

# Pembroke Dock Townscape Heritage Initiative

## N e w s l e t t e r

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**Phase 2 of the Pembroke Dock Townscape Heritage Initiative started in December 2007 and continues to build on the success of Phase one. Pembrokeshire County Council remains the lead organisation responsible for the coordination and delivery of the scheme supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Welsh Assembly Government's Department for Enterprise Initiatives and Networking, Cadw Welsh Historic Monuments and Milford Haven Port Authority.**

Good progress has been achieved in year one with nine projects completed and several others in preparation. In year two we currently have five projects in progress on site and nineteen in various stages of design and planning. Restoration of No 47 Bush Street, one of a group of properties in a THI critical project within the Townscape Heritage Initiative, is nearing completion.

No 47 Bush Street Before Restoration



Works are also well advanced on No 20 Commercial Row (a former Tobacconist's shop) and No's 16/18 Dimond Street (a former television retail and repair business). Contractors will also begin on site at three other properties on Commercial Row this month.



No 47 Bush Street After Restoration

An exciting project which is also benefiting from support of the Townscape Heritage Initiative is the challenge of turning a Pembroke Dock iconic dockyard building, the Garrison Chapel into a world class heritage centre. This is being led by the Pembroke Dock Sunderland Trust and links closely with the Trust's plans to recover a wartime Sunderland Flying Boat which sank off Pembroke Dock in 1940.

Attract Marketing, a top team of consultants appointed by the Trust, have begun work on the project with a final report anticipated by August this year. The Townscape Heritage Initiative is also supporting the Pembroke Dock Museum Trust in its bid to find a community use for the former Mechanics Institute Building in Dimond Street. The trust have appointed Landsker Business Consultancy to formulate the business plan and match funding proposal for a mixed use of the building. It is anticipated that the study will be completed by end of May this year.

PICTURE: Martin Cavaney Photography



Pictured at the Garrison Chapel are from (left to right) Cllr Brian Hall, Chairman PDTHI Steering Group, William McNamara, Chairman of Pembroke Dock Sunderland Trust and Nick Booker of Attract Marketing

Open Doors 2009 which is organised by the Civic Trust for Wales and billed as Wales' biggest celebration of architecture and heritage takes place throughout September. The THI is participating in the event and arranging for the former Garrison Chapel, The Market Building, Paterchurch Tower and Sunderland House to be open to the public on 5th and 6th September with help from volunteers from various local organisations - brochure to follow.

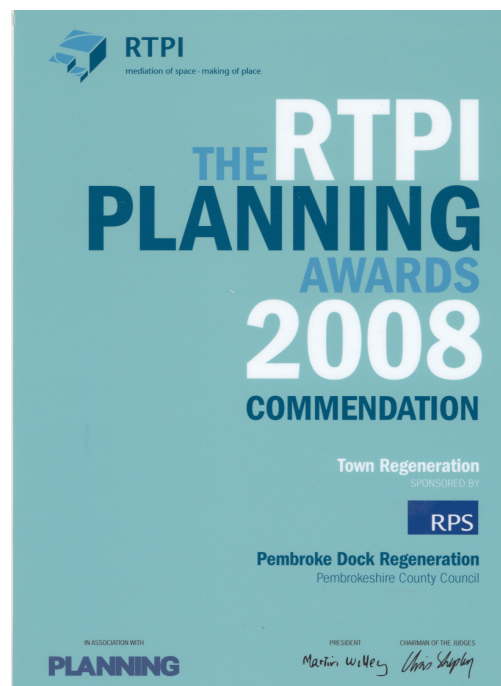
In our last issue we reported that the Priorities of the THI link in with the objectives of other wider regeneration strategies and the THI team has also been involved with colleagues in Pembrokeshire County Council in the submission to the Royal Town Planning Institute of a presentation of **“Pembroke Dock Regeneration”** scheme in a **National Award category**.

We had been short-listed for an award and were hopeful for a good result for **Pembroke Dock**. **We got that good result in the form of a Commendation for Town Regeneration, the highest award in the category.**

The submission had to meet the judging criteria of:

- enhancement of the physical environment and social and economic benefit to the area
- how the scheme has addressed all aspects of sustainable development
- originality of the achievement or approach
- key Issues that needed to be overcome
- quality of professional work and design
- the role of the planner
- the achievement as a model for other related projects

The award was presented by the National Director of RTPI Cymru, Roisin Willmot at County Hall on 10th March 2009.



Extract from the Judges report: -

**“PEMBROKE DOCK REGENERATION”**  
**Submitted by Pembrokeshire County Council**

*A strong partnership team has succeeded in revitalising the small town of Pembroke Dock - giving it a new sense of purpose and pride.*

PICTURE: Martin Cavaney Photography



Pictured with Roisin Willmot are from (left to right) Councillor Tom Richards, Chairman of Planning, Councillor Brian Hall and Director of Development, Dr Steven Jones

*The partnership has shown tenacity in tackling deprivation in this small peripheral town, drawing up and sticking to a long term strategy and accessing external funding to kick-start regeneration. The team recognises that there is more to do, but has already achieved a substantial turnaround in the town's fortunes deriving from the high level of commitment to partnership working and quality outcomes.*

*The town has a long-term strategy underpinned by the development plan and the Wales Spatial Plan. The team has been successful in using public sector funding to pump-prime private sector investment, and has been prepared to wait to secure the right uses for key heritage buildings.*

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