

## Latest News: Willen Surgery

Willen Village Surgery unexpectedly closed in April 2013 and I immediately wrote to Jeremy Hunt, Secretary of State for Health, campaigning for the surgery to re-open. Following the last public meeting, I wrote to the Homes and Community Agency to establish the status of existing covenants which could potentially prevent the site being used for other purposes.

In response, HCA Chief Executive Andrew Rose has now confirmed that a covenant is still in force which states that;

"The purchasers (and successors in title) agreed to observe and perform a number of restrictive covenants including to use the property as a health centre only and not use or permit or suffer the same to be used for any other purpose whatsoever."

In the letter, Mr Rose goes on to confirm that no applications had been made to release the covenant and that any variation would have to be considered in the context of the sites planning position determined by Milton Keynes council.

This is a really positive development, not only giving protection to the site for its future use as a medical centre but giving real local power to Milton Keynes Council to protect it. For those of us fighting for it to re-open, this is a major move in the right direction. Like so many, I'm determined to see this surgery open again for the local community.