

Appendix 1

Dear Peter,

Happy New Year to you too, all seems so long ago!

Further to your emails below, thank you for the opportunity for the Aveley and Kenningtons Community Forum to provide a response to you with regards to the renaming of the B1335.

The Forum prides itself in being representative, fair and inclusive of all members of this community.

Although we do sympathise with the Mason family with regards to the tragic loss of Nicky Mason from 2nd Battalion the Parachute Regiment, who died on 13th September 2008 in Afghanistan, there are a number of families who are part of our community who have also lost family members in past combat.

The Forum feels it would be more appropriate to recognise all and not one soldier who has fallen so not to segregate one from all.

In view of this, in the event that the B1335 is considered for renaming, it would be more appropriate to recognise all fallen soldiers in our community by perhaps renaming as Remembrance Way or Avenue.

This could also be enhanced by a tree being planted along the B1335 for each soldier fallen.

We have also received a response from a valued member of our community who would like to remain anonymous who also has lost family members in past combat.

I have copied into this email their comments below.

We also shadow the comments made by this resident.

Whilst I understand some of the local community may be in favour of the petition due to personal reasons, I wish to state that I am against the petition.

My reasons are as : -

As the advertisement says "IT SAYS WHAT IT DOES ON THE TIN". For years, Aveley residents complained about heavy traffic in Ship Lane and the High Street area. Eventually the Aveley By-Pass was built. I think the clue is in the word BY-PASS . Motorists, new to the area, know that by using the BY-PASS, they avoid an area of congestion / narrow roads / Zebra crossings and possible delays.

It is easier to direct motorists around the area to say "continue along the B1335" or "along the By-Pass" than to say "continue along the Lance Corporal Nicky Mason Way"

Whilst I have the utmost sympathy for the Mason family in their tragic loss, there are many names on the Aveley War Memorial of Aveley residents who gave their lives in the two world wars in the last century. I have at least two past relatives who lost their lives in the first world war One uncle was at the battle of the Somme and he related to me some of the experiences that he and other fellow troops endured.

To keep the Lance Corporal Nicky Mason name in the public domain, there is already a corner of the Aveley War Memorial Garden dedicated to his memory. So I don't believe another project needs to be named in the Lance Corporal Mason memory.

End of resident comment.

In addition to part of the memorial garden being dedicated to Nicky Mason, there is a further memorial dedicated to Nicky Mason on the High Street the side of Leonard House.

Also, thank you for providing the policy on renaming. I note in the policy there is also an option to rename roundabouts.

Perhaps a more suitable or alternative option would be to name one of the roundabouts at the entrances to the B1335.

This would be a great opportunity for the Mason family and other members of the community to come together to make a fitting feature to one of our green roundabouts.

Responding to you on behalf of the Aveley and Kenningtons Community Forum and not as individuals, the forum is not able to support recognising one without recognising all in renaming the B1335.

Finally, as you are already aware, local elections and purdah are fast approaching and we would hate for this subject to become a political scoring point.

In view of this could we please ask that any decision is deferred until after the local elections expected date of 3rd May 2020.

Would you be kind enough to advise.

Many thanks,

Kind Regards.

Teresa Webster

Chair

Aveley and Kenningtons Community Forum