

COMPANY NUMBER: 3938288

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

BRADFORD & BINGLEY LIMITED

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THE COMPANIES ACT 2006
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

BRADFORD & BINGLEY LIMITED

PRELIMINARY

1. (1) In these articles the following words bear the following meanings: -

the "2006 Act" means, subject to paragraph (4) of this article, the Companies Act 2006 to the extent in force from time to time;

"these articles" means the articles of the Company;

"the Bank of England base rate" means the base lending rate most recently set by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England in connection with its responsibilities under Part 2 of the Bank of England Act 1998;

"clear days" means in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect;

"the Companies Acts" means every statute (including any orders, regulations or other subordinate legislation made under it) from time to time in force concerning companies in so far as it applies to the Company;

"electronic address" means any number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving notices, documents or information by electronic means;

"electronic form" has the same meaning as in the 2006 Act;

"electronic means" has the same meaning as in the 2006 Act;

"executed" means any mode of execution;

"Her Majesty's Treasury" means the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Treasury;

"HMT Nominee" means the Treasury Solicitor or any other member holding shares as the nominee of Her Majesty's Treasury where the Company is informed that such member holds shares as such nominee;

"holder" means in relation to shares, the member whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares;

"Office" means the registered office of the Company;

"Relationship Framework Document" means the agreement governing, *inter alia*, the relationship between UKAR, UKGI and Her Majesty's Treasury, in place from time to time;

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

"secretary" means 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;

"Treasury Solicitor" means the Solicitor for the affairs of Her Majesty's Treasury;

"UKAR" means the UK Asset Resolution Limited;

"UKGI" means UK Government Investments Limited, a company registered in England and Wales with number 09774296 and having its registered office at 27/28 Eastcastle Street, London, W1W 8DH; and

the "uncertificated securities rules" means any provision of the Companies Acts relating to the holding, evidencing of title to, or transfer of uncertificated shares and any legislation, rules or other arrangements made under or by virtue of such provision.

- (2) In these articles, references to a share being in uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security and references to a share being in certificated form are references to that share being a certificated unit of a security, provided that any reference to a share in uncertificated form applies only to a share of a class which is, for the time being, a participating security, and only for so long as it remains a participating security.
- (3) Save as aforesaid and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Acts or the uncertificated securities rules (as the case may be).

- (4) Except where otherwise expressly stated, a reference in these articles to any primary or delegated legislation or legislative provision includes a reference to any modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force.
 - (5) In these articles, unless the context otherwise requires: -
 - (a) words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa;
 - (b) words importing any gender include all genders; and
 - (c) a reference to a person includes a reference to a body corporate and to an unincorporated body of persons.
 - (6) In these articles: -
 - (a) references to writing include references to typewriting, printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form and documents and information sent or supplied in electronic form or made available on a website are "in writing" for the purposes of these articles;
 - (b) references to "other" and "otherwise" shall not be construed *ejusdem generis* where a wider construction is possible;
 - (c) references to a power are to a power of any kind, whether administrative, discretionary or otherwise; and
 - (d) references to a committee of the directors are to a committee established in accordance with these articles, whether or not comprised wholly of directors.
 - (7) The headings are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the construction of these articles.
2. No regulations set out in any statute, or in any statutory instrument or other subordinate legislation made under any statute, concerning companies shall apply as the regulations or articles of the Company.

PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS

3. Notwithstanding any provision in these articles to the contrary (including, without limitation, the provision relating to the quorum at general meetings), a resolution relating to any of the following matters shall only be effective if it is approved as a special resolution passed at a general meeting of the Company at which the quorum shall be 5 per cent. of the total number of members eligible to vote at a general meeting of the Company present in person or by proxy: -
- (a) a proposal for the voluntary winding up or dissolution of the Company; or
 - (b) the amendment, removal or alteration of the effect of this article; or

- (c) a proposal (howsoever described) for the disposal, either in a single transaction or a series of transactions (whether related or not and whether by way of sale, transfer, lease or otherwise) of all or any substantial part of the core business of the Company except for a disposal to a holding company of the Company (as defined in section 1159 of the 2006 Act) the articles of association of which contain the same restrictions as are contained in this article and article 5.

This article shall remain in force in any period where Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee is the ultimate beneficial owner (whether direct or indirect) of the Company notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these articles, after which this article shall be deemed to be of no effect. The validity of anything done under this article before that date shall not be affected and any action taken under this article before that date shall not be open to challenge on any grounds whatsoever.

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. In carrying on its business, for so long as Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee is the ultimate beneficial owner (whether direct or indirect) of the issued share capital of the Company, the Company must have regard to the objectives agreed from time to time with Her Majesty's Treasury and UKGI including but not limited to those set out in the Relationship Framework Document between UKAR and UKGI from time to time in force.
- 5. Without prejudice to any further restrictions which may be imposed by any addition to or amendment of these articles the Company shall not, at any time whilst Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee is the ultimate beneficial owner (whether direct or indirect) of the Company: -
 - (a) offer for sale or invite subscription for any shares in the Company, or allot or agree to allot any such shares in the Company with a view to their being offered for sale; or
 - (b) allot or agree to allot any share in the Company or issue or agree to issue any share warrant or option in respect of any shares; or
 - (c) register a transfer of shares in the Company,

other than to or to the order of an HMT Nominee, in each case without the prior written approval of Her Majesty's Treasury.

- 6. Any provision (including any altered provision) of these articles which is to any extent inconsistent with article 5 shall, to that extent, be void.

LIMITED LIABILITY

- 7. The liability of members of the Company is limited.

CHANGE OF NAME

- 8. The Company may change its name by resolution of the board.

SHARE CAPITAL

9. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and article 5 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, if the Company has not so determined, as the directors may determine). Such rights and restrictions shall apply to the relevant shares as if the same were set out in these articles.
10. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and article 5, any share may be issued which is or is to be liable, to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder. The board may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any redeemable share so issued. Such terms and conditions shall apply to the relevant shares as if the same were set out in these articles.
11. Subject to article 5 and any other article, the directors may offer, allot, grant options over or otherwise dispose of shares in the Company to such persons and on such terms as the directors think fit.
12. The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions conferred by the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares or other securities or partly in one way and partly in the other.
13. Except as required by law no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust. Except as otherwise provided by these articles or by law and, for so long as the HMT Nominee is the ultimate beneficial owner (whether direct or indirect) of the Company, except in respect of the HMT Nominee, the Company shall not be bound by or recognise any interest in any share except an absolute right to the entirety of it in the holder.
14. Without prejudice to any powers which the Company or the directors may have to issue, allot, dispose of, convert, or otherwise deal with or make arrangements in relation to, shares and other securities in any form: -
 - (a) the holding of shares in uncertificated form and the transfer of title to such shares by means of a relevant system shall be permitted; and
 - (b) the Company may issue shares in uncertificated form and may convert shares from certificated form to uncertificated form and vice versa.

If and to the extent that any provision of these articles is inconsistent with such holding or transfer as is referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this article or with any provision of the uncertificated securities rules, it shall not apply to any share in uncertificated form.
15. Notwithstanding anything else contained in these articles, where any class of shares is, for the time being, a participating security, unless the directors otherwise determine, shares of any such class held by the same holder or joint holder in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings.

EXCLUSION OF PRE-EMPTION RIGHTS

16. The pre-emption provisions in sections 561 and 562 of the 2006 Act shall not apply to any *allotment of equity securities made by the Company.*

PURCHASE OF OWN SHARES

17. The Company may purchase its own shares in any way provided for by the Companies Acts.

VARIATION OF RIGHTS

18. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, if at any time the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class may be varied, either while the Company is a going concern or during or in contemplation of a winding up: -

- (a) in such manner (if any) as may be provided by those rights; or
- (b) in the absence of any such provision, with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters 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 a special resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of that class,

but not otherwise. To every such separate meeting the provisions of these articles relating to general meetings shall apply, except that the necessary quorum at any such meeting other than an adjourned meeting shall be two persons together holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class in question and at an adjourned meeting shall be one person holding shares of the class in question or his proxy.

19. Unless otherwise expressly provided by the rights attached to any class of shares, those rights shall be deemed not to be varied by the purchase by the Company of any of its own shares.

SHARE CERTIFICATES

20. (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this article, every holder of shares (other than a person in respect of whom the Company is not required by law to issue a certificate) shall be entitled without payment to one certificate for all the shares of each class held by him (and, upon transferring a part of his holding of such shares of any class, to a certificate for the balance of that holding) or, upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable sum as the directors may determine, to several certificates each for one or more of his shares. Every certificate shall be issued under the seal, or bearing an imprint or representation of the seal or such other form of authentication as the directors may determine, and shall specify the number, class and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares to which it relates and the amount or respective amounts paid up on them. The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate for shares

held jointly by several persons and delivery of a certificate to one joint holder shall be a sufficient delivery to all of them.

- (2) Paragraph (1) of this article shall not apply in relation to shares in uncertificated form.
- (3) If a share certificate is defaced, worn-out, lost or destroyed, it may be renewed on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity and payment of any exceptional expenses incurred by the Company in investigating evidence as the directors may determine but otherwise free of charge, and (in the case of defacement or wearing-out) on delivery up of the old certificate.
- (4) Every share certificate sent in accordance with these articles will be sent at the risk of the holder or other person entitled to the certificate. The Company will not be responsible for any share certificate lost or delayed in the course of delivery.

LIEN

- 21. The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all amounts (whether presently payable or not) payable at a fixed time or called in respect of that share. The directors may declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this article. The Company's lien on a share shall extend to all amounts payable in respect of it.
- 22. The Company may sell, in such manner as the directors determine, any share on which the Company has a lien if an amount in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within fourteen clear days after notice has been given to the holder of the share, or the person entitled to it in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, demanding payment and stating that if the notice is not complied with the shares may be sold.
- 23. To give effect to the sale the directors may, in the case of a share in certificated form, authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser; and, in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the directors may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer. The title of the transferee to the share shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.
- 24. The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in payment of so much of the amount for which the lien exists as is presently payable, and any residue shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the share sold, in the case of a share in certificated form, and subject to a like lien for any amount not presently payable as existed upon the share before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the share at the date of the sale.

CALLS ON SHARES AND FORFEITURE

- 25. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may make calls upon the members in respect of any amounts unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal value or

premium) and each member shall (subject to receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company as required by the notice the amount called on his shares. A call may be required to be paid by instalments. A call may, before receipt by the Company of an amount due under it, be revoked in whole or in part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part. A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.

26. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the directors authorising the call was passed.
27. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of it.
28. If a call or an instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the person from whom it is due shall pay interest on the amount unpaid, from the day it became due and payable until it is paid at the rate fixed by the terms of allotment of the shares in question or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at such rate (not exceeding the Bank of England base rate by more than five percentage points unless the Company, by ordinary resolution, shall otherwise direct) as the board may decide, but the directors may waive payment of the interest wholly or in part.
29. An amount payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of nominal value or 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 sum had become due and payable by virtue of a call.
30. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may differentiate between the holders in the amounts and times of payment of calls on their shares.
31. The directors may receive from any member willing to advance it all or any part of the amount unpaid on the shares held by him (beyond the sums actually called up) as a payment in advance of calls, and such payment shall, to the extent of it, extinguish the liability on the shares in respect of which it is advanced. The Company may pay interest on the amount so received, or so much of it as exceeds the sums called up on the shares in respect of which it has been received, at such rate (not exceeding the Bank of England base rate by more than five percentage points unless the Company, by ordinary resolution, shall otherwise direct) as the board and the member may decide.
32. If a call or an instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the directors may give to the person from whom it is due not less than fourteen clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued. The notice shall name the place where payment is to be made and shall state that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made will be liable to be forfeited. If the notice is not complied with, any shares in respect of which it was given may, before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the directors and the forfeiture shall include all dividends and other amounts payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

33. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, a forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of on such terms and in such manner as the directors determine either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder or to any other person and, at any time before the disposition, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the directors determine. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person, the directors may, in the case of a share in certificated form, authorise someone to execute an instrument of transfer and, in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the directors may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer of the share to that person.
34. A person any of whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of them and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation any certificate for the shares forfeited but shall remain liable to the Company for all amounts which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of those shares with interest at the rate at which interest was payable on those amounts before the forfeiture or, if no interest was so payable, at such rate (not exceeding the Bank of England base rate by more than five percentage points unless the Company, by ordinary resolution, shall otherwise direct) as the board may decide from the date of forfeiture until payment, but the directors may waive payment wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.
35. 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 and the declaration shall (subject to the execution of an instrument of transfer if necessary, in the case of a share in certificated form) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is disposed of 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 relating to the forfeiture or disposal of the share.

TRANSFER OF SHARES

36. The instrument of transfer of a share in certificated form may be in any usual form or in any other form which the directors approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, where the share is not fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee.
37. Where any class of shares is, for the time being, a participating security, title to shares of that class which are recorded on the register as being held in uncertificated form may be transferred by means of the relevant system concerned.
38. (1) The directors may, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register the transfer of a share in certificated form which is not fully paid provided that if the share is listed on the Official List such refusal does not prevent dealings in the shares from taking place on an open and proper basis. Subject to article 5, they may also refuse to register a transfer of a share in certificated form unless the instrument of transfer: -

- (a) is lodged, duly stamped, at the Office or at such other place as the directors may appoint and (except in the case of a transfer by a person where a certificate has not been issued in respect of the share) is accompanied by the certificate for the share to which it relates and such other evidence as the directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer;
 - (b) is in respect of only one class of share; and
 - (c) is in favour of not more than four transferees.
 - (2) The directors may without giving any reason refuse to register a transfer of a share in uncertificated form in any case where the Company is entitled to refuse (or is excepted from the requirement) under the uncertificated securities rules to register the transfer; and they may refuse to register any such transfer in favour of more than four transferees.
39. If the directors refuse to register a transfer of a share, they shall within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company (in the case of a share in certificated form) or the date on which the Operator - instruction was received by the Company (in the case of a share in uncertificated form) send to the transferee notice of the refusal.
40. No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document or instruction relating to or affecting the title to any share.
41. The Company shall be entitled to retain any instrument of transfer which is registered, but any instrument of transfer which the directors refuse to register shall (except in the case of fraud) be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given.
42. Nothing in these articles shall preclude the directors from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person.

TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

43. If a member dies the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, or 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 interest; but nothing in these articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which had been jointly held by him.
44. A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member may, upon such evidence being produced as the directors may properly require, 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. Subject to article 5, if he elects to have another person registered he shall transfer title to the share to that person. All the provisions of these articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (if any) as if it were an instrument of transfer signed by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred.

45. A person becoming entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a member shall have the rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before being registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to attend or vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares.

UNTRACED MEMBERS

46. (1) The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share held by a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, if: -
- (a) for a period of twelve years no cheque or warrant or other method of payment for amounts payable in respect of the share sent and payable in a manner authorised by these articles has been cashed or been successful and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or person concerned;
 - (b) during that period at least three dividends in respect of the share have become payable;
 - (c) the Company has, after the expiration of that period, by advertisement in a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and in a newspaper circulating in the area of the registered address or last known address of the member or person concerned, given notice of its intention to sell such share; and
 - (d) the Company has not during the further period of three months after the date of the advertisement and prior to the sale of the share received any communication from the member or person concerned.
- (2) The Company shall also be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any additional share issued during the said period of twelve years in right of any share to which paragraph (1) of this article applies (or in right of any share so issued), if the criteria in sub-paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) of that paragraph are satisfied in relation to the additional share (but as if the words "for a period of twelve years" were omitted from sub-paragraph (a) and the words ", after the expiration of that period," were omitted from sub-paragraph (c)).
- (3) To give effect to the sale of any share pursuant to these articles the Company may, in the case of a share in certificated form, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share sold to, or in accordance with the directions of the purchaser; and in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the Company may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as it thinks fit to effect the transfer. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the proceeds of sale, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the sale. The Company shall be indebted to the member or other person entitled to the share for an amount equal to the net proceeds of

the sale, but no trust or duty to account shall arise and no interest shall be payable in respect of the proceeds of sale.

47. **ISSUE AND SALE OF UNCLAIMED SHARES**

(1) In this article: -

"Unclaimed Shares" means shares which were or are issued in connection with the transfer of the business of Bradford & Bingley Building Society to the Company (either on or before the Vesting Day or under paragraph (7) of this article) which have not been claimed by the person entitled to them under the Transfer Agreement or, if that person has died, by the person entitled to the shares by law;

"Transfer Agreement" means the agreement to transfer the business of Bradford & Bingley Building Society to the Company under section 97 of the Building Societies Act 1986 (as amended);

"Registered Holder" means the person or persons appointed by the Company to hold Unclaimed Shares as trustee for and on behalf of persons entitled to Unclaimed Shares and includes any nominee of such person or persons.

(2) Subject to article 5, the Company can sell any Unclaimed Shares at the best price reasonably obtainable if: -

(a) *during the three years following the Vesting Day, no person has given notice to the Company or to the Registered Holder of the Unclaimed Shares, that he is entitled to claim those shares;*

(b) *on or after the expiry of this three year period the Company announces that it intends to sell the shares by placing an advertisement in a leading national newspaper in the United Kingdom and in at least one newspaper appearing in the area which includes the last known address (not being an address for the purposes of electronic communications) held by Bradford & Bingley Building Society of the person entitled to the shares; and*

(c) *during this three year period and for three months after the last of these advertisements appears, the Company has not received a claim for the shares together with registration details in a form satisfactory to the Company, from the person entitled to the shares.*

(3) To sell the shares in this way, any person who is the Registered Holder for and on behalf of the person entitled to the Unclaimed Shares which the Company is proposing to sell, shall at the request of the Company, effect a transfer of those shares to any other person in accordance with the Company's instructions. If that person fails to effect the transfer at the request of the Company, the Company can appoint any person to effect a transfer of the shares. A transfer effected by a person appointed by the Company will be just as effective as if it had been effected by the Registered Holder of the shares. The ownership of the person to

whom the shares are transferred will not be affected even if the sale is irregular or invalid in any way.

- (4) The net sale proceeds (called the "**Money**" in this article) belong to the Company until claimed under this article, but, unless and until the Money has been forfeited under paragraph (6) of this article, it must pay the Money to the person who would have been entitled to claim the shares or, if that person has died, the person who would have been entitled to his shares by law, if the relevant person asks for it.
- (5) After the sale, the Company must record the name of the person entitled to claim the shares as a creditor for the Money in its accounts, unless and until the Money has been forfeited under paragraph (6) of this article. The Company will not be a trustee of the Money and will not be liable to pay interest on it. The Company can use the Money, and any Money earned by using the Money, for its business or in any other way that the directors decide, but the Money cannot be invested in the Company's shares or in those of any holding company of the Company.
- (6) If no valid claim for the Money has been received by the Company under paragraph (4) of this article during a period of nine years from the date on which the relevant Unclaimed Shares were sold by the Company under this article, the Money will be forfeited and will belong to the Company.
- (7) The directors may issue fully paid ordinary shares at any time in order to satisfy a valid claim for shares by a person entitled to them under the Transfer Agreement or, if that person has died, by the person entitled to those shares by law. When issuing these shares, the directors of the Company may capitalise a sufficient sum to pay up the shares in full from any of the Company's reserves or from funds which the Company is holding as net profit and sub-paragraph (1)(b) of article 124 shall not apply to this capitalisation. The power to issue and pay up these shares is subject to the directors having the necessary authority under article 11 to allot a sufficient number of relevant securities.

ALTERATION OF CAPITAL

- 47. Any resolution authorising the Company to sub-divide its shares or any of them may determine that, as between the shares resulting from such a sub-division, any of them may have any preference or advantage as compared with the others.
- 48. Whenever as a result of a consolidation of shares any members would become entitled to fractions of a share, the directors may on behalf of those members sell to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company) the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members, and the directors may, in the case of shares in certificated form, authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to or in accordance with the directions of the purchaser; and, in the case of shares in uncertificated form, the directors may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer. The transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

49. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, the failure to give notice due to circumstances beyond the Company's control to, or the non-receipt (even if the Company becomes aware of such non-receipt) of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting. A member present in person or by proxy at a meeting shall be deemed to have received proper notice of that meeting and, where applicable, of the purpose of that meeting.

POSTPONEMENT OF GENERAL MEETINGS

50. If the board, in its absolute discretion, considers that it is impractical or undesirable for any reason to hold a general meeting on the date or at the time or place specified in the notice calling the general meeting, it may postpone or move the general meeting to another date, time and/or place. The board shall take reasonable steps to ensure that notice of the date, time and place of the rearranged meeting is given to any member trying to attend the meeting at the original time and place. If a meeting is rearranged in this way, the appointment of a proxy will be valid if it is received as required by these articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the rearranged meeting. The board may also postpone or move the rearranged meeting under this article.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

51. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. Two qualifying persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member, shall be a quorum, unless: -

- (a) each is a qualifying person only because he is authorised under the Companies Acts to act or a representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting, and they are representatives of the same corporation; or
- (b) each is a qualifying person only because he is appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting, and they are proxies of the same member.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, for so long as the Company is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee, one qualifying person present at a meeting and entitled to vote on the business to be dealt with shall be a quorum.

For the purposes of this article a "**qualifying person**" means (i) an individual who is a member of the Company, (ii) a person authorised under the Companies Acts to act as a representative of the corporation in relation to the meeting, or (iii) a person appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting.

52. If a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such other day (being not less than ten days later, excluding the day on which the meeting is adjourned and the day for which it is reconvened) and at the same

time and place, or to such other time and place as the directors may determine. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

53. The chairman (if any) of the board of directors, or in his absence the vice-chairman, or in the absence of both of them some other director nominated by the directors, shall preside as chairman of the meeting, but if neither the chairman nor the vice-chairman nor such other director (if any) is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the directors present shall elect one of their number present to be chairman and, if there is only one director present and willing to act, he shall be chairman.
54. If no director is willing to act as chairman, or if no director is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman.
55. A director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares.
56. Without prejudice to any other power of adjournment he may have under these articles or at common law, the chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. When a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give notice of an adjournment.
57. If an amendment proposed to any resolution under consideration is ruled out of order by the chairman, the proceedings on the resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in the ruling.
58. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before, or on the declaration of the result of, the show of hands a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Act, a poll may be demanded: -
 - (a) by the chairman; or
 - (b) by not less than five members present having the right to vote on the resolution; or
 - (c) by a member or members (including proxies for members) representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members (including proxies for members) having the right to vote on the resolution; or
 - (d) by a member or members (including proxies for members) holding (or representing members who hold) shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less

than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right.

The appointment of a proxy gives the proxy the authority to demand a poll or to join others in demanding a poll. A demand for a poll made by a proxy for a member is treated in the same way as a demand by the member himself.

59. Unless a poll is duly demanded, a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the 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 the resolution.
60. The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chairman, and a demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
61. A poll shall be taken as the chairman 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.
62. A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either forthwith or at such time and place as the chairman directs, not being more than thirty days after the poll is demanded. 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. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
63. No notice need be given of a poll not taken forthwith if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting in respect of 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.

VOTES OF MEMBERS

64. Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares and to any other provisions of these articles, members shall be entitled to vote at a general meeting whether on a show of hands or on a poll as provided in the Companies Acts. For this purpose, where a proxy is given discretion as to how to vote on a show of hands, this shall be treated as an instruction by the relevant member to vote in the way that the proxy elects to exercise that discretion.
65. In the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote 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 of members.

66. A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may vote, on a show of hands or on a poll, by any person authorised in that behalf by that court, who may vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the directors of the authority of the person claiming the right to vote shall be deposited at or sent to the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with these articles for the deposit or receipt of appointments of proxy, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised, and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.
67. No member shall have the right to vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in person or by representative or proxy, in respect of any share held by him unless all amounts presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.
68. No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered. Subject to any objection made in due time, every vote counted and not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid and every vote disallowed or not counted shall be invalid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
69. On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy or (in the case of a corporate member) by a duly authorised representative. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses the same way. A proxy need not be a member. A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. Submitting an appointment of proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting at the meeting or at any adjournment of it.
70. Subject to article 70A below, an appointment of a proxy and any termination of their authority to act as proxy shall be in writing in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the appointer which in the case of a corporation may be either under its common seal or under the hand of a duly authorised officer.
- 70A. The directors may allow the appointment of a proxy to be sent or supplied in electronic form subject to any conditions or limitations as the directors may specify, and where the Company has given an electronic address in any instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy, any document or information relating to proxies for the meeting (including any document necessary to show the validity of, or otherwise relating to, the appointment of a proxy, or notice of the termination of the authority of a proxy) may be sent by electronic means to that address, subject to any conditions or limitations specified or limitations specified in the relevant notice of meeting.
71. The appointment of a proxy and any authority under which it is executed or a copy of the authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the directors may: -
- (a) in the case of an appointment of proxy in hard copy form be deposited at the Office or at such other place in the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting, or in any instrument of proxy or

invitation to appoint a proxy sent out or made available by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment of proxy proposes to vote; or

- (b) in the case of an appointment of proxy in electronic form, be received at the address specified in the notice convening the meeting, or in any instrument of proxy or any invitation to appoint a proxy sent out or made available by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment of proxy proposes to vote; or
- (c) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be deposited or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for taking the poll; or
- (d) where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting to the chairman or to the secretary or to any director,

and an appointment of proxy which is not deposited, delivered or received in a manner so permitted shall be invalid. The board may at its discretion determine that in calculating the periods mentioned in this article no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day.

- 72. 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 the determination was received by the Company at the Office, or at such other place at which an appointment of proxy may be duly deposited or the address where an appointment in electronic form may be duly received, before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the poll demanded or (in the case of a poll not taken on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll.
- 73. The appointment of a proxy to vote at a meeting shall be deemed also to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll (and for the purposes of these articles a demand for a poll made by a person as proxy for a member or as the duly authorised representative of a corporate member shall be the same as a demand made by the member). A proxy may speak at a meeting in respect of which he has been appointed as proxy.
- 74. The directors may at the expense of the Company send or make available instruments of proxy or invitations to appoint a proxy to the members by post or by electronic means or otherwise (with or without provision for their return prepaid) for use at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the directors or any other person. If for the purpose of any meeting instruments of proxy or invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the Company's expense, they shall be issued to all (and not to some only) of the members

entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote at it. The accidental omission, or the failure due to circumstances beyond the Company's control, to send or make available such an instrument of proxy or give such an invitation to, or the non-receipt thereof by, any member entitled to attend and vote at a meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

- 74A. Where two or more valid but differing appointments of proxy are received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting the one which is last sent shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others. If the Company is unable to determine which is last sent, the one which is last received shall be so treated. If the Company is unable to determine either which is last sent or which is last received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.
75. Notwithstanding any other provision in the articles, an appointment of a proxy, whilst UKAR is a member of the Company: -
- (a) may be in any written form (including in an electronic communication);
 - (b) need not be given with any period of notice;
 - (c) shall not require the approval of the board; and
 - (d) is otherwise deemed to be given in accordance with the provision of these articles.

DIRECTORS

76. Unless otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall not be subject to any maximum but shall not be less than two.
77. A director shall not require a share qualification.
78. (1) Until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, there shall be paid to each of the directors (other than alternate directors) such fees for his services in the office of director as the directors may determine (not exceeding £1,000,000 per annum in aggregate or such larger amount as the Company may by ordinary resolution decide). The fees shall be deemed to accrue from day to day and shall be distinct from and additional to any remuneration or other benefits which may be paid or provided to any director pursuant to any other provision of these articles.
- (2) The directors may also be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the directors or of committees of the directors or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties as directors. The Company may also fund a director's or former director's expenditure and that of a director or former director of any holding company of the Company for the purposes permitted under the Companies Acts and may do anything to enable a director or former director or any director or

former director of any holding company of the Company to avoid such expenditure as provided in the Companies Acts.

- (3) Any director who holds any executive office, or who serves on any Committee of directors, or who otherwise performs, or undertakes to perform, services which the directors consider go beyond the ordinary duties of a director may be paid such special remuneration (whether by way of fixed sum, bonus, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the directors may determine.

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

79. Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors and willing to act, to be an alternate director and may remove from office an alternate director appointed by him.
80. An alternate director shall (unless he is absent from the United Kingdom) be entitled to receive notices of meetings of the directors and of committees of the directors of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote at any such meeting at which the director appointing him is not present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor *as a director in his absence, but shall not (unless the Company by ordinary resolution otherwise determines) be entitled to any fees for his services as an alternate director.*
81. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director if his appointor ceases to be a director; but, if a director retires 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.
82. An appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be by notice to the Company executed by the director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the directors.
83. Save as otherwise provided in these articles, an alternate director shall be deemed for all purposes to be a director and shall alone be responsible for his own acts and defaults, and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of the director appointing him.

POWERS OF DIRECTORS

84. The business of the Company shall be managed by the directors who, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, these articles and to any directions given by ordinary resolution, may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of these articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by these articles shall not be limited by any special power given to the directors by these articles and a meeting of the directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.
85. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money, and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property (present and future) and any uncalled capital or any part or parts of them and to issue

debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS

86. (1) The directors may delegate any of their powers: -
- (a) to any managing director, any director holding any other executive office or any other director;
 - (b) to any committee consisting of one or more directors and (if thought fit) one or more other persons, but a majority of the members of the committee shall be directors and no resolution of the committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present when it is passed are directors; and
 - (c) to any local board or agency for managing any of the affairs of the Company either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere.
- (2) Any such delegation (which may include authority to sub-delegate all or any of the powers delegated) may be subject to any conditions the directors impose and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own powers and may be revoked or varied. The power to delegate under this article, being without limitation, includes power to delegate the determination of any fee, remuneration or other benefit which may be paid or provided to any director; and the scope of the power to delegate under sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph (1) of this article shall not be restricted by reference to or inference from any other of those sub-paragraphs. Subject as aforesaid, the proceedings of any committee, local board or agency with two or more members shall be governed by such of these articles as regulate the proceedings of directors so far as they are capable of applying.
87. The directors may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the directors, to be the agent of the Company for such purposes and subject to such conditions as they think fit, and may delegate any of their powers to such an agent. The directors may revoke or vary any such appointment or delegation and may also authorise the agent to sub-delegate all or any of the powers vested in him.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

88. At every annual general meeting each director shall retire from office and may offer himself for re-appointment.
89. Subject to the provisions of these articles, at the meeting at which a director retires, the Company can pass an ordinary resolution to either re-appoint the director or to elect some other eligible person in his place.
90. No person other than a director retiring at the meeting shall be appointed or reappointed as a director at any general meeting unless: -

- (a) he is recommended by the directors; or
 - (b) not less than seven nor more than thirty-five days before the date appointed for holding the meeting, notice executed by a member qualified to vote on the appointment or reappointment has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were 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.
91. At a general meeting a motion for the appointment of two or more persons as directors by a single resolution shall not be made, unless a resolution that it shall be so made has been first agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it, and for the purposes of these articles a motion for approving a person's appointment or for nominating a person for appointment shall be treated as a motion for his appointment.
92. Subject as aforesaid, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director. The appointment of a person to fill a vacancy or as an additional director shall take effect from the end of the meeting.
93. The directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number fixed as the maximum number of directors. A director so appointed shall retire at the next following annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for reappointment.
94. Subject as aforesaid, a director who retires at an annual general meeting may be reappointed. If he is not reappointed or deemed to have been 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.
95. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, while the Company is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee, Her Majesty's Treasury may appoint one or more directors of the Company by written notice, provided the appointee has consented to act in such capacity, with effect from the date specified in such notice and as a person appointed under this article shall not be subject to any provisions of these articles relating to the requirement of directors to retire. While the Company is wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by Her Majesty's Treasury or an HMT Nominee, Her Majesty's Treasury may determine the terms (including remuneration) of the Service Contract (as defined in the Companies Acts) of a person appointed as director under this article in whatever form they see fit, which contract shall be treated as having been made or entered into by the Company.

DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

96. Without prejudice to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may, by special resolution, remove a director before the expiration of his period of office (but such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim to damages for breach of any contract of service

between the director and the Company) and, subject to these articles, may, by ordinary resolution, appoint another person instead of him. A person so appointed shall be subject to retirement at the same time as if he had become a director on the day on which the director in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or reappointed a director.

97. The office of a director shall be vacated if: -

- (a) he ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts or he becomes prohibited by law from being a director; or
- (b) he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally; or
- (c) he is or has been suffering from mental or physical ill health and the board resolves that his office is vacated; or
- (d) he resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company; or
- (e) in the case of a director who holds any executive office, his appointment as such is terminated or expires and the directors resolve that his office be vacated; or
- (f) he is absent for more than six consecutive months without permission of the directors from meetings of the directors held during that period and the directors resolve that his office be vacated; or
- (g) he is requested in writing or using electronic form by all the other directors to resign.

DIRECTORS' APPOINTMENTS AND INTERESTS

98. The directors may appoint one or more of their number to the office of managing director or to any other executive office under the Company and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such appointment may be made for such term, at such remuneration and on such other conditions as the directors think fit. Any appointment of a director to an executive office shall terminate if he ceases to be a director but without prejudice to any claim to damages for breach of the contract of service between the director and the Company.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST REQUIRING BOARD AUTHORISATION

99. (a) The board may, subject to the quorum and voting requirements set out in this article, *authorise any matter which would otherwise involve a director breaching his duty under the Companies Acts to avoid conflicts of interest ("Conflict").*
- (b) *A director seeking authorisation in respect of a Conflict shall declare to the board the nature and extent of his interest in a Conflict as soon as is reasonably practicable. The director shall provide the board with such details of the relevant matter as are necessary for the board to decide how to address the Conflict together with such additional information as may be requested by the board.*

- (c) Any director (including the relevant director) may propose that the relevant director be authorised in relation to any matter the subject of a Conflict. 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 these articles save that: -
 - (i) the relevant director and any other director with a similar interest shall not count towards the quorum nor vote on any resolution giving such authority; and
 - (ii) the relevant director and any other director with a similar interest may, if the other members of the board so decide, be excluded from any board meeting while the Conflict is under consideration.
- (d) Where the board gives authority in relation to a Conflict, or where any of the situations described in article 100(b) apply in relation to a director (a "**Relevant Situation**"): -
 - (i) the board may (whether at the relevant time or subsequently) (a) require that the relevant director is excluded from the receipt of information, the participation in discussion and/or the making of decisions (whether at meetings of the board or otherwise) related to the Conflict or Relevant Situation; and (b) impose upon the relevant director such other terms for the purpose of dealing with the Conflict or Relevant Situation as it may determine;
 - (ii) the relevant director will be obliged to conduct himself in accordance with any terms imposed by the board in relation to the Conflict or Relevant Situation;
 - (iii) the board may provide that where the relevant director obtains (otherwise than through his position as a director of the Company) information that is confidential to a third party, the director will not be obliged to disclose that information to the Company, or to use or apply the information in relation to the Company's affairs, where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence;
 - (iv) 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
 - (v) the board may revoke or vary such authority at any time but this will not affect anything done by the relevant director prior to such revocation in accordance with the terms of such authority.

100. Other Conflicts of Interest

- (a) If a director is in any way directly or indirectly interested in a proposed contract with the Company or a contract that has been entered into by the Company, he must

declare the nature and extent of that interest to the directors in accordance with the Companies Acts.

(b) Provided he has declared his interest in accordance with paragraph (a), a director may: -

- (i) be party to, or otherwise interested in, any contract with the Company or in which the Company has a direct or indirect interest;
- (ii) hold any other office or place of profit with the Company (except that of auditor) in conjunction with his office of director for such period and upon such terms, including as to remuneration, as the board may decide;
- (iii) act by himself or through a firm with which he is associated in a professional capacity for the Company or any other Company in which the Company may be interested (otherwise than as auditor);
- (iv) be or become a director or other officer of, or employed by or otherwise be interested in any holding company or subsidiary company of the Company or any other company in which the Company may be interested; and
- (v) be or become a director of any other company in which the Company does not have an interest and which cannot reasonably be regarded as giving rise to a conflict of interest at the time of his appointment as a director of that other company.

BENEFITS

101. A director shall not, by reason of his office or of the fiduciary relationship thereby established, be liable to account to the Company or the members for any remuneration, profit or other benefit realised by reason of his having any type of interest authorised under article 99(a) or permitted under article 100(b) and no contract shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of a director having any type of interest authorised under article 99(a) or permitted under article 100(b).

DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS

102. The directors may provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or otherwise, for any director or ex-director of the Company or any body corporate which is or has been a subsidiary of the Company or a predecessor in business of the Company or of any such subsidiary, 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 or employment) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

103. (1) Subject to the provisions of these articles, the directors may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.
- (2) A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the directors.
- (3) Notice of a board meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address or any other address given to him by the Company for this purpose. A director may waive his entitlement to notice of any meeting either prospectively or retrospectively, and any retrospective waiver shall not affect the validity of the meeting or of any business conducted at the meeting.
- (4) Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. A director who is also an alternate director shall be entitled in the absence of his appointor to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor in addition to his own vote; and an alternate director who is appointed by two or more directors shall be entitled to a separate vote on behalf of each of his appointors in the appointor's absence.
- (5) A meeting of the directors may consist of a conference between directors some or all of whom are in different places provided that each director who participates in the meeting is able: -
- (a) to hear each of the other participating directors addressing the meeting; and
- (b) if he so wishes, to address each of the other participating directors simultaneously,
- whether directly, by conference telephone or by any other form of communication equipment (whether in use when these articles are adopted or developed subsequently) or by a combination of such methods. A quorum shall be deemed to be present if those conditions are satisfied in respect of at least the number and designation of directors required to form a quorum. A meeting held in this way shall be deemed to take place at the place where the largest group of directors is assembled or, if no such group is readily identifiable, at the place from where the chairman of the meeting participates at the start of the meeting.
104. No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the directors unless a quorum is present. The quorum may be fixed by the directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. An alternate director who is not himself a director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum.
105. The continuing directors or a sole continuing director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of directors is less than the number fixed as

the quorum, the continuing directors or director may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.

106. The directors may elect from their number, and remove, a chairman and a vice-chairman of the board of directors. The chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, shall preside at all meetings of the directors, but if there is no chairman or vice-chairman, or if at the meeting neither the chairman nor the vice-chairman is present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, or if neither of them is willing to act as chairman, the directors present may choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
107. All acts done by a meeting of the directors, or of a committee of the directors, or by a person acting as a director, shall notwithstanding that it may afterwards be discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any 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 every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a director and had been entitled to vote.
108. A resolution in writing executed by all the directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the directors or of a committee of the directors shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the directors or (as the case may be) of that committee, duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in the like form each executed by one or more directors, but a resolution executed by an alternate director need not also be executed by his appointor and, if it is executed by a director who has appointed an alternate director, it need not also be executed by the alternate director in that capacity.

QUORUM AND VOTING REQUIREMENTS

109. (1) 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 other company in which the Company is interested.
- (2) 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 other 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 and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution unless it concerns his own appointment or the settlement or variation of the terms or the termination of his own appointment or the appointment of another director to an office or place of profit with a company in which the Company is interested and the director seeking to vote or be counted in the quorum has a Relevant Interest in it.
- (3) A director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the board in respect of any contract in which he has an interest and, if he shall do so, his vote shall not be counted, but this prohibition shall not apply to any resolution where that interest cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to

give rise to a conflict of interest or where that interest arises only from one or more of the following matters: -

- (a) the giving to him of any guarantee, indemnity or security in respect of money lent or obligations undertaken by him or by any other person at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings;
- (b) the giving to a third party of any guarantee, indemnity or security 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 under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;
- (c) the giving to him of any other indemnity where all other directors are also being offered indemnities on substantially the same terms;
- (d) the funding by the Company of his expenditure on defending proceedings or the doing by the Company of anything to enable him to avoid incurring such expenditure where all other directors are being offered substantially the same arrangements;
- (e) where the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings is offering securities in which offer the director is or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which the director is to participate;
- (f) any contract in which he is interested by virtue of his interest in shares or debentures or other securities of the Company or by reason of any other interest in or through the Company;
- (g) any contract concerning any other company (not being a company in which the director has a Relevant Interest) in which he is interested directly or indirectly whether as an officer, shareholder, creditor or otherwise howsoever;
- (h) any contract concerning the adoption, modification or operation of a pension fund, superannuation or similar scheme or retirement, death or disability benefits scheme or employees' share scheme which relates both to directors and employees of the Company or of any of its subsidiary undertakings and does not provide in respect of any director as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to which the fund or scheme relates;
- (i) any contract for the benefit of employees of the Company or of any of its subsidiary undertakings under which he benefits in a similar manner to the employees and which does not accord to any director as such any privilege or advantage not accorded to the employees to whom the contract relates; and

- (j) any contract for the purchase or maintenance of insurance against any liability for, or for the benefit of, any director or directors or for, or for the benefit of, persons who include directors.
 - (4) A company shall be deemed to be one in which a director has a Relevant Interest if and so long as (but only if and so long as) he is to his knowledge (either directly or indirectly) the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of that company (calculated exclusive of any shares of that class in that company held as treasury shares) or of the voting rights available to members of that company. 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.
 - (5) Where a company in which a director has a Relevant Interest is interested in a contract, he also shall be deemed interested in that contract.
 - (6) If any question shall arise at any meeting of the board as to the interest of a director (other than the chairman of the meeting) in a contract and whether it is likely to give rise to a conflict of interest 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 the director's interest (so far as it is known to him) 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 a resolution of the board (for which purpose the chairman of the meeting 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.
 - (7) Subject to these articles, 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 the voting power or power of appointment in favour of the appointment of the directors or any of them as directors or officers of the other company, or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors or officers of the other company. Subject to these articles, a director may also vote on and be counted in the quorum in relation to any of such matters.
110. A director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to a resolution on which he is not entitled to vote.
111. If a question arises at a meeting of the directors as to the right of a director to vote, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman of the meeting (or, if the director concerned is the chairman, to the other directors at the meeting), and his ruling in relation to any director other than himself (or, as the case may be, the ruling of the majority of the other directors in relation to the chairman) shall be final and conclusive.

112. References in articles 99-101, 109 and in this article to

- (i) a contract include references to any proposed contract and to any transaction or arrangement or proposed transaction or arrangement whether or not constituting a contract; and
- (ii) a conflict of interest include a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.

The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of articles 99-101, 109 to any extent or ratify any contract not properly authorised by reason of a contravention of any of the provisions of articles 99-101, 109.

MINUTES

113. The directors shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of all appointments of officers made by the directors.
114. The directors shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of all proceedings at meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, and of the directors, and of committees of the directors, including the names of the directors present at each such meeting.

THE SEAL

115. The seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the directors or of a committee of the directors. The directors may determine whether any instrument to which the seal is affixed, shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it. Unless otherwise determined by the directors: -
- (a) share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the seal in respect of any debentures or other securities, need not be signed and any signature may be applied to any such certificate by any mechanical or other means or may be printed on it; and
 - (b) every other instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by one director and by the secretary or another director.

DIVIDENDS

116. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, 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 directors.
117. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the directors may pay interim dividends if it appears to them that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes, the directors may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares which confer preferential rights with regard to dividend, 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 arrear. The directors may also pay at intervals settled by them any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. If the directors act in good faith they shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights.

118. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and except as otherwise provided by these articles or the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid. If any share is issued on terms that it ranks for dividend as from a particular date, it shall rank for dividend accordingly. In any other case (and except as aforesaid), 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. For the purpose of this article, an amount paid up on a share in advance of a call shall be treated, in relation to any dividend declared after the payment but before the call, as not paid up on the share.
119. A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the directors, by ordinary resolution direct, and the directors may in relation to any interim dividend direct, that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets and, where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, the directors may settle the same as they think fit and in particular (but without limitation) may issue fractional certificates or other fractional entitlements (or ignore fractions) and fix the value for distribution of any assets, and may determine that cash shall be paid to any member upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of members, and may vest any assets in trustees.
120. (1) Any dividend or other money payable in respect of a share may be paid by cheque or warrant sent by post to the registered address of the person entitled or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to the registered address of that one of those persons who is first named in the register of members or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled may by notice direct. Every cheque or warrant shall be made payable to the order of, or to, the person or persons entitled, or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may by notice direct, and payment of the cheque or warrant shall be a good discharge to the Company. Any such dividend or other money may also be paid by any other method (including direct debit or credit and bank transfer or, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Company may from time to time consider sufficient by means of a relevant system) which the directors consider appropriate. Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share as aforesaid may give receipts for any dividend or other money payable in respect of the share.
- (2) The Company may cease to send any cheque or warrant (or to use any other method of payment) for any dividend payable in respect of a share if: -

- (a) in respect of at least two consecutive dividends payable on that share the cheque or warrant has been returned undelivered or remains uncashed (or that other method of payment has failed); or
- (b) following one such occasion, reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address of the holder,

but, subject to the provisions of these articles, may recommence sending cheques or warrants (or using another method of payment) for dividends payable on that share if the person or persons entitled so request.

- 121. No dividend or other money payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company, unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share.
- 122. The directors can decide to pay unclaimed dividends or dividends on Unclaimed Shares in the case of article 46.1 into a separate account. The Company will not be a trustee of the money and will not be liable to pay interest on it. Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for twelve years from the date when it became due for payment shall, if the directors so resolve, be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company.
- 123. The directors may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer any holders of ordinary shares the right to elect to receive ordinary shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the directors) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply: -
 - (a) The said resolution may specify a particular dividend (whether or not declared), or may specify all or any dividends declared or payable within a specified period, but such period may not end later than the beginning of the fifth annual general meeting next following the date of the meeting at which the ordinary resolution is passed.
 - (b) The entitlement of each holder of ordinary shares to new ordinary shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose "**relevant value**" shall be calculated by such 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 relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount.
 - (c) No fraction of a share shall be allotted and the directors may deal with any fractions which arise as they think fit.
 - (d) The directors shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of ordinary shares of the right of election offered to them, and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be lodged in order to be effective.

- (e) The directors may exclude from any offer any holders of ordinary shares where the directors believe that the making of the offer to them would or might involve the contravention of the laws of any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them.
- (f) The dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been given) shall not be payable on ordinary shares in respect of which an election has been duly made ("**the elected ordinary shares**") and instead additional ordinary shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected ordinary shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the directors shall capitalise out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash, as the directors 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 ordinary shares on that basis.
- (g) The directors shall not proceed with any election unless the Company has sufficient, and the board has authority to allot sufficient, shares, reserves or funds that may be capitalised to give effect to it after the basis of allotment is determined.
- (h) The additional ordinary shares when allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with the fully paid ordinary shares then in issue except that they will not be entitled to participation in the dividend in lieu of which they were allotted.
- (i) The directors may do all acts and things which they consider necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation, and may authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members interested into an agreement with the Company providing for such capitalisation and incidental matters and any agreement so made shall be binding on all concerned.

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

124. (1) The directors may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company: -
- (a) subject as hereinafter provided, resolve to capitalise all or any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund of the Company (including retained earnings, share premium account or capital redemption reserve);
 - (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in

a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those members or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other, but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this article, only be applied in paying up shares to be allotted to members credited as fully paid;

- (c) resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall so long as such shares remain partly paid rank for dividend only to the extent that the latter shares rank for dividend;
 - (d) make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates or other fractional entitlements (or by ignoring fractions) or by payment in cash or otherwise as they determine in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions (including provision whereby the benefit of fractional entitlements accrue to the Company rather than to the members concerned);
 - (e) 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 further shares to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members; and
 - (f) generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution as aforesaid.
- (2) Where, pursuant to an employees' share scheme (within the meaning of section 1166 of the 2006 Act) 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 the provisions of the Companies Acts, the directors may, on the exercise of any of the options concerned and payment of the subscription price which would have applied had such adjustment been made, capitalise any such profits or other sum as is mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(a) above 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 provisions of sub-paragraph (1)(a) to (f) above shall apply

mutatis mutandis to this paragraph (but as if the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company were not required).

RECORD DATES

125. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares, the Company or the directors may fix a date as the record date by reference to which a dividend will be declared or paid or a distribution, allotment or issue made, and that date may be before, on or after the date on which the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared, paid or made. Where such a record date is fixed, references in these articles to a holder of shares or member to whom a dividend is to be paid or a distribution, allotment or issue is to be made shall be construed accordingly.

ACCOUNTS

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

NOTICES ETC.

127. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these articles shall be in writing other than a notice calling a meeting of the directors which need not be in writing.
128. (1) Any notice, document or information may (without prejudice to articles 131 and 132) be given, sent or supplied by the Company to any member either: -
- (a) personally; or
 - (b) by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or postal address given pursuant to article 128(4) or by leaving it at that address; or
 - (c) by giving it in electronic form to a person who has agreed (generally or specifically) that the notice, document or information may be sent or supplied in that form (and has not revoked that agreement); or
 - (d) subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, by making it available on a website, provided that the requirements in article 128(2) are satisfied.
- (2) The requirements referred to in article 128(1)(d) are that: -
- (a) the member has agreed (generally or specifically) that the notice, document or information may be sent or supplied to him by being made available on a website (and has not revoked that agreement), or the member has been asked by the Company to agree that the Company may send or supply notices, documents and information generally, or the notice, document or information in question, to him by making it available

on a website and the Company has not received a response within the period of 28 days beginning on the date on which the Company's request was sent and the member is therefore taken to have so agreed (and has not revoked that agreement);

- (b) the member is sent a notification of the presence of the notice, document or information on a website, the address of that website, the place on that website where it may be accessed, and how it may be accessed ("**notification of availability**");
 - (c) in the case of a notice of meeting, the notification of availability states that it concerns a notice of a company meeting, specifies the place, time and date of the meeting, and states whether it will be an annual general meeting; and
 - (d) the notice, document or information continues to be published on that website, in the case of a notice of meeting, throughout the period beginning with the date of the notification of availability and ending with the conclusion of the meeting and in all other cases throughout the period specified by any applicable provision of the Companies Acts, or, if no such period is specified, throughout the period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the notification of availability is sent to the member, save that if the notice, document or information is made available for part only of that period then failure to make it available throughout that period shall be disregarded where such failure is wholly attributable to circumstances which it would not be reasonable to have expected the Company to prevent or avoid.
- (3) In the case of joint holders of a share: -
- (a) it shall be sufficient for all notices, documents and other information to be given, sent or supplied to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding (the "**first named holder**") only; and
 - (b) the agreement of the first named holder that notices, documents and information may be given, sent or supplied in electronic form or by being made available on a website shall be binding on all the joint holders.
- (4) A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice, document or information from the Company unless he gives to the Company an address (not being an electronic address) within the United Kingdom at which notices, documents or information may be given to him.
- (5) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this article are subject to article 49.
- (6) The Company may at any time and at its sole discretion choose to give, send or supply notices, documents and information only in hard copy form to some or all members.

129. A member present either in person or by proxy, or in the case of a corporate member by a duly authorised representative, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called.
130. (1) Any notice to be given to a member may be given by reference to the register of members as it stands at any time within the period of twenty one days before the notice is given; and no change in the register after that time shall invalidate the giving of the notice.
- (2) Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share which, before his name is entered in the register of members, has been given to the person from whom he derives his title; but this paragraph does not apply to a notice given under section 793 of the 2006 Act.
131. Subject to the Companies Acts, where, by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom, the Company is unable effectively to convene a general meeting, notice of the meeting shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement in two leading national daily newspapers published in the United Kingdom. The Company shall send a copy of the notice to members in the same manner as it sends notices under article 128 if at least seven clear days before the meeting the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.
132. Subject to the Companies Acts, any notice, document or information to be given, sent or supplied by the Company to the members or any of them, not being a notice to which article 131 applies, shall be sufficiently given, sent or supplied if given by advertisement in at least one leading national daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom.
133. Any notice, document or information given, sent or supplied by the Company to the members or any of them: -
- (a) by post shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after the time at which the envelope containing the notice was posted unless it was sent by second class post or there is only one class of post in which case it shall be deemed to have been received 48 hours after it was posted. Proof that the envelope was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or information was sent;
 - (b) by advertisement, shall be deemed to have been received on the day on which the advertisement appears;
 - (c) in electronic form, shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after it was sent. Proof that a notice, document or information in electronic form was sent in accordance with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators' Guidance (in issue at the time the relevant notice, document or information was sent) shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or information was sent; and

- (d) by making it available on a website, shall be deemed to have been received on the date on which notification of availability on the website is deemed to have been received in accordance with this article or, if later, the date on which it is first made available on the website.
- 134. Any notice, document or information may be given by the Company to the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member by sending or delivering it in any manner authorised by these articles for the giving of notice to a member addressed to that person by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased or trustee of the bankrupt or by any like description, at the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied for that purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been supplied, a notice may be given in any manner in which it might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.
- 135. If on three consecutive occasions notices, documents or information sent or supplied to a member have been returned undelivered, the member shall not be entitled to receive any subsequent notice, document or information until he has supplied to the Company (or its agent) a new registered address, or a postal address within the United Kingdom, or (without prejudice to article 128(4)) shall have informed the Company, in such manner as may be specified by the Company, of an electronic address. For the purposes of this article, references to notices, documents or information include references to a cheque or other instrument of payment; but nothing in these articles shall entitle the Company to cease sending any cheque or other instrument of payment for any dividend, unless it is otherwise so entitled under these articles.
- 136. Where a document is required under these articles to be signed by a member or any other person, if the document is in electronic form, then in order to be valid the document must either: -
 - (a) incorporate the electronic signature, or personal identification details (which may be details previously allocated by the Company), of that member or other person, in such form by the directors may approve; or
 - (b) be accompanied by such other evidence as the directors may require in order to be satisfied that the document is genuine.

The Company may designate mechanisms for validating any such document and a document not validated by the use of any such mechanisms shall be deemed as having not been received by the Company. In the case of any document or information relating to a meeting, an instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy, any validation requirements shall be specified in the relevant notice of meeting in accordance with article 70A.

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

- 137. (1) The Company may destroy: -
 - (a) any instrument of transfer, after six years from the date on which it is registered;

- (b) any dividend mandate or notification of change of name or address, after two years from the date on which it is recorded;
 - (c) any share certificate, after one year from the date on which it is cancelled;
 - (d) any instrument of proxy which has been used for the purpose of a poll at any time after a period of one year has elapsed from the date of use;
 - (e) any instrument of proxy which has not been used for the purpose of a poll at any time after a period of one month has elapsed from the end of the meeting to which the instrument of proxy relates; or
 - (f) any other document on the basis of which an entry in the register of members is made, after six years from the date on which it is made.
- (2) Any document referred to in paragraph (1) of this article may be destroyed earlier than the relevant date authorised by that paragraph, provided that a permanent record of the document is made which is not destroyed before that date.
- (3) It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the register of members purporting to have been made on the basis of a document destroyed in accordance with these articles was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled, and that every other document so destroyed was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that: -
- (a) these articles shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant;
 - (b) nothing in these articles shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document *otherwise than in accordance with these articles which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this article*; and
 - (c) references in these articles to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner.

INDEMNITY

138. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may indemnify any director or former director of the Company or of any associated company against any liability and may purchase and maintain for any director or former director of the Company or of any associated company insurance against any liability. No director or former director of the Company or any associated company shall be accountable to the Company or the members for any benefit provided pursuant to this article and the receipt of such benefit shall not disqualify any person from being or becoming a director of the Company.

For the purposes of this article, "**associated company**" has the same meaning as in section 256 of the 2006 Act.