



# Andover Town Council

## History of the Andover Town Council Crest

Item No.  
**19a**

**Produced for:** Full Council

**By:** Cllr Katherine Bird  
Deputy Clerk

**Date of Report:** 27 November 2023

### Background:

In the Full Council meeting held on the 22 November 2023 the following was resolved:

#### COMMUNITY AND EVENTS LOGO

**C 171/11/23**

It was proposed by Councillor H Neate and seconded by Councillor J Sangster and **RESOLVED: Unanimously**, that this item be deferred to the next Full Council meeting and more information be provided in the interests of openness and transparency.

**Action: Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk.**

### History:

In 2010 Andover Town Council was formed and adopted the use of the Lion and Oak crest in December of that year.

In 2016 Andover Town Council required a high-res version of the Lion and Oak crest. It was at this time Andover Town Council discovered that no-one had the right to use it therefore Andover Town Council began the process of acquiring the arms.

The College of Arms clarified that the arms, crest, and supporters were granted by letters patent of Garter, Clarenceux and Norroy and Ulster Kings of Arms dated 4 April 1949 to the Borough of Andover [Coll. Arms Grants 111.144]. They had not been transferred to any successor authority.

The ability to transfer arms by Order in Council under the LGA 1972, s 247, only applies to **new councils** created by that Act or by powers granted by the LGA 1992. Andover was created by the Test Valley (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order 2010 under powers created by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, s 86 and therefore fulfilled these criteria.

If Andover Town Council wanted to use any part of the Andover Coat of Arms, it needed to apply for a Royal Licence and subsequent exemplification by the Kings of Arms for the transfer of the old Borough arms.


A report was taken to Full Council in September 2016 and the following resolution was made:


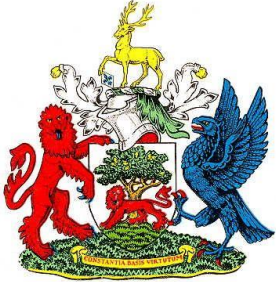
<b>CORPORATE IDENTITY</b>	
<b>C078/16</b>	<p>Members were asked to consider whether the Town Council should obtain the full Andover Crest and Coat of Arms for its Corporate Identity.</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that since the Council Agenda and Papers had been distributed to the public, three anonymous donors had come forward offering to fund the Town Council's purchase of the right to use the Crest and Coat of Arms.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr K Bird and seconded by Cllr R Hughes that the Town Council purchase the right to use the Andover Crest and Coat of Arms for its Corporate Identity with the generous donations. A vote was taken which was unanimous.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Town Council purchase the right to use the Andover Crest and Coat of Arms with the generous donations from three anonymous donors covering the entire cost.</p>


Since 2019 Andover Town Council has been using the complete Andover Borough Coat of Arms which is made up of:

- The arms** - the Lion and Oak
- The crest** - the wreath, the fleur de lis, helmet and stag.
- The supporters** - the Lion and the eagle.



Date	Description	Source	Image
1648	The lion standing against an oak-tree is taken from the device on a former seal of the Borough	<a href="http://www.civicheraldry.co.uk/south_central.html">http://www.civicheraldry.co.uk/south_central.html</a> <a href="https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover">https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover</a>	Can't find one
1835	Sigill commune ville de Andever	<a href="https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover">https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover</a>	

<p><b>1915</b> Has no armorial bearings. Its seal, recorded in the College of Arms, represents upon a mount a lion statant guardant, in front of a tree. The legend is "Sigill. commvne ville de Andever," and this is all that appears to be claimed for the said town in Debrett's " House of Commons," but Burke's " General Armory" quotes it as a coat-of-arms, namely, "Ar. on amount vert a lion statant guard, gu. against a tree ppr."</p>	<p>From "The book of public arms : a complete encyclopædia of all royal, territorial, municipal, corporate, official, and impersonal arms"</p> <p><a href="https://archive.org/stream/bookofpublicarms00foxd/bookofpublicarms00foxd_djvu.txt">https://archive.org/stream/bookofpublicarms00foxd/bookofpublicarms00foxd_djvu.txt</a></p> <p><a href="https://drawshield.net/reference/public-arms/a/andover.html">https://drawshield.net/reference/public-arms/a/andover.html</a></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">ANDOVER</p>
<p><b>1949</b> Arms for the Borough created. The lion standing against an oak-tree is taken from the device on a former seal of the Borough dating from at least 1648. This is supposed to have been adopted because there was a royal hunting-lodge, at the place now called Woodhouse.</p> <p>The deer alludes to the forest and surrounding Andover, and the fleur-de-lis is for St Mary, the patron saint.</p> <p>The red lion, is from the heraldry of the Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire, who is also Viscount Andover.</p>	<p><a href="https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover">https://www.heraldry-wiki.com/wiki/Andover</a></p>	

	<p>The eagle indicates that Andover has been an important centre for the Royal Air Force.</p> <p>The motto is that of Robert, Earl of Essex, who as High Steward of the Borough secured for it the charter granted by Queen Elizabeth I.</p>		
<b>2010</b>	Town Council formed in May, and in December began using the original Andover Coat of Arms		
<b>2017</b>	Town Council officially allowed to use Arms		

**Recommendations:**  
 To **receive** and **note** the report.