

I have very recently taken over the role of Chairperson of the WPRA following Doug's decision to step aside from the role after many years. He has done a brilliant job and it is fair to say that without him there would not be a WPRA today. The good news is that he will still be around on the committee and will be of great assistance in helping me fit into the role.

I have lived in the area for 34 years with my wife Hilary and our two sons who have now flown the nest. We both taught maths at Lawnswood School, where I was initially Head of maths and then Assistant Head until we finally retired in 2015. We are aware of one family which we have taught three generations!

My first involvement with WPRA was linked to the council's proposal to replace Lawnswood Roundabout with a six-lane highway and take away the grass verges along Otley Old Road. Local Residents formed a working group to oppose the plans and with the support of Doug and local councillors we were successful in having those proposals rejected. This is of course an ongoing issue and new proposals are afoot, as are plans for the redevelopment of Weetwood Police Station site.

Hilary has been secretary of the WPRA for a couple of years and I joined a year or so ago as link person to Lawnswood School.

I look forward to continuing working with Doug and the rest of the committee and believe there will be plenty of issues to occupy our minds.

I can be contacted at chair@westparkresidents.org.uk

Best wishes

Graham Sugden