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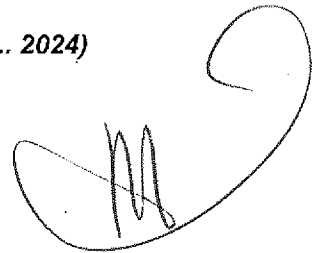
THE COMPANIES ACT 2006
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

UK OIL & GAS PLC
(formerly UK OIL & GAS INVESTMENTS PLC)

(as adopted by special resolutions passed on 05/03/2024)

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PRELIMINARY

1 No regulations for management of a company set out in, or in any subordinate legislation made under, any statute concerning companies shall apply as the articles or regulations of the Company.

2 In these Articles:

2.1 if not inconsistent with the subject or context:

"Act" means the Companies Act 2006 including any modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force;

"address" in relation to electronic communications, includes any number or address used for the purposes of such communications;

"Alternate Director" means an alternate director appointed in accordance with Article 105;

"these Articles" means these Articles of Association as from time to time altered;

"Auditors" means the auditors for the time being of the Company;

"Board" means the Directors or any of them acting as the board of directors of the Company;

"calendar year" means a year from 1 January to 31 December inclusive;

"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;

"Companies Acts" means the meaning ascribed thereto by Section 2 of the Act and any enactment passed after those Acts which may, by virtue of that or any other such enactment, be cited together with those Acts as the "Companies Acts" (with or without the addition of an indication of the date of any such enactment);

"connected with" in relation to a Director has the meaning given by section 252 of the Act;

"Deferred Shares" means the deferred A shares and deferred B shares;

"deferred A shares" means the deferred shares of 0.001p each;

"deferred B shares" means the deferred shares of 0.0001p each;

"Directors" means the directors for the time being of the Company;

"dividend" means dividend or bonus;

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

"electronic communications" has the meaning ascribed to it by section 15 of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

"electronic form" has the meaning given to it in Section 1168 of the Act;

"electronic means" has the meaning given to it in Section 1168 of the Act;

"Executive Director" means a Director holding any office or employment or providing any services as referred to in Article 117;

"Group" means the Company and all Subsidiary Undertakings for the time being;

"holder" means in relation to any share the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder of that share;

"member" means a member of the Company;

"Office" means the registered office of the Company;

"Operator" means a person approved by the Treasury under the Regulations;

"ordinary shares" means the ordinary shares of 0.0001p each

"paid" means paid or credited as paid;

"Register" means the register of members of the Company and shall, so long as the Regulations so permit or require, include a related Operator register of members;

"Regulations" means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No 3755) and includes (i) any enactment or subordinate legislation which amends or supersedes those regulations and (ii) any applicable rules made under those regulations or under any such enactment or subordinate legislation for the time being in force;

"Seal" means the common seal of the Company and includes any official seal kept by the Company by virtue of section 49 or 50 of the Act;

"Secretary" means the secretary of the Company or any other person appointed by the Board to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary;

"Subsidiary Undertaking" means a subsidiary undertaking of the Company;

"Statutes" means the Act and every other Act of Parliament and statutory instrument relating to companies and affecting the Company;

"Transfer Office" means the place where the Company's issuer register of members is for the time being situated;

"UKLA" means the UK Listing Authority, a division of the Financial Conduct Authority in its capacity as competent authority for the purposes of Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;

"United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

"in writing" means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether composed in electronic form or made available on a website or otherwise, and "written" shall be construed accordingly;

"year" means any period of 12 consecutive months;

- 2.2 words denoting the masculine gender shall include the feminine and neuter genders, words denoting the singular number shall include the plural number and vice versa, words denoting persons shall include corporations and unincorporated associations;
- 2.3 save as provided above any words or expressions defined in the Act or the Regulations shall, if not inconsistent with the subject or context, bear the same meaning;
- 2.4 all references to the Act, to any section or provision of the Act or to any other statute or statutory provision or subordinate legislation shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory re-enactment or modification thereof for the time being in force (whether coming into force before or after the adoption of these Articles);
- 2.5 references to a share (or a holding of a share) being in uncertificated form or in certificated form are references, respectively, to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security or a certificated unit of a security;
- 2.6 any reference to a meeting shall not be taken as requiring more than one person to be present in person if any quorum requirement can be satisfied by one person;
- 2.7 any reference to a signature or to something being signed or executed includes an electronic signature or other means of verifying the authenticity of an electronic communication which the Board may from time to time approve, a signature printed or reproduced by mechanical or other means or any stamp or other distinctive marking made by or with the authority of the person required to sign the document to indicate it is approved by such person;
- 2.8 references to a document being "signed" or to "signature" include references to its being executed under hand or under seal and, in the case of a communication in electronic form such references are to its being authenticated as specified in the Act;
- 2.9 any reference to an "instrument" means, unless the contrary is stated, a written document having tangible form and not comprised in an electronic communication;
- 2.10 any reference to "electronic facility" means a device, system, procedure, method or facility providing an electronic means of attendance at or participation in (or both attendance at and participation in) a general meeting as determined by the Directors;
- 2.11 subject to the Companies Acts, a special resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required;
- 2.12 headings to these Articles are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect construction; and
- 2.13 references to a document being executed include references to its being executed under hand or under seal or by any other method.

SHARE CAPITAL

- 3.1 The liability of the members is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid on the shares held by them.
- 3.2 As at the date of the adoption of these Articles, the Company's issued share capital composes ordinary shares and Deferred Shares.
- 3.3 The special rights and restrictions attaching to the Deferred Shares shall be as follows (which shall in the event of any inconsistency within the remainder of these Articles override such other provisions):
 - 3.3.1 as regards income, in priority to any dividend or other distribution to the holders of any other class of shares in the Company, which the Company determines to distribute and subject to the Company having profits available for distribution within the meaning of Part 23 of the Act, the Company shall first distribute to the holders of Deferred Shares £1 in aggregate (and this payment shall be deemed satisfied by payment to any one holder of Deferred Shares) and the Deferred Shares shall not entitle the holders thereof to receive any further dividend or other distribution;
 - 3.3.2 the Deferred Shares shall not entitle the holders thereof to receive notice of or to attend or vote at any general meeting of the Company and the holders of the Deferred Shares may not be counted in ascertaining whether or not a general meeting of the Company is quorate;
 - 3.3.3 as regards capital, on a return of assets on liquidation, capital reduction or otherwise (other than a conversion, redemption or purchase of shares), the assets of the Company remaining after the payment of its liabilities shall (to the extent that the Company is lawfully able to do so) be applied in the following order of priority:
 - (a) first, in paying the holders of Deferred Shares £1 in aggregate (this payment shall be deemed satisfied by payment to any one holder of Deferred Shares) and the holders of the Deferred Shares shall have no other right to participate in the assets of the Company; and
 - (b) second, in paying the balance to the holders of the ordinary shares;
 - 3.3.4 as regards transfers, the Company is irrevocably authorised at any time:
 - (a) to appoint (at its sole discretion) any person to execute (and where applicable, deliver) on behalf of the holders of the Deferred Shares without obtaining the sanction of the holders thereof a transfer thereof and/or an agreement to transfer and/or redeem the same, without making any payment to the holders thereof, to such persons as the Company may determine and/or to cancel the same without making any payment to the holders thereof and without obtaining the sanction of the holders thereof and/or acquire the same (in accordance with the provisions of the Act) without making any payment to or obtaining the sanction of the holders thereof;
 - (b) pending any such transfer not to issue certificates for the Deferred Shares;
 - 3.3.5 as regards the variation of rights, neither:
 - (a) the passing by the Company of any resolution for a reduction of capital involving the cancellation of the Deferred Shares without any repayment of capital in respect thereof, or a reduction of share premium account, or the obtaining by the Company or the making by the court of an order confirming any such reduction of capital or share premium account or the making effective of such order; nor

- (b) the purchase by the Company in accordance with the provisions of the Act of any of its own shares or other securities or the passing of a resolution to permit any such purchase,

shall constitute a variation or abrogation of the rights attaching to the Deferred Shares; and

- 3.3.6 as regards further issues, the rights conferred by the Deferred Shares shall not be varied or abrogated by the creation or issue of further shares ranking *par passu* with or in priority to the Deferred Shares.

VARIATION OF RIGHTS

- 4 Subject to the Companies Acts, whenever the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class of shares in issue may (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) from time to time be varied or abrogated, whether or not the Company is being wound up, either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths in nominal value of the issued shares of the class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) or with the sanction of special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of such holders (but not otherwise).
- 5 The special rights conferred upon the holders of any shares or class of shares shall, unless otherwise provided by these Articles or the terms of issue of the shares concerned, be deemed to be varied by a reduction of capital paid up on those shares but shall be deemed not to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking *par passu* with them or subsequent to them nor shall any consent or sanction of the holders of shares be required under Article 4 to any variation or abrogation effected by a resolution on which only the holders of ordinary shares are entitled to vote.

SHARES

- 6 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine, or in the absence of such determination, or so far as any such resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine.
- 7 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts relating to authority, pre-emption rights or otherwise and of any resolution of the Company in general meeting passed pursuant thereto, and, in the case of redeemable shares, the provisions of Article 8, all new shares for the time being in the capital of the Company shall be at the disposal of the Board, and the Board may (subject as aforesaid) allot (with or without conferring a right of renunciation), grant options over, or otherwise dispose of them to such persons, on such terms and conditions, and at such times as it thinks fit. The Board may at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the Register as the holder, recognise a renunciation thereof by the allottee in favour of some other person and may accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit to impose.
- 8 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares or class of shares, shares may be issued which are to be redeemed or are liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder on such terms and conditions and in such manner as the Board may determine provided that this is done before the shares are allotted
- 9 In addition to all other powers of paying commissions or brokerage the Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions or brokerage conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares or partly in one way and partly in the other.

- 10 Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust and (except as otherwise provided by these Articles or by law) the Company shall not be bound to recognise any interest in any share except an absolute right to the entirety of the share in the holder.
- 11 Shares may not be registered in the names of more than four persons jointly.

UNCERTIFICATED SHARES

- 12 The Company may:
- 12.1 issue shares and other securities which do not have certificates;
 - 12.2 permit existing shares and other securities to be held without certificates; and
 - 12.3 permit any shares or other securities held without certificates to be transferred without an instrument of transfer,
- in each case in dematerialised form pursuant to the Regulations
- 13 If the Company has any shares in issue which are in uncertificated form, these Articles will continue to apply to such shares, but only insofar as they are consistent with:
- 13.1 holding those shares in uncertificated form;
 - 13.2 transferring ownership of those shares by using a relevant system;
 - 13.3 any of the provisions of the Regulations; and
 - 13.4 any regulation laid down by the Board under Article 16,
- and, without prejudice to the generality of this Article, no provision of these Articles shall apply or have effect to the extent that it is in any respect inconsistent with the maintenance, keeping or entering up by the Operator, so long as that is permitted or required by the Regulations, of an Operator register of securities in respect of that class of shares in uncertificated form.
- 14 Where any class of shares in the capital of the Company is a participating security and the Company is entitled under any provisions of the Companies Acts or the rules made and practices instituted by the Operator or under these Articles to dispose of, forfeit, enforce a lien or sell or otherwise procure the sale of any shares which are held in uncertificated form, such entitlement (to the extent permitted by the Regulations and the rules made and practices instituted by the Operator) shall include the right to:
- 14.1 require the conversion of any shares held in uncertificated form which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement into certificated form to enable the Company to effect the disposal, sale or transfer of such shares;
 - 14.2 direct the holder to take such steps, by instructions given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, as may be necessary to sell or transfer such shares;
 - 14.3 appoint any person to take such other steps, by instruction given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, in the name of the holder of shares as may be required to effect the transfer of such shares and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the holder of the shares concerned;
 - 14.4 transfer any shares which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement by entering the name of the transferee in the Register in respect of that share as a transferred share;

- 14.5 otherwise rectify or change the Register in respect of that share in such manner as may be appropriate; and
- 14.6 take such other action as may be necessary to enable those shares to be registered in the name of the person to whom the shares have been sold or disposed of or as directed by him.
- 15 The Company shall be entitled to assume that the entries on any record of securities maintained by it in accordance with the Regulations and regularly reconciled with the relevant Operator register of securities are a complete and accurate reproduction of the particulars entered in the Operator register of securities and shall accordingly not be liable in respect of any act or thing done or omitted to be done by or on behalf of the Company in reliance upon such assumption, in particular, any provision of these Articles which requires or envisages that action will be taken in reliance on information contained in the Register shall be construed to permit that action to be taken in reliance on information contained in any relevant record of securities (as so maintained and reconciled).
- 16 The Board may also lay down regulations which:
- 16.1 govern the issue, holding and transfer and, where appropriate, the mechanics of conversion and redemption of shares held in uncertificated form;
- 16.2 govern the mechanics for payments involving the relevant system; and
- 16.3 make any other provisions which the Board considers are necessary to ensure that these Articles are consistent with the Regulations, and with any rules or guidance of an Operator under the Regulations.

If stated expressly, such regulations will apply instead of other relevant provisions in these Articles relating to certificates and the transfer, conversion and redemption of shares and other securities and any other provisions which are not consistent with the Regulations

SHARE CERTIFICATES

- 17 Every member upon becoming the holder of any shares (except a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange in respect of whom the Company is not required by law to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) in certificated form shall be entitled, without payment, to one certificate for all the shares of each class held by him (and, upon transferring a part of the shares comprised in a certificate, to a certificate for the balance of such shares) or several certificates each for one or more of his shares upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable sum as the Board may from time to time determine. Shares of different classes may not be included in the same certificate. 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.
- 18 Share certificates of the Company (other than letters of allotment, scrip certificates and other like documents) shall, unless the Board by resolution otherwise determines, either generally or in any particular case or cases, be issued under the Seal. Whether or not share certificates are issued under the Seal, the Board may by resolution determine, either generally or in any particular case or cases, that any signatures on any certificates for shares, stock or debenture or loan stock (except where the trust deed constituting any stock or debenture or loan stock provides to the contrary) or representing any other form of security of the Company need not be autographic but may be applied to the certificates by some mechanical means or may be printed thereon or that such certificates need not be signed by any person. Every share certificate shall specify the number and class of the shares to which it relates and the amount paid up on such shares.
- 19 If a share certificate is worn out, defaced, lost, stolen or destroyed, it may be renewed without payment of any fee but on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity with or without

security and otherwise as the Board requires and, in the case of a worn out or defaced certificate, on delivery up of that certificate in the case of loss, theft or destruction, the person to whom the new certificate is issued may be required to pay to the Company any exceptional out of pocket expenses incidental to the investigation of evidence of loss, theft or destruction and the preparation of the requisite form of indemnity.

LIEN ON SHARES

- 20 The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys (whether presently payable or not) payable at a fixed time or called in respect of that share. The Board may at any time 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 any amount payable in respect of it and to any share or security issued in right of it.
- 21 The Company may sell, in such manner as the Board determines, any share on which the Company has a lien if the sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within 14 clear days after notice has been given to the holder of the share or to the person entitled to it in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder or otherwise by operation of law, demanding payment and stating that if the notice is not complied with the shares may be sold.
- 22 To give effect to a sale the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer or otherwise effect the transfer of the shares sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys, and the title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the sale.
- 23 The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs of sale, shall be applied in or towards payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as is presently payable, and any residue shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate, if any, for the shares sold and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the shares at the date of the sale.

CALLS ON SHARES

- 24 Subject to the terms of allotment of shares, the Board may make calls upon the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and each member shall (subject to at least 14 clear days' notice having been given to holders of ordinary shares, 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 any sum due thereunder, be revoked in whole or part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part. A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable jointly and severally with the successors in title to his shares for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.
- 25 A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising the call was passed.
- 26 The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of that share.
- 27 If a call remains unpaid in whole or in part after it has become due and payable the person from whom the sum is due and payable 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 share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at the appropriate rate (as defined by the Act), but the Board may waive payment of the interest wholly or in part.

- 28 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 the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if that amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.
- 29 Subject to the terms of allotment, the Board may make arrangements on the issue of shares for a difference between the holders in the amounts and times of payment of calls on their shares.
- 30 The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member willing to advance it all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on any shares held by him, and may pay on all or any of the moneys so advanced (until the same would but for such advance become presently payable) interest at the appropriate rate or at such other rate as may be agreed between the Board and such member, subject to any directions of the Company in general meeting.

FORFEITURE AND SURRENDER OF SHARES

- 31 If a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable, the Board may give to the person from whom it is due not less than 14 clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. 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.
- 32 If any such notice is not complied with, any share 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 Board and the forfeiture shall include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited share and not paid before the forfeiture. When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served upon the person who was before the forfeiture the holder of the share, and an entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register opposite the entry of the share, but no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission or neglect to give such notice or to make such entries. The Board may accept upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited and, subject to such terms and conditions, a surrendered share shall be treated as if it had been forfeited.
- 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 Board determines, either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder or to any other person, and at any time before sale, re-allotment or other disposition, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the Board thinks fit. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer or otherwise effect the transfer of the share to that person. The Company may receive the consideration given for the share on its disposal and may register the transferee as holder of the share.
- 34 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 the certificate, if any, for the shares forfeited but shall remain liable to the Company for all moneys 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 moneys before the forfeiture or, if no interest was so payable, at the appropriate rate from the date of the forfeiture until payment but the Board 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 Save as expressly set out in these Articles, or as are by the Companies Acts given or imposed in the case of past members, the forfeiture of a share shall involve the extinction at the time of forfeiture of all interest in and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of the share and all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the person whose share is forfeited and the Company.

- 36 A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been forfeited or sold to satisfy a lien of the Company 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) 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, sale or disposal of the share.

TRANSFER OF SHARES

- 37 A share held in certificated form may be transferred by an instrument of transfer in any usual form or in any other form which the Board may approve, which shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, unless the share is fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee. A share held in uncertificated form may be transferred by means of a relevant system. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the transferee is entered on the Register as its holder.
- 38 Nothing in Articles 39 to 48 (inclusive) shall preclude the transfer of shares or other securities of the Company in uncertificated form in accordance with the terms of Articles 12 to 16 (inclusive) and any references contained in these Articles in relation to the execution of any instrument of transfer or the registration of any transfer of shares or other securities of the Company in uncertificated form shall be read in accordance with the terms of Article 12 to 16 (inclusive).
- 39 The Board may, in its absolute discretion refuse to register the transfer of a share (whether certificated or uncertificated) which is not fully paid on which the Company has a lien, but shall not be bound to specify the grounds upon which such registration is refused provided that, where any such shares are admitted to the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange, such discretion may not be exercised in such a way as to prevent dealings in the shares of the relevant class or classes from taking place on an open and proper basis.
- 40 The Board may also refuse to register a transfer of shares unless the instrument of transfer is:
- 40.1 lodged, duly stamped or duly certified or otherwise shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be exempt from stamp duty, at the Transfer Office or such other place as the Board may appoint and (save in the case of a transfer by a person to whom no certificate was issued in respect of the shares in question) accompanied by the certificate for the shares to which it relates, and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer and, if the instrument of transfer is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person so to do;
- 40.2 in respect of only one class of shares; and
- 40.3 in favour of not more than four transferees.
- 41 If the Board refuses to register a transfer of shares, it shall within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company send to the transferee notice of the refusal.
- 42 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the registration of transfers of shares or of transfers of any class of shares may be suspended and the Register closed at such times and for such periods (not exceeding 30 days in any calendar year) as the Board may determine.
- 43 No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any share or for making any entry in the Register affecting the title to any share.
- 44 The Company shall be entitled to retain any instrument of transfer which is registered, but any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given.

- 45 For all purposes of these Articles relating to the registration of transfers of shares, the renunciation of the allotment of any shares by the allottee in favour of some other person shall be deemed to be a transfer and the Board shall have the same powers of refusing to give effect to such a renunciation as if it were a transfer.

TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

- 46 If a member dies the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, and his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest, but nothing contained in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which had been held (whether solely or jointly) by him.
- 47 A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law may, upon such evidence being produced as the Board may properly require and subject as subsequently provided in these Articles, elect either to become the holder of the share or to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered, he shall, if the share is held in certificated form, execute an instrument of transfer of the share to that person or, if the share is held in uncertificated form, transfer the share to that person by way of a relevant system. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer and the registration of transfers of shares (including any right to refuse to register any transfer) shall apply to the notice or transfer as if it were a transfer by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member or other event giving rise to the entitlement had not occurred.
- 48 Subject to any other provisions of these Articles, a person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law 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 receive notice of or to attend or vote at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company. The Board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share and if the notice is not complied with within 60 days the Board may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

UNTRACEABLE SHAREHOLDERS

- 49 The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any shares of a member or the shares to which a person is entitled by virtue of transmission on death or bankruptcy or otherwise by operation of law if and provided that:
- 49.1 for a period of twelve years prior to the date of the publication of the advertisements referred to in Article 49.3 (or, if published on different dates, the first thereof), no cash dividend payable in respect of the shares has been claimed, no cheque or warrant sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid envelope addressed to the member or to the person entitled to the shares at his address on the Register or (if different) the last known address given by the member or the person so entitled to which cheques and warrants are to be sent has been paid, each attempt to make a payment in respect of the shares by means of bank transfer or other method for the payment of dividends or other moneys in respect of shares has failed and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or the person so entitled (in his capacity as member or person entitled);
- 49.2 in such period of twelve years at least three dividends (whether interim or final) have become payable on the shares;

49.3 the Company has at the expiration of the said period of twelve years by advertisement in both a national newspaper and in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the address referred to in Article 49.1 is located given notice of its intention to sell such shares; and

49.4 during the period of three months following the publication of the said advertisements the Company has received no communication in respect of such share from such member or person entitled.

If at any time during or after the said period of twelve years further shares have been issued in right of those held at the commencement of that period or of any issued in right during that period and, since the date of issue, the requirements of Articles 49.1 to 49.4 have been satisfied in respect of such further shares (other than the requirement, express or implied that such further shares be in issue for twelve years), the Company may also sell the further shares.

50 To give effect to a sale pursuant to the preceding Article the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer or otherwise effect the transfer of the shares to be sold If the shares concerned are in uncertificated form, in accordance with the Regulations, the Company may issue a written notification to the Operator requiring conversion of the shares into certificated form The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys and the title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the sale The net proceeds of sale shall belong to the Company which shall be obliged to account to the former member or other person previously entitled to the shares for an amount equal to the net proceeds, which shall be a debt of the Company, and shall enter the name of such former member or other person in the books of the Company as a creditor for such amount No trust shall be created and no interest shall be payable in respect of the debt, and the Company shall not be required to account for any money earned on the net proceeds, which may be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments for the benefit of the Company as the Board may from time to time determine.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

51

51.1 For the purposes of this Article, unless the context otherwise requires:

51.1.1 "**disclosure notice**" means a notice issued by or on behalf of the Company requiring disclosure of interests in shares pursuant to section 793 of the Act;

51.1.2 "**specified shares**" means all or, as the case may be, some of the shares specified in a disclosure notice;

51.1.3 "**restrictions**" means one or more, as the case maybe, of the restrictions referred to in Article 51.3;

51.1.4 "**restriction notice**" means a notice issued by or on behalf of the Company stating, or substantially to the effect, that (until such time as the Board determines otherwise pursuant to Article 51.4) the specified shares referred to therein shall be subject to one or more of the restrictions stated therein;

51.1.5 "**restricted shares**" means all or, as the case may be, some of the specified shares referred to in a restriction notice;

51.1.6 a person other than the member holding a share shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if:

(a) the member has informed the Company, whether under any statutory provision relating to disclosure of interests or otherwise, that the person is, or may be, or has been at any time during the three years

immediately preceding the date upon which the disclosure notice is issued, so interested; or

(b) the Board (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a disclosure notice, from any other person) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, or has been at any time during the three years immediately preceding the date upon which the disclosure notice is issued, so interested; or

(c) in response to a disclosure notice, the member or any other person appearing to be so interested has failed to establish the identities of all those who are so interested and (after taking into account the response and any other relevant information) the Board has reasonable cause to believe that such person is or may be so interested;

51.1.7 "**connected**" shall have the meaning given to it in section 839 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;

51.1.8 "**interested**" shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 of the Act;

51.1.9 "**recognised investment exchange**" shall have the same meaning as in the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000; and

51.1.10 for the purposes of Articles 51.2.2 and 51.4 the Company shall not be treated as having received the information required by the disclosure notice in accordance with the terms of such disclosure notice in circumstances where the Board knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the information provided is false or materially incorrect

51.2 Notwithstanding anything in these Articles to the contrary, if:

51.2.1 a disclosure notice has been served on a member or any other person appearing to be interested in the specified shares; and

51.2.2 the Company has not received (in accordance with the terms of such disclosure notice) the information required therein in respect of any of the specified shares within 14 days after the service of such disclosure notice,

then the Board may (subject to Article 51.7) determine that the member holding the specified shares shall, upon the issue of a restriction notice referring to those specified shares in respect of which information has not been received, be subject to the restrictions referred to in such restriction notice, and upon the issue of such restriction notice such member shall be so subject. As soon as practicable after the issue of a restriction notice the Company shall serve a copy of the notice on the member holding the specified shares.

51.3 The restrictions which the Board may determine shall apply to restricted shares pursuant to this Article shall be one or more, as determined by the Board, of the following:

51.3.1 that the member holding the restricted shares shall not be entitled, in respect of the restricted shares, to attend or be counted in the quorum or vote either personally or by proxy at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or upon any poll or to exercise any other right or privilege in relation to any general meeting or any meeting of the holders of any class of shares;

51.3.2 that no transfer of the restricted shares shall be effective or shall be registered by the Company, provided that where the restricted shares are held in uncertificated form registration of a transfer may only be refused if permitted by the Regulations;

- 51.3.3 that no dividend (or other moneys payable) shall be paid in respect of the restricted shares and that, in circumstances where an offer of the right to elect to receive shares instead of cash in respect of any dividend is or has been made, any election made thereunder in respect of such specified shares shall not be effective.
- 51.4 The Board may determine that one or more of the restrictions imposed on restricted shares shall cease to apply at any time If the Company receives in accordance with the terms of the relevant disclosure notice the information required therein in respect of the restricted shares, all restrictions imposed on the restricted shares shall cease to apply seven days after receipt of the information In addition, in the event that the Company receives notice of a transfer in respect of all or any restricted shares, which would otherwise be given effect to, pursuant to a sale:
- 51.4.1 on a recognised investment exchange; or
 - 51.4.2 on any stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally dealt; or
 - 51.4.3 on the acceptance of a takeover offer (as defined in section 974 of the Act) for the shares of the class of which such restricted shares form part,
- to a party not connected with the member holding such restricted shares or with any other person appearing to be interested in such restricted shares, then all the restrictions imposed on such restricted shares shall cease to apply with effect from the date on which any such notice as aforesaid is received by the Company provided always that if, within ten days after such receipt, the Board decides that it has reasonable cause to believe that the change in the registered holder of such restricted shares would not be as a result of an arm's length sale resulting in a material change in the beneficial interests in such restricted shares, the restrictions imposed on the restricted shares shall continue to apply.
- 51.5 Where the Board makes a decision pursuant to the proviso to Article 51.4, the Company shall notify the purported transferee of such decision as soon as practicable and any person may make representations in writing to the Board concerning any such decision The Company shall not be liable to any person as a result of having imposed restrictions or deciding that such restrictions shall continue to apply if the Board acted in good faith.
- 51.6 Where dividends or other moneys are not paid as a result of restrictions having been imposed on restricted shares, such dividends or other moneys shall accrue and, upon the relevant restriction ceasing to apply, shall be payable (without interest) to the person who would have been entitled had the restriction not been imposed.
- 51.7 Where the aggregate number of shares of the same class as the specified shares in which any person appearing to be interested in the restricted shares (together with persons connected with him) appears to be interested represents less than 0.25 per cent (in nominal value) of the shares of that class in issue (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) at the time of service of the disclosure notice in respect of such specified shares, only the restriction referred to in Article 51.3.1 may be determined by the Board to apply.
- 51.8 Shares issued in right of restricted shares shall on issue become subject to the same restrictions whilst held by that member as the restricted shares in right of which they are issued For this purpose, shares which are allotted or offered or for which applications are invited (whether by the Company or otherwise) pro rata (or pro rata ignoring fractional entitlements and shares not allocated to certain members by reason of legal or practical problems associated with offering shares outside the United Kingdom) shall be treated as shares issued in right of restricted shares.
- 51.9 The Board shall at all times have the right, at its discretion, to suspend, in whole or in part, any restriction notice given pursuant to this Article either permanently or for any given period and to pay to a trustee any dividend payable in respect of any restricted shares or in respect of any shares issued in right of restricted shares Notice of any suspension, specifying the sanctions

suspended and the period of suspension, shall be given to the relevant holder in writing within seven days after any decision to implement such a suspension.

- 51.10 The limitations on the powers of the Board to impose and retain restrictions under this Article are without prejudice to the Company's power to apply to the court pursuant to the Act to apply these or any other restrictions and/or conditions.

ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL

- 52 All new shares shall be subject to the provisions of these Articles with reference to payment of calls, hen, forfeiture, transfer, transmission and otherwise, and, unless otherwise provided by these Articles, by the resolution creating the new shares or by the conditions of issue, the new shares shall be unclassified shares.
- 53 Whenever as a result of a consolidation or sub-division of shares any fractions arise, the Board may settle the matter in any manner it deems fit and in particular may sell shares representing fractions to which any members would otherwise become entitled to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members, and the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. The transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in relation to the sale.
- 54 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account or other undistributable reserve in any way.

PURCHASE OF OWN SHARES

- 55 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares) and any shares to be so purchased may (subject to any resolution of the Company in a general meeting) be selected by the Board in any manner.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 56 The Board may call general meetings whenever and at such times and places, including by means of electronic facility or facilities as it shall determine and, on the requisition of members pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Acts, shall forthwith convene a general meeting. If there are not sufficient Directors capable of acting to call a general meeting, any Director may call a general meeting. If there is no Director able to act, any two members may call a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.
- 57 The Board shall convene and the Company shall hold general meetings as annual general meetings in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 58 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, an annual general meeting and all other general meetings of the Company shall be called by at least such minimum period of notice as is prescribed under the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of these Articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, the notice shall be given to all the members and where the member has consented or is deemed to have consented under the Act in electronic form or via a website, to each of the Directors and to the Auditors:
- 58.1 every notice of meeting shall specify the place, the day and the time of the meeting, whether the meeting shall be a physical, electronic or hybrid meeting and, the general nature of the business to be transacted. In the case of an electronic or hybrid meeting, the notice shall specify the date, time and electronic platform for the meeting, which electronic platform may vary from

time to time and from meeting to meeting as the Board, in its sole discretion, sees fit. Where the Company has given an electronic address in any notice of meeting, any document or information relating to proceedings at the meeting may be sent by electronic means to that address subject to any conditions or limitations specified in the relevant notice of meeting;

- 58.2 the notice shall, in the case of an annual general meeting, specify the meeting as such, and, in the case of a meeting to pass a special resolution, specify the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution;
- 58.3 if notice of a meeting is sent in electronic form the Company must have complied with all applicable regulatory requirements and the person entitled to receive such notice must have agreed that the notice can be sent to him in that way and not revoked that agreement or in the case of a company be deemed to have agreed to receive notice in that way by a provision in the Statutes; and
- 58.4 the notice must be sent to the address specified by the person entitled to receive such notice or in the case of notice sent to a company an address which is deemed to have been specified by any provision of the Statutes.
- 59 Provided that the Company has complied with all applicable regulatory requirements the Company may send or supply a notice of meeting by making it available on a website and where the Company intends to make that notice of meeting available on a website:
 - 59.1 the Company must comply with the provisions of article 191.1;
 - 59.2 the Company must notify persons entitled to receive such notice that the notice of meeting has been published on the website such notification to state that it concerns a notice of meeting to specify the place date and time of the meeting and whether the meeting will be an annual general meeting; and
 - 59.3 the notice must be available on the website throughout the period beginning with the date of notification and ending with the conclusion of the meeting.
- 60 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting, or to send an instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy as provided by these Articles, to any person entitled to receive the same, or the non-receipt of a notice of meeting or instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy by such a person, shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.
- 60.1 The Board and the chairman may, at any electronic general meeting make any arrangement and impose any requirement or restriction as is:
 - 60.1.1 necessary to ensure the identification of those taking part and the security of the electronic communication; and
 - 60.1.2 proportionate to those objectives.

In this respect, the Company is able to authorise any voting application, system or facility for electronic or satellite general meetings as it sees fit.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 61 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business The absence of a quorum shall not preclude the appointment of a chairperson in accordance with the provisions of these Articles, which shall not be treated as part of the business of the meeting Two members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted at the meeting shall be a quorum.
- 62 If such a quorum is not present within 15 minutes (or such longer time not exceeding one hour as the chairperson of the meeting may decide to wait) from the time appointed for the meeting,

the meeting, if convened on the requisition of or by members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same place and time one week later, or to such day (not being more than 28 days after the date appointed for the meeting) and to such time and place (or, in the case of a meeting held at a principal meeting place and a satellite meeting place, such other places) or electronic platform as the Board may determine. If the meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, not less than five days' notice thereof shall be given by advertisement in one national newspaper, but no other notice shall be required. If at any such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within 15 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting, the member present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted at the meeting shall be a quorum.

- 63 The Board may make any security arrangements which it considers appropriate relating to the holding of a general meeting of the Company including, without limitation, requirements for evidence of identity to be produced by those attending the meeting, arranging for any person attending a meeting to be searched and for items of personal property which may be taken into a meeting to be restricted. A Director or the Secretary may:
- 63.1 refuse entry to a physical or electronic meeting to any person who refuses to comply with any such arrangements; and
- 63.2 eject (physically or electronically) from a meeting any person who causes the proceedings to become disorderly.
- 64 The chairperson (if any) of the Board or in his absence the deputy chairperson (if any) shall preside as chairperson at every general meeting of the Company. If there is no such chairperson or deputy chairperson present and willing to act as chairperson at any meeting within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be chairperson and, if there is only one Director present and willing to act, he shall be chairperson. If no Director is willing to act as chairperson, or if no Director is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting.
- 65 A Director shall be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, notwithstanding that he is not a member, or not a holder of the class of shares in question.
- 66 The chairperson of a meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the meeting (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place and/or from such electronic facility or facilities for attendance and participation to such other electronic facility or facilities as the meeting shall determine and, if it appears to the chairperson that it is likely to be impracticable to hold or continue the meeting, because the number of persons attending or wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place appointed for the meeting, or the unruly conduct of persons attending the meeting prevents or is likely to prevent the continuation of the business of the meeting, he may adjourn the meeting to another time and place or electronic facility without the consent of the meeting. No business shall be transacted at any 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 30 days or more (otherwise than due to the absence of a quorum) or without a time and place for the adjourned meeting being fixed, at least seven clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in the same manner as in the case of the original meeting. Otherwise it shall not be necessary to give any such notice.
- 67 A general meeting may be held at more than one place if:
- 67.1 the notice convening the meeting specifies that it shall be held at more than one place; or
- 67.2 the Board resolves, after the notice convening the meeting has been given, that the meeting shall be held at more than one place; or

- 67.3 it appears to the chairperson of the meeting that the place of the meeting specified in the notice convening the meeting is inadequate to accommodate all persons entitled and wishing to attend.

A general meeting held at more than one place is duly constituted and its proceedings are valid if (in addition to the other provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings) the chairperson of the meeting is satisfied that there are adequate facilities to enable each person present at each place to participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened, hear and see all persons present who speak, whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise in the principal meeting place and any satellite meeting place (whether in use when these Articles are adopted or developed subsequently) and have access to all documents which are required by the Companies Acts and these Articles to be made available at the meeting. Each person present at each place in person or by proxy and entitled to vote shall be counted in the quorum for, and shall be entitled to vote at, the meeting. The meeting is deemed to take place at the place at which the chairperson of the meeting is present.

- 68 Without prejudice to Article 67, the Board may resolve to enable Members to attend a general meeting hosted on an electronic platform (such meeting being an electronic general meeting) to do so by simultaneous attendance by electronic means with no Member necessarily in physical attendance at the electronic general meeting. The Members or their proxies present shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to vote at, the general meeting in question, and that meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the chairman of the general meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities are available throughout the electronic meeting to ensure that Members attending the electronic general meeting who are not present together at the same place may, by electronic means, attend and speak and vote at it.

Nothing in these Articles prevents a general meeting being held both physically and electronically. Any reference in these Articles to the holding of a general meeting exclusively by electronic means or by means of an electronic facility or facilities is subject to, and in so far as permitted by, the Companies Acts.

- 68.1 If it appears to the chairman of the general meeting that:

68.1.1 the facilities at the principal meeting place or any satellite meeting place; or

68.1.2 the electronic platform, facilities or security at the electronic or hybrid general meeting,

have become inadequate for the purposes referred to in Articles 67 or 68, then the chairman may, without the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at that general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid.

- 68.2 The Board may make arrangements for persons entitled to attend a general meeting or an adjourned general meeting to be able to view and hear the proceedings of the general meeting or adjourned general meeting and to speak at the meeting (whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise) by attending at a venue anywhere in the world not being a satellite meeting place. If the general meeting is only held as a physical meeting and not also as an electronic meeting, those attending at any such venue shall not be regarded as present at the general meeting or adjourned general meeting and shall not be entitled to vote at the meeting at or from that venue. The inability for any reason of any Member present in person or by proxy at such a venue to view or hear all or any of the proceedings of the physical general meeting or to speak at the meeting shall not in any way affect the validity of the proceedings of the meeting.

- 69 If a general meeting is held partly by means of an electronic facility or facilities, the Board and the chairperson may make any arrangement and impose any requirement or restriction that is:

- 69.1 necessary to ensure the identification of those taking part by means of such electronic facility or facilities and the security of the electronic communication; and

- 69.2 in its or his or her view, proportionate to those objectives.
- 70 In this respect, the Board may authorise any voting application, system or facility for attendance and participation as it sees fit.
- 71 The Board shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to authorise one or more persons (including the Directors, the company secretary or the chairperson) to refuse physical or electronic entry to, or eject (physically or electronically) from, any meeting any person who fails to provide such evidence of identity or to submit to such searches or to otherwise comply with such security arrangements or restrictions as are required pursuant to this Article, or who causes the meeting to become disorderly.
- 72 No amendment or proposed amendment to a resolution shall be considered or voted upon by the members at any general meeting or adjourned general meeting unless.:
- 72.1 in the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution it is a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error; or
- 72.2 in the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution either the Company shall have received written notice of the amendment or proposed amendment and of the intention of the proposer to attend and propose it at least 48 hours before the time fixed for the general meeting or the chairperson of the meeting in his absolute discretion shall decide that the amendment or amended resolution should be considered and put to the vote.
- With the consent of the chairperson, an amendment may be withdrawn by its proposer before it is put to the vote. If the chairperson of the meeting in good faith rules an amendment to a resolution out of order, the proceedings on the substantive resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling.
- 73 A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting held partly by means of electronic facility or facilities shall be decided on a poll, which poll votes may be cast by such electronic means as the Board, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate for the purposes of the meeting. Any such poll shall be deemed to have been validly demanded at the time fixed for the holding of the meeting to which it relates. At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting at a physical general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before, or on the declaration of the result of, the show of hands, or on the withdrawal of any other demand for a poll, a poll is demanded by:
- 73.1 the chairperson of the meeting; or
- 73.2 at least three members present in person or by proxy having the right to vote at the meeting; or
- 73.3 a member or members present in person or by proxy and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting (excluding any voting rights attached to any shares held as treasury shares); or
- 73.4 a member or members present in person or by proxy holding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote at the meeting, being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding any shares conferring a right to vote at the meeting which are held as treasury shares); or
- 73.5 any member present in person or by proxy in the case of a resolution to confer, vary, revoke or renew authority or approval for an off-market purchase by the Company of its own shares,
- and a demand by a person as proxy for a member shall be the same as a demand by the member.
- 74 Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the chairperson of the meeting that a resolution has been earned or earned unanimously, or by a

particular majority, or lost, or not earned 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.

- 75 The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chairperson of the meeting 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. If the demand for a poll is withdrawn, the chairperson or any other member entitled may demand a poll.
- 76 A poll shall be taken as the chairperson of the meeting directs and he may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place or electronic platform 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.
- 77 A poll demanded on the election of a chairperson of the meeting or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either forthwith or at such time and place or electronic platform as the chairperson directs not being more than 30 days after the poll is demanded. The demand for a poll (other than on the election of a chairperson of the meeting or on a question of adjournment) shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll has been 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.
- 78 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 at which it is demanded. In any other case at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place or electronic platform at which the poll is to be taken.
- 79 All resolutions put to the Members at electronic general meetings shall be voted on by a poll, which poll votes may be cast by such electronic means as the Board in its sole discretion deems appropriate for the purposes of the meeting.
- 80 A resolution in writing executed or approved in writing by or on behalf of each member who would have been entitled to vote upon it if it had been proposed at a general meeting at which he was present (and for this purpose shares in the company held as treasury shares are to be regarded as not conferring an entitlement to vote) shall be as effectual as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form each executed or approved in writing by or on behalf of one or more members.

VOTES OF MEMBERS

- 81 Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares, on a show of hands every member who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote, and on a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share of which he is the holder.
- 82 In the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders, and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register in respect of the joint holding.
- 83 In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chairperson of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the demand for the poll is made shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he may have.
- 84 A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, and otherwise exercise all his rights as a member, by his receiver or other person authorised in that behalf appointed by that court. Evidence to the

satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote or act shall be deposited at the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit of instruments 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, or, in the case of a poll, at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

- 85 Unless the Board otherwise determines, no member shall attend or vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in the Company or upon a poll, either in person or by proxy, in respect of any share held by him or exercise any other right or privilege conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll unless all moneys presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid..
- 86 If any votes are counted which ought not to have been counted, or might have been rejected, the error shall not vitiate the result of the voting unless it is pointed out at the same meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, and it is in the opinion of the chairperson of the meeting of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the result of the voting.
- 87 No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting or poll shall be valid and every vote not earned which ought to have been counted shall be disregarded Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairperson of the meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- 88 On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.

PROXIES

- 89 Appointments of proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointor or his attorney or, if the appointor is a corporation, either under its common seal or the hand of a duly authorised officer, attorney or other person authorised to sign it The Board may allow an appointment of proxy to be sent or supplied in electronic form subject to any conditions or limitations as the Board 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, an appointment of 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 in the relevant notice of meeting.
- 90 Appointments of proxy shall be in any usual form or in any other form which the Board may approve (which shall include provision for two-way voting) and the Board may, if it thinks fit, but subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, at the Company's expense send out with the notice of any meeting instruments of proxy for use at the meeting An appointment of a proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting or poll concerned A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion and if he does he must specify the number of shares in relation to which each proxy is appointed and each proxy will only be entitled to exercise voting rights in relation to the number of shares for which he is appointed If a member appoints more than one proxy, he must ensure that no proxy is appointed to exercise voting rights which any other proxy has been appointed by that member to exercise. References in these Articles to an appointment of proxy includes references to an appointment of multiple proxies.
- 91 The appointment of a proxy and (unless the Board otherwise decides) any authority under which it is executed or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in accordance with the Powers of Attorney Act 1971 or in some other way approved by the Board shall:
- 91.1 in the case of an instrument in hard copy form be deposited at the Office or at such other place in the United Kingdom as may be specified in or by way of note to the notice of meeting or any instrument of proxy or other document accompanying the same not less than 48 hours before

the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting or the taking of the poll at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote, or

- 91.2 in the case of an appointment contained in an electronic communication be received at the address (if any) specified for the purpose of receiving such electronic communications:

91.2.1 in or by way of note to the notice of meeting; or

91.2.2 in any instrument of proxy sent by or on behalf of the Company in relation to the meeting; or

91.2.3 in any invitation contained in an electronic communication to appoint a proxy issued by or on behalf of the Company in relation to the meeting; or

91.2.4 by means of a relevant system,

not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting or the taking of the poll at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote;

- 91.3 in either case, where a poll is taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited or received as aforesaid not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or

- 91.4 in the case only of an instrument or any authority or copy thereof, where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the chairperson of the meeting or to the Secretary or any Director,

and an appointment of proxy which is not, or in respect of which the authority or copy thereof is not, deposited, received or delivered in a manner so permitted shall be invalid. No appointment of a proxy shall be valid after the expiration of 12 months from the date stated in the relevant instrument of proxy at the date of its execution.

- 92 Where two or more valid but differing appointments of proxies are deposited or received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting or poll, the one which is last deposited or received (regardless of its date or the date of its execution) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other as regards that share, if the Company is unable to determine which was last deposited or received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share. The Directors may specify in the notice convening a meeting that in determining the time for delivery of proxies pursuant to this Article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day (as defined in Section 1173(1) of the Act).

- 93 The appointment of a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to vote on any amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given as the proxy thinks fit. The appointment of a proxy shall, unless the contrary is stated therein, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates.

- 94 A vote given or poll demanded by a 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 deposited or received by the Company not less than two hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the poll demanded or (in the case of a poll taken otherwise than at or on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll. Such notice of determination shall be by means of instrument deposited at the place, or contained in an electronic communication received at the address (if any), specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit or receipt of appointments of a proxy at the meeting in question.

REPRESENTATIVES OF CORPORATIONS

- 95 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any corporation or corporation sole which is a member of the Company may, in the case of a corporation by resolution of its directors or other governing body or by authority to be given under seal or under the hand of an officer duly authorised by it, authorise any person it thinks fit to act as its representative at any meeting of the Company. The person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the grantor of the authority as the grantor could exercise if it were an individual member of the Company and the grantor shall for the purposes of these Articles be regarded as a member present in person at any such meeting. Such representative may be required to produce a copy of such authorisation certified by a proper officer of such grantor.

CLASS MEETINGS

- 96 Unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of any class of shares of the Company, all the provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings of the Company or to the proceedings at general meetings shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to every separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company, except that in the case of a meeting held in connection with the variation or abrogation of the rights attached to the shares of the class:
- 96.1 the necessary quorum shall be two persons at least holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal amount of the issued shares of the class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) or, at any adjourned meeting of such holders, the holder or holders of shares of the class who are present in person or by proxy, whatever his or their holdings;
- 96.2 a poll may be demanded by any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy; and
- 96.3 the holders of shares of the class shall on a poll, have one vote in respect of every share of the class held by them respectively.

NUMBER OF DIRECTORS

- 97 Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution of the Company, the number of Directors shall not be subject to any maximum but shall not be less than two.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 98 Each Director shall retire from office and shall be eligible for reappointment at the third annual general meeting after the general meeting at which he was appointed or last reappointed. If the Company, at the meeting at which a Director retires under this Article, does not fill the vacancy the retiring Director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been reappointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution for the reappointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost.
- 99 A Director retiring at a meeting who is not reappointed shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting or of any adjournment thereof.
- 100 No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall be appointed or reappointed a Director at any general meeting unless:
- 100.1 he is recommended by the Board; or
- 100.2 not less than seven nor more than 21 clear days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice executed by a member qualified to vote at the meeting has been given to the Company of his intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors together with notice executed by that person confirming his willingness to be appointed or reappointed.

- 101 Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director.
- 102 The Board 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 by or in accordance with these Articles as the maximum number of Directors A Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting when he shall retire from office and be eligible for reappointment If not reappointed at such annual general meeting, he shall vacate office at its conclusion.

DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

- 103 In addition to any power of removal conferred by the Companies Acts, the Company may by special resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office. Such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim such Director may have for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company.
- 104 The office of a Director shall be vacated if:
- 104.1 he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally; or
- 104.2 he becomes incapable by reason of physical incapacity or mental disorder of discharging his duties as a Director and the Board resolves that his office be vacated; or
- 104.3 he is absent from meetings of the Board during a continuous period of six months without permission of the Board and his Alternate Director (if any) shall not during such period have attended in his stead, and the Board resolves that his office be vacated; or
- 104.4 he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, is removed from office or becomes prohibited by law from being a Director; or
- 104.5 he resigns his office by notice to the Company; or
- 104.6 he is removed from office by notice in writing signed by all the other Directors.

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

- 105 Any Director may appoint any other Director, or any other person approved by resolution of the Board and willing to act, to be an Alternate Director and may remove from office an Alternate Director so appointed by him.
- 106 The appointment of an Alternate Director shall automatically determine in any of the following events:
- 106.1 if his appointor terminates the appointment;
- 106.2 on the happening of any event which, if he were a Director, would cause him to vacate the office of Director;
- 106.3 if he resigns his appointment by notice to the Company;
- 106.4 if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director otherwise than by retiring and being reappointed or deemed to be reappointed at the meeting at which he retires; or
- 106.5 if he is not a Director and the Board revokes its approval of him by resolution.
- 107 An Alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served upon him) be entitled at his appointor's request to

receive notice of all meetings of the Board and of all meetings of committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote and (save as provided in these Articles) be counted in the quorum at any such meeting at which the Director appointing him is not personally present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a Director in his absence.

- 108 An Alternate Director may be repaid by the Company such expenses as might properly have been repaid to him if he had been a Director and in respect of his office of Alternate Director may receive such remuneration from the Company as the Board may determine. An Alternate Director shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company to the same extent as if he were a Director.
- 109 An Alternate Director shall, during his appointment, be an officer of the Company 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.
- 110 Any appointment or removal of an Alternate Director shall be in writing signed by the Director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the Board and shall take effect (subject to any approval required by these Articles) upon receipt of such written appointment or removal at the Office or by the Secretary.
- 111 A Director or any other person may act as Alternate Director to represent more than one Director and an Alternate Director shall be entitled at meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board to one vote for every Director whom he represents in addition to his own vote (if any) as a Director.

POWERS OF DIRECTORS

- 112 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of these Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Board by these Articles and a duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Board.
- 113 The Board may make such arrangements as the Board thinks fit for the management and transaction of the Company's affairs and may for that purpose appoint local boards, managers and agents and delegate to them any of the powers of the Board with power to sub-delegate.
- 114 The Board may from time to time, by power of attorney executed by the Company or otherwise, appoint any company, firm or person, or any fluctuating body of persons, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the Board, to be the attorney or agent of the Company for such purposes and with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the Board under these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as it may think fit. Any such power of attorney or other authority may contain such provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such attorney or agent as the Board may think fit and may also authorise any such attorney or agent to sub-delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.
- 108A The Board may change the name of the Company by a resolution of the Board.

DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS

- 115 The Board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, all powers, authorities and discretions whose exercise involves or may involve agreement of the terms of service or termination of employment or appointment of or the payment of remuneration to or the conferring of any other benefit on all or any of the Directors) to any committee consisting of one or more Directors

together with any other person or persons approved by the Board, with power to sub-delegate. Any such delegation may be made subject to any conditions the Board may impose, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may be revoked or altered. Subject to any such conditions, the proceedings of a committee with two or more members shall be governed by the provisions of these Articles regulating the proceedings of the Board so far as they are capable of applying. Insofar as any power, authority or discretion is delegated to a committee, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Board of such power, authority or discretion shall be read and construed as if it were a reference to the exercise of such power, authority or discretion by such committee. Every such committee shall have as a majority of its membership persons who are Directors and no resolution of any such committee shall be effective unless the majority of the persons present (in person or by their Alternate Directors) at the meeting at which it is passed are Directors.

BORROWING POWERS

116

116.1 The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company, and shall so far as possible by the exercise of the Company's voting rights in and other rights or powers of control over its Subsidiary Undertakings secure that they restrict their borrowings, so that the aggregate principal amount at any time outstanding in respect of money borrowed by the Group shall not without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed a sum equal to three times the adjusted share capital and reserves.

116.2 For the purposes of this Article:

116.2.1 **"adjusted share capital and reserves"** means the aggregate of the amount paid up or credited as paid up on the allotted or issued share capital of the Company and the amount standing to the credit of each of the consolidated capital and revenue reserves (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve, revaluation reserve and profit and loss account but net of any debit balance on profit and loss account) of the Group all as shown in the latest audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group but adjusted as may be necessary:

- (a) to take account of any variation in the paid up share capital, share premium account or capital redemption reserve of the Company since the date of that balance sheet and so that for this purpose if any issue or proposed issue of shares by the Company for cash has been underwritten (whether conditionally or not) then such shares shall be deemed to have been issued and the amount (including any premium) of the subscription money shall to the extent so underwritten be deemed to have been paid up on the date when the issue was underwritten;
- (b) to take account in the case of Subsidiary Undertakings of the interests of participants outside the Group (if any) and any variation in the interest of the Company in any Subsidiary Undertaking between the date of the balance sheet and the date for which the calculation falls to be made; and
- (c) to take account of any other factor which the Directors or the Auditors consider relevant;

116.2.2 **"money borrowed"** shall include:

- (a) the nominal amount and any fixed or minimum premium payable on redemption or repayment of any debentures or loan capital issued by any member of the Group;

- (b) the nominal amount of any issued share capital and the principal amount of any money borrowed the redemption or repayment of which is guaranteed or secured or the subject of an indemnity by the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking (together in each case with any fixed or minimum premium payable on final redemption or repayment) except so far as such money borrowed is otherwise taken into account as money borrowed by the Company or a Subsidiary Undertaking;

but the following shall be disregarded

- (c) money borrowed by a member of the Group from another member of the Group, other than amounts to be taken into account under Article 116.2.2(e);
- (d) any money borrowed intended to be applied within four months of being borrowed in the repayment of any money previously borrowed pending its application for such purpose within such period; and
- (e) that proportion of the total money borrowed by any partly-owned Subsidiary Undertaking which its issued equity share capital not for the time being beneficially owned directly or indirectly by the Company bears to the whole of its issued equity share capital but a like proportion of any borrowings from such partly-owned Subsidiary Undertaking by the Company or any other Subsidiary Undertaking shall fall to be treated as borrowings of the Company or such other Subsidiary Undertaking notwithstanding the same would not otherwise be taken into account.

116.3 For the purposes of calculating the amount of money borrowed under this Article there shall be credited (subject, in the case of any item held or deposited by a partly-owned Subsidiary Undertaking, to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the proportion of the issued equity share capital of the partly-owned Subsidiary Undertaking which is not directly or indirectly attributable to the Company) against the gross amount of money borrowed the aggregate of:

116.3.1 cash in hand of the Group;

116.3.2 the realisable value of certificates of deposit and securities of governments and companies owned by a member of the Group; and

116.3.3 cash deposits and the credit balance on each current account of the Group with banks in the United Kingdom or elsewhere if the remittance of the cash to the United Kingdom is not prohibited by any law, regulation, treaty or official directive, however, if the remittance of such cash is prohibited it shall nonetheless be deducted from amounts borrowed but only to the extent that it may be set-off against or act as security for such amounts.

116.4 No person dealing with the Company or any Subsidiary Undertakings shall by reason of the foregoing provisions be concerned to see or enquire whether this limit is observed and no debt incurred or security given in excess of such limit shall be invalid or ineffectual.

116.5 A report by the Auditors stating what is in their opinion, based on their examination of the accounting records of the Group or such other evidence as they may think appropriate, the amount of the adjusted share capital and reserves or the amount of money borrowed or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article was not or will not be exceeded at any time or times shall be conclusive evidence of such amount or fact for the purposes of this Article.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

- 117 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may:
- 117.1 appoint one or more of its body to the office of managing director or chief executive or to any other executive office (except that of auditor) of the Company and may enter into an agreement or arrangement with any Director for his employment by the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking or for the provision by him of any services outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director. Any such appointment, agreement or arrangement may be made upon such terms as the Board determines and it may remunerate any such Director for his services as it thinks fit; and
- 117.2 permit any person appointed to be a Director to continue in any other office or employment held by him with the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking before he was so appointed.
- 118 Any appointment of a Director to the office of managing director or chief executive shall terminate if he ceases to be a Director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of contract of service between the Director and the Company and he shall not (unless any agreement between him and the Company shall otherwise provide) cease to hold his office as Director by reason only of his ceasing to be managing director or chief executive.
- 119 Save as provided in the foregoing Article, an Executive Director shall not (unless any agreement between him and the Company shall otherwise provide) cease to hold his office or employment with the Company by reason only of his ceasing to be a Director nor cease to be a Director if he ceases from any cause to hold the office or employment by virtue of which he is termed an Executive Director.
- 120 The emoluments and benefits of any Executive Director for his services as such shall be determined by the Board and may be of any description, and (without limiting the generality of the foregoing) may include membership of any scheme or fund instituted or established or financed or contributed to by the Company for the provision of pensions, life assurance or other benefits for employees or their dependants or, apart from membership of any such scheme or fund, the payment of a pension or other benefits to him or his dependants on or after retirement or death.
- 121 The Board may delegate or entrust to and confer upon any Executive Director any of the powers, authorities and discretions exercisable by it (with power to sub-delegate) upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as it thinks fit and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers and may from time to time revoke, withdraw or vary all or any part of such powers.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

- 122 The Board may at any time and from time to time appoint any person to be an associate director having such title, including the word "director", as the Board may decide and may at any time remove any person so appointed. A person so appointed shall not be a Director of the Company and shall not be a member of the Board Subject as aforesaid, the Board may define and limit the powers and duties of any associate director and may determine his remuneration which may be in addition to any other remuneration receivable by him from the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking.

REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS

- 123 The ordinary remuneration of the Directors (other than any Executive Directors appointed under these Articles) shall be such amount as the Directors shall from time to time determine provided that, unless otherwise approved by the Company in general meeting, the aggregate of the ordinary remuneration of such Directors shall not exceed £150,000 per year The ordinary remuneration shall be divided among such Directors in such manner as the Directors may determine A Director holding office for part only of a year shall be entitled to a proportionate part of a full year's remuneration.

- 124 Any Director who serves on any committee of the Board or, by request of the Board, performs special services or goes or resides abroad for any purposes of the Company may be paid such extra remuneration by way of salary, percentage of profits or otherwise as the Board may determine.

DIRECTORS' EXPENSES

- 125 The Directors may be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses as they may incur in connection with their attendance at meetings of the Board or of committees of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties. The Company may also fund a Director's expenditure on defending proceedings as provided in the Companies Acts.

DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS

- 126 The Board may provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or otherwise, for any Director who has held but no longer holds any executive office or employment with the Company or with anybody corporate which is or has been a Subsidiary Undertaking or a predecessor in business of the Company or of any Subsidiary Undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse and a former spouse) or any person who is or was dependent on him and may (as well before as after he ceases to hold such office or employment) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN RELATION TO PROPOSED OR EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE COMPANY

- 127 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and provided that he has disclosed to the Board the nature and extent of any interest of his in accordance with Articles 141 to 148, or where Articles 149 or 150 apply and no declaration of interest is required, a Director notwithstanding his office:
- 127.1 may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is directly or indirectly interested;
 - 127.2 may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested; and
 - 127.3 shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.
- 128 Any Director may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the Company (otherwise than as auditor) and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a Director.
- 129 In the case of interests arising under Article 127, a Director shall not vote at a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, an interest which is material (otherwise than by virtue of his interest in shares, debentures or other securities of, or otherwise in or through, the Company) unless his interest or duty arises only because the case falls within one or more of the following paragraphs:
- 129.1 the resolution relates to the giving to him or a person connected with him of a guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent to, or an obligation incurred by him or such a person at the request of or for the benefit of, the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking;

- 129.2 the resolution relates to the giving to a third party of a guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking for which the Director or a person connected with him has assumed responsibility in whole or part and whether alone or jointly with others under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;
- 129.3 his interest arises by virtue of him or a person connected with him subscribing or agreeing to subscribe for any shares, debentures or other securities of the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking or by virtue of him or a person connected with him being, or intending to become, a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of an offer of any such shares, debentures, or other securities by the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking for subscription, purchase or exchange;
- 129.4 the resolution relates in any way to any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly and whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise howsoever, provided that he and any persons connected with him do not to his knowledge hold an interest in shares (as that term is used in Part 22 of the Act) representing one per cent or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company or of the voting rights available to members of such company (excluding any shares in the company held as treasury shares and any voting rights attached thereto);
- 129.5 the resolution relates in any way to an arrangement in whole or in part for the benefit of the employees of the Company or any Subsidiary Undertakings which does not award him as such any privilege or advantage not generally awarded to the employees to whom such arrangement relates;
- 129.6 the resolution relates in any way to the purchase or maintenance for the Directors of insurance against any liability which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to all or any of them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company or any Subsidiary Undertaking.
- 130 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.
- 131 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company or a body corporate in which the Company is interested the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and (provided he is not for another reason precluded from voting) each of the Directors concerned shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.
- 132 If a question arises at a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board as to the right of a Director to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, the question may (unless the Director concerned is the chairperson of the meeting in which case he shall withdraw from the meeting and the Board shall elect a vice chairperson to consider the question in place of the chairperson), before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairperson of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any Director other than himself shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Director concerned has not been fairly disclosed and provided that any such question shall, for the purposes of disclosure of the interest in the accounts of the Company, be finally and conclusively decided by a majority of the Board (other than the Director concerned) If any such question arises in respect of the chairperson of the meeting, it shall be decided by resolution of the Board (on which the chairperson shall not vote) and such resolution will be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature and extent of the interests of the chairperson have not been fairly disclosed.
- 133 The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, any provision of these Articles prohibiting a Director from voting at a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board or (subject to the Act) ratify any transaction or arrangement not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of these Articles.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS OTHER THAN IN RELATION TO TRANSACTIONS OR ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE COMPANY

- 134 If a situation (a "**Relevant Situation**") arises in which a Director has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company (including, without limitation, in relation to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity, whether or not the Company could take advantage of it, but excluding any situation which cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest) the following provisions shall apply if the conflict of interest does not arise in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Company:
- 134.1 if a Relevant Situation arises from the appointment or proposed appointment of a person as a Director of the Company, the Directors (other than the Director, and any other Director with a similar interest, who shall not be counted in the quorum at the meeting and shall not vote on the resolution) may resolve to authorise the appointment of the Director and the Relevant Situation on such terms as they may determine;
- 134.2 if the Relevant Situation arises in circumstances other than in Article 134.1, the Directors (other than the Director, and any other Director with a similar interest, who shall not be counted in the quorum at the meeting and shall not vote on the resolution) may resolve to authorise the Relevant Situation and the continuing performance by the Director of his duties on such terms as they may determine.
- 135 Any reference in Article 134 and Article 150 to a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.
- 136 Any terms determined by Directors under Article 134.1 or 134.2 may be imposed at the time of authorisation or may be imposed or varied subsequently and may include (without limitation):
- 136.1 whether the interested Directors may vote (or be counted in the quorum at a meeting) in relation to any resolution relating to the Relevant Situation;
- 136.2 the exclusion of the interested Director(s) from all information and discussion by the Company of the Relevant Situation; and
- 136.3 (without prejudice to the general obligations of confidentiality) the application to the interested Directors of a strict duty of confidentiality to the Company for any confidential information of the Company in relation to the Relevant Situation.
- 137 An interested Director must act in accordance with any terms determined by the Directors under Articles 134.1 or 134.2.
- 138 Except as specified in Article 134, any proposal made to the Directors and any authorisation by the Directors in relation to a Relevant Situation shall be dealt with in the same way as any other matter may be proposed to and resolved upon by the Directors in accordance with the provisions of these Articles.
- 139 Any authorisation of a Relevant Situation given by the Directors under Article 134 may provide that, where the interested Director obtains (other than through his position as a Director of the Company) information that is confidential to a third party, he will not be obliged to disclose it to the Company or to use it in relation to the Company's affairs in circumstances where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence.
- 140 A Director shall not, by reason of his holding an office as a Director (or of the fiduciary relationship established by holding that office), be liable to account to the Company for any remuneration, profit or other benefit resulting from:
- 140.1 any Relevant Situation authorised under Article 134 or permitted under Article 127; or

140.2 any interest permitted under Article 127,

nor shall the receipt of any such remuneration, profit or other benefit constitute a breach of his duty under section 176 of the Act No transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any Director having any type of interest authorised under Article 134 or permitted under Article 127 or otherwise pursuant to these Articles.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

141 A Director shall declare the nature and extent of his interest in a Relevant Situation within Article 134.1 or 134.2 to the other Directors.

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

143 Where a Director is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a transaction or arrangement that has been entered into by the Company, he must declare the nature and extent of his interest to the other Directors, unless the interest has been declared under Article 142 above.

144 The declaration of interest must (in the case of Articles 142 and 143) and may, but need not, (in the case of Article 141) be made:

144.1 at a meeting of the Directors; or

144.2 by notice to the Directors in accordance with:

144.2.1 section 184 of the Act (notice in writing); or

144.2.2 section 185 of the Act (general notice).

145 If a declaration of interest proves to be, or becomes, inaccurate or incomplete, a further declaration must be made under Articles 141, 142 or 143, as appropriate.

146 Any declaration of interest required by Article 141 must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable Failure to comply with this requirement does not affect the underlying duty to make the declaration of interest.

147 Any declaration of interest required by Article 142 must be made before the Company enters into the transaction or arrangement.

148 Any declaration of interest required by Article 143 must be made as soon as is reasonably practicable.

149 A declaration in relation to an interest of which the Director is not aware, or where the Director is not aware of the transaction or arrangement in question, is not required. For this purpose, a Director is treated as being aware of matters of which he ought reasonably to be aware

150 A Director need not declare an interest:

150.1 if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest;

150.2 if, or to the extent that, the other Directors are already aware of it, (and for this purpose the other Directors are treated as aware of anything of which they ought reasonably to be aware); or

150.3 if, or to the extent that, it concerns terms of his service contract that have been or are to be considered:

150.3.1 by a meeting of the Directors; or

150.3.2 by a committee of the Directors appointed for the purpose under these Articles.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

- 151 Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit. A Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, call a meeting of the Board. Notice of a board meeting may be given to a Director personally or by word of mouth, telephone, fax or sent in writing to him at such address as he may from time to time specify for this purpose (or if he does not specify an address, at his last known address) or sent in electronic form to such address (if any) as may for the time being be notified by him or on his behalf to the Company for that purpose. A Director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may request the Board that notices of board meetings shall during his absence be given by instrument or electronic communication to him (or to his alternate) at an address given by him to the Company for this purpose, but if no such request is made it shall not be necessary to give notice of a board meeting to any Director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom. A Director may waive notice of any meeting either prospectively or retrospectively.
- 152 Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairperson of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
- 153 The quorum for the transaction of the business of the Board may be fixed by the Board and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two. A person who holds office as an Alternate Director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum provided that a Director or Alternate Director who attends a meeting of the Board shall for the purposes of a quorum be counted as one person notwithstanding that he also attends such meeting as an Alternate Director or that he attends as an Alternate Director appointed by more than one Director.
- 154 Any Director or other person may participate in a meeting of the Board by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other and any person participating in the meeting in this manner shall be deemed to be present in person at that meeting. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or, if there is no such group, at the place where the chairperson of the meeting is at the time the meeting is held.
- 155 The continuing Directors or a sole continuing Director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in the Board 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 in the Board or of calling a general meeting.
- 156 The Board may appoint one of its number to be the chairperson of the Board and one or more deputy chairmen and may at any time remove them from office. Unless he is unwilling to do so, the chairperson of the Board shall preside at every meeting of the Board at which he is present but if there is no chairperson of the Board or deputy chairperson holding office, or if at any meeting neither the chairperson of the Board nor a deputy chairperson is present and willing to preside within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting.
- 157 A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Board (not being less than the number required to form a quorum of the Board) or all members of a committee of the Board shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board or (as the case may be) a committee of the Board duly convened and held and may consist of several instruments or electronic communications in the like form each signed by one or more Directors, but a resolution signed by an Alternate Director need not also be signed by his appointor and, if it is signed by a Director who has appointed an Alternate Director, it need not be signed by the Alternate Director in that capacity.

- 158 All acts done by a meeting of the Board, or of a committee of the Board, or by a person acting as a Director, Alternate Director or member of a committee shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any Director, Alternate Director or person acting as aforesaid, 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, Alternate Director or member of a committee and had been entitled to vote.

SECRETARY

- 159 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as it may think fit and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by the Board Two or more persons may be appointed as joint secretaries and the Board may also appoint from time to time on such terms as it may think fit one or more temporary or assistant or deputy secretaries.

MINUTES

- 160 The Board shall cause minutes to be kept:
- 160.1 of all appointments of officers made by the Board; and
- 160.2 of all proceedings at meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, and of the Board, and of committees of the Board, including the names of the Directors present at each such meeting.

Any such minutes, if purporting to be signed by the chairperson of the meeting to which they relate or of the meeting at which they are approved, shall be sufficient evidence without any further proof of the facts stated in them.

THE SEAL

- 161 If the Company has a Seal it shall only be used by the authority of the Board or of a committee of the Board authorised by the Board The Board may determine who shall sign any instrument to which the Seal is affixed and unless otherwise so determined it shall be signed by a Director and by the Secretary or by a second Director.
- 162 The Company may exercise the powers conferred by section 49 of the Act with regard to having an official seal for use abroad, and such powers shall be vested in the Board.

DIVIDENDS

- 163 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 Board.
- 164 Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to the shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid but (for the purposes of this Article only) no amount paid on a share in advance of calls shall be treated as paid on the share All dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid, but, if any share is issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, that share shall rank for dividend accordingly.
- 165 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may pay interim dividends if it appears to the Board that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes of shares, the Board 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 arrears.

The Board may also pay at intervals settled by it any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to it that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. Provided the Board acts in good faith the Directors shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss that they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights. Dividends may be declared or paid in any currency.

- 166 The Board may deduct from any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share to any member all sums of money (if any) presently payable by him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to shares of the Company.
- 167 No dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share. All unclaimed dividends may be retained by the Company or invested or made use of by the Company as the Board may think fit until they are claimed and so that the Company shall not be obliged to account for any interest or other income derived from them nor shall it be constituted a trustee in respect of them or be responsible for any loss thereby arising. Any interest or profits earned on unclaimed dividends invested or otherwise made use of shall belong to the Company. Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for twelve years from the date when it became due for payment shall be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company.
- 168 Without prejudice to any rights attached to any shares, the Company or the Board may fix a date, or a particular time on 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. In the absence of a record date being fixed, entitlement to any dividend, distribution, allotment or issue shall be determined by reference to the date on which the dividend is declared or the distribution, allotment or issue is made.
- 169 The Board may pay the dividends or other moneys payable on shares in respect of which any person is entitled to be registered as holder by transmission to such person upon production of such evidence as would be required if such person desired to be registered as a member in respect of such shares.
- 170 Any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of a share may be paid:
- 170.1 in cash;
- 170.2 by cheque or warrant sent by post to the address in the Register of the person entitled to the moneys 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 or otherwise by operation of law, to the address in the Register of that one of those persons who is first named in the Register in respect of the joint holding or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled to the moneys may in writing direct. Every such cheque or warrant shall be made payable to the person or persons entitled to the moneys or to such other person as the person or persons so entitled may in writing direct and shall be sent at the risk of the person or persons so entitled. Any such cheque or warrant may be crossed "account payee" although the Company shall not be obliged to do so;
- 170.3 by bank transfer to such account (of a type approved by the Board) as the person or persons entitled to the moneys may in writing direct; or
- 170.4 by such other method of payment approved by the Board as the person or persons entitled to the moneys may in writing agree to:

Payment of a cheque or warrant by the bank on which it was drawn or the transfer of funds by the bank instructed to make the transfer shall be a good discharge to the Company.

171 If in respect of dividends or other moneys payable in respect of any shares cheques or warrants have been sent through the post in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Article but have been returned undelivered or left encashed during the periods for which they are valid or bank transfers or other methods of payment have failed either:

171.1 on two consecutive occasions; or

171.2 on any one occasion and reasonable enquiries have failed to establish another address or account of the person entitled to the moneys;

the Company need not thereafter despatch further cheques or warrants or give instructions for bank transfers or other methods of payment in payment of dividends or other moneys payable on or in respect of the shares in question until the member or other person entitled thereto shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing to the Transfer Office a new address or account to be used for the purpose.

172 Any general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the Board, direct payment or satisfaction of such dividend wholly or in part by the distribution of specific assets and in particular of fully paid shares or debentures of any other company, and the Board shall give effect to such directions Where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, the Board may settle the same as it thinks expedient, and in particular may fix the value for distribution of such specific assets or any part thereof and may determine that cash payment shall be made to any members upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of those entitled to participate in the dividend, and may vest any such specific assets in trustees, upon trust for the members entitled to the dividend, as may seem expedient to the Board.

173 The Board may, with the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer the holders of shares the right to elect to receive shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of the whole (or some part; to be determined by the Board) of such dividend or dividends as are specified by such resolution The following provisions shall apply:

173.1 the resolution may specify a particular dividend, or may specify all or any dividends declared or paid within a specified period, but such period shall end not later than the beginning of the annual general meeting in the fifth year following that in which such resolution is passed;

173.2 the entitlement of each holder of shares to new shares shall be such that the value of such new shares shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not in excess of) the cash amount that such holder would otherwise have received by way of dividend For this purpose the value of a share shall be the average of the middle market quotations for such a share as derived from the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List on such five consecutive dealing days as the Directors shall determine provided that the first of such dealing days shall be on or after the day when the shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend;

173.3 no fraction of a share may be allotted and the Board may make such provision as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements including provision:

173.3.1 for the whole or part of the benefit of fractional entitlements to be disregarded or to accrue to the Company; or

173.3.2 for the value of fractional entitlements to be accumulated on behalf of a member (without entitlement to interest) and applied in paying up new shares in connection with a subsequent offer by the Company of the right to receive shares instead of cash in respect of a future dividend;

173.4 the Board, after determining the basis of allotment, shall notify the holders of shares in writing of the right of election offered to them and (except in the case of any holder from whom the Company has received written notice in such form as the Board may require which is effective for the purposes of the relevant dividend that such holder wishes to receive shares instead of cash in respect of all future dividends in respect of which the Board offers the holders of shares the right to elect to receive shares as aforesaid) shall send with, or following, such notification,

forms of election and specify the procedure to be followed and the place or address at which, and the latest date and time by which, duly completed forms of election must be received in order to be effective;

- 173.5 the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on shares in respect of which such election has been duly made (the "elected shares") and instead additional shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected shares on the basis of allotment determined as provided above. For such purpose the Board shall capitalise out of such of the sums standing to the credit of reserves (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 Board may determine a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional shares to be allotted on such basis and shall apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued shares for allotment and distribution to and amongst the holders of the elected shares on such basis;
- 173.6 the additional shares so allotted shall rank *par passu* in all respects with the fully-paid shares of that class then in issue save only as regards participation in the relevant dividend; and
- 173.7 the Board may on any occasion determine that rights of election shall only be made available subject to such exclusions, restrictions or other arrangements as it may in its absolute discretion deem necessary or desirable in order to comply with legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory.
- 174 If several persons are entered in the Register as joint holders of any share or are jointly entitled to a share, any one of them may give receipts for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of the share and the Board may deduct from the dividends or other moneys payable in respect of any share held jointly by several persons all sums of money (if any) presently payable to the Company from any one or more of the registered holders on account of calls or otherwise in relation to shares in the Company held in the joint names of all (but not some only) of such registered holders.

ACCOUNTS

- 175 No member shall (as such) have any right of inspecting any accounting records or other book or document of the Company except as conferred by the Companies Acts or authorised by the Board or by ordinary resolution of the Company.
- 176
- 176.1 Save as provided in this Article, a copy of the annual accounts of the Company together with a copy of the Auditors' report and the Directors' report and any other documents required to accompany or to be annexed to them shall, not less than 21 days before the date of the general meeting at which copies of those documents are to be laid, be sent (which includes using electronic communications to send copies of the documents to such an address given by the member to the Company), or by making it available on a website in accordance with the Statutes or by any other means authorised in writing by the member, to every member and to every debenture holder of the Company and to every other person who is entitled to receive notices from the Company of general meetings;
- 176.2 Copies of the documents referred to in Article 176.1 need not be sent:
- 176.2.1 to a person who is not entitled to receive notices of general meetings and of whose address the Company is unaware; or
- 176.2.2 to more than one of the joint holders of shares or debentures in respect of those shares or debentures,

provided that any member or debenture holder to whom a copy of such documents has not been sent shall be entitled to receive a copy free of charge on application at the Office.

- 176.3 The Company may, in accordance with the Companies Acts and any regulations made thereunder, send a summary financial statement to any of the persons otherwise entitled to be sent copies of the documents referred to in Article 176.1 instead of or in addition to those documents and, where it does so, the statement shall be delivered or sent to such person not less than 21 days before the general meeting at which copies of these documents referred to in Article 176.1 are to be laid.

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

- 177 The Board may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:
- 177.1 subject as subsequently provided in these Articles, resolve to capitalise all or any part of the profits of the Company to which this Article applies;
- 177.2 appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions and apply such sum on their behalf either:
- 177.2.1 in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively; or
- 177.2.2 in paying up in full new shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those members, or as they may direct, in those proportions; or partly in one way and partly in the other;
- 177.3 in respect of any shares held as treasury shares, include, to the extent permitted by the Act, the Company among the members entitled to the sum resolved to be capitalised notwithstanding that it is not entitled to any dividend in respect of such shares;
- 177.4 make such provision by the issue of fractional securities or by payment in cash or otherwise as it determines in the case of shares or debentures otherwise becoming distributable under this Article in fractions; and
- 177.5 authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid, of any shares or debentures to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members;
- 178 The profits of the Company to which the preceding Article applies shall be any undistributed profits of the Company not required for paying fixed dividends on any preference shares or other shares issued on special conditions and shall be deemed to include:
- 178.1 any reserves arising from appreciation in capital assets or ascertained by valuation; and
- 178.2 any other amounts for the time being standing to any reserve or reserves including capital redemption reserve and share premium account,

provided that to the extent required by the Companies Acts the Company shall not apply an unrealised profit in paying up debentures or any amounts unpaid on any of its issued shares and the only purpose to which sums standing to share premium account or capital redemption reserve shall be applied pursuant to the preceding Article shall be the payment up in full of new shares to be allotted and distributed as aforesaid

NOTICES

179 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Articles, and instead of being served on or sent or supplied to members in any of the other ways specified in these Articles, any notice, document or information may be served on or sent or supplied to any member by the Company by sending or supplying it in electronic form to an address notified by the member to the Company for that purpose or by making it available on a website in accordance with the Statutes or by any other means authorised in writing by the member.

180 Any notice calling a meeting of the Board or other document may be sent in electronic form to such address (if any) as may for the time being be notified for that purpose to the person sending the notice or other document by or on behalf of the person to whom the notice or document is sent. The Board may from time to time specify the form and manner in which a notice may be given by or to the Company in electronic form and may prescribe such procedures as it thinks fit for verifying the authenticity or integrity of any such electronic communication. A notice may be given to the Company in electronic form only if it is given to an address specified for the receipt of electronic communications of that type and in accordance with the requirements specified by the Board.

Any notice, document or other information served, sent or supplied by the Company using electronic means shall be deemed to have been received on the day on which it was sent. Any notice, document or other information made available on a website shall be deemed to have been received on the day on which the notice, document or other information was first made available on the website or, if later, when a notice of availability is deemed to have been served, sent or supplied pursuant to this Article. Proof that the notice, document or other information sent or supplied by electronic means was given, sent or supplied in accordance with current guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or other information was given, sent or supplied. Any notice, document or other information served, sent or supplied by the Company by any other means authorised in writing by the member concerned shall be deemed to have been served, sent or supplied when the Company has carried out the action it has been authorised to take for that purpose. In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices and other documents shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding and notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders.

181 A member whose postal address in the Register is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the Company a postal address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that postal address, but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice from the Company through the postal system.

182 A member present, either in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares in the Company (and, where such person is one of the joint holders of a share, all the joint holders) shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called.

183 A notice or other document may be given by the Company to the persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law by sending or delivering it, in any manner authorised by these Articles for the giving of notice to a member, addressed to them by name, or by the title of representatives 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 persons 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 or other event giving rise to the transmission of the share by operation of law had not occurred. 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, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title.

184 If the Company has suspended the despatch of cheques or warrants to any member or other person entitled thereto in accordance with the provisions of these Articles or, if on two consecutive occasions notices have been sent through the post to any member or other person entitled thereto at his registered address or address for service but have been returned

undelivered, such member or other person entitled thereto shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing to the Transfer Office a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices.

- 185 Proof that an envelope containing a notice in writing, document or other communication was properly addressed, prepaid and put into the post shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or communication was sent Proof that a notice in writing, document or other communication in electronic form was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or communication was sent A notice in writing, document or other communication shall be deemed to have been given:
- 185.1 if left at a registered address or address at which a notice in writing, document or other communication may be given, on the day on which it was so left;
- 185.2 if sent by first class post, on the day following that on which the envelope containing it was put into the post;
- 185.3 if sent by second class post, on the second day following that on which the envelope containing it was put into the post;
- 185.4 if sent in an electronic form, on the day following that on which the electronic communication was sent; and
- 185.5 if published on a web site, when the notification of publication would, in accordance with this Article, be deemed to be given.
- 186 Without prejudice to the Article governing the accidental omission to give notice and to the presumption of service by post and the presumed date of service by post in the last preceding Article, if at any time, by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within all or any part of the United Kingdom, the Board reasonably believes that a notice of a general meeting, if sent by post, is unlikely to be delivered within seven days of posting, the Company may at its sole discretion and either in addition to or in substitution for notice by post, convene a general meeting by a notice advertised in at least one national newspaper and such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members and other persons entitled thereto on the day when the advertisement has appeared in at least one such newspaper If in any such case notices have not been posted the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if at least seven days prior to the meeting the delivery by post of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

- 187 Any Director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose may authenticate any document affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolution passed by the Company or the Board or any committee of the Board, and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company and may certify copies thereof or extracts therefrom as true copies or extracts Except in the case of manifest error a document which is certified as aforesaid shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company in good faith that the document is true and complete and in the case of a copy of a resolution or an extract from the minutes of the Board or any committee of the Board that such copy or extract is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

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- 188.1 It shall be presumed conclusively in favour of the Company that every entry on the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of an instrument of transfer or other document destroyed by the Company was duly and properly made and that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered, and that every share certificate so destroyed was a valid and effective certificate duly and properly cancelled and that every other document mentioned in Article 188.1.1 so destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with the recorded particulars of it in the books and records of the Company and that every paid dividend warrant and cheque so destroyed was duly paid, provided always that:
- 188.1.1 six years shall have elapsed since the date of registration of the relevant instrument of transfer of shares and two years shall have elapsed since the date of recording of the relevant dividend mandate or notification of change of name or address and one year shall have elapsed since the recorded date of payment of the relevant dividend warrant or cheque or cancellation of the relevant cancelled share certificate; and
- 188.1.2 the Company is not shown to have destroyed a document in bad faith or with actual notice of any claim (regardless of the parties) to which the document might be relevant;
- 188.2 The Company shall be entitled to destroy any such document after the relevant period referred to in Article 188.1.1 but nothing in these Articles shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any duty to retain any document for such period;;
- 188.3 References in this Article to the destruction of any document include references to its disposal in any manner.

WINDING UP

- 189 If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Insolvency Act 1986, divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be earned out as between the members or different classes of members. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction determines, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

INDEMNITY

- 190 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled, every Director, Alternate Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company (other than the Auditors) shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, expenses, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him in or about the execution of his duties or the exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation thereto including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, which relate to anything done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted by him as an officer or employee of the Company in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted, or which are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of material breach of duty on his part or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Company.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 191 Electronic communications
- 191.1 Documents sent in electronic form by the Company

Subject to any requirement of the Statutes and provided that the Company has complied with all applicable regulatory requirements the Company may send any documents or notices to its members in electronic form and such documents or notices will be validly sent provided that:

- 191.1.1 the member has agreed either generally or in respect of a specific matter (or in the case of a company is deemed to have agreed by a provision in the Act that documents or notices can be sent in electronic form);
- 191.1.2 the documents are documents to which the agreement applies; and
- 191.1.3 copies of the documents are sent in electronic form to the address notified by the member to the Company for that purpose.

191.2 Documents communicated by website

- 191.2.1 Subject to any requirement of the Statutes and provided that the Company has complied with all applicable regulatory requirements the Company may send any documents or notices to its members by means of a website and any such documents or notices will be validly sent provided that:
 - (a) the member has expressly agreed (generally or specifically) that documents or notices may be sent by means of a website to him or he has been asked (individually) to agree that documents and notices can be sent by means of a website and the Company has received no response to that request within twenty eight (28) days from the date on which the request was sent;
 - (b) the documents are documents to which the agreement applies; and
 - (c) the member is notified of the presence of the documents on the website the address of the website the place on the website where the documents may be accessed and how they may be accessed.
- 191.2.2 Documents must be available on the website for a period of not less than twenty-eight (28) days from the date of notification unless the Statutes make provision for any other time period.
- 191.2.3 If the documents are published on the website for a part only of the period of time referred to in article 191.2.2 they will be treated as being published throughout the period if the failure to publish throughout that period is wholly attributable to circumstances which it would not be reasonable to have expected the Company to prevent or avoid.