

Artist invests international prizewinnings in Anfield bakery project

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An artist working on a project to help regenerate disused Anfield buildings is celebrating winning a prestigious award in the United States.

And Jeanne van Heeswijk today revealed she will plough the \$25,000 Curry Stone Design Prize money – due to be presented at a ceremony at Harvard next month – into the 2Up, 2Down and Anfield Bakery initiatives.

The move will help to secure the former Mitchell's Bakery, opposite Anfield Stadium, for the community co-operative which has been set up to run it and could also be invested in machinery to get the project up and running as a full business in the New Year.

Jeanne said today: "You have to put your money where your mouth is.

"I said before I knew I'd won the prize that if I had money I'd be the first to invest in this project – I believe tremendously in its potential. I believe in this approach for communities to collectively own land and create a business."

She added: "It's important to make that money useful for the work that's most urgent. In this case I think we're at a moment's time that's very important for the Anfield project."

The initiative was set up by the Dutch-born artist two-and-a-half years ago under the umbrella of the Liverpool Biennial.

It includes Homebaked, a plan for a bakery and café, alongside 2Up, 2Down, working with residents to develop "places and spaces" for the neighbourhood in empty homes and vacant ground surrounding Anfield stadium.

A Land Trust has been set up and residents encouraged to gain urban design, architecture and construction skills.

Local people are currently involved in the Anfield Home Tour which runs from the Cunard Building each Saturday morning during the Biennial and presents the impact regeneration (or lack of it) has had, and continues to have, on the lives of people in the area.

The Curry Stone Design Prize celebrates social design pioneers and the power of design as a critical force for improving lives and strengthening communities.

For more details on the Anfield Tour visit www.biennial.com