



ORIEL WASHINGTON GALLERY



Image courtesy of Heritage Lottery Fund

# Penarth Arts & Crafts Ltd: Penarth Pier Pavilion Project

A local community group has secured a planning grant from Heritage Lottery for an exciting redevelopment of the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

The Pavilion building is an iconic landmark on the sea front, built in the 1929 as a fun palace and a great focus for the whole community.

Heritage Lottery have awarded a planning grant of £50,000 to prepare comprehensive financial and building studies to restore the Pavilion to its former glory. The Vale of Glamorgan Council is providing £5000 of match funding under the Active Citizenship Scheme towards the Project Planning grant.

At present it is a shadow of its former self and the barrel vaulted cement interior has been little used in recent years. The building requires substantial investment to properly restore it for the long term ,though the Vale Council recently completed over £80,000 of painting and concrete repair work to the building. In the 1990's the Vale of Glamorgan Council

with HLF funding carried out £1million repairs to the pier itself. It has also recently carried out external works to the superstructure.

Council Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander said it was excellent news that a Penarth based community group, which receives support from the Council had been successful in securing the grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

“We look forward to working in partnership to restore the Pier Pavilion and bring it back to beneficial use”

The PACL application included proposals to links to the front, ensuring the esplanade was well serviced by public transport and offered disabled access. Development of an improved water transport infrastructure was also raised in the application.

Penarth Arts & Crafts Ltd was formed in 1998 and based in Penarth's Washington Gallery which shows Welsh contemporary art and craft with year round

exhibitions. It has a busy outreach art education programme, with up to twelve extended projects annually for disadvantaged groups.

As a charity it is governed by a Board of Trustees, with funding from the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Penarth Town Council and the Arts Council of Wales, among others. It was a recent recipient of a Civic Design Award for its development and usage of the former art deco cinema.

Chairman of Penarth Arts and Crafts Limited, Mr Gary Biggin, said the group was now planning to mount a publicity campaign to inform local residents and seek the views of the whole community. Should the project development be successful it is hoped the Pier will house regular events to include performance, conferences, film, a crèche, environmental art exhibitions and business sponsored trade fairs.

Plans are also being initiated for a dramatic sea-view restaurant.

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#### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

*The Heritage Lottery enables communities to celebrate, look after and learn more about our diverse heritage from our great museums and historic buildings to local parks and beauty spots or recording and celebrating traditions, customs and history. HLF grants open up our nation's heritage for everyone to enjoy. We have supported more than 1,300 projects allocating over £156 million across Wales.*

