

Decision taken by: **Ward Member for East Folkestone –
Councillor Connor McConville**

Subject: Hand of Doom

Executive/non-executive decision: Non-executive

Date decision taken: 22 January 2020

Name and address of applicant(s):

Michele Brailsford
35b Westbourne Gardens,
Folkestone,
Kent.
CT20 2HX

Name and description of project:

Hand of Doom Productions CIC - The grant will go towards the cost of storytelling workshops in Folkestone's 24 schools and the community.

DECISION:

To provide funding of £200 to the above project.

Reason for decision:

Folkestone has two wards in the top ten of the most deprived areas in Kent and low literacy rates. It is also recognised that children stop engaging with books aged 11. Yet reading and listening to stories increases concentration, confidence, vocabulary, communication skills and empathy, leading to increased life chances.

We've had an excellent response from schools so far. St Mary's literacy lead Ms Longley said: "The StoryMap project sounds fantastic - we currently have a big push on reading and so this would fit in perfectly with our plan for the year."

Caroline Pratt, a teacher at the Beacon School, said: "As a teacher in an area with the most deprived sector of our community, I believe the Folkestone StoryMap will provide children with experiences that take them outside of their normality and enable them to realise that they too can achieve in life and that their voices are important and deserve to be heard."

Declarations or disclosable pecuniary interest/any other significant interest:

None

The decision set out above was made by me.



Signed:

22 January 2020

Councillor Connor McConville
East Folkestone