positive**

Few playparks for children
Range available for residents
Parks easily accessible

Negative

Parks are old and boring
Parks not wheelchair friendly or equipment for disabled people
Most extra curricular activities have stopped

Suggestion

- Teenagers would benefit from something more appropriate for their age group
- Invest and upgrade parks

Work and Local Economy = 4.1**Positive**

Local economy seems to be doing ok
Local facilities which offer employment opportunities
Diverse range of businesses within village

Negative

Access to employment is extremely limited
No job places

Comments

- Think most people who live here commute for work

Influence and Sense of Control = 4.3**Positive**

Coylton allows you to say what you think
We have a community association and a community council

Negative

Council do what they want with no regard to resident's wishes or requirements
Reluctance among people to get involved
Many residents don't know what is taking place (consultations, etc)

Suggestion

- Not involved in community groups and only hear about things via communication at work

Moving Around = 4.5**Positive**

The pavements are in reasonable condition
 Can walk or cycle as long as you stay away from the Main Road
 Plenty of walks

Negative

Footpaths narrow in places and can be overgrown with weeds
 Main road busy with cars and HGVs
 No safe cycle routes

Suggestions

- Walking paths in the surrounding countryside
- Cycle path upgraded to include safety railings and safer crossings, and it would be nice if it continued through Coylton
- Seating in the park

Facilities and Amenities = 4.5**Positive**

Well serviced by amenities
 Good amount of shops

Negative

Lost library a few years ago
 Limited choice
 No sports facilities
 All facilities at one end of the village

Suggestion

- Tennis courts could be opened up to residents at times outwith training etc, currently they are locked during these times

Identity and Belonging = 4.7**Positive**

Friendly and polite
 Great sense of community
 Most residents feel included and safe

Negative

There is only one part of history

Social Contact = 4.9**Positive**

Live in sheltered housing and there is meeting place in complex
 Lots of outdoor spaces
 Lots of groups and places to meet

Negative

Not many inside places to go with friends (younger age group)
 Youth club not open now
 Unsure if there is mother/toddler group

Suggestion

- Youth groups, craft groups and exercise classes
- A community café would be welcome

Public Transport = 5.0**Positive**

Frequent buses in the day
 Lots of bus stops
 Bus stops in good order and most have seating

Negative

Not so many buses after 6pm
 Buses don't run as regularly than in past
 Cost is quite expensive – cheaper to take car

Suggestions

- Bus times need advertised more
- More bus stops needed near school

Natural Space = 5.1**Positive**

Lots of open spaces
 Easily access green space
 Beautiful surrounding countryside

Negative

Forest can get swampy
 Some walks not accessible in winter due to conditions
 Lot of noise / traffic

Suggestion

- A few more benches for those who require them
- Nothing suitable for older children

Housing and Community = 5.3**Positive**

Good range of properties suiting various sizes of family and various budgets / incomes
 Wide range of housing within village

Negative

Lack of small on the level housing for older people wishing to downsize and stay in area
 Not much in way of affordable housing

Comment

- Lots of same houses but different colours

Feeling Safe = 5.3**Positive**

Feel safe
 Not a lot of bad things happen here

Negative

Gangs of youths roam streets at night
 Don't go out at night
 Recent incidents of theft and fireraising

Suggest

- Lighting needs to be improved in streets and lanes off the Main Road (eg. Woodhead Road)
- More CCTV around

Next Steps

The community conversations undertaken to date have established the strengths and weaknesses and priority issues facing Coylton. 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.