

Ballantrae and Lendalfoot 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 October and December 2021, the Council undertook a series of Community Conversations with the communities in Ballantrae and Lendalfoot, 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 Ballantrae and Lendalfoot began in October 2021 and continued through December 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.

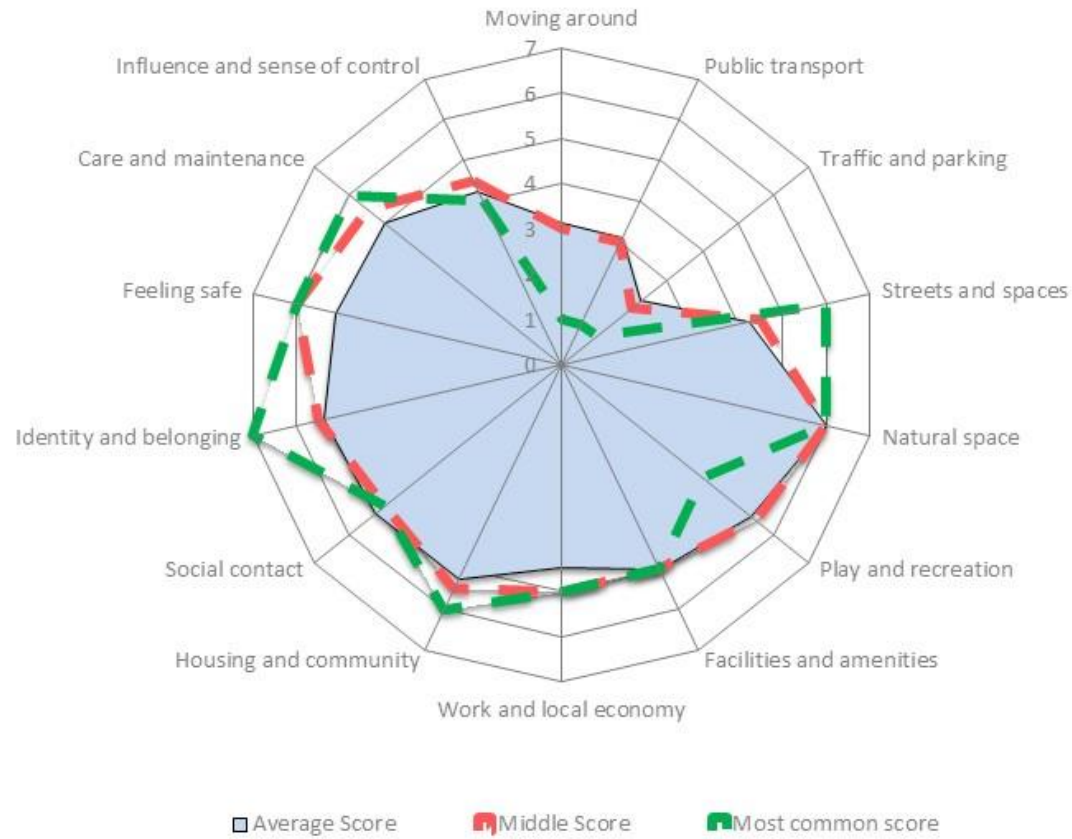
The Place Standard sees a score awarded for each of the identified topics that make up a successful place. This ranges from 1, where most improvement is needed, to 7, where no improvement is needed. The scores given by each member of the community who took part were averaged to give an indication of priorities. A total of 20 people took part in the consultation including with 2 community groups and 6 online surveys.

The findings of the consultation are laid out in the table below, and in the diagram on the following page. There were three areas that were identified as being of particular concern, with scores below the median of 3.5. These were the topics of Public Transport, Moving Around, Traffic and Parking.

At the other end of the scale Identity and belonging, Play and Recreation and Natural Space scored highly.

Topic	Average
Traffic and parking	2.3
Moving Around	3.1
Public transport	3.1
Streets and spaces	4.3
Influence and sense of control	4.3
Work and local economy	4.5
Care and maintenance	5.0
Facilities and amenities	5.0
Feeling safe	5.1
Housing and community	5.3
Social contact	5.3
Identity and belonging	5.4
Play and recreation	5.4
Natural space	6.0

PLACE PLANNING : BALLANTRAE



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 = 2.3	
<p><u>Positive</u></p> <p>Parking facilities generally good Parking on Main St can be beneficial as it slows traffic</p>	<p><u>Negative</u></p> <p>Volume of traffic especially at boat times Lorries parking outside shop Trees near the bridge block sight for pulling out Parking on both sides of the road Speeding through village</p>
<p><u>Suggestions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic calming on the Main Street • Double yellow lines on Shore Road 	

Moving Around = 3.1	
<p><u>Positive</u></p> <p>Walking and cycling routes safe to use Cycle track in park Easy access to good, interesting and safe walks</p>	<p><u>Negative</u></p> <p>Limited due to narrow roads and paths Heavy lorries and congestion Road surfaces not good Pavements don't connect in certain parts Lack of drainage - flooding</p>
<p><u>Suggestions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need for walks for those with reduced mobility • Improve lighting in the winter months • Develop path by edge of sea beside harbour for walkers and cyclists 	

Public Transport = 3.1	
<p><u>Positive</u></p> <p>Buses are affordable Plenty of bus stops Buses are regular</p>	<p><u>Negative</u></p> <p>Bus only every 2 hours – frequency not good Bus and train timetable do not connect Cleanliness of buses</p>
<p><u>Suggestions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No local taxis which would be a helpful service • Would be useful if the direct bus from Stranraer to Ayr would stop without having to book online • Look at bus routes without driving around areas with no pick ups reducing travel times and encouraging more use 	

Streets and Spaces = 4.3**Positive**

Pleasant place to live, lots of beauty spots
 Has beach and good views
 Stinchar Castle is a lovely landmark
 Good open spaces, attractive, greenery

Negative

Grass banks and verges poorly maintained
 Campervans in summer make place look untidy
 Pavements not in good condition / weeds
 Private landlords don't maintain properties

Suggestion

- Public toilets could be signposted better

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

Influence some things
 Young people able to contribute opinions
 Participate and get involved

Negative

Often don't hear what happens
 Roads/drainage not in our control
 Often don't feel listened to (comm council)
 Not open to new ideas

Suggestion

Feel surveys like this is just to validate decisions that are already planned
 Power comes from dialogue

Work and Local Economy = 4.5**Positive**

McCullochs Rail is a big employer
 Small work spaces available for tradesmen
 Hospitality industry provides jobs – local hotel, holiday lettings

Negative

Need to travel to Girvan/Ayr but transport an issue
 Not a lot of opportunities locally
 Rollout of fast broadband not happened
 No opportunities to improve knowledge and skills

Facilities and Amenities = 5.0**Positive**

Lots of amenities – shop / GP / library / post office / garden centre / pub
 Good quality and well maintained
 Young people can access all amenities

Negative

No sports facilities
 Need to travel for some facilities/shops

Suggestion

- Move shop and post office to location with better parking facilities
- More available in village hall – exercise classes, table tennis, community cinema

Care and Maintenance = 5.0**Positive**

Parks and spaces are well maintained
Generally well maintained

Negative

Dog poo can be an issue
No recycling centre – only household bins
Plastic bottles and litter
Camper vans emptying waste

Suggestion

- More litter bins / recycling facilities
- Paint the roughcast areas of village hall to match the front

Feeling Safe = 5.1**Positive**

Mostly safe – little crime in the village
Happy to walk at night
Feel safe

Negative

Feel less safe in dark nights
Sometimes antisocial behaviour – mainly weekends
Lack of safety on main road with traffic

Suggestion

- Local policeman for crime prevention and develop sense of community

Housing and Community = 5.3**Positive**

Good mixture of housing – council/private
Houses are good quality and look good
Wide range and supply is good

Negative

Increasing number of air bnb – not regulated
Sheltered housing is something missing
No specific housing for elderly / disabled

Suggestion

- Need more affordable and bigger houses
- Sometimes quick turnover and people not wanting to stay in village – just a stop gap

Social Contact = 5.3**Positive**

Good range of quality spaces to meet indoors and outdoors
Variety of opportunities available / welcoming
Kings Arms Hotel a good community hub

Negative

Lots of activities pre-Covid – not aware of anything local now

Suggestion

- Outdoor meeting spaces could be started to allow for groups to meet
- School could educate pupils on the area and give them sense of belonging and pride

Play and Recreation = 5.4**Positive**

Good amenities –park, bowling club, tennis courts, beach, muga
 Lots of activities / groups / sports
 Playpark has been updated for small children

Negative

Tennis courts and pavilion are run down, not attractive
 No provision for teenagers to meet up outdoors
 Putting green poorly maintained
 Lack of indoor facilities

Suggestion

- More for adults – exercise classes, green gym
- Bring more to the village – sailing, yoga

Identity and Belonging = 5.4**Positive**

Very welcoming – feel connected – know everyone
 Viewed positively and pride in living here
 Celebrate history and heritage of the area

Negative

Castle not safe to access
 Lots of activities in past to bring community together – disappeared over the years

Suggestion

- Room for improvement with history and heritage
- Improve information boards around the village

Natural Space = 6.0**Positive**

Have woods, forest, river, and parks
 Plenty of public benches to use
 Easy access to beach, walks
 Wide range of wildlife

Negative

Park sometimes has litter
 Noise from traffic
 Access to beach for those with mobility issues/prams

Suggestion

- Publicity to attract visitors
- More seating along the river Stinchar walk

Next Steps

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