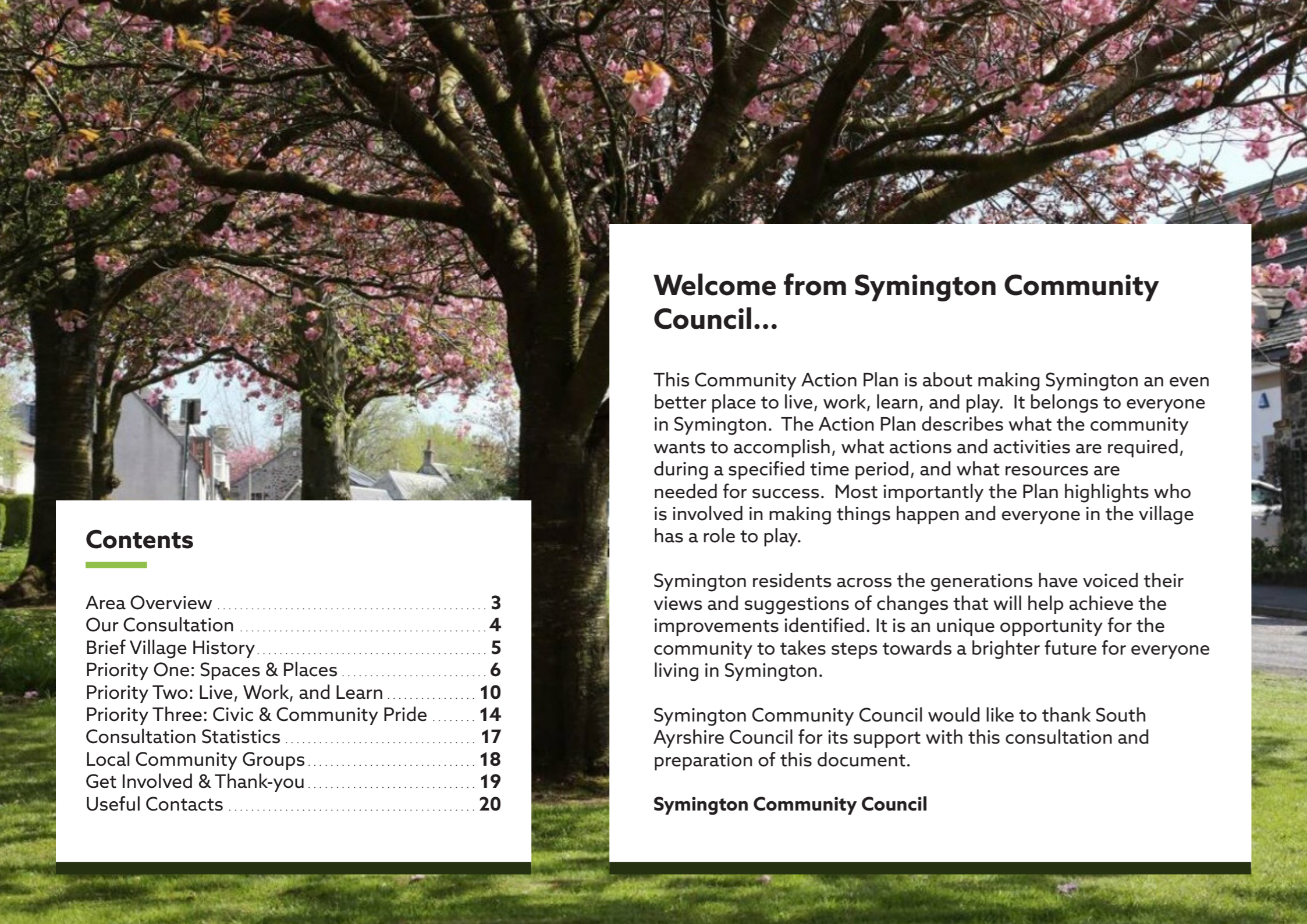




# SYMINGTON COMMUNITY-LED ACTION PLAN

2026-2030





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## Welcome from Symington Community Council...

This Community Action Plan is about making Symington an even better place to live, work, learn, and play. It belongs to everyone in Symington. The Action Plan describes what the community wants to accomplish, what actions and activities are required, during a specified time period, and what resources are needed for success. Most importantly the Plan highlights who is involved in making things happen and everyone in the village has a role to play.

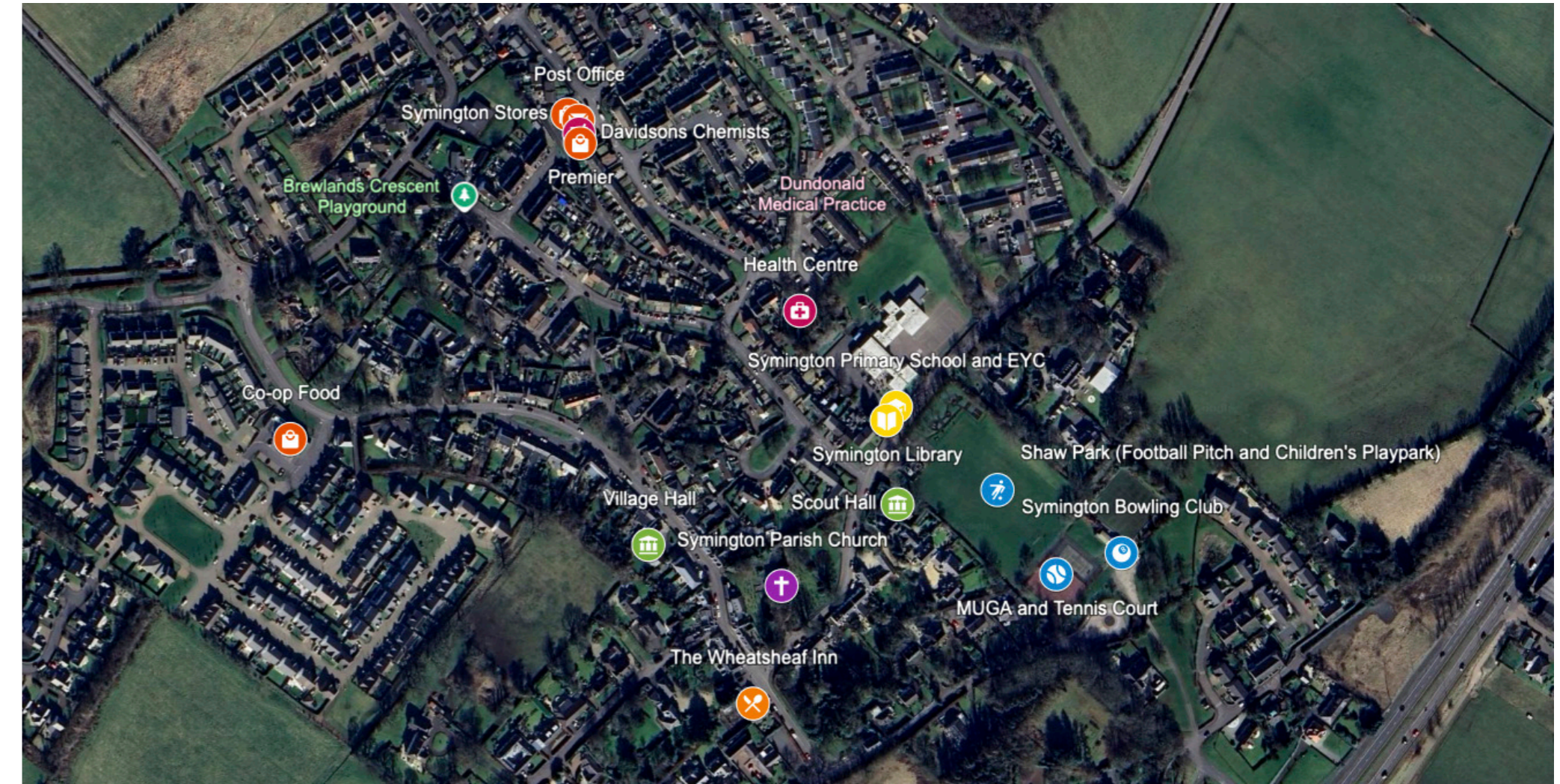
Symington residents across the generations have voiced their views and suggestions of changes that will help achieve the improvements identified. It is an unique opportunity for the community to takes steps towards a brighter future for everyone living in Symington.

Symington Community Council would like to thank South Ayrshire Council for its support with this consultation and preparation of this document.

**Symington Community Council**

## Area Overview Map

Symington has a range of facilities including: Early Years Centre and Primary School, Library, Community Pharmacy, Health Centre, outdoor sports and recreational facilities (tennis, netball, basketball courts, football, bowling, and children's playparks), Community Hall, Scout Hut, pub, restaurants, and shops.



# Our Consultation

In collaboration with South Ayrshire Council, Symington Community Council undertook the consultation exercise in 2024, to develop this Community-led Action Plan. The Place Standard Toolkit was adapted as an outreach tool, with an online and paper copy survey comprising of 14 themes. A children's version of the survey was provided to the primary school, as young people's voices are essential in developing a vision for Symington. Discussions were also initiated at meetings of various local community groups. In total 304 responses were received, of which 90 were from P4 to P7 class children.

Early 2025, saw Community Council members going through the feedback and developing actions for the community-led action plan. The plan covers a period of 5 years, with actions that are separated into proposed timescales to complete them. The plan also aligns with the South Ayrshire Council Plan with three distinct priorities: 'Spaces and Places', 'Live, Work, and Learn', and 'Civic and Community Pride'. Each action has a responsible party attached to it, if all the actions in an outcome have the same responsible party this information is displayed in the outcome title, if not it is noted after each action who that party is.

The Place Standard tool enabled each identified topic to be scored ranging from 1 where more improvement is needed to 7 where no improvement is identified. The scores given by each participant were averaged to give an indication of the overall priorities. The charts above show the scores - those closer to the centre of the circle are lower than those towards the perimeter.

**Symington Community Council** in partnership with South Ayrshire Council are inviting all Symington residents to fill out our survey.

Responses will develop a community-led action plan to set our priorities.

**SUGGEST HOW FUNDING IS SPENT IN SYMINGTON.**

Every resident can have their say.

Share your views about where you live.

**RESPONSES ARE ANONYMOUS**

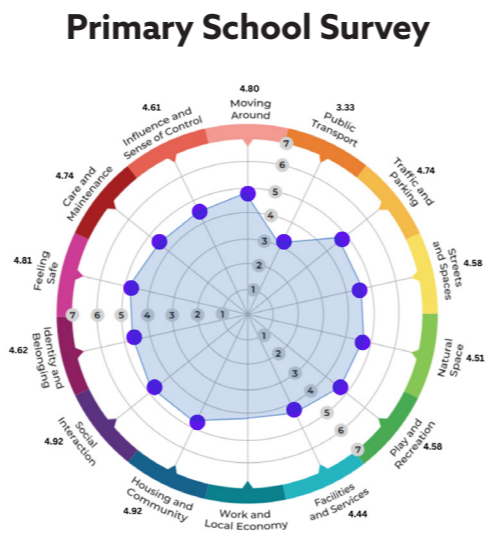
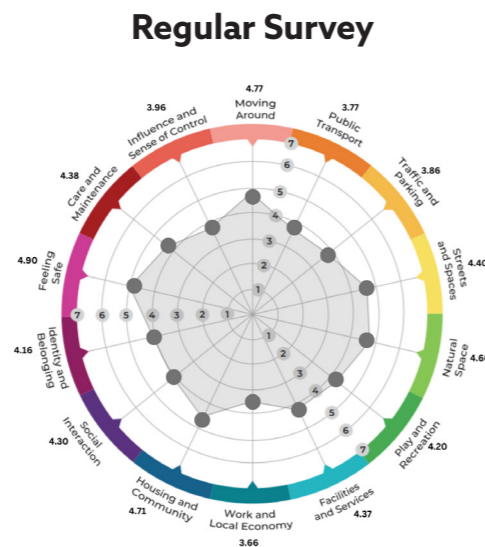
Or collect and return PAPER COPIES from one of the following points:

- Symington Library
- U-Save (Imran's)
- Symington Coop

Please scan to fill in the survey ONLINE

For more information, please contact one of the Symington Community Council members, email [symingtoncc@hotmail.com](mailto:symingtoncc@hotmail.com) or find us online at [www.symingtoncc.co.uk](https://www.symingtoncc.co.uk)

**South Ayrshire Council** **Symington Community Council**



# Brief Village History



Symington is a conservation village in South Ayrshire. It lies close to the A77 between Kilmarnock and Ayr. The weavers' cottages, and the Wheatsheaf Inn (an hostelry since its earliest days when it was a staging post on the route to Ayr) on Main Street, date back to the 18th century. The church was built in 1160 by Symon Locard. It is one of the smallest and oldest churches in Scotland.



Symington was founded on the site of a Bronze Age settlement. Symon Locard, a Norman knight claimed the land which had 'sweet water, an area for defence and a clear view to the sea'. A Motte and Baillie castle was built on a mound - probably close to the current village green on Main Street. Subsequently, people migrated from the surrounding countryside to the relatively safe areas around the walls, and Symon's town was established.



Credit: 'Symington Village Church & People' by John Nimmo, Stenlake Publishing

The elevation of the village, at around 300 feet, forced the first railway between Ayr and Kilmarnock to bypass Symington and follow the coastal route. This restricted the employment prospects of inhabitants to largely agriculture-related work, until the advent of motorised transport. Symington is now predominantly a dormitory settlement for people working in Ayr, Prestwick, Kilmarnock, and Glasgow. Its population in 2022 was around 1700.



# PRIORITY 01 SPACES & PLACES



1

**Active Travel needs to be more visible and promoted. Behavioural and cultural changes towards walking and/or wheeling rather than driving.**

2026/27

**(1.1)** Symington Community Council (SCC) to engage with appropriate groups in South Ayrshire to improve participation and active travel in Symington. For example: South Ayrshire Community Action Group; SWECO; Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA); Thriving Communities (SAC) **SCC**

**(1.2)** Keep the momentum of projects such as Beat the Streets and Walk to School Week to reduce the use of cars for journeys that could be undertaken by foot or bicycle.  
**Symington Primary School**

**(1.3)** Liaise with relevant partners such as Sustrans, ARA, Paths for all and neighbouring community councils/local groups, to discuss routes suitable for walking and cycling, which can then be promoted and/or included in the active travel strategy or online walking and cycling brochures. **SCC**

2027/28

**(1.4)** Look at funding opportunities for feasibility/consultation study to create new and re-establish safe walking and cycling routes to connect Symington with other communities. **SCC**

2

**Promote inclusivity by improving accessibility and pedestrian routes in Symington.**

2026/27

**(2.1)** Engage with partners to retain, provide signage for, and promote walkable routes:

**(2.1.1)** Kerrix road to Townend. **(2.1.2)** Core path from Lomond View through Dankeith woods. **(2.1.3)** Core path from Kerrix Road to A77 via Low Wexford. **SCC**

**(2.2)** Audit accessibility in and around Symington in conjunction with third sector groups including South Ayrshire Access Panel. Check pavements, dropped kerbs, pavement width etc. and report/request action from ARA/SAC. **SCC**

**(2.3)** SCC to engage with SAC to improve accessibility from School Car Park to Library, Health Centre and Lawhill Road by replacing steps to a suitable graded ramp. **SCC**

**(2.4)** Engage with ARA and SAC to improve the disabled parking bays and access:

**(2.4.1)** Lawhill Road car park adjacent to Library is in poor condition and the disability bay is inadequately signposted.

**(2.4.2)** Improve signage for the disabled bays outside the shops at Brewlands Drive. **(2.4.3)** Remove or widen the gap between the bollards for wheelchair access at Brewlands Crescent onto Brewlands Drive. **SCC**

2027/28

**(2.5)** Engage with SAC (Neighbourhood Services) to discuss the feasibility and development of an all weather path around Shaw Park which is accessible to all. **SCC**

3

**Uneven roads and pathways to be resurfaced to ensure health and safety of pedestrians and road users.**

2026

**(3.1)** Road resurfacing is a crucial aspect of maintaining infrastructure. Request a road resurfacing schedule for roads in Symington and its environs. **SCC**

**(3.2)** Liaise with ARA and SAC to assess the pavement along the North and South Symington Road to determine resurfacing needs (identified by residents through survey). **SCC**

**(3.3)** ARA and SAC to resurface the car park in Shaw Park adjacent to the Bowling Club and tennis court. **SAC**



Our spaces have real potential, but they need more care and investment to be fully used. Simple improvements would make them more welcoming for people of all ages.

**Anonymous Survey Participant**

# 4

Ensure Symington maintains a clean, health, and safe environment

## Ongoing

**(4.1)** Report problems with flooding (particularly adjacent to school on Brewlands Road, and the Wheatsheaf Inn on Main Street) to SAC. **Residents**

**(4.2)** SCC encourages all residents to report any issues such as: blocked drains, flooding (particularly adjacent to school on Brewlands Road, and the Wheatsheaf Inn on Main Street), pot holes, need of or alterations to dropped kerbs, etc. to ARA via website or phone. Fly tipping or other waste management issues including abandoned vehicles are to be reported to SAC via website or phone. Contact details are at the back of this booklet. **Residents**

**(4.3)** Report overgrown hedges and trees which obstruct pathways to SAC. **Residents**

**(4.4)** Contact Environmental Health Team (Trading Standards) regarding concerns about dog-fouling. **Residents**

## 2026

**(4.5)** Continue to pursue complaint to SAC that lighting provisions through Shaw Park is inadequate and poses a safety risk with a view to SAC improving lighting. **SCC**



# 5

Support the vision "Slower today for a safer tomorrow" from the Scottish Government road safety strategy.

## Ongoing

**(5.1)** Continue constructive discussions with ARA and head of roads about ongoing issues for traffic calming, including:

**(5.1.1)** Establish 20mph throughout the village; **(5.1.2)** Speed reductions at the entrances to the village and enhanced signage. **(5.1.3)** Improve road safety signage on C93 particularly at entrance to properties at High Knockendale. **SCC**

**(5.2)** Request regular monitoring by ARA and Police Scotland and enforcement of the 20mph. **SCC**

## 2026

**(5.3)** Explore options for funding for a consultancy company for an independent survey of traffic management, access in and around the village and mitigation measures. **SCC**

**(5.4)** Engage with SAC to review the parking provisions in and around Symington and identify areas which could be converted to parking. **SCC**

# 6

Encourage sustainability through public transport.

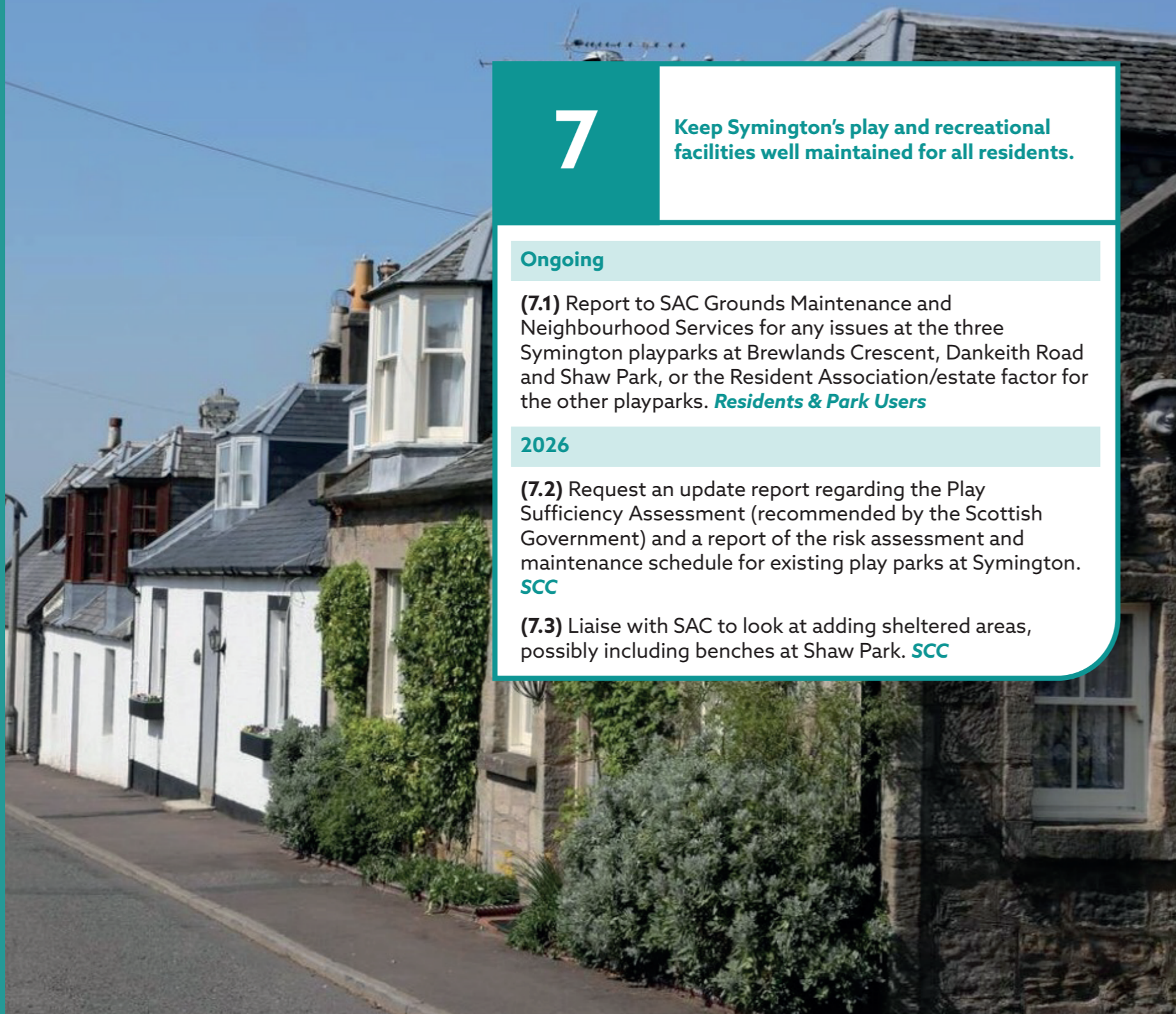
## 2026

**(6.1)** Explore possibility of more convenient access to X77 for Symington. **SCC**



Better paths, seating and signage would make it easier for people to enjoy the village. Improving access would encourage more walking.

Anonymous Survey Participant



**7**

**Keep Symington's play and recreational facilities well maintained for all residents.**

**Ongoing**

**(7.1)** Report to SAC Grounds Maintenance and Neighbourhood Services for any issues at the three Symington playparks at Brewlands Crescent, Dankeith Road and Shaw Park, or the Resident Association/estate factor for the other playparks. **Residents & Park Users**

**2026**

**(7.2)** Request an update report regarding the Play Sufficiency Assessment (recommended by the Scottish Government) and a report of the risk assessment and maintenance schedule for existing play parks at Symington. **SCC**

**(7.3)** Liaise with SAC to look at adding sheltered areas, possibly including benches at Shaw Park. **SCC**

**8**

**Keep Symington tidy.**

**Ongoing**

**(8.1)** Link in with the primary school to support litter picking events. **SCC/SPS**

**2026**

**(8.2)** Engage with the Co-op member activator to promote the soft plastic recycling deposit scheme at the Co-op. **SCC**

**10**

**Provision of access to affordable, safe, and quality housing for all residents.**

**Ongoing**

**(10.1)** Include appropriate housing provision for the local community, e.g. social housing, supported housing, smaller properties for first time buyers, in Symington's Local Place Plan. **SCC**

**9**

**Improve internet and telephone services.**

**2026/27**

**(9.1)** The SCC is supporting of the Symington Community Projects to assess installation of internet access at the 'Hall for All', Symington. **SCC**

**2027/28**

**(9.2)** Liaise with partners including phone and broadband providers, elected members, SAC and Scottish Government to improve phone and internet provision in Symington. Improved provision would address increasing demands due to remote working and community resilience. **SCC**





# 11

Promote an environment that celebrated the history and community of Symington.

2026/27

**(11.1)** Liaise with SAC to request storyboards and/or heritage style boards to explain the historical and/or environmental points around the village. **SCC**

Ongoing

**(11.2)** Liaise and support local groups and organisations on Symington related issues by seeking (and applying) funding opportunities where appropriate. **SCC**

# 12

Future planning for the village and the surrounding area.

2026

**(12.1)** Liaise with Royal Mail Group for the installation of a letter box at the Co-op, Main Street. **SCC**

2026/27

**(12.2)** With a growing population, the need for health and wellbeing facilities is also on the increase. Engage with partners (including Health and Social Care Partnership Locality Group, local GPs) to review the Health Centre's opening times in relation to the increase in population in Symington. **SCC**



**13**

Improve and maintain current village assets.

Ongoing

- (13.1)** SCC supports initiatives which care for the natural environment by:
  - (13.1.1)** Continuing to collaborate with organisations, including the Scottish Wildlife Trust, SAC Ranger services, Ayrshire Rivers Trust, Farm Advisory Service and Prestwick Community Council, to enhance and create nature friendly habitats in and around Symington.
  - (13.1.2)** Continuing to support and engage in the Pow Burn Riverwoods project.
  - (13.1.3)** Continuing to support the Pollinator Friendly Symington group.
  - (13.1.4)** Engaging with the Sustainable Development Department (SAC) to determine how the local authority can best support the community actions above. **SCC**

2026

- (13.2)** Ensure that SAC update and repaint or replace and maintain the fingerposts on Main Street and Brewlands Road to ensure that the rural aesthetic is maintained. **SCC**
- (13.3)** Contact Neighbourhood Services (SAC) to reinstate signage on Kerrix Road. Signage to be placed at entering and exiting points in Symington to ensure positive messaging and shared country road usage. **SCC**

**14**

Engage greater participation in monthly meetings, with a wide representation of community members.

Ongoing

- (14.1)** Increase participation at the monthly meetings, the SCC will continue to:
  - (14.1.1)** Advertise meetings in shops, notice boards, by word of mouth, etc.
  - (14.1.2)** Display banners to advertise CC meetings.
  - (14.1.3)** Post meeting information online.
  - (14.1.4)** Advertise CC vacancies as and when they arise. **SCC**
- (14.2)** Continue to liaise with the CLD team and Youth Forum within Thriving Communities (SAC) as a link to secondary schools (Prestwick Academy and Queen Margaret Academy) and Ayrshire College to increase interest in Symington Community Council amongst young people. **SCC**



People are proud of Symington and its sense of history, but there's scope to do more to bring the community together. More shared activities and small improvements would help strengthen local pride.

**Anonymous Survey Participant**

**15**

Make Symington a safer place to live and work.

Ongoing

- (15.1)** Maintain a positive working relationship with Police Scotland. **SCC/Police Scotland**
- (15.2)** The SCC encourages residents to report any anti-social behaviour and crime to Crimestoppers via their website and/or phone number (contact details at the back of this booklet). Crimestoppers is totally anonymous and strives to keep communities safe and work in partnership with Police Scotland. **Residents**



# YOUNG VOICES ~ SYMINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Play and Recreation

- 70% walk or cycle to school
- 67% can use bikes after school
- 59% there are enough parks nearby
- 85% there are open spaces nearby
- 75% open spaces are easy to get to
- 71% like their play area
- 32% play areas cared for by volunteers
- 68% things to do in the area
- 31% can dance, swim, exercise nearby
- 46% prefer to play in own front/back garden
- 82% meet friends out of school hours
- 48% involved in a summer programme
- 85% meet friends online
- 40% think parents find extra curr expensive
- 77% have at least one activity per week
- 74% have more than one activity per week



## Accessibility

- 47% pavements used by wheelchairs/scooters
- 14% aware of special parking permit
- 16% think parks are accessible
- 27% parks accessible for walking aids
- 23% parks accessible for prams/bikes



## Neighbourhood

- 78% like their neighbourhood
- 71% like their street
- 88% think it's safe
- 48% feel some streets are unsafe
- 53% litter is an issue
- 50% dog poo is an issue
- 27% derelict buildings are an issue
- 65% in favour of more wildflowers
- 72% aware of health provisions
- 20% aware of food banks/pantries
- 39% aware of childcare facilities
- 84% access internet
- 62% aware of solar panels



## Community

- 29% parents/guardians volunteer
- 80% neighbours are friendly
- 61% neighbours are also friends
- 70% proud of their community
- 73% neighbours help each other

## Safety

- 72% know where to report
- 93% know the emergency number
- 25% unsafe experiences online

## Transport

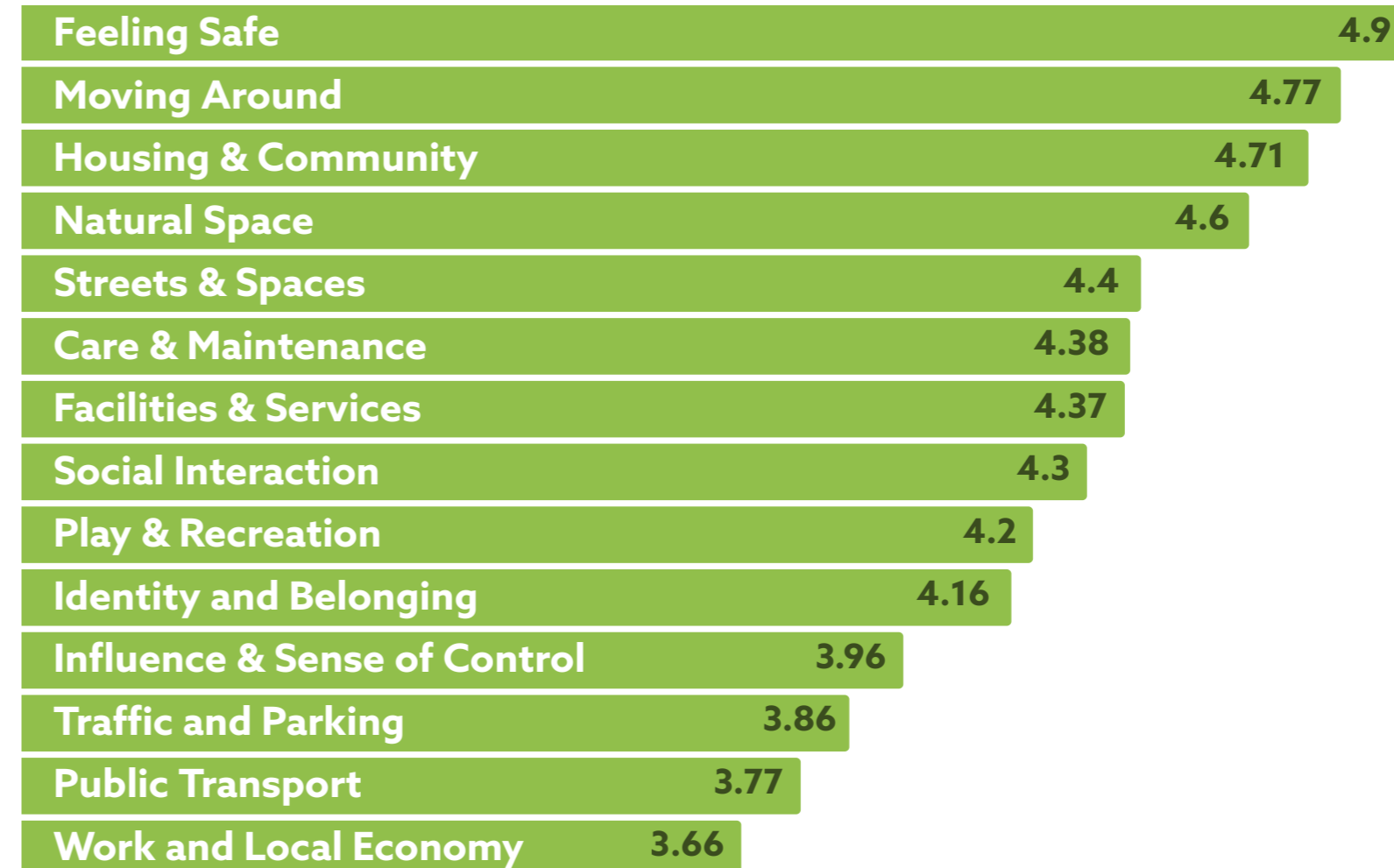
- 96% access to a vehicle
- 50% parking is an issue
- 39% speeding vehicles
- 41% high volume of traffic
- 75% safe to cross roads
- 49% easy to get on bus/train



# Consultation Statistics

The Place Standard Tool allows residents to rate their local area on a scale of 1 to 7 against 14 themes'

Average rating per theme from 2025 community engagement data



# 304

Responses to the 'How good is our place? Symington' consultation

# 90

Responses of the consultation responses were from P4 to P7 class children

# 4.28

Average rating across the 14 themes used within the consultation from the Place Standard Tool

# Local Community Groups

## Symington Community Hall

A community space managed by a local charity holding regular activities and events.

symingtonhall4all@gmail.com 01563 830713

## Symington Scout Hut

Hall available for hire, contact Ina Murdoch:

inamurdoch58@gmail.com 01563 830244

## Tennis Court and Multiuse Games Area

A community facility managed by a local charity. Available for free use or bookable for a fee.

symingtonspark@gmail.com symingtonspark.org.uk

## Symington Community Council

Meetings are held on 3rd Tuesday 7-9PM in the Community Hall, Main Street, KA1 5QE. All Welcome!

symingtoncc@hotmail.com symingtoncc.co.uk

## Symington Library

Books and computers are available. Holds regular clubs such as Book Bug, Knit 'n' Natter, Book Club, Tea and Chat.

carnegielibrary@south-ayrshire.gov.uk 01563 830066

## Symington Bowling Club

Outdoor Bowling April-October. Various activities throughout the year. Function suite available for hire.

symingtonbowlingclub@yahoo.com 01563 830614

## Symington Parish Church

United with Craigie and Dundonald Parishes

1 Brewlands Road, Symington, KA1 5QZ

craigiesymingtonparishchurch.com Find them on Facebook

## Symington RotaKids

Open to Symington Primary School pupils aged 7-12. Functions as a mini Rotary club involving young people in projects.

rotary.prestwick@gmail.com prestwickrotary.org

# Who We Are and What We Do

**Symington Community Council is a voluntary organisation made up of 5-10 local residents, each with a genuine interest in the community. Members serve on the council for a period of three years and the Officers are elected annually. Anyone on the Electoral Register for the area is eligible to apply for membership when vacancies occur.**

**The main role of the Community Council is to consult with the local community, and represent the views to South Ayrshire Council and other public bodies on licensing and planning. In addition, Symington Community Council has undertaken projects such as the refurbishment of the tennis courts in Shaw Park to create a multiuse games area (now managed by SPark) and Pollinator Friendly Symington. Plans for future projects are outlined in this Community Action Plan and aim to further improve the environment.**

**The Community Council encourages anyone with any local concerns, issues or information to get in touch via the Contact Form on the website ([www.symingtoncc.co.uk](http://www.symingtoncc.co.uk)), email us at [symingtoncc@hotmail.com](mailto:symingtoncc@hotmail.com) or attend any of the monthly meetings to discuss in person. Meetings are held in the Hall for All, Main Street at 7pm on the third Tuesday each month (except July and December), and are open for the public to attend. They are advertised on social media, noticeboards around the village, and banners at the Hall for All, Main Street and Shaw Park, Brewlands Road. Agendas and full minutes are published online ([www.symingtoncc.co.uk](http://www.symingtoncc.co.uk)).**

**Please come along to Community Council meetings to ensure that the wider views of the entire community are heard, and help to make Symington an even better place to live. Everyone is welcome!**

# Useful Contacts

<b>Ayrshire Roads Alliance</b>	01563 503160 Report Potholes, Lighting Faults and Dropped Kerbs at <a href="http://ayrshireroadsalliance.org">ayrshireroadsalliance.org</a>
<b>Breathing Space</b>	FREEPHONE 0800 83 85 87
<b>Children and Young People's Community Mental Health and Wellbeing</b>	Text SAC to 85258 Visit: <a href="http://southayrshirecmhw.co.uk/our-services">southayrshirecmhw.co.uk/our-services</a>
<b>Connect South Ayrshire (Directory for Activities, Events, Contacts)</b>	<a href="http://connectsouthayrshire.org">connectsouthayrshire.org</a> <a href="mailto:enquiries@connectsa.scot">enquiries@connectsa.scot</a> 0800 432 0510
<b>Crimestoppers (Report Crime Anonymously)</b>	0800 555 111 <a href="http://crimestoppers.org/give-information">crimestoppers.org/give-information</a>
<b>NHS</b>	Non-emergency medical query: 111 Medical Emergencies: 999
<b>NHS Ayrshire and Arran Suicide Prevention</b>	<a href="http://nhsaaa.net/services/services-a-z/suicide-prevention">nhsaaa.net/services/services-a-z/suicide-prevention</a>
<b>Police Scotland</b>	FREEPHONE 101 (non-emergency) FREEPHONE 999 (emergency)
<b>Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline</b>	0800 027 1234
<b>Scottish Power Emergency Networks</b>	Call 105 or 0800 092 9290 no matter who you pay your bill to
<b>Scottish Water</b>	FREEPHONE 0800 0788 778
<b>South Ayrshire Council</b>	0300 123 0900
<b>Report Overgrown Hedges and trees, fly tipping and abandoned vehicles</b>	<a href="http://south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/25320/report-a-problem">south-ayrshire.gov.uk/article/25320/report-a-problem</a>
<b>Environmental Health &amp; Trading Standards</b>	<a href="mailto:environmental.health@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">environmental.health@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Symington Community Council</b>	<a href="http://symingtoncc.co.uk">symingtoncc.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:symingtoncc@hotmail.com">symingtoncc@hotmail.com</a>

DEVELOPED BY



**Symington**  
Community  
Council

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

*south*  
**AYRSHIRE**  
COUNCIL  
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Deas  
Making a Difference Every Day