



Altared image for former monastery in £16.5m revamp

Mansion to be turned into 'retirement village'

By **DAVID DAWSON**

A FORMER monastery will be turned into a £16.5 million "retirement village" if a developer's scheme is accepted by council planners.

Inglewood manor house, Kintbury – most recently run as a health spa – could be transformed to include a swimming pool, sauna, restaurant, bar lounge and a library, as well as a total of 97 retirement flats and cottages.

Eight of these will be in the original house, the other 89 built in the grounds.

All will be designed for the over-55s by developer Audley Court, a specialist in building retirement homes.

The Surrey-based company has submitted detailed plans to West Berkshire Council.

These include restoring the building "to its former glory" while retaining original features.

Audley sales and marketing director David Wild said: "The house is set in the charming and picturesque Berkshire countryside surrounded by undulating landscapes and open meadows. This is truly a perfect

setting for anyone looking to retire."

If the plan gets the go-ahead, the existing building will be turned into a clubhouse at the heart of the community with a wide range of facilities.

Landscaped grounds will include a tennis court, cricket pitch, a walled garden with private allotments, and a croquet lawn.

There will be 24-hour cover by care and support staff for residents.

Subject to permission, work will start in September and finish next spring.

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Stately splendour: Inglewood manor house could be converted into 97 retirement flats and cottages.