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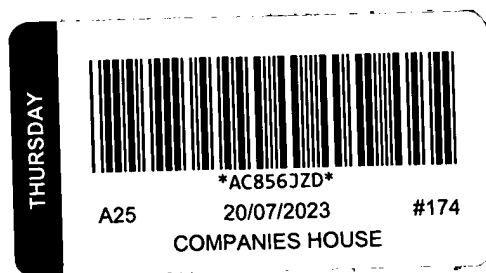
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**THE COMPANIES ACT 2006**  
**PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY**  
**SHARES**  
**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**COASTONE UK LIMITED**  
**COMPANY NO. 11090163**

13 JULY 2023



**mlplaw**

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**The Companies Act 2006**  
**Private Company Limited by Shares**

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

of

**COASTONE UK LIMITED**

**Company number: 11090163**

**PART 1, INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

**1 Defined terms and interpretation**

1.1 In the articles, unless the context requires otherwise:

**A Share** means an ordinary share of £1.00 in the capital of the Company designated as an A ordinary share having the rights and being subject to the restrictions set out in these Articles;

**Articles** means the company's articles of association;

**B Share** means an ordinary share of £1.00 in the capital of the Company designated as a B ordinary share having the rights and being subject to the restrictions set out in these Articles;

**bankruptcy** includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;

**Chair** has the meaning given in article 13;

**Companies Acts** means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to the company;

**Director** means a director of the company, and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called;

**fully paid** in relation to a share means that the nominal value and any premium to be paid to the company in respect of that share have been paid to the company;

**Holder/Shareholder or Member** in relation to shares means the person whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares;

**Model Articles** means the model articles for private companies limited by shares contained in Schedule 1 of the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/3229), as amended prior

to the date of adoption of these Articles and reference to a numbered Model Article is a reference to that article of the Model Articles.

**Ordinary Resolution** has the meaning given in section 282 of the Companies Act 2006;

**paid** means paid or credited as paid;

**proxy notice** has the meaning given in article 47;

**Shares** means shares in the company;

**Special Resolution** has the meaning given in section 283 of the Companies Act 2006;

**transmittee** means a person entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law; and

- 1.2 The Model Articles shall apply to the extent that they do not conflict with the provisions of these Articles.
- 1.3 Headings in these Articles are used for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these Articles.
- 1.4 A reference in these Articles to a numbered Article is a reference to the relevant article of these Articles unless expressly provided otherwise.
- 1.5 Unless expressly provided otherwise in these Articles, a reference to a statute, statutory provision or subordinate legislation is a reference to it as it is in force from time to time, taking account of:
  - 1.5.1 any subordinate legislation made under it, whether before or after the date of adoption of these Articles; and
  - 1.5.2 any amendment or re-enactment, whether before or after the date of adoption of these Articles and includes any statute, statutory provision or subordinate legislation which it amends or re-enacts.
- 1.6 A reference to a holding company or subsidiary means a holding company or a subsidiary (as the case may be) as defined in section 1159 of the Act.
- 1.7 Any words following the terms including, include, in particular or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.
- 1.8 Where the context permits, other and otherwise are illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding them.
- 1.9 Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in the Articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 as in force on the date when the Articles become binding on the company.

- 1.10 Except where the contrary is stated or the context otherwise requires, any reference in the Articles to legislation includes any order, regulation, instrument or other subordinate legislation made and for the time being in force under that legislation, and any reference to legislation, order, regulation, instrument or other subordinate legislation includes any amendment, extension, consolidation, re-enactment or replacement of it for the time being in force.
- 1.11 Words importing the singular number only include the plural and vice versa. Words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter gender. Words importing persons include corporations.

## **2 Liability of members**

The liability of the members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.

## **PART 2, DIRECTORS**

### **DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

## **3 Directors' general authority**

Subject to the articles, the Directors are responsible for the management of the company's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the company.

## **4 Power to change the company's name**

The Directors may from time to time change the name of the company to any name considered by the Directors to be advantageous, expedient or otherwise desirable.

## **5 Members' reserve power**

- 5.1 The members may, by special resolution, direct the Directors to take, or refrain from taking, specified action.
- 5.2 No such special resolution invalidates anything which the Directors have done before the passing of the resolution.

## **6 Directors may delegate**

- 6.1 Subject to the articles, the Directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the Articles:
- 6.1.1 to such person or committee;
  - 6.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);
  - 6.1.3 to such an extent;
  - 6.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and
  - 6.1.5 on such terms and conditions,  
as they think fit. The power to delegate shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Directors generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain of the articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions

being exercised by the directors or by a committee authorised by the Directors.

6.2 If the Directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the Directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.

6.3 The Directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

## **7 Committees**

7.1 Committees to which the Directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of the articles which govern the taking of decisions by Directors.

7.2 A member of a committee need not be a Director.

7.3 The Directors may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the Articles if they are not consistent with them.

## **DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS**

### **8 Directors to take decisions collectively**

8.1 The general rule about decision-making by Directors is that any decision of the Directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with article 9.

8.2 If:

8.2.1 the company only has one Director; and

8.2.2 no provision of the articles requires it to have more than one Director, the general rule does not apply, and the Director may take decisions without regard to any of the provisions of the articles relating to Directors' decision-making.

### **9 Unanimous decisions**

9.1 A decision of the Directors is taken in accordance with this article when all eligible directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.

9.2 Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing signed by each eligible director (whether or not each signs the same document) or to which each eligible director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.

9.3 References in the articles to **eligible directors** are to Directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a Directors' meeting (but excluding any Director whose vote is not to be counted in respect of that particular matter).

9.4 A decision may not be taken in accordance with this article if the eligible directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

## **10 Calling a Directors' meeting**

- 10.1 Any Director may call a Directors' meeting by giving notice of the meeting to the Directors or by authorising the company secretary (if any) to give such notice.
- 10.2 Notice of any directors' meeting must indicate:
- 10.2.1 its proposed date and time;
  - 10.2.2 where it is to take place; and
  - 10.2.3 if it is anticipated that Directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 10.3 Notice of a Directors' meeting need not be in writing and must be given to each Director provided that, if a Director is absent (whether habitually or temporarily) from the United Kingdom, the company has an address for sending or receiving documents or information by electronic means to or from that Director outside the United Kingdom.
- 10.4 Notice of a Directors' meeting need not be given to Directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting, by giving notice to that effect to the company not more than seven days after the date on which the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has been held, that does not affect the validity of the meeting, or of any business conducted at it.

## **11 Participation in Directors' meetings**

- 11.1 Subject to the Articles, Directors participate in a directors' meeting, or part of a Directors' meeting, when:
- 11.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the articles; and
  - 11.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 11.2 In determining whether Directors are participating in a Directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any Director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 11.3 If all the Directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

## **12 Quorum for Directors' meetings**

- 12.1 At a Directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 12.2 The quorum for Directors' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the directors and unless otherwise fixed it is two provided that:
- 12.2.1 if and so long as there is only one Director the quorum shall be one; and
  - 12.2.2 for the purposes of any meeting held pursuant to article 16 to authorise a Director's conflict, if there is only one Director besides the Director concerned and Directors with a similar interest, the quorum shall be one.



- 12.3 If the total number of Directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
  - 12.3.1 to appoint further Directors; or
  - 12.3.2 to call a general meeting so as to enable the members to appoint further Directors.

### **13 Chairing of Directors' meetings**

- 13.1 The Directors may appoint a Director to chair their meetings.
- 13.2 The person so appointed for the time being is known as the Chair.
- 13.3 The Directors may terminate the Chair's appointment at any time.
- 13.4 If no Director has been appointed Chair, or the Chair is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not participating in a Directors' meeting within ten minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating Directors must appoint one of themselves to chair it.

### **14 Casting vote**

- 14.1 If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the Chair or other Director chairing the meeting has a casting vote.
- 14.2 But this does not apply if, in accordance with the Articles, the Chair or other Director chairing the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

### **15 Directors' interests**

Except to the extent that article 16 applies or the terms of any authority given under that article otherwise provide, and without prejudice to such disclosure as is required under the Companies Act 2006, a Director may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the company and shall be entitled to participate in the decision-making process for quorum and voting purposes on any resolution concerning a matter in which they have, directly or indirectly, an interest or duty that conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the company.

### **16 Directors' conflicts of interest**

- 16.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and provided that it has disclosed to the Directors the nature and extent of any material interest, a Director may, notwithstanding its office or that, without the authorisation conferred by this article 16.1, it would or might be in breach of its duty under the Companies Act 2006 to avoid conflicts of interest, be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any undertaking in the same group as the company, or promoted by the company or by any undertaking in the same group as the company, or in which the company or any undertaking in the same group as the company is otherwise interested.
- 16.2 No Director shall:
  - 16.2.1 by reason of its office, be accountable to the company for any benefit which it derives from any office or employment, or from any transaction

- or arrangement, or from any interest in any undertaking, that is authorised under article 16.1 (and no such benefit shall constitute a breach of the duty under the Companies Act 2006 not to accept benefits from third parties, and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit);
- 16.2.2 be in breach of its duties as a Director by reason only of excluding itself from the receipt of information, or from participation in decision-making or discussion (whether at meetings of the Directors or otherwise), that will or may relate to any office, employment, transaction, arrangement or interest that is authorised under article 16.1; or
- 16.2.3 be required to disclose to the company, or use in relation to the company's affairs, any confidential information obtained by it in connection with any office, employment, transaction, arrangement or interest that is authorised under article 16.1 if doing so would result in a breach of a duty or an obligation of confidence owed by it in that connection.
- 16.3 A general notice given to the Directors that a Director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any transaction or arrangement in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the director has an interest in any such transaction of the nature and extent so specified; and an interest of which a Director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect them to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of theirs.
- 16.4 The Directors may, if the quorum and voting requirements set out below are satisfied, authorise any matter that would otherwise involve a Director breaching its duty under the Companies Act 2006 to avoid conflicts of interest, and any Director (including the Director concerned) may propose that the Director concerned be authorised in relation to any matter the subject of such a conflict, provided that:
- 16.4.1 such proposal and any authority given by the Directors shall be effected in the same way that any other matter may be proposed to and resolved upon by the Directors under the provisions of the Articles, except that the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest:
- 16.4.1.1 shall not be counted for quorum purposes as participating in the decision-making process while the conflict is under consideration;
- 16.4.1.2 may, if the other Directors so decide, be excluded from participating in the decision-making process while the conflict is under consideration; and
- 16.4.1.3 shall not vote on any resolution authorising the conflict except that, if any such Director does vote, the resolution will still be valid if it would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted; and
- 16.4.2 where the Directors give authority in relation to such a conflict:
- 16.4.2.1 they may (whether at the time of giving the authority or at any time or times subsequently) impose such terms upon the Director concerned and any other director with a similar

- interest as they may determine, including, without limitation, the exclusion of that Director and any other Director with a similar interest from the receipt of information, or participation in any decision-making or discussion (whether at meetings of the directors or otherwise) related to the conflict;
  - 16.4.2.2 the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest will be obliged to conduct themselves in accordance with any terms imposed from time to time by the Directors in relation to the conflict but will not be in breach of their duties as a director by reason of them doing so;
  - 16.4.2.3 the authority may provide that, where the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest obtains information that is confidential to a third party, the Director will not be obliged to disclose that information to the company, or to use the information in relation to the company's affairs, where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence;
  - 16.4.2.4 the authority may also provide that the Director concerned or any other Director with a similar interest shall not be accountable to the company for any benefit that they receive as a result of the conflict;
  - 16.4.2.5 the receipt by the Director concerned or any other Director with a similar interest of any remuneration or benefit as a result of the conflict shall not constitute a breach of the duty under the Companies Act 2006 not to accept benefits from third parties;
  - 16.4.2.6 the terms of the authority shall be recorded in writing (but the authority shall be effective whether or not the terms are so recorded); and
  - 16.4.2.7 the Directors may withdraw such authority at any time.
- 16.5 Subject to article 16.6, if a question arises at a meeting of Directors or of a committee of Directors as to the right of a Director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the Chair, whose ruling in relation to any Director other than the chair is to be final and conclusive.
- 16.6 If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the Chair, the question is to be decided by a decision of the Directors at that meeting, for which purpose the Chair is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.
- 17 Records of decisions to be kept**
- The Directors must ensure that the company keeps a record, in hard copy form, for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the Directors.

**18 Directors' discretion to make further rules**

Subject to the Articles, the Directors may make any rule which they think fit about how they take decisions, and about how such rules are to be recorded or communicated to Directors.

**APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS****19 Methods of appointing and removing Directors**

19.1 Any person who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director:

- 19.1.1 by ordinary resolution, or
- 19.1.2 by a decision of the Directors.

19.2 If the company has no Directors and, by virtue of death or bankruptcy, no member is capable of acting, the transmittee of the last member to have died or to have had a bankruptcy order made against them has the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a person to be a Director.

19.3 For the purposes of article 19.2, where two or more members die in circumstances rendering it uncertain who was the last to die, a younger member is deemed to have survived an older member.

19.4 Any member or members holding a majority in nominal amount of the issued ordinary share capital that confers the right to attend and vote at general meetings may at any time appoint any person to be a director, whether as an additional Director or to fill a vacancy, and may remove from office any Director howsoever appointed and any alternate director. Any such appointment or removal shall be effected by notice in writing to the company by the relevant member or members. Any such appointment or removal shall take effect when it is delivered to the registered office of the company or, if it is produced at a meeting of the Directors, when it is so produced or, if sent by electronic means to an address generally used by the company, when it is sent (and article 52.2 shall not apply to it). Any such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim that a Director may have under any contract between them and the company.

**20 Termination of Director's appointment**

20.1 A person ceases to be a Director as soon as:

- 20.1.1 that person ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a director by law;
- 20.1.2 a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
- 20.1.3 a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- 20.1.4 a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to the company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months;
- 20.1.5 the shareholders pass an ordinary resolution pursuant to article 19.4 to remove a director, for any reason;

- 20.1.6 notification is received by the company from the director that the director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms; or
- 20.1.7 they are otherwise duly removed from office.

## **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

### **21 Appointment and removal of alternate directors**

- 21.1 Any director may appoint as an alternate any other Director, or any other person, to:
  - 21.1.1 exercise that Director's powers; and
  - 21.1.2 carry out that Director's responsibilities, in relation to the taking of decisions by the Directors, in the absence of the alternate's appointor.
- 21.2 Any appointment or removal of an alternate must identify the proposed alternate and be effected by notice in writing to the company signed by their appointor, or in any other manner approved by the Directors.

### **22 Rights and responsibilities of alternate directors**

- 22.1 An alternate director may act as alternate director to more than one Director and has the same rights in relation to any decision of the Directors as the alternate's appointor.
- 22.2 Except as the articles specify otherwise, alternate directors:
  - 22.2.1 are deemed for all purposes to be directors;
  - 22.2.2 are liable for their own acts and omissions;
  - 22.2.3 are subject to the same restrictions as their appointors; and
  - 22.2.4 are not deemed to be agents of or for their appointors, and, in particular (without limitation), each alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which their appointor is a member.
- 22.3 A person who is an alternate director but not a Director:
  - 22.3.1 may be counted as participating for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present (but only if that person's appointor is not participating);
  - 22.3.2 may participate in a unanimous decision of the Directors (but only if their appointor is an eligible director in relation to that decision, but does not participate); and
  - 22.3.3 shall not be counted as more than one Director for the purposes of articles 22.3.1 and 22.3.2.
- 22.4 A Director who is also an alternate director is entitled, in the absence of their appointor, to a separate vote on behalf of their appointor, in addition to their own vote on any decision of the Directors (provided that their appointor is an eligible director in relation to that decision), but shall not count as more than one director for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.

- 22.5 An alternate director is not entitled to receive any remuneration from the company for serving as an alternate director except such part of the alternate's appointor's remuneration as the appointor may direct by notice in writing made to the company.

**23 Termination of alternate directorship**

An alternate director's appointment as an alternate terminates:

- 23.1 when the alternate's appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the company in writing specifying when it is to terminate;
- 23.2 on the occurrence, in relation to the alternate, of any event which, if it occurred in relation to the alternate's appointor, would result in the termination of the appointor's appointment as a Director;
- 23.3 on the death of the alternate's appointor;
- 23.4 when the alternate's appointor's appointment as a director terminates; or
- 23.5 when the alternate is removed in accordance with the articles.

**PART 3, SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

**SHARES**

**24 Powers to issue different classes of share**

- 24.1 Subject to the Articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any existing share, the company may issue Shares with such rights or restrictions as may be determined by Ordinary Resolution.
- 24.2 The company may issue Shares which are to be redeemed, or are liable to be redeemed at the option of the company or the holder, and the Directors may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such Shares.

**25 Share Rights**

- 25.1 Except as provided in these Articles, the A Shares and the B Shares shall have the following share rights:
- 25.1.1 The A Shares and the B Shares shall have full voting rights;
- 25.1.2 Dividends may be paid to the Holders of one or more classes of Shares to the exclusion of the other(s) or to all classes of Shares to the exclusion of other(s), in each case at the same of differing rates, as determined by Ordinary Resolution or resolution of the Directors;
- 25.1.3 All Shares rank equally for any distribution made including on winding up; and
- 25.1.4 No Shares of any class are redeemable.

**26 Company not bound by less than absolute interests**

Except as required by law, no person is to be recognised by the company as holding any Share upon any trust, and except as otherwise required by law or the Articles,

the company is not in any way to be bound by or recognise any interest in a Share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all the rights attaching to it.

## **27 Exclusion of statutory pre-emption provisions**

Sections 561 and 562 of the Companies Act 2006 shall not apply to an allotment of equity securities made by the company.

## **28 Fractional entitlements**

28.1 Where there has been a consolidation or division of Shares and, as a result, members are entitled to fractions of Shares, the Directors may:

- 28.1.1 sell the Shares representing the fractions to any person including the company for the best price reasonably obtainable;
- 28.1.2 authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the Shares to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser; and
- 28.1.3 distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among the holders of the Shares.

28.2 Where any holder's entitlement to a portion of the proceeds of sale under article 28.1 amounts to less than a minimum figure determined by the Directors, that member's portion may be retained for the benefit of the company.

28.3 The person to whom the Shares are transferred pursuant to article 28.1 is not obliged to ensure that any purchase money is received by the person entitled to the relevant fractions. The transferee's title to the Shares is not affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to their sale.

## **29 Share certificates**

29.1 The company must issue each member, free of charge, with one or more certificates in respect of the Shares which that member holds.

29.2 Every certificate must specify:

- 29.2.1 in respect of how many Shares, of what class, it is issued;
- 29.2.2 the nominal value of those Shares;
- 29.2.3 the amount paid up on them; and
- 29.2.4 any distinguishing numbers assigned to them.

29.3 No certificate may be issued in respect of Shares of more than one class.

29.4 If more than one person holds a Share, only one certificate may be issued in respect of it.

29.5 Certificates must:

- 29.5.1 have affixed to them the company's common seal; or
- 29.5.2 be otherwise executed in accordance with the Companies Acts.

29.6 The Directors may determine, either generally or in relation to any particular case, that any signature on any certificate need not be autographic but may be applied by some mechanical or other means, or printed on the certificate, or that certificates need not be signed.

### **30 Replacement Share certificates**

- 30.1 If a certificate issued in respect of a member's Shares is:
  - 30.1.1 damaged or defaced; or
  - 30.1.2 said to be lost, stolen or destroyed,  
that member is entitled to be issued with a replacement certificate in respect of the same Shares.
- 30.2 A member exercising the right to be issued with such a replacement certificate:
  - 30.2.1 may at the same time exercise the right to be issued with a single certificate or separate certificates;
  - 30.2.2 must return the certificate which is to be replaced to the company if it is damaged or defaced; and
  - 30.2.3 must comply with such conditions as to evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee as the directors decide.

### **31 Share transfers**

- 31.1 Shares may be transferred by means of an instrument of transfer in any usual form or any other form approved by the Directors, which is executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, if the Shares are not fully paid, the transferee.
- 31.2 No fee may be charged for registering any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any Share.
- 31.3 The company may retain any instrument of transfer which is registered.
- 31.4 The transferor remains the holder of a Share until the transferee's name is entered in the register of members as holder of it.
- 31.5 The Directors, in their absolute discretion, may refuse to register the transfer of a Share, whether or not it is fully paid, and if they do so, they shall within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged send the transferee the notice of refusal together with their reasons for refusal and, unless they suspect that the proposed transfer may be fraudulent, the instrument of transfer.

### **32 Transmission of shares**

- 32.1 If title to a Share passes to a transmittee, the company may only recognise the transmittee as having any title to that Share.
- 32.2 A transmittee who produces such evidence of entitlement to Shares as the Directors may properly require:
  - 32.2.1 may, subject to the Articles, choose either to become the holder of those Shares or to have them transferred to another person; and
  - 32.2.2 subject to the Articles, and pending any transfer of the Shares to another person, has the same rights as the holder had.
- 32.3 But transmittees do not have the right to attend or vote at a general meeting, or agree to a proposed written resolution, in respect of Shares to which they are entitled, by



reason of the holder's death or bankruptcy or otherwise, unless they become the holders of those Shares.

**33 Exercise of transmitters' rights**

- 33.1 Transmitters who wish to become the holders of Shares to which they have become entitled must notify the company in writing of that wish.
- 33.2 If the transmitter wishes to have a Share transferred to another person, the transmitter must execute an instrument of transfer in respect of it.
- 33.3 Any transfer made or executed under this article is to be treated as if it were made or executed by the person from whom the transmitter has derived rights in respect of the Share, and as if the event which gave rise to the transmission had not occurred.

**34 Transmitters bound by prior notices**

If a notice is given to a member in respect of Shares and a transmitter is entitled to those Shares, the transmitter is bound by the notice if it was given to the member before the transmitter's name has been entered in the register of members.

**DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS**

**35 Procedure for declaring dividends**

- 35.1 The company may by Ordinary Resolution declare dividends on one or more classes of Shares, and the Directors may decide to pay interim dividends.
- 35.2 A dividend must not be declared unless the Directors have made a recommendation as to its amount. Such a dividend must not exceed the amount recommended by the Directors.
- 35.3 No dividend may be declared or paid unless it is in accordance with members' respective rights.
- 35.4 Unless the members' resolution to declare or directors' decision to pay a dividend, or the terms on which shares are issued, specify otherwise, it must be paid by reference to each member's holding of Shares of that class on the date of the resolution or decision to declare or pay it.
- 35.5 If the company's share capital is divided into different classes, no interim dividend may be paid on Shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrears.
- 35.6 The Directors may pay at intervals any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment.
- 35.7 If the Directors act in good faith, they do not incur any liability to the holders of Shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on Shares with deferred or non-preferred rights.

### **36 Calculation of dividends**

- 36.1 Except as otherwise provided by the Articles or the rights attached to Shares, all dividends must be:
- 36.1.1 declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the Shares on which the dividend is paid; and
  - 36.1.2 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.
- 36.2 If any Share is issued on terms providing that it ranks for dividend as from a particular date, that Share ranks for dividend accordingly.
- 36.3 For the purposes of calculating dividends, no account is to be taken of any amount which has been paid up on a Share in advance of the due date for payment of that amount.
- 36.4 Subject to the terms of issue of the share in question, the company may, by ordinary resolution on the recommendation of the directors, decide to pay all or part of a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a share by transferring non-cash assets of equivalent value (including, without limitation, shares or other securities in any company).
- 36.5 For the purposes of paying a non-cash distribution, the directors may make whatever arrangements they think fit, including, where any difficulty arises regarding the distribution:
- 36.5.1 fixing the value of any assets;
  - 36.5.2 paying cash to any distribution recipient on the basis of that value in order to adjust the rights of recipients; and
  - 36.5.3 vesting any assets in trustees.

### **37 Waiver of distributions**

Distribution recipients may waive their entitlement to a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a Share by giving the company notice in writing to that effect, but if:

- 37.1 the Share has more than one holder; or
  - 37.2 more than one person is entitled to the Share, whether by reason of the death or bankruptcy of one or more joint holders, or otherwise,
- the notice is not effective unless it is expressed to be given, and signed, by all the holders or persons otherwise entitled to the Share.

## **CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS**

### **38 Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums**

- 38.1 Subject to the Articles, the Directors may, if they are so authorised by an Ordinary Resolution:

- 38.1.1 decide to capitalise any profits of the company (whether or not they are available for distribution) which are not required for paying a preferential dividend, or any sum standing to the credit of the company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve; and
- 38.1.2 appropriate any sum which they so decide to capitalise (a capitalised sum) to the persons who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend (the persons entitled) and in the same proportions.
- 38.2 Capitalised sums must be applied:
  - 38.2.1 on behalf of the persons entitled; and
  - 38.2.2 in the same proportions as a dividend would have been distributed to them.
- 38.3 Any capitalised sum may be applied in paying up new shares of a nominal amount equal to the capitalised sum which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.
- 38.4 A capitalised sum which was appropriated from profits available for distribution may be applied:
  - 38.4.1 in or towards paying up any amounts unpaid on existing shares held by the persons entitled; or
  - 38.4.2 in paying up new debentures of the company which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.
- 38.5 Subject to the Articles, the Directors may:
  - 38.5.1 apply capitalised sums in accordance with articles 38.3 and 38.4 partly in one way and partly in another:
  - 38.5.2 make such arrangements as they think fit to deal with Shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions under this article (including the issuing of fractional certificates or the making of cash payments); and
  - 38.5.3 authorise any person to enter into an agreement with the company on behalf of all the persons entitled which is binding on them in respect of the allotment of Shares and debentures to them under this article.

#### **PART 4, DECISION-MAKING BY MEMBERS**

##### **ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### **39 Attendance and speaking at general meetings**

- 39.1 A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.
- 39.2 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
  - 39.2.1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting; and

39.2.2 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.

39.3 The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.

39.4 In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more members attending it are in the same place as each other.

39.5 Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.

#### **40 Quorum for general meetings**

No business other than the appointment of the Chair of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.

#### **41 Chairing general meetings**

41.1 If the Directors have appointed a Chair, the Chair shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.

41.2 If the Directors have not appointed a Chair, or if the Chair is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not present within ten minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start:

41.2.1 the Directors present, or

41.2.2 (if no Directors are present),

the meeting, must appoint a Director or member to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chair of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.

41.3 The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as the chair of the meeting.

#### **42 Attendance and speaking by directors and non-members**

42.1 Directors may attend and speak at general meetings, whether or not they are members.

42.2 The chair of the meeting may permit other persons who are not:

42.2.1 members; or

42.2.2 otherwise entitled to exercise the rights of members in relation to general meetings,  
to attend and speak at a general meeting.

#### **43 Adjournment**

43.1 If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, if the meeting was convened by the members, the meeting

shall be dissolved and, in any other case, the chair of the meeting must adjourn it. If at the adjourned meeting the persons attending within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

- 43.2 The chair of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
  - 43.2.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment; or
  - 43.2.2 it appears to the chair of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- 43.3 The chair of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 43.4 When adjourning a general meeting, the chair of the meeting must:
  - 43.4.1 either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the Directors; and
  - 43.4.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- 43.5 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the company must give at least seven clear days' notice of it:
  - 43.5.1 to the same persons to whom notice of the company's general meetings is required to be given; and
  - 43.5.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- 43.6 No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

## **VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **44 Voting: general**

A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with the articles.

### **45 Errors and disputes**

- 45.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.
- 45.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chair of the meeting, whose decision is final.

### **46 Poll votes**

- 46.1 A poll on a resolution may be demanded:
  - 46.1.1 in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote; or

- 46.1.2 at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.
- 46.2 A poll on a resolution may be demanded by the chair of the meeting, the directors or by any qualifying person (as defined in section 318 of the Companies Act 2006) present and entitled to vote on the resolution.
- 46.3 A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:
  - 46.3.1 the poll has not yet been taken; and
  - 46.3.2 the chair of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- 46.4 A demand withdrawn in accordance with article 46.3 shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 46.5 Polls must be taken immediately and in such manner as the chair of the meeting directs.

#### **47 Content of proxy notices**

- 47.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a proxy notice) which:
  - 47.1.1 states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy;
  - 47.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
  - 47.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the directors may determine; and
  - 47.1.4 is delivered to the company in accordance with the articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the general meeting in relation to which the proxy is appointed and in accordance with any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate (but notwithstanding this an appointment of a proxy may be accepted by the Directors at any time prior to the meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote (or, where a poll is demanded at the meeting, but not taken forthwith, at any time prior to the taking of the poll)).
- 47.2 The company may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 47.3 Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions, but the company shall not be obliged to ascertain that any proxy has complied with those or any other instructions given by the appointor and no decision on any resolution shall be vitiated by reason only that any proxy has not done so.
- 47.4 On a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting, every proxy present who has been duly appointed by one or more members entitled to vote on the resolution has one vote, except that if the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and:

- 47.4.1 has been instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and by one or more other of those members to vote against it; or
- 47.4.2 has been instructed to vote the same way (either for or against) on the resolution by all of those members except those who have given the proxy discretion as to how to vote on the resolution, the proxy is entitled to one vote for and one vote against the resolution.

47.5 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:

- 47.5.1 allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting, and
- 47.5.2 appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.

#### **48 Delivery of proxy notices**

- 48.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the company by or on behalf of that person.
- 48.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the company a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- 48.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 48.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor's behalf.

#### **49 Amendments to resolutions**

- 49.1 An Ordinary Resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by Ordinary Resolution if:
  - 49.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is given to the company in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chair of the meeting may determine); and
  - 49.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chair of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 49.2 A Special Resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by Ordinary Resolution if:
  - 49.2.1 the chair of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
  - 49.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.

- 49.3 If the chair of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chair's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

**50 No voting of shares on which money owed to company**

No voting rights attached to a share may be exercised at any general meeting, at any adjournment of it, or on any poll called at or in relation to it, or in relation to any written resolution of the company unless all amounts payable to the company in respect of that share have been paid.

**APPLICATION OF RULES TO CLASS MEETINGS**

**51 Class meetings**

The provisions of the Articles relating to general meetings apply, with any necessary modifications, to meetings of the holders of any class of shares.

**PART 5, ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

**52 Means of communication to be used**

- 52.1 Subject to the articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the company under the articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act 2006 provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by or to the company.
- 52.2 Except insofar as the Companies Acts require otherwise, the company shall not be obliged to accept any notice, document or other information sent or supplied to the company in electronic form unless it satisfies such stipulations, conditions or restrictions (including, without limitation, for the purpose of authentication) as the directors think fit, and the company shall be entitled to require any such notice, document or information to be sent or supplied in hard copy form instead.
- 52.3 In the case of joint holders of a share, except insofar as the Articles otherwise provide, all notices, documents or other information shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding and shall be deemed to have been given to all the joint holders. For all purposes, including the execution of any appointment of proxy, resolution in writing, notice or other document (including anything sent or supplied in electronic form) executed or approved pursuant to any provision of the articles, execution by any one of such joint holders shall be deemed to be and shall be accepted as execution by all the joint holders.
- 52.4 In the case of a member that is a corporation, for all purposes, including the execution of any appointment of proxy, resolution in writing, notice or other document (including anything sent or supplied in electronic form) executed or approved pursuant to any provision of the articles, execution by any director or the secretary of that corporation or any other person who appears to any officer of the company (acting reasonably and in good faith) to have been duly authorised to execute shall be deemed to be and shall be accepted as execution by that corporation.



- 52.5 A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who notifies the company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices, documents or other information may be served on or delivered to them shall be entitled to have such things served on or delivered to them at that address (in the manner referred to above), but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice, document or other information from the company. If the address is that member's address for sending or receiving documents or information by electronic means the directors may at any time without prior notice (and whether or not the company has previously sent or supplied any documents or information in electronic form to that address) refuse to send or supply any documents or information to that address.
- 52.6 Subject to the articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a Director in connection with the taking of decisions by Directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- 52.7 A Director may agree with the company that notices or documents sent to that Director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

## **DIRECTORS; INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE**

### **53 Indemnity**

- 53.1 Subject to article 53.2 (but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a relevant officer is otherwise entitled):
- 53.1.1 a relevant officer may be indemnified out of the company's assets to whatever extent the Directors may determine against:
- 53.1.1.1 any liability incurred by that officer in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company or any undertaking in the same group as the company;
- 53.1.1.2 any liability incurred by that officer in connection with the activities of the company, or any undertaking in the same group as the company, in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Companies Act 2006);
- 53.1.1.3 any other liability incurred by that officer as an officer of the company or of any undertaking in the same group as the company; and
- 53.1.2 the company may, to whatever extent the Directors may determine, provide funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by a relevant officer in defending any criminal or civil proceedings in connection with any alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by them in relation to the company or any undertaking in the same group as the company, or any investigation, or action proposed to be taken, by a regulatory authority in that connection, or for the purposes of an

application for relief, or in order to enable the relevant officer to avoid incurring such expenditure.

- 53.2 This article does not authorise any indemnity that would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

**54 Insurance**

- 54.1 The Directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the company, for the benefit of any relevant officer in respect of any relevant loss.

- 54.2 In this article, a **relevant loss** means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant officer in connection with that officer's duties or powers in relation to the company, any undertaking in the same group as the company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the company or of any undertaking in the same group as the company.