



**Council**

**Monday 24 February 2020**

**Agenda Item 9, Motions**

**Motion Proposer: Councillor Hannah Banfield**

**Motion Seconder: Cllr Dan Sames**

**Topic: Peat-free Compost**

**Motion**

This council agrees to use only peat-free compost for our horticultural procedures. In making this commitment we will conserve this diminishing natural resource, as our UK peatlands and the peatlands located within The Republic Of Ireland, play a vital role in absorbing and storing large amounts of carbon dioxide and thus help to mitigate climate change.

**Proposer of Amendment: Cllr Ian Middleton**

**Seconder of Amendment: TBC**

**Motion with Amendments**

This council agrees to use only peat-free compost for our horticultural procedures. In making this commitment we will conserve this diminishing natural resource, as our UK peatlands and the peatlands located within The Republic Of Ireland, play a vital role in absorbing and storing large amounts of carbon dioxide and thus help to mitigate climate change.

The council already has access to huge amounts of 'homegrown' naturally peat-free compost and this should be the first choice when these materials are required. As a general principle the council should only use compost and soil improvers generated through its own waste recycling and composting facilities and avoid the use of commercially produced compost in all but the most exceptional circumstances. This will not only be cheaper, it will also avoid the additional carbon created in the manufacture, packaging and distribution of commercially produced composts.