

The following statements have been submitted – full details are attached:

	Name	Subject
CS01	CLr Richard Eddy	Street-naming of Curo Homes' development at Imperial Park.

CS01

Members Forum statement from Cllr Richard Eddy

Subject: Street-naming of Curo Homes' development at Imperial Park

Despite the fact that the Mayor of Bristol sometimes acts as if he's never heard of South Bristol, I imagine Marvin Rees is aware his interference in the street-naming of Curo Homes' new development of 70 Social Housing dwellings at Imperial Park, Bishopsworth, has stirred up a veritable 'hornets'- nest' locally.

Local people have been angered that his Mayoral Office has chosen to intervene in a local street-naming matter and instead of endorsing his own Street-Naming team's suggestion of a name linked to the area's industrial recent past decreed the street-name selected should celebrate the local Labour politician, who has no discernable links with the local area.

I am sure former Lord Mayor Florence Brown (the first woman to hold the civic post) was a creditworthy individual, but she is already marked by the naming of Florence Brown Special School after her. (Of course, being in South Bristol, the Mayor probably doesn't even know the school exists!).

I have an alternative suggestion, which I'm sure will find support from all quarters.

Bristolian George 'Johnny' Johnson has recently died, at the grand old age of 101. He was the last survivor of the famous RAF 'DamBusters' squadron, which won distinction in the Second World War.

Aside from his brave service during the war, 'Johnny' Johnson spent many years as an enthusiastic fund-raiser for service charities and notably supported the Air Cadets.

Former Squadron Leader Johnson represented one of the last of a dying breed, that generation whose love of country stood the test and, for many of his colleagues in Bomber Command, made the ultimate sacrifice.

His lifetime of achievement and community service was recognised with the awarding of a Lord Mayor's Medal in 2015 and the MBE in 2017, something I sought the Mayor's support for, and which was forthcoming at the time.

With the passing of this heroic airman, I hope the Mayor's Administration will support naming this new development in Bishopsworth after 'Johnny' Johnson- rather than another local politician.