

Armorial Bearings	15th November 2016
Corporate Policy and Resources Committee For decision	

Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)	
Strategic Theme	Leadership and Champion
Outcome	Providing civic leadership to our citizens
Lead Officer	Director of Performance
Cost: (If applicable)	£14,500

1.0 Background

1.1 At its meeting in August 2016 Council approved the recommendation of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee to establish a sub-committee to take forward the Charter project and contribution to the elements to be submitted to the College of Arms for consideration in the development of the Armorial Bearings.

1.2 Armorial Bearings Sub-Committee

1.3 The sub-committee has been established and the representation on the sub-committee is 2 DUP Councillors Knight- McQuillan and Councillor Callan, 1 UU Councillor McCandless, 1 SF Councillor Nicholl and 1 SDLP Councillor Beattie.

1.4 The sub-committee held its first meeting on 1st November 2016 at which it considered the features and elements of the four legacy councils' Coat of Arms.

2.0 Armorial Bearings

2.1 The new Coat of Arms is being designed by the College of Arms who will develop a design which will need to be distinct from all that have gone before. The College of Arms welcomes input from the Council regarding the design, including ideas of references and elements which the Council considers must be included.

2.2 The notes of the sub-committee's meeting held on 1st November are attached as Appendix 1.

- 2.3 The presentation made to the Sub Committee at its meeting is attached as Annex A.
- 2.4 The presentation containing the elements proposed by the Sub-Committee for inclusion in the new design is attached as Annex B.

3.0 Recommendation

It is **recommended** that Committee considers the elements for inclusion in the Coat of Arms suggested by the sub-committee and offers further ideas to forward to the College of Arms for consideration in the design.

**REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.00PM**

Members Present: Councillors Beattie, Callan, Knight-McQuillan, McCandless, Nicholl

Officers Present: Chief Executive
Democratic Services Manager

1. PRESENTATION

The Chief Executive presented the sub-committee with historical background on the College of Arms and information on the four Legacy Council's Coat of Arms.

Outlining the process for the development of the Arms the Chief Executive advised the sub-committee that the College of Arms has full discretion over the final design of the Coat of Arms but Council's wishes will be taken into account. When Council has agreed some elements that it considers important these will be sent to the College of Arms. When an agreement on a design is reached a sketch will be prepared for Council's approval.

2. LEGACY COUNCILS' COAT OF ARMS

The sub-committee considered the four Coat of Arms of Ballymoney Borough Council, Coleraine Borough Council, Limavady Borough Council and Moyle District Council.

Members outlined the elements from these that they would wish to submit for consideration and also added some ideas for new elements.

Element	Significance/representing	Legacy Council	New element
Divided per saltire (partition of shield, diagonally both ways)		Ballymoney BC	

Element	Significance/representing	Legacy Council	New element
Fish/Salmon	Salmon found in River Bann Taken from O’Cahan Arms and Fishmongers’ Company Arms Rivers in each former borough	Coleraine BC Limavady BC All	
Wheatsheaf	Agriculture Harvest festival	Ballymoney BC Coleraine BC Moyle DC	
Causeway Stones	World Heritage Site at Giant’s Causeway	Moyle DC	
Blue/white lines/waves/water/ heraldic fountain Colour - Blue/white	Ports, harbours, water as an important feature of the area Altnahinch Dam Connection to Scotland	All Ballymoney BC Ballymoney BC	
Colour – Gold	Beaches/sand Bushmills’ Distillery Brighter gold	Coleraine BC, Moyle DC Limavady BC	✓
Dragon supporter with crowns Wolfhound supporter	Borough status Reference to Ireland generally	Coleraine BC and Ballymoney BC (crowns) Moyle DC	
Red Hand	Province of Ulster	Coleraine BC	
Harp	The Downhill Harp and Denis O’Hampsey		✓

Element	Significance/representing	Legacy Council	New element
Anchor	Hope		✓

3. MOTTO

The Chief Executive advised Members that Council could also choose a suitable motto for inclusion in the Coat of Arms. Two of the former Legacy Council had a motto, Ballymoney Borough Council 'Goodwill to all people' and Moyle District Council 'Absit Invidia' which translates as 'Let there be no ill will'.

Members agreed to give consideration to a possible motto and inform the Chief Executive prior to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting.

4. CIVIC MEMORABILIA

The Chief Executive advised Members that an inventory of civic memorabilia including Mayors' portraits, photographs, gifts and other memorabilia would be presented to the sub-committee at its next meeting when Members could consider options for the display and location of the items.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

ANNEX A

Borough Charter and Armorial Bearings Sub Committee Tuesday 1st November 2016

Councillors Beattie, Callan, Knight-McQuillan, McCandless and Nicholl

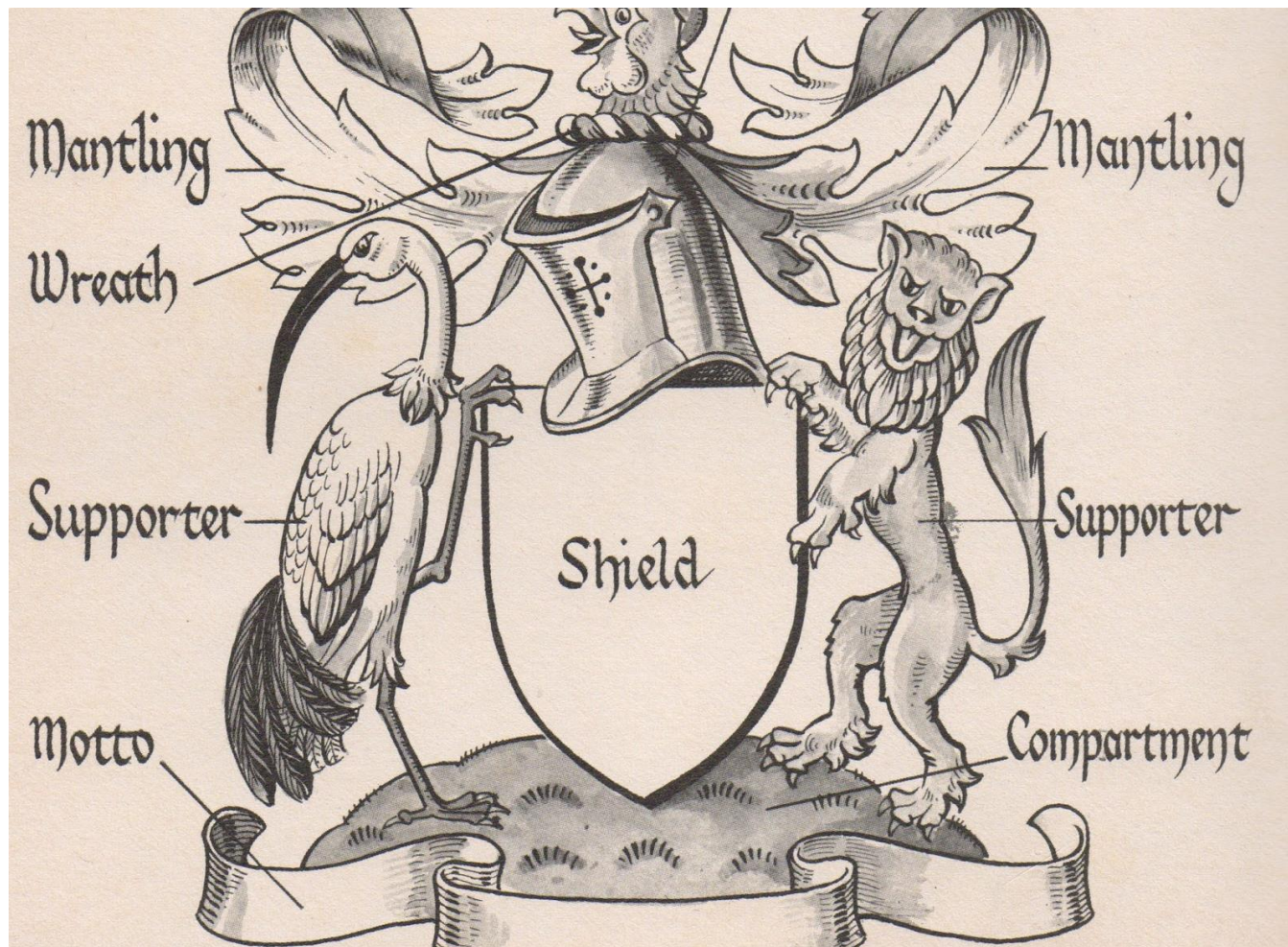
Remit of the Sub Committee

- To take forward the Charter project and contribution to the elements to be submitted to the College of Arms for consideration in the development of the Armorial Bearings.
- Address the matter of Civic Photographs and Council memorabilia displayed by the legacy councils in civic offices and develop a policy on the matter.

Meeting of Sub Committee on 1st November 2016

To consider contribution to the elements to be submitted to the College of Arms for consideration in the development of the Armorial Bearings

- The College of Arms has full discretion over the design but the wishes of Council are taken into account as fully as possible.
- Consider themes, concepts, and aspects of the various places of the borough that can be represented by the design.
- Consider a motto for the Coat of Arms which can be in any language e.g. English or Latin
- The overall effect should be simple, striking and memorable.



Armorial Bearings

Armorial bearings include Arms, Crests and Supporters.



The Arms

Divided per saltire and coloured blue and white, to allude to St. Andrew's cross, and thereby to Ballymoney's connection with Scotland.

The red crosses are taken from the Arms and Crest of the MacDonnells and the garb (wheatsheaf) refers to agriculture. The tower alludes to Ballymoney's old church tower.

The Crest

This consists of a curlew, to denote the wildlife in the Ballymoney area and an heraldic fountain to represent the Altnahinch Dam and Garry Bog.

The Supporters

The horse features as a supporter to the arms of Lord Macartney, and the boar indicates Ballymoney's bacon industry. The mural crowns with which the supporters are gorged refer to the Borough Council's status.

The Motto

"Goodwill To All People"



Cuil Rathain has been interpreted as 'the corner of the ferns'. The other and more probable translation of the town name, based upon 'cuil rath na ene' is 'little fort on the corner' referring to the prominent ancient earthen rath at Mountsandel, situated on a very distinct bend of the River Bann near the Salmon Leap.

The Shield

The Red Cross is the cross of St Patrick who is claimed to have given Coleraine its name, Cul Rathain. The blue lines on each side of the cross represent a port or harbour, of which there are four in the Borough. The wheat sheaves represent agriculture in the Borough, whilst the fish denotes the salmon found in the River Bann.

The Supports

The castle on top of the shield refers to the former 11th-15th century Norman Castles as well as to the 16th-17th century earthen ramparts of the planned town. The dragons supporting the crest originate from the City of London Arms. Only settlements granted Borough status or better are permitted to have supports of this kind.



Description

The shield is made up of two parts using in the lower part the former Coat of Arms of the old Limavady District Council. It consists of crossed hands with scallop shells and is taken from the Coat of Arms of the Connolly family who owned all the land around Limavady from 1697. They had purchased the estate from the Philips family who had been granted the land by James 1 in 1612. The Connolly family lived at Castletown House, Co. Kildare. The upper portion of the shield is shown as a blue wavy line, which is taken from the Philips' Arms and also appears in the Arms of the Haberdashers' Company who also held the land north-east of Limavady around the townland of Ballycastle. It also appears in the Arms of the former Limavady Regional Water Board.

Continued...



On the blue wavy band are shown two sets of crossed fish, which are taken from the Arms of the O’Cahan family and from the Fishmongers’ Company Arms. They held all the land around Ballykelly and Feeny. The fish also appear in the Arms of the former Limavady Rural Council.

In the middle of the blue wavy line is shown the figure of St Columba or St Colmcille seated in a boat. This represents the visit of the saint to the Convention of Drumceatt in A.D. 575. The Convention was on Mullagh Hill in the grounds of Roe Park House just west of the town.

The crest of top of the helmet consists of a mural crown, which represents the Borough status of the council. Inside the crown is a rock with an Irish wolfhound leaping across it. This represents the legend of the famous O’Cahan hound leaping across a gorge with a message. The English meaning of ‘Limavady’ is ‘The Leap of the Dog’. Continued...



The dog is carrying a broken lance, which is taken from the crest of the Philips' family. The two supporters are taken from the Philips' and the O'Cahan's Arms. The one on the left is a cat-a-mountain from the O'Cahan's Arms and the one on the right is a black lion which is taken from the Philip's Arms. The cat-a-mountain is similar to the lynx that appears in the Skinners' Company Arms. They held the land around Dungiven area and the lion also appears in the Haberdashers' Arms. Each animal has a wreath around its neck which also appears in the colours of blue and white. Below the shield are blue and white wavy lines which appear on the Philips' Haberdashers' and Fishmongers' Arms.

The motto ABSIT INVIDIA translates are 'Let there by (be?) no ill will'.



The hand in the crest with the fingers turned down is a tribute to Colonel Boyd who developed the town of Ballycastle in the eighteenth century; the lightning flashes are a reference to Marconi who sent the first wireless messages across water from Ballycastle to Rathlin Island; the alternate black diamonds (coal) and sheaves of corn refer to coal mining and the Lamma Fair (a harvest festival) respectively.

The wolf supporter on the dexter (*right*) is a reference to County Antrim and the wolfhound on the sinister (*left*) refers to Ireland generally. The glass-blowing pipe and bottle refer to the former glass industry at Ballycastle, while the anchor indicates that the town is a harbour.

The main tinctures of the shield are Vert (green) and or (gold). The green illustrates the fertile farmlands of the area, as well as being a colour usually associated with Ireland.

Continued...



The gold represents both the colour of Irish Whiskey and the sandy beaches of this coastal region. The white and blue wavy edges to the central 'Pale' show that water is an important feature of the area.

The central device of a Tower on a lozenge refers to Ballycastle, the centre of the area, the main square of which is known as the 'Diamond'. Above and below this are black lymphads or galleys which feature in the Coat of Arms of the MacDonnells, the chief clan in the Glens of Antrim since the fourteenth century. On either side of the central Pale are stylised stills representing Bushmills distillery, the world's oldest licensed whiskey distillery.

The Coat of Arms is completed by a representation of the Giant's Causeway, a World Heritage site, shown rising out of stylised water which acts as a 'Compartment' for the supporters to stand on.

Common features and themes

Wheatsheaves (BBC, CBC, LBC) – representing agriculture, harvest

Blue/white wavy band/blue lines/heraldic fountain (ALL)– representing water as an important feature of the area and representing a port or harbour.

Crowns on top of the crest or on the supporters – representing a Borough Council's status.

Fish – representing salmon found in the River Bann (CBC) and taken from the O'Cahan Arms and from the Fishmongers' Company Arms (LBC)

The Sub Committee is requested to consider the elements contained in the Coat of Arms of the four legacy Councils and make recommendation to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee on suggestions for the motto, colours, features, themes and concepts for the Council's new Coat of Arms which can be forwarded to the College of Arms.



**Causeway
Coast & Glens
Borough Council**

ANNEX B

Elements and concepts for consideration in the design of the Council's new Coat of Arms

Report of the Armorial Bearings Sub-Committee Meeting held Tuesday 1st November 2016

Legacy Coat of Arms

Ballymoney Borough Council



Coleraine Borough Council



Legacy Coat of Arms

Limavady Borough Council



Moyle District Council granted Arms in 1982.



Elements from Legacy Councils' Coat of Arms put forward by the Sub-Committee for consideration

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