



Ask Honley 25th October to 20th December 2019

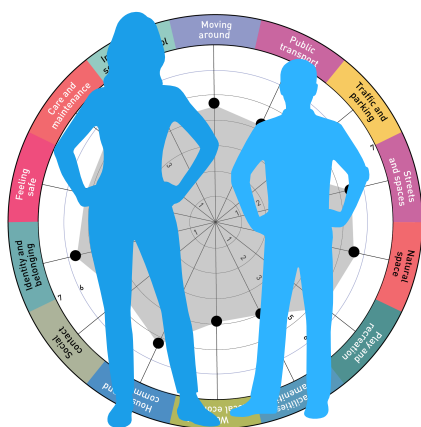
What we did

There were 23 Honley community volunteers who helped to promote and hold conversations in Honley with individuals and groups. We asked local people about what they thought of Honley. We used a tool called the “Place Standard” which encourages conversations as people respond to a series of simple questions. Working with local partners we use the results in our planning, to reflect local people’s priorities.

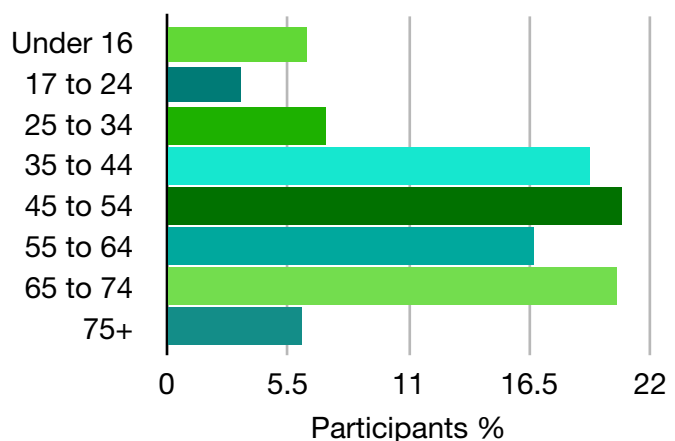
Who Participated?

We engaged with people in a range of settings – in local schools (Honley High and Honley Junior, Infant & Nursery, including parents and young people, Honley youth club, Guide, Brownie and Scout groups, Retirement Living Residents’ groups (at Stony Lane, Burhouse Court, Trinity Court and Roundway), St Mary’s and Trinity Churches, local shops and businesses, local pubs and clubs, Honley library, Honley Village Hall, on-street and at bus stops.

727 citizens took part, completing **545** Place Standard assessments.



Female 61% Male 30%
Other / unknown 9%

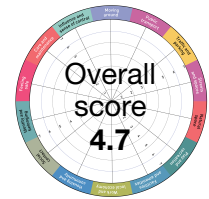
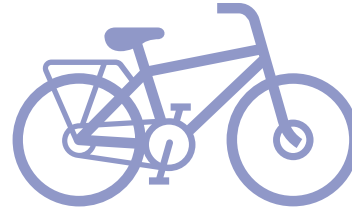


What participants said

Moving around

Key points:

- Surrounding roads in and around the village and its centre are too busy.
- Often cars do not stop and it is congested at rush hour.
- It is dangerous to cycle with neither marked nor identified cycling routes in or around the village (including off-road) except on the main road from Honley to Holmfirth (93 comments). There is nowhere to leave bicycles in the village.



Uneven, narrow pavements or lack of pavements (91 comments): A lot of pavements are uneven and too narrow for prams and wheelchairs, for example Bradshaw Road, where narrow sections of the main street have no pavement, (mainly near the roundabout). Between Marsh Gardens and the Doctors Surgery the pavement surface is poor and uneven, there are potholes and it is rarely gritted. Similarly, there are broken up pavement and potholes on Westcroft, with loose & uneven pavements on Church Street which older people struggle with. Footpaths on Moorside Road and Gynn Lane are poor. Parts of Thirstin Road have no pedestrian walkways.

Good quality walking routes with access to woodland and countryside paths (71 comments). Honley is surrounded by magnificent countryside, easily accessible on foot.

People parking inconsiderately (63 comments) on pavements, even where there are yellow lines (eg on Roundway, top of Jagger Lane (large truck) and Grasscroft). Cars, lorries and vans block the road near shops. By Taylor's store (Meltham Road) it is difficult for pedestrians to move safely, due to volume of traffic and badly parked cars. Parking on the pavement on West Avenue makes it difficult for pedestrians with visual problems. There is irresponsible parking at peak times and around the schools. Parking on the dropped kerbs by the library are blocked, making it difficult "my kids have visual issues too."

Speeding in and around the village (41 comments). Many country roads are used as rat runs. At Magdale the route from Netherton to Honley High School and Magdale is dangerous. Beautiful walks on Meltham Road and Bradshaw Road are unsafe because of speeding traffic, especially where there is limited or no pavements.

Access to safe paths: Paths between housing (Roundway to Jagger Lane, Stony Lane and by the community centre) are overgrown with weeds in Summer or slippery with leaves in winter.

Overgrown hedges on pavements force people to walk in the road, with water logging and lack of directional signage in places.

The gateway leading into Jagger Lane Recreation area (the Rec) outside the Sheltered Housing is inaccessible for wheelchairs, prams or mobility scooters.

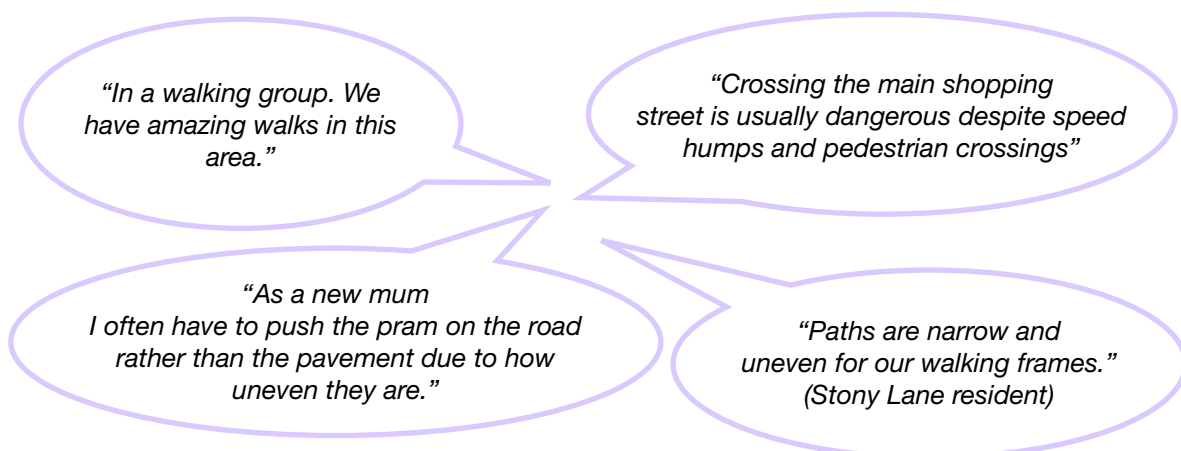
Safe Crossing: There were 10 comments about zebra crossings. Including the fact that recently installed crossings outside the High School do not line up with the footpath between Station Road and Gynn Lane, nor on the bend with Station Approach.

Dog mess (14 comments): Dog walkers don't clean up after their dogs leading to some very messy footpaths and edges of roads.

Suggestions:

- Improve maintenance of footpaths. Those listed above plus path at side of the cricket club, to improve access to park & school. Install footpaths at Magdale and White Gate. Improve lighting on walking routes. Walking map of routes to Netherton, Netherthong, Holmfirth, Brockholes. Better access to the Rec for those with a pram or walker Repair Gynn Lane pavement.
- More priority for cyclists & pedestrians; cycle parking in the village centre and better access for cyclists.
- Designated cycling routes along the valley Holmfirth – Honley – Huddersfield (open up a route along the river); cycle route to the train station. Designated area in Honley Woods for off road cycling.
- Safe places to cross and pedestrian improvements, zebra crossings with flashing lights by schools, village hall and Trinity Church, painted pavement on Meltham Road and Bradshaw Road; no parking at junctions. More consideration by drivers when parking for pushchair & wheelchair access.
- Speed management solutions on high volume roads where walkers are accessing green spaces e.g. duck feeding. 20 mph limits especially on roads without pavements (improves air quality, noise reduction and safety). One way system in village centre (Church Street & Town Head), ramps to access shops. Places to tie up dogs e.g. outside the Co-op.

377 people commented on this theme.



Public transport

Key points:

- Many commented that Honley is well served with public transport and well connected with large centres and other valleys.
- There were many comments about the potential of the station, if improvements could be made.
- There were 88 positive comments about bus and train links, routes, bus services (regular & frequent. 90 people said they don't use public transport due to "cost", "choice of routes" or "prefer to use the car."



While many commented the train service is good value for money, there were 71 comments that facilities at the station are poor. There is no lift or disabled access and it is difficult for wheelchairs and buggies, with "a massive number of steps to the platform." There are no toilets. The car park is not big enough. Lighting is poor. There is now a ticket machine which is helpful.

Trains are outdated and unreliable (old rolling stock). Train journey to Sheffield is very slow and trains are only once an hour. "I would commute by train if it ran more often and was faster." There were 35 comments about frequency of the trains. Trains from Honley to Huddersfield connect well with the Manchester trains in the morning, but not in the evening. Buses do not link with the station.

There were 79 comments about buses. While there are a lot of buses in and out of the village on a regular basis there are not enough for commuters, and a shortage at night (service 911 to Meltham stops at 6 pm) and Sundays. There is no direct bus service to Huddersfield (it goes via Newsome).

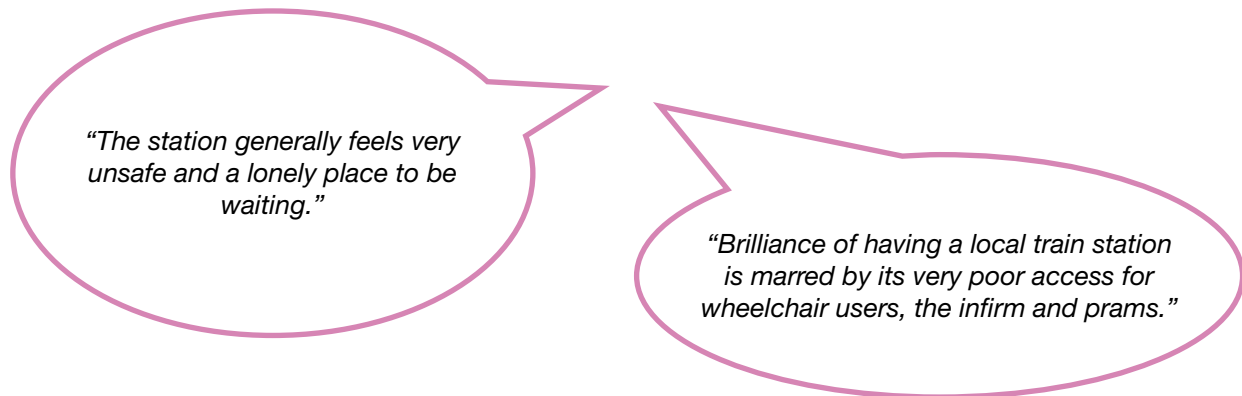
Plenty of bus stops but none in outer areas of Honley. Fares are expensive to town. Bus no. 308 is unreliable, "it goes all over." Buses often miss. Bus services from the west of the village are infrequent. The school bus has broken down several times on hill at Meltham Mills. Lack of buses between 3 and 4 pm. Cars park at the bus stops so buses stop in the middle of the road, causing traffic build up and making it difficult for people to get on and off the buses.

Suggestions:

- More trains at peak times Honley to Huddersfield and Honley to Sheffield (2 trains per hour service in each direction from Honley Station would make connections work with other services at Huddersfield and Sheffield).
- To connect the village and station we need a shuttle bus, essential for people with mobility problems. Improve timings of bus service to and from Honley Station.
- Safe cycle storage at the station (more cycle lockers) and level access to the platform e.g. ramp. Covered shelter on platform.
- Use some of land by station for extra car parking and disabled access to the platform.
- More buses -308 to be every 30 minutes and at school start and finish times, more frequent bus service for commuters, better links between villages; Honley - Meltham and Honley – Netherton. Frequent smaller services from Honley village to the housing

- estates (so less need to provide more parking), hail a bus between stops, lower bus fares for under 18s,
- Focus on Active Travel.

386 people commented on this theme.



Traffic and parking

Key points:

- Insufficient parking, insufficient disabled parking and/or poor quality of parking.
- Volume and speed of traffic is of real concern.



Insufficient Parking: There were 262 comments on the availability and/or standard of parking. It is a "nightmare" or "atrocious," "too many cars" and "too much traffic." There is congestion at football and cricket match times on Jagger Lane, parking outside school is also an issue – vans block coach drop off/ pick up and there is no space for parents to park. Parking on Marsh Gardens is "especially bad." Car parks are used for long stay (35 comments) which means that many people with accessibility issues find it difficult to park near the shops and services they wish to use. There is dangerous parking at the roundabout in the centre, blocking the road for pedestrians and other vehicles.

Parking on pavements at certain times of the day is a problem especially wagons delivering to Co-op, Chemist and Pet shop, which force pedestrians onto the road. Cars parked on the pavement, across dropped kerbs and cul-de-sacs make it difficult for prams and wheelchairs. Parking outside Taylor's food store on the bend at lunch time is dangerous.

Some said more parking space is not the answer, as it would just encourage more unnecessary car journeys and pollution.

Volume and heavy nature of traffic (86 comments): Big trucks coming through the village cause congestion "but Moorhouses do well and are part of the village." "The cobbles on Church Street are in a terrible mess due to heavy traffic use."

Pollution: During peak hours Westgate is a highly polluted area with queuing traffic and car fumes added to by aged public transport.


Traffic calming: Traffic through the centre has improved since the 20 mph speed limit and speed bumps were installed, but there are still issues. The junction between Station Road and New Mill Road is hazardous for drivers. Concern that cars travel at high speeds on Bradshaw Road, Meltham Road and Magdale. No traffic calming at Honley High School.

There were 40 comments that the number of new houses planned will make traffic worse. The village is expanding at a rate that is unable to cope with the increase in traffic - number of vehicles and all-day parking.

Suggestions:

- Traffic calming on Long Lane, Bradshaw Road, Meltham Road, West Avenue and Magdale.
- A roundabout between Station Road and New Mill Road junction. A crossing or traffic island next to Taylor's store (Meltham Road). Mobile speed cameras.
- A one-way system on Church Street & Town Head and around both school sites in the centre, alternative routes for traffic flow (not going through the centre)
- 10 mph limit on traffic in the centre.
- Ban huge lorries/ HGVs from the centre.
- Introduce paid parking and short stay enforced parking in centre, more disabled parking in the centre, create a car park on Jagger Lane Rec (as part of Jagger Lane Rec), long term parking for workers outside the village or off the main street.
- Source additional parking through negotiations with land owners.
- Move the bottle bank to free up spaces, use the GP surgery car park on Saturdays.
- Find another home for Moorhouses – space could be used for extra parking and community facilities. More enforcement; traffic wardens outside Co-op & Chemists to tackle pavement parking. Double yellow lines by junctions.
- More off-street parking to allow safer walking & cycling to school.
- Shuttle bus to get children to school. Reduce number of cars on short journeys.
- Promote walking and cycling.
- A better crossing at the lights at the bottom of the village as this is a main walking route for school children (cannot use from 2 out of 4 sides). Traffic lights at peak times at the 4 way junction between Station Road and the A616 & access to Gynn Lane. Better sequencing of traffic lights around the main road.
- Repaint zebra crossing in the centre in bright or fluorescent colour or flashing lights or turn into pelican.

457 people commented on this theme.



"As a non-driver I am amazed at the shocking parking and total disregard for either disabled, mobility scooters, prams or general pedestrians at all times."

"As a business owner I am always being told there are not enough parking spaces in the village to allow people to shop local."

"Even the disabled spaces are used without badges."

Streets and spaces

Key points:

- Many people (110) commented that Honley is an attractive village with accessible and green spaces such as People's Park, and good access to facilities and safe, clean environments.
- Honley is very well cared for, with a lot of work having been done by community groups to improve the village.



It was commented that the architecture is lovely with interesting, well maintained properties and buildings of heritage, streets & ginnels with character. Architecture needs to be maintained however. One example is the cobbles in Church Street – buckled & wearing. A few people commented that the modern buildings do not fit in.

Shops feel uniform in appearance. Displays in the shops are good. Christmas trees, flags and hanging baskets make the place look cheerful, “all credit to the business association.” It is busy and inviting at night with bars and restaurants. “Love Summer colour in hanging baskets.” A few said there are too many flags and pop-up signs obstruct pavements.

There is much appreciation of Honley's community groups and businesses who work really hard to keep the village looking great. Volunteer groups “keep the village looking wonderful” - litter picking once a month, looking after bedding plants, many businesses pay for their own floral displays, Christmas lights and trees.

There is concern that new housing development will spoil it and impact on the infrastructure.

Spaces needing improvement:

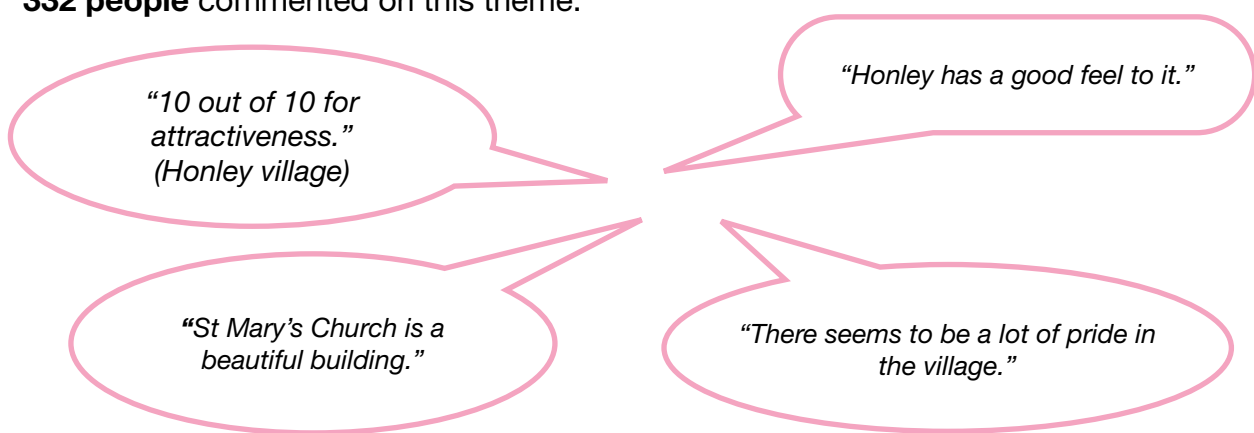
- Lighting from the main road between the Co-op and Gallery Cafe is non-existent (Burhouse residents). Street lighting levels are low on Old Turnpike Road.
- Open space between the Forrester's and paths to Roundways are occasionally used as a dumping group and paths could be better maintained.
- A minority of individuals leave litter and damage play areas.
- “Jagger Lane Rec is not so nice. Smashed glass and graffiti on tarmac areas.”
- Dog fouling (by the library in particular) and chewing gum are a problem.

Suggestions:

- More trees and greenery on the streets.
- Council grants for tidy shop fronts, conservation action to preserve our architecture.
- A design code for the village centre to maintain and improve local character.
- Repair and replace street and road name signs. Informative signage, discrete and in keeping with village style.
- More links to history in the village.
- Raise Planning standards so that new builds are more attractive and in keeping.

- Carry out a train station makeover.
- Improve building on School Street, re plaster library & new carpet.
- Council funding support for volunteers to keep the village tidy.
- Recognise local volunteer heroes.
- More cleaning of pavements – get slippery when it rains, tackle weeds along many of side street pavements.
- More bins by the high school for rubbish and dog waste (with communications campaign)
- Large fines for dog fouling
- Tidy up area behind Dixon & Franks (Westgate), the open space between the small path behind the Forresters and path to Roundways (sometimes used as a dumping ground), the short cuts between roads (dog fouling, rubbish & weeds, clear leaves).
- Lights on path that connects Station Road to Gynn Lane (for walking to school and station on dark mornings and evenings).

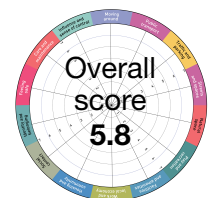
332 people commented on this theme.



Natural space

Key points:

- Many (234) commented that Honley is surrounded by beautiful countryside.
- Spaces are well looked after by volunteers.



All it takes is a short walk from the village centre in any direction to be surrounded by nature, whether it be the woods up Meltham Road, or the rivers and streams in Magdale. Plenty of places to sit and enjoy the surroundings or adventure. Mag Fields, The People's Park, Cricket Club and playing fields were mentioned as pleasant open spaces.

There is concern that natural spaces are being squeezed by too much traffic and increasingly released for house building, causing a decline in natural habitats for wildlife (29 comments). Noise from traffic and air quality along Huddersfield Road and Woodhead Road is a concern.

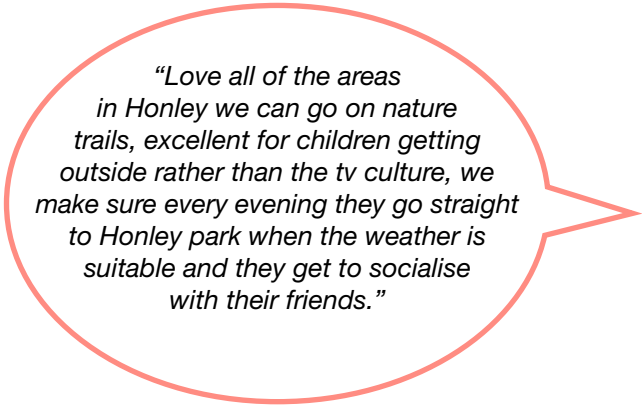
Residents of sheltered housing said that weeding and grass cuttings are left on the grass areas at Burhouse. Roundway residents said there is a lot of dog mess and litter. There is dog poo outside Stony Lane flats.

Footpaths aren't particularly easy for people with disabilities. Some are getting inaccessible e.g. off Gynn Lane, & stiles are not access friendly.

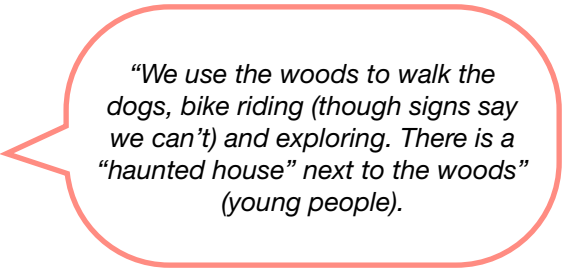
Suggestions:

- More natural spaces with wildlife (Roundway residents).
- Local walking route leaflets showing points of interest - available in cafes, pubs and library. Safer cycling between the natural spaces. Orienteering in the woods (young people), open up Honley Woods for horses. More trees on main roads. Plant spring bulbs on large grass verges for example on New Mill Road. Bark chippings on the woodland paths especially by Thirstin Mills (too muddy). More benches – one opposite Trinity Church, more options for people with mobility problems.
- More pavements and parking outside the village.
- Encourage wildlife, pollinators, flowers, bees etc. Bins for dog waste.
- Protect the green spaces (no more housing).
- Invest in Mag fields, more trees for insects and birds by the river, plant trees on Magdale fields, indigenous planting on field and dam areas. Better litter bins, signage, and a marked footpath towards Magdale.

333 people commented on this theme.



"Love all of the areas in Honley we can go on nature trails, excellent for children getting outside rather than the tv culture, we make sure every evening they go straight to Honley park when the weather is suitable and they get to socialise with their friends."



"We use the woods to walk the dogs, bike riding (though signs say we can't) and exploring. There is a "haunted house" next to the woods" (young people).

Play and recreation

Key points:

- Parks are tired and needing renovation with lack of working equipment, activities and safe places for all ages.
- Young people with nowhere safe to go.



Responses were overwhelming that the parks in the village (Jagger Lane Park and Rec, People's Park) need improving (149 comments about lack of activities in parks). It is important to provide safe spaces for young people to spend their time

Young people said they want somewhere to go that is not for adults. There were 26 comments about a lack of youth places or shelter. Many people said somewhere for young people to go would help with other issues. The skatepark is great for young kids learning new skills, as well as teens and young adults to express their skills on skateboards, bikes and scooters.

Children's play equipment is tired or broken, needs replacing and modernising. Rubber matting in the playground in People's Park is broken and a trip hazard.

The skate park and play areas in Jagger Lane Park "need a serious makeover", the main play area needs new equipment, and "revamping" as well as the shelter.

There isn't much for older children (8-11 yrs) that is age appropriate.

There is nothing specifically for children or adults with disabilities.

Teenagers were mentioned by 62 people. Young people gathering in groups, playing loud music and smoking, can be intimidating when walking through the park at night. A young person said older children in Jagger Lane Park are scaring younger children.

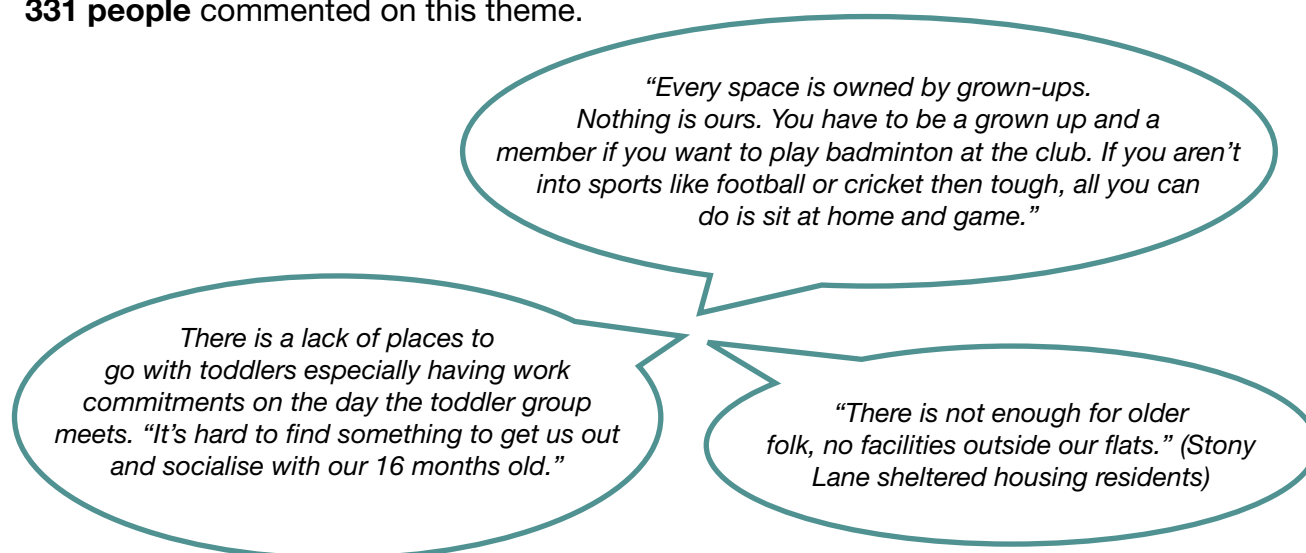
Other spaces and facilities are good – squash and fitness club, play gym, cricket club, horse riding, boules, community centre, village hall. Good green spaces around Honley and Magdale.

Suggestions:

- At the Rec on Meltham Road or behind Honley Junior School – create a park similar to Sands in Holmfirth.
- Level off the playing fields behind the cricket club, take more care of sports pitches, improve drainage. Access to all weather playing surface (for 5 aside for adults, juniors to train on) with lighting.
- Safe cycle path around edge of football pitch for little ones to learn to ride bikes.
- People's Park could be a better hub with picnic benches or tables.
- Designate a smoking area in the parks.
- Well-lit parks so children can play in winter after 4 pm.

- Well-lit space for teenagers with graffiti area. A better shelter for teenagers to sit in the park (protection from the weather).
- Outdoor gym equipment to encourage family and adult outdoor activities.
- Park run track. Climbing frame. More junior play (8-11 yrs), bigger skatepark (ramps), climbing wall with ropes, bigger slide, monkey bars, trampoline park.
- Play equipment for children with disabilities e.g. secure swing.
- More natural play equipment which is sustainable (wooden). Adventure play area.
- Walls to hit and kick balls against with hardstanding.
- New playground surface in People's Park.
- More litter bins and benches in the playgrounds.
- Outdoor reading facility/quiet area at schools e.g. shed.
- An art club in the village.
- Tennis courts and more bowling spaces. Petanque.
- Family nature trails, Easter egg hunt.
- Indoor play facilities.

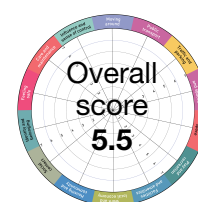
331 people commented on this theme.



Facilities and amenities

Key issues:

- A good range of shops, cafes, restaurants, bar and a theatre
- Honley JIN School bathroom facilities need improvements
- People appreciative work put in by business owners



There is a good range of cafes and shops (72 comments) available in the village and plenty of nice restaurants and bars, good theatre. People are appreciative of the work put into these by business owners.

51 children at Honley Junior School commented on the facilities in the classrooms. The toilets, hand washing facilities, cloakrooms, heating/radiators and classroom seating are inadequate, do not meet their day-to-day needs, and this affects their well-being. Toilets

are in the classrooms which prevents privacy for self-aware young people, and there are not enough to cope with pupil numbers and they are too small. Children also commented that they are not able to use the outdoor space all the time due to uneven ground (tree stump has lifted tarmac) and can't play when grass is wet as it makes the cloakroom floor slippery.

"Best thing about Honley. Fantastic school, friendly library and fabulous school nursery and out of school care. Nice cafes especially the church one where they go out their way to help you and will even bring food to your home if you are poorly." Residents said that facilities at the retired housing schemes are good. "Youth club is great".

Some said it's difficult to get a doctor's appointment with standard waiting time around 3 weeks. As the population grows and ages, and more house are built, there is concern this will get worse and put more pressure on facilities such as GPs and schools (14 comments).

"The library is a good community hub enjoyed by many." It could do with some money spending on it to improve it and make it more welcoming to the younger 'internet' generation. Schools are over-subscribed and stretched. An increasing number of children need one to one and not all of them get funding.

People with mobility problems can't access cafes. There are no toilets in the village - affects older people and families with young children.

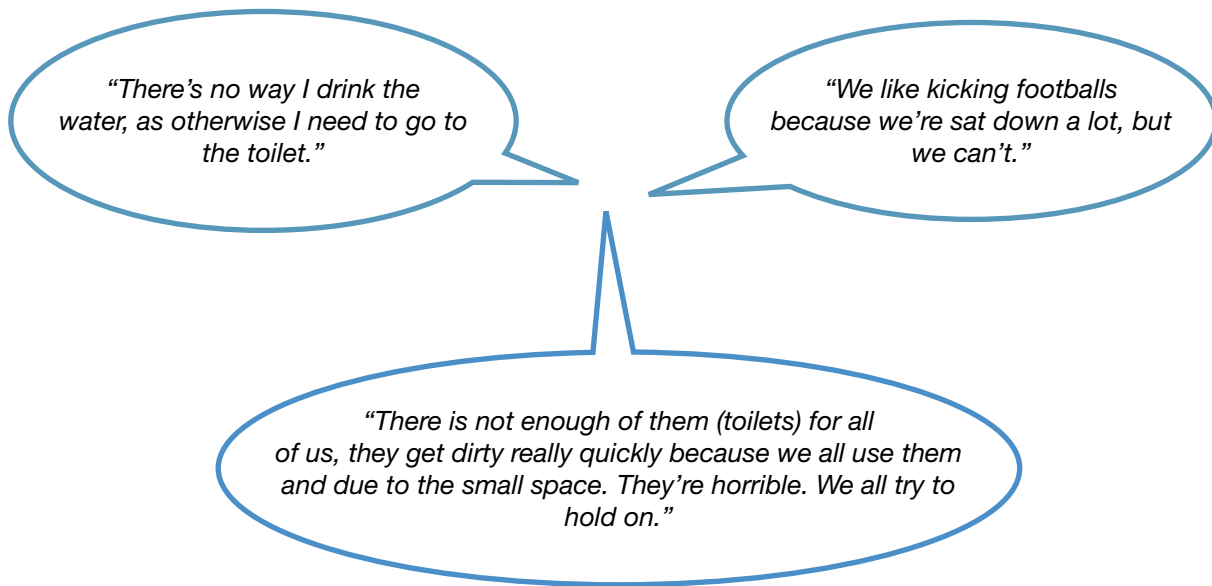
Many people are not on Facebook, meaning it can be difficult to find out about activities.

Suggestions:

- Honley Junior School - improve toilet, hand washing, heating, seating and outdoor play facilities. Incentives to reduce plastic waste and refill your own containers in local shops.
- A village website - one stop shop for information on everything. Map or noticeboard.
- Library funding and support for volunteers; "get the asset of Honley Library transferred quickly and a service level agreement." Re plaster and paint the library, extend opening hours. A larger, modern library - focus for more community activities. Partnership between Friends of Honley Library & Honley High. Link with the theatre for a film club. More learning opportunities for youth and adults together.
- Public toilets. Improve post office facilities. More sports facilities, a modern, quality gym.
- An old fashioned green grocery.
- Café to be open after events like Remembrance Sunday.
- Wheelchair access to the parish rooms. Access to coffee shops for wheelchair users, the infirm and pram users.
- A residential and nursing home.
- Update the kitchen at the scout hut.
- Bring the Honley Flyer into the 21st century – wider content, colour and more frequent.

343 people commented on this theme.

Children on facilities at Honley Junior school:



Work and local economy

Key points:

- Many (131 positive comments) said the local economy seems to be thriving with many local businesses on Huddersfield Road and in the village.
- Honley has some great innovative and creative businesses that offer job opportunities to people of all ages.
- Some people said they would like part time work, but don't know how to find out about them.



A good choice of businesses, shops and restaurants and opportunities for new businesses to start up, although business space does not seem to come up often. The local economy is thriving because one business seems to feed the other. However, there is no longer a bank and the post office is part time. Some said there are too many hairdressers, beauty parlours and restaurants.

Most people commute to work outside Honley. Some said local work is poorly paid & service based, in comparison to travelling further afield for better quality work. There is a high elderly, retired population.

Some people said they would love a part time job in the village but don't know how to find out about them. Jobs for young people are not advertised. It was recognised a number of local community groups promote the area well and there are volunteering opportunities.

6 people commented there is a lack of affordable childcare and it's hard to find wrap around childcare. The new pre-school at Honley Junior School and new out of school childcare provision at the school was mentioned as positive.

Suggestions:

- A directory of local trusted traders would add value.
- A business association website for employment opportunities.
- Employ local people.
- Careers workshops in the library.
- Offer business placements for high school students.
- A hub for business start-ups. Favourable business rates for independent businesses.
- Develop more work sites on the main road and move some businesses out of the centre.
- Plastic free shopping campaign.
- Continue with local business initiatives & encourage people to use the facilities in the village.

292 people commented on this theme.

"Honley is very community orientated and the community page on Facebook keeps us linked to businesses and workers."

"I have a business based in Honley and I have always found villagers keen to use local craftsman."

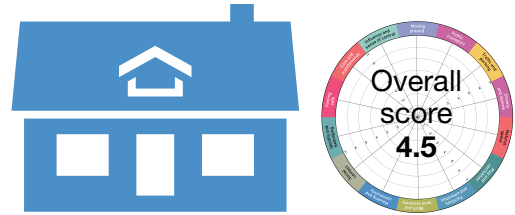
"My brother has a paper round and helps out at the Co-op. If you want a job you ask."

"Some of the local businesses appear to provide job opportunities for people with disabilities, in the church café and charity shop...which is so good to see."

Housing and community

Key points:

- Lack of affordable housing.
- Lack of infrastructure for current and planned building.



There were 164 comments about very high prices or lack of affordable homes. For example, the recent development on Thirstin Road consists of 4-5 bedrooms “is beyond the reach of most local people.” It is felt that planned developments, and those already underway or recently completed, are skewed towards the higher end of the housing market.

Most people said that more affordable housing is needed across the board, and especially for young and older people (1st time buyers, single parents, elderly wanting to downsize). All new housing is too expensive for young people, it’s too difficult for them to get on the property ladder, there are few starter homes and families born in Honley are not able to buy in the village. Some people commented that their children had to move out of the village to afford suitable housing. Some said more social housing is needed. There is too much reliance on private rentals, rather than secure social housing for those who cannot afford to buy.

There were 95 comments about lack of infrastructure. Over recent years, when new houses have been built it is felt that local amenities have not been built on to support new housing. This ranges from car parking spaces in developments, to transport links and capacity in local GPs, dentists and schools.

There were 78 comments that all house building should stop and local people cannot influence decisions about housing.

A number of people mentioned the environment and potential for increased flooding as more fields are turned into housing.

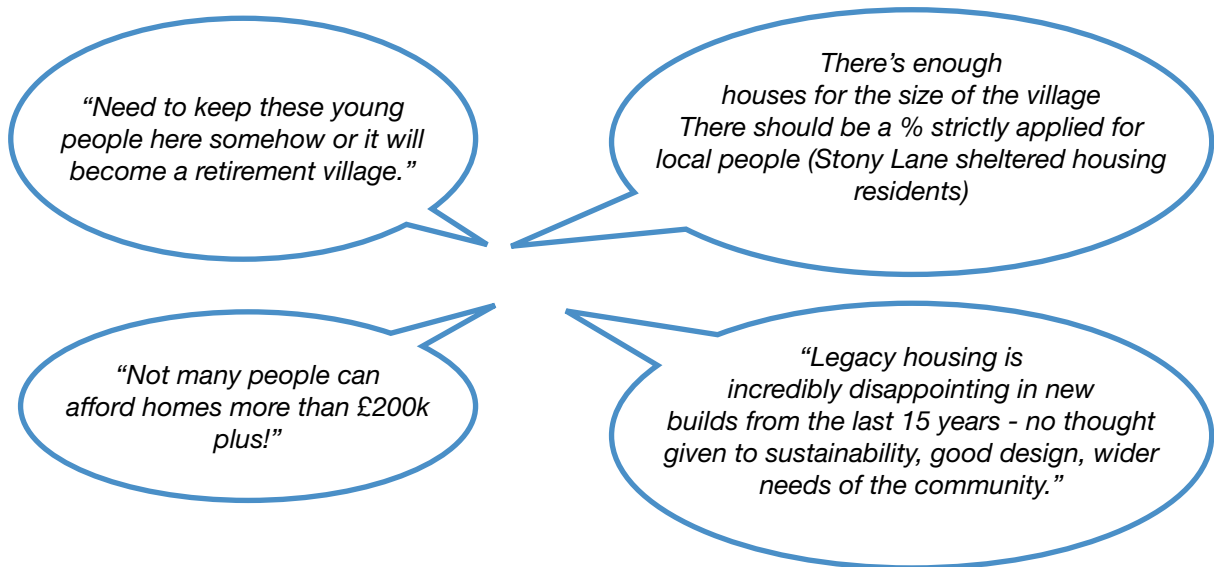
There were 63 positive comments that there is a variety of housing in Honley for all household types.

Suggestions:

- Prioritise the valley bottom for access to public transport, employment, avoids traffic through the centre of the village, protects land on the edges of the village. Use Drakes Mill site for low-cost housing. Use brownfield sites, protect green belt.
- Mixed use developments when “windfall” sites become available. CIL & S106 levy – ensure developers pay full cost for enhancing local services.
- Holistic assessment of infrastructure due to developments at Netherton, Scotgate and Thirstin.
- New houses to be architecturally interesting and sustainable. To have pitched roofs with a south west aspect to benefit from solar gain. Lower cost, lower energy.

- Affordable and focused on meeting local housing need. Housing for local families. Growth of large houses must be balanced with more starter homes and apartments. More homes for first time buyers on new build estates.
- More retirement bungalows for the elderly and a residential/nursing home so people can downsize and stay in the community. More social housing. Council houses for local people (house prices are too high for locals).

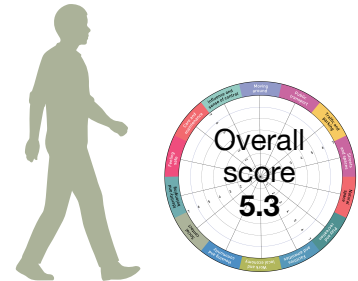
357 people commented on this theme



Social contact

Key points:

- Lot of choice of activities and places to go.
- Less indoor option for older persons and those with mobility issues.
- Groups that provide social contact for young mums important, but lacking.



There were 84 comments that there are lots of groups, activities and places to go. Nice places to meet in bars, clubs, restaurants and coffee shops but poor access for wheelchair users, the infirm and pram users. Churches, community centre, village hall, scout hut and theatre are great for social events, and clubs and the library are good for the young. In the Honley Flyer there are lots of different clubs to join for all ages.

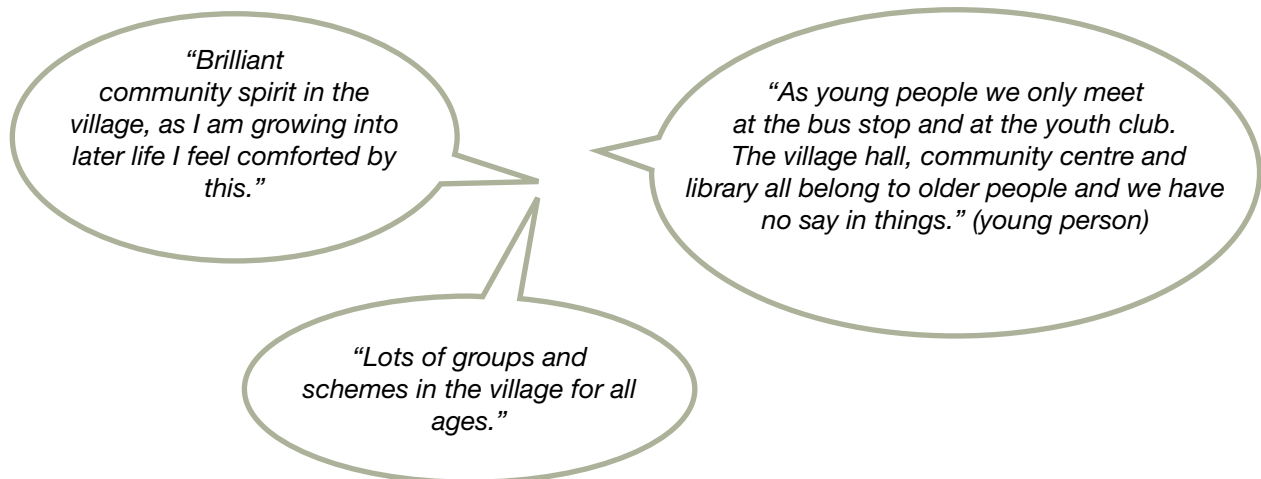
There are not many places for indoor activity other than private gyms. Or for the very elderly, people with mobility issues or isolated (12 comments) or young people (11 comments). "The whole community cannot mix together because half of them cannot get into the village!", "Those in social housing like my mum, are lonely."

Closure of the Thursday morning toddler group at the Church was mentioned. "I believe young mums like my wife really benefit from these groups and meeting other young mums."

Suggestions:

- Village website which co-ordinates all events and opportunities. Information on school websites.
- A village magazine for those not on Facebook. Post Honley Flyer through more residents' doors.
- More activities that promote inclusivity rather than "them and us" culture, and support people who are socially isolated.
- Support groups for young mothers. Mental health champions. Community bus.
- Event to promote volunteering roles and match people up to roles and people.
- Hold community groups & events in late afternoons/evenings. Councils (local and parish) to help with support and finance.
- More spaces and activities for young people to meet, socialise and hang out in; shelter in park to keep dry, book club; "we don't want to do just sport." Youth services – information and education.
- Intergenerational activities – schools, youth club and older people. Use our churches better – coffee mornings, lunches, teenagers in an evening/weekends. More sporty clubs all year round – indoor and outdoor.
- Non fee paying facilities.
- Keep the library open.

323 people commented on this theme



Identity and belonging

Key points:

- The majority of respondents feel like they belong and it is a close knit, friendly village.
- Residents are proud of Honley.
- There were 169 comments about a good sense of community and strong identity.



Plenty of ways to connect e.g. St Mary's Church, Honley Business Association work hard to keep the village community proud, groups like Honley Choir and events make people feel part of the community. The school really helps people feel they belong. Informal social groups have sprung out of places like the squash club. Honley Flyer provides good local information, history and knowledge.

Some people said volunteering helped them feel part of the village. A lot of people put in a great deal of time and effort to help engender that sense of belonging and community. Friends of Honley do regular village tidy and the Civic Society also do a lot of good work,

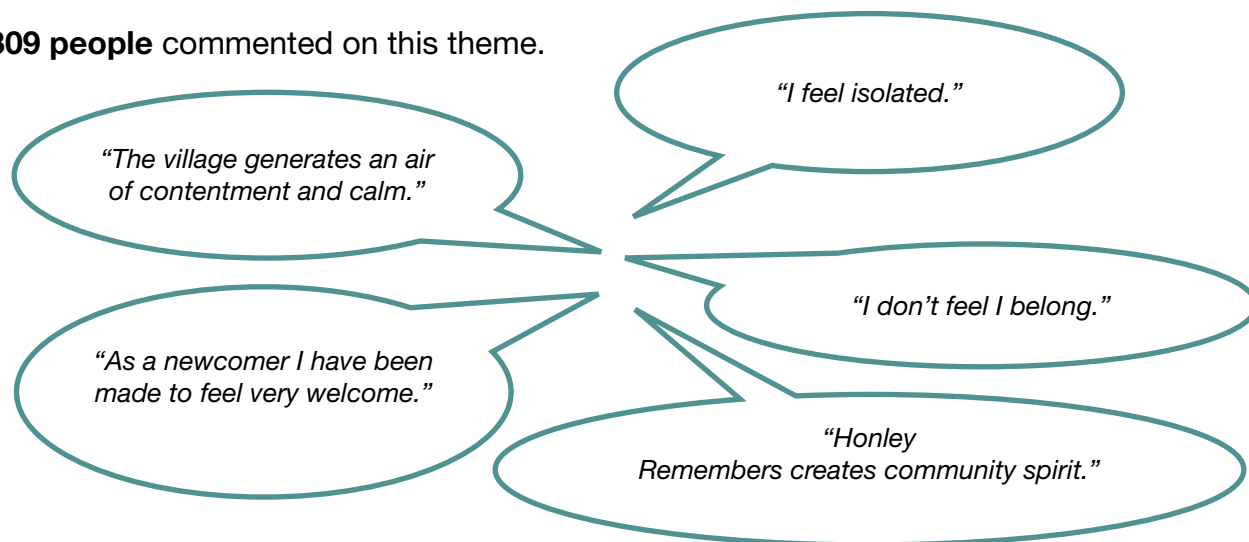
A few mentioned there could be more openness to diversity. "There seems to be a lot of public dislike towards young people (e.g. publicly aired on Facebook), which is a great shame! Young people add a lot to our community and there could be more support and understanding."

Decisions are made at local authority level with only minimal consultation with local people. A feeling of, "what's the point, no one listens" or "Object if you like, they've made up their minds by now" seems to permeate from people who have lived here longer than I."

Suggestions:

- Young people want more done on climate change and helping those who are not so well off.
- Encourage young people to get more involved in running events and activities.
- A group to support new mums.
- Help older residents to belong. Day time classes.
- More happy benches.

309 people commented on this theme.



Feeling safe

Key points:

- People feel safe and secure in the village most of the time (121 comments).
- There were 32 comments that people do not feel safe going out on an evening or at night.
- A few people (11) said that criminal activity has increased recently (in 2019), in particular burglaries and drug use, anti-social behaviour, which people said is worrying.



Dark nights and groups meeting can be a concern. "Don't feel safest at Jagger Lane Rec in the evenings or on Roundway." "There are older children at the park area so don't walk through there." "Drugs at back of church, library and Jagger Lane, behind the Co-op." "Had my car broken into and lots of neighbour trouble." Concerns about the short cuts through the Roundway estate, "where I have been harassed by youths before." Poor lighting in the Liberal Club car park and village centre car parks was mentioned.

People tend to know each other and will helpfully intervene if needed.

A lot of work is done in the village to provide a safe environment. Installation of CCTV has made it feel safer but "young people have moved into other areas." Young people hanging about in groups is intimidating for the elderly and younger children. Young people hang out in the high school grounds in the evening. Working with Honley High School has improved things.

Children at Honley Junior School commented that older children are entering the school grounds at Jagger Lane, damaging the walls and coming into the schools' outdoor space, which is intimidating for them and for teachers. They felt the reason for this is there is nothing for older children to do in the local parks.

Suggestions:

- Improve lighting on some streets and in the centre (car park is dark).
- Make sure CCTV in Honley Parks works.
- Youth leaders needed for youth club.
- Regular meeting with Police to raise concerns and get updates. Police presence, more Police patrols around the cricket club, recreation ground and Burhouse. Hear about outcome of criminal investigations. Clamp down on drug dealing. A phone booth or emergency hotline phone number (for those without a mobile phone).

323 people commented on this theme.

"Gangs of kids hanging around,"

"Problems with children on bikes etc particularly during school holidays. Residents feel unsafe on pathways."

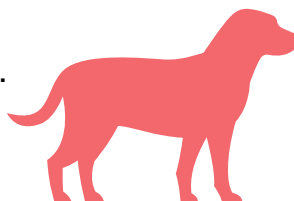
"I live in sheltered housing so safe there, but youths hang around at the community centre next door which makes some of the residents feel unsafe."

"Feel safe at Roundway during the daytime, but feel uneasy in the centre at night."

Care and maintenance

Key points:

- Overall Honley feels well cared for (101 comments).
- Active groups like Honley Business Association; smart shop fronts on the whole and much appreciation for the work they do.
- Friends of Honley volunteers doing litter picks, planting, helping manage our parks and public spaces. The village community care for a lot of things. They help with beautiful planters and hanging baskets and an army of volunteers to look after them. "Excellent".



River Holme Connections keep the river area clean and tidy and work with schools. Occasional dumping of household and industrial goods on Moll Springs Road, but is usually collected quickly.

A few areas of improvement were mentioned.

- The area around the bottle banks can get untidy and littered with boxes and broken glass.
- Children's play area on the playing fields.
- There is often litter around the Co-op garage on the A616 and this extends up the alley adjacent to Drakes. Broken drain-pipe makes the pavement slippery at back of Dixons and Franks.
- Smelly fan and broken guttering at the Chinese.
- Dog fouling is an ongoing concern (26 comments), in particular on Scotgate Road and Burhouse.
- Disrepair of roads and pavements in particular Marsh Gardens (pot holes, surfaces) – 11 comments. One person said the council no longer cleans weeds from pavements making them look neglected. The infant school roof leaks.
- Some concerns from residents of sheltered housing that repairs by Kirklees Neighbourhood Housing (now Homes & Neighbourhoods in the council) take too long.

Suggestions:

- Maintain play areas in a more sustainable way e.g. wooden equipment.
- Historic signage on buildings and more attractive supermarket frontages.
- Soak mats at front doors on school street to protect school building.
- Continued maintenance of St Mary's graveyard by Scouts or Friends of Honley.
- More perennial planting so not constantly digging and replanting.
- Maintenance of hedge rows belonging to the school (are obstructing pathways). More care of footpaths and roads in Autumn (leaves).
- More and new litter bins - in People's Park (some bins are rotting).
- Improve recycling and better refuse collection (perhaps a no single use plastic policy).
- Young people involved in clearing up especially Station Road and the field.
- Council to clear drains regularly.
- Have a helpful alternative to disposing of rubble (no longer accepted at Meltham recycling).
- Support for weed management, litter picking and care and maintenance.
- Tackle dog poo – people need to pick it up.

308 people commented on this theme.

"Volunteers have made a massive difference to People's Park, Magdale fields and other places."

"All the businesses in the village take great pride in their properties."

Influence and sense of control

Key points:

- 69 comments related to concerns about the development of new housing, particularly on fields.
- There are plenty of opportunities to access information and discussion by local groups (106 comments)
- Young People said that no one listens to their views.



Local views are ignored by Planning. "I feel like the Council do what they want and don't listen to the residents; this relates to housing planning and any funding for local village facilities." It is felt that decisions are made without full consideration of the impacts locally.

Young people said that no one seems to really care what they think: "they just write us off and I have never known this village to be in touch with my high school at Honley High other than moaning about what one of the kids has done." Young people want to feel part of Honley; "this village is our future, we need to be involved and to help change it."

Lots of opportunities to get involved through local forums. Most community organisations are open to the public to get involved. The Honley Flyer is a good way and many groups are active online. Local councillors do an excellent job, very visible and responsive.

Some concern about comments on Facebook page complaining about young people and low level anti-social behaviour.

Suggestions:

- Ensure young people feel included and have things to do e.g. Saturday jobs. A head boy/girl in year 6.
- Go into schools and get kids excited about changing things. Ask young people what they want. Work with Honley High School.
- Ask disabled people their point of view
- Local authorities to listen to local people; more discussion in Honley about Planning issues.

- Liaise with all Kirklees departments – Highways, Planning, resources, environmental agencies to best manage and facilitate consensual improvements to village life. A team that listens and implements what people would like. Lots of communication. Organise meetings so people can plan together.
- Community led housing.
- Ask Northern Rail to improve access at the station.
- Lobby for more school places.
- Improve primary school buildings and play areas/parks (fundraise)
- More promotion of volunteering opportunities in the village.

291 people commented on this theme.



Ask Honley score sheet

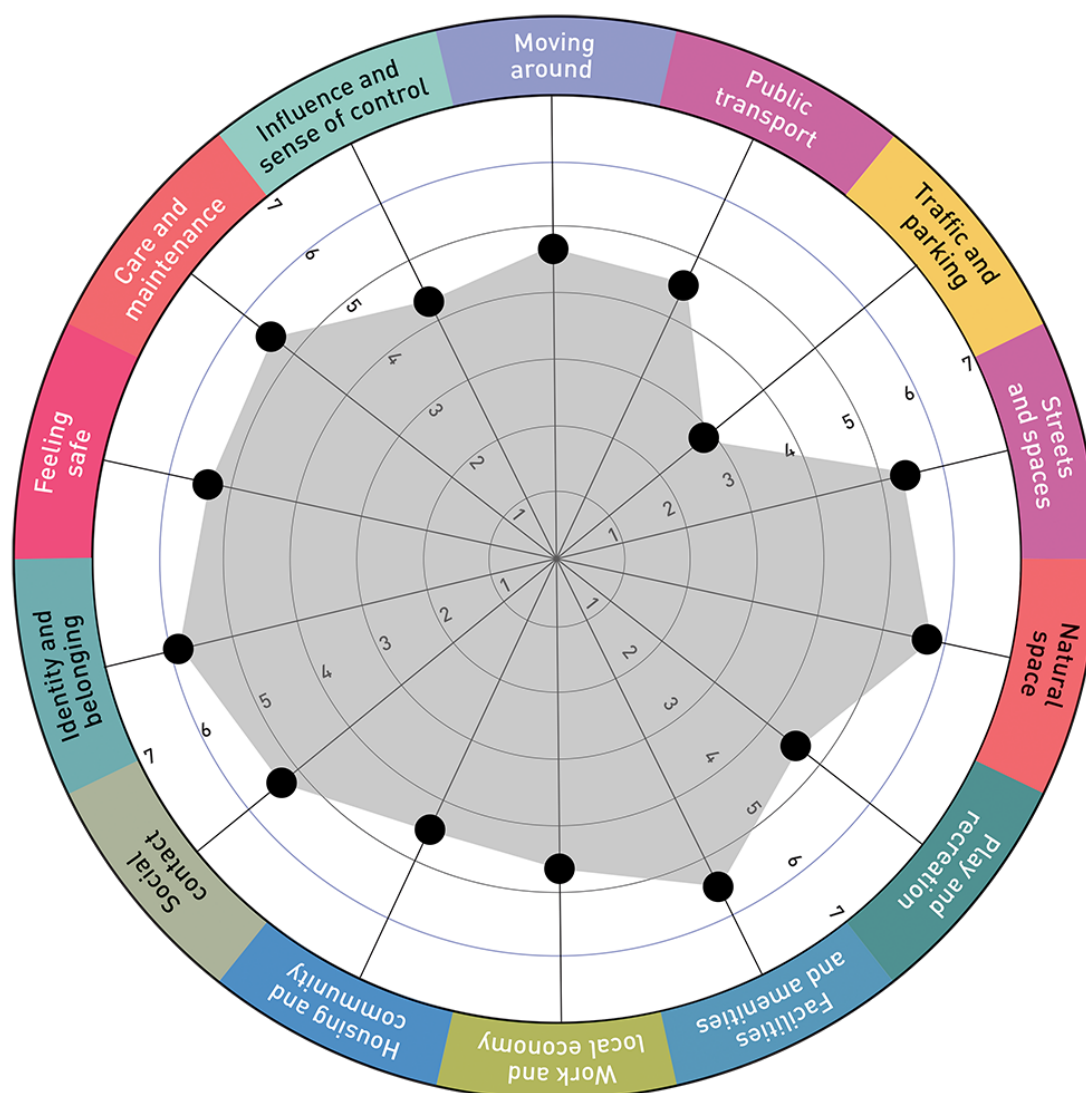
How people in Honley scored their place, on a scale of 1 to 7,
whilst talking about 14 different themes:

	Overall	Age 25 to 44	Age 45 to 64	Age 65 to 75+	Male	Female
Moving around	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Public transport	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Traffic and parking	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Streets and spaces	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Natural space	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8
Play and recreation	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6
Facilities and amenities	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
Work and local economy	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Housing and community	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Social contact	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Identity and belonging	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
Feeling safe	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Care and maintenance	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Influence and sense of control	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3

727 people participated in the Honley conversations,
completing **545** assessments.

The overall scores are the **Mean average** of the **545** assessments.

Overall scores for Honley



Identity and belonging	5.9
Natural space	5.8
Facilities and amenities	5.5
Care and maintenance	5.4
Social contact	5.3
Streets and spaces	5.3
Feeling safe	5.3

Work and local economy	4.7
Moving around	4.7
Play and recreation	4.6
Public transport	4.6
Housing and community	4.5
Influence and sense of control	4.3
Traffic and parking	2.9

Full data is available at:
www.HowGoodIsOurPlace.org.uk