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Powys

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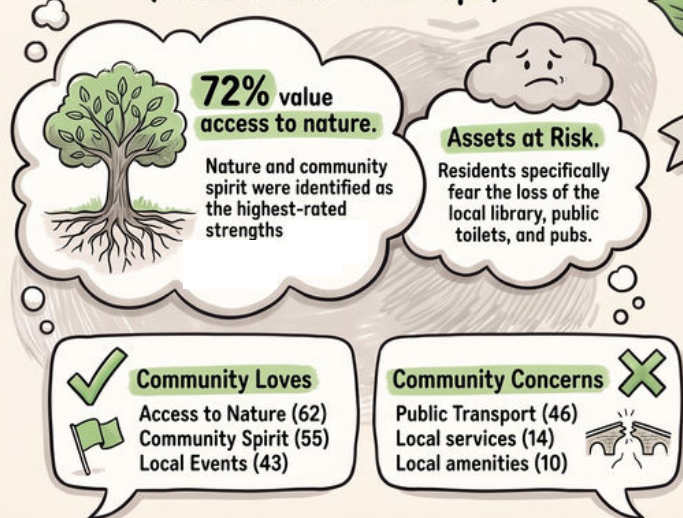
Tyfu
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**Community
Conversations**

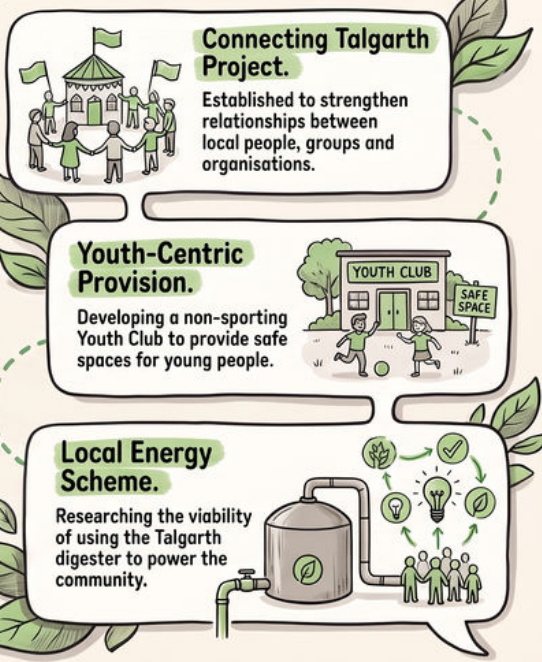
TALGARTH AREA

Voices of Talgarth: Shaping our Community Together

What Matters to Talgarth (The Current Landscape)



Building the Future (Priorities & Actions)



What matters most to people in Talgarth?

Talgarth is a welcoming community with a strong sense of place. People value its access to nature, community spirit and the range of local events and activities.

At the same time, residents are concerned about the future. Access to public transport, affordable housing, local services and opportunities for young people were all highlighted as important issues.

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

86 people from across the Talgarth 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 links
- Local services, including education, health and social care
- Local events and activities

People also highlighted gaps in public and community transport, access to health and social care, local amenities and sports and leisure opportunities.

Focus groups were held at:

Engagement event | 15 December 2025 | Town Hall | 14 participants
Town Hall | 13 & 27 January 2026 | 11 participants

Five priorities for the future

1 Bringing people and organisations together

Talgarth has a lot going on, but people said activities and organisations are not always well connected.

People want a stronger way to:

- share information
- connect local organisations
- identify local skills and resources
- work together on shared priorities
- make it easier for people to get involved

There was also a strong message that community projects work best when local people have ownership of them



Community opportunities

Communities could:

- create regular opportunities for local groups to meet
- develop a community-wide calendar or newsletter
- organise a volunteer fair
- create a Community Champion role
- share skills, resources and ideas between organisations
- make it easier for people to suggest and lead new projects

2 Keeping young people connected to Talgarth

Two local people were already working to establish a youth club

People are concerned about young people leaving the area because of limited opportunities, employment and education. There was a particular gap in non-sporting activities for young people.



Community opportunities

Communities could:

- support the development of a local youth club
- involve young people in deciding what activities are needed
- make better use of existing buildings and spaces
- develop affordable, non-sporting activities
- connect with neighbouring communities to share ideas and support

3 Better communication across the community

People said there are already many opportunities in Talgarth - but information does not always reach everyone.

Ideas included:

- a local newsletter
- better use of Wye Local
- house-to-house distribution
- a moderated WhatsApp group
- volunteers who help people find out what is happening
- a Community Champion who brings information together

There was a call for information to be shared more directly, including with people who may not use social media or websites

Community opportunities

Communities could:

- improve access to information about public and community transport
- identify local transport challenges and share them with decision-makers
- explore practical ways to improve access for people without a car
- work together to improve local connections

4 Exploring local energy

Talgarth has an opportunity to explore how locally generated energy could benefit the community.

The conversations highlighted the potential of existing energy infrastructure, including the digester, while also recognising that further work is needed to understand what is feasible.

A proposed solar scheme on the cattle market roof was affected by National Grid capacity constraints

Community opportunities



Communities could:

- continue researching the feasibility of a local energy scheme
- learn from other community energy projects
- understand what local energy resources are available
- explore opportunities for community benefit from local generation

5 Making housing work for local people

People are concerned that a lack of suitable and affordable housing makes it harder to attract new residents, particularly young families.

Housing shortages can also affect local schools, employment and the long-term strength of the community

People highlighted:

- planning restrictions associated with the National Park
- differences in planning decisions between nearby communities
- the need to explore new approaches to community-led housing

Social housing units were already in the pipeline at the time of the follow-up conversations.



Community opportunities

Communities could:

- gather evidence about local housing need
- work with housing partners to understand future opportunities
- explore community-led housing models
- make sure local housing needs are clearly understood in planning discussions

What happened next?

Following the Community Conversations, local people decided to focus on **community engagement and connection**. A small financial resource was made available through PAVO, funded by the UK Government's Social Prosperity Fund.

The **Connecting Talgarth** project was established to strengthen relationships between local people, groups and organisations. The work has also created a strong foundation for future activity through the support of the **Centre for Collaboration in Community Connectedness**.

Looking ahead

The conversations showed that Talgarth and the surrounding areas have many strengths to build on. People described Talgarth as a fantastic and welcoming place, with a strong community spirit and many people already giving their time to support others. The challenge is to connect this energy and make it easier for people to take part.

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, Talgarth 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