



WARD MEMBER DECISION  
NUMBER

**WB/20-21/152**

**Decision taken by:** Ward Member for New Romney–  
Councillor David Wimble

**Subject:** JAM

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

**Date decision taken:** 5 March 2021

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

Sarah Armitage  
Ludwell House, Charing,  
Ashford, Kent TN27 0LS

**Name and description of project:**

Marsh primary schools – Ferdinand the Bull, part of JAM on the Marsh (JOTM) festival

To support the delivery of a free filmed performance of Ferdinand the Bull for all Marsh primary schoolchildren to participate in school and enjoy this summer, and future years.

**DECISION:**

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

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**Reason for decision:**

Significant challenges prevent children in Shepway from taking part in the arts:

- Severe education budget cuts, affecting teaching and opportunity
- lack of specialist teaching
- lack of cultural infrastructure
- lack of opportunities and income to experience performance, professionals and quality means

Shepway remains one of the most arts-deprived areas of England with limited cultural

infrastructure and provision.

Young people on Romney Marsh have little arts access and meagre opportunities to participate in, create or experience arts activity, negatively impacting on social, academic and personal progression.

Poor transport prevents children's access to and benefit from activities/opportunities. Since 2012 JAM has been working with Romney Marsh schools, bringing ambitious and aspirational opportunities.

Sadly Covid has halted 2020 activity. Of our 7-month singing + concert in 2019

*"This experience was so valuable which they may never have again."* Teacher

*"We couldn't provide this without JAM."* Teacher

*"Musically outstanding, bringing the community together; inspirational for the children."* Audience

*"JOTM embraces all ages, bringing so much enjoyment, learning and life-changing experiences to so*

*many!"* Audiences

Whilst singing can't yet resume, the schools are looking forward to *Ferdinand*, boosting experience of high-calibre, engaging performance that would not happen otherwise, opening the children's eyes and broadening horizons.

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

None

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

**Signed:**

**5 March 2021**



**Councillor David Wimble  
Ward – New Romney**