

# ***Benevolent & Children's Fund News***

## ***July 2025***

### **The Catenian Association Benevolent & Children's Fund ([catenianbenevolence.org](http://catenianbenevolence.org))**

The Trustees of the Benevolent Fund meet six times per year and the most recent meeting was on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. Seven Trustees were present in person with one attending by video conference and one apology for absence.

Seven applications for assistance were received, of which five were re-applications and two were new. Four applications were approved and three deferred pending further information. Grants awarded came to £2,285 and loans £192,500. There had been no calls on the Emergency Committee since the previous meeting in May.

Loan repayments received amounted to £7,800.

Four cases were reviewed. These are cases where a loan has been made previously and remains outstanding. The Trustees review such cases at intervals of no longer than two years. Occasionally, a beneficiary might offer to start making repayments: more often, it is appropriate to offer additional assistance: most often the file is put away for a further review in two years' time.

A further 20 cases were considered, either as a result of actions arising from previous meetings or from correspondence received.

#### **RESERVES**

	<b>18/05/2025</b>	<b>18/07/2025</b>
Equities	£5,401,562	£5,481,995
Bonds	£784,180	£116,731
Property Fund	£1,206,800	£997,755
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,392,542</b>	<b>£6,596,482</b>
Cash held for investment	£183,962	£1,132,658
Cash at Bank	£358,107	£135,191
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>£7,934,611</b>	<b>£7,864,331</b>

There had been two transactions occurring in the days before the meeting. A pre-planned sale of part of the holding in a Property Fund was completed, raising £210,991. Second, a previously announced closure of a Charity Bond Fund was completed raising £685,733. The bulk of the cash currently held will be re-invested very shortly.

#### **CHANGE TO A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION (CIO)**

Following extensive discussions before and during the meeting, Heads of Terms were agreed and signed by the Association Secretary and the Chairman of Trustees covering co-operation between the Trustees and Central Council on the following matters:

- Appointment of Trustees to the CIO,
- Terms of Office of Trustees,
- Removal of a Trustee from the Office and
- Enshrinement of certain matters in the Constitution.

The Heads of Terms were subsequently ratified and signed by the Chairman of Central Council.



Joint Announcement by the Central Council of the Catenian Association (CC) and the Board of Trustees of the Catenian Association Benevolent and Children's Fund (Benevolent Fund) to The Members of The Catenian Association.

14<sup>th</sup> August 2025

**Re: Conversion of the Benevolent Fund to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).**

Central Council and the Board of Trustees wish to announce that as the result of a meeting between Central Council (CC) Representatives and the Trustees, agreement had been reached on the inclusion of the following in the constitution of the new CIO. These are:

- 1. The Trustees are to be appointed on merit by CC - which shall act in (i) what it believes to be the interest of the CIO and its beneficiaries from time to time and (ii) accordance with relevant guidelines of the Charity Commission.*
- 2. Taking into account the need for trustee continuity, given the time for which financial support may be given to beneficiaries, the normal term of office for CIO Trustees will be 5 years, and at the end of that term the CIO Trustees may agree to a further consecutive 5-year term if they determine that it is in the interests of the CIO and its beneficiaries.*

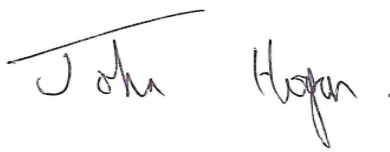
*The CIO Trustees may appoint that trustee to a third consecutive 5-year term under certain conditions.*

- 3. A CIO Trustee may be removed from office by resolution of the remaining CIO Trustees or by CC. A Trustee may be removed from office by CC only after CC has consulted with the CIO Trustees. A procedure for how this will occur will be included in the documentation.*
- 4. To the extent that items 1 through 4 are contained in the CIO's constitution, it shall contain provisions which only enable them to be changed with the approval of CC or of the Charity Commission.*

Final documentation will be drawn up for approval by the Trustees and CC setting out in detail the conditions under which these agreed points will operate.


It is important that members be aware that the Benevolent Fund is a totally independent organisation from the Association and that none of the above agreed points will have any impact on the day to day running of the Fund.

The Chairmen of Central Council and the Board of Trustees thank all brothers for their input into this process and are focusing on finalisation of the documentation so that the efforts of all can return to normal business of building membership and providing benevolence for those in need.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Hogan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line above the first name.

John Hogan

Chair of the Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Woodford". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line above the first name.

Peter Woodford

Chair of Central Council.