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Chairman, 17 May 2023

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF MPAC GROUP PLC

**No. 124855**

(ADOPTED IN SUBSTITUTION FOR AND TO THE EXCLUSION OF ALL EXISTING ARTICLES BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION PASSED ON  
17 MAY 2023)

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THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
A PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**  
**OF**  
**MPAC GROUP PLC**

**PRELIMINARY**

**1. Model articles do not apply**

No articles of association prescribed by any Statutes apply as the articles of association of the Company.

**2. Interpretation**

(1) In these articles, unless the contrary intention appears:

(a) the following definitions apply:

AIM		the market of that name operated by the London Stock Exchange;
AIM Rules		the AIM Rules for Companies issued by the London Stock Exchange, as amended from time to time;
these articles	...	means these articles of association, as from time to time altered;
auditor	...	means the auditor of the Company for the time being or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them;
board	...	means the board of directors for the time being of the Company;

CA 2006	...	means the Companies Act 2006 as in force from time to time;
clear days	...	means, in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect;
committee	...	means a committee of the board;
the Company	...	means Mpac Group plc;
director	...	means a director for the time being of the Company;
electronic facility	...	means any form of electronic facility approved for the relevant occasion by the board under these articles, including digital platforms, website addresses and conference call systems, and any device system, procedure, method or other facility providing an electronic means of attendance, speaking, being heard and voting at a general meeting;
electronic form	...	has the same meaning as in the CA 2006;
electronic means	...	has the same meaning as in the CA 2006;
electronic signature	...	has the meaning given in section 7 of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;
hard copy form	...	has the same meaning as in the CA 2006;
holder	...	in relation to any share means the member whose name is entered in the register as the holder of that share (but, to the extent that these articles would otherwise conflict with the Statutes, not including the Company itself in relation to shares held as treasury shares);
London Stock Exchange		means the London Stock Exchange plc;
office	...	means the registered office for the time being of the Company;
Ordinary Shares	...	means the Ordinary Shares of 25p each in the Company;
paid up	...	means paid up or credited as paid up;
person entitled by	...	means a person whose entitlement to a share in transmission consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event

		giving rise to its transmission by operation of law has been noted in the register;
Preference Shares	...	means the 6 per cent. Cumulative Preference Shares of £1 each in the Company;
a proxy notification	...	means the address or addresses specified in an address notice of a meeting or in any other information issued by the Company in relation to a meeting (or, as the case may be, an adjourned meeting or a poll) for the receipt of proxy notices relating to that meeting (or adjourned meeting or poll) or, if no such address is specified, the office;
register	...	means either or both of the register of members maintained by the Company and the operator of the relevant system;
Regulations		means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001;
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 Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 or any relevant regulations made pursuant to the CA 2006;
seal	...	means any common seal of the Company or any official seal or securities seal which the Company may have or be permitted to have under the Statutes;
secretary	...	means the secretary of the Company and includes an assistant or deputy secretary and any person appointed by the board to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company;
Statutes	...	means the CA 2006, the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 and every other statute, statutory instrument regulation or order for the time being in force concerning the Company; and
treasury shares	...	means those shares held by the Company in treasury in accordance with section 724 of the CA 2006;



- (b) any reference to an uncertified share, or to a share being held in uncertified form, means a share title to which may be transferred by means of a relevant system and any reference to a certified share means any share other than an uncertified share;
- (c) any other words or expressions defined in the CA 2006 or, if not defined in the CA 2006, in any other of the Statutes (in each case as in force on the date these articles take effect) have the same meaning in these articles except that the word “company” includes any body corporate;
- (d) any reference elsewhere in these articles to any statute or statutory provision includes a reference to any modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force;
- (e) words importing the singular number include the plural number and vice versa, words importing one gender include the other gender and words importing persons include bodies corporate and unincorporated associations;
- (f) any reference to writing includes a reference to any method of reproducing words in a legible form;
- (g) any reference to a signature or to something being signed or executed includes a signature printed or reproduced by mechanical or other means or any stamp or other distinctive marking made by or with the authority of the person required to sign the document to indicate it is approved by such a person, or in respect of communications in electronic form only any other means of verifying the authenticity of a communication in electronic form which the board may from time to time specify, or, where no means has otherwise been specified by the board, an electronic signature (which shall for the purposes of the CA 2006 be a manner of authentication specified by the Company for the purposes of section 1146(3)(b) of the CA 2006), provided that the Company has no reason to doubt the authenticity of that electronic signature;
- (h) any reference to a document being sealed or executed under seal or under the common seal of anybody corporate (including the Company) or any similar expression includes a reference to its being executed in any other manner which has the same effect as if it were executed under seal;
- (i) any reference to a meeting shall not be taken as requiring more than one person to be present in person if any quorum requirement can be satisfied by one person;
- (j) any reference to a show of hands includes such other method of casting votes as the board may from time to time approve; and
- (k) where the Company has a power of sale or other right of disposal in relation to any share, any reference to the power of the Company or the board to authorise a person to transfer that share to or as directed by the person to whom the share has been sold or disposed of shall, in the case of an uncertified share, be deemed to include a reference to such other action as may be necessary to enable that share to be registered in the name of that person or as directed by them.
- (l) Any reference to:
  - (i) rights attaching to any share;

- (ii) members having a right to attend and vote at general meeting of the Company;
- (iii) dividends being paid, or any other distribution of the Company's assets being made, to members; or
- (iv) interests in a certain proportion or percentage of the issued share capital, or any class of share capital,

shall, unless otherwise expressly provided by the Statutes, be construed as though any treasury shares held by the Company had been cancelled.

- (2) Subject to the Statutes, a special resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required.
- (3) Headings to these articles are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect construction.

## **SHARE CAPITAL**

### **3. Limited liability**

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

### **4. Rights attached to shares**

Subject to the Statutes and to the rights conferred on the holders of any other shares, any share may be issued with or have attached to it such rights and restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution decide or, if no such resolution is in effect or so far as the resolution does not make specific provision, as the board may decide.

### **5. Preference Shares**

The Preference Shares shall carry a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and on a winding up shall entitle the holders to repayment of the capital paid up thereon (together with a sum equal to any arrears or deficiency of the fixed dividend calculated down to the date of the return of capital and to be payable irrespective of whether such dividend has been declared or earned or not) in priority to any payment to the holders of the Ordinary Shares, but the Preference Shares shall not entitle the holders thereof to any further or other participation in the profit or assets of the Company.

### **6. Shares**

Subject to the provisions of the Statutes regarding pre-emption rights and any resolution of the Company relating to pre-emption rights or relating to any authority to allot any shares, or grant any right to subscribe for or convert any securities into any shares, the Directors may allot (with or without conferring a right of renunciation), grant options over, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of shares to or in favour of such persons, on such terms and conditions, at such price and at such times as the Directors may in their absolute discretion think fit.

**7. Power to pay 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 Statutes.

**8. Power to increase, consolidate, sub-divide and cancel shares**

(1) The Company may by ordinary resolution:

- (a) increase its share capital by the creation of new shares of such amount as the resolution prescribes;
- (b) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of a larger amount than its existing shares;
- (c) sub-divide its shares, or any of them, into shares of smaller amount than is fixed by these articles, but so that the proportion between the amount paid up and the amount (if any) not paid up on each reduced share shall be the same as it was in the case of the share form which the reduced share is derived; and
- (d) cancel any shares which, at the date of the passing of the resolution, have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled.

(2) A resolution by which any share is sub-divided may determine that, as between the holders of the shares resulting from the sub-division, one or more of the shares may have such preferred or other special rights or may have such qualified or deferred rights or be subject to such restrictions, as compared with the other or others, as the Company has power to attach to new shares.

(3) If as a result of any consolidation and division or sub-division of shares any members would become entitled to fractions of a share, the board may deal with the fractions as it thinks fit. In particular, the board may:

- (a) (on behalf of those members) aggregate and sell the shares representing the fractions to any person (including, subject to the Statutes, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members (except that any proceeds in respect of any holding less than a sum fixed by the board may be retained for the benefit of the Company); or
- (b) subject to the Statutes, first, allot to a member credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation of any reserve account of the Company such number of shares as rounds up their holding to a number which, following consolidation and division or sub-division, leaves a whole number of shares.

(4) For the purpose of a sale under paragraph (3)(a) above, the board may authorise a person to transfer the shares to, or as directed by, the purchaser, who shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money and the title of the new holder to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the sale.

**9. Power to issue redeemable shares**

Subject to the Statutes, any share may be issued on terms that it is to be redeemed or is liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder.

**10. Power to purchase own shares**

Subject to the Statutes, and to any rights conferred on the holders of any class of shares, the Company may by special resolution of the holders of the relevant class of shares purchase all or any of its shares of any class, including any redeemable shares.

**11. Power to reduce capital**

Subject to the Statutes and to any rights conferred on the holders of any class of shares, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account or any other capital reserve in any way.

**12. Trusts not recognised**

Except as required by law or these articles, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and the Company shall not be bound by or required to recognise (even when having notice of it) any interest in or in respect of any share, except the holder's absolute right to the entirety of the share.

**UNCERTIFICATED SHARES – GENERAL POWERS**

**13. Uncertificated shares – general powers**

- (1) Subject to the Statutes the board may permit any class of shares to be held in uncertificated form and to be transferred by means of a relevant system and may revoke any such permission.
- (2) In relation to any share which is for the time being held in uncertificated form:
  - (a) the Company may utilise the relevant system in which it is held to the fullest extent available from time to time in the exercise of any of its powers or functions under the Statutes or these articles or otherwise in effecting any actions and the board may from time to time determine the manner in which such powers, functions and actions shall be so exercised or effected;
  - (b) any provision in these articles which is inconsistent with:
    - (i) the holding or transfer of that share in the manner prescribed or permitted by the Statutes;
    - (ii) any other provision of the Statutes relating to shares held in uncertificated form; or
    - (iii) the exercise of any powers or functions by the Company or the effecting by the Company of any actions by means of a relevant system,shall not apply.
  - (c) the Company may, by notice to the holder of that share, require the holder to change the form of such share to certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice;

- (d) the Company may require that share to be converted into certificated form in accordance with the Statutes; and
  - (e) the Company shall not issue a certificate.
- (3) The Company may, by notice to the holder of any share in certificated form, direct that the form of such share may not be changed to uncertificated form for a period specified in such notice.
  - (4) For the purposes of effecting any action by the Company, the board may determine that shares held by a person in uncertificated form shall be treated as a separate holding from shares held by that person in certificated form but shares of a class held by a person in uncertificated form shall not be treated as a separate class from shares of that class held by that person in certificated form.

## **VARIATION OF RIGHTS**

### **14. Variation of rights**

- (1) Subject to the Statutes, whenever the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, all or any of the rights for the time being attached to any class of shares in issue may from time to time (whether or not the Company is being wound up) be varied in such manner as those rights may provide or (if no such provision is made) either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths in nominal value of the issue shares of that class or with the authority of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of those shares to which the provisions of Section 334 of CA 2006 shall apply.
- (2) Unless otherwise expressly provided by the rights attached to any class of shares those rights shall not be deemed to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking *pari passu* with them or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of any of its own shares.

## **TRANSFERS OF SHARES**

### **15. Right to transfer shares**

Subject to the restrictions in these articles, a member may transfer all or any of their shares in any manner which is permitted by the Statutes and is from time to time approved by the board.

### **16. Transfers of uncertificated shares**

The Company shall maintain a record of uncertificated shares in accordance with the Statutes.

### **17. Transfers of certificated shares**

- (1) An instrument of transfer of a certificated share may be in any usual form or in any other form which the board may approve and shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor and (except in the case of a fully paid share) by or on behalf of the transferee.
- (2) Subject to the Statutes, the board may refuse to register the transfer of a certificated share which is not fully paid or on which the Company has a lien provided that, where any such

shares are admitted to trading on AIM, such discretion may not be exercised in such a way as to prevent dealings in the shares of that class from taking place on an open and proper basis.

- (3) The board may also refuse to register any instrument of transfer of a certificated share unless it is:
  - (a) left at the office, or at such other place as the board may decide, for registration;
  - (b) accompanied by the certificate for the shares to be transferred and such other evidence (if any) as the board may reasonably require to prove the title of the intending transferor or their right to transfer the shares; and
  - (c) in respect of only one class of shares.
- (4) All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company, but any instrument of transfer which the board refuses to register shall (except in any case where fraud or any other crime involving dishonesty is suspected in relation to such transfer) be returned to the person presenting it.

#### **18. Other provisions relating to transfers**

- (1) No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or other document or instruction relating to or affecting the title to any share.
- (2) The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the name of the transferee is entered in the register in respect of the share.
- (3) 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.
- (4) Unless otherwise agreed by the board in any particular case, the maximum number of persons who may be entered on the register as joint holders of a share is four.

#### **19. Notice of refusal**

If the board refuses to register a transfer of a certificated share it shall, as soon as practicable and in any event within two months after the date on which the instrument of transfer was lodged, give to the transferee notice of the refusal. The board shall provide the transferee with such further information about the reasons for the refusal as the transferee may reasonably request.

### **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

#### **20. Transmission on death**

If a member dies, the survivor, where the deceased was a joint holder, and their personal representatives where they were a sole or the only surviving holder, shall be the only person or persons recognised by the Company as having any title to their shares; but nothing in these articles shall release the estate of a deceased holder from any liability in respect of any share held by them solely or jointly.

**21. Election of person entitled by transmission**

- (1) A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to a transmission by operation of law may, on producing such evidence as the board may require and subject as provided in this article, elect either to be registered themselves as the holder of the share or to have some person nominated by them registered as the holder of the share.
- (2) If they elect to be registered themselves, they shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If they elect to have another person registered, they shall execute a transfer of the share to that person or shall execute such other document or take such other action as the board may require to enable that person to be registered.
- (3) The provisions of these articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer or other document or action as if it were a transfer effected by the person from whom the title by transmission is derived and the event giving rise to such transmission had not occurred.

**22. Rights of person entitled by transmission**

- (1) A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of a death or bankruptcy or of any other event giving rise to a transmission by operation of law shall have the right to receive and give a discharge for any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the share and shall have the same rights in relation to the share as he would have if they were the holder except that, until they become the holder, they shall not be entitled to attend or vote at any general meeting of the Company.
- (2) The board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered themselves or to transfer the share and, if after ninety days the notice has not been complied with, the board may withhold payment of all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS IN SHARES**

**23. Disclosure of interests in shares**

- (1) This article applies where the Company gives to the holder of a share or to any person appearing to be interested in a share a notice requiring any of the information mentioned in section 793 of the CA 2006 (a "section 793 notice").
- (2) If a section 793 notice is given by the Company to a person appearing to be interested in any share, a copy shall at the same time be given to the holder, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt of the copy by the holder shall not prejudice the operation of the following provisions of this article.
- (3) If the holder of, or any person appearing to be interested in, any share has been given a section 793 notice and, in respect of that share (a "default share"), has been in default for a period of 14 days after the section 793 notice has been given in supplying to the Company the information required by the section 793 notice, the restrictions referred to below shall apply. Those restrictions shall continue for the period specified by the board, being not more than seven days after the earlier of:

- (a) the Company being notified that the default shares have been sold pursuant to an exempt transfer; or
- (b) due compliance, to the satisfaction of the board, with the section 793 notice.

The board may waive these restrictions, in whole or in part, at any time.

- (4) The restrictions referred to above are as follows:

- (a) if the default shares in which any one person is interested or appears to the Company to be interested represent less than 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the class, the holders of the default shares shall not be entitled, in respect of those shares, to attend or to vote, either personally or by proxy, at any general meeting of the Company; or
- (b) if the default shares in which any one person is interested or appears to the Company to be interested represent at least 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the class, the holders of the default shares shall not be entitled, in respect of those shares:
  - (i) to attend or to vote, either personally or by proxy, at any general meeting of the Company; or
  - (ii) to receive any dividend or other distribution; or
  - (iii) to transfer or agree to transfer any of those shares or any rights in them.

The restrictions in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above shall not prejudice the right of either the member holding the default shares or, if different, any person having a power of sale over those shares to sell or agree to sell those shares under an exempt transfer.

- (5) If any dividend or other distribution is withheld under paragraph (4)(b) above, the member shall be entitled to receive it as soon as practicable after the restriction ceases to apply.
- (6) If, while any of the restrictions referred to above apply to a share, another share is allotted in right of it (or in right of any share to which this paragraph applies), the same restrictions shall apply to that other share as if it were a default share. For this purpose, shares which the Company allots, or procures to be offered, *pro rata* (disregarding fractional entitlements and shares not offered to certain members by reason of legal or practical problems associated with issuing or offering shares outside the United Kingdom) to holders of shares of the same class as the default share shall be treated as shares allotted in right of existing shares from the date on which the allotment is unconditional or, in the case of shares so offered, the date of the acceptance of the offer.
- (7) For the purposes of this article
  - (a) an "exempt transfer" in relation to any share is a transfer pursuant to:
    - (i) a sale of the share on a recognised investment exchange in the United Kingdom or any stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which shares of that class are listed or normally traded; or
    - (ii) a sale of the whole beneficial interest in the share to a person whom the board is satisfied is unconnected with the existing holder or with any other person appearing to be interested in the share; or



- (iii) acceptance of a takeover offer (as defined for the purposes of Part 28 of the CA 2006).
  - (b) the percentage of the issued share of a class represented by a particular holding shall be calculated by reference to the shares in issue at the time when the section 793 notice is given; and
  - (c) a person shall be treated as appearing to be interested in any share if the Company has given to the member holding such share a section 793 notice and either (i) the member has named the person as being interested in the share or (ii) (after taking into account any response to any section 793 notice and any other relevant information) the Company knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person in question is or may be interested in the share.
- (8) The Company may exercise any of its powers under article 13 in respect of any default shares in uncertificated form.
- (9) The provisions of this article are without prejudice to the provisions of section 794 of the CA 2006 and, in particular, the Company may apply to the court under section 794(1) whether or not these provisions apply or have been applied.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **24. Annual general meetings**

The board shall convene and the Company shall hold annual general meetings in accordance with the Statutes.

### **25. Convening of general meetings other than annual general meetings**

- (1) The board may convene a general meeting whenever it thinks fit.
- (2) A general meeting may also be convened in accordance with article 67.
- (3) A general meeting shall also be convened by the board on the requisition of members under the Statutes or, in default, may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by the Statutes.
- (4) The board shall comply with the Statutes regarding the giving and the circulation, on the requisition of members, of notices of resolutions and of statements with respect to matters relating to any resolution to be proposed or business to be dealt with at any general meeting of the Company.

### **26. Separate general meetings**

Subject to these articles and to any rights for the time being attached to any class of shares in the Company, the provisions of these articles relating to general meetings of the Company (including, for the avoidance of doubt, provisions relating to the proceedings at general meetings or to the rights of any person to attend or vote or be represented at general meetings or to any restrictions on these rights) shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, in relation to every separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company.

## **27. Format of general meetings**

- (1) A general meeting (including an annual general meeting) may be convened and held in any manner permitted by these articles. Meetings may be held either as a physical meeting held and conducted by physical attendance by members and proxies at a particular place or at satellite meeting places in accordance with article 28 or as a hybrid meeting being a meeting held as a physical meeting and by members and proxies being able to attend and participate in the meeting through the use of electronic facilities without needing to be in physical attendance at the meeting. Nothing in these articles authorises or allows a general meeting to be held exclusively by means of an electronic facility.
- (2) The board can make whatever arrangements it thinks fit to allow those entitled to do so to attend and participate in any general meeting, including by means of an electronic facility, and any reference in these articles to a member's or proxy's attendance in person shall be construed accordingly notwithstanding that they might not be in a place where others are physically attending. For the avoidance of doubt the board shall be under no obligation to convene a meeting as a hybrid meeting whatever the circumstances.
- (3) Where attendance by electronic facility is enabled, the requirement to put any document on display or make it available for inspection will be satisfied if the document is made available for the required period in electronic form to those persons entitled to inspect it.
- (4) Unless the notice of meeting provides, or the chair of the meeting decides, otherwise, a general meeting will be treated as taking place where the chair of the meeting is at the time of the meeting.
- (5) A notice of a meeting which is to be a hybrid meeting shall state details for the facilities for attendance and participation by electronic facilities at the meeting and shall state where such details will be made available by the Company prior to the meeting.

## **28. Satellite meeting places**

- (1) If the board so decides, a general meeting or adjourned meeting may be held at a certain place (the **Principal Place**), such as the place at which the chair of the meeting will be present, but with one or more other places made available as satellite meeting places. Members entitled to attend and participate in the meeting who attend any such satellite meeting place in person or by proxy may be counted in the quorum and participate in the general meeting or adjourned meeting as if they were at the Principal Place; and for the purposes of these articles the meeting shall consist of all those persons entitled to attend and participate in the meeting who attend (including by means of an electronic facility), whether at the Principal Place or any satellite meeting place.
- (2) If not stated in the notice of meeting, the location of any satellite meeting place may be given in a letter accompanying the notice of meeting, but any failure to do this will not invalidate the notice of meeting.
- (3) The meeting will be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the chair of the meeting is satisfied that facilities are available throughout the meeting to enable all members or proxies attending the meeting by whatever means and at all the meeting places to:
  - (a) participate in the business for which the meeting was called;
  - (b) hear all the people who speak at the meeting and at any satellite meeting place; and

(c) be heard by all other people attending and participating in the meeting.

- (4) The board may make such arrangements as it thinks fit for simultaneous attendance and participation at the meeting, including the use of over-flow rooms, and may vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements. Arrangements may be notified in advance or at the meeting by whatever means the board thinks appropriate to the circumstances. Each person entitled to attend the meeting will be bound by the arrangements made by the board.

**29. Change of arrangements for general meetings**

If for any reason the board considers it impractical or undesirable to hold a general meeting (including an annual general meeting) on the day, at the time or in any place specified for the holding of the meeting, or if the board decides to change the arrangements for holding the meetings, whether by introducing, varying or cancelling the use of an electronic facility or in any other respect, it can change such date, time, place and arrangements (or whichever it requires), and may do so more than once in relation to the same meeting. There shall be no business of the meeting other than business that would have been transacted had no change been made. References in these articles to the time of the holding of general meetings shall in the case of a postponed meeting be construed accordingly and any appointment of proxy may be validly received at such later time as is consistent with the altered time. The board will, insofar as it is practicable, take reasonable steps to ensure that the change is announced on the Company's website or by a relevant regulatory news service, but it shall not be necessary to restate the business of the meeting in the announcement.

## **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

**30. Length and form of notice**

- (1) An annual general meeting shall be called by not less than twenty-one clear days' notice. All other general meetings shall be called by not less than fourteen clear days' notice.
- (2) The notice (including any notice given by means of a website) shall specify the place, day and time of the meeting, whether the meeting will be an annual general meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. If the notice is made available by means of a website, it must be available until conclusion of the meeting.
- (3) Notice of every general meeting shall be given to all members other than any who, under these articles or the terms of issue of the shares they hold, are not entitled to receive such notices from the Company, and also the auditors (or, if more than one, each of them) and to each director.

**31. Omission or non-receipt of notice**

- (1) The accidental omission to give notice of a general meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice by, any person entitled to receive the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings of that meeting.
- (2) Paragraph (1) above applies to confirmatory copies of notices (and confirmatory notifications of website notices) of meetings sent pursuant to article 123(2)(b) in the same way as it applies to notices of meetings.

## PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

### 32. Quorum

- (1) No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless the requisite quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by these articles, two qualifying persons entitled to vote on a poll shall be a quorum unless:
  - (a) each is a qualifying person only because he is authorised to act as the representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting, and they are representatives of the same corporation; or
  - (b) each is a qualifying person only because he is appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting, and they are proxies of the same member.
- (3) For the purposes of these articles, a **qualifying person** means:
  - (a) an individual who is a member of the Company;
  - (b) a person authorised to act as the representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting; or
  - (c) a person appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting.
- (4) If within fifteen minutes from the time fixed for holding a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week (or, if that day is a holiday, to the next working day) and at the same time and place as the original meeting, or, subject to article 37(4), to such other day, and at such other time and place, as the board may decide.
- (5) If at an adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes from the time fixed for holding the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

### 33. Security

The board may make any security arrangements which it considers appropriate relating to the holding of a general meeting of the Company including, without limitation, arranging for any person attending a meeting to be searched and for items of personal property which may be taken into a meeting to be restricted. A director or the secretary may:

- (a) refuse entry to a meeting, including via electronic facility, to any person who refuses to comply with any such arrangements; and
- (b) eject from a meeting any person who causes the proceedings to become disorderly, including disconnecting any person who is attending via electronic facility.

### 34. Chair

At each general meeting, the chair of the board (if any) or, if they are absent or unwilling, the deputy chair (if any) of the board or if they are absent or unwilling, the senior independent director (if any) of the board shall preside as chair of the meeting. If neither the

chair nor deputy chair nor senior independent director is present and willing, one of the other directors selected for the purpose by the directors present or, if only one director is present and willing, that director shall preside as chair of the meeting. If no director is present within fifteen minutes after the time fixed for holding the meeting or if none of the directors present is willing to preside as chair of the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to preside as chair of the meeting.

**35. Right to attend and speak**

- (1) A director shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting of the Company whether or not they are a member.
- (2) The chair may invite any person to attend and speak at any general meeting of the Company (including by means of an electronic facility) if they consider that such person has the appropriate knowledge or experience of the Company's business to assist in the deliberations of the meeting.
- (3) A proxy shall be entitled to speak at any general meeting of the Company.

**36. Resolutions and amendments**

- (1) Subject to the Statutes, a resolution may only be put to the vote at a general meeting if the chair of the meeting in their absolute discretion decides that the resolution may properly be regarded as within the scope of the meeting.
- (2) In the case of a resolution to be proposed as a special resolution no amendment may be made, at or before the time at which the resolution is put to the vote, to the form of the resolution as set out in the notice of meeting, except to correct a patent error or as may otherwise be permitted by law.
- (3) In the case of a resolution to be proposed as an ordinary resolution no amendment may be made, at or before the time at which the resolution is put to the vote, unless:
  - (a) in the case of an amendment to the form of the resolution as set out in the notice of meeting, notice of the intention to move the amendment is received at the office no later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the holding of the relevant meeting; or
  - (b) in any case, the chair of the meeting in their absolute discretion otherwise decides that the amendment or amended resolution may properly be put to the vote.

The giving of notice under sub-paragraph (a) above shall not prejudice the power of the chair of the meeting to rule the amendment out of order.

- (4) With the consent of the chair of the meeting, a person who proposes an amendment to a resolution may withdraw it before it is put to the vote.
- (5) If the chair of the meeting rules a resolution or an amendment to a resolution admissible or out of order (as the case may be), the proceedings of the meeting or on the resolution in question shall not be invalidated by any error in their ruling. Any ruling by the chair of the meeting in relation to a resolution or an amendment to a resolution shall be final and conclusive.

### **37. Adjournment**

- (1) With the consent of any general meeting at which a quorum is present the chair of the meeting may (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place.
- (2) In addition, the chair of the meeting may at any time without the consent of the meeting adjourn the meeting (whether or not it has commenced, or a quorum is present) to another time and/or place if, in their opinion, it would facilitate the conduct of the business of the meeting to do so or due to the outage, inadequacy or unreliability of any electronic facility used for the purposes of a hybrid meeting such that the meeting cannot properly proceed.
- (3) Nothing in this article shall limit any other power vested in the chair of the meeting to adjourn the meeting.
- (4) Whenever a meeting is adjourned for thirty days or more or indefinitely, at least fourteen clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as in the case of the original meeting but otherwise no person shall be entitled to any notice of the adjourned meeting or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.
- (5) No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

### **38. Meeting at more than one place**

- (1) A general meeting may be held at more than one place if:
  - (a) the notice convening the meeting specifies that it shall be held at more than one place; or
  - (b) the board resolves, after the notice convening the meeting has been given that the meeting shall be held at more than one place; or
  - (c) it appears to the chair of the meeting that the place of the meeting specified in the notice convening the meeting is inadequate to accommodate all persons entitled and wishing to attend.
- (2) A general meeting held at more than one place is duly constituted and its proceedings are valid if (in addition to the other provisions of these articles relating to general meetings being satisfied) the chair of the meeting is satisfied that facilities (whether by electronic means or otherwise) are available to enable each person present at each place to participate in the business of the meeting.
- (3) Each person present at each place who would be entitled to count towards the quorum in accordance with the provisions of article 32 shall be counted in the quorum for, and shall be entitled to vote at, the meeting. The meeting is deemed to take place at the place at which the chair of the meeting is present.

### **39. Method of voting and demand for poll**

- (1) A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting held partly by means of an electronic facility will be decided on a poll, which poll votes may be cast by such electronic means as the board decides are appropriate. Any such poll will be treated as having been validly demanded at the time fixed for the holding of the meeting. Subject to this, at any general

meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless (before, or immediately after the declaration of the result of, the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll) a poll is demanded by:

- (a) the chair of the meeting; or
- (b) at least five members present in person or by proxy (attending either physically or by electronic facility) having the right to vote on the resolution; or
- (c) a member or members present in person or by proxy (attending either physically or by electronic facility) representing in aggregate not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution (excluding any voting rights attached to any shares in the Company held as treasury shares); or
- (d) a member or members present in person or by proxy (attending either physically or by electronic facility) holding shares conferring the right to vote on the resolution on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth 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 which are held as treasury shares);

and a demand for a poll by a person as proxy for a member shall be as valid as if the demand were made by the member themselves.

- (2) No poll may be demanded on the appointment of a chair of the meeting.
- (3) A demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chair of the meeting and the demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if demand had not been made.
- (4) Unless a poll is demanded (and the demand is not withdrawn), a declaration by the chair of the meeting that a resolution has been carried, or carried unanimously, or has been carried by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, shall be conclusive, and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of that fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.
- (5) The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which a poll has been demanded.

#### **40. How poll is to be taken**

- (1) If a poll is demanded (and the demand is not withdrawn), it shall be taken at such time (either at the meeting at which the poll is demanded or within thirty days after the meeting), at such place and in such manner (including electronically) as the chair of the meeting shall direct and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members).
- (2) A poll demanded on a question of adjournment shall be taken at the meeting without adjournment.
- (3) It shall not be necessary (unless the chair of the meeting otherwise directs) for notice to be given a poll whether taken at or after the meeting at which it was demanded.

- (4) On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy and a member entitled to more than one vote need not use all their votes or cast all the votes they use in the same way.
- (5) The result of the poll shall be deemed to be a resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

**41. Chair's casting vote**

In the case of an equality of votes, either on a show of hands or on a poll, the chair of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place, or at which the poll is demanded, as the case may be, shall be entitled to a further or casting vote in addition to any other vote or votes to which they may be entitled.

**VOTES OF MEMBERS**

**42. Voting rights**

- (1) Subject to these articles and to any special rights or restrictions as to voting for the time being attached to any class of shares in the Company:
  - (a) on a show of hands, every qualifying person (as defined in article 32) present shall have one vote; and
  - (b) on a poll, every member who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share of which they are the holder.
- (2) For the purposes of determining which persons are entitled to attend or vote at any general meeting, and how many votes such persons may cast, the Company may specify in the notice of the meeting a time, not more than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting, by which a person must be entered on the register in order to have the right to attend or vote at the meeting. Changes to entries on the register after the time so specified shall be disregarded in determining the rights of any person to attend or vote at the meeting, notwithstanding any provisions in the Statutes or these articles to the contrary.

**43. Representation of corporations**

Any corporation which is a member of the Company may, by resolution of its board or other governing body, authorise any person or persons to act as its representative or representatives at any general meeting of the Company. The board or any director or the secretary may (but shall not be bound to) require evidence of the authority of any such representative.

**44. Voting rights of joint holders**

If more than one of the joint holders of a share tenders a vote on the same resolution, whether in person or by proxy, the vote of the senior who tenders a vote shall be accepted to the exclusion of the vote(s) of the other joint holder(s); and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names stand in the register in respect of the relevant share.

**45. Voting rights of members incapable of managing their affairs**

A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may



vote, whether on a show of hands or by a poll, by their receiver, guardian or other person in the nature of a receiver or guardian or other person may, on a poll, vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the board of the authority of the person claiming the right to vote must be received at the office (or at such other address as may be specified for the receipt of proxy appointments) not later than the last time by which a proxy appointment must be received in order to be valid for use at the meeting or adjourned meeting or on the holding of the poll at or on which that person proposes to vote and, in default, the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

**46. Voting rights suspended where sums overdue**

Unless the board otherwise decides, a member shall not be entitled to vote, either in person by proxy, at any general meeting of the Company in respect of any share held by them unless all calls and other sums presently payable by them in respect of that share have been paid.

**47. Objections to admissibility of votes**

No objection shall be raised as to the admissibility of any vote except at the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote objected to is or may be given or tendered, and every vote disallowed at such meeting or poll shall be valid for all purposes. Any such objection made in due time shall be referred to the chair of the meeting, whose decision shall be final and conclusive

## **PROXIES**

**48. Proxies**

- (1) A proxy need not be a member of the Company and a member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to a meeting, provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by them.
- (2) The appointment of a proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting or on the poll concerned.
- (3) The appointment of a proxy shall only be valid for the meeting mentioned in it and any adjournment of that meeting (including on any poll demanded at the meeting or any adjourned meeting).

**49. Appointment of proxy**

- (1) The appointment of a proxy may be in such form as is usual or common or in such other form as the board may from time to time approve and shall be signed by the appointor, or their duly authorised agent, or, if the appointor is a corporation, shall either be executed under its common seal or be signed by an agent or officer authorised for that purpose. The signature need not be witnessed.
- (2) Without limiting the provisions of these articles, the board may from time to time in relation to uncertificated shares: (i) approve the appointment of a proxy by means of a communication sent in electronic form in the form of an “uncertificated proxy instruction” (a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction and/or other instruction or notification, which is sent by means of the relevant system and received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company as the board may prescribe, in such form and

subject to such terms and conditions as the board may from time to time prescribe (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system)); and (ii) approve supplements to, or amendments or revocations of, any such uncertified proxy instruction by the same means. In addition, the board may prescribe the method of determining the time at which any such uncertificated proxy instruction is to be treated as received by the Company or such participant and may treat any such uncertificated proxy instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

## **50. Receipt of proxy**

### **(1) A proxy appointment:**

- (a) must be received at a proxy notification address not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting at which the appointee proposes to vote; or
  - (b) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded or in the case of an adjourned meeting to be held more than 48 hours after the time fixed for holding the original meeting, must be received at a proxy notification address not less than 24 hours before the time fixed for the taking of the poll or the time fixed for holding the adjourned meeting; or
  - (c) in the case of a poll which is not taken at the meeting at which it is demanded but is taken 48 hours or less after it is demanded, or in the case of an adjourned meeting to be held 48 hours or less after the time fixed for holding the original meeting, must be received:
    - (i) at a proxy notification address in accordance with (a) above;
    - (ii) by the chair of the meeting or the secretary or any director at the meeting at which the poll is demanded or, as the case may be, at the original meeting; or
    - (iii) at a proxy notification address and by such time as the chair of the meeting may direct at the meeting at which the poll is demanded.
- (2) In the case of a proxy appointment signed by an agent of a member who is not a corporation, the authority under which the appointment is signed or a copy of it certified in such manner as shall be specified in the notice of the relevant meeting or in any other information issued by the Company in relation to the relevant meeting, or such other information as shall be so specified, must also be received by the Company in the manner set out in paragraph (1) above.
- (3) In the case of a proxy appointment signed by an officer or other agent of a corporation, the board may also require the receipt, in the manner set out in paragraph (1) above, of the authority under which the appointment is signed or a copy of it certified in such manner as shall be specified in the notice of the relevant meeting or in any other information issued by the Company in relation to the relevant meeting, or of such other authorities or information as shall be so specified.
- (4) Subject to the Statutes, the board may, but shall not be bound to, require such further evidence as it thinks fit of the authenticity or integrity of any signature on a proxy appointment and, if the signatory is an agent or, where the appointor is a corporation, an officer, of their authority.

- (5) The board may decide, either generally or in any particular case, to treat a proxy appointment as valid notwithstanding that the appointment or any of the information required under paragraphs (2), (3) or (4) above has not been received in accordance with the requirements of this article.
- (6) Subject to paragraph (5) above, if the proxy appointment and any of the information required under paragraphs (2), (3) or (4) above are not received in the manner required above, the appointee shall not be entitled to vote in respect of the shares in question.
- (7) If two or more valid but differing proxy appointments are received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting or in the same poll, the one which is last received (regardless of its date or of the date of its execution) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the others as regards that share and if the Company is unable to determine which was last received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.

**51. Notice of revocation of authority**

A vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by a representative of a corporation shall be valid notwithstanding the previous termination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll or (until entered in the register) the transfer of the share in respect of which the appointment of the relevant person was made unless notice of the termination was received at a proxy notification address at least six hours before the time fixed for holding the relevant meeting or adjourned meeting or, in the case of a poll not taken on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting, before the time fixed for taking the poll.

## **DIRECTORS**

**52. Number of directors**

The directors (other than alternate directors) shall not, unless otherwise determined by an ordinary resolution of the Company, be less than three nor more than twelve.

**53. Directors need not be members**

A director need not be a member of the Company.

## **ELECTION, APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS**

**54. Election of directors by the Company**

- (1) Subject to these articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution elect any person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, but so that the total number of directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these articles.
- (2) No person (other than a director retiring in accordance with these articles) shall be elected or re-elected a director at any general meeting unless:
  - (a) they are recommended by the board; or
  - (b) not less than fourteen nor more than forty-two days before the date appointed for the meeting that there has been given to the Company, by a member (other than the

person to be proposed) entitled to vote at the meeting, notice of their intention to propose a resolution for the election of that person, stating the particulars which would, if they were so elected, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors and a notice executed by that person of their willingness to be elected.

**55. Separate resolutions for election of each director**

Every resolution of a general meeting for the election of a director shall relate to one named person and a single resolution for the election of two or more persons shall be void, unless a resolution that is shall be so proposed has been first agreed to by the meeting without any vote being cast against it.

**56. The board's power to appoint directors**

The board may appoint any person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or by way of addition of their number, but so that the total number of directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these articles.

**57. Retirement of directors**

- (1) At each annual general meeting all the directors in office at the date on which the notice convening the annual general meeting is approved by the board shall retire from office and may offer themselves for re-election by members.
- (2) A retiring director shall (unless they are removed from office or their office is vacated in accordance with these articles) retain office until the close of the meeting at which they retire or (if earlier) when a resolution is passed at that meeting not to fill the vacancy or to elect another person in their place or the resolution to re-elect them is put to the meeting and lost.
- (3) If the Company, at any meeting at which a director retires in accordance with these articles, does not fill the office vacated by such director, the retiring director, if willing to act, shall be deemed to be re-elected, unless at the meeting a resolution is passed not to fill the vacancy or to elect another person in their place or unless the resolution to re-elect them is put to the meeting and lost.

**58. Removal of directors**

- (1) The Company may by special resolution, or by ordinary resolution of which special notice has been given in accordance with the Statutes, remove any director before their period of office has expired notwithstanding anything in these articles or in any agreement between them and the Company.
- (2) A director may also be removed from office by giving them notice to that effect signed by all the other directors (or their alternates) being, in any event, not less than three in number.
- (3) Any removal of a director under this article shall be without prejudice to any claim which such director may have for damages for breach of any agreement between them and the Company.

**59. Vacation of office of director**

Without prejudice to the provisions of these articles for retirement or removal the office of a director shall be vacated if:

- (a) they are prohibited by law from being a director; or
- (b) they become bankrupt or they make any arrangement or composition with their creditors generally; or
- (c) a registered medical practitioner who has examined them gives a written opinion to the Company stating that they have become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months; or by reason of their mental health a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents them from personally exercising any powers or rights which they would otherwise have and, in either case, the board resolves that their office be vacated; or
- (d) if for more than six months they have been absent (whether or not an alternate director attends in their place), without special leave of absence from the board, from board meetings held during that period and the board resolves that their office be vacated; or
- (e) they give to the Company notice of their wish to resign, in which event they shall vacate that office on the receipt of that notice by the Company or at such later time as is specified in the notice.

#### **60. Executive directors**

- (1) The board may appoint one or more directors to hold any executive office under the Company (including that of chair, chief executive or managing director) for such period (subject to Statutes) and on such terms as it may decide and may revoke or terminate any appointment so made without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between the director and the Company.
- (2) The remuneration of a director appointed to any executive office shall be fixed by the board and may be by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise and either in addition to or inclusive of their remuneration as a director.
- (3) A director appointed as executive chair, chief executive or managing director shall automatically cease to hold that office if they cease to be a director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between them and the Company. A director appointed to any other executive office shall not automatically cease to hold that office if they cease to be a director unless the contract or any resolution under which they hold office expressly states that they shall, in which case that cessation shall be without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between them and the Company.

### **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

#### **61. Power to appoint alternate directors**

- (1) Each director may appoint another director or any other person who is willing to act as their alternate and may remove them from that office. The appointment as an alternate director of any person who is not themselves a director shall be subject to the approval of a majority of the directors or a resolution of the board.

- (2) An alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all board meetings and of all meetings of committees of which the director appointing them is not personally present and at the meeting to exercise and discharge all the functions, powers and duties of their appointor as a director and for the purposes of the proceeding at the meeting these articles shall apply as if they were a director.
- (3) Every person acting as an alternate director shall (except as regards power to appoint an alternate and remuneration) be subject in all respects to these articles relating to directors and shall alone be responsible to the Company for their acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the director appointing them. An alternate director may be paid expenses and shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company to the same extent as if they were a director but shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any fee in their capacity as an alternate director.
- (4) Every person acting as an alternate director shall have one vote for each director for whom they act as alternate, in addition to their own vote if they are also a director, but they shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.
- (5) Any person appointed as an alternate director shall vacate their office as alternate director if the director by whom they have been appointed vacates their office as director (otherwise than by retirement at a general meeting of the Company at which they are re-appointed) or removes them by notice to the Company or on the happening of any event which, if they are or were a director, causes or would cause them to vacate that office.
- (6) Every appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be made by notice and shall be effective (subject to paragraph (1) above) on receipt by the secretary of the notice.

## **REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS**

### **62. Remuneration of directors**

The directors (other than any director who for the time being holds an executive office or employment with the Company or a subsidiary of the Company) shall be paid out of the funds of the Company by way of remuneration for their services as directors such fees as the board may decide. Any fee payable under this article shall be distinct from any remuneration or other amounts payable to a director under other provisions of these articles and shall accrue from day to day.

### **63. Special remuneration**

- (1) The board may grant special remuneration to any director who performs any special or extra services to or at the request of the Company.
- (2) Such special remuneration may be paid by way of lump sum, salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise as the board may decide in addition to any remuneration payable under or pursuant to any other of these articles.

### **64. Expenses**

A director shall be paid out of the funds of the Company all travelling, hotel and other expenses of travelling to and from board meetings, committee meetings and general meetings. Subject to any guidelines and procedures established from time to time by the board, a director may also be paid out of the funds of the Company all expenses incurred by

them in obtaining professional advice in connection with the affairs of the Company or the discharge of their duties as a director.

**65. Pensions and other benefits**

The board may exercise all the powers of the Company to pay, provide or procure the grant of pensions or other retirement or superannuation benefits and death, disability or other benefits, allowances or gratuities to any person who is or has been at any time a director of the Company or in the employment or service of the Company or of any company which is or was a subsidiary of or associated with the Company or of the predecessors in business of the Company or any such subsidiary or associated company or the relatives of dependants of any such person. For that purpose the board may procure the establishment and maintenance of, or participate in, or contribute to, any non-contributory or contributory pension or superannuation fund, scheme or arrangement and pay any insurance premiums.

**POWERS OF THE BOARD**

**66. General powers of the board to manage the Company's business**

- (1) The business of the Company shall be managed by the board which may exercise all the powers of the Company, subject to the Statutes, these articles and any ordinary resolution of the Company. No ordinary resolution or alteration of these articles shall invalidate any prior act of the board which would have been valid if the resolution had not been passed or the alteration had not been made.
- (2) The powers given by this article shall not be limited by any special authority or power given to the board by any other article or any resolution of the Company.

**67. Power to act notwithstanding vacancy**

The continuing directors or the sole continuing director at any time may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their number; but, if the number of directors is less than the minimum number fixed by or in accordance with these articles, they or the sole remaining director may act for the purpose of filling up vacancies or calling general meeting of the Company, but not for any other purpose. If no director is able or willing to act, then any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing directors.

**68. Power to change the Company name**

The board may, subject to the Statutes, pass a resolution to change the Company's name.

**69. Provisions for employees**

The board may exercise any of the powers conferred by the Statutes to make provision for the benefit of any persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole part of the undertaking of the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

**70. Power to borrow money**

The board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of its undertaking, property and assets (both present and future) and

uncalled capital and 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.

## **DELEGATION OF BOARD'S POWERS**

### **71. Delegation to individual directors**

The board may entrust to and confer upon any director any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit and may revoke or vary all or any of them, but no person dealing in good faith shall be affected by any revocation or variation.

### **72. Committees**

- (1) The board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) to any committee consisting of such person or persons (whether directors or not) as it thinks fit, provided that the majority of the members of the committee are directors and that no meeting of the committee shall be quorate for the purpose of exercising any of its powers, authorities or discretions unless a majority of those present are directors. The board may make any such delegation on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit and may revoke or vary any such delegation and discharge any committee wholly or in part, but no person dealing in good faith shall be affected by any revocation or variation. Any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers, authorities and discretions so delegated, conform to any regulations that may be imposed on it by the board.
- (2) The proceedings of a committee with two or more members shall be governed by any regulations imposed upon it by the board and (subject to such regulations) by these articles regulating the proceedings of the board so far as they are capable of applying.

### **73. Local boards**

- (1) The board may establish any local or divisional board or agency for managing any of the affairs of the Company whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere and may appoint any persons to be members of a local or divisional board, or to be managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration.
- (2) The board may delegate to any local or divisional board, manager or agent any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) and may authorise the members of any local or divisional board or any of them to fill any vacancies and to act notwithstanding vacancies.
- (3) Any appointment or delegation under this article may be made on such terms and subject to such conditions as the board thinks fit and the board may remove any person so appointed, and may revoke or vary any delegation, but no person dealing in good faith shall be affected by revocation or variation.
- (4) Subject to any terms and conditions expressly imposed by the board, the proceedings of any local or divisional board or agency with two or more members shall be governed by such of these articles as regulate the proceedings of the board, so far as they are capable of applying.



**74. Powers of attorney**

The board may by power of attorney or otherwise appoint any person to be the agent of the Company on such terms (including terms as to remuneration) as it may decide and may delegate to any person so appointed any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate). The board may remove any person appointed under this article and may revoke or vary the delegation, but no person dealing in good faith shall be affected by the revocation or variation.

**DIRECTORS' INTERSTS**

**75. Directors' interests other than in relation to transactions or arrangements with the Company**

- (1) If a situation (a **Relevant Situation**) arises in which a director has, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company (including, without limitation, in relation to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity, whether or not the Company could take advantage of it but excluding any situation which cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest if the conflict of interest does not arise in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Company) the following provisions shall apply:
  - (a) if the Relevant Situation arises from the appointment or proposed appointment of a person as a director of the Company, the directors (other than the director, and any other director with a similar interest, who shall not be counted in the quorum at the meeting and shall not vote on the resolution) may resolve to authorise the appointment of the director and the Relevant Situation on such terms as they may determine;
  - (b) if the Relevant Situation arises in circumstances other than in paragraph (1) above, the directors (other than the director and any other director with a similar interest who shall not be counted in the quorum at the meeting and shall not vote the resolution) may resolve to authorise the Relevant Situation and the continuing performance by the director of their duties on such terms as they may determine.
- (2) Any reference in paragraph (a) above to a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.
- (3) Any terms determined by directors under paragraphs (1)(a) or (1)(b) above may be imposed at the time of the authorisation or may be imposed or varied subsequently and may include (without limitation):
  - (a) whether the interested directors may vote (or be counted in the quorum at a meeting) in relation to any resolution relating to the Relevant Situation;
  - (b) the exclusion of the interested directors from all information and discussion by the Company of the Relevant Situation; and
  - (c) (without prejudice to the general obligations of confidentiality) the application to the interested directors of a strict duty of confidentiality to the Company for any confidential information of the Company in relation to the Relevant Situation.

- (4) An interested director must act in accordance with any terms determined by the directors under paragraphs (1)(a) or (1)(b) above.
- (5) Except as specified in paragraph (1) above, any proposal made to the directors and any authorisation by the directors in relation to a Relevant Situation shall be dealt with in the same way as any other matter may be proposed to and resolved upon by the directors in accordance with the provisions of these articles.
- (6) Any authorisation of a Relevant Situation given by the directors under paragraph (1) above may provide that, where the interested director obtains (other than through their position as a director of the Company) information that is confidential to a third party, he will not be obliged to disclose it to the Company or to use it in relation to the Company's affairs in circumstances where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence.

**76. Declaration of interests other than in relation to transactions or arrangements with the Company**

A director shall declare the nature and extent of their interest in a Relevant Situation within article 75(1)(a) or 75(1)(b) to the other directors.

**77. Declaration of interests in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company**

If a director is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company, they must declare the nature and extent of that interest to the other directors.

**78. Declaration of interest in an existing transaction or arrangement with the Company**

Where a director is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a transaction or arrangement that has been entered into by the Company, they must declare the nature and extent of their interest to the other directors, unless the interest has already been declared under article 76 above.

**79. Provisions applicable to declarations of interest**

- (1) The declaration of interest must (in the case of article 77) and may, but need not (in the case of article 76 or 77) be made:
  - (a) at a meeting of the directors; or
  - (b) by notice to the directors in accordance with:
    - (i) section 184 of the CA 2006 (notice in writing); or
    - (ii) section 185 of the CA 2006 (general notice).
- (2) If a declaration of interest proves to be, or becomes, inaccurate or incomplete, a further declaration must be made.
- (3) Any declaration of interest required by article 75 above must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable. Failure to comply with this requirement does not affect the underlying duty to make the declaration of interest.

- (4) Any declaration of interest required by article 76 above must be made before the Company enters into the transaction or arrangement.
- (5) Any declaration of interest required by article 77 above must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable. Failure to comply with this requirement does not affect the underlying duty to make the declaration of interest.
- (6) A declaration in relation to an interest of which the director is not aware, or where the director is not aware of the transaction or arrangement in question, is not required. For this purpose, a director is treated as being aware of matters of which he ought reasonably to be aware.
- (7) A director need not declare an interest:
  - (a) if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest;
  - (b) if, or to the extent that, the other directors are already aware of it (and for this purpose the other directors are treated as aware of anything of which they ought reasonably to be aware); or
  - (c) If, or to the extent that, it concerns terms of their service contract that have been or are to be considered:
    - (i) by a meeting of the directors; or
    - (ii) by a committee of the directors appointed for the purpose under the articles.

#### **80. Directors' interests and voting**

- (1) Subject to the Statutes and to declaring their interest in accordance with article 75, 76 or 77 above, a director may:
  - (a) enter into or be interested in any transaction or arrangement with the Company, either with regard to their tenure of any office or position in the management, administration or conduct of the business of the Company or as vendor, purchaser or otherwise;
  - (b) hold any other office or place of profit with the Company (except that of auditor) in conjunction with their office of director for such period (subject to the Statutes) and upon such terms as the board may decide and be paid such extra remuneration for so doing (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the board may, decide either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration under any other provision of these articles;
  - (c) act by themselves or their firm in a professional capacity for the Company (except as auditor) and be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if they were not a director;
  - (d) be or become a member or director of, or hold any other office or place of profit under, or otherwise be interested in, any holding company or subsidiary undertaking of the holding company or any other company in which the Company may be interested. The board may cause the voting rights conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company or exercisable by them as directors of that other company to be exercised in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit

(including the exercise of voting rights in favour of any resolution appointing the directors or any of them as directors of officers of the other company or voting or providing for the payment of any benefit to the directors or officers of the other company); and

- (e) be or become a director of any other company in which the company does not have an interest if that cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest at the time of their appointment as a director of that other company.

- (2) A director shall not, by reason of their holding office as director (or of the fiduciary relationship established by holding that office), be liable to account to the Company for any remuneration, profit or other benefit resulting from:

- (a) any Relevant Situation authorised under article 75(1); or
- (b) any interest permitted under paragraph (1) above,

and no contract shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any director having any type of interest authorised under article 75(1) or permitted under paragraph (1) above.

- (3) A director shall not vote (or be counted in the quorum at a meeting) in respect of any resolution concerning their own appointment (including fixing or varying its terms), or the termination of their own appointment, as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any other company in which the Company is interested but, where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying its terms), or the termination of the appointment, of two or more directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any other company in which the Company is interested, those proposals may be divided and a separate resolution may be put in to each director and in that case each of the directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under this article) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution unless it concerns their own appointment or the termination of their own appointment.

- (4) A director shall also not vote (or be counted in the quorum at a meeting) in relation to any resolution relating to any transaction or arrangement with the Company in which they have an interest which may reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest and, if they purport to do so, their vote shall not be counted, but this prohibition shall not apply and a director may vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution concerning any one or more of the following matters:

- (a) any transaction or arrangement in which they are interested by virtue of an interest in shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or otherwise in or through the Company;
- (b) the giving of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of:
  - (i) money lent or obligations incurred by them or by any other person at the request of, or for the benefit of, the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings; or
  - (ii) a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which they themselves have assumed responsibility in whole or in part (either alone or jointly with others) under a guarantee or indemnity or by giving of security;

- (c) indemnification (including loans made in connection with it) by the Company in relation to the performance of their duties on behalf of the Company or of any of its subsidiary undertakings;
  - (d) any issue or offer shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings in respect of which they are or may be entitled to participate in their capacity as a holder of any such securities or as an underwriter or sub-underwriter;
  - (e) any transaction or arrangement concerning any other company in which they do not hold, directly or indirectly as shareholder, or through their direct or indirect holdings of financial instruments) voting rights representing one per cent or more of any class of shares in the capital of that Company. A company shall be deemed to be a company in which a director owns one per cent. or more if and so long as the director is directly or indirectly the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company. For this purpose, there shall be disregarded any shares held by a director as bare or custodian trustee and in which the director has no beneficial interest, any shares comprised in a trust in which the director's interest is in reversion or remainder (if and so long as some other person is entitled to receive the income from such trust) and any shares comprised in an authorised unit trust scheme in which the director is interested only as a unit holder.
  - (f) any arrangement for the benefit of employees of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings which does not accord to them any privilege or benefit not generally accorded to the employees to whom the arrangement relates; and
  - (g) the purchase or maintenance of insurance for the benefit of directors or for the benefit of persons including directors.
- (5) In the case of an alternate director, an interest of their appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate in addition to any interest which the alternate otherwise has.
- (6) If any question arises at any meeting as to whether an interest of a director (other than the chair of the meeting) may reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest or as to the entitlement of any director (other than the chair of the meeting) to vote in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Company and the question is not resolved by their voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, the question shall be referred to the chair of the meeting and their 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 known to them, has not been fairly disclosed. If any question shall arise in respect of the chair of the meeting and is not resolved by their voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, the question shall be decided by a resolution of the board (for which purpose the chair shall be counted in quorum but shall not vote on the matter) and the resolution shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the chair of the meeting, so far as known to them, has not been fairly disclosed.
- (7) Subject to the Statutes, the Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of this article to any extent or ratify any transaction or arrangement not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of this article.

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD**

### **81. Board meetings**

The board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. A director at any time may, and the secretary at the request of a director at any time shall, summon a board meeting.

### **82. Notice of board meetings**

Notice of a board meeting may be given to a director personally or by word of mouth or given in hard copy form or in electronic form to them at such address as they may from time to time specify for this purpose (or if they do not specify an address, at their last known address). A director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may request the board that notices of board meetings shall during the director's absence be sent to the director at an address, including an electronic address, given by the director to the Company for this purpose, but such notices need not be given any earlier than notices given to directors not so absent and in the absence of any such request it shall not be necessary to give notice of a board meeting to any director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom. A director may waive notice of any meeting either prospectively or retrospectively.

### **83. Quorum**

The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the board may be fixed by the board and, unless so fixed at any other number, shall be two. Subject to these articles, any director who ceases to be a director at a board meeting may continue to be present and to act as a director and be counted in the quorum until the end of the board meeting if no other director objects and if otherwise a quorum of directors would not be present.

### **84. Chair or deputy chair to preside**

- (1) The board may appoint a chair and one or more deputy chairs and may at any time revoke any such appointment.
- (2) The chair, or failing them any deputy chair (the longest in office taking precedence, if more than one present), shall, if present and willing, preside at all board meetings but, if no chair or deputy chair has been appointed, or if they are not present within five minutes after the time fixed for holding the meeting or is unwilling to act as chair of the meeting, the directors present shall choose one of their number to act as chair of the meeting.

### **85. Competence of board meetings**

A board meeting at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all the powers, authorities and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the board.

### **86. Voting**

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

**87. Telephone board/electronic meeting**

- (1) A board meeting may consist of a conference between directors some or all of whom are in different places provided that each director may participate in the business of the meeting whether directly, by telephone or by any other means (whether electronically or otherwise) which enables them:
  - (a) to hear (or otherwise receive real time communications made by) each of the other participating directors addressing the meeting; and
  - (b) if they so wish, to address all of the other participating directors simultaneously (or otherwise communicate in real time with them).
- (2) A quorum is deemed to be present if at least the number of directors required to form a quorum, subject to the provisions of article 67, may participate in the manner specified above in the business of the meeting.
- (3) A board meeting held in this way is deemed to take place at the place where the largest group of participating directors is assembled or, if no such group is readily identifiable, at the place from where the chair of the meeting participates.

**88. Resolutions without meetings**

A resolution which is signed or approved by all the directors entitled to vote on that resolution shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a board meeting duly called and constituted. The resolution may be contained in one document or communication in electronic form or in several documents or communications in electronic form (in like form), each signed or approved by one or more of the directors concerned. For the purpose of this article:

- (a) the signature or approval of an alternate director (if any) shall suffice in place of the signature of the director appointing them; and
- (b) the approval of a director or alternate director shall be given in hard copy form or in electronic form.

**89. Validity of acts of directors in spite of formal defect**

All acts done by a meeting of the board, or of a committee, or by any person acting as a director or a member of a committee, shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any member of the board or committee or of the person so acting, or that they or any of them were disqualified or had vacated office or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and qualified to be a director and had continued to be a director or member of the committee and had been entitled to vote.

**90. Minutes**

The board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose:

- (a) of all appointments of officers made by the board;
- (b) of the names of all the directors present at each meeting of the board and of any committee; and

- (c) of all resolutions and proceedings of all meetings of the Company and of any class of members, and of the board and of any committee.

## **SECRETARY**

### **91. Secretary**

The secretary shall be appointed by the board for such term, at such remuneration and on such conditions as it thinks fit, and the board may remove from office any person or company so appointed (without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract between them and the Company). The board may from time to time appoint a deputy or assistant secretary who, during such time as there may be no secretary or no secretary capable of acting, may act as secretary and do any act authorised or required by these articles or by law to be done by the secretary. The signature of any document as secretary by such assistant or deputy secretary shall be conclusive evidence (without invalidating that signature for any purpose) that at the time of signature there was no secretary or no secretary capable of acting.

## **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

### **92. Issue of share certificates**

- (1) A person whose name is entered on the register as the holder of any certificated shares shall be entitled (unless the conditions of issue otherwise provide) to receive one certificate for those shares, or one certificate for each class of those shares and, if they transfer part of the shares represented by a certificate in their name, or elects to hold part in uncertificated form, to receive a new certificate for the balance of those shares.
- (2) In the case of joint holders the Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate for all the shares in any particular class registered in their joint names, and delivery of a certificate for a share of any one of the joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all.
- (3) Every certificate for shares shall be issued under the seal (or in such other manner as the board, having regard to the terms of issue, the Statutes and the requirements of AIM Rules, may authorise) and each share certificate shall specify the shares to which it relates, the distinguishing number (if any) of the shares and the amount paid up on the shares. The board 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.
- (4) A share certificate may be given to a member in accordance with the provisions of these articles on notices.

### **93. Charges for and replacement of certificates**

- (1) Except as expressly provided to the contrary in these articles, no fee shall be charged for the issue of a share certificate.
- (2) Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at their request be cancelled and a single new certificate issued.



- (3) If any member surrenders for cancellation a certificate representing shares held by them and requests the Company to issue two or more certificates representing those shares in such proportions as they may specify, the board may, if it thinks fit, comply with the request on payment of such fee (if any) as the board may decide.
- (4) If a certificate is damaged or defaced or alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, a new certificate representing the same shares may be issued on compliance with such conditions as to evidence, indemnity and security for such indemnity as the board may think fit and on payment of any exceptional expenses of the Company incidental to its investigation of the evidence and preparation of the indemnity and security and, if damaged or defaced, on delivery up of the old certificate.
- (5) In the case of joint holders of a share a request for a new certificate under any of the preceding paragraphs of this article may be made by any one of the joint holders unless the certificate is alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed.

## **LIEN ON SHARES**

### **94. Lien on partly paid shares**

- (1) The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all amounts payable (whether or not due) in respect of that share. The lien shall extend to every amount payable in respect of that share.
- (2) The board may at any time either generally or in any particular case declare any share to be wholly or partly exempt from this article. Unless otherwise agreed, the registration of a transfer of a share shall operate as a waiver of the Company's lien (if any) on that share.

### **95. Enforcement of lien**

- (1) The Company may sell any share subject to a lien in such manner as the board may decide if an amount payable on the share is due and is not paid within fourteen clear days after a notice has been given to the holder or any person entitled by transmission to the share demanding payment of that amount and giving notice of intention to sell in default.
- (2) To give effect to any sale under this article, the board may authorise some person to transfer the share sold to, or as directed by, the purchaser. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money nor shall the title of the new holder to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the sale.
- (3) The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs of such sale, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of the amount due and any residue shall (subject to a like lien for any amounts not presently due as existed on the share before the sale), on surrender, in the case of shares held in certificated form, of the certificate for the shares sold, be paid to the holder or person entitled by transmission to the share immediately before the sale.

## **CALLS ON SHARES**

### **96. Calls**

- (1) Subject to the terms of allotment, the board may make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal amount of premium) and each member shall (subject to them receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company as required by the notice the amount called on their shares. A call may be revoked or postponed as the board may decide.
- (2) Any call may be made payable in one sum or by instalments and shall be deemed to be made at the time when the resolution of the board authorising that call is passed.
- (3) A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable for it notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the share in respect of which the call is made.
- (4) The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all calls in respect of that share.

### **97. Interest on calls**

If a call is not paid before or on the due date for payment, the person from whom it is due shall pay interest on the amount unpaid, from the due date for payment to the date of actual payment, at such rate as the board may decide, but the board may waive payment of the interest, wholly or in part.

### **98. Sums treated as calls**

A sum which by the terms of allotment of a share is payable on allotment, or at a fixed time, or by instalments at fixed times, shall for all purposes of these articles be deemed to be a call duly made and payable on the date or dates fixed for payment and, in case of non-payment, these articles shall apply as if that sum had become payable by virtue of a call.

### **99. Power to differentiate**

On any allotment of share the board may make arrangements for a difference between the allottees or holders of the shares in the amounts and times of payments of calls on their shares.

### **100. Payment of calls in advance**

The board may, if it thinks fit, receive all or part of the moneys payable in a share beyond the sum actually called up on it if the holder is willing to make payment in advance and, on any moneys so paid in advance, may (until they would otherwise be due) pay interest at such rate as may be agreed between the board and the member paying the sum in advance.

## **FORFEITURE OF SHARES**

### **101. Notice of unpaid calls**

- (1) If the whole or any part of any call or instalment remains unpaid on any share after the due date for payment, the board may give notice to the holder requiring them to pay so much of the call or instalment as remains unpaid, together with any accrued interest.

- (2) The notice shall state a further day, being not less than fourteen clear days from the date of the notice, on or before which, and the place where, payment is to be made and shall state that, in the event of non-payment on or before the day and at the place appointed, the share in respect of which the call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited.
- (3) The board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited.

**102. Forfeiture on non-compliance with notice**

- (1) If the requirements of a notice given under the preceding article are not complied with, any share in respect of which it was given may (before the payment required by the notice is made) be forfeited by a resolution of the board. The forfeiture shall include all dividends declared and other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited share and not actually paid before the forfeiture.
- (2) If a share is forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be given to the person who was the holder of the share or (as the case may be) the person entitled to the share by transmission, and an entry that notice of the forfeiture has been given, with the relevant date, shall be made in the register; but no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to give such notice or to make such entry.

**103. Power to annul forfeiture or surrender**

The board may, at any time before the forfeited or surrendered share has been sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, annul the forfeiture or surrender upon payment of all calls and interest due on or in respect of the share and on such further conditions (if any) as it thinks fit.

**104. Disposal of forfeited or surrendered shares**

- (1) Every share which is forfeited or surrendered shall become the property of the Company and (subject to the Statutes) may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, upon such terms and in such a manner as the board shall decide either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder of the share or to any other person and whether with or without all or any part of the amount previously paid on the share being credited as so paid up. The board may for the purposes of a disposal authorise some person to transfer the forfeited or surrendered share to, or in accordance with the directions of, any person to whom the same has been disposed of.
- (2) A statutory declaration by a director or the secretary that a share has been forfeited or surrendered on a specified date shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share, be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it and shall (subject to the execution of any necessary transfer) constitute a good title to the share. The person to whom the share has been disposed of shall not be bound to see to the application of the consideration for the disposal (if any) nor shall their title to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings connected with the forfeiture, surrender, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.

**105. Arrears to be paid notwithstanding forfeiture or surrender**

A person any of whose shares have been forfeited or surrendered shall cease to be a member in respect of the forfeited or surrendered share and shall, in the case of shares held in certificated form, surrender to the Company for cancellation any certificate for the share

forfeited or surrendered, but shall remain liable (unless payment is waived in whole or in part by the board) to pay the Company all moneys payable by them or in respect of that share at that time of forfeiture or surrender, together with interest from the time of forfeiture or surrender until payment at such rate as the board shall decide, in the same manner as if the share had not been forfeited or surrendered. They shall also be liable to satisfy all the claims and demands (if any) which the Company might have enforced in respect of the share at the time of forfeiture or surrender. No deduction or allowance shall be made for the value of the share at the time of forfeiture or surrender or for any consideration received on its disposal.

## **SEAL**

### **106. Seal**

- (1) The Company may exercise the powers conferred by the Statutes with regard to having official seals and those powers shall be vested in the board.
- (2) The board shall provide for the safe custody of every seal of the Company.
- (3) A seal shall be used only by the authority of the board or a duly authorised committee but that authority may consist of an instruction or approval given in hard copy form or in electronic form by a majority of the directors or of the members of a duly authorised committee.
- (4) The board may determine who shall sign any instrument to which a seal is applied, either generally or in relation to a particular instrument or type of instrument, and may also determine, either generally or in any particular case, that such signatures shall be dispensed with.
- (5) Unless otherwise decided by the board:
  - (a) certificates for shares, debentures or other securities of the Company issued under seal need not be signed; and
  - (b) every other instrument to which a seal is applied shall be signed by at least one director and the secretary or by at least two directors or by one director in the presence of a witness who attests the signature.

## **DIVIDENDS**

### **107. Declaration of dividends by the Company**

The Company may, by ordinary resolution, declare a dividend to be paid to the members, according to their respective rights and interests in the profits, and may fix the time for payment of such dividend, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the board. Subject to the Statutes, any determination by the board of profits at any time available for distribution shall be conclusive.

### **108. Fixed and interim dividends**

The board may pay such interim dividends as appear to the board to be justified by the financial position of the Company and may also pay any dividend payable at a fixed rate at

intervals settled by the board whenever the financial position of the Company, in the opinion of the board, justifies its payment. In the event of any preferential dividend being in arrears this shall be paid first before any interim dividend is paid on share having no preferred rights to dividends. If the board acts in good faith, none of the directors shall incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss such holders may suffer in consequence of the payment of an interim dividend on any shares having non-preferred or deferred rights.

#### **109. Calculation and currency of dividends**

- (1) Except insofar as the rights attaching to, or the terms of issue of, any share otherwise provide:
  - (a) all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares in respect of which the dividend is paid, but no amount paid up on a share in advance of calls shall be treated for the purposes of this article as paid up on the share;
  - (b) all dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately according to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion 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, that share shall rank for dividend accordingly; and
  - (c) dividends may be declared or paid in any currency or currencies.
- (2) The board may agree with any member that dividends which may at any time or from time to time be declared or become due on their shares in one currency shall be paid or satisfied in another, and may agree the basis of conversion to be applied and how and when the amount to be paid in the other currency shall be calculated and paid and for the Company or any other person to bear any costs involved.

#### **110. Method of payment**

- (1) The Company may pay any dividend or other sum payable in respect of a share:
  - (a) by cheque or dividend warrant payable to the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, the holder whose name stands first in the register in respect of the relevant share) or to such other person as the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, all the joint holders) may notify to the Company for the purpose; or
  - (b) by a bank or other funds transfer system or by such other electronic means (including, in the case of uncertificated share, a relevant system) to such account as the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, all the joint holders) may notify to the Company for the purpose. Every such payment made through a relevant system shall be made in such manner as may be consistent with the system's rules and, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, 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 other person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct; or
  - (c) in such other way as may be agreed between the Company and the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, all such holders).

- (2) Any such cheque or dividend warrant may be sent by post or equivalent means of delivery to the registered address of the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, to the registered address of that person whose name stands first in the register in respect of the relevant share) or to such other address as the holder (or, in the case of joint holders, all the joint holders) may notify to the Company for the purpose.
- (3) Every cheque, warrant or order is sent, and payment in any other way is made, at the risk of the person or persons entitled to it and the Company will not be responsible for any sum lost or delayed when it has sent or transmitted the sum in accordance with these articles. Clearance of a cheque, warrant, order or transmission of funds through a bank or other funds transfer system or by such other electronic means as is permitted by these articles shall be a good discharge to the Company.
- (4) Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to any share may give an effective receipt for any dividend or other sum paid in respect of the share.
- (5) Any dividend or other sum payable in respect of any share may be paid to a person or persons entitled by transmission to that share as if he or they were the holder or joint holders of that share and their address (or the address of the first named of two or more persons jointly entitled) noted in the register were the registered address.
- (6) The issue of such a cheque, warrant or order, the collection of funds from or transfer of funds by a bank in accordance with such direct debit or bank transfer or, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment in accordance with the rules of the relevant system, shall be a good discharge to the Company.
- (7) If the board decides that any dividend or other money payable in cash relating to a share will be made exclusively by inter-bank transfer or other electronic means to an account but no such account is nominated by the holder or any transmittee entitled to receive the payment, or an inter-bank transfer or other electronic payment into a nominated account is rejected or refunded, the Company may credit that dividend or other money payable in cash to an account of the Company, to be held until the holder or transmittee entitled to receive the payment nominates a valid account to which the payment shall be made.

**111. Dividends not to bear interest**

No dividend or other moneys payable by the Company on or in respect of any share shall bear interest as against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share.

**112. Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends**

The board may deduct from any dividend or other moneys payable to any person (either alone or jointly with another) on or in respect of a share all such sums as may be due from them (either alone or jointly with another) to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to shares of the Company.

**113. Unclaimed dividends**

All unclaimed dividends, interest or other sums payable may be invested or otherwise made use of by the board for the benefit of the Company until claimed. All dividends unclaimed for a period of twelve years after having become due for payment shall be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company. The payment of any unclaimed dividend, interest

or other sum payable by the Company on or in respect of any share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect of it.

#### **114. Uncashed dividends**

If:

- (a) a payment for a dividend or other sum payable in respect of a share sent by the Company to the person entitled to it in accordance with these articles is left uncashed or is returned to the Company and, after reasonable enquiries, the Company is unable to establish a new address or, with respect to a payment to be made by a funds transfer system, a new account, for that person; or
- (b) such a payment is left uncashed or returned to the Company on two consecutive occasions,

the Company shall not be obliged to send any dividends or other sums payable in respect of that share to that person until he notifies the Company of an address or, where the payment is to be made by a funds transfer system, details of the account, to be used for the purpose.

#### **115. Dividends in specie**

- (1) With the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company and on the recommendation of the board, payment of any dividend may be satisfied wholly or in part by the distribution of specific assets and in particular of paid-up shares or debentures of any other company.
- (2) Where any difficulty arises with the distribution, the board may settle the difficulty as it thinks fit and, in particular, may issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions), fix the value for distribution of the specific assets or any part of them, determine that cash payments be made to any members on the basis of the value so fixed in order to secure equality of distribution and vest any of the specific assets in trustees on such trusts for the persons entitled to the dividend as the board may think fit.

#### **116. Scrip dividends**

- (1) The board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer any holders of Ordinary Shares the right to elect to receive further Ordinary Shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of all (or some part) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution (a "scrip dividend") in accordance with the following provisions of this article.
- (2) The ordinary resolution may specify a particular dividend (whether or not already declared) or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period, but such period may not end later than five years after the date of the meeting at which the ordinary resolution is passed.
- (3) The basis of allotment shall be decided by the board so that, as nearly as may be considered convenient, the value of the further Ordinary Shares, including any fractional entitlement, is equal to the amount of the cash dividend which would otherwise have been paid (disregarding the amount of any associated tax credit).
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (3) above the value of the further Ordinary Shares shall be:

- (a) equal to the average middle-market quotation for a fully paid share of the relevant class, adjusted if necessary for the proposed dividend, as shown in the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List or as established from such other source as the board considers appropriate for the five business days immediately preceding or following the announcement of the cash dividend to which the scrip dividend relates, as the board may decide; or
  - (b) calculated in such manner as may be determined by or in accordance with the ordinary resolution.
- (5) The board shall give notice to the holders of ordinary share of their rights of election in respect of the scrip dividend and shall specify the procedure to be followed in order to make an election.
  - (6) The dividend or that part of it in respect of which an election for the scrip dividend is made shall not be paid and instead further Ordinary Shares shall be allotted in accordance with elections duly made and the board shall capitalise a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the shares to be allotted out of such sums available for the purpose as the board may consider appropriate.
  - (7) The further Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the fully paid Ordinary Shares then in issue except as regards participation in the relevant dividend.
  - (8) The board may decide that the right to elect for any scrip dividend shall not be made available to members resident in any territory where, in the opinion of the board, compliance with local laws or regulations would be unduly onerous.
  - (9) The board may do all acts and things as it considers necessary or expedient to give effect to the provisions of a scrip dividend election and the issue of any Ordinary Shares in accordance with the provisions of this article, and may make such provisions as it thinks fit for the case of shares becoming distributable in fractions (including provisions under which, in whole or in part, the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company rather than to the members concerned). To the extent that the entitlement of any holder of Ordinary Shares in respect of any dividend is less than the value of one new ordinary share (as determined for the basis of any scrip dividend) the board may also from time to time establish or vary a procedure for such entitlement to be accrued and aggregated with any similar entitlement for the purposes of any subsequent scrip dividend.
  - (10) The board may from time to time establish or vary a procedure for election mandates, under which a holder of Ordinary Shares may, in respect of any future dividends for which a right of election pursuant to this article is offered, elect to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of such dividend on the terms of such mandate.
  - (11) The board shall not make a scrip dividend available unless the Company has sufficient unissued shares and undistributed profits or reserves to give to elections which could be made to receive that scrip dividend.

## **CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES**

### **117. Capitalisation of reserves**

- (1) The board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:



- (a) resolve to capitalise any sum standing to the credit of any reserve account of the Company (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or any sum standing to the credit of profit and loss account not required for the payment of any preferential dividend (whether or not it is available for distribution); and
  - (b) appropriate that sum as capital to the holders of Ordinary Shares in proportion to the nominal amounts of the ordinary share capital held by them respectively and apply that sum on their behalf in paying up in full any unissued 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 members, or as they may direct, in those proportions or in paying up the whole or part of any amounts which are unpaid in respect of any issued shares in the Company held by them respectively, or otherwise deal with such sum as directed by the resolution provided that the share premium account and the capital redemption reserve and any sum not available for distribution in accordance with the Statutes may only be applied in paying up unissued share to be allotted credited as fully paid up.
- (2) Where any difficulty arises in respect of any distribution of any capitalised reserve or other sum, the board may settle the difficulty as it thinks fit and in particular may make such provisions as it thinks fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions (including provisions under which, in whole or in part, the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company rather than the members concerned) or ignore fractions and may fix the value for distribution of any fully paid up shares or debentures and may determine that cash payments be made to any members on the basis of the value so fixed in order to secure equality of distribution, and may vest any shares or debentures in trustees upon such trusts for the persons entitled to share in the distribution as the board may think fit.
- (3) The board may also authorise any person to sign on behalf of the persons entitled to share in the distribution a contract for the acceptance by those persons of the shares or debentures to be allotted to them credited as fully paid under a capitalisation and any such contract shall be binding on all those persons.

#### **118. Capitalisation of reserves – employees’ share schemes**

- (1) This article (which is without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of the immediately preceding article) applies:
- (a) where a person is granted pursuant to an employees’ share scheme a right to subscribe for shares in the Company in cash at a subscription price less than their nominal value; and
  - (b) where, pursuant to an employees’ share scheme, the terms on which any person is entitled to subscribe in cash for shares in the Company are adjusted as a result of a capitalisation issue, rights issue or other variation of capital so that the subscription price is less than their nominal value.
- (2) In any such case the board:
- (a) shall transfer to a reserve account a sum equal to the deficiency between the subscription price and the nominal value of the shares (the “cash deficiency”) from the profits or reserves of the Company which are available for distribution and not required for the payment of any preferential dividend; and

- (b) (subject to paragraph (4) below) shall not apply that reserve account for any purpose other than paying up the cash deficiency upon the allotment of those shares.
- (3) Whenever the Company is required to allot shares pursuant to such a right to subscribe, the board shall (subject to the Statutes) appropriate to capital out of the reserve account an amount equal to the cash deficiency applicable to those shares, apply that amount in paying up the deficiency on the nominal value of those shares credited as fully paid to the person entitled to them.
- (4) If any person ceases to be entitled to subscribe for shares as described above, the restrictions on the reserve account shall cease to apply in relation to such part of the account as is equal to the amount of the cash deficiency applicable to those shares.
- (5) No right shall be granted under any employees' share scheme under paragraph (1)(a) above and no adjustment shall be made as mentioned in paragraph (1)(b) above unless there are sufficient profits or reserves of the Company available for distribution and not required for the payment of any preferential dividend to permit the transfer to a reserve account in accordance with this article of an amount sufficient to pay up the cash deficiency applicable to the shares concerned.

## **RECORD DATES**

### **119. Fixing of record dates**

- (1) Notwithstanding any other of these articles, but without prejudice to any rights attached to any shares, the Company or the board may fix a date as the record date by reference to which a dividend will be declared or paid or a distribution, allotment or issue made, and that the date may be before, on or after the date on which the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared, paid or made.
- (2) In the absence of a record date being fixed, entitlement to any dividend, distribution, allotment or issue shall be determined by reference to the date on which the dividend is declared or the distribution, allotment or issue is made.

## **ACCOUNTS**

### **120. Accounting records**

- (1) The board shall cause accounting records of the Company to be kept in accordance with the Statutes.
- (2) No member (as such) shall have any right of inspecting any account, book or document of the Company, except as conferred by law or authorised by the board or by any ordinary resolution of the Company.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **121. Communications to the Company**

- (1) Subject to the Statutes and except where otherwise expressly stated, any document or information to be sent or supplied by the Company (whether or not such document or

information is required or authorised under the Statutes) shall be in hard copy form subject to paragraph (2) below, be sent or supplied in electronic form or by means of a website.

- (2) Subject to the Statutes, a document or information may be given to the Company in electronic form only if it is given in such form and manner and to such address as may have been specified by the board from time to time for the receipt of documents in electronic form. The board may prescribe such procedures as it thinks fit for verifying the authenticity or integrity of any such document or information given to it in electronic form.

## **122. Communications by the Company**

- (1) A document or information may be sent or supplied in hard copy form by the Company to any member either personally or by sending or supplying it by post addressed to the member at their registered address or by leaving it at that address.
- (2) Subject to the Statutes, a document or information may be sent or supplied by the Company to any member in electronic form to such address as may from time to time be authorised by the member concerned or by making it available on a web site and notifying the member concerned in accordance with the Statutes that it has been made available. A member shall be deemed to have agreed that the Company may send or supply a document or information by means of a website if the conditions set out in the Statutes have been satisfied.
- (3) In the case of joint holders of a share, any document or information sent or supplied by the Company in any manner permitted by these articles to the joint holder who is named first in the register in respect of the joint holding shall be deemed to be given to all other holders of the share.
- (4) A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from the Company unless:
  - (a) the Company is able, in accordance with the Statutes, to send notice to them by electronic means; or
  - (b) they give the Company a postal address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to them.

## **123. Communication during suspension or curtailment of postal services**

If at any time postal services within the United Kingdom are suspended or curtailed so that the Company is unable effectively to convene a general meeting or a meeting of the holders of any class of shares in its capital by notice sent through the post, the board may decide that the only members to whom notice of the meeting must be sent are those to whom notice to convene the meeting can validly be sent by electronic means and those to whom notification as to the availability of the notice of meeting on a website can validly be sent by electronic means. In any such case the Company shall also advertise the meeting in at least two national daily newspapers published in the United Kingdom. If at least six clear days prior to the meeting the giving of notices by post to addresses throughout the United Kingdom has, in the board's opinion, become practicable, the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post or such other manner as is permitted under these articles to the persons entitled to receive them when postal services are running normally. At any time that postal services within the United Kingdom are suspended or curtailed, any other notice or information considered by the board to be capable of being supplied by advertisement shall, if advertised in at least one such

newspaper, be deemed to have been notified to all members and transmittes to whom it would otherwise have been supplied in hard copy form.

**124. When communication is deemed received**

- (1) Any document or information, if sent by first class post, shall be deemed to have been received on the day following that on which the envelope containing it is put into the post; or, if sent by second class post, shall be deemed to have been received on the second day following that on which the envelope containing it is put into the post and in proving that a document or information has been received it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter, envelope or wrapper containing the document or information was properly addressed, prepaid and put into the post.
- (2) Any document or information not sent by post but left at a registered address or address at which a document or information may be received shall be deemed to have been received on the day it was so left.
- (3) Any document or information, if sent or supplied by electronic means, shall be deemed to have been received on the day on which the document or information was sent or supplied by or on behalf of the Company.
- (4) If the Company receives a delivery failure notification following a communication by electronic means in accordance with paragraph (3) above, the Company shall send or supply the document or information in hard copy or electronic form (but not by electronic means) to the member either personally or by post addressed to the member at their registered address or by leaving it at that address. This shall not affect when the document or information was deemed to be received in accordance with paragraph (3) above.
- (5) Where a document or information is sent or supplied by means of a website, it shall be deemed to have been received:
  - (a) when the material was first made available on the website, or
  - (b) if later, when the recipient was deemed to have received notice of the fact that the material was available on the website.
- (6) A member present, either in person or by proxy, at a meeting of the Company or class of members of the Company shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which the meeting was convened.
- (7) Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by every notice (other than a notice in accordance with section 793 of the CA 2006) in respect of that share which before their name is entered in the register was given to the person from whom they derive their title to the share.

**125. Record date for communication**

- (1) For the purposes of giving notices of meeting, or of sending or supplying other documents or other information, whether under section 310(1) of the CA 2006, any other Statute, a provision in these articles or any other instrument, the Company may determine that persons entitled to receive such notices, documents or other information are those persons entered on the register at the close of business on a day determined by it.

- (2) The day determined by the Company under paragraph (1) above may not be more than fifteen days before the day that the notice of the meeting, document of other information is given.

**126. Loss of entitlement to receive communications**

If on two consecutive occasions notices, documents or information have been sent to any member at the registered address or the member's address (including an electronic address) for the service of notices but, through no fault of the Company, have been undelivered, such member shall not, from then on, be entitled to receive notices, documents or other information from the Company until the member has notified to the Company in writing a new address within the United Kingdom to be either the member's registered address or the member's address (including an electronic address) for the service of notices.

**127. Communication to person entitled by transmission**

Where a person is entitled by transmission to a share, any notice or other communication shall be given to them, as if they were the holder of that share and their address noted in the register were their registered address. In any other case, any notice or other communication given to any member pursuant to these articles 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 given in respect of any share registered in the name of that member as sole or joint holder.

## **UNTRACED MEMBERS**

**128. Sale of shares of untraced members**

- (1) Subject to the Regulations, the Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any shares of a holder or transmittee if in respect of those shares:
- (a) no cheque, warrant or other financial instrument or payment sent by the Company in the manner authorised by these articles has been cashed for a period of at least 12 years (the "**qualifying period**") and in the qualifying period the Company has paid at least three dividends and no dividend has been claimed;
  - (b) the Company has at the expiration of the qualifying period sent a notice to the registered address or last known address of the holder or transmittee of its intention to sell such shares and before sending such a notice, the Company has taken such steps as it considers reasonable in the circumstances to trace the holder or transmittee, including engaging, if considered appropriate in relation to the shares, a professional asset reunification company or other tracing agent;
  - (c) so far as the board is aware, the Company has not during the qualifying period or the period of three months following the sending of the notice referred to in ii above, and prior to the exercise of the power of sale received any communication from the holder or transmittee,

and where this power has arisen and at the time of its exercise that holder or transmittee holds, or is entitled by transmission to hold, any other shares issued in right of the shares to be sold, this power shall be deemed to have arisen also in relation to those other shares.

- 2) To give effect to any sale, the board may (i) in the case of certificated shares authorise and instruct some person (which may include the holder of shares concerned) to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares; and (ii) in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, subject to the system's rules, require the operator of a relevant system to convert any such share into certificated form in order to enable the Company to deal with the share in accordance with this article, and after such conversion authorise and instruct some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share (and to take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the sale or disposal), Such instrument of transfer and the taking of such other steps as may be necessary shall be as effective as if they had been executed by the holder or transmittee of the shares. The transfer will be valid even if in respect of any of the shares no certificate accompanies the instrument of transfer. The transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money and the transferee's title shall not be affected by any irregularity in, or invalidity of, the proceedings relating to the sale.

#### **129. Application of proceeds of sale**

- (1) The Company shall account to the person entitled to the share at the date of the sale for a sum equal to the net proceeds of sale and shall be deemed to be their debtor, and not a trustee for them, in respect of them.
- (2) Pending payment of the net proceeds of sale to such person, the proceeds may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments (other than shares of the Company or its holding company, if any) as the board may from time to time decide.
- (3) No interest shall be payable in respect of the net proceeds and the Company shall not be required to account for any moneys earned on the net proceeds.

### **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

#### **130. Destruction of documents**

- (1) The board may authorise or arrange for the destruction of documents held by the Company as follows:
  - (a) at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of registration, all instruments of transfer of shares and all other documents transferring or purporting to transfer shares or representing or purporting to represent the right to be registered as the holder of shares on the faith of which entries have been made in the register;
  - (b) at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of cancellation, all registered share certificates which have been cancelled;
  - (c) at any time after the expiration of two years from the date of recording them, all dividend mandates and notifications of change of address; and
  - (d) at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of actual payment, all paid dividend warrants and cheques.
- (2) It shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that:
  - (a) every entry in the register purporting to have been made on the basis of an instrument of transfer or other document so destroyed was duly and properly made;

- (b) every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered;
  - (c) every share certificate so destroyed was a valid certificate duly and properly cancelled;
  - (d) every document mentioned in paragraph (1) above so destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with the particulars of it recorded in the books and records of the Company; and
  - (e) every paid dividend warrant and cheque so destroyed was duly paid.
- (3) The provisions of paragraph (2) above 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.
  - (4) Nothing on this article shall be construed as imposing on the Company or the board any liability in respect of the destruction of any document earlier than as stated in paragraph (1) above or in any other circumstances in which liability would not attach to the Company or the board in the absence of this article.
  - (5) References in this article to the destruction of any document include references to its disposal in any manner.

## WINDING UP

### 131. Powers to distribute *in specie*

If the Company is in liquidation, the liquidator may, with the authority of a special resolution of the Company and any other authority required by the Statutes:

- (a) divide among the members *in specie* the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members; or
- (b) vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of members as the liquidator, with the sanction, shall think fit but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is any liability.

## INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE, ETC

### 132. Directors' indemnity, insurance and defence

As far as the legislation allows, the Company may:

- (a) indemnify any director or other officer of the Company (or of an associated body corporate) against any liability;
- (b) indemnify a director or other officer of a company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme for employees (or former employees) of the Company (or of an

associated body corporate) against liability incurred in connection with the company's activities as trustee of the scheme;

- (c) purchase and maintain insurance against any liability for any director or other officer referred to in (a) or (b) above; and
- (d) provide any director or other officer referred to in (a) or (b) above with funds (whether by loan or otherwise) to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by them in defending any criminal, regulatory or civil proceedings or in connection with an application for relief (or to enable any such director to avoid incurring such expenditure).

The powers given by this article shall not limit any general powers of the Company to grant indemnities, purchase and maintain insurance or provide funds (whether by way of loan or otherwise) to any person in connection with any legal or regulatory proceedings or applications for relief.