

Specifying LPG means we can offer our customers the same home comforts as mains gas, making the development more attractive to potential buyers.

Geoff Hibbert

Engineering Manager at Bloor Homes Midlands

Kineton Meadows is a very large, off-grid development, and because of its size there is a high demand for a reliable fuel source in order to accommodate the heating needs of its 105 homes.

Having investigated the cost of piping mains gas to the homes – which would be around a million pounds for every half-mile – Bloor Homes soon discounted this as a financially-viable option, so had to go in search of an alternative fuel solution.

Customer: Bloor Homes

Application: Underground bulk tanks

for a metered estate

Location: Kineton Meadows, Kineton

Project highlights:

- 12 gas tanks supply 105 metered homes with LPG
- Centralised underground storage location for easy delivery access and good visual appearance
- LPG offers homeowners gas for cooking and living flame fires
- LPG has a low SAP rating, helping to improve the overall energy performance of the site
- Bloor Homes was able to retain its standard design template, with gas-fired boilers



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Geoff Hibbert, Engineering Manager at Bloor Homes Midlands, explains:

"At the beginning of the specification process we considered oil, but found both the installation and running costs to be too high to make Kineton Meadows a feasible project.

After reviewing the alternatives, it soon became clear that LPG was an ideal solution. It's the first time this particular regional office of Bloor Homes had undertaken an LPG installation, so we were naturally cautious at first, however speaking with Calor made us feel a lot more confident about the decision.

Oil-fired boilers were also too large to fit our standard house design templates, but choosing LPG allowed us to build the housetypes and layout we had planned. If we had gone for any of the other alternative fuel options such as oil, electricity or renewables, we would have had to significantly modify the layout of 105 homes, which as you can imagine, would add to costs dramatically and be very time consuming.

The SAPs ratings are also much better for a property fuelled by LPG in comparison to oil, meaning we don't have to add any extra energy-saving features such as solar PV, triple glazing or significant extra insulation.

We really liked the idea of having a central storage location that would fuel all of the homes on the development, which meant that we didn't have to excavate each garden to add individual tanks. Hiding the tanks underground was also a big selling point for us, as it meant there was no aesthetic impact on the site."

LPG benefits

"Another benefit is the telemetry systems that the Calor LPG tanks are fitted with, which automatically re-order fuel topups when required. This gives our customers peace of mind that they will never run out of fuel, as the storage level is always maintained to a minimum of 25 per cent.

The driver of the Calor LPG tanker can simply top-up the bulk tanks when needed as they are sited in a public location, so none of the homeowners have to be present to receive the delivery – it's that simple."

Happy customers

The installation is still ongoing but Bloor Homes is very pleased with the results so far.

"We were extremely happy with the service from Calor, and our site manager even gave the company a first class rating! Calor were so easy to deal with, they took the hassle out of what we thought would be a long and complicated process.

Calor's level of expertise also meant that we were kept totally informed at each stage of the installation, which put our team at ease and reinforced that we had made the right decision going with Calor LPG. We've already recommended it for other developments going forward."