

# UTILISATION OF NEW RIVER RETAIL FUNDS FOR THE RELOCATION OF GROUPS AFFECTED BY THE TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

REPORT OF                      Divisional Leader for Commercial Services and Contracts  
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Wards affected              N/A

Key decision                Yes

## Purpose of Report

1. To request the release of money from the Martlets Relocation Specific Reserve relating to the closure of Martlets Hall and to support the town centre revitalisation project.

## Recommendation

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet Grants Panel consider a request from Burgess Hill Theatre Club and for Clair Hall from the relocation fund and determine the financial support to be awarded.

## Background

3. Martlets Hall in Burgess Hill closed on 30 June 2018 to allow for the redevelopment of Burgess Hill Town Centre by New River Retail.
4. To support this process a sum of £250k has been received from New River Retail to meet any reasonable costs for affected groups.
5. At previous meetings of this Panel groups affected by the closure of the Hall were awarded a total of £111,625.
6. This leaves a current balance of £138,375 in the Specific Reserve.

## Burgess Hill Theatre Club

7. Burgess Hill Theatre Club used to stage annual pantomimes at Martlets Hall. This year the family pantomime will be held at Burgess Hill Girl's School. In order to enable this to happen the Club require £520 to pay for a screen to project scenes onto as there are no stage curtains to pull across for scene changes. This money will also allow for banners to be located outside the venue informing visitors where to park near to the venue.

## Clair Hall

8. Clair Hall now provides a venue for Burgess Hill Musical Society performances that require fly bars and associated winches, pulleys, clamps and steel wire rope for their scenery and lighting. The total cost of the supply and installation of this equipment (which would also benefit other Hall user groups) is £12,500. Provision of equipment of this nature is a contractual responsibility of Mid Sussex District Council.

## Summary of Grants Requested

Organisation	Summary of bid	Amount requested
Burgess Hill Theatre Club	Costs associated with staging their annual pantomime at Burgess Hill Girls School	£ 520
Clair Hall	Provision and installation of fly bars, winches, pulleys, clamps and steel wire rope for scenery and lighting.	£12,500
<b>Total Requested</b>		<b>£13,020</b>

### Financial Implications

9. The Council have received a sum of £250,000 from New River Retail Ltd as a contribution to any associated costs relating to the closure of Martlets Hall and to support the town revitalisation project.
10. The Martlets Relocation Specific Reserve was created to hold these sums, as reported in the Budget Management Report to Cabinet 5 September 2017.
11. At previous meetings of this Panel a total of £111,625 has been awarded leaving a current balance of £138,375.
12. Members are now requested to release the sum of £13,020 as detailed in the table above, leaving a balance in Specific reserve of £125,355.

### Risk Management Implications

18. The costs involved are affordable within the Reserve Fund. There are no further risks identified with this project.