Falmer Avenue

Martin Arnold were pleased to provide Cost Consultancy and Employer's Agent services for Hyde's mixed tenure development of 32 homes in an urban fringe site to the east of Brighton.

The art deco inspired design on the edge of Saltdean in Brighton is nestled in the hillside between the south coast and the South Downs National Park, providing a truly sustainable community of affordable rent, shared ownership and private market sale, all in architecturally striking homes.

Originally refused at Planning Committee, Hyde Housing successfully secured approval through a Planning Appeal which delayed the project by over 12 months.

Despite the delays in the planning system, we managed the procurement exercise to bring a contractor on board following the refusal, to help secure cost certainty and collaborate as a team to deliver the Planning approval whilst gearing up the contractor's supply chain to make a start on site as soon as practically possible.

A successful high-quality project, the homes have proven popular for people who want modern efficient homes with direct access to the South Downs and sea views from their windows, especially for those people looking to relocate outside of town and city centres, looking for a more flexible work – life balance.

Client
Hyde Housing

Contractor
Westridge Construction

Contract Value
£7,000,000

Duration
3 years

Address
Falmer Avenue, Saltdean

Falmer Avenue

Critical Challenges and Collaboration

Due to the sensitivity of the local setting on the edge of the National Park, the scheme had some serious challenges during the planning process with respect to the landscaping of the scheme and the density and layout of the site. Coupled with the challenging sloping topography and the difficulty of site access, our ongoing cost advice and cost management during the planning process was crucial in keeping the project within budget while still meeting the high quality demanded by the local authority.

Following a successful procurement process, Westridge Construction and Hyde collaborated to deal with the idiosyncrasies of a Planning Approval granted through appeal and one that was delayed through the planning process. Acting as Employer's Agent we fostered and managed this collaborative approach to problem solving and, using the skills of both Hyde and Westridge to their full extent, the project team was able to mitigate cost and time issues arising from the challenging start to the project. Through early engagement we were able to pass on supply chain cost savings to our client.

Services Provided

- CDM Advice / Principal Designer
- Cost Planning & Cost Management
- Employer's Agent
- Feasibility Estimating
- Procurement Advice