

## FACILITIES BUILDING AT NORTHNEY MARINA

**Northney Marina's facility building has a striking exterior appearance but also meets the rigorous day to day requirements of a busy marina.**

Northney Marina, owned by Marina Developments Ltd., stands in Chichester Harbour and serves a growing community of yachtsmen. In an on-going programme to extend and improve the standard of services available to its customers, it was decided to commission a new facilities building.

The building would have to reflect the style of local vernacular buildings and as it would include a new reception area, it had to reinforce the company's identity and communicate a first and lasting impression from the moment visitors walk through the door.

Pinelog's architects, recognising that the building was to be sited in a conservation area, proposed a low profile structure, which would sit unobtrusively in its sloping foreshore setting. It is based on a highly insulated timber frame, clad in dark stained timber over a rustic brick plinth and with a Norfolk pantile roof – all part of the local building tradition.

The proposal was accepted and planning applications lodged with, and in due course approved by, various planning committees including English Nature.

The 426 sq. m. building is a ring beamed structure on a designed reinforced concrete foundation. A design highlight is a cathedral style pyramid roof with central skylight, which allows sunlight to flood in. The design allows for remotely controlled blinds to operate as darkness falls to minimise bird strikes in this sensitive wildlife habitat.

The cathedral roof has created a lofty entrance foyer with a feeling of light and space, which draws visitors to the reception desk. This area has to function as well as look good so also includes an informal meeting space, shop and vending machines. Doors lead to a covered terrace, which offers customers spectacular views over the water.

Offices, drying room, staff dining room and kitchen comprise the administrative area.

The shower/toilet facility includes disabled facilities and distinctive cubicles, each with a changing area separated from a wide shower by an armoured glass door. This area is illuminated by an environmentally considerate, movement sensitive lighting system.

Mike Smith, Northney Marina Manager, says: "The new facilities building will complement the extensive facilities and services already in place. It has created a lot of excitement around the marina and marks a new chapter in our history."

The building has been designed to accept expansion and a second wing to accommodate a restaurant is planned.

Client: Marina Developments Ltd.  
Location: Chichester Harbour, Hants



