



WARD MEMBER DECISION  
NUMBER

**WB/20-21/124**

**Decision taken by:** **Ward Member for North Downs West  
Councillor Mrs Jenny Hollingbee**

**Subject:** St Mary's, Sellindge (The Stour Downs PCC)

**Executive/non-executive decision: Non-executive**

**Date decision taken:** 14 February 2021

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**Name and address of applicant(s):**

Reverend Chris Denyer  
The Rectory  
Church Road  
Smeeth, ASHFORD, Kent  
TN25 6SA

**Name and description of project:**

St Mary's Sellindge -  
Interactive art installation to help promote well-being in our local community  
(opportunity to express loss, hope and anxiety).  
Art workshops to promote well-being and opportunity for creative arts in our local  
community, through participation in South East Open Studios.

**DECISION:**

**To provide funding of £500 to the above project.**

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**Reason for decision:**

As part of a wider project on the future use of St Mary's church building, consultation with local artists, the community and others involved in community art, there is a vision to create a centre for visual art for the local and wider community as part of repurposing and reimagining the church building for community use. Public worship (post Covid) will be located in a more community focused space, such as the school,

in the heart of the community, with key festivals in the year celebrated in the church building. Therefore, there is an ideal opportunity to use the building at St Mary's for longer term exhibitions and a space for workshops for the community to engage with art and improve wellbeing. A vision statement for this project is attached.

**Declarations or disclosable pecuniary interest/any other significant interest:**

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**The decision set out above was made by me.**

**Signed:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Hollingsbee', written in a cursive style.

**14 February 2021**

**Councillor Mrs Jenny Hollingsbee  
Ward – North Downs West**