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News Release

Property development company, Cowbridge Developments Ltd, breathes new life into historic former miners' hospital

Talygarn Manor converted into luxury homes after funding from Co-operative Bank

A former miners' hospital in South Wales is enjoying a new lease of life after being converted into luxury properties thanks to funding from the Co-operative Bank.

Cowbridge Developments Ltd has completed the transformation of Grade Two listed Talygarn Manor into 26 houses and apartments.

The ambitious conversion of the manor in a country park was part funded by a £5m injection from the South Wales Corporate Banking Centre of the Co-operative Bank in Cardiff.

The one, two and three-bed properties range in price from £200,000 to £500,000 and cover up to 2,350 sq ft. The homes feature drawing rooms, en-suite facilities, dressing areas, utility rooms, terraces and in two cases, roof terraces.

There has been a house on the site occupied by Talygarn since the 13th Century but in 1923 the house and some 400 acres was acquired by the Miners' Welfare from the Clark family for £20,000. The house and about 140 acres were used as a convalescent home for sick and injured miners. In recent years the property was used by the local health authority as a rehabilitation centre.

The refurbished Manor retains many original features including the fireplace in the Chapel Hall being a copy of the Visconti tomb at Milan, a painted ceiling, and carved panelling and sphinxes in the Drawing Room, and the Great Staircase carved in wood from Venice.



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Chris Nicholson, a director of Cowbridge Developments Ltd, said: “This challenging project to create new homes while retaining the character and features of the Manor, has been a labour of love over four phases spanning six years.

“We’re absolutely delighted to offer people the chance to live in these splendid and historic surroundings and thank the Co-operative Bank for providing the financial support to start a new chapter in the life of Talygarn.”

John Williams, senior manager, corporate relationship banking, at the Cardiff Corporate Banking Centre of the Co-operative Bank, organised the funding and said: “We were delighted to support the breathing of new life into this historic site. Although the residential property market is obviously suffering hard times, we and the developers have great confidence in the scheme’s prospects.

“Our financing of the scheme shows that even in today’s uncertain economic climate, we are still very much open for business and lending to companies with impressive business strategies, such as Cowbridge Developments Ltd. We are in a strong position to provide funding for existing and new customers, unlike some other lenders who seem to be more reluctant to provide funding at this current time.”

Ends

Notes to editors:

ISDN facilities are available for broadcast media interviews.

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