



# Avon Dassett Community Benefit Society Limited Shareholding Policy



## Update Schedule

| <b>Version</b> | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Description / Reason For Revision</b>           |
|----------------|--------------|--|
| Version 1      | 5 July 2022  | Approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting. |
| Version 2      | 10 July 2023 | Approved by Members at the Annual General Meeting  |



## 1) Introduction

Like all Community Benefit Societies, Avon Dassett Community Benefit Society Limited (“the Society”) is governed by its Rules and, in our case, we have chosen to adopt the standard model agreed with the Plunkett Foundation and the Financial Conduct Authority (“the FCA”). These form our constitution, and they specify how the Society must govern itself in all aspects of its business.

It’s important that the Rules reflect the specific needs of the Society, and for this reason we are permitted to make changes that deviate from the Model Rules. To date we have made no changes to the Rules in the standard model.

Rule changes can only be enacted if approved in a Members’ Meeting, and then only if approved by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast at that meeting. The amended Rules (if there are substantial changes), will need to be accepted by the FCA (for which there will be a cost). For reference, our current rules can be downloaded via this link <https://www.avondassettcommunitybenefitsociety.co.uk/the-legal-information-society-rules/>.

An alternate approach to changing the Model Rules is for the Society to agree a number of policies that complement the Model Rules but do not in any way create conflict with the standard model.

Since we established the Society in July 2017 the Model Rules have served us well, but we now consider that it is necessary to consider some additional policies which will enable the Society to address a number of areas of concern.

## 2) Shareholding limits

The maximum number of shares that can be bought by any one individual for themselves will be 100 (five thousand pounds). Shareholders who bought their shares before this limit was introduced will have their Shares redeemed, as finances allow and with the approval of the Management Committee, to bring them within the revised limit.

## 3) Share withdrawal.

The Model Rules require share withdrawal requests to be dealt with on a first-come first-served basis.

We propose to vary our Rules to allow the management Committee to earmark funds each month for Share Withdrawals and, on a quarterly basis, approve share requests for redemption with reference to the funds available and the total number of requests.

**(Note:- This policy has been adopted but as at the approval date all requests for share withdrawals have been dealt with on a first come first served basis. The Society has been able access support from the Plunkett Foundation to consider whether a change can be made to the model rules to enable the Society to allow the policy to be fully implemented).**

## 4) Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis and if changes are considered appropriate by the Management Committee they will be presented for adoption at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.