

Affordable housing

Of the people, by the people, for the people

“Affordable housing” is a phrase that is often used by developers, planners and politicians; But what does it actually mean? After all, what might be easily affordable to one person may be well beyond the means of another ... and does this ‘affordable’ take into account the environmental cost of building and running this ‘housing’?

There can be no denying that *shelter* is a basic human need, especially in a climate like ours; But does it really have to be so expensive? Well, I don’t believe that it does and I do believe that we, the people, are perfectly capable of doing something about it.

So I’ve invested a significant amount of time over the last ten years researching and travelling around and developing designs for some truly affordable housing, two of which are registered with the Intellectual Property Office. Right now, I’m building the prototype of the smallest unit that I’ve designed, an Ultra Low Footprint - Eco Pod, in the garden at Lifeways Natural Health Centre in Albany Road.

Here’s an illustration of what that’s set to look like:



Over the page you can see where I’ve got to with the actual build.



The basic idea is that it's an off-grid, single person dwelling that doesn't require any permanent foundations and comes as a kit that simply bolts together. It's super-insulated, generates heat and power from the roof mounted solar panels and even catches it's own water. As far as possible, it's made from sustainably sourced, natural materials and the selling price is targeted to be within the reach of individuals on minimum wage.

Building a prototype is an important step in the process of bringing a product to market; So what I'm asking for today is a little encouragement from you in the form of a contribution to help buy the materials needed to complete the build. Unlike many Government projects, we don't need millions for this, just a few thousand. Whatever amount you choose to invest, you will become a member of the founding family and receive a certificate acknowledging that your contribution was instrumental in birthing this evolutionary, life changing product. Furthermore, as a living testament of your participation, the names of every contributor will appear on a plaque, prominently positioned and attached to every Pod produced. The first plaque will be displayed on the prototype towards the end of it's completion and all contributors will be invited to view it.

Further details are available on the web at <http://icandosomething.com/pod>

For those who are not on the internet, cheques should be made payable to "Peter Chaddock". I would be happy to collect any cheques (or cash).

Whatever method of payment you choose, please also send me your full name, mailing address and telephone number.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

I look forward to welcoming you to the family.

Best wishes

Peter

Flat 6, Vinery Court,
Grove Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire CV37 6WG

Landline: 01789 204158
Mobile: 07952 279466
Email: peter@icandosomething.com

