WHY USE AN ARCHITECT

There are many design ‘professionals’ offering Architectural Services that can be used on your project; so why should you use an architect.

Design:

Some of the words that have been used to describe our designs are: elegant, clever, smart and beautiful. I suspect you would love to be called any of these - with an architect your home can be called these things also.

Lifetime:

You will be living with the design of your home for a long time to come, it’s important therefore to get it right and this is what an architect is specifically trained to do. The architect’s fee is a relatively small % of what you will spend building your home.

Leadership:

The architect is specifically trained to be the design ‘leader’ of the project. He/She is uniquely qualified to coordinate work from conception to completion, from the very beginning to moving into your beautiful home.

Knowledge, skills & Improvement:

Architects have an obligation through Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to develop and broaden their knowledge and skills through systematic maintenance and improvement. This ensures your home is well designed and economic to heat.

Values & Principles:

An architect has to work to a Code of Conduct. Whilst an architect's primary responsibility is to his/her client, he/she has a wider responsibility to conserve and enhance the environment.

Why use Mark Stephens as your architect?

Time, attention and care:

We don’t take on every job available. We do this to ensure that we can give you, the client, the time and attention that you and your project deserves.

Design and redesign:

Architects are trained to design. This is what we do. We will polish and hone your design until it’s perfect. I am trained to design the most efficient and elegant home for you that includes more space, light and are economical to heat and run.

Detail:

All of our projects are drawn in 3D and modelled using foam-board and typically we would provide 20+ drawings to ensure every detail is worked out and accounted for. We also provide walkthroughs and flyover animations as part of our normal service.

Savings:

Imagine living in a house that will cost less than €500/year to heat. Even our ‘Near-Passive’ designs are achieving this. By appointing us (as Certified Passive House Designers) you will save our fee typically within five years. Go the whole hog and a Certified Passive House (which we do) will cost less than €200 for the year to heat.

Clarity:

Our prices are all very clear and up-front. We won’t submit something that we don’t think will pass planning and then charge you more later. Our prices are designed to reflect this and are detailed from the very beginning to the final completion.