COBALT CARBON FREE

CASE STUDY
MIKE'S HOUSE

PROJECT OVERVIEW

We were invited to work on a beautiful 300-year-old farmhouse in Cropwell Butler, Nottinghamshire. The homeowner approached us for advice on resolving the persistent cold and chronic damp issues affecting the original, older part of the property, which was noticeably colder than the newer extensions.

> "Insulating your home may reduce your annual CO2 production by up to 2000kg, helping to protect the planet. Join us on the carbon-free journey!
>
> **MIKE DIBLEY**

SCOPE OF WORK

During our assessment, we discovered that the building's ageing structure, failing roofline, and poor drainage due to its low position on the land were all contributing to rising and penetrating damp. The solid walls of the property had poor thermal performance, making it not only difficult and costly to heat but uncomfortable to live in.

THE SOLUTION

Our recommendation was to install External Wall Insulation (EWI) around the property to provide weatherproofing and significantly improve thermal performance. We used 70mm phenolic boards with a silicone-enhanced render, designed to match the existing finish of the newer extensions.

The roof required a complete overhaul. While the roof tiles were off, we took the opportunity to implement a warm roof construction using high-performance insulation boards, further increasing the thermal efficiency of the property. We replaced damaged tiles, re-bedded ridges, renovated the chimney stacks, and installed new powder-coated aluminium guttering to improve drainage.

To address the property's low position and the risk of rising damp, we also installed new drainage around the entire building.

THE CHALLENGE

As the farmhouse is located in a conservation area and is identified as a positive building contributing to the area's character, we had to work closely with the local conservation and planning authorities. Our challenge was to ensure our work preserved the aesthetics of the original building while modernising it. This included recreating key architectural details such as brick arch window headers and high-level decorative brick courses along the eaves and gable verges.

Throughout the project, we maintained close communication with the homeowner, incorporating their feedback and ensuring the final outcome aligned with their vision.

CONCLUSION

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THE SOLUTION

This project successfully addressed all of the client's concerns, improving both energy efficiency and the building's aesthetic appeal, all while meeting conservation and planning requirements. The finished farmhouse now not only looks fantastic but also exceeds modern building regulations for energy efficiency - quite the accomplishment for a property that has stood for over 300 years. We're incredibly proud of the results, and so is the homeowner!

For a warmer, more energy-efficient home that's healthier, quieter, and kinder to the environment, insulation is a smart investment. Contact Cobalt Carbon Free today to find out how we can help transform your home with our high-quality, eco-friendly solutions!

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