

The Lake Country House Hotel

Kingfisher Spa

The Lake Country House Hotel in mid-Wales has a new health, fitness and leisure centre which is proving very popular with guests and attracting new business.

The Client

Originally built as a hunting and fishing lodge in 1840, The Lake Country House Hotel in Llangammarch Wells is set in 50 acres of Welsh parkland. The opening of the Kingfisher Spa, a new purpose-built health, fitness and leisure centre, has completed its transformation from Victorian hunting lodge to a luxury hotel, complete with a whole range of modern facilities.

The Brief

The owner has always appreciated that a leisure facility was essential for a hotel in such a remote setting. Not only would it create a new revenue stream, it would also increase business and provide a health and fitness facility for the local community. He was looking for a visually arresting design which would be sympathetic to its natural surroundings and be highly sustainable.

The Specification

As the building was to be sited well away from the main hotel, Plus Design and Build's (PDB) in-house architects did not need to retain any of its period features, proposing instead a modern contemporary structure with excellent environmental credentials.

Known as the Kingfisher Spa the new purpose built centre incorporates a 15m swimming pool, gymnasium, beauty treatment and changing rooms in one functional building. It is constructed in timber frame with glulam laminated trusses,

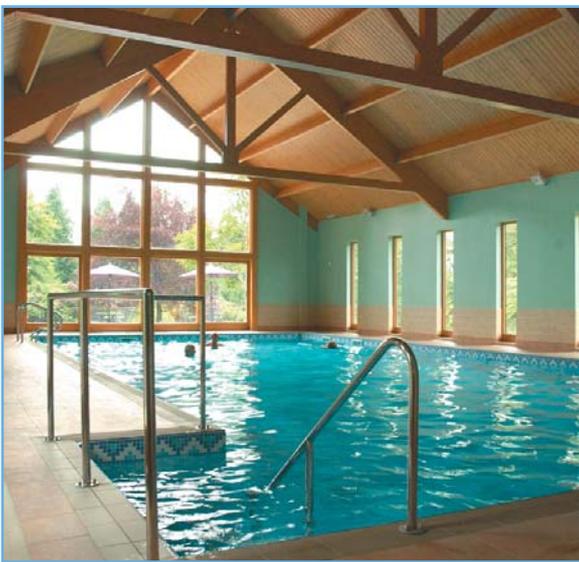
giving a vaulted roof style. It is faced externally with traditional block and render and has a 30° pitch roof finished with natural slate roof tiles.

Two full height dormers with large glazed doors and windows make optimum use of natural light in the pool and relaxation areas, generally blurring the boundaries between interior and exterior. The pool leads out onto a decked area where guests can relax in a hot tub and take in the spectacular views over the lake.

A generous staircase with disabled compliant chair lift leads up to the fully equipped gymnasium and coffee area. A steam room, sauna, solarium and beauty therapy rooms complete the range of facilities available.

Detailed meetings at an early stage with the relevant conservation and planning authorities ensured that the plans subsequently passed the complex planning stages with only minor modifications.





PDB was responsible for all aspects of the building including construction, landscaping, plumbing, electrical and heating services, floor coverings and the environmental control systems.

Client Benefits

Said the hotel's owner: "The PDB team used its wealth of expertise to design and build a striking, first class leisure facility within our beautiful, protected environment.

The facilities and luxurious style of our Kingfisher Spa is very much appreciated by our guests. We are already achieving increased bookings from both corporate bodies and individuals who have been attracted by the new facility. There has also

been an excellent response from the local community. Many people have taken out memberships and several have commented that this was the best thing that has happened to the area in ages."

This type of aesthetically pleasing and environmentally friendly building would be an asset to any hotel wishing to keep up with the increasing demand for sports and leisure facilities.

Client: The Lake Country House
Location: Llangammarch Wells, Powys



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