

Former Salthill hotel premises set to undergo major revamp

BY ENDA CUNNINGHAM

GALWAY City Council has given the go-ahead for the redevelopment of the former Glendawn Hotel in Salthill into offices and a restaurant.

The plans involve an extension to the building at Lemaboy Gardens to make way for a cafe and restaurant over two floors with external seating and a balcony area.

There is also an office element to the plans - it will become the new headquarters for applicants Eurotiger, part of property asset management company Tiger & Co, which is owned by businessman Chris McGrath from the Claddagh.

There had been plans to transform the building into a medical centre, but work stopped when the previous owner ran into funding difficulties in the property



New plans: the former Glendawn House Hotel.

of operation of the cafe/restaurant must be agreed with the Council prior to opening.

Construction activity has been restricted to between 8am and 6pm on Monday to Fridays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays.

The applicants said there is no lease signed yet with an office operator, but they envisage the restaurant would operate "normal restaurant opening hours".

"Normal restaurant hours in Salthill are 11am to 11pm, with shorter hours during the week and in winter periods. If a traditional cafe leases the unit, then the opening hours would be 7.30am to 7.30pm with shorter opening hours during winter periods and weekdays. We think the former scenario is more likely based on proposals we have seen from operators to date," the applicants said.

The restaurant will have seating for up to 70 people.

opportunity to revitalise the property and this part of Lemaboy Gardens and hopefully will act as a catalyst for further improvements on the adjacent main street.

"The office and cafe areas are modest and both will act as local service centres which will complement and service Salthill and the adjacent residential area," the application reads.

Flannery approved the application, but ordered that the hours

market crash. "In the interim, the property has been vacant and has been broken into, vandalised, stripped down for materials by thieves and been used for drinking parties and other antisocial behaviour.

"This, combined with leaks and incomplete building works, has left the property in a derelict and structurally unstable condition.

"The proposal represents an