



PRESS RELEASE

Killeavy Castle Gatelodge
12 Ballintemple Road
Killeavy
Newry, County Down
NORTHERN IRELAND
BT35 8LQ

The owner of Killeavy Castle Estate, Jaramas Investments NI Ltd, announces today that it intends to proceed with the construction of a 42 room, 4 star, boutique hotel, spa and wellness centre on the historic estate that sits majestically on the slopes of Slieve Gullion. Construction will commence in early 2017. The hotel will be built on the site of what once were the Killeavy Castle coach house, mill and farm buildings, and will sympathetically incorporate many of their historic features. While the hotel is being built, Killeavy Castle, an A Grade listed building, will be fully restored and become a function centre, a short distance from the hotel. The project is planned to be open to the public in late 2018.

Mick Boyle of Jaramas Investments NI said "It has taken a bit longer than we would have liked to get our proposed development to this stage but we are excited to finally be getting this project underway. Our aim now is to make Killeavy Castle, Hotel and Wellness Centre one of Ireland's must see destinations. The Ring of Gullion countryside is an area of outstanding natural beauty and the setting of Killeavy Castle within it is no less than breathtaking. We are certain it will become the jewel of South Armagh and be a special destination for people from all over the world."

Jaramas Investments NI is owned by Mick Boyle and his wife Robin. Mick immigrated to Australia as a child in the late 1960s with his parents, Michael and Pauline Boyle who both come from South Armagh. Mick and Robin, who also established and own the successful Australian construction company Abergeldie Complex Infrastructure are regular visitors to the area. Mick Boyle said "We have a lot of family and friends living around Newry, we love the area and its people. We are sure that tourists from all over the world will too."

Mick Boyle went on to say "With our connection to the area and its people we want Killeavy Castle, Hotel and Wellness Centre to be good for the local economy. There will obviously be jobs created during the construction phase, but we think more importantly, when it is operational in two years time it will generate around 90 long term jobs for the local community".

It has already created local jobs as the design team has been led by Newry based architects O'Hagan and Associates. "Being a local company Pat O'Hagan, Lorraine Fegan and their team have a deep appreciation of the heritage and natural beauty of the site and that is reflected in the design they have created. The Hotel and Wellness Centre cleverly incorporates parts of the historic coach house, farm and mill buildings and it has been designed not to detract from the elegance of the nearby historic Killeavy Castle. The whole development will blend sympathetically into the magnificent woodlands of the estate". Mick Boyle said.

The project has been supported by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council who are upgrading Ballintemple Road and leasing public access to parts of the estate. "Newry, Mourne and Down District Council welcomes this major investment into South Armagh, this hotel will add to the growing tourism potential of the Slieve Gullion area. The Council is delighted to be involved in supporting the project and looks forward to the opening in 2018." The Chair of Council, Gillian Fitzpatrick said this morning.

Local people have been openly walking through the estate in recent years. Access will soon be restricted for safety reasons during the construction phase of the project. Once the project is complete, as agreed with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, public access will be made available along the driveway and a public path will be provided along the southern boundary of the estate. Public access will also be provided to the walled garden. Jaramas Investments NI Ltd request the public to respect the "keep out" signs and fences installed at the site once they are erected.

For further information on this press release please contact Mark Donohoe at the Killeavy Castle, Hotel and Wellness Centre project office on 028 3084 9076



KILLEAVY

C A S T L E