

Registered No. 05459678

The Companies Acts

Public Company Limited by Shares

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

SOFTWARE RADIO TECHNOLOGY plc

(Amended by a special resolution  
passed on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2012)

CMS Cameron McKenna LLP  
Mitre House  
160 Aldersgate Street  
London EC1A 4DD

T +44(0)20 7367 3000  
F +44(0)20 7367 2000

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'R' or 'B' followed by a flourish.

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(Amended by a special resolution passed on 2012)

**DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

**1. Definitions and interpretation**

1.1 In these Articles, the following words and expressions have the meanings indicated below

**“Act”**: the Companies Act 2006

**“address”**: includes (but only in relation to electronic communications) any number or address used for the purposes of such communications

**“these Articles”**: these articles of association as originally adopted or as altered from time to time

**“AIM”** the AIM Market of the London Stock Exchange plc

**“AIM Rules”** the rules of the AIM Market of the London Stock Exchange plc

**“Auditors”**: the auditors of the Company for the time being or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them

**“Board”**: the board of Directors from time to time of the Company or those Directors present at a duly convened meeting of the Directors at which a quorum is present

**“cash memorandum account”**: an account so designated by the Operator

**“clear days”**: 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

**“Director”**: a director for the time being of the Company

**“communication”**: as defined in the Electronic Communications Act 2000

**“electronic communication”**: as defined in the Electronic Communications Act 2000

**“holder”**: in relation to shares, the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder of the shares (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”:** the London Stock Exchange plc

**“member”** a member of the Company (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)

**“Office”:** the registered office of the Company

**“paid up”:** paid up or credited as paid up

**“person entitled by transmission”:** a person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law and whose name is entered in the Register in respect of the share

**“recognised clearing house”:** a recognised clearing house within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 acting in relation to a recognised investment exchange

**“recognised investment exchange”:** a recognised investment exchange within the meaning of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

**“Register”:** the register of members of the Company

**“Regulations”:** the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001

**“relevant system”:** the computer-based system, and procedures, which enable title to units of a security to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument, and which facilitate supplementary and incidental matters in accordance with the Regulations

**“Seal”:** the common seal of the Company or any official seal kept by the Company pursuant to the Statutes

**“Secretary”:** the secretary of the Company or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary and any person appointed to perform the duties of secretary temporarily or in any particular case

**“Statutes”:** every statute (including any statutory instrument, order, regulation or subordinate legislation made under it), including the Act and the Regulations, which is for the time being in force or (where the context requires) was in force at a particular time

**“system’s rules”:** the rules, regulations, procedures, facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned

**“transfer instruction”:** a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction on a relevant system in accordance with the Regulations in such form, in such manner and from such person as the Board may determine

**“UK Listing Authority”:** the Financial Services Authority acting in its capacity as the competent authority for the purposes of Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000



**“United Kingdom”:** Great Britain and Northern Ireland

- 1 2 The expressions “debenture” and “debenture holder” include “debenture stock” and “debenture stockholder”
- 1 3 References to writing include any method of reproducing or representing words in a legible and non-transitory form
- 1 4 References to the execution of a document include references to its being executed under hand or under seal or by any other method
- 1 5 References to the execution of an electronic communication include references to its being executed by such means as the Board may from time to time approve (including for the purpose of establishing the authenticity or integrity of the communication) Except insofar as these Articles expressly require a communication to be in writing, any electronic communication purporting to contain a copy of a document need not be in writing provided that it faithfully and intelligibly reproduces all the relevant information given in writing in the document References to anything given, sent or received by, or contained in, an electronic communication include references to its being published on a web site and such publication being notified (by electronic communication or otherwise) to the relevant person in such manner that, where relevant, that person would be deemed to have notice of it, and access on that web site to it, for at least the duration of any relevant period of notice or availability prescribed by these Articles or by the Statutes
- 1 6 Unless the context otherwise requires, any words or expressions defined in the Statutes as in force at the date of the adoption of these Articles bear such meanings in these Articles (or any part of these Articles), except that the word “company” shall include any body corporate
- 1 7 Except where the contrary is stated or the context otherwise requires, a reference to a statute, statutory provision or regulation includes any amendment or re-enactment of it for the time being in force
- 1 8 Words importing the singular number only include the plural and vice versa Words importing the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter gender Words importing persons include corporations
- 1 9 References to a meeting shall not be taken as requiring more than one person to be present if any quorum requirement can be satisfied by one person
- 1 10 References to any security as being in certificated form or uncertificated form refer, respectively, to that security being a certificated unit of a security or an uncertificated unit of a security for the purposes of the Regulations
- 1 11 Headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Articles
- 2. Limited liability**
- 2 1 The liability of the members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them

**3. Table A and model articles excluded**

- 3 1 None of the regulations contained in Table A in the Schedule to the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985, the relevant model articles (within the meaning of section 20 of the Act) or any other Statute shall apply as regulations or articles of the Company

**4. Form of resolutions**

- 4 1 A special resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required under the Statutes or these Articles

**SHARE CAPITAL**

**5. Rights attached to shares**

- 5 1 Subject to the Statutes and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine (or, in the absence of any such determination or in so far as such ordinary resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine)

**6. Redeemable shares**

- 6 1 Subject to the Statutes and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, shares may be issued which are to be redeemed or which are liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or of the holder on such terms and in such manner as may be provided for by these Articles or as the Board may determine

**7. Power of Board to deal with shares**

- 7 1 Subject to the Statutes and these Articles, the Board may offer, allot, grant options over, or otherwise dispose of shares or rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, such shares to such persons and on such terms as they think fit

**8. Payment of commissions**

- 8 1 The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions and brokerage conferred or permitted by the Statutes Subject to the Statutes, any such commission may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment (or an option to call for the allotment) of fully or partly paid shares or partly in one way and partly the other

**9. Trusts not recognised**

- 9 1 Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and the Company shall not be bound by or recognise (except as otherwise provided by these Articles or by law or under an order of a court of competent jurisdiction) any interest in any share except an absolute right to the whole of the share in the holder

**10. Variation of rights**

- 10 1 Subject to the Statutes, all or any of the rights attached to any class of shares may (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) be varied or abrogated

with the written consent (including by electronic communication) of the holders of three-fourths in nominal value of the issued shares of that class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares), or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of that class. The provisions of the Statutes and of these Articles relating to general meetings shall mutatis mutandis apply to any such separate meeting and to any meeting of the holders of shares of a class held otherwise than in connection with the variation or abrogation of the rights attached to shares of that class, except that

10 1 1 the necessary quorum shall be two persons between them holding or representing by proxy not less than one-third in nominal amount of the issued shares of that class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) or, at any adjourned meeting of holders of shares of that class at which such a quorum is not present, shall be any holder of shares of that class who is present in person or by proxy whatever the number of shares held by him,

10 1 2 any holder of shares of that class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll, and

10 1 3 every holder of shares of that class shall on a poll have one vote in respect of every share of that class held by him

For the avoidance of doubt, the Company shall not for these purposes be counted as holding any shares of that class to the extent that it holds the shares as treasury shares

10 2 The provisions of this Article shall apply to the variation or abrogation of the special rights attached to some only of the shares of any class (and to any meeting of the holders of such shares held otherwise than in connection with the variation or abrogation of those rights) as if each group of shares of the class differently treated formed a separate class

## **11. Matters not constituting a variation of rights**

11 1 The rights attached to any share or class of shares shall not, unless otherwise expressly provided by its terms of issue, be deemed to be varied, abrogated or breached by

11 1 1 the creation or issue of further shares ranking pari passu with it, or

11 1 2 the purchase or redemption by the Company of any of its own shares (whether of that or any other class) or the sale of any shares (of that class or any other class) held as treasury shares

## **CERTIFICATES**

### **12. Right to certificates**

12 1 Except as otherwise provided in these Articles, every person whose name is entered in the Register as a holder of shares in the Company shall be entitled, within the time specified by the Statutes and without payment, to one certificate for all the shares of each class registered in his name. Upon a transfer of part of the shares of any class registered in his name, every holder shall be entitled without payment to one certificate for the balance in certificated form of his holding. Upon request and upon payment, for every certificate after the first, of such reasonable sum (if any) as the Board may determine, every holder

shall be entitled to receive several certificates for certificated shares of one class registered in his name (subject to surrender for cancellation of any existing certificate representing such shares) Every holder shall be entitled to receive one certificate in substitution for several certificates for certificated shares of one class registered in his name upon surrender to the Company of all the share certificates representing such shares

- 12 2 Subject as provided in the preceding part of this Article, the Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate in respect of certificated shares registered in the names of two or more persons and delivery of a certificate to one joint holder shall be a sufficient delivery to all of them

### **13. Execution of certificates**

- 13 1 Every certificate for share or loan capital or other securities of the Company (other than letters of allotment, scrip certificates or similar documents) 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 regulations of the UK Listing Authority, 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

### **14. Replacement certificates**

- 14 1 If a share certificate for certificated shares is worn out, defaced or damaged then, upon its surrender to the Company, it shall be replaced free of charge If a share certificate for certificated shares is or is alleged to have been lost or destroyed it may be replaced without fee but on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity and to payment of any exceptional out-of-pocket expenses of the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity as the Board thinks fit The Company shall be entitled to treat an application for a replacement certificate made by one of joint holders as being made on behalf of all the holders concerned

### **15. Uncertificated securities**

- 15 1 Unless otherwise determined by the Board and permitted by the Regulations, the Company shall not issue and no person shall be entitled to receive a certificate in respect of any share or other security issued by the Company for so long as it is in uncertificated form
- 15 2 Conversion of securities in certificated form into uncertificated form, and vice versa, may be made in such manner as the Board may, in its absolute discretion, think fit (subject always to the Statutes, the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system)
- 15 3 All registers of holders relating to securities issued by the Company will be maintained as required by the Regulations and by the rules of the relevant system and will distinguish between securities held in uncertificated form and securities held in certificated form Unless the Board shall otherwise determine, holdings of the same holder or joint holders in certificated form shall be treated as separate from the same person or persons' holdings in uncertificated form, but a class of securities shall not be treated as two classes by virtue

only of the fact that it comprises securities in certificated form and securities in uncertificated form (even if, as a result of any provision of these Articles or the Regulations, securities are treated differently according to whether they are in certificated or uncertificated form)

- 15 4 No certificate will normally be issued in respect of securities held by a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange
- 15 5 The provisions of these Articles shall not apply to shares of any class which are in uncertificated form to the extent that such Articles are inconsistent with
  - 15 5 1 the holding of shares of that class in uncertificated form,
  - 15 5 2 the transfer of title to shares of that class by means of a relevant system, or
  - 15 5 3 any provision of the Regulations

## **LIEN**

### **16. Company's lien**

- 16 1 The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all monies (whether presently payable or not) called or payable at a fixed time in respect of that share. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to any amount payable in respect of it
- 16 2 The Board may at any time resolve that any share shall be wholly or in part exempt from this Article

### **17. Enforcing lien by sale after notice**

- 17 1 The Company may sell, in such manner as the Board determines, any shares on which the Company has a lien if a sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within 14 clear days after a notice has been given to the holder of the share or the person entitled by transmission to his share, demanding payment and indicating that if the notice is not complied with the shares will be sold

### **18. Manner of sale**

- 18 1 To give effect to a sale, the Board may authorise and instruct some person (which may include the holder of shares concerned)
  - 18 1 1 in the case of shares held in certificated form to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold, and
  - 18 1 2 in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, subject to the system's rules, to send a transfer instruction, and/or to take other steps as may be necessary, to give effect to such a sale in accordance with the Regulations,
  - 18 1 3 in each case to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser and a transfer of certificated shares in this way 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 his title to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale

**19. Application of sale proceeds**

- 19 1 The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in or towards payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as is presently payable, and any residue shall (in the case of shares held in certificated form, upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold and in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, within a reasonable time following receipt by the Company of the net proceeds of sale and subject in each such case to a like lien for any monies not presently payable as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the shares immediately before the sale

**CALLS ON SHARES**

**20. Calls**

- 20 1 Subject to the terms of issue, the Board may from time to time make calls upon the members in respect of any money unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of the nominal amount or by way of premium) Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 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 his shares A call may be made payable by instalments A call may, at any time before receipt by the Company of any sum due under the call, be revoked in whole or in part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or in part, as the Board may determine
- 20 2 A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable for all calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made

**21. Time of call**

- 21 1 A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising the call was passed

**22. Liability of joint holders**

- 22 1 The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of the share

**23. Interest**

- 23 1 If a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable, the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay all costs, charges and expenses that the Company may have incurred by reason of such non-payment, together with interest on the amount unpaid from the day it became due and payable until the day it is paid at the rate fixed by the terms of issue of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at the appropriate rate (as defined by section 609 of the Act) but the Board may waive payment of the interest wholly or in part

**24. Sums due on allotment or by way of instalment treated as calls**

- 24 1 An amount payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of the nominal amount of the share or by way of premium or as an instalment of a call, shall be deemed to be a call and, if it is not paid these Articles shall apply as if that amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call

**25. Power to differentiate**

- 25 1 Subject to the terms of issue, the Board may, on the issue of shares, differentiate between the allottees or holders in the amount of calls to be paid and the times of payment

**26. Advance payment of calls**

- 26 1 The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member willing to advance them all or any part of the monies unpaid and uncalled upon the shares held by him and may pay interest upon the monies so advanced (to the extent such monies exceed the amount of the calls due and payable upon the shares in respect of which they have been advanced) at such rate (not exceeding 15 per cent per annum unless the Company by ordinary resolution otherwise directs) as the Board may determine
- 26 2 A payment in advance of calls shall extinguish, to the extent of it, the liability upon the shares in respect of which it is advanced

**FORFEITURE OF SHARES**

**27. Notice if call not paid**

- 27 1 If a call or instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable, the Board may at any time serve a notice on the holder requiring payment of so much of the call or instalment as remains unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued thereon and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall specify a further day (not being less than 14 clear days from the date of the notice) on or before which, and the place where the payment required by the notice is to be made and shall indicate that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited
- 27 2 The Board may accept the surrender of any share liable to be forfeited and, in such case, references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender

**28. Forfeiture if notice not complied with**

- 28 1 If any notice served under the immediately preceding Article (Notice if call not paid) is not complied with, any share in respect of which the notice was given may, before payment of all calls or instalments and interest due in respect of it is made, be forfeited by (and with effect from the time of the passing of) a resolution of the Board that such share be forfeited. The forfeiture shall include all dividends declared and other monies payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture

## **29. Notice of forfeiture**

- 29 1 When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served upon the person who was, before the forfeiture, the holder of the share, but a forfeiture shall not be invalidated by any failure to give such notice. An entry of such notice and an entry of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register in respect of such share. However, no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to make such entries as aforesaid.

## **30. Sale of forfeited share**

- 30 1 Until cancelled in accordance with the Statutes, a forfeited share shall be deemed to be the property of the Company and may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of either to the person who was the holder before the forfeiture or to any other person upon such terms and in such manner as the Board thinks fit. To give effect to a sale or other disposal, the Board may

30 1 1 in the case of shares held in certificated form, authorise a person to execute an instrument of transfer, and

30 1 2 in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, authorise and instruct a person (which may include the holder prior to the forfeiture of the shares concerned), subject to the system's rules, to send a transfer instruction, and/or take other such steps as may be necessary, to give effect to such a sale or other disposal in accordance with the Regulations,

to the designated transferee (and a transfer of certificated shares in this way will be valid even if in respect of any of the shares no certificate accompanies the instrument of transfer). The Company may receive any consideration given for the share on its disposal and may register the transferee as holder of the share. At any time before a sale, re-allotment or other disposition, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the Board thinks fit.

## **31. Arrears to be paid notwithstanding forfeiture**

- 31 1 A person whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the forfeited shares and, in the case of shares held in certificated form, shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for the forfeited shares but in all cases shall remain liable to the Company for all monies which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of those shares with interest thereon from the date of forfeiture until payment at such rate (not exceeding 15 per cent per annum) as the Board may determine.
- 31 2 The Board may waive payment wholly or in part and the Board may enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

## **32. Statutory declaration and validity of sale**

- 32 1 A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been forfeited on a specified date shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons.



claiming to be entitled to the share. The declaration shall (subject to the completion of any formalities necessary to effect a transfer) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is disposed of shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the consideration (if any), nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture, sale, re-allotment or other disposal of the share.

### **UNTRACED SHAREHOLDERS**

#### **33. Power to sell shares of untraced shareholders**

33 1 Subject to the Regulations, the Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any shares of a holder or any shares to which a person is entitled by transmission if in respect of those shares

33 1 1 for a period of at least 12 years (the “qualifying period”), no cheque, warrant or other financial instrument or payment sent by the Company in the manner authorised by these Articles has been cashed, the Company has paid at least three dividends, and no dividend has been claimed,

33 1 2 the Company has at the expiration of the qualifying period given notice of its intention to sell such shares by two advertisements, one in a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and the other in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the last known address of the holder or the address at which service of notices may be effected in the manner authorised by these Articles is located,

33 1 3 so far as the Board is aware, the Company has not during the qualifying period or the period of three months after the date of such advertisements (or the later of the two dates if they are published on different dates) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale received any communication from the holder or person entitled by transmission, and

33 1 4 if any part of the share capital of the Company is admitted to AIM or the Official List of the UK Listing Authority, the Company has given notice in writing to the London stock Exchange plc or the UK Listing Authority (as the case may be) of its intention to sell such share

and where this power has arisen and at the time of its exercise that holder or person 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

#### **34. Manner of sale and creation of debt in respect of net proceeds**

34 1 To give effect to any sale pursuant to the immediately preceding Article, the Board may authorise and instruct a person

34 1 1 in the case of shares held in certificated form, to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares, and

34 1 2 in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, subject to the system's rules, to send a transfer instruction, and take such other steps as may be necessary, to give effect to such a transfer in accordance with the Regulations,

and such instrument of transfer or transfer instruction and the taking of other steps as may be necessary in accordance with the Regulations as aforesaid shall be as effective as if they had been executed by the holder of, or person entitled by transmission to, the shares. The transfer of certificated shares in this way 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 his title shall not be affected by any irregularity in, or invalidity of, the proceedings relating to the sale.

34 2 The net proceeds of sale shall belong to the Company, which shall be indebted to the former holder or person entitled by transmission for an amount equal to such proceeds and shall enter the name of such former member or other person in the books of the Company as a creditor for such amount. No trust shall be created in respect of the debt, no interest shall be payable in respect of it and the Company shall not be required to account for any monies earned on the net proceeds, which may be employed in the business of the Company or otherwise invested as the Board thinks fit.

## **TRANSFER OF SHARES**

### **35. Form and execution of transfer**

35 1 Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, a member may transfer all or any of his shares, in the case of shares held in certificated form, by an instrument of transfer in any usual form or in any other form which the Board may approve or, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, in accordance with the Regulations and the system's rules and otherwise in such manner as the Board in its absolute discretion shall determine. An instrument of transfer shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (unless the share is fully paid) by or on behalf of the transferee. Subject to the Statutes, 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 it.

35 2 Subject to the Statutes and notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Board shall have power to implement any arrangements it may think fit to enable

35 2 1 title to any securities of the Company to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument in accordance with the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned, and

35 2 2 rights attaching to such securities to be exercised notwithstanding that such securities are held in uncertificated form where, in the Board's opinion, these Articles do not otherwise allow or provide for such exercise.

### **36. Right to refuse registration of partly paid share**

36 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Board may refuse to register the transfer of a share which is not fully paid without giving any reason for so doing provided that, where any such shares are admitted to AIM or the Official List of the UK Listing Authority, 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

**37. Other rights to refuse registration**

37 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Board may also refuse to register the transfer of a share

37 1 1 in the case of shares held in certificated form, if it is not lodged, duly stamped (if necessary), at the Office or at such other place as the Board may appoint and accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates (where a certificate has been issued in respect of the shares and these Articles do not provide for such a transfer to be valid without production of the certificate) and/or such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer,

37 1 2 if it is not in respect of one class of share only,

37 1 3 if it is not in favour of four or fewer transferees,

37 1 4 if it is in favour of a minor, bankrupt or person of mental ill health,

37 1 5 without prejudice to the foregoing, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, in any other circumstances permitted by the Regulations and/or the system's rules, or

37 1 6 where the Board is obliged or entitled to refuse to do so as a result of any failure to comply with a notice under section 793 of the Act

**38. Notice of refusal**

38 1 If the Board refuses to register a transfer it shall, in the case of shares held in certificated form, within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged and, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, within two months after the date on which the relevant Operator-instruction was received by or on behalf of the Company, send to the transferee notice of the refusal together with its reasons for the refusal

**39. No fee for registration**

39 1 No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or document relating to or affecting the title to any share

**40. Retention of documents**

40 1 Any instrument of transfer which is registered may be retained by the Company, but any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given

**41. Other Registers**

41 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Company may keep an overseas, local or other register in any place, and the Board may make and vary such regulations as it may think fit concerning the keeping of that register

## **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

### **42. Transmission on death**

- 42 1 If a member dies, the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, and his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares, but nothing contained in this Article shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share solely or jointly held by him

### **43. Election by person entitled by transmission**

- 43 1 Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law may, upon such evidence being produced as the Board may require and subject (where relevant) to the system's rules, elect either to become the holder of the share or to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder, he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered, he shall, subject (where relevant) to the system's rules, effect or procure a transfer of the share in favour of that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer as if the death or bankruptcy of the member or other event giving rise to the transmission had not occurred and the notice or instrument of transfer was an instrument of transfer executed by the member

### **44. Rights in respect of the share**

- 44 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 its transmission by operation of law shall have the same rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of that share, except that he shall not be entitled in respect of it to attend or vote at any general meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company until he is registered as the holder of the share. The Board may at any time give notice to such person requiring him to elect either to become the holder of the share or to transfer the share and if the notice is not complied with within 60 clear days from the date of the notice, the Board may withhold payment of all dividends and other monies payable in respect of the share until he complies with the notice

## **ALTERATION OF CAPITAL**

### **45. Consolidation, sub-division and cancellation**

- 45 1 The Company may by ordinary resolution
- 45 1 1 consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares,
- 45 1 2 subject to the Statutes, sub-divide its shares, or any of them, into shares of smaller amount and the resolution may determine that, as between the shares resulting from the sub-division, any of them may have any preference or advantage or have such qualified or deferred rights or be subject to any restrictions as compared with the others, and

- 45 1 3 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

**46. Fractions**

- 46 1 Whenever as a result of a consolidation, division or sub-division of shares any member would become entitled to fractions of a share, the Board may deal with the fractions as it thinks fit and, in particular, may sell the shares representing the fractions to any person (including, subject to the Statutes, the Company) and may distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members save for amounts of £3 00 or less, which shall be retained for the benefit of the Company To give effect to any such sale, the Board may authorise and instruct a person to take such steps as may be necessary (subject, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, to the system's rules) to transfer or deliver the shares to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser Subject to the Statutes, where a shareholder holds shares in both certificated and uncertificated form, the Board may for these purposes treat them as separate holdings, and may at its discretion arrange for any shares representing fractions to be entered in the Register as held in certificated or uncertificated form in order to facilitate their sale under this Article The transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money and his title shall not be affected by any irregularity in, or invalidity of, the proceedings relating to the sale

**47. Reduction of capital**

- 47 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account or other undistributable reserve in any manner

**PURCHASE OF OWN SHARES**

**48. Purchase of own shares**

- 48 1 Subject to the Statutes and to any rights conferred on the holders of any class of shares, the Company may purchase all or any of its shares of any class (including any redeemable shares) The Company may not purchase any of its shares unless the purchase has been sanctioned (at the time that authority for a market purchase is given or an off-market purchase contract is approved) by such resolution of the Company as may be required by the Statutes and by a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting (or meetings if there is more than one class) of the holders of any shares which entitle the holders to convert them into equity share capital of the Company
- 48 2 Neither the Company nor the Board shall be required to select the shares to be purchased rateably or in any particular manner as between the holders of shares of the same class or as between them and the holders of shares of any other class or in accordance with the rights as to dividends or capital attached to any class of shares

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **49. Annual general meetings**

- 49 1 Subject to the requirements of the Statutes, annual general meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Board may determine

### **50. Convening a general meeting**

- 50 1 The Board may convene a general meeting whenever it thinks fit and shall do so on requisition in accordance with the Statutes

## **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **51. Length of notice period**

- 51 1 An annual general meeting shall be convened by at least 21 clear days' notice. All other general meetings shall be convened by at least 14 clear days' notice. Notwithstanding that a meeting of the Company is convened by shorter notice than that specified in this Article, it shall be deemed to have been properly convened if it is so agreed

51 1 1 in the case of an annual general meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, and

51 1 2 in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent in nominal value of the shares giving that right

Subject to these Articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, the notice shall be given to all the members, to all persons entitled by transmission and to the Directors and Auditors

### **52. Contents of notices**

- 52 1 Every notice calling a general meeting shall specify the place, the day and the time of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. In the case of an annual general meeting, the notice shall also specify the meeting as such. A notice convening a meeting to pass a special resolution shall contain a statement to that effect. Every notice calling a meeting of the Company shall specify with reasonable prominence that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and vote in his stead and that a proxy need not be a member. Every such notice shall also specify the address or addresses where appointments of proxy are to be deposited, delivered or received insofar as any such address is other than the postal address of the Office

### **53. Omission or non-receipt of notice**

- 53 1 No proceedings at any meeting shall be invalidated by any accidental omission to give notice of the meeting, or to send an instrument of proxy, to any person entitled to receive it or, in the case of notice by electronic communication, to invite any such person to appoint a proxy in that communication, or by reason of any such person not receiving any such notice, instrument or invitation

**54. Change of date, time or place of meeting**

- 54 1 If for any reason the Board considers it impractical or undesirable to hold a meeting on the day, at the time or in the place specified in the notice calling the meeting it can change the date, time and place of the meeting (or whichever it requires), and may do so more than once in relation to the same meeting. References in these Articles to the time of the holding of the meeting shall be construed accordingly. The Board will, insofar as it is practicable, announce by advertisement in at least one newspaper with a national circulation the date, time and place of the meeting as changed, but it shall not be necessary to restate the business of the meeting in that announcement.

**PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

**55. Quorum**

- 55 1 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business, but the absence of a quorum shall not preclude the choice or appointment of a chairman of the meeting, which shall not be treated as part of the business of the meeting. Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, two members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall be a quorum for all purposes.

**56. Procedure if quorum not present**

- 56 1 If within five minutes (or such longer time not exceeding one hour as the chairman of the meeting may decide to wait) after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall (if requisitioned in accordance with the Statutes) be dissolved or (in any other case) stand adjourned to such other day (not being less than ten nor more than 28 days later) and at such time and place as the chairman of the meeting may decide and at such adjourned meeting one member present in person or by proxy (whatever the number of shares held by him) and entitled to vote shall be a quorum.
- 56 2 The Company shall give not less than seven clear days' notice of any meeting adjourned through want of a quorum and the notice shall specify that one member present in person or by proxy (whatever the number of shares held by him) and entitled to vote shall be a quorum.

**57. Chairman of general meeting**

- 57 1 The chairman (if any) of the Board or, in his absence, the deputy chairman (if any) shall preside as chairman at every general meeting. If there is no such chairman or deputy chairman, or if at any meeting neither the chairman nor a deputy chairman is present within five minutes after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, or if neither of them is willing to act as chairman, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act, or if one Director only is present he shall preside as chairman, if willing to act. If no Director is present, or if each of the Directors present declines to take the chair, the persons present and entitled to vote shall elect one of their number to be chairman.
- 57 2 The chairman of the meeting may invite any person to attend and speak at any general meeting of the Company whom he considers to be equipped by knowledge or experience of the Company's business to assist in the deliberations of the meeting.

57 3 The decision of the chairman of the meeting as to points of order, matters of procedure or arising incidentally out of the business of a general meeting shall be conclusive, as shall be his decision, acting in good faith, on whether a point or matter is of this nature

**58. Attendance and speaking at general meetings**

58 1 A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting

58 2 A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when

58 2 1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting, and

58 2 2 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting

58 3 The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it

58 4 Each Director shall be entitled to attend and to speak at any general meeting of the Company and at any separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares or debentures in the Company

**59. Meeting at more than one place and/or in a series of rooms**

59 1 A general meeting or adjourned meeting may be held at more than one place. The notice of meeting will specify the place at which the chairman will be present (the "Principal Place") and a letter accompanying the notice will specify any other place(s) at which the meeting will be held simultaneously (but any failure to do this will not invalidate the notice of meeting)

59 2 A general meeting or adjourned meeting will be held in one room or a series of rooms at the place specified in the notice of meeting or any other place at which the meeting is to be held simultaneously

59 3 If the meeting is held in more than one place and/or in a series of rooms, it will not be validly held unless all persons entitled to attend and speak at the meeting are able

59 3 1 if excluded from the Principal Place or the room in which the chairman is present, to attend at one of the other places or rooms, and

59 3 2 to communicate with one another audio visually throughout the meeting

59 4 The Board may make such arrangements as it thinks fit for simultaneous attendance and participation at the meeting 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



59 5 Where a meeting is held in more than one place and/or a series of rooms, then for the purpose of these Articles the meeting shall consist of all those persons entitled to attend and participate in the meeting who attend at any of the places or rooms

#### **60. Security arrangements**

60 1 The Board may direct that members or proxies wishing to attend any general meeting should submit to such searches or other security arrangements or restrictions as the Board shall consider appropriate in the circumstances and shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to refuse entry to such general meeting to any member or proxy who fails to submit to such searches or to otherwise comply with such security arrangements or restrictions. If a member or proxy has gained entry to a general meeting and refuses to comply with any such security arrangements or restrictions or disrupts the proper and orderly conduct of the general meeting, the chairman of the meeting may at any time without the consent of the general meeting require such member or proxy to leave or be removed from the meeting

#### **61. Adjournments**

61 1 The chairman of the meeting may at any time without the consent of the meeting adjourn any meeting (whether or not it has commenced or a quorum is present) either indefinitely or to such time and place as he may decide if it appears to him that

61 1 1 the members wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place appointed for the meeting,

61 1 2 the conduct of persons present prevents, or is likely to prevent, the orderly continuation of business, or

61 1 3 an adjournment is otherwise necessary so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted

61 2 In addition, the chairman of the meeting may at any time with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting either indefinitely or to such time and place as he may decide. When a meeting is adjourned indefinitely the time and place for the adjourned meeting shall be fixed by the Board

61 3 No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place

#### **62. Notice of adjourned meeting**

62 1 If a meeting is adjourned indefinitely or for 30 days or more or for lack of a quorum, at least seven clear days' notice specifying the place, the day and the time of the adjourned meeting shall be given, but it shall not be necessary to specify in the notice the nature of the business to be transacted at the adjourned meeting. Otherwise, it shall not be necessary to give notice of an adjourned meeting

### **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

**63. Method of voting**

63 1 At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the Statutes, a poll may be demanded by

63 1 1 the chairman of the meeting,

63 1 2 at least five members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the resolution,

63 1 3 any member or members present in person or by proxy and representing in aggregate at least one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to attend and vote on the resolution, or

63 1 4 any member or members present in person or by proxy and holding shares conferring a right to attend and vote on the resolution, being shares 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

63 2 Unless a poll is so demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the chairman of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or not carried by a particular majority or lost and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution

**64. Votes of members**

64 1 Subject to the Statutes, to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares and to any other provisions of these Articles, on a show of hands every member who is present in person shall have one vote and on a poll every member shall have one vote for every share of which he is the holder. If the notice of the meeting has specified a time (which is not more than 48 hours, ignoring any part of a day that is not a working day, 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 and vote at the meeting, no person registered after that time shall be eligible to attend and vote at the meeting by right of that registration, even if present at the meeting. References in these Articles to members present in person shall be construed accordingly

**65. Votes of joint holders**

65 1 In the case of joint holders of a share who are entitled to vote the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders, and seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register

**66. Votes of member suffering incapacity**

66 1 A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any competent court or official on the ground that he is or may be suffering from mental disorder or is otherwise incapable of managing his affairs may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by any person

authorised in such circumstances to do so on his behalf and that person may vote on a poll by proxy. The vote of such member shall not be valid unless evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote is deposited at the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit of appointments of proxy otherwise than by electronic communication, not later than the last time at which an appointment of proxy should have been delivered in order to be valid for use at that meeting or on the holding of that poll.

**67. No right to vote where sums overdue on shares**

67 1 No member shall, unless the Board otherwise decides, vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of holders of any class of shares in the Company, either in person or by proxy, or exercise any other right or privilege as a member in respect of any share in the Company held by him unless all monies presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.

**68. Votes on a poll**

68 1 On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy. A member entitled to vote may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. A member entitled to more than one vote on a poll need not use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.

**69. Right to withdraw demand for a poll**

69 1 The demand for a poll may, before the earlier of the close of the meeting and the taking of the poll, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chairman of the meeting and, if a demand is withdrawn, any other members entitled to demand a poll may do so. If a demand is withdrawn, it 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 chairman of the meeting may give whatever directions he considers necessary to ensure that the business of the meeting proceeds as it would have if the demand had not been made.

**70. Procedure if poll demanded**

70 1 If a poll is duly demanded, it shall be taken in such manner as the chairman of the meeting directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

**71. When poll to be taken**

71 1 A poll demanded on the election of a chairman of the meeting or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either forthwith or on such date (being not more than 30 days after the poll is demanded) and at such time and place and in such manner or by such means as the chairman of the meeting directs. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the

time and place at which the poll is to be taken. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

**72. Continuance of other business after poll demanded**

72 1 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 the poll was demanded.

**73. Suspension of rights for non-disclosure of interest**

73 1 If a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been given a notice under section 793 of the Act (a "Disclosure Notice") and has failed in relation to any shares (the "default shares") to give the Company the information required by such notice within 14 days of the date of such notice, then (unless the Board shall determine otherwise) from the expiry of that period

73 1 1 the member shall not be entitled in respect of the default shares to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll, and

73 1 2 where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent of the issued shares of the Company or the class in question (in either case, calculated exclusive of shares held as treasury shares)

(a) any dividend (including shares issued in lieu of dividends) or other monies payable in respect of the default shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and

(b) no transfer, other than an excepted transfer, of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required and the transfer is of part only of the member's holding and when lodged for registration is accompanied by a certificate from the member in a form satisfactory to the Board that after due and careful enquiry the member is satisfied that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer.

73 2 Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him or from any other person appearing to be interested in such share, the Company gives a Disclosure Notice to any other person, it shall also send a copy of the notice to that member, but any failure to do so, or the non-receipt of the copy by the member, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the operation of this Article.

73 3 Any new shares in the Company issued in right of any default share shall also be subject to the restrictions in this Article, and the Board may make any right to an allotment of the new shares subject to such restrictions when those shares are issued.

73 4 Where any restrictions imposed under this Article apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect if and when, and to the extent that, the Board so determines, except that particular shares shall in any event automatically cease to be subject to any such restrictions seven days after the earlier of (a) receipt by the Board of notice that such shares

are the subject of an excepted transfer and (b) due compliance, to the satisfaction of the Board, with the relevant Disclosure Notice. If any or all of the restrictions in this Article shall cease to apply to particular shares, any dividends and other monies withheld by reason of a restriction which then ceases to apply shall be paid without interest to the person who would have been entitled to them if that restriction had not applied, or as he may direct.

73 5 This Article is in addition to, and shall not in any way prejudice or affect, the statutory rights of the Company arising from any failure by any person to give any information required by a Disclosure Notice within the time specified in it. For the purpose of this Article, a Disclosure Notice may require any information to be given before the expiry of 14 days from the date of the notice.

73 6 In this Article

73 6 1 an “excepted transfer” means

- (a) a transfer pursuant to acceptance of a takeover bid,
- (b) a transfer in consequence of a sale of the entire interest in the shares the subject of the transfer on a recognised investment exchange or on any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which shares in the Company of that description are normally traded, or
- (c) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a sale of such an entire interest otherwise than on any such stock exchange to a person who is not connected (within the meaning of section 346 of the Act) with the relevant member or with a person appearing to be interested in the shares the subject of the transfer,

73 6 2 a “person appearing to be interested” in any shares means any person named in a response to a Disclosure Notice as being so interested or shown in any register kept by the Company under the Act as so interested or, taking into account any response or failure to respond to such notice or to any other statutory notice or any other relevant information, any person whom the Company has reasonable cause to believe is so interested, and

73 6 3 references to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a Disclosure Notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, include (without limitation) (i) references to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it and (ii) references to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or his having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular.

73 7 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Article, no restriction shall apply by virtue of this Article to the extent that applying the restriction would contravene the Regulations.

**74. Chairman's casting vote**

- 74 1 In the case of an equality of votes at a general meeting, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairman of the meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have

**75 Proposal or amendment of resolution**

- 75 1 A resolution proposed by the chairman of the meeting does not need to be seconded In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment to that resolution (other than an amendment to correct an obvious error) may be considered or voted upon In the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution, no amendment to that resolution (other than an amendment to correct an obvious error) may be considered or voted upon unless at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed, notice of the terms of the amendment and of the intention to move the amendment has been (i) lodged in writing at the Office or (ii) received by electronic communication at the address specified for the purpose of receiving electronic communications in an electronic communication containing the notice of meeting, or the chairman of the meeting in his absolute discretion decides in good faith that it may be considered and voted upon

**76. Amendment of resolution ruled out of order**

- 76 1 If an amendment is proposed to any resolution under consideration which the chairman of the meeting rules out of order, the proceedings on the substantive resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling

**77. Objections or errors in voting**

- 77 1 If

77 1 1 any objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter,

77 1 2 any votes have been counted which ought not to have been counted or which might have been rejected, or

77 1 3 any votes are not counted which ought to have been counted

the objection or error shall not vitiate the decision of the meeting or adjourned meeting on any resolution unless it is raised or pointed out at the meeting or, as the case may be, the adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs Any objection or error shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the chairman of the meeting decides that the same may have affected the decision of the meeting The decision of the chairman of the meeting on such matters shall be conclusive

**PROXIES**

**78. Execution of an appointment of proxy**

- 78 1 If the appointment of a proxy is

- 78 1 1 an instrument not contained in an electronic communication, it shall be executed under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney authorised in writing or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under its seal or under the hand of an officer, attorney or other person authorised to sign it,
- 78 1 2 contained in an electronic communication, it shall be executed by or on behalf of the appointor
- 78 2 Subject as provided in this Article, in the case of an appointment of proxy purporting to be executed on behalf of a corporation by an officer of that corporation it shall be assumed, unless the contrary is shown, that such officer was duly authorised to do so on behalf of that corporation without further evidence of that authorisation
- 78 3 The Board may (but need not) allow proxies to be appointed by means of electronic communication, and if it does it may make such appointments subject to such stipulations, conditions or restrictions, and require such evidence of valid execution, as the Board thinks fit
- 78 4 A proxy need not be a member of the Company
- 79. Times for deposit of an appointment of proxy**
- 79 1 The appointment of a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Board, shall
- 79 1 1 in the case of an instrument not contained in an electronic communication, be deposited at the Office (or at such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified for the purpose in the notice convening the meeting or in the instrument) not less than 48 hours, ignoring any part of a day that is not a working day, before the time of the holding of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote, or
- 79 1 2 in the case of an appointment contained in an electronic communication, where an address has been specified for the purpose of receiving electronic communications
- (a) in the notice convening the meeting, or
  - (b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting, or
  - (c) in any invitation contained in an electronic communication to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting,
- be received at such address (or, where the thing in question is not contained in an electronic communication, at the Office or at such other place as may be specified for the purpose) not less than 48 hours, ignoring any part of a day that is not a working day, before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote,

79 1 3 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, or

79 1 4 where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chairman of the meeting or to any Director,

and an appointment of proxy which is not deposited, delivered or received in a manner so permitted shall be invalid

79 2 When two or more valid but differing appointments of proxy are deposited, delivered or received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting, the one which is last deposited, delivered or received (regardless of its date or of the date of execution) shall be treated as replacing the others as regards that share, if the Company is unable to determine which was last deposited, delivered or received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share. The deposit, delivery or receipt of an appointment of a proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting or poll concerned

## **80. Form of appointment of proxy**

80 1 The appointment of a proxy shall be in any usual form or any other form which the Board may approve and may relate to more than one meeting. The Board may, if it thinks fit but subject to the Statutes, include with the notice of any meeting forms of appointment of proxy for use at the meeting

80 2 Appointments of proxies may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions, but the Company shall not be obliged to ascertain that any proxy has complied with those or any other instructions given by the appointor and no decision on any resolution shall be vitiated by reason only that any proxy has not done so

80 3 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 him. The appointment of a proxy shall be deemed to include

80 3 1 all the relevant member's rights to attend and speak at the meeting and vote in respect of the share or shares concerned (but so that each proxy appointed by that member may vote on a show of hands notwithstanding that the member would only have had one vote if voting in person, and may demand or join in demanding a poll as if the proxy held the share or shares concerned), and

80 3 2 the right (except to the extent that the appointment comprises instructions to vote in a particular way) to vote or abstain as the proxy thinks fit on any business properly dealt with at the meeting, including a vote on any amendment of a resolution put to the meeting or on any motion to adjourn

80 4 On a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting, every proxy present who has been duly appointed by one or more members entitled to vote on the resolution has one



vote, except that if the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and

80 4 1 has been instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and by one or more other of those members to vote against it, or

80 4 2 has been instructed to vote the same way (either for or against) on the resolution by all of those members except those who have given the proxy discretion as to how to vote on the resolution

the proxy is entitled to one vote for and one vote against the resolution

80 5 The appointment shall, unless the contrary is stated in it, be as valid for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates (regardless of any change of date, time or place effected in accordance with these Articles)

## **81. Validity of proxy**

81 1 Subject to the Statutes, a vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be valid, notwithstanding the previous determination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll unless notice of such determination was received by the Company at the Office (or at such other place at which the appointment of proxy was duly deposited or, where the appointment of the proxy was contained in an electronic communication, at the address at which such appointment was duly received) not later than the last time at which an appointment of proxy should have been deposited, delivered or received in order to be valid for use at the meeting or on the holding of the poll at which the vote was given or the poll demanded

## **82. Maximum validity of proxy**

82 1 A valid appointment of proxy shall cease to be valid after the expiration of 12 months from the date of its execution except that it will remain valid after that for the purposes of a poll or an adjourned meeting if the meeting at which the poll was demanded or the adjournment moved was held within the 12 month period

# **DIRECTORS**

## **83. Number of Directors**

83 1 Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution of the Company, the number of Directors (disregarding alternate directors) shall not be less than two but shall not be subject to any maximum number

## **84. No shareholding qualification for Directors**

84 1 No shareholding qualification for Directors shall be required

## REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

### 85. Ordinary remuneration

- 85 1 Each of 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 a fee for his services at such rate as may from time to time be determined by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board provided that the aggregate of such fees (excluding any amounts payable under any other provision of these Articles) shall not exceed £150,000 per annum or such higher amount as the Company by ordinary resolution may determine from time to time. Such fee shall be deemed to accrue from day to day.]

### 86 Expenses

- 86 1 The Directors may be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in the conduct of the Company's business performing their duties as Directors including all such expenses incurred in connection with attending and returning from meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company or otherwise in connection with the business of the Company.

### 87. Extra remuneration

- 87 1 Any Director who is appointed to any executive office or who serves on any committee or who devotes special attention to the business of the Company or goes or resides abroad for any purposes of the Company shall receive such remuneration or extra remuneration by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise as the Board or any committee authorised by the Board may determine in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration paid to, or provided for, such Director by or pursuant to any other of these Articles.

## ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

### 88. Appointment, removal and resignation

- 88 1 Any Director (other than an alternate Director) may appoint any person to be his alternate and may revoke any such appointment, in either case by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary at the Office or delivered in any other manner (including by electronic communication) approved by the Board. If the alternate Director is not already a Director, the appointment, unless previously approved by the Board, shall have effect only upon and subject to its being so approved. Any appointment of an alternate will only have effect once the person who is to be appointed has consented to act.
- 88 2 If his appointor so requests, an alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address for service within the United Kingdom) be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the Board or of committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote and be counted in the quorum as a Director at any such meeting at which his appointor is not personally present, and generally, in the absence of his appointor, at the meeting to exercise and discharge all the functions, powers and duties of his appointor as a Director and for the purposes of the proceedings at the meeting, these Articles shall apply as if he were a Director. A Director present at a meeting of the

Board or committee of the Board and appointed alternate for another Director shall have an additional vote for each of his appointors absent from such meeting (but shall count as one only for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present)

- 88 3 Execution by an alternate Director of any document (including, without limitation, any deed) on behalf of the Company or any resolution in writing of the Board or a committee of the Board shall, unless the notice of his appointment provides to the contrary, be as effective as execution by his appointor
- 88 4 An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director if he resigns or if for any reason his appointment is revoked or if his appointor ceases to be a Director, but, if a Director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate Director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment as if he had not retired. The appointment of an alternate Director shall be revoked on the happening of any event that, if he were a Director, would cause him to vacate such office under these Articles
89. **Alternate to be responsible for his own acts and remuneration of alternate**
- 89 1 An alternate Director shall be deemed an officer of the Company and shall be subject to these Articles relating to Directors (except as regards power to appoint an alternate and remuneration) and an alternate Director shall not be deemed the agent of his appointor and shall alone be responsible to the Company for his acts and defaults. An alternate Director may contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements or transactions and be paid expenses and indemnified to the same extent as if he were a Director but, save to the extent that his appointor directs the payment to him of part or all of the remuneration which would otherwise be payable to his appointor, he shall not be entitled to any remuneration from the Company for acting in that capacity

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

### **90. Executive Directors**

- 90 1 The Board or any committee authorised by the Board may from time to time appoint one or more of its body to hold any employment or executive office with the Company for such period (subject to the Statutes) and on such other terms as the Board or any committee authorised by the Board may decide and may revoke or terminate any appointment so made. Any revocation or termination of the appointment shall be without prejudice to any claim for damages that the Director may have against the Company or that the Company may have against the Director for any breach of any contract of service between him and the Company. A Director so appointed may be paid such remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) in such manner as the Board or any committee authorised by the Board may decide
- 90 2 The Board may from time to time appoint any person to any office or employment having a descriptive designation or title including the word "director" or attach to any existing office or employment with the Company such a designation or title and may at any time determine any such appointment or the use of any such designation or title. The inclusion of the word "director" in the designation or title of any such office or employment with the Company shall not imply that the holder of the office is a director of the Company nor

shall such holder thereby be empowered in any respect to act as a director of the Company or be deemed to be a director for any of the purposes of the Statutes or these Articles

## **POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

### **91. General powers of the Company vested in the Board**

- 91 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Memorandum of Association of the Company and these Articles and to any directions given by the Company in general meeting by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board which may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of the Memorandum of Association or the Company's articles (including these Articles) and no such special resolution shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that resolution had not been passed
- 91 2 The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Board by any other Article

## **DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS**

### **92. Agents**

- 92 1 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) and subject to such conditions 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 so appointed and may revoke or vary the delegation but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it
- 92 2 The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by committee authorised by the Board

### **93. Delegation to individual Directors**

- 93 1 The Board may entrust to and confer upon a Director any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) upon such terms (subject to the Statutes) and subject to such conditions and with such restrictions as it may decide and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers, authorities and discretions. The Board may from time to time revoke or vary all or any of them but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it
- 93 2 The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board

**94. Delegation to committees**

- 94 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 as it thinks fit (whether a member or members of its body or not) provided that the majority of the members of the committee are Directors. Subject to any restriction on sub-delegation imposed by the Board, any committee so formed may exercise its power to sub-delegate by sub-delegating to any person or persons (whether or not a member or members of the Board or of the committee). Subject to any regulations imposed on it by the Board, the proceedings of any committee consisting of two or more members shall be governed by the provisions in these Articles for regulating proceedings of the Board so far as applicable except that no meeting of that committee shall be quorate for the purpose of exercising any of its powers, authorities or discretions unless a majority of the committee present at the meeting are Directors. A member of a committee shall be paid such remuneration (if any) in such manner as the Board may decide, and, in the case of a Director, either in addition to or in place of his ordinary remuneration as a Director.
- 94 2 The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board.

**95. Power to establish local boards etc**

- 95 1 The Board may
- 95 1 1 establish any divisional, departmental, regional, local or area boards, divisions or managing agencies for introducing, conducting or managing all or any of the business or affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere,
  - 95 1 2 make regulations for the proceedings and activities of any such establishment (but so that otherwise its proceedings shall be governed by those of these Articles which regulate proceedings of the Board to the extent that they are capable of applying to it),
  - 95 1 3 appoint any persons (whether Directors or not) as regional directors, local directors, divisional directors, area directors, advisory directors, managers or agents or to serve in any other capacity in connection with any such establishment, and may fix their remuneration,
  - 95 1 4 delegate to any such establishment and to any such appointee (including anyone appointed before this Article was adopted) any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in the Board, with power to sub-delegate,
  - 95 1 5 authorise any such appointees to fill any vacancies in any such establishment and to act notwithstanding vacancies,

provided that any such appointment or delegation shall be made upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may think fit, and the Board may remove any persons so appointed, and may revoke, suspend or vary any such delegation but this shall

not affect the position of any person dealing in good faith who has not had notice that the Board has done so. No such appointee shall be a Director as such or be entitled to be present at any meeting of the Board (except at the request of the Board and, if present at such request, he shall not be entitled to vote at that meeting) or have power under the terms of this Article to enter into any contract or transact any business on behalf of the Company except to the extent (if any) specifically authorised by the Board.

## **SPECIFIC POWERS**

### **96. Provision for employees**

- 96 1 The Board may exercise any power conferred by the Statutes to make provision for the benefit of 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 or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

### **97. Borrowing Powers**

- 97 1 The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present and future) and uncalled capital of the Company and, subject to the Statutes, 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.

- 97 2 The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary undertakings (if any) so as to secure (but as regards subsidiary undertakings only in so far as by the exercise of such rights or powers of control the Board can secure) that the aggregate principal amount from time to time outstanding of all borrowings by the Group (exclusive of borrowings owing by one member of the Group to another member of the Group) shall not at any time without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed an amount equal to 4 (four) times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves.

- 97 3 For the purposes of this Article

97 3 1 “the Adjusted Capital and Reserves” means the aggregate of the Company’s total equity or shareholders’ funds comprising all its share capital and consolidated reserves being made up of the amount paid up on the issued share capital of the Company and the amounts standing to the credit of the capital and revenue reserves of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings as shown by the then latest audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group prepared for the purposes of the Statutes but after

- (a) making such adjustments as may be appropriate to reflect any variation in the amount of the paid up share capital or reserves since the date of the relevant audited balance sheet and any variation in the amounts attributable to the interest of the Company in the share capital of any subsidiary undertaking,
- (b) making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any distribution declared, recommended or made by any member of the

Group (otherwise than to a member of the Group) out of profits earned up to and including the date of the audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group to the extent that such distribution is not provided for in that balance sheet, and

- (c) making such other (if any) adjustments as the Auditors after consultation with the Board may consider appropriate

97 3 2 “the Group” means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings (if any) other than those subsidiary undertakings authorised or required to be excluded from consolidation in the Company’s group accounts pursuant to section 229 of the Act

97 4 In calculating borrowings under this Article there shall be credited (subject, in the case of any item held or deposited by a partly owned subsidiary undertaking, to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the proportion of the issued equity share capital of the partly owned subsidiary undertaking which is not attributable to the Company or any subsidiary undertaking of the Company) against the amount of any monies borrowed the aggregate of

- (i) cash in hand of the Group, and
- (ii) cash deposits and the balance on each current account of the Group with banks in the United Kingdom and/or elsewhere if the remittance of the cash to the United Kingdom is not prohibited by any law, regulation, treaty or official directive, and
- (iii) the amount of all assets (“short term assets”) as might be included in “Investments - short term loans and deposits” in a consolidated balance sheet of the Group prepared as at the date of the relevant calculation in accordance with the principles with which the then latest audited balance sheet was produced, and
- (iv) the amount of any cash or short term assets securing the repayment by the Group of any amount borrowed by the Group deposited or otherwise placed with the trustee or similar entity in respect of the relevant borrowing

97 5 The report of the Auditors as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves or borrowings or that the limit imposed by this Article has not been or will not in any particular circumstances be exceeded shall be conclusive and binding on all concerned. Nevertheless the Board may act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves at any time and if in consequence the limit contained in this Article is inadvertently exceeded an amount of borrowings equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiration of three months after the date on which by reason of a report of the Auditors or otherwise the Board became aware that such a situation has or may have arisen

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

### **98. Number to retire by rotation**

1041 Any Director not otherwise required to retire from office at an annual general meeting shall do so unless he was appointed or re-appointed as a Director at either of the last two annual general meetings before that meeting

98 1 At every annual general meeting one-third of the Directors (not counting any to be omitted in accordance with these Articles) shall retire from office, having been determined (both as to number and identity) by the composition of the Board at start of business on the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting. If the number of Directors from which the determination is to be made is not three or a multiple of three, the number to retire shall be that which is nearest to but not greater than one-third (unless their number is fewer than three, in which case one of them shall retire). Those to retire shall comprise first, any Director who wishes to retire and not to offer himself for re-election, and secondly, those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment (but as between persons who became or were last reappointed Directors on the same day, those to retire shall be determined by lot or as the Directors concerned may agree among themselves). No Director shall be required to retire or be relieved from retiring by reason of any change in the number or identity of the Directors after that time on the date of the notice but before the close of the meeting.]

### **99. Position of Retiring Director**

99 1 Subject to these Articles, the Company at the meeting at which a Director retires may fill the vacated office and, in default, the retiring Director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been reappointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution for the reappointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost. If he is not reappointed or deemed to be reappointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

### **100. Eligibility for appointment as a Director**

100 1 No person other than a Director retiring, whether by rotation or otherwise, shall be appointed or reappointed a Director at any general meeting unless

100 1 1 he is recommended by the Board, or

100 1 2 not less than seven nor more than 42 clear days before the day appointed for the meeting, notice executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting (not being the person to be proposed) has been delivered to the Office (or received by electronic communication at the address specified for the purpose of receiving electronic communications in an electronic communication containing the notice of meeting) of the intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of Directors together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or reappointed.



**101. Power of the Company to appoint Directors**

- 101 1 Subject to these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint any person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy on or as an addition to the existing Board, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles. A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall be void unless a resolution that it shall be so proposed has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it.

**102. Power of the Board to appoint Directors**

- 102 1 Without prejudice to the power of the Company in general meeting under these Articles to appoint any person to be a Director, the Board may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting [and shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors or the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at the meeting]. If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, he shall vacate office at the conclusion of the meeting.

**103. Company's power to remove a Director and appoint another in his place**

- 103 1 In addition to any power conferred by the Statutes, the Company may by an ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office and may, subject to these Articles, by ordinary resolution appoint another person who is willing to act to be a Director in his place. Any person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other Director is to retire, as if he had become a Director on the day on which the person in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or reappointed a Director.

**104. Vacation of office by Directors**

- 104 1 Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement by rotation or otherwise contained in these Articles, the office of a Director shall be vacated if
- 104 1 1 he resigns his office by notice delivered to the Office or tendered at a meeting of the Board,
  - 104 1 2 he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally,
  - 104 1 3 he is or has been suffering from mental ill health or becomes a patient for any purpose of any statute relating to mental health and the Board resolves that his office is vacated,
  - 104 1 4 without the permission of the Board, he is absent from meetings of the Board for six consecutive months (whether or not an alternate appointed by him attends) and the Board resolves that his office is vacated,

- 104 1 5 he ceases to be a Director by virtue of the Statutes or is prohibited by law from being a Director or is removed from office under these Articles,
- 104 1 6 his resignation is requested by all other Directors (provided those Directors are not less than three in number) by notice delivered to the Office or tendered at a meeting of the Board and, for this purpose, like notices each signed by a Director shall be as effective as a single notice signed by all the Directors, or
- 104 1 7 his contract of service as a Director expires or is terminated without being renewed within 14 days

**105. Director not to retire on account of age**

- 105 1 No person shall be disqualified from being appointed a Director, and no Director shall be required to vacate that office, by reason only of the fact that he has attained the age of 70 years or any other age nor shall it be necessary by reason of his age to give special notice under the Statutes of any resolution

### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

**106. Contracts between a Director and the Company or a company in which the Company is interested**

- 106 1 A Director who, to his knowledge, is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in a contract with the Company shall declare the nature of his interest at the meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into the contract is first taken into consideration if he knows his interest then exists or, in any other case, at the first meeting of the Board after he knows that he is or has become so interested A general notice to the Board by a Director to the effect that
  - 106 1 1 he is a member of a specified company or firm and is to be regarded as interested in any contract which may after the date of the notice be made with that company or firm, or
  - 106 1 2 he is to be regarded as interested in any contract which may after the date of the notice be made with a specified person who is connected with him,
 shall be deemed to be a sufficient declaration of interest under this Article in relation to any such contract
- 106 2 For the purposes of this Article 106, a general notice given to the Board that a Director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any contract in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the Director has an interest in any such contract of the nature and extent so specified, and an interest of which a Director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as his interest
- 106 3 Subject to the Statutes, and provided that a Director has disclosed to the Board the nature and extent of his material interest, that Director notwithstanding his office
  - 106 3 1 may hold any other office or place of profit with the Company (except that of Auditor) in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or

through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company (otherwise than as Auditor) and in either such case on such terms as to remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) and otherwise as the Board may determine, any such remuneration shall be either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for, by or pursuant to any other Article,

- 106 3 2 may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any contract with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested,
- 106 3 3 may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any contract with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested or as regards which the Company has any powers of appointment,
- 106 3 4 shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any remuneration or benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such contract or from any interest in such body corporate and no such office, employment or contract shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit, or
- 106 3 5 any indemnity permitted by these Articles (whether in favour of the Director or others as well) against any costs, charges, expenses, losses and liabilities sustained or incurred by him as a director of the Company or of any of its subsidiary undertakings, or any proposal to provide funds to meet any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending himself in any criminal or civil proceeding in connection with any alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him in relation to the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings, or any investigation, or action proposed to be taken, by a regulatory authority in that connection, or for the purposes of any application for relief under the Act, or in order to enable him to avoid incurring such expenditure
- 106 4 The Board may cause any voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company or any power of appointment to be exercised in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit, including the exercise of either of such powers in favour of a resolution appointing the Directors, or any of them, to be directors or officers of the other company, or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors or officers of the other company
- 106 5 Save as otherwise provided by these Articles, a Director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board concerning any matter in which he has to his knowledge, directly or indirectly, an interest (other than his interest in shares or debentures or other securities of, or otherwise in or through, the Company) or duty which (together with any interest of a person connected with him) is material and, if he shall do so, his vote shall not be counted. A Director shall be entitled to vote on and be counted in the quorum in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters
- 106 5 1 the giving to him of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him or by any other person at the request of or for the benefit of, the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings,

- 106 5 2 the giving by the Company of any guarantee, security or indemnity to a third party in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part and whether alone or jointly with others under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security,
- 106 5 3 his subscribing or agreeing to subscribe for, or purchasing or agreeing to purchase, any shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings as a holder of securities, or his being, or intending to become, a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of an offer of any such shares, debentures, or other securities by the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for subscription, purchase or exchange,
- 106 5 4 any contract concerning any company (not being a company in which the Director owns one per cent or more (as defined in this Article)) in which he is interested, directly or indirectly, and whether as an officer, shareholder, creditor or otherwise,
- 106 5 5 any arrangement for the benefit of employees of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings under which he benefits in a similar manner as the employees and which does not accord to any Director as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to whom the arrangement relates, and
- 106 5 6 any contract concerning any insurance which the Company is empowered to purchase or maintain for, or for the benefit of, any Directors or for persons who include Directors
- 106 6 A Director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Board concerning his own appointment, or the settlement or variation of the terms or the termination of his own appointment, as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested but, where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment, or the settlement or variation of the terms or the termination of the appointment, of two or more Directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, a separate resolution may be put in relation to each Director and in that case each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote on and be counted in the quorum in relation to each resolution which does not concern either (a) his own appointment or the settlement or variation of the terms or the termination of his own appointment, or (b) the appointment of another Director to an office or place of profit with a company in which the Company is interested and in which the Director seeking to vote or be counted in the quorum is interested by virtue of owning of one per cent or more (as defined in this Article)
- 106 7 A company shall be deemed to be a company in which a Director owns one per cent or more if and so long as he 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 he 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

- 106 8 Where a company in which a Director owns one per cent or more is materially interested in a contract, he shall also be deemed to be materially interested in that contract
- 106 9 For the purposes of this Article, an interest of a person who is, for any purpose of the Statutes (excluding any statutory modification thereof not in force when this Article becomes binding on the Company), connected with a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director and, in relation to an alternate director, an interest of his appointor shall be treated as an interest of the alternate director without prejudice to any interest which the alternate director has otherwise
- 106 10 References in this Article to a contract include references to any proposed contract and to any transaction or arrangement whether or not constituting a contract
- 106 11 If any question shall arise at any meeting of the Board as to the materiality of the interest of a Director (other than the chairman of the meeting) or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than the chairman of the meeting) to vote or be counted in the quorum and the question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or not to be counted in the quorum, the question shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of his interest (so far as it is known to the Director) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board If any question shall arise in respect of the chairman of the meeting, the question shall be decided by resolution of the Board (for which purpose the chairman shall be counted in the quorum but shall not vote on the matter) and the resolution shall be conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the chairman of the meeting (so far as it is known to him) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board
- 106 12 Subject to the Statutes and the Listing Rules (as they may be amended from time to time) of the UK Listing Authority, the Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of this Article to any extent or ratify any contract not properly authorised by reason of a contravention of this Article
- 106 13 Any Director may be authorised by the Board in relation to any matter that would otherwise involve that Director breaching his duty under the Companies Act 2006 to avoid conflicts of interest, and any Director (including the Director concerned) may propose that such authorisation be given provided that
- 106 13 1 such proposal and any authority given by the Board shall be effected in the same way that any other matter may be proposed to and resolved upon by the Board under the provisions of the Articles, except that the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest
- (a) shall not count towards the quorum at the meeting at which the conflict is considered,
  - (b) may, if the other members of the Board so decide, be excluded from any Board meeting while the conflict is under consideration, and
  - (c) shall not vote on any resolution authorising the conflict except that, if he does vote, the resolution will still be valid if it would have been agreed to if his vote had not been counted,

106 13 2 where the Board gives authority in relation to such a conflict

- (a) the Board may (whether at the time of giving the authority or at any time or times subsequently) impose such terms upon the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest as it may determine, including, without limitation, the exclusion of that Director and any other Director with a similar interest from the receipt of information, or participation in discussion (whether at meetings of the Board or otherwise) related to the conflict,
- (b) the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest will be obliged to conduct himself in accordance with any terms imposed by the Board from time to time in relation to the conflict,
- (c) any authority given by the Board in relation to a conflict may also provide that where the Director concerned and any other Director with a similar interest obtains information that is confidential to a third party, the Director will not be obliged to disclose that information to the Company, or to use the information in relation to the Company's affairs, where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence,
- (d) the terms of the authority shall be recorded in writing (but the authority shall be effective whether or not the terms are so recorded), and
- (e) the Board may withdraw such authority at any time

## **DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS**

### **107. Directors' gratuities and pensions**

- 107 1 The Board or any committee authorised by the Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities, pensions, annuities, allowances, bonuses or by insurance or otherwise, for any Director or former Director who holds or who has held but no longer holds any executive office, other office, place of profit or employment with the Company or with any body corporate which is or has been a subsidiary undertaking of the Company or a predecessor in business of the Company or of any such subsidiary undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse and a former spouse) or any person who is or was dependent on him, and may (as well before as after he ceases to hold such office, place of profit or employment) establish, maintain, support, subscribe to and contribute to any scheme, trust or fund for the benefit of all or any such persons and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefits. The Board or any committee authorised by the Board may procure any of these matters to be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person.
- 107 2 No Director or former Director shall be accountable to the Company or the members for any benefit provided pursuant to this Article and the receipt of any such benefit shall not disqualify any person from being or becoming a Director.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

### 108. Board meetings

- 108 1 The Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, convene a meeting of the Board.

### 109. Notice of Board meetings

- 109 1 Notice of a Board meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing or by electronic communication to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for this purpose. A Director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may request the Board that notices of Board meetings shall during his absence be sent to him at an address given by him 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 before or after the meeting.

### 110. Voting

- 110 1 Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

### 111. Quorum

- 111 1 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 provided that, for the purposes of any meeting held pursuant to Article 106 13 to authorise a Director's conflict, if there is only one Director besides the Director concerned and Directors with a similar interest, the quorum shall be one.
- 111 2 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 termination of the Board meeting if no other Director objects and if otherwise a quorum of Directors would not be present.

### 112. Board vacancies below minimum number

- 112 1 The continuing Directors or a sole continuing Director may act notwithstanding any vacancies on the Board, but, if the number of Directors is less than the minimum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles, the continuing Directors or Director may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies on the Board or of convening a general meeting of the Company. If there are no Directors or Director able or willing to act, any two members may call a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of appointing Directors.

**113. Appointment of chairman**

- 113 1 The Board may appoint a Director to be the chairman of the Board and may at any time remove him from that office. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the Director so appointed shall preside at every meeting of the Board at which he is present. But if there is no Director holding that office, or if the Director holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

**114. Competence of the Board**

- 114 1 A meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers, authorities and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Board.

**115. Participation in meetings by telephone**

- 115 1 All or any of the members of the Board or of any committee of the Board may participate in a meeting of the Board or that committee by means of a conference telephone or any communication equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear and speak to each other. A person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall be entitled to vote or be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting is and shall be deemed to be a meeting even if there is only one person physically present where it is deemed to take place.

**116. Written resolutions**

- 116 1 A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Board (if that number is sufficient to constitute a quorum) or by all the members of a committee of the Board (but excluding any Director whose vote is not to be counted in respect of that particular matter) shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board or that committee duly convened and held and may be contained in one document (or in several documents in all substantial respects in like form) each signed by one or more of the Directors or members of that committee. Any such document may be constituted by letter or (provided it is in writing) by electronic communication or otherwise as the Board may from time to time approve.

**117. Company books**

- 117 1 The Board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of recording
- 117 1 1 all appointments of officers made by the Board,
- 117 1 2 all proceedings at meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company and of the Board and of committees of the Board, including the names of the Directors or members of a committee of the Board present at each such meeting.
- 117 2 Subject to the Statutes, any such minutes if purporting to be signed by the chairman of the meeting at which the appointments were made or proceedings held or by the chairman of



the next succeeding meeting, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts therein stated without any further proof

**118. Validity of acts of the Board or a committee**

- 118 1 All acts done by the Board or by a committee of the Board, or by a person acting as a Director or member of a committee of the Board shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any Director, member of a committee of the Board, or person acting as a Director, or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if each such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a Director or member of the committee and had been entitled to vote

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

**119. Appointment and removal of Company Secretary**

- 119 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board at such remuneration and upon such terms as it thinks fit. If thought fit, two or more persons may be appointed as joint Secretaries with the power to act jointly and severally. Any Secretary so appointed may be removed by the Board.
- 119 2 The Board may from time to time appoint an assistant or deputy 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.

**THE SEAL**

**120. Use of seal**

- 120 1 The Seal shall only be used by the authority of the Board or of a committee authorised by the Board in that behalf. The Board or any such committee may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the Seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by one Director and the Secretary or by two Directors, and any instrument to which an official seal is applied need not, unless the Board for the time being otherwise decides or the law otherwise requires, be signed by any person.

**121. Execution as a deed without sealing**

- 121 1 Where the Statutes so permit, any instrument signed by one Director and the Secretary or by two Directors and expressed to be executed by the Company shall have the same effect as if executed under the Seal, provided that no instrument shall be so signed which makes it clear on its face that it is intended by the person or persons making it to have effect as a deed without the authority of the Board or of a committee authorised by the Board in that behalf.

**122. Official seal**

- 122 1 The Company may exercise the powers conferred by the Statutes with regard to having an official seal for use abroad, and such powers shall be vested in the Board

**DIVIDENDS**

**123. Company may declare dividends**

- 123 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board. Subject to the Statutes, any determination by the Board of the amount of profits at any time available for distribution shall be conclusive

**124. Board may pay interim dividends and fixed dividends**

- 124 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Board may pay interim dividends if it appears to the Board that they are justified by the financial position of the Company. If the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes, the Board may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights to dividends as well as on shares which confer preferential or special rights to dividends, but no interim dividend shall be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrears. The Board may also pay at intervals settled by it any dividend payable at a fixed date if it appears to the Board that the financial position of the Company justifies the payment. If the Board acts in good faith, it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss which they may suffer by reason of the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights

**125. Calculation and currency of dividends**

- 125 1 Except in so far as the rights attaching to any share otherwise provide, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid, but (for the purposes of this Article only) no amount paid up on a share in advance of calls shall be treated as paid up on the share. All dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid, but, if any share is issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, that share shall rank for dividend accordingly
- 125 2 Dividends may be declared or paid in any currency and 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 his 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

**126. Waiver of dividends**

- 126 1 The waiver in whole or in part of any dividend on any share by any document (whether or not under seal) shall be effective only if such document is signed by the relevant member

(or the person becoming entitled by transmission to the share) and delivered to the Company and if or to the extent that it is accepted as such or acted upon by the Company

**127. Non-cash dividends**

- 127 1 A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the Board, by ordinary resolution direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets and, in particular, of paid-up shares or debentures of any other company and, where any difficulty arises concerning such distribution, the Board may settle it as the Board thinks expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates or, subject to the Statutes and, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, the system's rules, authorise and instruct any person to sell and transfer any fractions or may ignore fractions altogether, and may fix the value for distribution of any assets and may determine that cash shall be paid to any member upon the basis of the value so fixed in order to secure equality of distribution and may vest any assets to be distributed in trustees as the Board may consider expedient

**128. Scrip dividends**

- 128 1 Subject to the Statutes, the Board may, if authorised by an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer the holders of ordinary shares (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Board may consider necessary or expedient in relation to any legal or practical problems under the laws of any overseas territory or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange) the right to elect to receive new ordinary shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash for all or part (as determined by the Board) of the dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply
- 128 1 1 an ordinary resolution may specify a particular dividend or dividends (whether or not already declared), or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period, but such period may not end later than the fifth anniversary of the date of the meeting at which the ordinary resolution is passed,
- 128 1 2 the basis of allotment to each entitled holder of ordinary shares shall be such number of new ordinary shares credited as fully paid as have a value as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the amount of the dividend (disregarding any tax credit) which he has elected to forego. For this purpose, the "value" of an ordinary share shall be deemed to be whichever is the greater of its nominal value and the average of the middle market quotations for the Company's ordinary shares on the London Stock Exchange as derived from the Daily Official List on the day on which the shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days or in such other manner as may be determined by or in accordance with the ordinary resolution. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount,
- 128 1 3 no fraction of an ordinary share shall be allotted and if any holder of ordinary shares would otherwise be entitled to fractions of a share, the Board may deal with the fractions as it thinks fit,

- 128 1 4 the Board shall not proceed with any election unless the Company has sufficient reserves or funds which may be capitalised to give effect to the election following the Board's determination of the basis of allotment,
- 128 1 5 on or as soon as practicable after announcing that the Board is to declare or recommend any dividend, the Board, if it intends to offer an election for that dividend, shall also announce that intention and having determined the basis of allotment, shall notify the entitled holders of ordinary shares (other than any in relation to whom an election mandate in accordance with this Article is subsisting) of the right of election offered to them, and shall send with, or following, such notification, forms of election and shall specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest date and time by which, duly completed forms of election must be received in order to be effective,
- 128 1 6 the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on ordinary shares in respect of which an election has been duly made (the "elected shares") and instead additional ordinary shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected shares on the basis of allotment so determined. For such purpose, the Board shall capitalise, out of any amount standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including the profit and loss account), whether or not the same is available for distribution, as the Board may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional ordinary shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of ordinary shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the elected shares on that basis,
- 128 1 7 the additional ordinary shares so allotted shall be allotted as of the record date for the dividend for which the right of election has been offered and shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the fully paid ordinary shares then in issue except that they will not rank for the dividend or other distribution entitlement in respect of which they have been issued. Unless the Board otherwise determines (and subject always to the Regulations and the system's rules), the ordinary shares so allotted shall be issued as shares in certificated form (where the ordinary shares in respect of which they have been allotted were in certificated form at the Scrip Record Time) or as shares in uncertificated form (where the ordinary shares in respect of which they have been allotted were in uncertificated form at the Scrip Record Time) provided that if the Company is unable under the system's rules to issue ordinary shares in uncertificated form to any person, such shares shall be issued as shares in certificated form. For these purposes, the "Scrip Record Time" means such time on the record date for determining the entitlements of members to make elections as described in this Article, or on such other date as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine
- 128 2 The Board may establish or vary a procedure for election mandates whereby a holder of ordinary shares may elect concerning future rights of election offered to that holder under this Article until the election mandate is revoked following that procedure
- 128 3 The Board may exclude from any offer any holders of ordinary shares if it believes that it is necessary or expedient to do so in relation to any legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange or other authority in, any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them

**129. Enhanced scrip dividends**

- 129 1 Subject to the Statutes and without prejudice to the generality of the immediately preceding Article (Scrip dividends), the Board may, in respect of any cash dividend or other distribution (or any part thereof) declared or payable in relation to any financial year or period of the Company, offer to each holder of ordinary shares the right to elect to receive new ordinary shares, credited as fully paid, in respect of the whole or part of the ordinary shares held by them instead of such cash dividend, on any basis described in that Article but so that the entitlement of each holder of ordinary shares to such new ordinary shares shall be determined by the Board such that the value (determined on the basis decided on by the Board) of the new ordinary shares concerned may exceed the cash amount that such holders of ordinary shares would otherwise have received by way of dividend and, in respect of such offer, that Article shall take effect subject to this Article Any offer made under this Article shall be an alternative to any offer made under that Article in respect of a particular cash dividend (but shall form part of any plan which is in operation thereunder)
- 129 2 Any exercise by the Board of the powers granted to the Board by this Article shall be subject to a special resolution approving the exercise of such powers in respect of the dividend in question or in respect of any dividends or other distributions declared or payable in respect of a specified financial year or period of the Company which include the dividend in question but such year or period may not end later than the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the meeting at which such resolution is passed No further sanction shall be required under the immediately preceding Article (Scrip dividends) in respect of an exercise of powers by the Board under this Article and any authority granted under this Article shall not preclude the granting to the Board of a separate authority under that Article

**130. Right to deduct amounts due on shares from dividends**

- 130 1 The Board may deduct from any dividend or other monies payable in respect of a share to a member all sums of money (if any) presently payable by him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in respect of shares of the Company

**131. No interest on dividends**

- 131 1 No dividend or other monies payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share

**132. Payment procedure**

- 132 1 All dividends and interest shall belong and be paid (subject to any lien of the Company) to those entitled members whose names shall be on the Register at the date at which such dividend shall be declared or at the date on which such interest shall be payable respectively, or at such other date as the Company by ordinary resolution or the Board may determine notwithstanding any subsequent transfer or transmission of shares
- 132 2 The Company may pay any dividend, interest or other monies payable in cash in respect of shares by direct debit, bank transfer, cheque, dividend warrant, money order or by any other method (including by electronic communications) as the Board may consider appropriate

- 132 3 Every such cheque, warrant or order shall be made payable to the person to whom it is sent, or to such other person as the holder or the joint holders may in writing direct, and may be sent by post or equivalent means of delivery directed to the registered address of the holder or, in the case of joint holders, to the registered address of the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register, or to such person and to such address as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct
- 132 4 Every such payment made by direct debit or bank transfer shall be made to the holder or joint holders or to or through such other person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct
- 132 5 In respect of shares in uncertificated form, where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Board shall from time to time consider sufficient, the Company may pay any such dividend, interest or other monies by means of the relevant system. Every such payment 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 to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct
- 132 6 The Company shall not be responsible for any loss of any such cheque, warrant or order and any payment made in any manner permitted by these Articles shall be at the sole risk of the holder or joint holders. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, if any such cheque, warrant or order has been, or is alleged to have been, lost, stolen or destroyed, the Board may, on request of the person entitled thereto, issue a replacement cheque, warrant or order subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may think fit
- 132 7 The issue of such 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 system's rules, shall be a good discharge to the Company

### **133. Receipt by joint holders**

- 133 1 If several persons are registered as joint holders of any share, any one of them may give effectual receipts for any dividend or other monies payable in respect of the share

### **134. Where payment of dividends need not be made**

- 134 1 The Company may cease to send any cheque or warrant through the post or to effect payment by any other means for any dividend or other monies payable in respect of a share which is normally paid in that manner on that share if in respect of at least two consecutive dividends payable on that share payment, through no fault of the Company, has not been effected (or, following one such occasion, reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address of the holder) but, subject to these Articles, the Company shall recommence payments in respect of dividends or other monies payable on that share by that means if the holder or person entitled by transmission claims the arrears of dividend and does not instruct the Company to pay future dividends in some other way

**135. Unclaimed dividends**

- 135 1 All dividends, interest or other sums payable unclaimed for one year after having been declared may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Board for the benefit of the Company until claimed. The retention by the Company of, or payment into a separate account of, any unclaimed dividend or other monies payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect of it. Any dividend or interest unclaimed after a period of 12 years from the date when it was declared or became due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.

**CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS**

**136. Capitalisation of profits**

- 136 1 Upon the recommendation of the Board, the Company may pass an ordinary resolution to the effect that it is desirable to capitalise all or any part of any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or all or any part of any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (whether or not available for distribution).
- 136 2 Subject as provided below, the Board may appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or (subject to approval by ordinary resolution and to any subsisting special rights previously conferred on any shares or class of shares) in paying up in full shares of any class 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 partly in one way and partly in the other provided that
- 136 2 1 the Company shall for the purposes of this Article be deemed to be such a member in relation to any shares held as treasury shares which, if not so held, would have ranked for any such distribution by way of dividend, but only insofar as the appropriated sum is to be applied in paying up in full shares of the Company, and
- 136 2 2 the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any reserve or fund representing profits which are not available for distribution may only be applied in paying up in full shares of the Company.
- 136 3 The Board may authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid, of any shares or debentures to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation and any matters incidental thereto, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members.
- 136 4 If any difficulty arises concerning any distribution of any capitalised reserve or fund, the Board may subject to the Statutes and, in the case of shares held in uncertificated form, the system's rules, settle it as the Board considers expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates, authorise any person to sell and transfer any fractions or resolve that the distribution should be made as nearly as practicable in the correct proportion or may

ignore fractions altogether, and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any members in order to adjust the rights of all parties as the Board considers expedient

- 136 5 Where, pursuant to an employees' share scheme, the Company has granted options to subscribe for shares on terms which provide (inter alia) for adjustments to the subscription price payable on the exercise of such options or to the number of shares to be allotted upon such exercise in the event of any increase or reduction in, or other reorganisation of, the Company's issued share capital and an otherwise appropriate adjustment would result in the subscription price for any share being less than its nominal value, then, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, the Board may, on the exercise of any of the options concerned and payment of the subscription which would have applied had such adjustment been made, capitalise any such profits or other sum as is mentioned in Article 136 1 to the extent necessary to pay up the unpaid balance of the nominal value of the shares which fall to be allotted on the exercise of such options and apply such amount in paying up such balance and allot shares fully paid accordingly. The other provisions of this Article 136 shall apply mutatis mutandis to any such capitalisation except that the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company shall not be required

## **AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS**

### **137. Authentication of documents**

- 137 1 Any director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents or other communications affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolutions passed by the Company or the Board or any committee and any books, records, accounts, documents and other communications relating to the business of the Company and to certify copies or extracts as true copies or extracts. A document or other communication purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or an extract from the minutes of a meeting, of the Company, the Board or any committee which is certified as such in accordance with this Article shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company upon the faith of such document or communication that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that such minute or extract is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting

## **RECORD DATES**

### **138. Power to choose record date**

- 138 1 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Company or the Board may fix any date as the record date for any dividend, distribution, allotment or issue and such record date may be on or at any time before or after any date on which the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared, paid or made

## **ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECORDS**

### **139 Records to be kept**

- 139 1 The Board shall cause accounting records to be kept sufficient to give a true and fair view of the Company's state of affairs and to comply with the Statutes



**140. Copy of accounts to be sent to members**

- 140 1 A copy of every profit and loss account and balance sheet, including all documents required by law to be annexed to the balance sheet which is to be laid before the Company in general meeting, together with copies of the Directors' and of the Auditors' reports (or such other documents which may be required or permitted by law to be sent in their place) shall not less than 21 clear days before the date of the meeting be sent to every member (whether or not he is entitled to receive notices of general meetings of the Company), and to every holder of debentures of the Company (whether or not he is so entitled), and to the Auditors provided that if the Company is permitted by law to send to any member, to any holder of debentures of the Company or to the Auditors any summary financial statement in place of all or any of such profit and loss account and balance sheet or other documents, this Article shall impose no greater obligation on the Company than that imposed by law, but this Article shall not require a copy of those documents to be sent to any member or holder of debentures of whose address the Company is unaware or to more than one of the joint holders of any shares or debentures

**141. Inspection of records**

- 141 1 No member in his capacity as a member shall have any right of inspecting any record, book or document of any description belonging to the Company except as conferred by the Statutes or authorised by the Board or by ordinary resolution of the Company

**142. Destruction of documents**

- 142 1 Subject to compliance with the rules (as defined in the Regulations) applicable to shares of the Company in uncertificated form, the Company may destroy

142 1 1 any instrument of transfer of shares and any other document on the basis of which an entry is made in the Register, at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of registration,

142 1 2 any instruction concerning the payment of dividends or other monies in respect of any share or any notification of change of name or address, at any time after the expiration of two years from the date the instruction or notification was recorded, and

142 1 3 any share certificate which has been cancelled, at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of cancellation,

provided that the Company may destroy any such type of document after such shorter period as the Board may determine if a copy of such document is retained on microfilm or by other similar means and is not destroyed earlier than the original might otherwise have been destroyed in accordance with this Article

- 142 2 It shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered and that every share certificate so destroyed was a valid and effective document duly and properly cancelled and that every other document so destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with its particulars recorded in the books or records of the Company provided that

- 142 2 1 this Article shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without express notice that its retention was relevant to any claim (regardless of the parties to the claim),
- 142 2 2 nothing contained in this Article shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than the times referred to in this Article or in any case where the conditions of this Article are not fulfilled, and
- 142 2 3 references in this Article to the destruction of any document or thing include references to its disposal in any manner

## NOTICES

### 143. Form of notices

- 143 1 Any notice, document or other communication (including copies of accounts or summary financial statements) to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of directors) shall be in writing except that, if it is given using electronic communications, it need not be in writing unless these Articles specifically require it to be

### 144. Service of notice

- 144 1 Any notice, document or other communication may (to the extent compatible with the nature of the thing served) be sent by electronic communication to an address for the time being notified (by the person wishing to receive the electronic communication) for that purpose to the person sending the communication Except insofar as the Statutes otherwise require, for electronic communications given by the Company to any member (but not vice versa) the Company may treat an address notified for the purpose of any electronic communication as that member's address for all electronic communications, whatever their content, until the member notifies the Company otherwise
- 144 2 Otherwise, any notice, document (including a share certificate) or other communication may, to the extent compatible with the nature of the thing served, be served on or delivered to a member by the Company
- 144 2 1 personally,
- 144 2 2 by sending it by prepaid post or other prepaid delivery service in an envelope or other cover addressed to the member at the address recorded for the member on the Register or by so addressing the envelope or other cover and leaving it at that address,
- 144 2 3 by the relevant system, or
- 144 2 4 by any other means authorised in writing by the member concerned
- 144 3 In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices, documents or other communications, however sent, shall be served on or delivered to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding and such service or delivery shall for all purposes be deemed sufficient service on or delivery to all the joint holders

- 144 4 A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who notifies the Company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices, documents or other communications may be served on or delivered to him shall be entitled to have notices or other communications served on or delivered to him at that address (in the manner referred to above), but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice, document or other communications from the Company. Such address may, at the Board's discretion, be an address for the purposes of electronic communications.
- 144 5 The Board may at any time without prior notice (and whether or not the Company has previously sent electronic communications to that address) refuse to send electronic communications to any address notified to the Company for the purposes of electronic communications if it believes that its refusal is necessary or expedient in relation to any legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange or other authority in, any territory, or that for any other reason it should not send electronic communications to that address.
- 144 6 Subject to the Statutes, the Board may from time to time issue, endorse or adopt terms and conditions relating to the use of electronic communications under these Articles.
- 145. When notice deemed served**
- 145 1 Any notice, document or other communication
- 145 1.1 if sent by the Company by post or other delivery service shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day following that on which it was put in the post or given to the delivery agent and, in proving service or delivery, it shall be sufficient to prove that the notice, document or communication was properly addressed, prepaid and put in the post or duly given to the delivery agent,
- 145 1.2 if sent by the Company by way of an electronic communication shall be deemed to have been served or delivered at the expiration of 48 hours after the time it was sent, and proof that the notice or communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that it was served or delivered,
- 145 1.3 if made available on a website in accordance with the Statutes, shall be deemed to have been served or delivered when notification of its availability on the website is deemed to have been served or delivered or, if later, when it is first made available on the website,
- 145 1.4 not sent by post or other delivery service but served or delivered personally or left by the Company at the address for that member on the Register shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day and at the time it was so left,
- 145 1.5 sent or delivered by a relevant system shall be deemed to have been served or delivered when the Company (or a sponsoring system-participant acting on its behalf) sends the issuer instructions relating to the notice or document,
- 145 1.6 sent or delivered by the Company by any other means authorised in writing by the member concerned shall be deemed to have been served when the Company has carried out the action it has been authorised to take for that purpose, and

145 1 7 to be given by the Company by advertisement shall be deemed to have been served on the day on which the advertisement appears

**146. Service of notice on person entitled by transmission**

146 1 Where a person is entitled by transmission to a share, any notice, document or other communication shall be served upon or delivered to him by the Company, as if he were the holder of that share and his address were that noted in the Register as the registered address or (to the extent compatible with the nature of the thing served, and subject to the Board's discretion) that given by the holder for the purposes of electronic communications. Otherwise, any notice, document or other communication served on or delivered 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 served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of that member as sole or joint holder

**147. Record date for service**

147 1 Any notice, document or other communication may be served or delivered by the Company by reference to the Register as it stands at any time not more than 21 days before the day it was sent. No change in the Register after that time shall invalidate that service or delivery. Where any notice, document or other communication is served on or delivered to any person in respect of a share in accordance with these Articles, no person deriving any title or interest in that share shall be entitled to any further service or delivery of that notice, document or communication

**148. Loss of entitlement to receive notices**

148 1 If on two consecutive occasions notices, documents or other communications have been sent to any member at the registered address or his address for the service of notices (including any address provided by him for the purposes of electronic communications) 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 communications from the Company or to provide an address for the purposes of electronic communications until he has notified the Company in writing a new address within the United Kingdom to be either his registered address or his address for the service of notices

**149. Notice when post not available**

149 1 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, any such meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in at least one newspaper with a national circulation and in that event the notice shall be deemed to have been served on all members and persons entitled by transmission who are entitled to have notice of the meeting served upon them, on the day when the advertisement has appeared in at least one such paper. 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, where an address for

the purposes of electronic communications has been provided, by electronic communication) to the persons entitled to receive them

- 149 2 At any time that postal services within the United Kingdom are suspended or curtailed, any other communication considered by the Board to be capable of being communicated by advertisement shall, if advertised in at least one such newspaper, be deemed to have been notified to all members and persons entitled by transmission

## **WINDING-UP**

### **150. Distribution in kind**

- 150 1 If the Company commences liquidation, the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Statutes

150 1 1 divide among the members in kind the whole or any part of the assets of the Company (whether the assets are of the same kind or not) and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members or otherwise as the resolution may provide, or

150 1 2 vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the contributories as the liquidator, with the like sanction, shall determine,

but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability Any such resolution may provide for and sanction a distribution of any specific assets amongst different classes of members otherwise than in accordance with their existing rights, but each member shall in that event have a right of dissent and other ancillary rights in the same way as if the resolution were a special resolution passed in accordance with the Insolvency Act 1986

### **151. Power of sale**

- 151 1 The power of sale of the liquidator shall include a power to sell wholly or partly for shares or debentures or other obligations of another company, either then already constituted or about to be constituted, for the purpose of carrying out the sale

## **INDEMNITY**

### **152. Indemnity and provision of funds**

- 152 1 Subject to, and to the extent not avoided by, the Statutes but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled

152 1 1 every Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company other than the Auditors may be indemnified out of the assets of the Company to whatever extent the Board may determine against any costs, charges, expenses, losses and liabilities sustained or incurred by him in the actual or purported execution of his duties or in the exercise or purported exercise of his powers or otherwise in connection with his office, whether or not such liability attaches to him in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company, and

152 1 2 the Board shall have power to provide funds to meet any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by any Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company other than the Auditors in defending any criminal or civil proceeding in which he is involved by reason of his office, or in connection with any application under the Act, or in order to enable him to avoid incurring such expenditure

**Power to insure**

152 2 The Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a Director or other officer or employee of the Company or of any subsidiary undertaking of the Company or in which the Company has an interest (whether direct or indirect) or who is or was at any time a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust in which any employee of the Company or of any such subsidiary undertaking is or has been interested, indemnifying such person against any liability which may attach to him (including any such liability as is referred to in section 309A(1) of the Act ) or loss or expenditure which he may incur in relation to anything done or alleged to have been done or omitted to be done as a Director, officer, employee or trustee