



Larry's plans to demolish €1.5m house are stuck for the moment

By **Ailbhe Jordan**

HE may have looks, fame, wealth, a beautiful family and a spectacular mansion overlooking Dublin Bay – but U2's Larry Mullen still wants more.

The handsome drummer's plans to extend the three-acre Howth estate he shares with long-time partner Anne Acheson and their three children has run into difficulties.

Mullen and Acheson sought planning permission from Fingal County Council on Christmas Eve to demolish Ros Mór, a €1.5m six-bedroom mansion in the grounds of his €5m-plus Claremont Lodge estate on Howth's exclusive Claremont Road.

The demolition was part of an ambitious plan to add a new conservatory, a first-floor en-suite bedroom and an office to the couple's 625 sq.m bungalow, and carry out a major redesign of the front hall and dining area by architects Douglas Wallace.

However, as predicted by the Irish Mail on Sunday, which exclusively revealed the extension plans a few weeks ago, Mullen has been turned down because he failed to follow correctly the rules for planning applications. Now he and Acheson have had to resubmit their application.

The rules state that site notices advising the public of an intention to apply for planning permission must be erected in conspicuous locations, where they are easily readable and legible by people using public roads or paths.

But Mullen, who has lived at Claremont Lodge with Acheson for almost 20 years, placed his site notices at the front and back of his secluded property, well away from public eyes.

Acheson reapplied for planning permission on February 7, and the new submission is still under consideration by Fingal County Council.



SETBACK: Mullen and Acheson