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| Agenda Item; Withdrawal of Arts Funding Submitted by; Cllr Dwyer |
| Approval / Noting For approval by Full Council |
| Purpose of the Report To explain the situation regarding Fleet Arts loss of funding from DCC |
| Background Information Fleets Arts has been based in Belper for 39 years, providing a wide variety of cultural activities for all ages and abilities, most of which have been free due to it being grant-funded. DCC are deciding whether to cut this funding (which is funding that has been provided to the 10 community arts organisations in Derbyshire) on 7 th November. |
| Legislation N/A |
| Accessibility Implications - Fleet Arts works very hard to make the art activities they provide accessible to all. |
| Climate Emergency Implications – As Fleet Arts uses many materials that would go to waste otherwise and some of its projects focus on the need to work against Climate Change. |
| Financial Implications There are many financial implications for Fleet Arts if their funding by DCC is cut but there are no literal implications for BTC. |
| Recommendation(s) That the Full Council votes to send a letter to DCC expressing their dismay at the cuts that are being made to the community arts groups in Derbyshire and requesting that this decision is reversed. |
| Reasons for recommendation(s) Fleet Arts makes a little funding go a long way...but need core costs covered in order to then bring in other funding for delivery. As an organisation it makes such a positive difference for lots of vulnerable groups and has throughout the 39 years that it has been running It generally provides great, accessible, engaging, quality, cultural experiences for people in Belper and Amber Valley, eg Library Lego, Bloomin Marvellous, a workshop in a community garden for Carers, Cotton-On a project about the link between the cotton produced in Belper and the slave trade, Burg Meet and Make for young Ukrainians who are living in Amber Valley and an informative evening on World Menopause Day. If Belper loses Fleets Arts as an organisation it will be a huge cultural loss for the town and all the people who access its events at no cost. This is particularly pertinent at present. Below is the minute from the DCC meeting where this funding cut was discussed. The final decision is Monday 7 th November so will have been made by the time of our FC meeting, <i>6. 4.7 Secondly, and quite importantly, the Council has been reviewing its approach to grant funding voluntary and community organisations. At its meeting on 8 September</i> |

2022, Cabinet considered a report that set out the review process and conclusions. It was noted that a total of 10 arts organisations within the County were currently in receipt of direct grant funding from the Council and it was approved at the meeting that following an assessment process, all 10 organisations should sit on 'pathway two', meaning that grant funding would be withdrawn at the end of March 2023. At the time of writing, a consultation exercise is currently being undertaken with those organisations to understand the impact of this decision.