# Design & Access Statement for The Tree Relaxation Retreat

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#### Introduction

This is an application for an extension to the main house to form extended kitchen, office, treatment and solitary retreat room (for meditation).

A natural cold water swimming pool and a garden shed.

At The Tree Relaxation Retreat, Rosedale East, Near Pickering, N.Yorks. YO18 8RH.

The applicant is Mr. Edward J. Harpin.

### **Existing Site**

The Tree Relaxation Retreat comprises of two buildings (The main building and next door the Old Chapel) We currently provides B&B type accommodation midweek with full board relaxation and yoga breaks at weekends. The Tree is built in rendered brick with a slate roof. The property is accessed from Daleside Road. It is situated in the North YorkMoors National Park, 2 miles from the village of Rosedale Abbey.

There is a car park to the rear of the property. There is also parking to the rear of the Old Chapel.

The applicant has been the owner of the property since January 2011.

### **Proposal**

As we have grown as a business with more staff and more guests we feel we need the extra space to allow for this growth. Currently the office and staff room are shared, which is inconvenient. Having specific areas for treatments will allow for increased hygiene (sink in the rooms) and the attic space for people wanting to engage with solitary meditation retreats.

There has been an upsurge in guests asking about where they can go locally for a swim in cold water (due to many health benefits). So we are proposing a small natural cold water swimming pool. It requires no chemicals and is cleaned with plants and minerals. This will provide another dimension to the guest experience and help us to continue to grow our business.

The Shed will be for garden storage and for use as a potting shed to support the growing of produce which we then serve to guests on retreats.

#### Access

Access is from Daleside road into a car park to the rear. There is a front door at road level for disabled access.

## **Design & Materials**

The extension to the house will be made in rendered blockwork to match existing and have a slate roof to match existing.

The proposed new windows will be double glazed with frames made of powder coated aluminium in a similar style to the existing, including the same transom pattern. They will be in a grey colour. The reason for choosing aluminium is due to its environmental credentials (as opposed to upvc). Due to the Tree's exposed position the windows have to withstand severe weather conditions, these windows have been designed for that purpose.

The swimming pool will be made with Concrete blocks, with coursed natural stone on the exposed edges with Anthracite tiles used internally. The housing for the plant room will be of timber structure.

### Planning.

The proposed extension will improve the running of the business and of guests experience.

The swimming pool will enhance the guest experience.

The potting shed will help us to grow more of our own produce for our vegetarian menus supporting our vision of the Tree to become an example of an environmentally friendly and sustainable business within the North York Moors National Park.

