

Subject: CLIENTS LETTER



I bought 606 Southleigh road in July 2015 as a family home for myself and my children. It is a 1920's bungalow, which has been modernised in the past - not always sympathetically - and requires additional work to enable it to reach its full potential. Currently the 100+ foot south facing rear garden is not linked to the house, the double glazed windows are mismatched and faulty and the front elevation has lost any of its original charm with a poorly conceived blanking of two bay windows with a double glazed 'porch'.

I view owning a property as having a piece of the community, and what I do to a property also has to add value and contribute to the neighbourhood - my neighbours will look at my property everyday, whilst I will live within it.

I plan to respect the original building - a modest bungalow - whilst also making additions which will make it a nicer place to live. These include restoring the original facade with more sympathetic windows and a reclaimed period front door. The original brick work has been damaged with water, and as neighbouring bungalows have been painted I plan to replace damaged brick and paint in a neutral shade. Internal changes will retain ground floor bedrooms, add an easy access ground floor shower room and provide an additional bathroom, first floor bedroom and lounge and open the kitchen / dining room to the garden.

I have already started planting up the front garden with cherry, bay and acer trees, bulbs and shrubs - I will continue to plant to soften the front, add street interest and support wildlife. I have dug a wildlife pond, planted trees, shrubs and flowers in the rear garden, whilst adding outdoor storage and two large vegetable and one soft fruit beds.

I modify a property to offer versatile accommodation, maximise energy efficiency and complement the neighbouring properties. There are a variety of styles in the immediate vicinity, but 606 is by far the ugliest at present.

See below for a photo of my last property. This was re-modelled from a 1960s Colt timber bungalow, which had single glazing and no insulation. The finished house was built to exceed current energy efficiency standards, whilst retaining its roots as a timber building.

