Barrhill Place Planning

Priorities for Action

Engagement outcomes June 2022



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 community in Barrhill, 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 Barrhill 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.

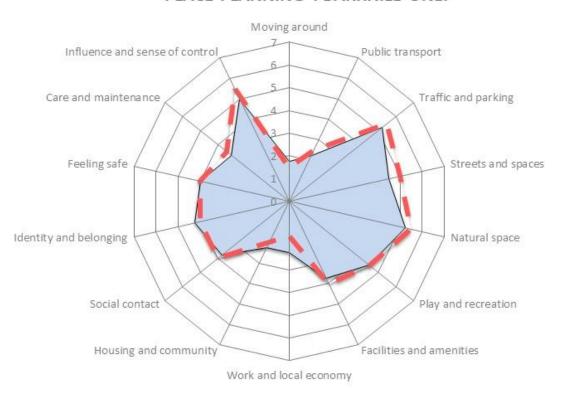
The Place Standard sees a score awarded for each of the identified topics that make up a successful place. This ranges from 1, where most improvement is needed, to 7, where no improvement is needed. The scores given by each member of the community who took part were averaged to give an indication of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

The findings of the consultation are laid out in the table below, and in the diagram on the following page. There were five 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, Housing and Community, Care and Maintenance and Work and Local Economy.

At the other end of the scale Influence and Sense of Control, Traffic and Parking and Natural Space scored highly.

Topic	Average
Moving Around	1.8
Work and local economy	2.3
Public transport	2.3
Housing and community	2.3
Care and maintenance	3.3
Social contact	3.8
Facilities and amenities	3.8
Feeling safe	4.0
Identity and belonging	4.3
Streets and spaces	4.5
Play and recreation	4.5
Influence and sense of control	5.0
Traffic and parking	5.3
Natural space	5.3

PLACE PLANNING: BARRHILL ONLY



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.

Comments

Moving Around = 1.8		
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	
Few safe walking routes	Very few cycling routes – not safe	
	A714 not suitable for cyclists – too narrow and	
	blind bends	
	Roads surfaces not even Some pathways not used and removed by farmer	
Suggestions		
Payements should extend to the carayan park		

Public Transport = 2.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Train service quite good	Frequency of buses is poor / cannot get to work
Quite a busy station	Buses don't link with onward connections
	Train station is outwith village
	Cost is prohibitive
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Housing and Community = 2.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Plenty of houses available to rent	Heating can be expensive – older homes
Good mix of homes	No affordable housing – for young families
	Drainage problems
	Few council houses – especially for those with a
	disability
Suggestion ■ Need pensioner 1-bedroom houses	

Work and Local Economy = 2.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Pub is now community owned and once	No opportunities – only farming
refurbished will offer employment	No support to get people into employment
	Lack of tradesmen
	No one local works at windfarm

Suggestion

- There is a need for cottage industry's within the community. Rural grants and support would be crucial in encouraging local people to apply
- More could be done for modern apprentices

Care and Maintenance = 3.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Area kept well – always clean and tidy	Dog fouling is an issue
Everyone keeps village tidy	Recycling is an issue – nearest centre 13 miles
Community council provide free dog poo bags –	away
most people use them	Disused garage an eyesore
	Flytipping in lay-bys

Suggestion

- More skips or recycling points
- Area behind bridge ideal for recycling point

Facilities and Amenities = 3.8	
<u>Negative</u>	
Lack of public transport to access activities	
Only one local shop – limited opening times	
and poor choice of items	
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Social Contact = 3.8	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Community hall beginning to open up again for	No council run events
groups	Costly to hire school for events
Regular activities at community centre	
Clubs available throughout week	
Welcome pack provided for newcomers	
Suggestion	

Suggestion

• Pub once refurbished hoped to be a social hub for community

Feeling Safe = 4.0	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Virtually no crime	Low sky lights not good for safety – especially
Village is very safe	walking from train station
	No lights at top of village
	Speeding traffic

Identity and Belonging = 4.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Small village – community spirit is high	
Strong sense of community	
Open, inclusive, welcoming	
Comment	

Parks are free and safe place for kids

Play and Recreation = 4.5		
	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
	Excellent playpark – well used	Nothing suitable for kids under 5 years
	Good park for kids / bowling green for adults	No smooth surfaces for cycling / skating

• Newsletters and social media posts are helpful and informative

Streets and Spaces = 4.5	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Village looks tidy and well signed	Lots of derelict houses on Main Street – look
Community spaces are kept tidy – planters, etc	untidy and unkempt
Good lighting	One private area needs tidied
Area and buildings nice to look at	

Influence and Sense of Control = 5.0		
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	
Can get point across and gain support Everyone can contribute and have their say Occasional police representation	Responses to problems not always forthcoming (from Council)	
Suggestion Miss the link officer (community council)		

Traffic and Parking = 5.3	
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Plenty of parking available	Trucks park in Main Street at the shop – hazardous
Reasonably good community car park	Avoid walking on roads – vans/lorries
Well lit	Traffic can be noisy
	Don't stick to speed limit

Natural Space = 5.3		
<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>	
Abundance of wildlife – and area to sit and watch	Wind turbines and noise	
Has nice walks and river – good access		
Good fishing		
Park is well used		
Suggestion		

- More at park for disabled children
- BBQ area at park for people to meet up

Next Steps

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