

Pyland's Lane – Covering Letter

Reasoning

I would like to take this opportunity to explain the need for the proposed extension and how the additional space would make all our lives (especially my wife's) more pleasurable.

My wife Catherine Shuttleworth was a paediatric nurse prior to her hips degrading so badly in her late 20's that she had to retire from her dream job and face numerous operations. Since then we have had two wonderful children who are currently aged 9 and 11, but unfortunately her health has deteriorated and in 2015 she had emergency surgery to remove 3.1 meters of small intestine which has left her dependent on 12 hour IV feeds administered by a nurse every evening. In 2018 she had a bad fall which resulted in a 10 month hospital stay and has left her bed bound in our current home ever since despite periods of intense rehabilitation.

We have purchased 'The Pastures, Pylands lane' in hope of giving Cate a better quality of life, she needs a large accessible ground floor bedroom, ceiling mounted hoist with track into a purpose-built wet room. We have designed the renovations to allow her to be able to open her room into the main living spaces so she can easily interact with her children and family whilst staying in her room when required.

We hope with the improved surroundings and equipment that she will be able to spend some time in either a moveable armchair or powered wheelchair. Cate's legs no longer bend so she must sit with her legs straight out which makes it very difficult to manoeuvre around spaces and hence all rooms have to be sizeable.

Cate currently has 24/7 care provided by carers on a 12-hour shifts and once hoisting is a practicality then she will need a second carer available at various times in the day; so we have planned a separate carer lounge so carers don't have to sit in the family space and a bedroom upstairs with ensuite suitable for a live in carer when needed. The current downstairs study space will be reused for Cate's large medical fridge and many ancillaries and medical supplies.

Design

The current proposal takes into account the aforementioned requirement for additional space but has been sensitive to the existing house and surrounding environment. The extension is pulled back from the main frontage of the house to match the existing wing and the proposed porch has a flat roof matching the existing entrance canopy. The ridge line of the extension is to match the existing as is all materials. This brings a sense of balance to the street scene and keeps the look/feel in keeping with the original house and local area. The proposed extension keeps a good distance from the neighbour's boundary and side windows have been avoided where possible. There is an instance where a side window has been used however we have proposed to use frosted glazing to avoid any overlooking issues.

Access

The access to the property will remain unchanged and the proposed extension does not impact the current parking provision.