

Oxted Gasholder Demolition

Scope: Demolition



St William



£450,000

The 0.7ha former town gasworks site was to be redeveloped for a residential end-use.

Recently the northern proportion of the site was owned by NGP and included live infrastructure, whilst the southern proportion of the site was owned by SGN and included the above ground gasholder / associated plant.

The site was constrained by a railway embankment immediately adjacent to



the western boundary (close to the former gasholder) and residential properties immediately to the south and east. Commercial properties and an electricity sub-station were positioned to the north. Significant consideration was required with respect to the railway embankment throughout the planning and undertaking of the works.

John F Hunt Regeneration (JFHR) undertook the roles of Principal Contractor and Designer for the demolition of the former gasholder.

This included:

- Discussions / agreements with statutory authorities relating to service disconnections;
- Structural surveys;
- Discussion / agreements with Network Rail (works adjacent to railway embankment);
- Works planning to mitigate the potential environmental impact of the works on the site neighbours;



- Careful dismantling of the gasholder itself along with associated buildings and plant;
- Temporary works design and implementation;
- Waste segregation, selective excavation / stockpiling, classification. Pre-treatment and removal.

Our remediation team were on hand during the works as part of an overall watching brief (potential contamination).

Bespoke Works & Challenges

The largest structure on the site was a 'Wiggins dry-seal gasholder' measuring approximately 36.5m (diameter) by 28.5m (height); the structure extended 5m below ground. Overall the structure measured 1 million cu. ft.

With assistance of a 100 tonne mobile crane for personnel basket and equipment access, the roof structures were removed followed by the first 6No. ring plates of the main holder (following the structural engineers design). The holder was reduced in height in steps and worked down using high-reach and standard excavators with shears. Various underground ancillary structures

were removed and backfilled as part of the works.

"John F Hunt undertook the Oxted Gas holder project for St William achieving excellent results, working well with our team and completed ahead of programme. They approached the works with professionalism, bringing innovative solutions to a challenging scheme and we look forward to the chance of collaborating again on future projects" stated Joe Pallister, Project Manager for St James / St William London South.

Community Engagement

We achieved a 5 star accreditation from Considerate Contractors and both the Client and the Local Authority, Tandridge District Council, were very pleased with the site overall.

The local Cancer Research outlet received our thanks, and a welcome donation, for their neighbourly help and use of their water supply.

