

No. 3504214

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
of  
Baronsmead Venture Trust plc

Date of incorporation: 29 January 1998  
(to ~~be~~As adopted by Special Resolution passed on ~~12<sup>th</sup> February~~  
March 2025)

## CONTENTS

1.	TABLE "A" NOT TO APPLY .....	1
2.	INTERPRETATION .....	1
3.	LIABILITY OF MEMBERS .....	5
4.	UNCERTIFICATED SHARES.....	5
5.	REGISTERED OFFICE .....	8
	SHARE CAPITAL.....	8
6.	ALLOTMENT .....	8
7.	REDEEMABLE SHARES.....	9
8.	POWER TO ATTACH RIGHTS.....	9
9.	SHARE WARRANTS .....	9
10.	COMMISSION AND BROKERAGE .....	10
11.	TRUSTS NOT TO BE RECOGNISED.....	10
	SHARE CERTIFICATES .....	10
12.	RIGHT TO CERTIFICATES.....	10
13.	REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATES .....	11
	LIEN ON SHARES .....	11
14.	LIEN ON SHARES NOT FULLY PAID.....	11
15.	ENFORCEMENT OF LIEN BY SALE .....	11
16.	APPLICATION OF PROCEEDS OF SALE .....	12
	CALL ON SHARES.....	12
17.	CALLS.....	12
18.	INTEREST ON CALLS .....	12
19.	RIGHTS OF MEMBER WHEN CALL UNPAID .....	13
20.	SUMS DUE ON ALLOTMENT TREATED AS CALLS .....	13
21.	POWER TO DIFFERENTIATE.....	13

22.	PAYMENT IN ADVANCE OF CALLS.....	13
23.	DELEGATION OF POWER TO MAKE CALLS .....	13
24.	INDEMNITY AGAINST CLAIMS IN RESPECT OF SHARES .....	14
	FORFEITURE OF SHARES .....	14
25.	NOTICE IF CALL NOT PAID.....	14
26.	FORFEITURE FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.....	15
27.	NOTICE AFTER FORFEITURE.....	15
28.	FORFEITURE MAY BE ANNULLED.....	15
29.	SURRENDER .....	15
30.	DISPOSAL OF FORFEITED SHARES.....	15
31.	EFFECT OF FORFEITURE .....	16
32.	EXTINCTION OF CLAIMS.....	16
33.	EVIDENCE OF FORFEITURE .....	16
	TRANSFER OF SHARES .....	16
34.	FORM OF TRANSFER .....	16
35.	RIGHT TO REFUSE REGISTRATION.....	17
36.	NOTICE OF REFUSAL.....	17
37.	RETENTION OF INSTRUMENTS OF TRANSFER .....	18
38.	NO FEES ON REGISTRATION.....	18
39.	OTHER POWERS IN RELATION TO TRANSFERS.....	18
	TRANSMISSION OF SHARES .....	18
40.	ON DEATH.....	18
41.	ELECTION OF PERSON ENTITLED BY TRANSMISSION.....	18
42.	RIGHTS ON TRANSMISSION.....	19
	DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS .....	19
43.	DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS.....	19

ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL.....	20
0. CONSOLIDATION AND SUB-DIVISION.....	20
1. FRACTIONS.....	20
2. TREASURY SHARES.....	21
VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS.....	21
3. SANCTION TO VARIATION.....	21
4. NO VARIATION.....	22
5. CLASS MEETINGS.....	22
MEETINGS OF MEMBERS.....	22
6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.....	22
7. GENERAL MEETINGS OTHER THAN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.....	22
8. CONVENING AND PARTICIPATING IN GENERAL MEETINGS.....	23
9. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS.....	23
10. GENERAL MEETING HELD AT MORE THAN ONE PHYSICAL LOCATION.....	24
11. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS.....	26
12. OMISSION TO SEND NOTICE OR NON-RECEIPT OF NOTICE.....	27
13. POSTPONEMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS OR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.....	27
PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS.....	27
14. QUORUM.....	27
15. IF QUORUM NOT PRESENT.....	27
16. CHAIRMAN.....	28
17. ENTITLEMENT TO ATTEND AND SPEAK.....	28
18. POWER TO ADJOURN.....	28
19. NOTICE OF ADJOURNED MEETING.....	28
20. BUSINESS OF ADJOURNED MEETING.....	29
21. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.....	29

22.	ORDERLY CONDUCT .....	29
	VOTING AND POLLS.....	29
23.	METHOD OF VOTING .....	29
24.	CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION CONCLUSIVE ON SHOW OF HANDS.....	30
25.	OBJECTION TO OR ERROR IN VOTING .....	30
26.	AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTIONS.....	31
27.	PROCEDURE ON A POLL.....	31
28.	VOTES OF MEMBERS .....	32
29.	VOTING RECORD DATE.....	32
30.	VOTES OF JOINT HOLDERS.....	32
31.	VOTES OF MEMBER SUFFERING INCAPACITY .....	32
32.	RESTRICTION ON VOTING RIGHTS FOR UNPAID CALLS ETC. ....	33
	PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES .....	33
33.	VOTING BY PROXY.....	33
34.	FORM OF PROXY.....	33
35.	DEPOSIT OR RECEIPT OF PROXY .....	34
36.	MAXIMUM VALIDITY OF PROXY.....	35
37.	REVOCAION OF PROXY .....	35
38.	CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES .....	35
39.	FAILURE TO DISCLOSE INTERESTS IN SHARES .....	36
	UNTRACED MEMBERS.....	38
40.	POWER OF SALE .....	38
41.	APPLICATION OF PROCEEDS OF SALE .....	39
	APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS.....	39
42.	NUMBER OF DIRECTORS .....	39
43.	POWER OF COMPANY TO APPOINT DIRECTORS.....	39

44.	POWER OF BOARD TO APPOINT DIRECTORS.....	40
45.	APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS .....	40
46.	ELIGIBILITY OF NEW DIRECTORS .....	40
47.	SHARE QUALIFICATION.....	40
48.	RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF TWO OR MORE DIRECTORS .....	40
49.	RETIREMENT AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS .....	41
50.	POSITION OF RETIRING DIRECTOR.....	41
51.	DEEMED RE-APPOINTMENT .....	41
52.	REMOVAL BY ORDINARY RESOLUTION.....	42
53.	VACATION OF OFFICE BY DIRECTOR .....	42
54.	RESOLUTION AS TO VACANCY CONCLUSIVE.....	43
	ALTERNATE DIRECTORS .....	43
55.	APPOINTMENTS.....	43
56.	PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS .....	43
57.	ALTERNATE DIRECTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR OWN ACTS.....	43
58.	INTERESTS OF ALTERNATE DIRECTOR.....	43
59.	REVOCAION OF APPOINTMENT .....	44
	DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS .....	44
60.	DIRECTORS' FEES .....	44
61.	EXPENSES .....	44
62.	ADDITIONAL REMUNERATION .....	44
63.	REMUNERATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS .....	45
64.	PENSIONS AND OTHER BENEFITS.....	45
	POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD .....	45
65.	POWERS OF THE BOARD .....	45
66.	POWERS OF DIRECTORS BEING LESS THAN MINIMUM NUMBER.....	46

67.	POWERS OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS .....	46
68.	DELEGATION TO COMMITTEES .....	46
69.	POWER OF ATTORNEY .....	47
70.	POWERS OF DELEGATION .....	47
71.	EXERCISE OF VOTING POWER .....	47
72.	BORROWING POWERS .....	47
	PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES .....	50
73.	BOARD MEETINGS .....	50
74.	NOTICE OF BOARD MEETINGS .....	50
75.	QUORUM .....	50
76.	CHAIRMAN OF BOARD .....	51
77.	VOTING AND THE CHAIRMAN'S CASTING VOTE .....	51
78.	ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS .....	51
79.	RESOLUTION IN WRITING .....	52
80.	MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS .....	52
81.	VALIDITY OF PROCEEDINGS .....	52
	DIRECTORS' INTERESTS .....	53
82.	DIRECTOR MAY HAVE INTERESTS .....	53
83.	AUTHORISATION OF INTERESTS OF DIRECTORS .....	53
84.	DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS TO BOARD .....	54
85.	INTERESTED DIRECTOR NOT TO VOTE OR COUNT FOR QUORUM .....	55
86.	DIRECTOR'S INTEREST IN OWN APPOINTMENT .....	56
87.	CHAIRMAN'S RULING CONCLUSIVE ON DIRECTOR'S INTEREST .....	56
88.	DIRECTORS' RESOLUTION CONCLUSIVE ON CHAIRMAN'S INTEREST .....	57
89.	RELAXATION OF PROVISIONS .....	57
	AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS .....	57

90.	POWER TO AUTHENTICATE DOCUMENTS .....	57
	SEALS	57
91.	SAFE CUSTODY .....	57
92.	APPLICATION OF SEALS .....	58
93.	EXECUTION AS A DEED WITHOUT SEALING .....	58
94.	OFFICIAL SEAL FOR USE ABROAD.....	58
	THE SECRETARY .....	58
95.	THE SECRETARY.....	58
	DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS .....	59
96.	DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS.....	59
97.	INTERIM DIVIDENDS .....	59
98.	ENTITLEMENT TO DIVIDENDS .....	59
99.	CALLS OR DEBTS MAY BE DEDUCTED FROM DIVIDENDS .....	59
100.	DISTRIBUTION IN SPECIE.....	59
101.	DIVIDENDS NOT TO BEAR INTEREST.....	60
102.	METHOD OF PAYMENT .....	60
103.	PAYMENT OF SCRIP DIVIDENDS .....	61
104.	UNCASHED DIVIDENDS.....	63
105.	UNCLAIMED DIVIDENDS.....	63
106.	RESERVES .....	63
107.	CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES.....	64
108.	DISTRIBUTION OF REALISED CAPITAL PROFITS.....	65
109.	RECORD DATES.....	66
	ACCOUNTS .....	66
110.	ACCOUNTING RECORDS .....	66
111.	INSPECTION OF RECORDS.....	66



112.	ACCOUNTS TO BE SENT TO MEMBERS .....	66
113.	SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS .....	67
	NOTICES .....	67
114.	FORM OF NOTICES .....	67
115.	SERVICE OF NOTICE ON MEMBERS .....	68
116.	NOTICE IN CASE OF DEATH OR BANKRUPTCY, ETC.....	68
117.	EVIDENCE OF SERVICE .....	69
118.	NOTICE BINDING ON TRANSFEREES .....	70
119.	NOTICE BY ADVERTISEMENT.....	70
120.	SUSPENSION OF POSTAL SERVICES.....	70
	WINDING UP.....	70
121.	DIVISION OF ASSETS .....	70
122.	TRANSFER OR SALE UNDER SECTION 110 INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 .....	71
123.	VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION OF THE COMPANY .....	71
	INDEMNITY.....	71
124.	RIGHT TO INDEMNITY .....	71
125.	POWER TO INSURE.....	72

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 2006  
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

Baronsmead Venture Trust plc

(as adopted by Special Resolution passed on [ • ] [February] 2022)

PRELIMINARY

1. Table "A" not to apply

No regulations set out in any statute or in any statutory instrument or other subordinate legislation concerning companies (including the regulations in Table A of the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 as amended) shall apply as the regulations or articles of the Company, but the following shall be the Articles of Association of the Company.

2. Interpretation

2.1. In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

"address" includes a number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving documents or information by electronic means

"Articles" means these Articles of Association as altered or varied from time to time (and "Article" means one of these Articles)

"Auditors" means the auditors for the time being of the Company or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them

"authenticated" has the meaning given to it in the Companies Acts

"Board" means the board of Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present or deemed to be present at a duly convened meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present

"business day" means a day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday in England

"CA 2006" means the Companies Act 2006

"cash memorandum account" means an account so designated by the Operator of the relevant system

"Chairman" means the chairman (if any) of the Board or, where the context requires, the chairman of a general meeting or annual general meeting of the Company

"clear days" means (in relation to the period of a notice) that period, excluding the day when the notice is given and (if relevant) the day of the meeting

"Companies Acts" means CA 2006 and, where the context requires, every other statute from time to time in force concerning companies and affecting the Company

"Company" means Baronsmead Venture Trust plc

"Depository" means a custodian or other person (or a nominee for such custodian or other person) appointed under contractual arrangements with the Company or other arrangements approved by the Board whereby such custodian or other person or nominee holds or is interested in shares of the Company or rights or interests in shares of the Company and issues securities or other documents of title or otherwise evidencing the entitlement of the holder thereof to or to receive such shares, rights or interests, provided and to the extent that such arrangements have been approved by the Board for the purpose of these Articles

"Director" means a director for the time being of the Company and includes any person appointed by him as his alternate director while acting as such

"dividend" means a distribution or a bonus

"electronic form" and "electronic means" have the meanings given to them in section 1168 CA 2006

"execution" includes any mode of execution (and "executed" shall be construed accordingly)

"FCA" means the Financial Conduct Authority acting in its capacity as the competent authority for the purposes of Part VI of FSMA

"FSMA" means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

"holder" means (in relation to any share) the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder or, where the context permits, the members whose names are entered in the Register as the joint holders, of that share

"Listing Rules" means the listing rules made by the FCA in relation to the Official List as the same may be amended from time to time

"London Stock Exchange" means London Stock Exchange plc or other principal stock exchange in the United Kingdom for the time being

"member" means a member of the Company or, where the context requires, a member of the Board or of any committee

"Office" means the registered office for the time being of the Company

"Official List" means the list of securities that have been admitted to listing which is maintained by the FCA in accordance with FSMA

"Operator" means Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited or such other person as may for the time being be approved by HM Treasury as Operator under the Regulations

"Ordinary Shares" ordinary shares in the capital of the Company

"paid up" means paid up or credited as paid up

"participating security" means a security title to units which are permitted by the Operator to be transferred by means of a relevant system

"recognised clearing house" means a clearing house granted recognition under FSMA

"recognised investment exchange" means an investment exchange granted recognition under FSMA

"recognised person" means a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange who is designated as mentioned in the Companies Acts

"Register" means the register of members of the Company to be kept pursuant to the Companies Acts

"Registrar" means the registrar of the Company

"Regulations" means The Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No 3755) as the same may be amended from time to time and any provisions of or under the Companies Acts which supplement or replace such Regulations

"relevant system" means a computer-based system and procedures which enable title to units of a security to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument pursuant to the Regulations

"Satellite Location" has the meaning ascribed thereto in Article 54.2.

"Seal" means the common seal of the Company or any official or securities seal that the Company may be permitted to have under the Companies Acts

"Secretary" means the secretary for the time being of the Company or any other person appointed to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company including (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) a joint, temporary, assistant or deputy secretary

"share" means a share of the Company

"United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland

"working day" has the meaning given to it in the Companies Acts

"writing" or "written" means printing, typewriting, lithography, photography and any other mode or modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise

- 2.2. In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 2.2.1. words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa;
  - 2.2.2. words importing the masculine gender include every gender;
  - 2.2.3. a reference to a person includes a body corporate and an unincorporated body of persons;
  - 2.2.4. references to a "meeting" mean a meeting convened and held in any manner permitted by these Articles, including without limitation a general meeting or a separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company at which some or all persons entitled to be present attend and participate by means of an electronic platform, and such persons shall be deemed to be "present" at that meeting for all purposes of the Companies Acts and these Articles and "attend", "attending", "attendance", "participate", "participating" and "participation" shall be construed accordingly; and
  - 2.2.5. references to a "meeting" shall not be taken as requiring more than one person to be present if any quorum requirement can be satisfied by one person.
- 2.3. In the context of attendance at a meeting at a physical location used to host the meeting, the word "present" shall be construed as being physically present at the meeting at the location of the meeting.
- 2.4. References to an "electronic meeting" mean a general meeting or a separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company hosted on an electronic platform, whether that meeting is physically hosted at a specific location simultaneously or not.
- 2.5. References to an "electronic platform" mean a device, system, procedure, method or facility providing an electronic means of attendance at and/or participation in a meeting as determined by the Board pursuant to Articles 52 and 53, including, without limitation, online platforms, application technology and conference call systems.
- 2.6. Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the holding and conducting of a meeting in such a way that persons who are not present together at the same place may by the use of an electronic platform or platforms or by other electronic means attend and participate at it.
- 2.7. A reference to any statute or statutory provision includes any orders, regulations or other subordinate legislation made under it and any statutory modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force.
- 2.8. Save as aforesaid, and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall bear the same meaning as in CA 2006.

- 2.9. Where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution shall also be effective.
- 2.10. The headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Articles.
3. Liability of Members
  - 3.1. The liability of the members of the Company is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.
4. Uncertificated shares
  - 4.1. Notwithstanding anything in these Articles to the contrary, any shares in the Company may be issued, held, registered, converted to, transferred or otherwise dealt with in uncertificated form and converted from uncertificated form to certificated form in accordance with the Regulations and the practices instituted by the Operator of the relevant system. Any provisions of these Articles shall not apply to any uncertificated shares to the extent that such provisions are inconsistent with:
    - 4.1.1. the holding of shares in uncertificated form;
    - 4.1.2. the transfer of title to shares by means of a relevant system; or
    - 4.1.3. any provision of the Regulations.
  - 4.2. Without prejudice to the generality and effectiveness of the foregoing:
    - 4.2.1. conversion of certificated shares into uncertificated shares, and vice versa, may be made in such manner as the Board may, in its absolute discretion, think fit (subject always to the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system);
    - 4.2.2. Articles 12, 13 and 34 and the second and third sentences of Article 34 shall not apply to uncertificated shares and the remainder of Article 34 shall apply in relation to such shares as if the reference therein to the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company were a reference to the date on which the appropriate instruction was received by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system;
    - 4.2.3. without prejudice to Article 35 in relation to uncertificated shares, the Board may also refuse to register a transfer of uncertificated shares in such other circumstances as may be permitted or required by the Regulations and the relevant system;
    - 4.2.4. references in these Articles to a requirement on any person to execute or deliver an instrument of transfer or certificate or other document which shall not be appropriate in the case of uncertificated shares shall, in the case of uncertificated shares, be treated as references to a requirement to comply with any relevant

requirements of the relevant system and any relevant arrangements or regulations which the Board may make from time to time pursuant to Article 4.2.12 below;

4.2.5. for the purposes referred to in Article 41, a person entitled by transmission to a share in uncertificated form who elects to have some other person registered shall either:

(a) procure that instructions are given by means of the relevant system to effect the transfer of such uncertificated share to that person; or

(b) change the uncertificated share into certificated form and execute an instrument of transfer of that certificated share in favour of that person;

4.2.6. the Company shall enter on the Register the number of shares which are held by each member in uncertificated form and in certificated form and shall maintain the Register in each case as is required by the Regulations and the relevant system and, unless the Board otherwise determines, holdings of the same holder or joint holders in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings;

4.2.7. a class of share shall not be treated as two classes by virtue only of that class comprising both certificated shares and uncertificated shares or as a result of any provision of these Articles or the Regulations which applies only in respect of certificated shares or uncertificated shares;

4.2.8. references in Article 43 to instruments of transfer shall include, in relation to uncertificated shares, instructions and/or notifications made in accordance with the relevant system relating to the transfer of such shares;

4.2.9. for the purposes referred to in Article 45.3, the Board may in respect of uncertificated shares authorise some person to transfer and/or require the holder to transfer the relevant shares in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system;

4.2.10. for the purposes referred to in Article 83.1.2, the Board may only exercise its discretion not to register a transfer of shares in uncertificated form if permitted to do so by the Regulations, and it may determine to treat shares of a member in certificated and uncertificated form as separate holdings and apply the sanctions only to the former or to the latter or make different provisions for the former and the latter;

4.2.11. for the purposes of Article 146.1, any payment in the case of uncertificated shares may be made by means of the relevant system (subject to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) and such payment may be made by the sending by the Company or any person on its behalf of an instruction to the Operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders of such shares or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may direct

in accordance with Article 146 and, for the purposes of Article 146.3, the making of a payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned shall be a good discharge to the Company;

4.2.12. subject to the Companies Acts, the Board may issue shares as certificated shares or as uncertificated shares in its absolute discretion and Articles 6 and 147 shall be construed accordingly;

4.2.13. the Board may make such arrangements or regulations (if any) as it may from time to time in its absolute discretion think fit in relation to the evidencing and transfer of uncertificated shares and otherwise for the purpose of implementing and/or supplementing the provisions of this Article 4 and the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system and such arrangements and regulations (as the case may be) shall have the same effect as if set out in this Article 4;

4.2.14. the Board may utilise the relevant system to the fullest extent available from time to time in the exercise of the Company's powers or functions under the Companies Acts or these Articles or otherwise in effecting any actions; and

4.2.15. the Board may resolve that a class of shares is to become a participating security and may at any time determine that a class of shares shall cease to be a participating security.

4.3. Where any class of shares in the capital of the Company is a participating security and the Company is entitled under any provisions of the Companies Acts or the rules made and practices instituted by the Operator of any relevant system or under these Articles to dispose of, forfeit, enforce a lien or sell or otherwise procure the sale of any shares which are held in uncertificated form, such entitlement (to the extent permitted by the Regulations and the rules made and practices instituted by the Operator of the relevant system) shall include the right to:

4.3.1. request or require the deletion of any computer-based entries in the relevant system relating to the holding of such shares in uncertificated form; and/or

4.3.2. require any holder of any uncertificated shares which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement, by notice in writing to the holder concerned, to change his holding of such uncertificated shares into certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice, prior to completion of any disposal, sale or transfer of such shares or direct the holder to take such steps, by instructions given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, as may be necessary to sell or transfer such shares; and/or

4.3.3. appoint any person to take such other steps, by instruction given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, in the name of the holder of such shares as may be required to effect a transfer of such shares and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the registered holder of the uncertificated shares concerned; and/or



- 4.3.4. transfer any uncertificated shares which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement by entering the name of the transferee in the Register in respect of that share as a transferred share; and/or
  - 4.3.5. otherwise rectify or change the Register in respect of that share in such manner as may be appropriate; and/or
  - 4.3.6. take such other action as may be necessary to enable those shares to be registered in the name of the person to whom the shares have been sold or disposed of or as directed by him.
- 4.4. For the purposes of this Article 4 and Article 5:
- 4.4.1. words and expressions shall have the same respective meanings as in the Regulations;
  - 4.4.2. references to an uncertificated share or to a share (or to a holding of shares) being in uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security, and references to a certificated share or to a share being in certificated form are references to that share being a unit of a security which is not an uncertificated unit;
  - 4.4.3. "cash memorandum account" means an account so designated by the Operator of the relevant system;
  - 4.4.4. a dematerialised instruction is properly authenticated if it complies with the specifications referred to in paragraph 5(b) of Schedule 1 to the Regulations.
- 4.5. The Company shall be entitled to assume that the entries on any record of securities maintained by it in accordance with the Regulations and regularly reconciled with the relevant Operator register of securities are a complete and accurate reproduction of the particulars entered in the Operator register of securities and shall accordingly not be liable in respect of any act or thing done or omitted to be done by or on behalf of the Company in reliance on such assumptions. In particular, any provision of these Articles which requires or envisages that action will be taken in reliance on information contained in the Register shall be construed so as to permit that action to be taken in reliance on information contained in any relevant record of securities (as so maintained and reconciled).

## 5. Registered Office

The Office shall be at such place in England and Wales as the Board shall from time to time appoint.

## SHARE CAPITAL

## 6. Allotment

- 6.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any relevant authority of the Company required by the Companies Acts, the Board may allot shares in the Company or

grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into shares in the Company to such persons (including the Directors themselves), at such times and generally on such terms and conditions as the Board may decide, provided that no share shall be issued at a discount.

- 6.2. The Board may, at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the Register as the holder, recognise a renunciation thereof by the allottee in favour of some other person and accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation and/or allow the rights represented thereby to be one or more participating securities, in each case upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit to impose.

7. Redeemable shares

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any special rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, the Company may issue a share which is, or is liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or of the holder of such share and the Board may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such shares.

8. Power to attach rights

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, any shares may be allotted or issued with, or have attached to them, such preferred, deferred or other rights or restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, voting, transfer, return of capital or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine or, if no such resolution has been passed or so far as the resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine.

9. Share warrants

- 9.1. The Company may, with respect to any fully paid shares, issue a warrant (a "share warrant") stating that the bearer of the warrant is entitled to the shares specified in it and may provide (by coupons or otherwise) for the payment of future dividends on the shares included in a share warrant.

- 9.2. The powers referred to in Article 9.1 may be exercised by the Board, which may determine and vary the conditions on which share warrants shall be issued, and in particular on which:

9.2.1. a new share warrant or coupon will be issued in the place of one damaged, defaced, worn out or lost (provided that no new share warrant shall be issued to replace one that has been lost unless the Board is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been destroyed);

9.2.2. the bearer of a share warrant shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend, vote and demand a poll at general meetings or annual general meetings;

9.2.3. dividends will be paid; and

- 9.2.4. a share warrant may be surrendered and the name of the holder entered in the Register in respect of the shares specified in it.
- 9.3. Subject to such conditions and to these Articles, the bearer of a share warrant shall be deemed to be a member for all purposes. The bearer of a share warrant shall be subject to the conditions for the time being in force and applicable to it, whether made before or after the issue of such share warrant.

10. Commission and brokerage

The Company may in connection with the issue of any shares exercise all powers of paying commission and brokerage conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of cash, the allotment of fully or partly paid shares, the grant of an option to call for an allotment of shares or any combination of such methods.

11. Trusts not to be recognised

Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Articles, as required by law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall not recognise any person as holding any share on any trust, and (except as aforesaid) the Company shall not be in any way bound by or required to recognise (even when having notice of it) any equitable, contingent, future, partial or other claim to or interest in any share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all rights attaching to it.

## SHARE CERTIFICATES

12. Right to certificates

- 12.1. On becoming the holder of any share, a person (except a recognised person in respect of whom the Company is not by law required to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) shall be entitled, without charge, to have issued within two months after an allotment or the lodgement of a transfer (unless the terms of issue of the shares provide otherwise), one certificate for all the shares of each class registered in his name. Such certificate shall specify the number, class, and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares in respect of which it is issued and the amount or respective amounts paid up thereon and shall be issued as provided in Article 136.
- 12.2. If and so long as all the issued shares of the Company or all the issued shares of a particular class are fully paid up, then none of those shares shall bear a distinguishing number. In all other cases each share shall bear a distinguishing number.
- 12.3. The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate in respect of shares held jointly by two or more persons. Delivery of a certificate to the person first named on the Register shall be sufficient delivery to all joint holders.
- 12.4. Where a member (other than a recognised person) has transferred part only of the shares comprised in a certificate, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the balance

of such shares. Where a member receives more shares of any class, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the extra shares of that class.

- 12.5. No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class or in respect of shares held by a recognised person.
13. Replacement certificates
  - 13.1. Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at his request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu (without charge) on surrender of the original certificates for cancellation.
  - 13.2. If any member shall surrender for cancellation a share certificate representing shares held by him and request the Company to issue in lieu two or more share certificates representing such shares in such proportions as he may specify, the Board may, if it thinks fit, comply with such request.
  - 13.3. Share certificates may be renewed or replaced on such terms as to provision of evidence and indemnity (with or without security) and to payment of any exceptional out of pocket expenses, including those incurred by the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity and security, as the Board may decide, and on surrender of the original certificate (where it is defaced, damaged or worn out), but without any further charge.
  - 13.4. In the case of shares held jointly by several persons, any such request as is mentioned in this Article 13 may be made by any one of the joint holders.

#### LIEN ON SHARES

14. Lien on shares not fully paid

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on each of its shares which is not fully paid, for all amounts payable to the Company (whether presently or not) in respect of that share. The Board may waive any lien which has arisen and may resolve that any share shall for some limited period be exempt wholly or partially from the provisions of this Article.

15. Enforcement of lien by sale

The Board may sell all or any of the shares subject to any lien at such time or times and in such manner as it may determine. However, no sale shall be made until such time as any moneys in respect of which such lien exists are presently payable or the liability or engagement in respect of which such lien exists is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged, and until notice in writing shall have been served on the holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares, demanding the amount due or specifying the liability or engagement and demanding payment or fulfilment or discharge thereof and giving notice of intention to sell if default in payment, fulfilment or discharge shall continue for 14 clear days after service of such notice. For giving effect to any such sale, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold in the name and on behalf of the holder or the person entitled by transmission in favour of the purchaser

or as the purchaser may direct. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of any purchase consideration nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any act, omission, irregularity or invalidity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the sale.

16. Application of proceeds of sale

The net proceeds of any sale of shares subject to any lien, after payment of the expenses of sale, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of so much of the amount due to the Company or of the liability or engagement (as the case may be) as is presently payable or is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged. The balance (if any) shall (on surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold, and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable or any liability or engagement not liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged as existed on the shares before the sale) be paid (without interest) to the holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares so sold.

### CALL ON SHARES

17. Calls

Subject to the terms of allotment of shares, the Board may from time to time make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on the shares of any class held by them respectively (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and not payable on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue. Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made and whether or not by instalments) be liable to pay the amount of every call so made on him as required by the notice. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising such call was passed or (as the case may require) any person to whom power has been delegated pursuant to these Articles serves notice of exercise of such power. A call may be required to be paid by instalments and may, before receipt by the Company of any sum due thereunder, be either revoked or postponed in whole or part as regards all or any such members as the Board may determine. A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all calls in respect thereof.

18. Interest on calls

If the whole of the sum payable in respect of any call is not paid on or before the day appointed for payment, the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay all costs, charges and expenses that the Company may have incurred by reason of such nonpayment, together with interest on the unpaid amount from the day appointed for payment thereof to the day of actual payment (both days inclusive) at the rate fixed by the terms of the allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is so fixed, at such rate, not exceeding 15 per cent. per annum (compounded on a six-monthly basis), as the Board shall determine. The Board may waive payment of such costs, charges, expenses or interest in whole or in part.

19. Rights of member when call unpaid

Unless the Board otherwise determines, no member shall be entitled to receive any dividend or to be present and vote at a general meeting or annual general meeting or at any separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares either in person or (save as proxy for another member) by proxy, or be reckoned in a quorum, or to exercise any other right or privilege as a member in respect of a share held by him unless and until he shall have paid all calls for the time being due and payable by him in respect of that share, whether alone or jointly with any other person, together with interest and expenses (if any) payable by such member to the Company.

20. Sums due on allotment treated as calls

Any sum payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium or as an instalment of a call, shall for all purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made. If it is not paid, the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if such amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.

21. Power to differentiate

The Board may make arrangements on the allotment or issue of shares for a difference as between the allottees or holders of such shares in the amount and time of payment of calls.

22. Payment in advance of calls

The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on the shares held by him. Such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish pro tanto the liability on the shares on which it is made. The Company may pay interest on the money paid in advance, or so much of it as exceeds the amount for the time being called up on the shares in respect of which such advance has been made, at such rate as the Board may decide. The Board may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than three months' notice in writing of its intention in that behalf, unless before the expiration of such notice the amount so advanced shall have been called up on the shares in respect of which it was advanced.

23. Delegation of power to make calls

If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any mortgage or other security, the Board may delegate on such terms as it thinks fit to the person in whose favour such mortgage or security is executed, or to any other person in trust for him, the power to make calls on the members in respect of such uncalled capital, to sue in the name of the Company or otherwise for the recovery of moneys becoming due in respect of calls so made and to give valid receipts for such moneys. The power so delegated shall subsist during the continuance of the mortgage or security, notwithstanding any change of Directors, and shall be assignable if expressed so to be.

24. Indemnity against claims in respect of shares

24.1. Whenever any law for the time being of any country, state or place imposes or purports to impose any immediate or future or possible liability on the Company to make any payment, or empowers any government or taxing authority or government official to require the Company to make any payment, in respect of any shares held either jointly or solely by any member or in respect of any dividends or other monies due or payable or accruing due or which may become due or payable to such member by the Company or in respect of any such shares or for or on account or in respect of any member, and whether in consequence of:

24.1.1. the death of such member;

24.1.2. the non-payment of any income tax or other tax by such member;

24.1.3. the non-payment of any estate, probate, succession, death, stamp or other duty by the executor or administrator of such member or by or out of his estate; or

24.1.4. any other act or thing;

the Company in every such case:

(a) shall be fully indemnified by such member or his executor or administrator from all liability arising by virtue of such law; and

(b) may recover as a debt due from such member or his executor or administrator (wherever constituted or residing) any monies paid by the Company under or in consequence of any such law, together with interest thereon at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum thereon from the date of payment to the date of repayment.

Nothing contained in this Article shall prejudice or affect any right or remedy which any law may confer or purport to confer on the Company and as between the Company and every such member as aforesaid, his executor, administrator, and estate wherever constituted or situated, any right or remedy which such law shall confer or purport to confer on the Company shall be enforceable by the Company.

#### FORFEITURE OF SHARES

25. Notice if call not paid

If any member fails to pay the whole of any call or any instalment of any call on or before the day appointed for payment, the Board may at any time serve a notice in writing on such member or on any person entitled to the shares by transmission, requiring payment, on a date not less than 14 clear days' from the date of the notice, of the amount unpaid and any interest which may have accrued thereon and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall name the place where the

payment is to be made and state that, if the notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which such call was made will be liable to be forfeited.

26. Forfeiture for non-compliance

If the notice referred to in Article 25 is not complied with, any share in respect of which it was given may, at any time before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Board to that effect. Such forfeiture shall include all dividends declared or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

27. Notice after forfeiture

When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served on the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share or the person entitled to such share by transmission (as the case may be). An entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register in respect of such share. However, no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to give such notice or to make such entry as aforesaid.

28. Forfeiture may be annulled

The Board may, at any time before any share so forfeited has been cancelled or sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, annul the forfeiture, on the terms that payment shall be made in respect of all calls and interest due thereon and all expenses incurred in respect of the share and on such further terms (if any) as the Board shall see fit.

29. Surrender

The Board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited. In such case references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender.

30. Disposal of forfeited shares

Every share which is forfeited shall on forfeiture become the property of the Company. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, either to the person who was the holder before forfeiture or otherwise entitled to the share, or to any other person, on such terms and in such manner as the Board shall determine. The Board may, for the purposes of the disposal, authorise some person to transfer the share in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred share in the Register, notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect of the share and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the share. The Company may receive the consideration (if any) given for the share on its disposal.



31. Effect of forfeiture

A shareholder whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the shares forfeited and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for such shares. He shall nevertheless be liable to pay to the Company all calls made and not paid on such shares at the time of forfeiture, and interest thereon at 15 per cent. per annum (or such lower rate as the Board may determine) from the date of the forfeiture to the date of payment (both dates inclusive), in the same manner in all respects as if the shares had not been forfeited, and to satisfy all (if any) claims, demands and liabilities which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of forfeiture, without any reduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

32. Extinction of claims

The forfeiture of a share shall involve the extinction at the time of forfeiture of all interest in and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of the share and all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the holder whose share is forfeited (or the person entitled by transmission to the forfeited share) and the Company, except only such of those rights and liabilities as are by these Articles expressly saved, or as are by the Companies Acts given or imposed in the case of past members.

33. Evidence of forfeiture

A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been forfeited in pursuance of these Articles, and stating the date on which it was forfeited, shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to that share, be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated. The declaration, together with the receipt of the Company for the consideration (if any) given for the share on the sale or disposition thereof and a certificate for the share delivered to the person to whom the same is sold or disposed of, shall (subject if necessary to the execution of an instrument of transfer) constitute a good title to the share. Subject to the execution of any necessary transfer, such person shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such sale or disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or other consideration (if any), nor shall his title to the share be affected by any act, omission or irregularity or invalidity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share. Such person shall not (except by express agreement with the Company) become entitled to any dividend which might have accrued on the share before the completion of the sale or disposition thereof.

## TRANSFER OF SHARES

34. Form of transfer

Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, each member may transfer all or any of his shares by instrument of transfer, in the case of certificated shares, in writing in any usual form or in any form approved by the Board. Such instrument shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a transfer of a share which is

not fully paid up) by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of such share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of it. In relation to uncertificated shares, references in these Articles to instruments of transfer shall include instructions and/or notifications made in accordance with the relevant system relating to the transfer of such shares. All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company.

35. Right to refuse registration

The Board may, in its absolute discretion, refuse to register any transfer of a share (or renunciation of a renounceable letter of allotment) unless:

- 35.1.1. it is in respect of a share which is fully paid up;
- 35.1.2. it is in respect of only one class of shares;
- 35.1.3. it is in favour of a single transferee or not more than four joint transferees;
- 35.1.4. it is duly stamped (if so required); and
- 35.1.5. it is delivered for registration to the Office or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine, accompanied (except in the case of a transfer by a recognised person where a certificate has not been issued or in the case of a renunciation) by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to prove the title of the transferor or person renouncing and the due execution of the transfer or renunciation by him or, if the transfer or renunciation is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person to do so;

provided that the Board shall not refuse to register any transfer or renunciation of partly paid shares which are admitted to the Official List on the grounds that they are partly paid shares in circumstances where such refusal would prevent dealings in such shares from taking place on an open and proper basis.

35.2. The Board may also refuse to register a transfer of uncertificated shares in such other circumstances as may be permitted or required by the Regulations and the relevant system.

35.3. Transfers of shares will not be registered in the circumstances referred to in Article 83.

36. Notice of refusal

If the Board refuses to register a transfer of a share it shall, as soon as practicable and in any event within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company (or in the case of uncertificated shares the date the operator instruction was received by the Company), send notice of the refusal to the transferee together with its reasons for the refusal. The Board shall provide the transferee with such further information about the reasons for the refusal as the transferee may reasonably request.

37. Retention of Instruments of Transfer

Any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall (except in the case of suspected or actual fraud) be returned to the person depositing it.

38. No fees on registration

No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or on the registration of any probate, letters of administration, certificate of death or marriage, power of attorney, notice or other instrument relating to or affecting the title to any shares.

39. Other powers in relation to transfers

39.1. Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the Board from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person or, if empowered by these Articles to authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of a share, from authorising any person to transfer that share in accordance with any procedures implemented pursuant to Article 15.

39.2. The Board may, at its discretion, determine to issue shares and warrants as units on terms such that the certificates in respect of such shares and warrants are issued in attached form and are transferable for a period determined by the Board but not exceeding 50 days only on presentation to the Office or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine of certificates for such shares and share warrants in attached form.

#### TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

40. On death

If a member dies, the survivors or survivor, where he was a joint holder, and his executors or administrators, where he was a sole or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares. Nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which has been solely or jointly held by him.

41. Election of person entitled by transmission

Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, may, on such evidence as to his title being produced as the Board may require, elect either to become registered as a member or to have some person nominated by him registered as a member. If he elects to become registered himself, he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have some other person registered, he shall execute an instrument of transfer of such share to that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (as the case may be) as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and his death, bankruptcy or other event as aforesaid had not occurred. Where the entitlement of a person to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other

event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law is proved to the satisfaction of the Board, the Board shall within two months after proof cause the entitlement of that person to be noted in the Register.

42. Rights on transmission

Where a person becomes entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, the rights of the holder in relation to such share shall cease. However, the person so entitled may give a good discharge for any dividends and other moneys payable in respect of it and shall have the same rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before he is registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company. The Board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share. If the notice is not complied with within 60 days, the Board may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of such share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

#### DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

43. Destruction of documents

43.1. The Company may destroy:

43.1.1. any instrument of transfer, after six years from the date on which it is registered;

43.1.2. any dividend mandate or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address, after two years from the date on which it is recorded;

43.1.3. any share certificate, after one year from the date on which it is cancelled; and

43.1.4. any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made, after six years from the date on which an entry was first made in the Register in respect of it,

provided that the Company may destroy any such type of document at a date earlier than that authorised by this Article if a copy of such document is made and retained (whether made electronically, by microfilm, by digital imaging or by any other means) until the expiration of the period applicable to the destruction of the original of such document.

43.2. It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled and that every other document so destroyed had been properly dealt with in accordance with its terms and was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that:

- 43.2.1. this Article 43 shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant;
- 43.2.2. nothing in this Article 43 shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than as provided for in this Article 43 which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 43; and
- 43.2.3. references in this Article 43 to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner.

#### ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL

#### 44. Consolidation and sub-division

44.1. The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution but subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts:

44.1.1. consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger nominal amount than its existing shares; and

44.1.2. sub-divide its shares or any of them into shares of smaller amount, and may by such resolution determine that, as between the shares resulting from such subdivision, one or more of the shares may, as compared with the others, have any such preferred, deferred or other special rights or be subject to any such restrictions as the Company has power to attach to new shares.

#### 45. Fractions

45.1. Whenever as the result of any consolidation, division or sub-division of shares any difficulty arises, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) where the number of shares held by any holder is not an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share and as a result of such consolidation such holder would become entitled to a fraction of a consolidated share:

45.1.1. the Board may determine which of the shares of such holder are to be treated as giving rise to such fractional entitlement and may decide that any of those shares shall be consolidated with any of the shares of any other holder or holders which are similarly determined by it to be treated as giving rise to a fractional entitlement for such other holder or holders, into a single consolidated share and the Board may, on behalf of all such holders, sell such consolidated share for the best price reasonably obtained to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale after deduction of the expenses of sale in due proportion among those holders (except that any amount otherwise due to a holder, being less than £3.00 or such other sum as the Board may from time to time determine, may be retained for the benefit of the Company); or

45.1.2. the Board may (subject to any relevant authority required by the Companies Acts) issue to such holder credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation the minimum number of shares required to round up his holding to an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share (such issue being deemed to have been effected prior to consolidation); and the amount required to pay up such shares shall be appropriated at the Board's discretion from any of the sums standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or to the credit of profit and loss account and capitalised by applying the same in paying up the share. In relation to such a capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on it by Article 151 without an ordinary resolution of the Company.

45.2. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may treat shares of a holder in certificated form and in uncertificated form as separate holdings in giving effect to subdivisions and/or consolidations and may cause any shares arising on sub-division or consolidation and representing fractional entitlements to be entered in the Register as shares in certificated form where this is desirable to facilitate the sale thereof.

45.3. For the purposes of any sale of consolidated shares pursuant to Article 45.1, the Board may authorise a person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with, the directions of the purchaser, and the transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of any purchase consideration, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any act, omission, irregularity or invalidity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the sale.

46. Treasury shares

The Company may not exercise any right in respect of treasury shares held by it, including any right to attend or vote at meetings, to participate in any offer by the Company to shareholders or to receive any distribution (including in a winding-up), but without prejudice to its right to sell the treasury shares, to transfer the shares for the purposes of or pursuant to an employees' share scheme, to receive an allotment of shares as fully paid bonus shares in respect of the treasury shares or to receive any amount payable on redemption of any redeemable treasury shares.

## VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS

47. Sanction to variation

47.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, if at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into shares of different classes, all or any of the rights for the time being attached to any share or class of shares in the Company (whether or not the Company may be or is about to be wound up) may from time to time be varied or abrogated in such manner (if any) as may be provided by such rights or, in the absence of any such provision, either with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of the class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares)

or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of shares of the class duly convened and held in accordance with these Articles.

47.2. The foregoing provisions of this Article shall apply also to the variation or abrogation of the special rights attached to some only of the shares of any class as if each group of shares of the class differently treated formed a separate class the separate rights of which are to be varied.

48. No Variation

Subject to the terms on which any shares may be issued, the rights or privileges attached to any class of shares shall not be deemed to be varied or abrogated by the issue of any new shares ranking *pari passu* in all respects (save as to the date from which such new shares shall rank for dividend) with or subsequent to those already issued or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the rights or privileges attached to the shares shall not be deemed to be varied or abrogated by the issue or purchase of any shares or the variation of any right to or privileges attached to the shares.

49. Class meetings

All the provisions in these Articles as to general meetings shall, with any necessary modifications, apply equally to every meeting of the holders of any class of shares. The Board may convene a meeting of the holders of any class of shares whenever it thinks fit and whether or not the business to be transacted involves a variation or abrogation of class rights. The quorum at every such meeting shall be not less than two persons present (in person or by proxy) holding at least one-third of the nominal amount paid up on the issued shares of the class in question (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) provided that a person present by proxy or proxies is treated as holding only the shares in respect of which the proxy or proxies are authorised to exercise voting rights. Every holder of shares of the class (other than a holder of treasury shares), present in person or by proxy, may demand a poll. If at any adjourned meeting of such holders a quorum is not present, one person holding shares of the class in question (whatever the number of shares held by him but excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) who is present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.

#### MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

50. Annual general meetings

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, annual general meetings shall be held at such time and at such place and/or electronic platform as the Board may determine.

51. General meetings other than annual general meetings

The Board may convene a general meeting, other than an annual general meeting, whenever it thinks fit. At any such general meeting convened on a members' requisition or by the requisitionists no business shall be transacted except that stated by the requisition or

proposed by the Board. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient members of the Board to convene such a general meeting, any Director, or any member of the Company, may call such a general meeting.

52. Convening and participating in general meetings

52.1. The Board shall determine in relation to each general meeting (including a postponed or adjourned meeting) the means of attendance at and participation in the meeting, including whether persons entitled to attend and participate in the meeting shall be enabled to do so:

52.1.1. by means of an electronic platform(s) pursuant to these Articles (but, for the avoidance of doubt, the Board shall be under no obligation to offer or provide such platform(s)) and/or,

52.1.2. by attendance and participation at one or more physical locations (including at any Satellite Location pursuant to these Articles).

52.2. The Board may make whatever arrangements it considers fit to allow those entitled to do so to attend and participate in any general meeting. In this respect, the Board may authorise the use of or require any voting application, system or facility for electronic meetings as the Board considers appropriate.

52.3. Unless the notice of meeting says otherwise or the Chairman of the meeting decides otherwise, a general meeting shall be treated as taking place where the Chairman of the meeting is at the time of the meeting.

52.4. Two or more persons who may not be in the same place as each other attend and participate in a general meeting if they are able to exercise their rights to speak and vote at that meeting. A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting if the Chairman of the general meeting is satisfied that arrangements are in place so as to enable that person to communicate to all those attending the meeting while the meeting is taking place (which communication may be by means of the submission of written communication through an electronic platform). A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting if that person can vote on resolutions put to the meeting (or, in relation to a poll, can vote within the required time frame) and that person's vote can be taken into account in deciding whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of others attending the meeting.

52.5. All persons seeking to attend and participate in a general meeting by way of an electronic platform shall be responsible for maintaining adequate facilities to enable them to do so. Subject to the right of the Chairman to adjourn a general meeting under these Articles, any inability of a person to attend or participate in a general meeting by means of an electronic platform shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.

53. Electronic meetings

53.1. The Board may decide to enable persons entitled to attend a general meeting to do so by simultaneous attendance on an electronic platform with no persons necessarily in physical



attendance together at the meeting. Members or their proxies or duly authorised corporate representatives present by means of such an electronic platform(s) shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to vote at, the general meeting in question, and that general meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid, if the Chairman of the general meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities are available throughout the meeting to enable members and their proxies and duly authorised corporate representatives attending the meeting by whatever means to:

53.1.1. participate in the business for which the general meeting has been convened; and

53.1.2. hear all persons who speak at the general meeting,

but under no circumstances shall the inability of one or more attendees to access, or continue to access, the electronic platform for participation in the meeting despite adequate facilities being made available by the Company affect the validity of the meeting or any business conducted at the meeting.

53.2. If it appears to the Chairman of the general meeting that the electronic platform(s), facilities or security at the electronic meeting have become inadequate for the purposes of holding the meeting then the Chairman may, without the consent of the general meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at the general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid and the provisions of Articles 62 to 64 shall apply to that adjournment.

53.3. If at any general meeting at which persons are entitled to participate by means of an electronic platform, any document is required to be on display or available for inspection at the meeting (whether prior to or for the duration of the meeting or both), the Company shall ensure that the relevant document is available in electronic form to persons entitled to inspect it for at least the required period of time, and this will be deemed to satisfy any such requirement.

53.4. When deciding whether a person is attending or participating in a meeting other than at a physical location, it is immaterial where that person is or how that person is able to communicate with others who are attending and participating.

54. General meeting held at more than one physical location

54.1. A general meeting may be held at more than one physical location if:

54.1.1. the notice convening the meeting specifies that it shall be held at more than one location; or

54.1.2. the Board resolves, after the notice convening the meeting has been given, that the meeting shall be held at more than one location; or

54.1.3. it appears to the Chairman of the meeting that the location of the meeting specified in the notice convening the meeting is inadequate to accommodate all persons entitled and wishing to attend.

- 54.2. If the Board or the Chairman of the meeting decide that a general meeting shall be held at more than one physical location, the Board or the Chairman of the meeting shall direct that the meeting shall take place at the location at which the Chairman of the meeting shall preside (the "Principal Place") and shall make arrangements, either before or during the meeting, for simultaneous attendance and participation in the meeting by persons (being entitled to do so) attending the meeting at one or more other physical locations (whether within the same premises or not as the Principal Place) (each a "Satellite Location"). Such arrangements may include arrangements for controlling or regulating the level of attendance, and the safety and security of attendees, at any of such locations in the manner set out in Articles 65 and 66.
- 54.3. The members present in person or by proxy or by duly authorised corporate representative at each Satellite Location shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to vote at, the general meeting in question, and that general meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid, if the Chairman of the general meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities are available throughout the meeting to enable all members and their proxies and duly authorised corporate representatives attending the meeting by whatever means to:
- 54.3.1. participate in the business for which the general meeting has been convened; and
- 54.3.2. hear all persons who speak at the general meeting.
- 54.4. A person (a "Satellite Chair") shall preside at each Satellite Location (if any). Each Satellite Chair shall be appointed by the Board or the Chairman of the meeting, or by some person to whom the Board or the Chairman of the meeting has delegated the task. Every Satellite Chair may take such action as he or she thinks necessary to maintain good order at the location where he or she is presiding and every Satellite Chair shall have all powers necessary or desirable for that purpose. Every Satellite Chair shall also carry out all requests made of them by, or on behalf of, the Chairman of the meeting in relation to the conduct of the meeting and every Satellite Chair shall have all powers necessary or desirable for that purpose.
- 54.5. For the purposes of all other provisions of these Articles (unless the context requires otherwise), any general meeting which has a Principal Place and one or more Satellite Locations shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place and the powers of the Chairman of the meeting shall apply equally to the Satellite Locations, including the Chairman's power to adjourn the meeting under Article 62.
- 54.6. If it appears to the Chairman of the general meeting that the facilities at the Principal Place or at any Satellite Location have become inadequate for the purposes of holding the meeting, then the Chairman may, without the consent of the general meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at the general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid and the provisions of Article 62 to 64 shall apply to that adjournment.

- 54.7. Nothing in this Article shall limit or restrict the Board's right to enable persons to simultaneously attend and participate at a general meeting by means of an electronic platform in accordance with these Articles.
55. Notice of general meetings
- 55.1. A general meeting shall be convened by such notice as may be required by law from time to time.
- 55.2. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and notwithstanding that it is convened by shorter notice than that specified in this Article 55, a meeting shall be deemed to have been duly convened if it is so agreed:
- 55.2.1. in the case of an annual general meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting; and
- 55.2.2. in the case of a general meeting, by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent. in nominal value of the shares giving that right.
- 55.3. The notice of any general meeting shall specify:
- 55.3.1. whether the meeting is convened as an annual general meeting or a general meeting;
- 55.3.2. the place and/or electronic platform, the day and the time of the meeting;
- 55.3.3. the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting;
- 55.3.4. if the meeting is convened to consider a special resolution, the text of the resolution and the intention to propose the resolution as such;
- 55.3.5. with reasonable prominence, that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or (provided each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member) more proxies to attend and to speak and vote instead of him and that a proxy need not also be a member; and
- 55.3.6. any procedures on attendance and voting at the meeting.
- 55.4. If the Board determines that a general meeting shall be held (wholly or partly) as an electronic meeting, the notice of meeting or associated communications shall specify any access, identification, security or other arrangements determined by the Board or shall state where details of such arrangements will be made available by the Company prior to the meeting.
- 55.5. The notice shall be given to the members (other than any who, under the provisions of these Articles or of any restrictions imposed on any shares, are not entitled to receive notice from the Company), to the Directors and to the Auditors and to any other person who may be entitled to receive it.

56. Omission to send notice or non-receipt of notice

The accidental omission to give or send notice of any meeting or, in cases where it is intended that it be sent out with the notice, any other document relating to the meeting including an appointment of proxy to, or the non-receipt of either by, any person entitled to receive the same shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

57. Postponement of general meetings or annual general meetings

If the Board, in its absolute discretion, considers that it is impractical or unreasonable for any reason to hold a meeting on the date or at the time or place and/or by means of the electronic platform specified in the notice calling the meeting, it may postpone the meeting to another date, time, place and/or change the electronic platform. The Board shall take reasonable steps to ensure that notice of the date, time, place and/or electronic platform of the postponed meeting is provided to any member trying to attend the meeting at the original time, place and/or electronic platform. Notice of the business to be transacted at such postponed meeting shall not be required. If a meeting is postponed in accordance with this Article, the appointment of a proxy will be valid if it is delivered and received as required by these Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the postponed meeting. The Board may (for the avoidance of doubt) also postpone any meeting which has been rearranged under this Article.

#### PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

58. Quorum

58.1. No business shall be transacted at any annual general meeting or general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as otherwise provided in these Articles, two persons entitled to attend and to vote on the business to be transacted, each being a member so entitled or a proxy for a member so entitled or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member so entitled, shall be a quorum.

58.2. In calculating whether a quorum is present for the purposes of Article 58.1, if two or more persons are appointed as proxies for the same member or two or more persons are appointed as corporate representatives of the same corporate member, only one of such proxies or only one of such corporate representatives shall be counted.

59. If quorum not present

If within 15 minutes (or such longer interval as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit) from the time appointed for the holding of an annual general meeting or a general meeting a quorum is not present, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting, if convened by or upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such other day (being not less than ten clear days after the date of the original meeting) and at such time, place and/or electronic platform as the Chairman (or, in default, the Board) may determine. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, one person entitled to vote on the business to be transacted, being a member so entitled or

a proxy for a member so entitled or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member so entitled, shall be a quorum.

60. Chairman

The Chairman (if any) of the Board shall preside as Chairman at every annual general meeting or general meeting of the Company. If there is no Chairman or if at any meeting he is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or is unwilling to act as Chairman, the Deputy Chairman (if any) of the Board shall (if present and willing to act) preside as Chairman at such meeting. If neither the Chairman nor the Deputy Chairman is present and willing to act, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act or, if there is only one Director present, he shall be Chairman if willing to act. If no Director is present and willing to act, the members present (in person or by proxy) and entitled to vote on the business to be transacted shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.

61. Entitlement to attend and speak

Each Director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any annual general meeting or general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company. The Chairman may invite any person to attend and speak at any annual general meeting or general meeting where he considers this will assist in the deliberations of the meeting.

62. Power to adjourn

The Chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time (or indefinitely) and from place to place and/or from electronic platform to electronic platform as the meeting shall determine. However, without prejudice to any other power which he may have under these Articles or at common law, the Chairman may, without the need for the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn any meeting (whether or not it has commenced or a quorum is present) from time to time and from place to place and/or from electronic platform to electronic platform, or for an indefinite period, if he is of the opinion that it has become necessary to do so in order to secure the proper and orderly conduct of the meeting or to give all persons entitled to do so a reasonable opportunity of attending, speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of.

63. Notice of adjourned meeting

Where a meeting is adjourned indefinitely, the Board shall fix the time and place and/or electronic platform for the adjourned meeting. Whenever a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more or indefinitely, seven clear days' notice at the least, specifying the place and/or electronic platform, the day and time of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, shall be given in the same manner as in the case of an original meeting. If a general meeting is adjourned to more than one place or if a general meeting which was originally specified as a physical meeting only in the notice is adjourned to an electronic meeting, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given notwithstanding any other

provision of these Articles. Save as aforesaid, no member shall be entitled to any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

64. Business of adjourned meeting

No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

65. Security arrangements

65.1. The Board or the Chairman of the general meeting may direct that any person wishing to attend any general meeting should submit to and comply with such searches or other security, access or safety arrangements or restrictions (including, without limitation, requiring evidence of identity to be produced before entering or accessing the meeting, placing restrictions on the items of personal property which may be taken into the meeting, and implementing restrictions in order to control the level of attendance at the meeting) as the Board or the Chairman shall consider appropriate in the circumstances and shall be entitled in its or his absolute discretion to, or to authorise some one or more persons who may include a Director or the Secretary or the Chairman of the general meeting to, refuse (physical or electronic) entry to, or to eject (physically or electronically) from, such general meeting any person who refuses or fails to submit to such searches or otherwise to comply with such security, access or safety arrangements or restrictions.

65.2. In relation to an electronic meeting, the Board or the Chairman of the general meeting may make any arrangement and impose any requirement or restriction as the Board or the Chairman shall consider appropriate to ensure the identification of those accessing or participating in the meeting, the security of the electronic platform and any electronic communications, and the orderly conduct of the meeting

66. Orderly Conduct

The Chairman shall take such action or give such directions as he thinks fit to promote the orderly conduct of the business of the meeting as laid down in the notice of the meeting. The Chairman's decision on matters of procedure or arising incidentally from the business of the meeting shall be final, as shall his determination as to whether any matter is of such a nature.

## VOTING AND POLLS

67. Method of voting

67.1. A resolution put to the vote at an electronic meeting (including in relation to procedural matters) shall be decided on a poll, which poll votes may be cast by such electronic means as the Board, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate for the purposes of the meeting. Any such poll on resolutions shall be deemed to have been validly demanded at the time fixed for the holding of the meeting to which it relates. Subject as aforesaid, at any general meeting or annual general meeting a resolution put to a vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) a poll

is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, a poll may be demanded by:

67.1.1. the Chairman of the meeting; or

67.1.2. at least five members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the resolution; or

67.1.3. a member or members present in person or by proxy representing not less than ten per cent. of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution (excluding any voting rights attached to shares held as treasury shares); or

67.1.4. a member or members present in person or by proxy holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution, being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than ten per cent of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote on the resolution held as treasury shares).

67.2. The Chairman may also demand a poll before a resolution is put to the vote on a show of hands.

67.3. At general meetings or annual general meetings, resolutions shall be put to the vote by the Chairman and there shall be no requirement for the resolution to be proposed or seconded by any person.

68. Chairman's declaration conclusive on show of hands

Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution on a show of hands has been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of proceedings of the Company, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against such resolution.

69. Objection to or error in voting

69.1. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, except at the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs. Any objection or error shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the Chairman decides that the same is of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution or may otherwise have affected the decision of the meeting. Any vote which is not disallowed at such a meeting or poll shall be valid for all purposes. The decision of the Chairman on such matters shall be final and conclusive.

69.2. The Company shall not be bound to enquire whether any proxy or corporate representative votes in accordance with the instructions given to him by the member he represents and if

a proxy or corporate representative does not vote in accordance with the instructions of the member he represents the vote or votes cast shall nevertheless be valid for all purposes.

70. Amendment to resolutions

70.1. If an amendment is proposed to any resolution under consideration but is in good faith ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, any error in such ruling shall not invalidate the proceedings on the substantive resolution.

70.2. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment thereto (other than a clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted on and in the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution, no amendment thereto (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted on, unless either at least 48 hours (without taking into account any part of a day that is not a working day) prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed, notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the Office or the Chairman of the meeting in his absolute discretion decides that it may be considered or voted on. The Chairman of the meeting can agree to the withdrawal of any proposed amendment before it is voted on at the meeting.

71. Procedure on a poll

71.1. A poll duly demanded on the election of a Chairman of a meeting or on any question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll duly demanded on any other matter shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or electronic means, or any combination thereof) and at such time, place and/or electronic platform, not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the poll was demanded, as the Chairman shall direct. The Chairman may appoint scrutineers who need not be members. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place and/or electronic platform at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given, specifying the time, place and/or electronic platform at which the poll is to be taken. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

71.2. The demand for a poll (other than on the election of a Chairman of the meeting or any question of adjournment) shall not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business, other than the question on which a poll has been demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result on a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.

71.3. The demand for a poll may be withdrawn at any time before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the Chairman of the meeting. A demand so withdrawn shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.

71.4. On a poll votes may be given in person or by proxy. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.



72. Votes of members

72.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to Article 77, to any special terms as to voting on which any shares may have been issued or may for the time being be held and to any suspension or abrogation of voting rights pursuant to these Articles, at any general meeting or annual general meeting, every member who is present in person shall, on a show of hands, have one vote, every proxy who has been appointed by a member entitled to vote on the resolution shall (subject to Article 72.2), on a show of hands, have one vote and every member present in person or by proxy shall, on a poll, have one vote for each share of which he is the holder.

72.2. If, on a vote on a resolution on a show of hands a proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and is instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and by one or more others to vote against it, or is instructed by one or more of those members to vote in one way and is given discretion as to how to vote by one or more others (and wishes to use that discretion to vote in the other way) he has one vote for and one vote against the resolution.

73. Voting record date

The Company may specify in the notice convening a general meeting or an annual general meeting that the right to vote at the meeting shall be determined by reference to the register of members at a time that is not more than forty eight hours before the time for the holding of the meeting (and in calculating this period no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day).

74. Votes of joint holders

If two or more persons are joint holders of a share, then in voting on any question, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote (whether in person or by proxy) shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders. For this purpose, seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register.

75. Votes of member suffering incapacity

75.1. Where in England or elsewhere a receiver or other person (by whatever name called) has been appointed by any court claiming jurisdiction in that behalf to exercise powers with respect to the property or affairs of any member on the ground (however formulated) of mental disorder, the Board may, in its absolute discretion, on or subject to the production of such evidence of the appointment as the Board may require, permit such receiver or other person to vote in person or, on a poll, by proxy on behalf of such member at any general meeting or annual general meeting.

75.2. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at the Office, or deposited or received at such other place or address as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit or receipt of appointments of proxy, not less than 48 hours (excluding any part of a day that is not a working day) before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at

which the right to vote is to be exercised, and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

76. Restriction on voting rights for unpaid calls etc.

No member shall, unless the Board otherwise determines, be entitled to vote at a general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in person or (save as proxy for another member entitled to vote) by proxy, in respect of any share held by him or to exercise any right as a member unless all calls or other sums presently payable by him in respect of that share in the Company have been paid to the Company.

#### PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES

77. Voting by proxy

77.1. Any person or persons (whether a member of the Company or not) may be appointed to act as a proxy provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member. The appointment of a proxy or proxies shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person on a show of hands or on a poll on any matters in respect of which the proxy or proxies is or are appointed. In the event that and to the extent that a member personally votes his shares his proxy or proxies shall not be entitled to vote and any vote cast by a proxy in such circumstances shall be ignored.

77.2. When two (or more) valid but differing appointments of proxy are received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting and in respect of the same matter, the one which is last validly received (regardless of its date or of the date of its execution or submission) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others as regards that share. If the Company is unable to determine which appointment was last validly received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.

78. Form of proxy

78.1. The appointment of a proxy or proxies shall, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts:

78.1.1. be in writing, in any common form or in such other form as the Board may approve, and (i) if in writing but not in electronic form, made under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing; or, if the appointor is a corporation, under its common seal or under the hand of some officer or attorney or other person duly authorised in that behalf; or (ii) if in writing in electronic form, submitted by or on behalf of the appointor and authenticated;

78.1.2. be deemed (subject to any contrary direction contained in it) to confer authority to exercise all or any rights of his or their appointee to demand or join in demanding a poll and to speak at any meeting and to vote (whether on a show of hands or on a poll) on any resolution or amendment of a resolution put to the meeting in respect of which the proxy is given, as the proxy or proxies think(s) fit;

- 78.1.3. unless the contrary is stated in it, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates; and
- 78.1.4. where it is stated to apply to more than one meeting, be valid for all such meetings as well as for any adjournment of any such meetings.
- 78.2. The Board may allow a proxy for a holder of any shares in uncertificated form to be appointed by electronic communication in the form of an uncertificated proxy instruction. The Board may also allow any supplement to the uncertificated proxy instruction or any amendment or revocation of any uncertificated proxy instruction to be made by a further uncertificated proxy instruction.
- 78.3. The Board may decide what method should be used to determine at what time the instruction or notification is treated as being received by the Company. The Board may treat any notification purporting or expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share in uncertificated form as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending the instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.
- 78.4. For the purposes of this Article 78, an uncertificated proxy instruction is a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, sent through a relevant system to a participant in that system chosen by the Board to act for the Company. The uncertificated proxy instruction may be in any form and subject to any terms and conditions that the Board deems appropriate, but always subject to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system.
79. Deposit or receipt of proxy
- 79.1. The appointment of a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is authenticated, or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Board, shall:
- 79.1.1. in the case of an appointment not in electronic form (including any such power of attorney or other authority) be deposited at the Office, or at such other place or places (within the United Kingdom) as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any notice of any adjourned meeting or in any appointment of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote; or
- 79.1.2. in the case of an appointment in electronic form (including any such power of attorney or other authority), where an address has been specified for the purpose of receiving documents or information in electronic form:
- (a) in the notice convening the meeting; or
- (b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or

(c) in any invitation in electronic form to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting,

be received at such address not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote; or

79.1.3. in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for taking the poll; or

79.1.4. in the case of a poll not taken forthwith but taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the Chairman of the meeting or any Director, the Secretary or some other person authorised for the purpose by the Company.

79.2. The Board may specify in the notice convening the meeting that, in determining the time for delivery of proxies pursuant to this Article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

#### 80. Maximum validity of proxy

An appointment of proxy not deposited, delivered or received in the manner specified in Article 79 shall be invalid. No appointment of proxy shall be valid after the expiry of 12 months from the date named in it as the date of its execution or the date of its submission, except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting, in cases where the meeting was originally held within 12 months from such date.

#### 81. Revocation of proxy

A vote given, or demand for a poll made, by a proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the death or mental disorder of the principal or the revocation of the appointment of proxy, or of the authority under which the appointment of proxy was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the appointment of proxy is given, unless notice in writing of such death, mental disorder, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the Office, (or at such other place or places or address as has or have been appointed for the deposit or receipt of appointments of proxy under Article 79) not later than the last time at which an appointment of a proxy should have been received under Article 79 in order for it to be valid for use at the meeting, adjourned meeting or poll as appropriate.

#### 82. Corporate representatives

A corporation (whether or not a company within the meaning of the Companies Acts) which is a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise such person or persons as it thinks fit to act as its representative or representatives at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. The corporation for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present at it; and all references to attendance and

voting in person shall be construed accordingly. A Director, the Secretary, or some person authorised for the purpose by the Secretary, may require any representative to produce a certified copy of the resolution so authorising him or such other evidence of his authority reasonably satisfactory to such Director, Secretary or other person before permitting him to exercise his powers.

83. Failure to disclose interests in shares

83.1. Where a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been issued with a notice pursuant to the Companies Acts requiring such person to provide information about his interests in the Company's shares (a "Section 793 Notice") and has failed in relation to any shares (the "default shares", which expression includes any shares issued after the date of such notice in respect of those shares) to give the Company the information required within the prescribed period from the service of the notice, the following sanctions shall apply unless the Board otherwise determines:

83.1.1. the member shall not be entitled (in respect of the default shares) to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or by proxy) at any general meeting or annual general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll, or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll; and

83.1.2. where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent. in nominal value of the issued shares of their class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares):

- (a) any dividend or other money payable in respect of the shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect, pursuant to Article 147, to receive shares instead of that dividend; and
- (b) no transfer (other than an excepted transfer) of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless:
  - (i) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required; and
  - (ii) the member proves to the satisfaction of the Board that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer.

83.2. Where the sanctions under Article 83.1 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect (and any dividends withheld under subparagraph 83.1.2 shall become payable):

83.2.1. if the shares are transferred by means of an excepted transfer but only in relation to the shares transferred; or

- 83.2.2. at the end of a period of seven days (or such shorter period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the Section 793 Notice and the Board being satisfied that such information is full and complete.
- 83.3. Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company issues a Section 793 Notice to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the Section 793 Notice to the member, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 83.1.
- 83.4. Where default shares in which a person appears to be interested are held by a Depositary, the provisions of this Article 83 shall be treated as applying only to those shares held by the Depositary in which such person appears to be interested and not (insofar as such person's apparent interest is concerned) to any other shares held by the Depositary.
- 83.5. Where the member on which a Section 793 Notice is served is a Depositary acting in its capacity as such, the obligations of the Depositary as a member of the Company shall be limited to disclosing to the Company such information relating to any person appearing to be interested in the shares held by it, as has been recorded by it pursuant to the arrangements entered into by the Company, or approved by the Board pursuant to which it was appointed as a Depositary.
- 83.6. For the purposes of this Article 83:
- 83.6.1. a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a Section 793 Notice, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;
- 83.6.2. "interested" shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 CA 2006;
- 83.6.3. reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a Section 793 Notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes, without limitation, reference:
- (a) to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it; and
  - (b) to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or his having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular;
- 83.6.4. the "prescribed period" means:
- (a) in a case where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent. of their class, 14 days; and

- (b) in any other case, 28 days;

83.6.5. "excepted transfer" means, in relation to any shares held by a member:

- (a) a transfer by way of or pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of the Companies Acts); or
- (b) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or
- (c) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a bona fide sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member or with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares. For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (c), any associate (as defined in section 435 Insolvency Act 1986) shall be included in the class of persons who are connected with the member or any person appearing to be interested in such shares.

83.7. Nothing contained in this Article 83 shall be taken to limit the powers of the Company under the Companies Acts to apply to the court for an order imposing restrictions on a person's shares.

#### UNTRACED MEMBERS

84. Power of sale

84.1. The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share of a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, if and provided that:

84.1.1. during the period of 12 years immediately prior to the date of the publication of the advertisements referred to in sub-paragraph 82.1.2 (or, if published on different dates, the earlier or earliest thereof) (the "relevant period"), the Company has paid at least three cash dividends (whether interim or final) on the share and no cash dividend payable on the share has either been claimed or cashed;

84.1.2. on or after expiry of the relevant period, the Company has given notice of its intention to sell such share by advertisements in two newspapers, of which one shall be a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and the other shall be a newspaper circulating in the area of the address on the Register or other last known address of the member or the person entitled by transmission to the share or the address for the service of notices notified under Article 159.3;

84.1.3. the said advertisements, if not published on the same day, shall have been published within 30 days of each other; and

- 84.1.4. during the further period of three months following the date of publication of the said advertisements (or, if published on different dates, the later or latest thereof) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale, the Company has not received any communication in respect of such share from the member or person entitled by transmission.
- 84.2. To give effect to any sale of shares pursuant to this Article, the Board may authorise some person to transfer the shares in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred shares in the Register, notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof, and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the shares. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of any purchase consideration, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any act, omission, irregularity or invalidity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the sale.
- 84.3. If, during the relevant period referred to in Article 84.1 or during any period ending on the date when all the requirements of sub-paragraphs 84.1.1 to 84.1.4 have been satisfied, any additional shares have been issued in respect of those held at the beginning of, or previously so issued during, any such period and all the requirements of sub-paragraphs 84.1.2 to 84.1.4 have been satisfied in regard to such additional shares, the Company shall also be entitled to sell the additional shares.
85. Application of proceeds of sale
- The net proceeds of sale shall belong to the Company which shall account to the member or other person entitled to such share for an amount equal to such net proceeds by carrying all moneys in respect thereof to a separate account. The Company shall be deemed to be a debtor to, and not a trustee for, such member or other person in respect of such moneys. Moneys carried to such separate account may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments as the Board may from time to time think fit. No interest shall be payable to such member or other person in respect of such moneys and the Company shall not be required to account for any money earned on them.

#### APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

86. Number of Directors
- Unless and until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, the number of Directors (other than any alternate Directors) shall be not more than ten or less than two.
87. Power of Company to appoint Directors
- Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles.



88. Power of Board to appoint Directors

Without prejudice to the power of the Company in general meeting or annual general meeting under these Articles to appoint any person to be a Director, the Board shall have power at any time to appoint any person who is willing to act as a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but so the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall retire at the first annual general meeting of the Company following his appointment and shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at that meeting.

89. Appointment of executive Directors

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may from time to time appoint one or more Directors to hold any employment or executive office (including that of Chief Executive or Managing Director) for such term (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) and subject to such other conditions as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, thinks fit in accordance with Article 111. The Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may revoke or terminate any such appointment without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract between the Director and the Company.

90. Eligibility of new Directors

No person, other than a Director retiring (by rotation or otherwise), shall, unless recommended by the Board for election, be appointed or re-appointed a Director at any general meeting or annual general meeting unless, not less than seven nor more than 42 clear days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice in writing duly executed by a member (other than the person to be proposed) qualified to vote at the meeting of the intention to propose that person for appointment or re-appointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or re-appointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of Directors, together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or re-appointed, is lodged at the Office.

91. Share qualification

A Director shall not be required to hold any shares of the Company.

92. Resolution for appointment of two or more Directors

A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall be void unless an ordinary resolution that it shall be so proposed has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it.

93. Retirement at annual general meetings

- 93.1. Any Director appointed pursuant to Article 88 shall retire at the first annual general meeting of the Company following his appointment and shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at that meeting.
- 93.2. At each annual general meeting, any Director who was elected or last re-elected at or before the annual general meeting held in the third calendar year before the current year shall automatically retire.
- 93.3. In addition, any Director who has been with the Company (other than the Chairman and any Director holding executive office) for a continuous period of nine years or more at the date of the meeting shall also retire.
- 93.4. At each annual general meeting of the Company, one-third of the Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third, shall retire from office. If there are fewer than three Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation, one Director shall retire from office.
- 93.5. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of these Articles, the Directors to retire by rotation at each annual general meeting shall be, so far as necessary to obtain the number required, first, any Director who wishes to retire and not offer himself for re-election and secondly, those Directors who have been longest in office since their appointment or last re-appointment. As between two or more Directors who have been in office for an equal length of time, the Director to retire shall, in default of agreement between them, be determined by lot. The Directors to retire on each occasion (both as to number and identity) shall be determined by the composition of the Board at the start of business on the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting notwithstanding any change in the number or identity of the Directors after that time but before the close of the meeting.

94. Position of retiring Director

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting (whether by rotation or otherwise) may, if willing to act, be re-appointed. If he is not re-appointed or deemed to have been re-appointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

95. Deemed re-appointment

- 95.1. At any general meeting or annual general meeting at which a Director retires under any provision of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution fill the vacancy by electing the retiring Director or some other person who is eligible for appointment and willing to act as a Director. If the Company does not do so, the retiring Director shall (if willing) be deemed to have been re-appointed except in the following circumstances:

95.1.1. it is expressly resolved not to fill the vacancy;

95.1.2. a resolution for the re-appointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost.

96. Removal by ordinary resolution

In addition to any power of removal conferred by the Companies Acts, the Company may by ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office, but without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company, and may (subject to these Articles) by ordinary resolution appoint another person who is willing to act to be a Director in his place. Any person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other Director is to retire, as if he had become a Director on the day on which the person in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or re-appointed a Director.

97. Vacation of office by Director

97.1. Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement (by rotation or otherwise) contained in these Articles, the office of a Director shall be vacated if:

97.1.1. he resigns by notice in writing delivered to, or, if in electronic form, received by, the Secretary at the Office or tendered at a Board meeting;

97.1.2. he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, is removed from office pursuant to these Articles or the Companies Acts, or becomes prohibited by law from being a Director;

97.1.3. he becomes bankrupt, has an interim receiving order made against him, makes any arrangement or compounds with his creditors generally or applies to the court for an interim order under section 253 of the Insolvency Act 1986 in connection with a voluntary arrangement under that Act;

97.1.4. an order is made by any court of competent jurisdiction on the ground (howsoever formulated) of mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a guardian or receiver or other person to exercise powers with respect to his affairs or he becomes a patient for any purpose of any statute relating to mental health and the Board resolves that his office be vacated;

97.1.5. both he and his alternate Director appointed pursuant to the provisions of these Articles (if any) are absent, without the permission of the Board, from Board meetings for six consecutive months and the Board resolves (within 2 months of the date of the last meeting from which he and such alternate Director were absent during such period) that his office be vacated; or

97.1.6. he is requested to resign by a notice in writing delivered to the Office or tendered at a meeting of the Board (without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of contract between him and the Company), authenticated by all of the other Directors (not being less than two in number) and, for this purpose, like notices each authenticated by one or more of the Directors shall be as effective as a single notice authenticated by the requisite number of Directors.

98. Resolution as to vacancy conclusive

A resolution of the Board declaring a Director to have vacated office under the terms of Article 97 shall be conclusive as to the fact and grounds of vacation stated in the resolution.

#### ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

99. Appointments

99.1. Each Director (other than an alternate Director) may, by notice in writing delivered to or, if in electronic form, received by the Secretary at the Office, or in any other manner approved by the Board, appoint any other Director or any person approved for that purpose by the Board and willing to act, to be his alternate and remove from office an alternate Director so appointed by him.

99.2. No appointment of an alternate Director who is not already a Director shall be effective until his consent to act as a Director in the form prescribed by or required pursuant to the Companies Acts has been received at the Office.

99.3. An alternate Director need not hold a share qualification and shall not be counted in reckoning any maximum or minimum number of Directors prescribed by these Articles.

100. Participation in Board meetings

Every alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served on him) be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the Board and all committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member and, in the absence from such meetings of his appointor, to attend and vote at such meetings

- and to exercise all the powers, rights, duties and authorities of his appointor (except as regards power to appoint an alternate). A Director acting as alternate Director shall have a separate vote at Board meetings for each Director for whom he acts as alternate Director (and who is not present) in addition to his own vote (if any) as a Director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

101. Alternate Director responsible for own acts

Every person acting as an alternate Director shall be an officer of the Company, shall alone be responsible to the Company for his own acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing him.

102. Interests of alternate Director

The provisions of Articles 126-133 shall apply to an alternate Director to the same extent as if he was a Director and for the purposes of those provisions an alternate Director shall be deemed to have an interest which conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interest of the Company if either he or his appointor has such an interest. The provisions of Articles 103, 168 and 169 shall also apply to an alternate Director to the same extent as if he was a Director. An alternate Director shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any fees in

his capacity as an alternate Director, except only such part (if any) of the fees payable to his appointor as his appointor may by notice in writing to the Company direct. Subject to this Article, the Company shall pay to an alternate Director such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a Director.

103. Revocation of appointment

An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director:

103.1.1. if his appointor revokes his appointment; or

103.1.2. if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director, provided that if any Director retires but is re-appointed or deemed to be re-appointed at the same meeting, any valid appointment of an alternate Director which was in force immediately before his retirement shall remain in force; or

103.1.3. if any event happens in relation to him which, if he were a Director otherwise appointed, would cause him to vacate office; or

103.1.4. if he resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company.

#### DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS

104. Directors' fees

The Directors (other than alternate Directors) shall be entitled to receive by way of fees for their services as Directors such sum as the Board may from time to time determine provided that the aggregate amount paid to Directors by way of fees shall not exceed £200475,000 in any financial year or such greater sum as may be determined from time to time by ordinary resolution of the Company. Any fees payable pursuant to this Article shall be distinct from and shall not include any salary, remuneration for an executive office or other amounts payable to a Director pursuant to any other provisions of these Articles and shall accrue from day to day.

105. Expenses

The Directors shall be entitled to be repaid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in or about the performance of their duties as Directors, including any expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board or general meetings or annual general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company.

106. Additional remuneration

If by arrangement with the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, any Director shall perform or render any special duties or services outside his ordinary duties as a Director and not in his capacity as a holder of employment or executive office, he may be paid such reasonable additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission,

participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may from time to time determine.

107. Remuneration of executive Directors

The salary or remuneration of any Director appointed to hold any employment or executive office in accordance with the provisions of these Articles may be either a fixed sum of money, or may altogether or in part be governed by business done or profits made or otherwise determined by the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, and may be in addition to or in lieu of any fee payable to him for his services as Director pursuant to these Articles.

108. Pensions and other benefits

The Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide pensions or other retirement or superannuation benefits and to provide death or disability benefits or other allowances or gratuities (whether by insurance or otherwise) for, or to institute and maintain any institution, association, society, club, trust, other establishment or profit-sharing, share incentive, share purchase or employees' share scheme calculated to advance the interests of the Company or to benefit any person who is or has at any time been a Director of the Company or any company which is a holding company or a subsidiary undertaking of or allied to or associated with the Company or any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking or any predecessor in business of the Company or of any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse or former spouse) and any person who is or was dependent on him. For such purpose the Board may establish, maintain, subscribe and contribute to any scheme, institution, association, club, trust or fund and pay premiums and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, lend money or make payments to, guarantee or give an indemnity in respect of, or give any financial or other assistance in connection with any of such matters. The Board may procure any of such matters to be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person. Any Director or former Director shall be entitled to receive and retain for his own benefit any pension or other benefit provided under this Article and shall not be obliged to account for it to the Company.

## POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

109. Powers of the Board

109.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution of the Company, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board, which may exercise all the powers of the Company, whether relating to the management of the business or not. No alteration of these Articles and no such direction given by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such alteration had not been made or such direction had not been given. Provisions contained elsewhere in these Articles as to any specific power of the Board shall not be deemed to limit the general powers given by this Article.

109.2. The Company may change its name by resolution of the Board.

110. Powers of Directors being less than minimum number

If the number of Directors is less than the minimum for the time being prescribed by these Articles, the remaining Director or Directors shall act only for the purposes of appointing an additional Director or Directors to make up such minimum or of convening a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of making such appointment. If there is or are no Director or Directors able or willing to act, any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, any additional Director so appointed shall hold office only until the dissolution of the first annual general meeting of the Company following his appointment unless he is re-elected during such meeting.

111. Powers of executive Directors

111.1. The Board may from time to time:

111.1.1. delegate or entrust to and confer on any Director holding executive office (including a Managing Director) such of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit; and

111.1.2. revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

112. Delegation to committees

112.1. The Board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, all powers, authorities and discretions the exercise of which involves or may involve the payment of remuneration to or the conferring of any other benefit on all or any of the Directors) for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit to any committee appointed by the Board and consisting of one or more Directors and (if thought fit) one or more other persons.

112.2. Any such committee shall, unless the Board otherwise resolves, have power to sub-delegate to sub-committees any of the powers, authorities or discretions delegated to it.

112.3. A majority of the members of any committee or sub-committee shall be Directors and no resolution of a committee or sub-committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present and voting on the resolution when it is passed are Directors or alternate Directors.

112.4. The Board may confer any of its powers, authorities and discretions either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers and discharge any such committee or sub-committee in whole or in part. Insofar as any power, authority or discretion is so delegated, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Board of such power, authority or discretion shall be construed as if it were a reference to the exercise of such power, authority or discretion by such committee or sub-committee.

112.5. The meetings and proceedings of any such committee or sub-committee consisting of more than one person shall be governed mutatis mutandis by the provisions of these Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board, so far as the same are not superseded by any regulations made by the Board under this Article 112.

113. Power of attorney

The Board may by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person or persons to be the agent of the Company and may delegate to any such person or persons any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate), in each case for such purposes and for such time, on such terms (including as to remuneration) and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers.

114. Powers of delegation

The power to delegate contained in Articles 112.4 and 113 shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board.

115. Exercise of voting power

The Board may exercise or cause to be exercised the voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company, or any power of appointment to be

- exercised by the Company, in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit (including the exercise of the voting power or power of appointment in favour of the appointment of any Director as a director or other officer or employee of such company or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors, officers or employees of such company).

116. Borrowing powers

116.1. Subject to the provisions of this Article 116, the Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present or future) and uncalled capital of the Company and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to issue debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

116.2. The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary undertakings (if any) so as to secure so far as it is able that the aggregate principal amount from time to time outstanding of all borrowings by the Group (exclusive of certain borrowings owing by one member of the Group to another member of the Group, other than amounts to be taken into account under Article 116.4.3 below) shall not, without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, at any time exceed an amount equal to 25 per



cent, of the value of the gross assets of the Company provided that it shall not be necessary to reduce the borrowings of the Company by reason of the said percentage limit being exceeded as a result of any depreciation in the value of the assets of the Company but if any such borrowings are repaid no further borrowings shall be made which at that date would result in such limit being exceeded or further exceeded.

116.3. For the purpose of this Article 116:

116.3.1. "the value of the gross assets of the Company" shall mean the total value of all assets owned by the Company (including the value of the Company's holdings in its subsidiary undertakings), such assets to be valued on the following bases:

- (a) the value of securities listed or dealt in on any reputable or recognised stock exchange or securities market shall be calculated by reference to the closing middle market price or average closing price, as appropriate, based on the official or other list relevant to such stock exchange or securities market on the relevant date or, if the relevant date is not a business day, the immediately preceding business day, or, where such value is unavailable, the value as certified by a stockbroker or other professional person qualified to certify the same; and
- (b) the value of other securities (or the Company's holdings in its subsidiary undertakings) shall be at valuations determined by or on behalf of the Board in accordance with such valuation principles as may be recommended by the Auditors;

116.3.2. "borrowings" shall be deemed to include not only borrowings but also the following, except insofar as otherwise taken into account:

- (a) the nominal amount of any issued share capital and the principal amount of any debentures or borrowed moneys, the beneficial interest wherein, or the right to repayment whereof, is not for the time being owned by a member of the Group or of any other body (whether corporate or unincorporate) and the payment or repayment whereof is the subject of a guarantee or indemnity by a member of the Group;
- (b) the outstanding principal amount raised by acceptances by any bank or accepting house under any acceptance credit opened on behalf of and in favour of any member of the Group;
- (c) the principal amount of any debenture (whether secured or unsecured) of a member of the Group owned otherwise than by a member of the Group;
- (d) the nominal amount of any preference share capital of any subsidiary undertaking beneficially owned otherwise than by a member of the Group;

(e) any fixed or minimum premium payable on final redemption or repayment of any borrowing or deemed borrowing; and

any liability under a finance lease (to the extent such amount is to be included in the audited balance sheet of any member of the Group in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles);

but shall be deemed not to include borrowings for the purposes of repaying the whole or any part of borrowings by a member of the Group for the time being outstanding and so to be applied within six months of being so borrowed, pending their application for such purpose within such period;

116.3.3. "net borrowings" shall, at any time, mean the amount of borrowings at that time less cash and money market instruments (valued in accordance with the provisions set out in Article 116.3.1(a)) held by the Company at that time, and the Board may from time to time determine which instruments shall constitute money market instruments for this purpose (which, without restricting the Board's discretion, may include floating rate notes of any maturity and gilts and bonds with a maturity of up to five years); and

116.3.4. "the Group" shall mean the Company and its subsidiary undertakings (if any) and "subsidiary undertaking" shall mean a subsidiary undertaking (within the meaning of the Companies Acts) of the Company (except a subsidiary undertaking which is excluded from consolidation by virtue of the provisions of section 405 CA 2006).

116.4. When the aggregate principal amount of borrowings required to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 116 on any particular date is being ascertained:

116.4.1. any such assets or monies valued, denominated or repayable (or repayable at the option of any person other than the Company) in a currency other than sterling shall be converted for the purpose of calculating the sterling equivalent at the relevant rate of exchange used for the purposes of the translation of such currency in the latest audited balance sheet or, if the relevant currency was not thereby involved or if the Board so determine, by reference to the rate of exchange ruling in London on such date and determined on such basis as the Auditors may have certified to be appropriate; and

116.4.2. where under the terms of any borrowing the amount of money that would be required to discharge the principal amount of such borrowing in full if it fell to be repaid (at the option of the Company or by reason of default) on such date is less than the amount that would otherwise be taken into account in respect of such borrowing for the purpose of this Article, the amount of such borrowing to be taken into account for the purpose of this Article shall be such lesser amount;

116.4.3. monies borrowed by a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking and not owing to another member of the Group shall be taken into account subject to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the relevant proportion and moneys borrowed and

owing to a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking by another member of the Group shall be taken into account to the extent of a proportion thereof equal to the relevant proportion; for the purposes of this paragraph relevant proportion shall mean the proportion of the issued equity share capital of such partly-owned subsidiary undertaking which is not attributable (directly or indirectly) to the Company.

116.5. A report or certificate of the Auditors as to the amount of the gross assets of the Company or the amount of moneys borrowed falling to be taken into account for the purposes of this Article 116 or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article 116 has not been or will not be exceeded at any particular time or times or as a result of any particular transaction or transactions shall be conclusive evidence of the amount or of that fact. Nevertheless, the Board may at any time act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of the gross assets of the Company; and if in consequence the limit on borrowings set out in this Article is inadvertently exceeded, an amount borrowed equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiration of three months after the date on which (by reason of a determination of the Auditors or otherwise) the Board became aware that such a situation has or may have arisen.

116.6. No debt incurred or security given in respect of moneys borrowed in excess of the limit imposed by this Article 116 shall be invalid or ineffectual, except in the case of express notice to the lender or recipient of the security at the time when the debt was incurred or security given that the limit had been or would thereby be exceeded, but no lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether such limit is observed.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

117. Board meetings

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

118. Notice of Board meetings

One Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, summon a Board meeting at any time on reasonable notice. Notice of a Board meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address (or any other address given by him to the Company for that purpose). A Director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of any Board meeting, either prospectively or retrospectively. A Director who is outside the United Kingdom and does not supply the Company with an address to which notices and documents can be sent in electronic form is deemed to have waived his entitlement to notice of such meeting.

119. Quorum

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business may be determined by the Board and, until otherwise determined, shall be two persons, each being a Director or an alternate

Director. A duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers, and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Board. Subject to these Articles, any Director who ceases to be a Director at a meeting of the Board may continue to be present and to act as a Director and be counted in the quorum until the termination of the meeting if no other Director objects and if otherwise a quorum of Directors would not be present.

120. Chairman of Board

The Board may appoint one or more of its body as Chairman or Joint Chairman and one or more of its body as Deputy Chairman of its meetings and may determine the period for which he is or they are to hold office and may at any time remove him or them from office. If no such Chairman or Deputy Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting neither a Chairman nor a Deputy Chairman is present within five minutes of the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting. In the event there are two or more Joint Chairmen or, in the absence of a Chairman, two or more Deputy Chairmen present, the Joint Chairman or Deputy Chairman to act as Chairman of the meeting shall be decided by those Directors present. Any Chairman or Deputy Chairman may also hold executive office under the Company.

121. Voting and the Chairman's casting vote

Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman of that meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

122. Electronic participation in meetings

122.1. Any Director or his alternate may validly participate in a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board by means of conference telephone or any other form of communications equipment, (provided that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout such meeting), by a series of telephone calls from the Chairman of the meeting or by exchange of communication in electronic form addressed to the Chairman of the meeting.

122.2. A person so participating by being present or being in telephone communication with or by exchanging communication in electronic form with those in the meeting or with the Chairman of the meeting shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall accordingly be counted in a quorum and be entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no group which is larger than any other group, where the Chairman of the meeting is.

122.3. A resolution passed at any meeting held in the above manner, and authenticated by the Chairman of the meeting or the Secretary, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be) duly convened and held.

123. Resolution in writing

123.1. A resolution in writing authenticated by all the Directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a Board meeting and not being less than a quorum, or by all the members of a committee of the Board for the time being entitled to receive notice of such committee meeting and not being less than a quorum of that committee, shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as a resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be). Such a resolution:

123.1.1. may consist of several documents in the same form each authenticated by one or more of the Directors or members of the relevant committee;

123.1.2. need not be authenticated by an alternate Director if it is authenticated by the Director who appointed him;

123.1.3. if authenticated by an alternate Director, need not also be authenticated by his appointor; and

123.1.4. to be effective, need not be signed by a Director who is prohibited by these Articles from voting thereon or whose vote would not count in relation thereto, or by his alternate Director.

124. Minutes of proceedings

124.1. The Board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of recording:

124.1.1. all appointments of officers and committees made by the Board; and

124.1.2. the names of Directors present at every meeting of the Board, of a committee of the Board, of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company, and all orders, resolutions and proceedings of such meetings.

124.2. Any such minutes, if purporting to be authenticated by the Chairman of the meeting at which the proceedings were held or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting or the Secretary, shall be receivable as prima facie evidence of the matters stated in such minutes without any further proof.

125. Validity of proceedings

All acts done by a meeting of the Board, or of a committee of the Board, or by any person acting as a Director, alternate Director or member of a committee shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any person or persons acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were or was disqualified from holding office or had ceased to hold office or were or was not entitled to vote on the matter in question, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed, and was duly qualified and had continued to be a Director, alternate Director or member of a committee and entitled to vote.

## DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

### 126. Director may have interests

126.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and provided that Articles 128 and 129 are complied with, a Director, notwithstanding his office:

126.1.1. may enter into or otherwise be interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested, either in regard to his tenure of any office or place of profit or as vendor, purchaser or otherwise;

126.1.2. may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor or of auditor of a subsidiary of the Company) in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and in any such case on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may arrange, either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for by any other Article;

126.1.3. may be a director or other officer, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with or otherwise interested in, any company promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested or as regards which the Company has any powers of appointment; and

126.1.4. shall not be liable to account to the Company for any profit, remuneration or other benefit realised by any such office, employment, contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal and no such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal shall be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit.

### 127. Authorisation of Interests of Directors

127.1. This Article 127 does not apply to a conflict of interest arising in relation to any transaction or arrangement with the Company.

127.2. The Board may authorise, to the fullest extent permitted by law:

127.2.1. any matter which, if not so authorised, would or might result in a Director infringing his duty to avoid a situation in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company (including the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity, whether or not the Company could take advantage of it) and which may reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest;

127.2.2. a Director to accept or continue in any office, employment or position in addition to his office as a Director of the Company and without prejudice to the generality of this Article 127.2 may authorise the manner in which a conflict of interest arising out of such office, employment or position may be dealt with, either before or at the time that such a conflict of interest arises.

- 127.3. An authorisation under Article 127.2 may be given to such terms and conditions as the Board thinks fit to impose at the time of such authorisation or subsequently and the authorisation may be varied or terminated by the Board at any time.
- 127.4. An authorisation under Article 127.2 is only effective if any requirement as to the quorum of the meeting is met without the Director in question and any other interested Director counting in the quorum at any meeting at which such matter, or such office, employment or position, is approved and the authorisation is agreed to without their voting or would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted.
- 127.5. If a matter or office, employment or position, has been authorised by the Board in accordance with this Article 127 (and subject to Article 127.3) then:
- 127.5.1. the Director shall not be under any duty to the Company with respect to any information which he obtains or has obtained as a result of such matter, office, employment or position and in respect of which he owes a duty of confidentiality to another person. In particular, the Director shall not be in breach of the general duties he owes to the Company under the Companies Acts because he fails to disclose such information to the Board or to any Director or other officer or employee of the Company and/or fails to use or apply any such information in performing his duties as a Director of the Company;
- 127.5.2. the Director may (and shall if required by the Board) absent himself from meetings or discussions of the Board at which any matter relating to a conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest arising from that matter, or that office, employment or position, will or may be discussed; and
- 127.5.3. the Director may (and shall if required by the Board) decline to receive and/or review any information or documents provided by the Company which will or may relate to or be connected to any matter relating to a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest arising from that matter, or that office, employment or position.
- 127.6. A Director shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any matter, or from any office, employment or position, which has been approved by the Board pursuant to this Article 127 (subject in any such case to any terms or conditions to which such approval is for the time being subject).
- 127.7. Any reference in this Article to a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.
- 127.8. This Article is without prejudice to the operation of Article 126 and a director who shall have in accordance with Article 128 disclosed any material interest shall not infringe or be in breach of his duties to the Company by reason of such interest.

128. Disclosure of interests to Board

A Director who, to his knowledge, is in any way (directly or indirectly) interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company shall declare the nature of

his interest at the meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into the contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal is first considered, if he knows his interest then exists or, in any other case, at the first meeting of the Board after he knows that he is or has become so interested. For the purposes of this Article:

128.1. a general notice given to the Board by a Director that he is to be regarded as having an interest (of the nature and extent specified in the notice) in any contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a sufficient disclosure under this Article in relation to such contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal; and

128.2. an interest of which a Director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of his.

129. Interested Director not to vote or count for quorum

129.1. Save as provided in this Article, a Director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board concerning any contract, arrangement, transaction or any proposal whatsoever to which the Company is or is to be a party and in which he is to his knowledge alone or together with any person connected with him materially interested unless the resolution concerns any of the following matters:

129.1.1. the giving to him of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him or by any other person at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;

129.1.2. a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiaries for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part, either alone or jointly with others, under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

129.1.3. any proposal concerning an offer of shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries in which offer he is or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which he is to participate;

129.1.4. any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal to which the Company is or is to be a party concerning any other body corporate (a "relevant company") in which he (together with persons connected with him), directly or indirectly (and whether as an officer or shareholder, creditor or otherwise), does not hold or have a beneficial interest in one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of either a relevant company or an intermediate company (any such interest being deemed for the purposes of this Article to be a material interest in all circumstances); for the purposes of this paragraph:

(a) an intermediate company means a company having an interest in a relevant company which would be material if held by a Director;



- (b) a Director shall be deemed to have an interest in one per cent. or more of a relevant company or an intermediate company if directly or indirectly he is the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent. or more of any class of equity share capital or of the voting rights available to members of either such company; and
- (c) there shall be disregarded any shares held by a Director as bare or custodian trustee and in which he has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the Director's interest is in reversion or is in remainder (if and so long as some other person is entitled to receive the income from the trust) and any shares comprised in any authorised unit trust scheme in which the Director is interested only as a unit holder;

129.1.5. any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal relating to an arrangement for the benefit of the employees of the Company or its Subsidiaries which does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the employees to which such arrangement relates, and concerning the adoption, modification or operation of a pension, superannuation or similar scheme or retirement, death or disability benefits scheme or employees' share scheme under which he may benefit and which either has been approved by or is subject to and conditional on approval by the Board of Inland Revenue for taxation purposes or relates to both employees and Directors of the Company (or any of its subsidiaries) and does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to which such scheme or fund relates; and

129.1.6. any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal concerning the purchase and/or maintenance of any insurance policy for the benefit of Directors or for the benefit of persons including Directors pursuant to Article 168.

130. Director's interest in own appointment

A Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution of the Board or committee of the Board concerning his own appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of his appointment or its termination) as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested. Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment or its termination) of two or more Directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and a separate resolution considered in relation to each Director. In such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under these Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

131. Chairman's ruling conclusive on Director's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to whether an interest of a Director (other than the Chairman's interest) shall reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest

or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than the Chairman) to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting. The Chairman's ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Director concerned (so far as it is known to him) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.

132. Directors' resolution conclusive on Chairman's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to whether an interest of the Chairman shall reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest or as to the entitlement of the Chairman to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be decided by resolution of the Directors or committee members present at the meeting (excluding the Chairman), whose majority vote shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Chairman (so far as it is known to him) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.

133. Relaxation of provisions

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to the Listing Rules, the Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of Articles 126 to 132, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of these Articles.

#### AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

134. Power to authenticate documents

Any Director, the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolution passed by the Company or the Board or any committee, and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company, and to certify copies thereof or extracts therefrom as true copies or extracts; and where any books, records, documents or accounts are elsewhere than at the Office the local manager or other officer of the Company having their custody shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Board for this purpose. A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or an extract from the minutes of a meeting, of the Company or of the Board or any committee which is so certified shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that any minute so extracted is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

#### SEALS

135. Safe custody

The Board shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and of any other seal of the Company.

136. Application of seals

The Seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board so authorised. The Board may determine whether any instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it and by what means. The Board may also determine, either generally or in a particular case, that a signature may be dispensed with or affixed by mechanical or other means. Unless otherwise so determined:

136.1.1. share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the Seal in respect of any debentures or other securities need not be signed and any signature may be affixed to or printed on any such certificate by any means approved by the Board; and

136.1.2. every other instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed by one Director and by the Secretary or by two Directors or by one Director in the presence of a witness who attests his signature or by such other persons as the Board or a committee of the Board shall appoint for that purpose (and, if the Secretary is a limited company, such company may nominate any person to act on its behalf).

137. Execution as a deed without sealing

Any instrument signed by one Director and the Secretary, by two Directors or by one Director in the presence of a witness who attests his signature and, in any such case, expressed to be executed by the Company shall have the same effect as if executed under the Seal, provided that no instrument which makes it clear on its face that it is intended to have effect as a deed shall be so signed without the authority of the Directors or of a committee authorised by the Directors in that behalf.

138. Official seal for use abroad

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may have an official seal for use in any place abroad.

#### THE SECRETARY

139. The Secretary

139.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board shall appoint a Secretary or Joint Secretaries and shall have power to appoint one or more persons to be an Assistant or Deputy Secretary at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit and any such person so appointed may be removed by the Board.

139.2. Any provision of the Companies Acts or of these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

## DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS

### 140. Declaration of dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends to be paid to members according to their respective rights and interests in the profits of the Company. However, no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board.

### 141. Interim dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may declare and pay such interim dividends (including any dividend payable at a fixed rate) as appears to the Board to be justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes, the Board may pay such interim dividends on shares which rank after shares conferring preferential rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares conferring preferential rights, unless at the time of payment any preferential dividend is in arrear. Provided that the Board acts in good faith, it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferential rights for any loss that they may suffer by the lawful payment of any interim dividend on any shares ranking after those with preferential rights.

### 142. Entitlement to dividends

Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid but no amount paid up on a share in advance of the date on which a call is payable shall be treated for the purposes of this Article as paid up on the share. Subject as aforesaid, all dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid, but if any share is issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, it shall rank for dividend accordingly.

### 143. Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends

The Board may deduct from any dividend or other money payable to any person on or in respect of a share all such sums as may be due from him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to the shares of the Company.

### 144. Distribution in specie

The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, direct that payment of any dividend declared may be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets, and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company, or in any one or more of such ways. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit. In particular, the Board may:

144.1.1. issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions);

144.1.2. fix the value for distribution of such assets or any part thereof and determine that cash payments may be made to any members on the footing of the value so fixed, in order to adjust the rights of members; and

144.1.3. vest any such assets in trustees on trust for the persons entitled to the dividend.

145. Dividends not to bear interest

Unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share, no dividend or other moneys payable by the Company on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.

146. Method of payment

146.1. The Company may pay any dividend, interest or other sum payable in respect of a share in cash or by direct debit, bank transfer, cheque, dividend warrant, or money order or by any other method (including by electronic media) as the Board may consider appropriate. In respect of shares in uncertificated form, where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Company shall from time to time consider sufficient, the Company may also pay any such dividend, interest or other moneys by means of the relevant system concerned (subject always to the facilities and requirements of that relevant system).

146.2. Subject to any special rights for the time being attached to any shares, every such cheque, warrant or order may be sent by post or other delivery service (or by such other means offered by the Company as the member or persons entitled to it may agree in writing) to the registered address (or in the case of a Depositary, subject to the approval of the Board, such persons and addresses as the Depositary may require) of the member or person entitled to it (or, if two or more persons are holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the member or otherwise by operation of law, to the registered address of such of those persons as is first named in the Register) or to such person and such address as such member or person or persons may direct in writing. In respect of shares in uncertificated form, every such payment made by such other method as is referred to in Article 146.1 shall be made in such manner as may be consistent with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, such payment may include the sending by the Company or by any person on its behalf of an instruction to the Operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct.

146.3. Every cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment is sent at the risk of the person entitled to the money represented by it, and shall be made payable to the person or persons entitled, or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may direct in writing. Payment of the cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment (including, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned) shall be a good discharge to the Company. If any such cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment has or shall be alleged to have

been lost, stolen or destroyed, the Board may, at the request of the person entitled thereto, issue a replacement cheque or warrant or order or make payment in some other form, subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may think fit.

146.4. Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share may give an effective receipt for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of such share.

146.5. Subject to any special rights for the time being attached to any shares, the Board may, at its discretion, make provisions to enable a Depositary and/or any member as the Board shall from time to time determine to receive duly declared dividends in a currency or currencies other than sterling. For the purposes of the calculation of the amount receivable in respect of any dividend, the rate of exchange to be used to determine the foreign currency equivalent of any sum payable as a dividend shall be such market rate selected by the Board as it shall consider appropriate ruling at the close of business in London on the date which is the business day last preceding:

146.5.1. in the case of a dividend to be declared by the Company in general meeting, the date on which the Board publicly announces its intention to recommend that specific dividend; and

146.5.2. in the case of any other dividend, the date on which the Board publicly announces its intention to pay that specific dividend,

provided that where the Board considers the circumstances to be appropriate it shall determine such foreign currency equivalent by reference to such market rate or rates or the mean of such market rates prevailing at such time or times or on such other date or dates, in each case falling before the time of the relevant announcement, as the Board may select.

147. Payment of scrip dividends

147.1. The Board may, with the prior authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, offer to any holders of Ordinary Shares (excluding any member holding Ordinary Shares as treasury shares) the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares, credited as fully paid, instead of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the Board) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply:

147.1.1. the said resolution may specify a particular dividend or dividends (whether or not already declared), or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period or periods provided such period or periods do not end later than the fifth anniversary of the date of the meeting at which the said resolution is passed;

147.1.2. the entitlement of each holder of Ordinary Shares to new Ordinary Shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) of the dividend that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose

"relevant value" shall be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Ordinary Shares on the London Stock Exchange, as derived from the Daily Official List, for the day on which the Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days, or in such other manner as the Board may determine on such basis as it considers to be fair and reasonable. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount;

- 147.1.3. no fractions of a share shall be allotted. The Board may make such provisions as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements, including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, the benefit thereof accrues to the Company and/or under which fractional entitlements are accrued and/or retained, and in each case accumulated, on behalf of any member and such accruals or retentions are applied to the allotment by way of bonus to, or cash subscription on behalf of, such member of fully paid Ordinary Shares and/or provisions whereby cash payments may be made to members in respect of their fractional entitlements;
- 147.1.4. the Board shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of Ordinary Shares in writing of the right of election offered to them, and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be lodged in order to be effective save that in the case of any holder of Ordinary Shares who has previously made, and has not revoked, an earlier election to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of all future dividends, the Board shall instead send him a reminder that such election has been made, indicating how that election may be revoked in time for the next dividend proposed to be paid;
- 147.1.5. the Board may exclude from any offer any holders of Ordinary Shares or any Ordinary Shares held by a Depositary or any Ordinary Shares on which dividends are payable in foreign currency where the Board considers that the making of the offer to them or in respect of such shares would or might involve the contravention of the laws of or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange or other authority in any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them or in respect of such shares;
- 147.1.6. the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on Ordinary Shares in respect of which an election has been duly made ("the elected Ordinary Shares") and instead additional Ordinary Shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the Board may capitalise, out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or of any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash as the Board may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional Ordinary Shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of new Ordinary Shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on that

basis. A Board resolution capitalising any part of such reserve or fund or profits shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been declared by ordinary resolution of the Company in accordance with Article 151 and in relation to any such capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on them by Article 151 without need of such ordinary resolution;

147.1.7. the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with each other and with the fully paid Ordinary Shares in issue on the record date for the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been offered, except that they will not rank for any dividend or other distribution or other entitlement which has been declared, paid or made by reference to such record date;

147.1.8. the Board may terminate, suspend or amend any offer of the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of any cash dividend at any time and generally may implement any scrip dividend scheme on such terms and conditions as the Board may from time to time determine and take such other action as the Board may deem necessary or desirable from time to time in respect of any such scheme; and

147.1.9. the Board may establish or vary from time to time a procedure for election mandates in respect of future rights of election and may determine that every duly effected election in respect of any Ordinary Shares shall be binding on every successor in title to the holder thereof until the election mandate is revoked following that procedure.

#### 148. Uncashed dividends

If cheques, warrants or orders for dividends or other sums payable in respect of a share sent by the Company to the person entitled thereto are returned undelivered to the Company or left uncashed on two consecutive occasions, the Company shall not be obliged to send any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of that share due to that person until he notifies the Company of an address to be used for the purpose.

#### 149. Unclaimed dividends

All dividends, interest or other sum payable and unclaimed for 12 months after having become payable may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Board for the benefit of the Company until claimed and the Company shall not be constituted a trustee in respect thereof. All dividends, interest or other sum payable unclaimed for a period of 12 years after having become due for payment shall (if the Board so resolves) be forfeited and shall cease to remain owing by the Company.

#### 150. Reserves

The Board may, before recommending any dividend (whether preferential or otherwise) but having regard to section 274 of the Income Tax Act 2007, carry to reserve out of the profits of the Company such sums as it thinks fit. All sums standing to reserve may be applied from time to time, at the discretion of the Board, for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied and, pending such application may, at the like discretion,



either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments as the Board thinks fit. The Board may divide the reserve into such special funds as it thinks fit, and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided as it thinks fit. Any sum which the Board may carry to reserve out of the unrealised profits of the Company shall not be mixed with any reserve to which profits available for distribution have been carried. The Board may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which it may think prudent not to distribute.

151. Capitalisation of reserves

151.1. The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company but subject to any special rights attaching to any shares:

151.1.1. subject as provided in this Article, resolve to capitalise any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund of the Company which is available for distribution or standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve;

151.1.2. appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the holders of shares in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full new shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those holders of shares or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other, provided that:

(a) the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, any other undistributable reserve and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up new shares to be allotted to holders of shares credited as fully paid; and

(b) in a case where any sum is applied in paying amounts for the time being unpaid on any shares of the Company or in paying up in full debentures of the Company, the amount of the net assets of the Company at that time is not less than the aggregate of the called up share capital of the Company and its undistributable reserves as shown in the latest audited accounts of the Company or such other accounts as may be relevant and would not be reduced below that aggregate by the payment of such sums; and

- (c) where the amount capitalised is applied in paying up in full new shares, the Company will also be entitled to participate in the relevant distribution in relation to any shares held by it as treasury shares and the proportionate entitlement of the members to the distribution will be calculated accordingly;

151.1.3. resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall, so long as such shares remain partly paid, rank for dividends only to the extent that such partly paid shares rank for dividends;

151.1.4. make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates (or by ignoring fractions or by accruing the benefit thereof to the Company rather than to the holders of shares concerned) or by payment in cash or otherwise as it thinks fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions;

151.1.5. authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the holders of shares concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for either (i) the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid up, of any shares or debentures to which they may be entitled on such capitalisation or (ii) the payment up by the Company on behalf of such holders by the application thereto of their respective proportions of the reserves or profits resolved to be capitalised, of the amounts or any part of the amounts remaining unpaid on their existing shares (any agreement made under such authority being effective and binding on all such holders); and

151.1.6. generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution.

152. Distribution of realised capital profits

At any time when the Company has given notice in the prescribed form (which has not been revoked) to the Registrar of Companies of its intention to carry on business as an investment company ("a Relevant Period"), distribution of the Company's capital profits (within the meaning of section 833(2)(c) CA 2006) shall be prohibited except to the extent that the requirements for investment company status under section 833 CA 2006 do not require a company to prohibit the distribution of its capital profits in its memorandum or articles of association. The Board shall establish a reserve to be called the capital reserve. During a Relevant Period, all surpluses arising from the realisation or revaluation of investments and all other monies realised on or derived from the realisation, repayment of or other dealing with any capital asset in excess of the book value thereof and all other monies which are considered by the Board to be in the nature of accretion to capital shall be credited to the capital reserve. Subject to the Companies Acts, the Board may determine whether any amount received by the Company is to be dealt with as income or capital or partly one way and partly the other. During a Relevant Period, any loss realised on the realisation or repayment of or other dealing with any investments or other capital assets and, subject to the Companies Acts, any expenses, loss or liability (or provision thereof) which the Board considers to relate to a capital item or which the Board otherwise considers appropriate to be debited to the capital reserve shall be carried to the debit of the capital reserve. During a Relevant Period, all sums carried and standing to the credit of the capital reserve may be

applied for any of the purposes to which the sums standing to any revenue reserve are applicable except and provided that notwithstanding any other provision of the Articles no part of the capital reserve or any other money in the nature of accretion to capital shall be transferred to the revenue reserves of the Company or be regarded or treated as profits of the Company available for distribution (as defined by section 829 CA 2006), except to the extent that the requirements for investment company status under section 833 CA 2006 do not require a company to prohibit the distribution of its capital profits in its memorandum or articles of association, or be applied in paying dividends on any shares in the Company. In periods other than a Relevant Period, any amount standing to the credit of the capital reserve may be transferred to the revenue reserves of the Company or be regarded or treated as profits of the Company available for distribution (as defined by section 829 CA 2006) or applied in paying dividends on any shares in the Company.

153. Record dates

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares and subject always to the Companies Acts, the Company or the Board may by resolution specify any date (the "record date") as the date at the close of business (or such other time as the Board may determine) on which persons registered as the holders of shares or other securities shall be entitled to receipt of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment, issue, notice, information, document or circular and such record date may be on or at any time before the date on which the same is paid, made, given or served or (in the case of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment or issue) at any time after the same is recommended, resolved, declared or announced but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of the same of transferors and transferees of any such shares or other securities. No change in the register of such holders after the record date shall invalidate the same.

## ACCOUNTS

154. Accounting records

The Board shall cause accounting records to be kept in accordance with the Companies Acts.

155. Inspection of records

No member (other than a Director) shall have any right to inspect any accounting record or other document of the Company unless he is authorised to do so by statute, by order of the court, by the Board or by ordinary resolution of the Company.

156. Accounts to be sent to members

- 156.1. Except as provided in Article 157, a copy of the Company's Annual Accounts and Report shall, not later than the date on which the Company gives notice of the annual general meeting before which they are to be laid, be delivered or sent to every member and holder of debentures of the Company and to the Auditors and to every other person who is entitled to receive notice of general meetings. However, this Article shall not require a copy of those

documents to be sent to any person who under the provisions of these Articles is not entitled to receive notices from the Company or for whom the Company does not have a current address or to more than one of the joint holders of any shares or debentures.

156.2. The provisions of Article 158.2 apply, mutatis mutandis, to any reports or accounts supplied by means of a website.

157. Summary financial statements

The Company may, in accordance with the Companies Acts and any regulations made under them, send a summary financial statement to any member instead of or in addition to the documents referred to in Article 156. Where it does so, the statement shall be delivered or sent to the member, or made available on a website in accordance with the Companies Acts, not later than the date on which the Company gives notice of the annual general meeting before which those documents are to be laid.

## NOTICES

158. Form of Notices

158.1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Articles, any notice or document to be given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged (or the equivalent) to or by any person pursuant to these Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of the Directors) shall be in writing and, if the Board in its absolute discretion considers appropriate for any purpose or purposes under these Articles, any such notice or document shall be deemed given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged, or the equivalent where it is sent in electronic form, to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice, but subject always to the provisions of Article 161.2 and, in the case of notices or other documents sent in electronic form, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts.

158.2. Subject to the Companies Acts, any document or information is validly sent or supplied by the Company if it is made available on a website.

158.3. Where a document or information is sent or supplied to the Company by a person on behalf of another, the Company may require reasonable evidence of the authority of the former to act on behalf of the latter.

158.4. Any amendment or revocation of a notification given to the Company under this Article shall only take effect if in writing, authenticated by the member and on actual receipt by the Company thereof.

158.5. An electronic communication shall not be treated as received by the Company if it is rejected by computer virus protection arrangements.

158.6. Any notification that may be given by the Company pursuant to sections 146-150 CA 2006 shall be in a form prescribed or approved by the Board.

159. Service of notice on members

159.1. The Company may give any notice or document (including a share certificate) to a member, either personally or by sending it by post or other delivery service in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or by leaving it at that address or by any other means authorised in writing by the member concerned or, subject to and in accordance with the Companies Acts, by sending it in electronic form to an address for the time being notified to the Company by the member or by making it available on a website. In the case of a member registered on an overseas branch register any such notice or document may be posted either in the United Kingdom or in the territory in which such branch register is maintained.

159.2. In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices or documents shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding. Notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders. Anything agreed or specified by the first-named joint holder in respect of a joint holding shall be binding on all joint holders.

159.3. Where a member (or, in the case of joint holders, the person first named in the Register) has a registered address outside the United Kingdom but has notified the Company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices or other documents may be given to him or, if the Board in its absolute discretion permits, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, of an address to which notices or documents may be sent in electronic form, he shall be entitled to have notices or documents given or sent to him at that address; but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice or document from the Company.

159.4. If on at least three consecutive occasions the Company has attempted to send notices or documents in electronic form to an address for the time being notified to the Company by a member for that purpose but the Company is aware that there has been a failure of delivery of such notice or document, then the Company shall thereafter send notices or documents through the post to such member at his registered address or his address for the service of notices by post, in which case the provisions of Article 159.5 shall apply.

159.5. If on three consecutive occasions notices or other documents have been sent through the post to any member at his registered address or his address for the service of notices but have been returned undelivered, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices or other documents from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices or, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, an address to which notices may be sent in electronic form.

160. Notice in case of death or bankruptcy, etc.

The Company may send or supply any notice or document on the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law, by sending or delivering it in any manner authorised by these Articles for the giving of a notice or document to a member, addressed to that person

by name, or by the title of the representative of the deceased or of the trustee of the bankrupt or representative by operation of law or by any like description, at the address (if any) within the United Kingdom to which notices may be sent by electronic means supplied for the purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been so supplied, any notice, document or other communication sent or supplied to any member pursuant to these Articles in any manner in which it might have been sent or supplied if the death, bankruptcy or other event had not occurred shall, notwithstanding that the member is then dead or bankrupt or that any other event giving rise to the transmission of the share by operation of law has occurred and whether or not the Company has notice of the death, bankruptcy or other event, be deemed to have been properly served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of that member as sole or joint holder.

161. Evidence of service

161.1. Any member present, in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares of the Company shall be deemed to have received due notice of such meeting, and, where requisite, of the purposes for which such meeting was called.

161.2. Any notice, certificate or other document, addressed to a member at his registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall, if sent by post, be deemed to have been served or delivered on the working day after the day when it was put in the post (or, where second-class mail is employed, on the second working day after the day when it was put in the post). Proof that an envelope containing the notice or document was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. Any notice, certificate or other document not sent by post but delivered or left at a registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day (or, if not a working day, the next working day) and at the time on which it was so delivered or left.

161.3. Any notice or other document addressed to a member shall, if sent using electronic means, be deemed to have been served or delivered at the expiration of 24 hours after the time it was \* first sent or, if the day it is sent is not a working day, on the next working day. In proving such service or delivery it shall be conclusive to prove that the address used for the electronic communication was correct and that the electronic communication was properly dispatched by the Company, unless the Company is aware that there has been a failure of delivery of such notice or document following at least 2 attempts in which case such notice or document shall be sent to the member at his registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom provided that the date of deemed service or delivery shall be 24 hours from the dispatch of the original electronic communication in accordance with this Article.

161.4. Any notice or other document sent or supplied by means of a website shall be deemed received by the intended recipient when the material was first made available on the website or, if later, when the recipient received, or is deemed to have received, notice of the fact that the material was available on the website.

161.5. In calculating a period of hours for the purposes of this Article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

162. Notice binding on transferees

Every person who, by operation of law, transfers or by any other means becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share (other than a notice given by the Company pursuant to Article 83) which, before his name is entered in the Register, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title.

163. Notice by advertisement

Any notice to be given by the Company to the members or any of them, and not otherwise provided for by these Articles, shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement in at least one national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained. Any notice given by advertisement shall be deemed to have been served at noon on the day on which the advertisement first appears.

164. Suspension of postal services

Subject to the Companies Acts and to any other provision of these Articles, if at any time by reason of the suspension, interruption or curtailment of postal services or threat thereof within the United Kingdom the Company is or would be unable effectively to convene a general meeting or annual general meeting by notices sent through the post, a meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in accordance with Article 163. Such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members entitled thereto at noon on the day on which the first of such advertisements appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if, at least seven days prior to the meeting, the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

## WINDING UP

165. Division of assets

If the Company is wound up the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by law, divide among the members (excluding any member holding shares as treasury shares) in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. Any such division may be otherwise than in accordance with the existing rights of the members, but if any division is resolved otherwise than in accordance with such rights, the members shall have the same right of dissent and consequential rights as if such resolution were a special resolution passed pursuant to section 110 Insolvency Act 1986. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees on such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction, shall determine, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets on which there is a liability.

166. Transfer or sale under section 110 Insolvency Act 1986

A special resolution sanctioning a transfer or sale to another company duly passed pursuant to section 110 Insolvency Act 1986 may in the like manner authorise the distribution of any shares or other consideration receivable by the liquidator among the members (excluding any member holding shares as treasury shares) otherwise than in accordance with their existing rights, and any such determination shall be binding on all the members, subject to the right of dissent and consequential rights conferred by the said section.

167. Voluntary Liquidation of the Company

167.1. The Board shall procure that at the annual general meeting of the Company falling after the fifth anniversary of the last allotment (from time to time) of shares in the Company, and at every third annual general meeting thereafter, an ordinary resolution will be proposed to the effect that the Company shall continue in being as a venture capital trust. If, at any such meeting, such resolution is not passed, the Board shall, within 9 months of such meeting, convene an extraordinary general meeting of the Company at which the following resolutions shall be proposed:

167.1.1. a special resolution for the re-organisation or reconstruction of the Company; and

167.1.2. if the special resolution referred to in (a) above shall not be passed, a special resolution requiring the Company to be wound up voluntarily.

167.2. In the case of the special resolution relating to the voluntary winding up only, any member may demand a poll and each holder of shares present in person or by proxy and who votes in favour of the special resolution shall have such number of votes in respect of each share held by him (including fractions of a vote) that the aggregate number of votes cast in favour of the resolution is four times the aggregate number of shares in respect of which votes are cast against the resolution and each holder of shares who votes against the resolution shall have one vote for each share held by him. If the special resolution referred to in Article 167.1.2 is not passed, the Company shall continue as a venture capital trust.

## INDEMNITY

168. Right to indemnity

168.1. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled, every person who is or was at any time a Director or an officer of the Company or a director or officer of an associated company (except the Auditors) shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him for negligence, default, breach of duty, breach of trust or otherwise in relation to the affairs of the Company or of an associated company, or in connection with the activities of the Company, or of an associated company, as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) CA 2006).

168.2. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may at the discretion of the Board provide any person who is or was a Director or officer of the Company or a director



or officer of an associated company (except the Auditors or the auditors of an associated company) with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him (or to enable such Director or officer to avoid incurring such expenditure) in defending any criminal or civil proceedings or defending himself in any investigation by, or against action proposed to be taken by, a regulatory authority or in connection with any application under the provisions referred to in section 205(5) CA 2006.

169. Power to insure

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a Director or officer (excluding the Auditors) or employee of the Company or of an associated company or of any company in which the Company has an interest whether direct or indirect or who is or was at any time a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust in which any employee of the Company or of any such other company or subsidiary undertaking is or has been interested indemnifying such person against any liability which may attach to him or loss or expenditure which he may incur in relation to anything done or omitted to have been done, or alleged to have been done or omitted to have been done, as a Director, officer, employee or trustee.