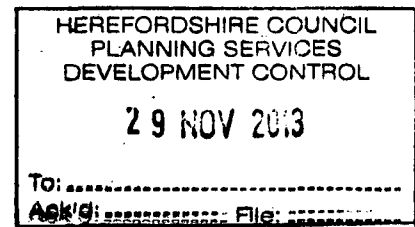


**DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT  
IN SUPPORT OF NATURAL SWIMMING POND  
AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES  
AT**

**WOODLANDS HOUSE, WHITBOURNE WR6 5RZ**

**FOR**

**MR AND MRS K O'DONNELL**



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**Prepared by:**

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## 1. EXISTING SITUATION

Woodlands House is the private residence of Mr and Mrs O'Donnell and since 2003 the property has been subject to two Planning applications and Listed Building Consents references DCN081079/F, DCNO81077/L, DCNO30987/L and DCNO30850/F. All the work on these Permissions has been completed.

## 2. CURRENT PLANS

As can be seen from the location plan the extent of our Clients' property is substantial. For many years a small lawned area adjacent to the "car cave" has been used by the family for entertainment. This has now become somewhat restricted and our Clients would like to construct a natural swimming pond on the edge of the entertainment lawn as the bank slopes away down into the orchard. The current configuration of the ground is shown on our drawing 1122/S01. As can be seen when visiting the site there will be a large movement of earth and fill material to re-establish the earth bank on the south eastern side of the new pond. Our proposals also include for the construction of a viewing area and a stepped ramp, known as a "peron" which is curved around the existing Cherry tree.

It is to be noted that only three trees will be affected by the works and the location of those which are to be removed is shown on our site drawing reference 1122/P01.

All of these works are of minimal effect when viewed within the larger landscape, indeed it is difficult to get views of the site from any public access point. Close up within our Clients' property there will, of course, be a visual effect as the new banks will have to be established and vegetated. Within a short period, however, these will have regrown in rough grass with understorey shrubs in the same way as the rest of the orchard.

The natural swimming pond itself will appear exactly as that. A feature of this type of water body is that it is an untreated pond and the cleanliness of the water is assured by a comprehensive recycling process through planted beds on the perimeter of the pond itself. These beds will contain natural water loving and marshy species, such as Iris, Marsh marigold and various water lilies. The appearance of the pond will be entirely natural and a picture of one such is attached to this document to give visual reference.



Natural Swimming pond

### 3. PROPOSED BUILDING

We were the Architects for the scheme at Woodlands House which comprised a new linear garage underneath a deck with the study upon it. All of this construction and the "car cave" opposite are faced with a battered and raking wall constructed in natural sandstone from the Forest of Dean to give the appearance of a dry stone wall. This has weathered pleasantly and the contrast between this modern design, albeit with inspiration taken from pre-history, works particularly well with the Georgianized farm building that is Woodlands House. We intend to follow the same theme for the construction of the ancillary building at the swimming pond. A plan is included at a scale of 1:100 and also an elevation of the principle façade. Since the building is based on a triangular plan there are only three elevations and the other two are both earth banks which will give the appearance of the building growing out of the landscape. I have already referred to the "peron" and its associated wall which sweeps around the retained Cherry tree and part of the smallest elevation of the building can be used as a climbing wall by the younger members of the family. The appearance with the curvature of the façade in three axes will be similar to the façade to the garage and the car cave. In this instance we also intend to allow the stone work of the building to "grow" out of the ground so that isolated blocks of stone will be visible within the lawn continuing the curve of the façade. In this way the small area of facilities associated with the swimming pond will be bound into the landscape.

### 4. ACCESS

The means of access for the swimming pond and its associated buildings will all be useable by all persons whether abled or disabled.

#### **Eastabrook Architects**

(Ref: Design and access statement – 26.11.13)