

Grosmont Forever

Engagement Report July 2025



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Introduction

This report presents the findings from “Grosmont Forever- Shaping tomorrow together” a 2-day, drop-in, community engagement event held at St Nicholas Church Nave, Grosmont on 4 and 5 April 2025.

This report has been produced by Severn Wye’s Energised Communities Programme as part of its support offer in Grosmont.

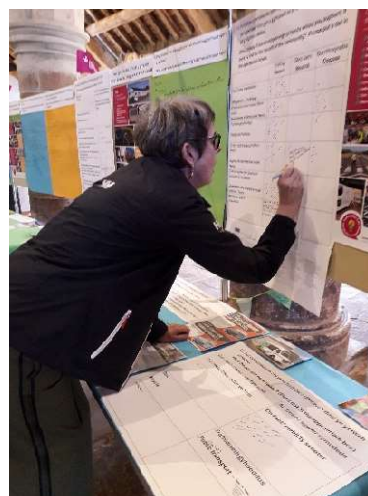
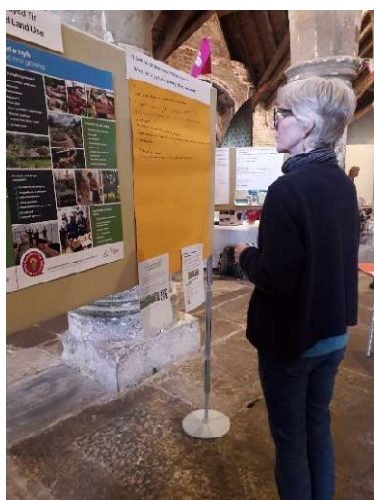
Event Overview

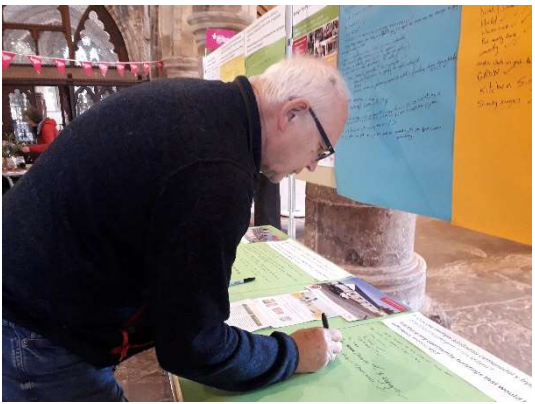
“Grosmont Forever” was designed as a place to share information, gather views and encourage interest in local issues and possible community led responses- things that would make Grosmont a healthier, stronger and importantly, more sustainable place to live. The event focussed on 6 key areas: saving energy, generating community energy, transport and active travel, food and growing, reducing waste and land use and nature.

The event consisted of a mixture of information about projects, services and support that already exists alongside questions to gather people’s views about local issues and opportunities to address these. A number of local groups promoted their activities, Grosmont Events provided refreshments, and Carli Porter ran a craft activity using flowers to collectively spell “Grosmont community.”

The focus of the event was 25 questions laid out on display boards and tabletops for people to add their thoughts and responses.

A total of 51 people shared their views. This represents approximately 9% of the local population and so this report can only provide an indicative assessment of the views of the community as a whole.





Executive summary

The Grosmont Forever event provided valuable insights into community attitudes, assets, challenges, and aspirations relating to life in the village and sustainability. Overall, the event confirmed that Grosmont residents who attended were concerned about climate change and were already engaged in sustainable behaviours, principally as households but also as groups. It showed the community had a good understanding about local issues and a wide range of ideas for how these could be addressed.

Key Issues and Challenges Identified

1. Energy Cost, Retrofit Barriers, and Policy Constraints.

- High energy costs worsened by old, sometimes inefficient housing and community buildings
- Heavy reliance on oil heating and listed building restrictions complicate efforts to improve energy efficiency in homes.
- High upfront retrofit costs and a lack of reliable information on solutions hinder action, especially in a conservation context.

2. Lack of Local Transport Options

- Lack of public or community transport was the single biggest community concern. Limited access to buses (a two-mile walk), especially impacts older adults and people with disabilities.
- Poor road conditions and speeding were additional concerns.

3. Limited Access to Fresh Food and Growing Space

- While growing food is a popular activity, having the communal growing space on edge of village makes it inaccessible to some, and fresh produce is not easily available locally.

4. Waste and Resource Sharing

- While recycling and reuse initiatives are popular and growing, residents are concerned about wasteful consumption including buying items that are only used infrequently.

5. Sustainability of Community Assets

- Concerns were raised about the future of the village shop and lack of amenities for children, including play areas.

Opportunities and Ideas for Action

1. Energy

- Explore community energy projects such as hydro, solar on agricultural buildings, and anaerobic digestion systems.
- Develop a "Village Plan for the Oil Ban" to coordinate retrofit support, work with planning authorities, share knowledge, and promote peer learning.
- Consider group purchasing of locally generated electricity and energy-saving measures to reduce individual costs.
- Explore additional ways to make community buildings more energy efficient.

2. Transport and Active Travel

- Establish and potentially expand the planned volunteer lift scheme
- Explore ways to link the village to onwards public transport connections.
- Support initiatives for a bike hire club, public EV charge point, and advocate for the reopening of the Pontrilas rail station.

3. Food, Growing and Land Use

- Establish new community orchards and growing spaces closer to the village centre.
- Expand community food initiatives—including a local box scheme, cooking lessons, and communal meals.
- Explore opportunities to increase access to locally produced fresh food.

4. Waste and Resource Sharing

- Expand exchange activities and planned repair cafes and consider upcycling activities.
- Establish a (virtual) library of things and community freecycle scheme to enable sharing and reduce resource use.
- Promote community composting

5. Other Community Enhancements

- Re-examine potential sites for a communal play area and explore whether it could be integrated with addressing wider community needs such as siting it alongside a growing space.
- Support the village shop's sustainability through increased local use and complementary community services.

Next Steps

The findings demonstrate that there was an interest to take action on a range of potential initiatives in the community. The will, the ideas, and the foundations were all present—the next stage is about mobilisation and delivery. The following actions are recommended:

- Sense-check the report findings and prioritise projects as a community
- Establish a community steering group and / or thematic project groups to develop projects, working with local interested individuals, groups as well as wider regional stakeholders where appropriate.
- Secure funding and technical support for retrofit advice, energy generation feasibility studies, and transport planning.
- Ensure new initiatives complement and are integrated with existing community activities or plans.
- Work with local authority, planning and other bodies to overcome regulatory and funding barriers, particularly around heritage-sensitive retrofitting and transport connectivity.

Key findings

The following is a summary of key findings, drawn from the responses provided by the community at the event.

For a summary of all responses organised in tables by theme see Appendix 1: Summary of findings by theme

For a record of all questions and responses see Appendix 4: *Full breakdown of all questions and responses from Grosmont Forever event*

1. Attitudes to climate change and sustainable behaviour

The event highlighted that attendees had a high degree of concern about climate change, an interest in doing more to address it and many already adopt sustainable behaviours, particularly as individuals/ households.

Most notably, when asked “How concerned about climate change are you”? all responses were in the top two levels of concern (ranked from 1- 10).

People also shared what they already do that’s good for the environment. The most common responses related to recycling, litter picking, buying local and growing their own food-both at home and communally as part of Grosmont Grow.

Other behaviour reported included:

- Renewable technology at home
- Using a water butt and water meter
- Walking
- Owning EV vehicles
- Composting
- Helping nature (nest boxes/ pollinating flowers /avoiding pesticides)

It is noteworthy that people included “walking” in their list of sustainable behaviours. This mostly related to getting around the village or recreationally and was borne out by the fact that 88% of attendees had come on foot to the event.

2. Existing community assets mentioned:

Grosmont is a beautiful village, and attendees mentioned a range of community assets that already exist in the village. Attendees reported that Grosmont was blessed with great community spirit and had a range of groups, projects and services which already addressed certain needs. It also had residents

with interest and skills to potentially help progress new projects. Any new projects should look to harness these assets and consider and complement any existing or planned activities.

At the event the following relevant community assets were mentioned:

2.1 Community services

Grosmont Community Council and **Grosmont Futures** are working in partnership to develop the **Community Hub project** which has a number of outcomes which overlap with the findings in this report and the aims of Energised Communities. It will improve the energy efficiency of the town hall including additional insulation, secondary glazing and solar panels. A range of activities to be held at the hub once its open are rooted in sustainability including exchange events, lunch clubs, repair cafes, not to mention the benefit of hosting activities and services closer to home which removes the need for travel.

It was noted that **Cross Ash school** is platinum eco school and children already have sustainability ideas.

People also mentioned the thriving **pub** and village **shop**, which remain much valued.

2.2 Energy

We met a local resident who was an architect working in housing and sustainability. They had carried out extensive retrofit of their own home and they offered to share this experience with residents who were considering doing something similar.

We also met people with expertise in energy policy and anaerobic digestion.

2.3 Transport and active travel

A volunteer lift scheme is planned as part of the Community Hub project which will help people without transport attend activities at the hub.

It was reported that there is already a culture of getting around on foot and the paths maintenance project helped encourage the walking habit.

It was reported that the school bus service is very good.

2.4 Food, growing and land use

The following existing or planned initiatives were reported:

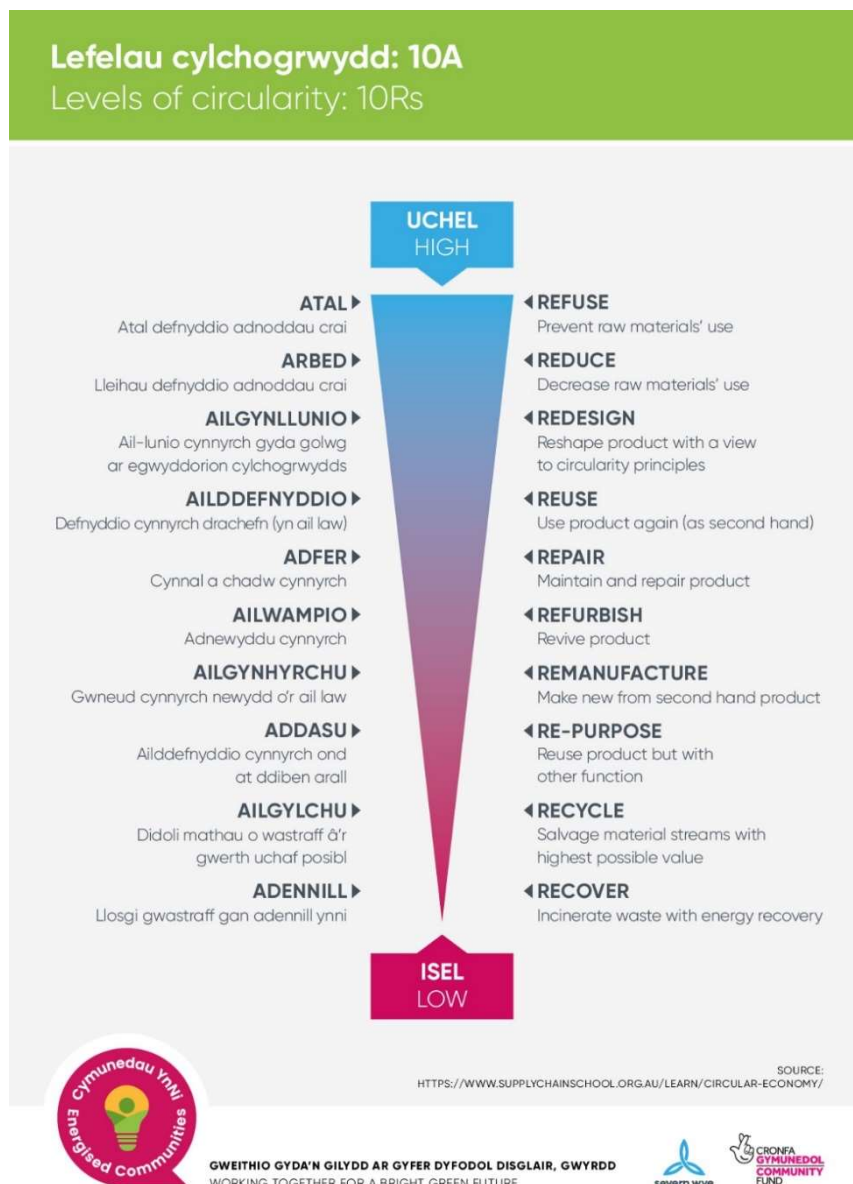
- Village shop
- Grosmont Grow community growing group
- An orchard at “Wild Acre”
- A veg box scheme in Pontrilas
- Lunch club as part of Community hub project

2.5 Waste and Resource Sharing

As previously mentioned, recycling and litter picking is common practice in the village.

In addition to the relevant activities planned as part of the Community hub project the following existing initiatives were reported:

- Cross Ash school uniform re-use scheme
- Book swap in the church
- Plant sharing
- Clothes swap organised by Grosmont Events
- Buying local at Grosmont market
- Morsbags made in the village and distributed at Grosmont market



Waste and what we buy: Poster shared at event showing circular economy hierarchy

3 Community challenges and possible solutions by theme

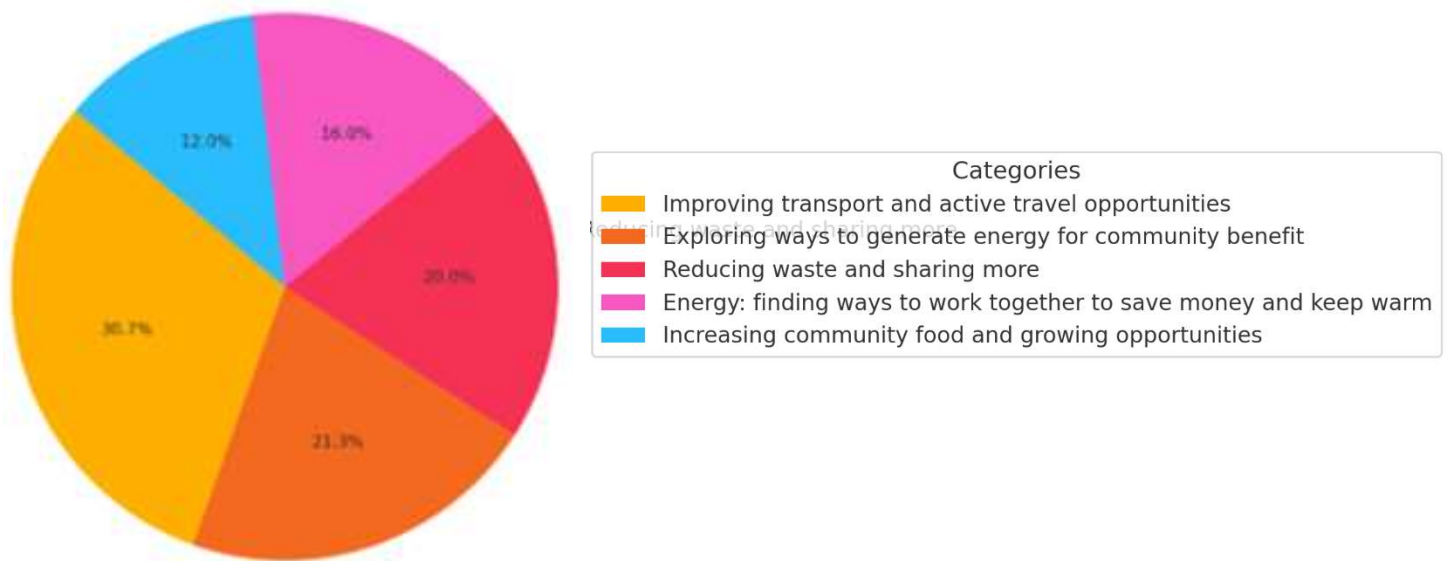
3.1 Community priorities

Attendees were asked to select their top 3 priorities from a list of potential community goals (reflecting the themes explored at the event). In order of community priority these were:

- Improving transport and active travel opportunities
- Exploring ways to generate energy for community benefit
- Reducing waste and sharing more
- Energy: finding ways to work together to save money and keep warm
- Increasing community food and growing opportunities

The pie chart below shows the extent to which each goal was seen as a priority. The top priority, improving transport and active travel, received just under one third of all votes, followed by exploring ways to generate energy for community benefit and reducing waste and sharing more, with about one fifth each. However, there was sizable support for all the presented community goals.

Community priorities



Details of all issues raised and suggestions of possible ways to address these that were proposed by the community at the event are set out below, organised by theme.

3.2 Saving energy and keeping warm

Attendees identified several energy-related challenges, notably being off grid for mains gas and having a heavy dependence on expensive oil for heating (which is set to be phased out from 2035 due to changing policies). Residents faced high energy costs and there were significant barriers to retrofitting

their homes, especially given the constraints of old and /or listed buildings and the conservation status of the centre of the village.

To address these issues, the community proposed a range of solutions. The most popular was buying locally generated electricity as a community at reduced rates.

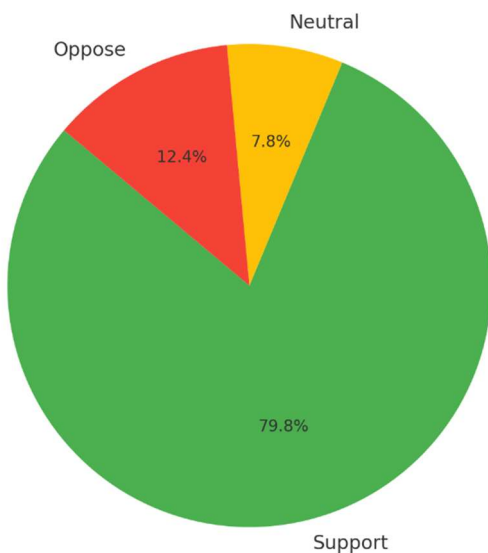
They also proposed raising awareness of existing grants and support schemes and developing a “village plan for the oil ban,” that would work closely with planning authorities to advocate for greater flexibility around sympathetically retrofitting heritage homes. This could also include practical advice about the costs, levels of disruption, and effectiveness of retrofit options, and could be assisted by learning from residents who have successfully retrofitted their homes.

By far the biggest barrier to retrofitting was seen as the initial outlay required and lack of funding. Nest scheme offers free energy efficiency measures for those eligible. Green Homes Wales provides government backed interest free loans and a number of high street lenders also offer interest free loans for making homes more sustainable. There was also broad support for the idea of installing energy efficiency measures at the same time as neighbours to help reduce costs.

Improving the energy efficiency of the church and town hall, where possible, to reduce running costs was also highlighted as a priority and there was support for innovative community projects like solar phone-charging benches and an energy-generating playground.

3.3 Community Energy

Combined views about all types of community renewable technologies

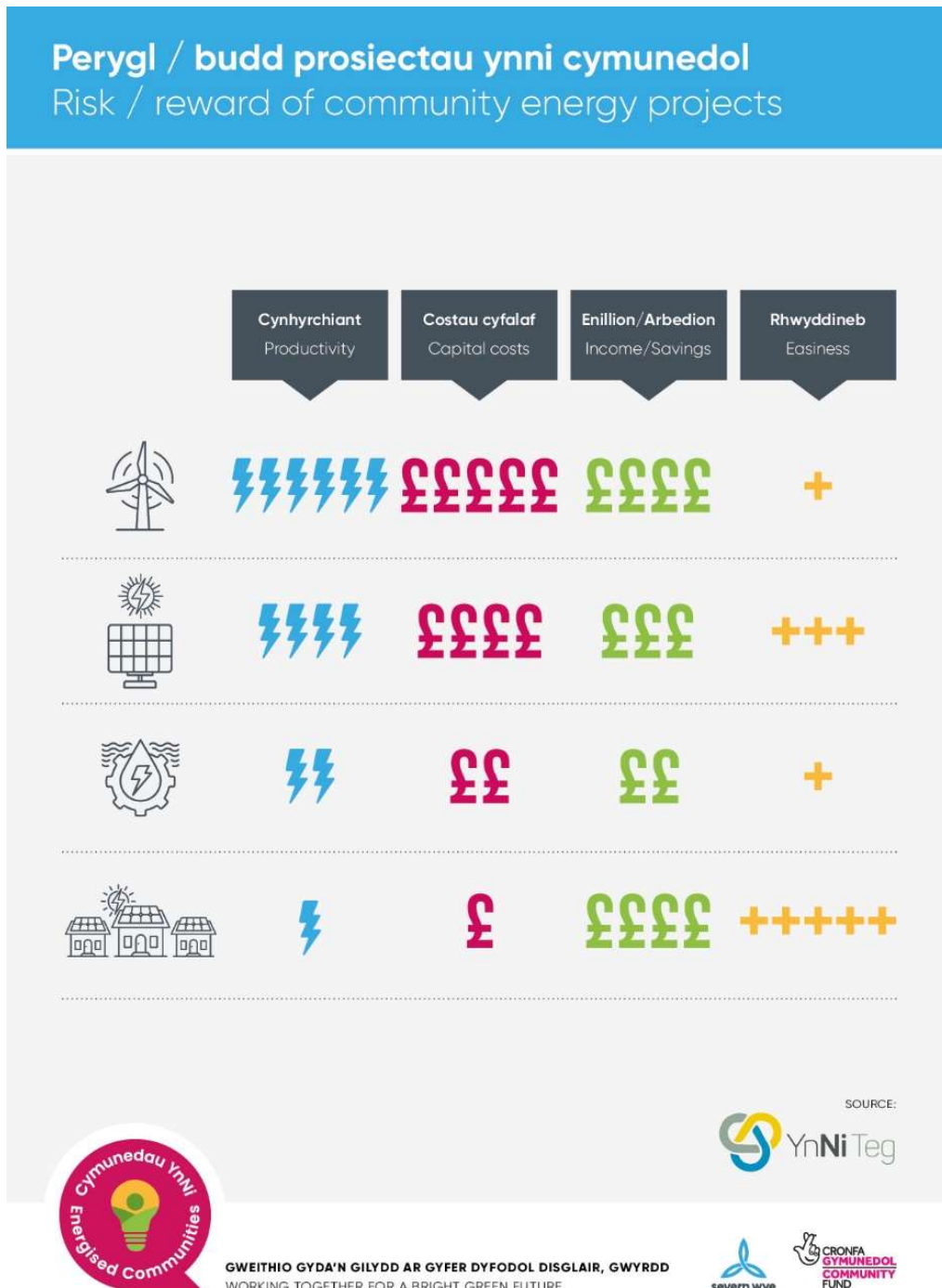


People in Grosmont expressed strong support for developing local community energy initiatives, especially as no such schemes currently exist. Key concerns included increasing energy resilience, reducing energy costs and generating income for community investment.

As shown in the pie chart above residents were overwhelmingly supportive about all forms of community renewable technologies. Responses were especially positive for hydro power, solar panels on buildings, and single wind turbines. Specific solutions included investigating a hydro project on the

Monnow River or Tresenny Brook and exploring the potential for installing solar panels on agricultural buildings. One attendee stressed the importance of scoping the options to identify the best option(s) for the village.

Additionally, some members of the community proposed establishing a small modular anaerobic digester. It was suggested by a local expert that this would not be in the village but rather at one or more regional waste transfer stations and could reduce food waste transport costs, generate local energy to lower bills, produce organic fertilizer for local farms, and even supply biogas for community transport—highlighting a desire for practical, locally beneficial energy solutions.



Poster shared at event showing characteristics of different kinds of community energy.

3.4 Transport and active travel

The community identified the lack of public and community transport as their primary concern at the event, particularly impacting older residents, people with disabilities, and those without private vehicles, who face a two-mile walk to the nearest bus stop. The priority would therefore be to find a way of linking the village to onward travel options.

The idea of establishing a volunteer lift scheme was extremely popular. This is already planned as part of the community hub project to get people to activities at the town hall, and it may be worth exploring whether this could be expanded to meet a wider need. Bridges Centre in Monmouth also run a similar community car scheme, which is open to Grosmont residents for a fee.

Introducing an electric bike club or hire service and installing a public electric vehicle charging point also had a lot of popular support as did reopening Pontrilas railway station to enhance regional connectivity. This is something Herefordshire County Council has been actively pursuing for several years and it is understood they have developed a strategic outline business case to build a new station at Pontrilas called Golden Valley.

Additional issues included the poor condition of local roads and problems with speeding traffic.

3.5 Food, growing and land use

The community identified several challenges and opportunities related to local food and growing.

There was broad support for creating a community orchard and tree planting, one attendee suggested restoring the orchard at Wild Acre. Others suggested supporting landowners with tree planting.

A key issue is the limited access to fresh fruit and vegetables locally. This is partly ameliorated by people growing their own at home or as part of Grosmont Grow group -although some expressed that this would be more accessible if closer to the village centre. Suggested alternative locations for a communal growing space included behind Tollstone Way/Castle Aspect, at the bottom of Poorscript Lane or even a small, shared space on the bank opposite the pub.

Other project ideas to increase access to food included, introducing a vegetable or food box scheme (although one already exists in Pontrilas), expanding the local market to include fresh produce and organising community cooking sessions including batch cooking, children's cooking lessons and communal hot meals -such cooking initiatives are either planned or could be incorporated as part of community hub project.

3.6 Waste and Resource Sharing

The community raised concerns about increased litter and the waste of resources associated with owning items that are only used occasionally. To address these and related issues, a range of project ideas with broad appeal were suggested. The most popular included repair cafes (planned as part of community hub project), freecycle schemes, and the creation of a "library of things" or virtual equivalent to enable people in the village to share possessions, such as DIY tools, with fellow residents. It is possible this could be combined with a community freecycle scheme. Other initiatives like upcycling workshops and local exchange events such as jumble sales were also well-received. Additional

suggestions included setting up an easily accessible store for shared tools and litter-picking equipment, as well as promoting community composting. These ideas aim to reduce waste, encourage reuse, and foster community spirit.

3.7 Other issues and ideas raised

It was remarked that there was a growing number of children in the village and an increasing need for a communal play area. The possibility of a small play area in the castle grounds has been explored previously but heritage restrictions made it impractical and so another site would probably need to be identified. One attendee suggested this could be a space for all ages. It may be worth considering whether multiple needs could be addressed simultaneously by bringing together a play area and another idea proposed- a communal growing area at the same site.

The village shop is highly valued but there were concerns expressed about its future and regret about the closing of post office.

4. How people would like to be involved with the project going forward

Encouragingly, almost everyone who attended wanted to stay connected with the project in some way, with roughly 80% saying they either wanted to join a mailing list about the project or attend a feedback event to hear what people said. 7 people were keen to be part of a steering group to help take action on the event findings.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Summary of findings by theme

Appendix 2: Appendix 2: Further Reading - Information about support services shared at event

Appendix 3: Project ideas shared at event by theme

Appendix 4: Full breakdown of all questions and responses from Grosmont Forever event

Appendix 1: Summary of findings by theme

Theme	Issues Raised	Ideas and opportunities proposed	Comments
Energy saving	<p>Being off grid and dependence on oil (which is expensive and policy will phase out in coming years)</p> <p>How to sympathetically overcome restrictions on retrofitting listed buildings/ conservation area</p> <p>High cost of energy for homes</p> <p>High initial outlay to install energy efficiency measures and other barriers and fears associated with retrofitting to address</p>	<p>Support local community to increase retrofit. "Village plan for the oil ban!"</p> <p>To include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with planning to get clarity on policy regarding retrofit of conservation/ listed homes and push for increased flexibility wherever possible Increase knowledge about costs/ levels of disruption/ effectiveness / trusted installers and unbiased expertise and advice- to include visits to successfully retrofitted local homes to share learning. Clarity about suitability and effectiveness of new technologies for older buildings. Raise awareness of existing grants and support available and eligibility <p>Other project ideas put forward at event that had broad appeal (in order of popularity:</p>	<p>Needs to be sensitive to appearance of village</p> <p>Historic building act sets a good precedent</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buying locally generated electricity as a group at a discounted rate (Energy Local) • Procuring and Installing energy efficiency measures as a group to save costs • Solar phone charging benches • Solar PV / energy generating playground 	Seen as good for tourism
	High cost of energy for community buildings	Exploring retrofitting options where appropriate to helping the church/ Nave and Town Hal save energy.	Some strong views expressed that church is unsuitable for retrofitting
Energy generation	<p>Increasing energy resilience whilst generating income for community investment</p> <p>There appear to be no existing community schemes</p>	<p>Widespread support for all types of community energy with very few objections. Renewable energy with most support were (in order of popularity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydro • Solar panels on buildings • Single wind turbine <p>Local renewable scheme additional suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of a hydro project on the Monnow river or Tresenny Brook • Solar panels on agricultural buildings • Anaerobic Digester - “If a small modular Ad was located at the waste transfer stations in Llanfoist, Raglan, Monmouth then rather than bulking up our food waste at each site (which is then transferred out of the county) the energy drawn could be used to affect our energy bills locally by share of the revenue. In addition the final product ie liquid fertilizer could be sold to local farmers in Mons rather than using chemicals”. Also potential to use the biogas for community transport 	<p>Pontrilas Sawmill has a 4 Mw biomass boiler</p> <p>Important to scope the best option for the village</p> <p>Tresenny Brook: From Barnes Farm reportedly never dry, with excellent fall, possibility to sustain serial turbines.</p>

Food, growing and land use	<p>Community growing area is outside village centre so not accessible for all.</p> <p>Minimal access to fresh fruit and vegetables</p>	<p>Project ideas put forward at event that had broad appeal (in order of popularity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community orchard or tree planting • Increasing availability of local produce • Vegetable or food box scheme • Cooking together as a community (batch cooking) also including: children’s cooking lessons, community café with hot meal/ soup/ stew several times a week • A new allotment or community growing space <p>Suggested locations for community orchard or growing space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behind Tollstone Way/ Castle Aspect • Opposite the pub on the bank – shared veg/ flower garden • Bottom of Poorscript Lane • “Restore orchard at Wild acre” 	<p>Community help landowners with tree planting as part of SFS (sustainable farming scheme)</p> <p>Expand market to include fresh produce</p> <p>Pontrilas has one that some families use.</p> <p>Much of this is planned as part of hub project</p> <p>Work with Grow group</p>
Transport and active travel	<p>Lack of community /public transport was the single biggest concern expressed</p> <p>2 mile walk to nearest bus stop esp for older people/ those without transport/ disabilities</p> <p>State of local roads and speeding traffic</p>	<p>Project ideas put forward at event that had broad appeal (in order of popularity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public / community transport (link to onward transport connections) • Volunteer lift scheme • Electric bike club/ hire • Public EV charge point • Reopen Pontrilas railway station 	<p>Community hub lift share already planned</p> <p>Strategic outline business case for a new station at Pontrilas called Golden Valley developed by Herefordshire County Council</p>
Waste and Resource Sharing	<p>Increased litter</p> <p>Owning things that are only used occasionally and how these could be shared more</p>	<p>Project ideas put forward at event that had broad appeal (in order of popularity):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair Cafes 	<p>Planned as part of hub project</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local freecycle scheme Library of things/ Virtual library of things and services/ bank of DIY tools to borrow Upcycling workshops Exchange events/ jumble sales <p>Other ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy access store for tools / litter picking Community composting 	<p>Happens informally</p> <p>Planned as part of Community hub project</p> <p>Already happening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craft club make Mors bags Book share in church porch Uniform exchange at Cross Ash school Clothes and plant swaps Quarterly market
Other	Growing number of children without a place to play	Play area needed	Youth activities included in hub project
	Ongoing concerns about the future of the village shop and closing of post office		

Appendix 2: Further Reading - Information about support services shared at event

Sustainable community projects

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
EGIN: Offers support and up to £15k funding	https://egin.org.uk/?lang=cy	https://egin.org.uk/get-involved/join/

Energy Efficiency Advice

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Severn Wye energy advice for all in Monmouthshire	https://severnwye.org.uk/cy/cyngor-a-chymorth/	https://severnwye.org.uk/advice-support/

Community Bulk buying

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
GADOIL: Grosmont group oil purchase scheme		Email: gadoilconsort@gmail.com

Energy efficiency funding and loans

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Domestic- subject to eligibility		
NEST free energy efficiency measures for those eligible	https://www.llyw.cymru/cael-cymorth-gydag-effeithlonrwydd-ynni-yn-eich-cartref-gan-nyth	https://www.gov.wales/get-help-energy-efficiency-your-home-nest
Great British Insulation Scheme		https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-and-social-schemes/great-british-insulation-scheme
Domestic- available to all		
Green Homes Wales – interest free loans and support of retrofit coordinator	https://developmentbank.wales/cy/cartrefi-gwyrdd-cymru	https://developmentbank.wales/green-homes-wales
Boiler upgrade scheme: up to £7500 off when installing renewable heating		https://www.gov.uk/apply-boiler-upgrade-scheme

Community Buildings		
WCVA Grants of up to £1,000 available towards the cost of energy efficiency survey for community buildings	https://wcva.cymru/cy/cyllid/buddsoddiad-cymdeithasol-cymru/cynllun-efeithlonrwydd-ynni/	https://wcva.cymru/funding/social-investment-cymru/energy-efficiency-scheme/

Community Energy Support and funding

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Gwasanaeth Ynni Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government Energy Service	https://www.llyw.cymru/y-gwasanaeth-ynni-ar-gyfer-grwpiau-sector-cyhoeddus-grwpiau-cymunedol	https://www.gov.wales/energy-service-public-sector-and-community-groups
Ynni Cymunedol Cymru /Community Energy Wales	https://www.ynniteg.cymru/?lang=cy	https://communityenergy.wales/
Robert Owen -Community energy funding	n/a	https://www.rocbf.co.uk/cef/
YnNi Teg		https://www.ynniteg.cymru/about-us/

Community Energy organisations

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Gwent Energy CIC		https://gwentenergycic.org/
Llangattock Green Valleys		https://www.llangattockgreenvalleys.org/
Energy Local – group scheme for using locally generated electricity	https://energylocal.org.uk/cy	https://energylocal.org.uk/

Transport and active travel

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Bridges car scheme		https://bridgescentre.org.uk/car-scheme/
TrydaNi -EV car clubs	https://www.trydani.org/cy/	https://www.trydani.org/
Community Transport Wales		https://ctauk.org/cta-wales

Food, growing and land use

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Woodland Trust free trees for schools and communities		https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/
Incredible Edible- community growing projects		https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk/
Social Farms and Gardens- community growing p		https://www.farmgarden.org.uk/wales
Grow Grosmont		

Waste and Resource Sharing

Service/ Project	Cymraeg	English
Repair Café Wales	https://repaircafewales.org/cy/	https://repaircafewales.org/
Repair café Abergavenny	https://repaircafewales.org/cy/location/abergavenny/	https://repaircafewales.org/location/abergavenny/
Benthyg / Library of Things Monmouthshire	https://monmouthshire.benthyg.cymru/	https://monmouthshire.benthyg.cymru/
Wrap Cymru-promoting circular economy	https://www.wrap.ngo/cy/cymru	https://www.wrap.ngo/uk

Appendix 3: Project ideas shared at event by theme

a. Energy: saving money and keeping warm

YNNI: Arbed arian a chadw'n gynnes

ENERGY: Saving money and keeping warm

Adeiladau a gofodau cymunedol

- ✔ Gwella (ôl-osod) adeiladau cymunedol
- ✔ Clwb / cystadleuaeth arbed ynni ysgol
- ✔ Canolfannau cynnes cymunedol
- ✔ Meinciau gwefrio ffonau ynni haul
- ✔ Meysydd chwarae sy'n cynhyrchu ynni



Community buildings and spaces

- ✔ Upgrading (retrofitting) community buildings
- ✔ School energy saving club / competition
- ✔ Community warm hubs
- ✔ Solar phone charging benches
- ✔ Energy generating playgrounds



Gartref ac ag eraill

- ✔ Cyngor, eiriolaeth a chymorth argyfyngol ynni
- ✔ Cynlluniau arianedig er gwella effeithlonrwydd ynni (yn amodol ar gymhwysedd)
- ✔ Cymorthdaliadau a benthyciadau effeithlonrwydd ynni
- ✔ Gwelliannau ynni cartref stryd gyfan (swmp-brynu)
- ✔ Clybiau tanwydd cymunedol – swmp-brynu olew / nwy / pelenni pren / boncyffion
- ✔ Prynu trydan a gynhyrchwyd yn lleol fel grŵp



At home and with others

- ✔ Energy advice, advocacy and crisis support
- ✔ Funded schemes to improve energy efficiency (subject to eligibility)
- ✔ Energy efficiency grants and loans
- ✔ Whole street home energy improvements (bulk buying)
- ✔ Community fuel clubs-bulk buying of oil / gas / wooden pellets / logs
- ✔ Buying locally generated electricity as a group





GWEITHIO GYDA'N GILYDD AR GYFER DYFODOL DISGLAIR, GWYRDD
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE

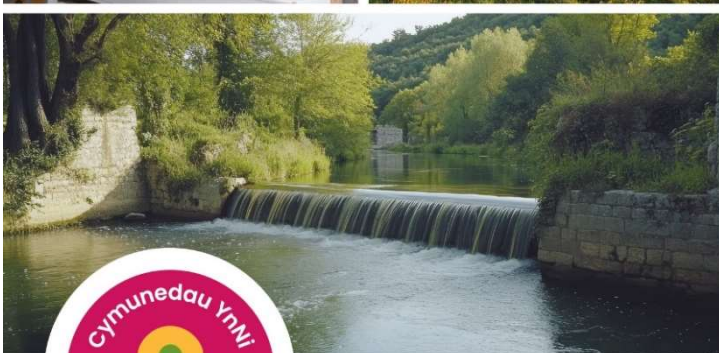



b. Energy- generating energy for community benefit

YNNI

Cynhyrchu ynni er budd cymunedol

- Ar adeiladau cymunedol
- Storio â batris
- Cynlluniau ynni adnewyddadwy cymunedol: haul / dŵr / gwynt / biomas / bio-nwy
- Gwresogi ardal gymunedol
- Ail-fuddsoddi trydan ac enillion mewn gwasanaethau lleol newydd



ENERGY

Generating energy for community benefit

- On community buildings
- Battery storage
- Community renewable energy schemes: solar / hydro / wind / biomass / biogas
- Community district heating
- Reinvesting electricity and income into new local services

GWEITHIO GYDA'N GILYDD AR GYFER DYFODOL DISGLAIR, GWYRDD
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE



c. Transport and active travel

Cludiant a theithio llesol

- ✓ Clybiau ceir cymunedol trydanol (TrydanNi)
- ✓ Mannau gwefru CT cymunedol
- ✓ Bws mini cymunedol (trydan)
- ✓ Cynllun cludiant cymunedol
- ✓ Cynlluniau rhannu pas
- ✓ "Bws" cerdded neu feicio i'r ysgol
- ✓ Cynnal, cadw a thrwsio beiciau
- ✓ Hyfforddiant medrau beicio
- ✓ Clwb / llogi beiciau trydan
- ✓ Llwybrau beicio diogel



Transport and active travel

- 👤 Electric community car clubs (TrydanNi)
- 👤 EV community charge points
- 👤 (Electric) Community minibus
- 👤 Community transport scheme
- 👤 Lift share schemes
- 👤 Walking or cycling "bus" to school
- 👤 Bike maintenance and repair
- 👤 Cycle skills training
- 👤 Electric bike club / hire
- 👤 Safe cycle routes



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WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE



d. Food and growing

Bwyd a thyfu Food and growing

Bwyd a choginio cymunedol

-  Poptai cymunedol / poptai pítsa
-  Clybiau cinio
-  Cawl cymunedol
-  Swp-goginio
-  Pryd ar glud
-  Oergell gymunedol / cydrannu bwyd
-  Marchnad amaethwyr
-  Cynlluniau blwch llysiau / bwyd
-  Sied cadw / piclo










Community food and cooking

-  Community ovens / pizza ovens
-  Lunch clubs
-  Community soup
-  Community batch cooking
-  Meals on wheels
-  Community fridge / food share
-  Farmers market
-  Veg / food box schemes
-  Preserving / pickling shed



Prosiectau tyfu bwyd cymunedol

-  Tyfu trefol "Bwyd Bendigedig"
-  Cyfnewid hadau a chynhaeaf
-  Perllannau cymunedol
-  Gerddi cymunedol
-  Ymddiriedolaethau tir cymunedol
-  Rhandiroedd
-  Compostio cymunedol



Community food growing projects

-  "Incredible Edible" urban growing
-  Seed and harvest swaps
-  Community orchards
-  Community gardens
-  Community land trusts
-  Allotments
-  Community composting



GWEITHIO GYDA'N GILYDD AR GYFER DYFODOL DISGLAIR, GWYRDD
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE



e. Waste and what we buy

Gwastraff a'r hyn a brynwn

- ✓ Llyfrgelloedd pethau (Benthyg)
- ✓ Caffis trwsio
- ✓ Gweithdai / prosiectau uwchgyrchu
- ✓ Siopau ail law
- ✓ Arwerthiannau cist car
- ✓ Achlysur cyfnewid / ffeiriau sborion
- ✓ Cyfnewidfa gwisg ysgol
- ✓ Cyfnewid dillad / teganau / had / llyfrau
- ✓ Cynlluniau rhadgyrchu
- ✓ Siopau dim gwastraff



Waste and what we buy

- ✓ Libraries of things (Benthyg)
- ✓ Repair cafes
- ✓ Upcycling workshops / projects
- ✓ Second hand shops
- ✓ Car boot sales
- ✓ Exchange event / jumble sales
- ✓ Uniform exchange
- ✓ Clothes / toys / seed / book swaps
- ✓ Freecycle schemes
- ✓ Zero waste shops









GWEITHIO GYDA'N GILYDD AR GYFER DYFODOL DISGLAIR, GWYRDD
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE



f. Land use and nature

Defnydd tir a natur

-  Plannu coed
-  Coetiroedd a phrysgoedio cymunedol
-  Gerddi cymunedol a pharciau bychain
-  Adfer mawndir
-  Adfer cynefin
-  Amaeth-goedwigaeth, paramaethu a dulliau tyfu cynaliadwy



Land use and nature

-  Tree planting
-  Community woodlands and coppicing
-  Community gardens and pocket parks
-  Peatland restoration
-  Habitat restoration
-  Agroforestry, permaculture and sustainable growing methods



GWEITHIO GYDA'N GILYDD AR GYFER DYFODOL DISGLAIR, GWYRDD
WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BRIGHT GREEN FUTURE



Appendix 4: Full breakdown of all questions and responses from Grosmont Forever event

1. How has life changed in Grosmont in the last 5 years?

	Number of responses
Community and its services	
State of shop and loss of Post office	15
More children but little provision-Need for play area/ play group	7
Bringing people together harder due to state of town hall and post covid	4
Fewer activities for teenagers and adults	3
Transport	
Speeding traffic	24
Poor state of roads	15
Poor parking provision	2
Waste and what we buy	
More rubbish on roads	3
Other	
Change in weather patterns	1

2. What is something you do as part of everyday life, that also happens to be good for the environment?

	Number of responses
Energy	
Renewable technology at home	4
Water butt and water meter	2
Transport and active travel	
Walking	7
EV vehicle	1
Food and growing	
Growing some of own food at home or communally with GROW	8
Buying local produce	8
Waste and what we buy	
Recycling	9
Litter picking	9
Composting	6
Land use and nature	
Helping nature (nest boxes/ pollinating flowers /avoiding pesticides)	6
Community and its services	
Volunteering and helping in the community	15

3. How concerned about climate change are you?

How concerned	Number of responses
1-8	0
9/10 very concerned	8
10/10 extremely concerned	25

Energy: Saving money and keeping warm

4 Is there anything that stops you from making (more) changes to your home that would help save energy/ money?

	Number of responses
Cost to install and lack of available finance (Eco and Green Homes Wales exclude listed currently)	18
What's permitted for listed buildings/ conservation areas	4
Disruption and mess	3
Suitability of alternative heating systems on old buildings	2
Concern that changes will lead to problems including increased bills	2
Appearance (of solar panels)	2
Concern about condition of roof for solar panels	1
Noise of air pumps	1
Need for local trusted, qualified and unbiased installers	1
Time consuming to research	1

5 Are there any community buildings that would benefit from energy efficiency measures?

	Number of responses
The Nave/ church	13
Town Hall	7
Angel Inn	1

6 What are the key issues concerning energy for you, your home or the community?

	Number of responses
Cost of energy/ oil	10
A lot of economy 7 in village	1

Barriers to retrofitting	1
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7 What is already happening here that helps? (projects/ groups/ activities)

This question was intended to capture existing community initiatives that help relating to energy such as the local oil buying syndicate GADOIL. However no responses related to energy

	Number of responses
Community and its services	
Local groups: (singing, path maintenance, walking, book club, craft club, Pub Welsh club (Mondays), whats app volunteer group, Grosmont events, drink and draw, Pub monthly quiz, Kitchen singers, Shanty singers, Boule/Petanque team, Bell ringing)	57
“Community”	4
Welcoming pub	1
Well maintained paths for walking	1
Waste and what we buy	
Market	11
Book share in church porch	5
Food and growing	
GROW group	2

8 Which of these project ideas would you like to see here?:

Project idea	No of responses	Community comments
Buying locally generated electricity as a group at a discounted rate (Energy Local)	26	Would work but should look at other viable options for community energy (ref CP 2030)
Energy survey and energy efficiency measures for community buildings	16	Already done at town hall Surveys available for free Plus help for our homes
Installing energy efficiency measures/ solar PV to your home at same time as neighbours, to save costs	14	Needs to be sensitive to appearance of village- 4 Historic building act

		sets a good precedent
Solar PV / energy generating playgrounds	12	Need a playground first We would love one
Solar phone charging benches	11	Good for tourists visiting
Additional energy saving ideas:		
Bio /anaerobic digester	8	
Heat/ energy, especially for any new developments	1	
Other -non energy ideas		
Community bus service (community led/operated)	6	
Community compost bins	2	
Community gardening free to all	1	
Community play area- adults and children	1	

9. What locally owned, renewable energy schemes exist near here?

	Number of responses
Don't know (but we should find out):	7
Pontrilas sawmill (4Mw biomass boiler)	1

10. What possible locations are there for a new:

What	Where	Community Comments
Community hydro (stream / river)	Along Monnow river Tressenny Brook From Barnes farm never dry, excellent fall, would sustain serial turbines	Is this viable-worth scoping best spend vs outcome for village and energy needs
Community solar PV project (eg a large area of suitable roofs?)	Outside conservation area	Not sure on location but a good idea and could be permitted in area ref new guidance in Historic Buildings Act.

Energy: Generating Energy for community benefit

11. Which kinds of community energy projects would you support, if done by and for the benefit of the community?

One person noted that a previous report suggested local area not reliably windy for wind turbines Another suggested to scope the most viable option for future energy needs of village and plan for phasing out of oil boilers from 2035. Of those that opposed solar panels in fields some said only if this was productive land.

	Support	Neutral	Oppose
A hydro electric scheme on local streams / rivers	27	1	0
Solar panels on buildings	22	2	1
Single wind turbines	22	1	2
A group of wind turbines (wind farm)	15	3	5
Solar panels in fields (solar farm)	14	3	8
Any other/ comments Anaerobic digester	3	0	0

Transport and Active Travel

12. How did you get here today?

On Foot/ mobility scooter	37
Car/ motorbike/ other vehicle	5
Bicycle	0
Public transport	0

13. What are the key transport and active travel issues here?

	Number of responses
Lack of accessible community or public transport	36

14. What community projects or other services already exist that help?

	Number of responses
Transport and active travel	
School bus is fab	3

Other non transport responses
Community and its services Grosmont Events activities: 5 Grosmont Futures: 5

Community hub project: 3
 Market in the Nave: 6
 The pub: 9
 Pub /community events: 5
 KS events 2
 Quiz night 2
 Boules club 2
 Easter egg hunt: 4
 Welsh club 2

Food and growing
 GROW

15. Which of these project ideas would you like to see here?:

Project idea	Responses	Community comments
Lift share scheme	19	Need more volunteer drivers:
Electric bike club/ hire	15	
Public EV charge point	14	
Electric community car club	4	
Cycle maintenance / training	2	
Walking or cycling “bus” to school	N/A	
Other suggestions		
Open Pontrilas Station	14	
Community bus service	1	

Food, Growing and Land Use

16. What food or growing projects are already happening here that help the community?

	Number of responses
GROW community garden	4

17. What would be the best locations for an allotment/ growing space?

Behind Tollstone Way/ Castle Aspect
 Opposite the pub on the bank – shared veg/ flower garden
 End of Poorscript Lane

18. What are the key food or growing related issues here?

	Number of responses

Need for allotments/ space to grow nearer village centre	6
Differing views on whether solar panels in fields is positive or not	6-1 in favour

19. Which new food/ growing projects would people like to see?:

Project idea	Responses	Community comments
Community orchard or tree planting	19	Or restore existing orchards Wild acre
Increasing availability of local produce	12	
Vegetable or food box scheme	11	Pontrilas has one that some families already use
Cooking together as a community (batch cooking)	9	Should be happening as part of hub project
A new allotment or community growing space	6	
Other ideas: Kids cooking club		

Waste and what we buy

20. What is already happening here that helps the community while reducing waste?

	Number of responses
Clothes swap organised by Grosmont Events	1
Cross Ash has school uniform re-use scheme	1
Book Swap in church	1
Plant sharing	1
More widely: Keep Wales Tidy lobbying for extended produce responsibility to reduce waste at source and encourage reuse (inc deposit return)	1

21. Which new projects would you like to see here?

Project idea	Responses	Community comments
Repair Cafes	23	Planned as part of hub project
Freecycle scheme	18	Happens unofficially already
Library of things/ Virtual library of things and services/ bank of DIY tools to borrow	17	Planned as part of hub project
Upcycling workshops	14	Planned as part of hub project

Car boot sales/ exchange events/ jumble sales	13	Occurs already (although no space for car boot sales)
What other projects or initiatives would you like to see here? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local pick up/ tool store eg for litter picking/ path maintenance Community composting 		

Bringing it all together

22. What project would children and young people most like to see in Grosmont?

Project idea	Responses	Community comments
Youth club*	4	*Planned as part of hub project
Playground	2	
Ideas with single response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music* Art* Film nights* Cooking club* Circus skills- (provided by Grosmont events before) Sports club Pony Club Cycle track Skate board track Pump track Forest school monthly sessions Minibus trip to something cool for teenagers 		*Planned as part of hub project

23. Which are the top 3 priorities for you and the community?

	Votes	Community comments
Improving transport and active travel opportunities	23	Pontrilas station Car share scheme Volunteer driver scheme
Exploring ways to generate energy for community benefit	16	
Reducing waste and sharing more	15	
Energy: finding ways to work together to save money and keep warm	12	Community hub warm space

Increasing community food and growing opportunities	9	
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Lack of public transport was the most reported issue at the event (36 responses under the transport question and more than 20 elsewhere).

24. Which new community project would you most like to see / would make the biggest difference in Grosmont?

	Number of responses
Transport Community transport scheme / bio diesel bus/ bus to link with Pontrilas	6
Energy Scope community energy project Help with retrofitting homes Village plan for the oil ban!	1 1 1
Food and growing Allotments Community café with hot meal/ soup/ stew several times a week	1 1
Waste and what we buy Sharing stuff- we all have too much stuff that we only use occasionally	3

25. How would people like to be involved in the project?

Join a mailing list about the project	16
Attend the next feedback event - to find out more about what local people want	17
Join the steering group – to make things happen.	7
I'm not interested	1

Map activity

The focus of this activity was on possible sites for growing spaces in the village centre, a playground (below castle grounds) and hydro schemes (on the Monnow and Tresenny Brook)

