The Chequer Inn Ash Society (CIAS, The Society)

Society Share Withdrawal policy

Purpose of the policy

To set a policy regarding the withdrawal of share capital by the Chequer Inn Ash Society (CIAS) shareholders (members) without jeopardising financial security. CIAS is run by an elected management committee (the 'committee'). This policy complies with the Cooperative and Community Benefit Society Act 2014 and reflects the Society's model rules. The Society is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The Society retains absolute discretion in the operation of this policy.

Policy

1. Members cannot sell or transfer their shares but they can apply to the Society to withdraw them subject to the shares being held for a minimum of three years.
2. Application for withdrawal can be made at any time but will normally be subject to not less than 3 months' notice although the Society may choose to waive the notice period. Requests are to be made by email to the CIAS committee email address (chequermates@gmail.com)
3. Receipt of the application will be acknowledged and recorded, and the member kept informed of the decision.
4. In the event of application following the death of a member also refer to appendix 1.
5. The management committee may agree a proposed maximum total amount ('the cap') for each financial year taking into account
    - Financial reserves
    - Capital requirements of existing and planned projects
    - Overall trading position and current financial regulation
    - The interest rate payment, if any
    - Potential alternative capital finance
6. Point 5 notwithstanding, the committee reserve the right to increase or decrease the amount available in the cap taking into account the CIAS financial position at the time of application.
7. Repayment requests will be recorded and then considered in the order of which they were received.
8. Applications for withdrawal will be considered at the next CIAS committee meeting and the decisions recorded in the minutes.
9. When considering applications, the CIAS committee will confirm the holding.
10. If money is still available within the cap, then repayment will be made in full although members are encouraged to retain at least a single share in order to retain Society membership.
11. On a successful share withdrawal application, CIAS will repay the capital value and cancel the shares.
12. If authorised, payment will be made into the member's nominated bank account.

13. If at the time of application the current cap has been used, the application will remain on the list for consideration when funds become available.
14. CIAS may issue a revised share certificate(s) showing the reduced holding where appropriate.
15. Members will be paid pro rata interest, if applicable, for the period which they have held shares.
16. This policy will be reviewed annually and any changes approved by CIAS.

Ratified by the CIAS committee on: 27th January 2026

Revised - September 8th 2026 to align with Share offer documents.

Approved by:

W. Speed

Dr William (Bill) Speed Chairman CIAS

Dated: 11th September 2026

Appendix 1. Death of member

Special consideration will be given to repayment in the event of death of a member:

- If the member has previously provided the Society with instructions requesting the transfer of shares upon the member's death to a nominated beneficiary, the shares can be transferred directly to such beneficiary for amounts up to £5,000, without going through probate.
- If there is no nomination request in place or for any excess above £5,000, the shares will form part of the deceased's estate and will be handled through the probate process by the executor.
- If the shares are transferred to the member's nominee or executor, in line with the deceased's wishes, the nominee or executor can then apply to withdraw the shares.
- The beneficiary can choose to leave their investment in the Society, supporting its ongoing activities and benefiting from any interest paid or bequeath the value of their shares to the Society to further its aims but losing the right to vote or future interest payments. The Society's share register will be updated accordingly.

If the Society is unable to repay a deceased member's shares immediately due to insufficient liquidity, an insufficient balance on the profit and loss account, to avoid jeopardising the Society's financial stability, the following steps will be taken:

1. The Society will inform the deceased member's nominee or executor of the situation, explaining the reasons for the delay and the anticipated timeframe for repayment.
2. Once the Society's financial position improves, the outstanding shares will be repaid as soon as practicable.
3. Alternatively, it may be possible to agree with the beneficiary that a loan be created on repayment terms acceptable to all parties.
4. The Society will continue to pay pro-rata interest (if any) on the outstanding shares until they are repaid, in accordance with the current rate.
5. The Society will ensure compliance with any regulatory requirements and maintain transparent records of outstanding obligations to members' estates.

Appendix 2

The Chequer Inn Ash Society - NOMINATION/GIFTING OF SHARES ON DEATH

You can choose to:

1. Nominate a person over the age of 18 years of age to whom you wish your shares to be transferred on your death. **OR**
2. Bequeath the value of their shares to CIAS.

The Chequer Inn Ash Society will respect your wishes in so far as our Rules permit. Making a nomination or gift is optional and is restricted to a maximum of £5,000 by financial rules. If you do not make a nomination or gift your shares to CIAS, they (and any holding over £5,000) will form part of your overall estate and be treated accordingly, or, if you are a joint shareholder, your holding will pass to the other joint shareholder(s) on your death.

Please complete the relevant section of the form below according to your wishes and return to the company secretary at the registered address. The form may be completed electronically and emailed to chequermates@gmail.com

1. Nomination of Shares on your Death

Personal details of your beneficiary

First Name(s)	**Address including postcode**
Last name	
Date of Birth	**Email address and/or telephone number**

I understand that it may not be possible for the Chequer Inn Ash Society to action this request and I and my executors will not hold the Society responsible for its actions. I understand that these instructions can only be revoked or amended by my giving clear written instructions to company secretary at the registered address or emailed to chequermates@gmail.com.

Signature: ____

Print Name: ____Date: ___________________

OR

2. I wish to bequeath my shares to The Chequer Inn Ash Society in the event of my death. I understand that these instructions can only be revoked or amended by my giving clear written instructions to company secretary at the registered address or emailed to chequermates@gmail.com.

Signature: ____

Print Name: ____Date__________________

Appendix 3 Flowchart

Trading figures and overall financial position calculated by accountants and financial report prepared

Cap for withdrawals calculated taking into account overall financial position (i.e. operating profit, reserve for unforeseeable events and planned projects).

CIAS record all applications for withdrawal including date received. Applications are considered at the next CIAS meeting and the circumstances (ie. Death of member)

A. Value of applications for withdrawal is less than the funds available

Application is granted

B. Value of applications for withdrawal exceeds fund available

Consideration is given to current financial position.

Application denied and added to waiting list until payment can be made.

In the case of member death, a loan may be created

CIAS secretary advises individual shareholders, cancels the shares and pays back the value to the holder. If the shareholder retains a smaller holding then a new certificate showing the reduced holding **may be** issued.