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Powys

Tyfu
Canolbarth Cymru
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Mid Wales

"This project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, supported by Powys County Council".

**Community
Conversations**

LLANWRTYD WELLS AREA

Voices of Llanwrtyd Wells: Shaping our Community Together

IDENTIFYING COMMUNITY PRIORITIES



Community Assets and Frustrations

Residents prioritised access to nature while citing poor transport and shop access as primary frustrations.

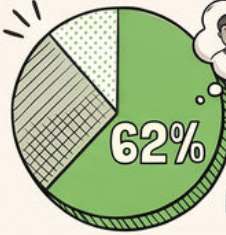


**TOP PRIORITY:
YOUTH
ENGAGEMENT**

21

21 residents identified youth services as the most essential missing or at-risk resource.

FROM CONVERSATION TO ACTION: THE YOUTH HUB



62% of young people surveyed wanted a dedicated open space

Feedback from local youth directly informed the need for a non-pressured social environment.



A PRESSURE-FREE SPACE FOR AGES 11-16

A dedicated Youth Hub was established at the Pavilion to provide a social space.



VOLUNTEER-LED, YOUTH-DIRECTED

The Hub is managed by volunteers but remains directed by the young people themselves.

Gemini Notebook

What matters most to people in Llanwrtyd?

Llanwrtyd Wells and the surrounding areas are communities with strong connections to nature, a valued sense of community and a range of local groups and activities. People value the town's green spaces, local services and the opportunities to meet and take part in community life.

However, there are also concerns about the future. People spoke about public transport, access to health and care, activities and opportunities for young people, and the future of important local services.

This report brings together what local people told us through the Shaping the Future of Powys Communities survey, community events and follow-up focus groups. It highlights the priorities identified by local people and opportunities for communities, organisations and partners to work together.

At a glance

27 people from across the Llanwrtyd Wells area shared their views in a Powys-wide survey

People told us they love:

- Access to nature
- A strong sense of community
- Local events and activities

The biggest concerns were:

- Public transport
- Access to local services, including health and care
- Local shops and amenities

Looking ahead, people were particularly concerned about:

- An ageing population
- Public transport
- Access to health and care services.
- Keeping the community connected and inclusive
- Climate change and windfarm development

Focus groups were held at:

Llanwrtyd Wells Community Fair | 18 October 2025 | Bromsgrove Hall | 50 attendees
Victoria Hall | 14 January & 4 February 2026 | 30 participants

Four priorities for the future

1 Supporting young people

One of the strongest messages was the need to better support and involve young people.

People felt young people should have more opportunities to take part in community life, while recognising that adults should not assume they know what young people want.

Follow-up conversations concluded that the best approach was to ask young people directly what they wanted

Community opportunities

- ask young people directly about their priorities
- create safe and welcoming spaces where young people can meet
- involve young people in designing and leading activities
- find ways to include young people from surrounding villages
- create opportunities for young people to have a voice in community decisions

2 Better communication and collaboration

People felt local organisations could achieve more by working together and sharing information, resources and opportunities.

People recognised that no single method of communication will reach everyone. Social media, messaging groups and digital information can be useful, but some people are digitally excluded.

There was a strong message that information should be shared in different ways and be accessible to people of all ages

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- bring local organisations together regularly
- share plans, ideas, resources and volunteers
- improve coordination of events and activities
- use a mix of digital and printed communication
- develop a public noticeboard or other shared information point
- make sure people who are less confident online are not left out
- strengthen links between community organisations and the Town Council

3 Better transport and access

Transport affects access to services, education, activities and community life.

Transport was also seen as an important part of supporting young people

- Limited bus and train connections
- Transport costs and the cost of community transport
- Difficult journeys to health appointments and beyond nearby towns
- The impact of winter weather on rural roads
- The complexity of planning longer journeys
- The need for clearer information about transport options



Community opportunities

Communities could:

- Identify key transport gaps and local priorities
- Improve information about available transport
- Consider transport when planning services and activities

4 Protecting community connection and local services

People were proud of Llanwrtyd Wells' sense of community, but also concerned about how this could change in the future. People felt that strong community connections cannot be taken for granted. They need spaces, services and opportunities that bring people together.

There were also concerns about the potential impact of wind farms on tourism

Changes in the way people live and work were seen as a challenge. More people working from home or relying on home deliveries may mean fewer opportunities to meet others and get to know who is living nearby.

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- make better use of local spaces that bring people together
- welcome and connect new residents
- support local groups and community activities
- identify important buildings and spaces that are at risk
- create more opportunities for people to meet and take part
- use local evidence to speak up for valued services and facilities.

What happened next?

Following the community conversations, local people agreed to focus on **supporting young people**. A small financial resource was made available through PAVO, funded by the UK Government's Social Prosperity Fund.

The community developed the **Llanwrtyd Wells Youth Hub** for young people aged 11–16 at the **Pavilion**, supported by **The Dolwen Fields Committee**. Young people helped shape the idea through a survey they designed themselves.

Looking ahead

The conversations showed that Llanwrtyd Wells and the surrounding areas have many strengths. There is a strong sense of community, active local organisations and people who care about the future of the town and surrounding area.

The Youth Hub shows what can happen when communities move from identifying an issue to working together on a practical solution - and when the people most affected are involved in shaping that solution.

The priorities identified through this work provide a clear starting point for community organisations, town and community councils, volunteers and public services to work together. By building on local strengths and addressing shared challenges collectively, Llanwrtyd Wells can continue to develop as a connected, resilient and thriving community.

This project was funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Find out more about the project and read the full report: pavo.org.uk/news/community-conversations-what-you-told-us/

If you'd like more detailed information about the contents of this report, please get in touch at info@pavo.org.uk