



WARD MEMBER DECISION  
NUMBER

**WB/22/23-107**

**Decision taken by:** **Ward Member for Romney Marsh–  
Councillor Ian Meyers**

**Subject:** JAM

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

**Date decision taken:** 27 January 2023

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

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

**Name and description of project:**

*The Sky Engine*, community project for JAM on the Marsh (JOTM), July 2023

Over 2023, deliver our most ambitious community project, involving 2500 people of all ages and ability working with professionals, culminating in their vibrant premiere of *The Sky Engine* in JOTM'23.

**DECISION:**

**To provide funding of £1551 to the above project.**

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**Reason for decision:**

The Marsh:

· schools top Ofsted's priority list & budget cuts results in minimal music teaching & ability.

□ *"Music motivates pupils, making significant contribution to personal & academic development, broadening horizons & raising aspirations."* (Ofsted)

Marsh Headteacher: *“High-quality music education must be available to all; not just those who can afford it. Schools cannot do everything. JAM is bringing the expertise needed; the children’s behaviour is improved, engagement higher, listening better and they express themselves creatively.”*

· has deprivation of arts opportunities & its cultural, academic & socio-economic benefits (Arts Council England) ...

*“Great to have a reason to go out; amazing affordable new experiences in our forgotten backwater.”* (Local resident 2022)

· ... with no support to gain skills/work/be in the £116bn creative industry (DCMS).

*“JAM is an important and integral cultural organisation, supporting local people which doesn’t happen otherwise.”* (Local artist)

· Shepway has a 30% increase in anxiety due to income/isolation/health (Census).

Involvement in

arts opportunities nurtures social & emotional benefit (ACE).

*“I booked the tickets; my friends brought the picnic.”* (Local resident 2022)

*“JOTM is food for the soul; its events make you feel good.”* (Local resident 2022)

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

None.

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

**Signed:**

**27 January 2023**



**Councillor Ian Meyers**

**Ward - Romney Marsh**

