



I have been a director of the Management Company since March 2009 and always considered myself fortunate to live in Newton Court, which is a unique, quiet, friendly and harmonious backwater, set in delightful gardens, formerly the grounds of Newton Lodge and surrounded by superb mature trees, yet close to the exciting city of Leeds. My aim has always been to use my particular knowledge to protect and enhance as far as possible the unique qualities of Newton Court, to the benefit of all our residents, whether owner occupiers or tenants. As joint owner of three of the flats, I have a vested interest in maintaining the highest standards at Newton Court, whilst striving to ensure that the service charge we all pay is used in the most cost effective and equitable way, to our mutual benefit. Newton Court, built in the 1960s has its own inherent requirements and during my time as a director I have been able to influence many changes and improvements. By its nature it will always require a secure and sustainable maintenance programme going forward to secure its future and this remains one of my priorities as a director. Together with my fellow directors and our managing agents I helped secure the freehold of Newton Court for the Management Company, which now gives us unique opportunities to move forward as masters of our own destiny and ensure Newton Court continues to be an enviable place to live, long into the future.

Qualifications and Skills

Now recently retired, my working life was spent as an architect. Joining a company in 1972, I worked as project architect, managing numerous complex, diverse construction projects, until eventually serving many years, until retirement, as a partner and then senior partner, responsible for developing and managing the business. In the course of my work I was fortunate to be involved in all aspects of the development process from Client liaison, discussions with Local Authorities, the legal process of site acquisition and development, through to the construction phase and delivering the end product. During that time I acquired experience of many complex forms of construction, including, in the 1970s, housing developments similar in construction to Newton Court, together with extensive experience of building procurement and contract management. I was required to have a full knowledge of the frequently changing legislation affecting the construction industry and developed an interest in building law and property management, whilst also acquiring the necessary knowledge of company law and administration required to manage a successful business.

All of which I have been fortunate to use in my role as a director, whether it's strategic planning or advising day to day on the particular foibles of Newton Court's 1960s building fabric, or interpretation of the various clauses of the lease by which we all abide.