

# New Year signals a new direction for Fairyhill

The project has had investment from Visit Wales' Tourism Investment Support Scheme (TISS) and support from the Development Bank of Wales.

The new owners have decided to concentrate solely on transforming the stunning grade 2 listed house into a dedicated special event venue that will open for its first event on 1st March 2018. The property was acquired by award winning wedding specialists, Oldwalls, last November. The business has secured funding of £200,000 of TISS with a £350,000 loan from the Development Bank of Wales.

Part of the refurbishment project includes a modern extension to the west wing of the old house which will create a stunning function space especially designed to host events. The room will be available for all types of functions, and will support the current push to attract more business events to Wales.

The Minister said:

"It's great to see the progress which has been made at Fairyhill and I'm delighted that we've been able to support this venture in an area where tourism is such a crucial part of the economy. When complete in the spring, Fairyhill will of course be a first class Wedding venue, but will also be a welcome addition to what Wales has to offer the conference and business market."

Manager Director, Andrew Hole said:

"We believe that the secret to Oldwalls' success is dedicating ourselves to special events and weddings and we plan to inject this award-winning formula into Fairyhill. We are heavily investing in the 24 acre listed grounds, interiors and new extension to ensure the much-loved property is enjoyed for centuries to come. The changes will inject vital funds into the local economy too as we are committed to using Welsh suppliers for the million-pound refurbishment project. We can't wait to offer wedding and event visitors the opportunity to revel and enjoy the magic of Fairyhill."

Raymond Walters, Portfolio Executive at the Development Bank of Wales said:

"Oldwalls is already established as one of Wales' leading wedding venues. We're pleased to be able to support this growing local

business as it transforms Fairyhill into an exciting business and wedding destination.”

Fairyhill welcomed a record number of visitors through its doors last weekend for its wedding showcase event and will therefore be hosting a second open day on 13th – 14th January from 12PM – 5PM. The sister venue, Oldwalls Gower, will also be open. Wedding and exclusive event bookings are now being taken with key dates for 2018 available.

Fairyhill is renowned as one of the most iconic country house hotels in the UK. Its illustrious history includes playing host to Hollywood legend, Paul Newman’s son’s wedding. Fairyhill visitors have included a former British prime minister, Joan Collins and Katherine Jenkins.