

## **Council – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

#### **SOUTHEND GOING GREEN GRANT SCHEME 2021**

All members are aware that this Council has passed a climate change declaration and is working towards net zero by 2030. We are also looking for the Borough as a District to achieve that target. However, we recognise that we cannot do it alone and will need the help and support of businesses and residents to make Southend a greener Borough.

We need to be supporting local groups, many of whom have ideas of small schemes that can advance the climate change agenda in their local areas. We need to be supporting them in order to bring their ideas to fruition not just with help and advice but with a level of funding as well.

Therefore we propose a Southend Going Green Grant Scheme to deliver the commitments made in our Climate Change Declaration, through active engagement with local green initiatives, working with local community groups.

The purpose of this Motion is to set aside a single one off amount split across the 17 wards equally for the purpose of grants to community groups (not ward members or LTC) to bring forward their own projects.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED:**

That this Council approve the creation of the Southend Going Green Grant Scheme 2021, to enable the Council to work with local organisations on local green initiatives and allocates appropriate resources to support this.

The Scheme to be funded by an allocation of £85k as a one-off fund divided equally between the 17 wards, (£5000 per ward) awarded under a criteria to be agreed.

The establishment of the Southend Going Greener Grants Scheme 2021 will encourage wider community engagement to help deliver localised projects which benefit the environment and will facilitate community-led initiatives that both improve a local area and enable wider “green” actions.

The Scheme will operate through an application process with applications to be submitted between August and September 2021.

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