

6409712

**The Companies Acts 1985 to 1989
Public Company Limited by Shares**

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

Of

PORTLAND GAS PLC¹

SATURDAY



R0DH7WAY

RM 12/01/2008

COMPANIES HOUSE

138

- 1 The Company's name is Portland Gas plc
- 2 The Company is to be a Public Company
- 3 The Company's registered office is to be situated in England and Wales
- 4 The Company's objects are
 - (a)
 - (i) to carry on business as a general commercial company,
 - (ii) in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of Clause 4(a)(i), and the powers of the Company derived from Section 3A of The Companies Act 1985 to 1989, the Company has power to do all or any of the following objects or any of them
 - (A) to act as holding company and co-ordinating company of the group of companies of which the Company is for the time being the holding company,
 - (B) to carry on any other trade or business whatever, which can in the opinion of the Directors be advantageously carried on in connection with or ancillary to any of the businesses of the Company,
 - (C) to purchase, store, process, refine, manufacture and market hydrocarbon gases, liquefied petroleum gas, petroleum condensate, petroleum, hydrocarbons, oil or gas, and all other minerals, and any and all of the products thereof in the United Kingdom and in any other parts of the world, and/or to trade in contracts for the purchase and/or storage and/or sale of hydrocarbons of all natures and for all dates, and/or to carry on business as a general commercial company in any trade or business whatsoever including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, to carry on the business of a holding company in all its branches,
 - (D) to purchase, take on lease, acquire permits, licences, concessions, and rights upon or grants to, and to otherwise hold, own or otherwise acquire, lease, license, sell, transfer or convey lands and properties containing or believed to contain or capable of containing or of being adapted to contain petroleum, hydrocarbons, oil or gas, sulphur, coal, or other minerals, elements, deposits and substances of all kinds including solids, liquids and gases and to develop and exploit said lands, rights and interests or any interest in such lands or properties, to develop such lands, rights and

¹ By a special resolution passed on 6 November 2007, which became unconditional on 15 January 2008, the Company changed its name from New Portland PLC to Portland Gas plc

interests by and to enter into and execute contracts for the drilling of wells and the installation of plants, machinery and equipment, and to dispose of the products therefrom either as raw products or otherwise, to refine and reduce said products, to prepare said products for market and to manufacture from said products any and all marketable commodities, and to take oil concessions from foreign countries, both onshore and offshore,

- (E) to search, prospect and explore for petroleum and other oils, gas, minerals, metals, ores, coal, stone, timber and any other useful or valuable elements substances or products, to drill for, remove, produce, acquire by purchase or otherwise, own, use, store, transport, refine, distil, manufacture, process, prepare for market, sell and otherwise dispose of petroleum and other oils, bitumens, bituminous substances, minerals, and gases and all products, by-products and residual products thereof or therefrom, to drill, purchase, take, lease as lessee and otherwise acquire, to own, use, maintain, develop, improve and operate, and to sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease as lessor and otherwise dispose of oil, gas and other wells and any articles, materials, machinery, equipment, structures or property used therefore or in connection therewith, and to engage in any trades, businesses and occupations necessary or convenient in connection with any business of the corporation or incidental, related or contributory thereto, to acquire, own, maintain, develop, improve, manage, work and operate mines, pits, quarries, collieries, timberlands, and properties of all kinds, and any articles, materials, machinery, equipment and property used therefore or in connection therewith,
- (F) to build, purchase, take, lease as lessee or otherwise acquire, to own, use, maintain, improve and operate, and to sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease as lessor and otherwise dispose of or encumber, wells, refineries, stations, tanks, tank cars, pipe lines, gas mains, conduits, equipment, facilities and properties of all kinds for manufacturing, treating, processing, preparing, concentrating, distilling, purifying, generating, producing, using, storing, handling, transporting, distributing and in any manner dealing in and with, petroleum and other oils, gas and other volatile substances, vegetable substances, minerals, asphalt, bitumen and bituminous substances and other similar products of every kind and character for any and all purposes whatsoever,
- (G) to mine, produce, purchase, acquire, own, prepare for market, sell and otherwise dispose of minerals, metals, ores and any other useful or valuable substances, deposits or products,
- (H) to manufacture, separate, reduce, smelt, refine, concentrate, treat, convert, work and produce metals of all kinds, to manufacture, produce, acquire, own, prepare for market, sell, dispose of and deal in metals, alloys, metal products, ores, minerals, stone, coal, wood, petroleum, gages, and the products or by-products thereof, and to establish, build, acquire, own equip, maintain, improve, repair, and operate mills, factories, furnaces, converters, smelters, shops, laboratories, offices, buildings, structures and works of all kinds suitable, necessary or convenient to any of the purposes of the corporation,
- (I) to act as the holding and co-ordinating company of the group of companies of which the Company is for the time being the holding company,
- (J) to subscribe for, purchase or otherwise acquire, take, hold, or sell on such terms and conditions as may be thought fit, any shares or stock, bonds, debentures or debenture stock or other securities or obligations of any company or association or any supreme, municipal, local or other authority, whether in Great Britain or any overseas country or place,

- (K) to arrange some or all the investments of the Company in convenient or selected units or groups and to sell or otherwise turn to account any interest or interests in any such units or groups upon such terms and conditions as shall be thought fit, to enter into, execute and carry into effect any trust deed, or trust deeds, either revocable or irrevocable and to arrange and do all acts, deeds and things necessary or convenient for rendering any certificates or other documents of title issued by the Company marketable on any stock exchange and obtaining official quotations therefore,
- (L) to carry on business as bankers, financiers, mortgage and finance brokers, insurance brokers, estate agents and generally to undertake and execute agency and commission work,
- (M) to carry on business as general merchants and mercantile agents, contractors, manufacturers of and merchants and dealers in any and every kind of article of any description and material, merchants and dealers in raw material of every kind, haulage and transport contractors, warehousemen, wharfingers, ship and barge owners, ship agents and any other trade or business whatsoever which can in the opinion of the Directors be advantageously carried on by the Company in connection with or as ancillary to any of the above businesses or the general business of the Company,
- (N) to carry on all or any of the businesses of manufacturers, mercantile and other agents, factors, distributors, shippers, importers, exporters, consignors, buyers and sellers (wholesale and retail), charterers, shipowners, warehousemen, merchants, builders, developers of and dealers in commodities, merchandise, goods and articles of all kinds whether manufactured in whole or in part or whether grown, cultivated, taken, processed or produced in any part of the world, to deal in commodities of all kinds which can conveniently be dealt with in connection with any of the aforesaid businesses or which may be required by customers or for persons dealing with the Company, to carry on and execute all kinds of commercial, trading, financial and other operations, and generally to carry on any other trade or business whatsoever which may seem to the Directors capable of being carried on advantageously in connection with the above businesses, or calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value or facilitate the realisation of any of the Company's property or rights,
- (O) to purchase or otherwise acquire, dispose of, protect, extend and renew any patents, registered designs, trade marks, and service marks (whether registered or not) copyright, design right or any similar property rights including those subsisting in inventions, designs, drawings, performances, computer programs, semi-conductor topographies, confidential information, business names, goodwill and the style of presentation of goods or services and applications for protection thereof which may seem to the Company capable of being used for any of the purposes of the Company, or the acquisition of which may seem calculated directly or indirectly to benefit the Company and to use, exercise, develop, receive or grant licences in respect of or otherwise turn to account any of the same for any purpose whatsoever, whether manufacturing or otherwise, which the Company may think calculated directly or indirectly to achieve these objects,
- (P) to purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire and hold for any estate or interest any lands, buildings, easements, rights, privileges, concessions, patents, patent rights, licences, secret processes, machinery, plant, stock-in-trade, and any real or personal property of any

kind necessary or convenient for the purposes of or in connection with the Company's business or any branch or department thereof,

- (Q) to erect, construct, lay down, enlarge, alter and maintain any roads, railways, tramways, sidings, bridges, reservoirs, shops, stores, factories, buildings, works, plant and machinery necessary or convenient for the Company's business, and to contribute to or subsidise the erection, construction and maintenance of any of the above,
- (R) to borrow or raise or secure the payment of money for the purposes of or in connection with the Company's business, and for the purposes of or in connection with the borrowing or raising of money by the Company to become a member of any building society,
- (S) to mortgage and charge the undertaking and all or any of the real and personal property and assets, present or future, and all or any of the uncalled capital for the time being of the Company and to issue at par or at a premium or discount, and for such consideration and with and subject to such rights, powers, privileges and conditions as may be thought fit, debentures or debenture stock, either permanent or redeemable or repayable, and collaterally or further to secure any securities of the Company by a trust deed or other assurances,
- (T) to issue and deposit any securities which the Company has power to issue by way of mortgage, and also by way of security for the performance of any contracts or obligations of the Company or of its customers or other persons or corporations having dealings with the Company, or in whose businesses or undertakings the Company is interested, whether directly or indirectly,
- (U) to receive money on deposit or loan upon such terms as the Company may approve, and to guarantee the obligations and contracts of customers and others,
- (V) to lend money to any company, firm or person and to give all kinds of indemnities and take on obligations of every kind and either with or without the Company receiving any consideration or advantage, direct or indirect, for giving any such guarantee, to guarantee either by personal covenant or by mortgaging or charging all or any part of the undertaking property and assets present and future and uncalled capital of the Company or by both such methods, the performance of the obligations and the payment of the capital or principal (together with any premium) of and dividends or interest on any debenture stocks, shares or other securities of any company, firm or person and in particular (but without limiting the generality of the foregoing) any company which is for the time being the Company's holding or subsidiary company as defined by Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 or otherwise associated with the Company in business and whether or not this Company receives directly or indirectly any consideration or advantage therefrom,
- (W) to enter into, carry on and participate in financial transactions and dealings and operations of all descriptions and undertake any steps which may be considered expedient for carrying into effect such transactions, dealings and operations including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, borrowing and lending money and entering into contracts and arrangements of all kinds,
- (X) to establish and maintain or procure the establishment and maintenance of any non-contributory or contributory pension or superannuation funds for the benefit of, and give or procure the giving of donations, gratuities,

pensions, allowances, or emoluments to any persons who are or were at any time in the employment or service of the Company, or of any company which is for the time being the Company's holding or subsidiary company as defined by Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 or otherwise associated with the Company in business or who are or were at the time directors or officers of the Company or of any such other company as aforesaid, and the wives, widows, families and dependants of any such persons, and also to establish and subsidise or subscribe to any institutions, associations, clubs or fund calculated to be for the benefit of or to advance the interests and well-being of the Company or of any such other company as aforesaid, or of any such persons as aforesaid, and to make payments for or towards the insurance of any such persons as aforesaid, and to subscribe or guarantee money for charitable or benevolent objects or for any exhibition or for any public, general or useful object, and to establish, set up, support and maintain share purchase schemes or profit-sharing schemes for the benefit of any employees of the Company or of any company which is for the time being the Company's holding or subsidiary company as defined by Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 and to do any of the matters aforesaid, either alone or in conjunction with any such other company as aforesaid,

- (Y) to draw, make, accept, endorse, negotiate, discount and execute promissory notes, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments,
- (Z) to invest and deal with the moneys of the Company not immediately required for the purposes of its business in or upon such investments or securities and in any such manner as may from time to time be determined,
- (AA) to pay for any property or rights acquired by the Company, either in cash or in fully or partly paid-up shares, with or without preferred or deferred or special rights or restrictions in respect of dividend, repayment of capital, voting or otherwise, or by any securities which the Company has power to issue, or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine,
- (BB) to accept payment for any property or rights sold or otherwise disposed of or dealt with by the Company, either in cash, by instalments or otherwise, or in fully or partly paid-up shares of any company or corporation, with or without deferred or preferred or special rights or restrictions in respect of dividend, repayment of capital, voting or otherwise, or in debentures or mortgage debentures or debenture stock, mortgages or other securities of any company or corporation, or partly in one mode and partly in another, and generally on such terms as the Company may determine, and to hold, dispose of or otherwise deal with any shares, stock or securities so acquired,
- (CC) to enter into any partnership or joint-purse arrangement or arrangement for sharing profits union of interests or co-operation with any company, firm or person carrying on or proposing to carry on any business within the objects of this Company and to acquire and hold, sell, deal with or dispose of shares, stocks or securities of any such company and to guarantee the contracts or liabilities of, or the payment of the dividends, interest or capital of any shares, stock or securities of and to subsidise or otherwise assist any such company,
- (DD) to form, promote, subsidise and assist companies, syndicates or other bodies of all kinds and to issue on commission or otherwise underwrite, subscribe for and take or guarantee the payment of any dividend or interest on any shares, stocks, debentures or other capital or securities or

obligations of any such companies, syndicates or other bodies, and to pay or provide for brokerage commission and underwriting in respect of any such issue,

- (EE) to carry on any other business which may seem to the Company capable of being conveniently carried on in connection with the above or calculated directly or indirectly to enhance the value of or render profitable any of the Company's property or rights,
- (FF) to manage and conduct the affairs of any companies, firms, bodies and persons carrying on business of any kind whatsoever, and in any part of the world,
- (GG) to establish or promote or concur in establishing or promoting any other company whose objects shall include the acquisition and taking over of all or any of the assets and liabilities of the Company or the promotion of which shall be in any manner calculated to advance directly or indirectly the objects or interests of this Company, and to acquire and hold or dispose of shares, stock or securities and guarantee the payment of dividends, interest or capital of any shares, stock or securities issued by or any other obligations of any such company,
- (HH) to purchase or otherwise acquire and undertake all or any part of the business, property, assets, liabilities and transactions of any person, firm or company carrying on any business which this Company is authorised to carry on or possessed of property, assets or rights suitable for any of the objects of the Company,
- (II) to sell, improve, manage, develop, turn to account, exchange, let on rent, royalty, share of profits or otherwise, grant licences, surrender or accept surrender of any lease or tenancy or rights easements and other rights in or over, and in any other manner deal with or dispose of the undertaking and all or any of the property and assets for the time being of the Company for such consideration as the Company may think fit,
- (JJ) to amalgamate with any other company whose objects are or include objects similar to those of this Company or which is possessed of property, assets or rights suitable for any of the purposes of the Company, whether by sale or purchase (for fully or partly paid-up shares or otherwise) of the undertaking, subject to the liabilities of this or any such other company as aforesaid, with or without winding up, or by sale or purchase (for fully or partly paid-up shares or otherwise) of all or a controlling interest in the shares or stock of this or any such other company as aforesaid, or by partnership, or any arrangement of the nature of partnership, or in any other manner,
- (KK) to subscribe or guarantee money for or organise or assist any national, local, charitable, benevolent, public, general or useful object, or for any exhibition or for any purpose which may be considered likely directly or indirectly to further the objects of the Company or the interests of its members,
- (LL) to pay all or any expenses incurred in connection with the formation and promotion and incorporation of the Company and to pay commission to and remunerate any person or company for services rendered in underwriting or placing, or assisting to underwrite or place, any of the shares in the Company's capital or any debentures or other securities of the Company, or in or about the formation or promotion of the Company or the conduct of its business,

- (MM) while the Company remains a private company, and subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 1985, to remunerate or undertake to remunerate any person, firm or company rendering services to the Company, whether by cash payment or by the allotment to him it or them of shares or securities of the Company credited as paid in full or in part or otherwise,
- (NN) to procure the Company or any branch or representative of it to be registered or recognised in any country or place abroad or with any applicable regulatory authority,
- (OO) to obtain any provisional or other order or Act of Parliament of the United Kingdom or of the legislature of any other State or jurisdiction for enabling the Company to carry any of its objects into effect, or for effecting any modifications to the Company's constitution, or for any other purpose which may seem expedient, and to oppose or make representations in connection with any proceeding, proposal or application which may seem calculated, directly or indirectly, to prejudice the Company's interests,
- (PP) to appoint any person or persons, firm or firms, company or companies to be the attorney or agent of the Company and to act as agents, managers, secretaries, contractors or in similar capacity,
- (QQ) to take, make, execute, enter into, commence, carry on, prosecute or defend all steps, claims, demands, contracts, agreements, negotiations, legal and other proceedings, compromises, arrangements and schemes, and to do all other acts, matters and things which shall at any time appear conducive or expedient for the advantage or protection of the Company,
- (RR) to distribute among the members in specie any property of the Company, or any proceeds of sale or disposal of any property of the Company, but so that no distribution amounting to a reduction of capital be made except with the sanction (if any) for the time being required by law,
- (SS) to give such financial assistance, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of the acquisition of shares in the Company or the Company's holding company as defined by Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 or for the purpose of reducing or discharging any liability incurred by any person for the purpose of the acquisition of shares in the Company or the Company's holding company as defined by Section 736 of the Companies Act 1985 as may be lawful,
- (TT) to do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, and either as principals, agents, trustees, contractors or otherwise, and either alone or in conjunction with others, and either by or through agents, trustees, sub-contractors or otherwise,
- (UU) to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the above objects or any of them The liability of the members is limited

5 The Company's share capital is £50,000 divided into 500,000 shares of £0 10 each ²

² On 6 November 2007, the Company passed a resolution increasing its authorised share capital to £10,050,000 divided into 100,000,000 ordinary shares of £0 10 each and 50,000 redeemable preference shares of £1 each

WE, the several persons whose names, addresses and descriptions are subscribed are desirous of being formed into a Company in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association and we respectively agree to take the number of shares in the capital of the Company set opposite our respective names

**Name, Addresses and Descriptions
of Subscribers**

**Number of Shares
taken by each Subscriber**

Luciene James Limited
280 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EB

One

Limited Company

The Company Registration Agents Limited
280 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8EB

One

Limited Company

DATED 25 October 2007

WITNESS to the above signatures -

Frederick Paul Curtis
166 Westmorland Avenue
Luton LU3 2PU

Company Registration Agent

No 2

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985

PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

NEW
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
of

Portland Gas plc¹

(As adopted by Special Resolution passed on 6 November 2007)

¹ By a special resolution passed on 6 November 2007, which became unconditional on 15 January 2008, the Company changed its name from New Portland PLC to Portland Gas plc

CONTENTS

Article No	Page
PRELIMINARY	1
1 Table A not to apply	1
2 Interpretation	1
3 Form of resolution	4
4 Uncertificated shares	4
SHARE CAPITAL	6
5 Authorised share capital	6
6 Allotment	6
7 Redeemable shares	6
8 Power to attach rights	7
9 Share warrants to bearer	7
10 Commission and brokerage	7
11 Trusts not to be recognised	7
SHARE CERTIFICATES	7
12 Right to certificates	7
13 Replacement certificates	8
LIEN ON SHARES	8
14 Lien on shares not fully paid	8
15 Enforcement of lien by sale	8
16 Application of proceeds of sale	9
CALLS ON SHARES	9
17 Calls	9
18 Liability of joint holders	9
19 Interest on calls	9
20 Rights of member when call unpaid	9
21 Sums due on allotment treated as calls	10
22 Power to differentiate	10
23 Payment in advance of calls	10
FORFEITURE OF SHARES	10
24 Notice if call not paid	10
25 Forfeiture for non-compliance	10
26 Notice after forfeiture	10
27 Forfeiture may be annulled	10
28 Surrender	11
29 Disposal of forfeited shares	11
30 Effect of forfeiture	11
31 Extinction of claims	11
32 Evidence of forfeiture	11
TRANSFER OF SHARES	12
33 Form of transfer	12
34 Right to refuse registration	12
35 Notice of refusal	12
36 Closing of Register	12
37 Fees on registration	12
38 Other powers in relation to transfers	13
TRANSMISSION OF SHARES	13
39 On death	13
40 Election of person entitled by transmission	13
41 Rights on transmission	13

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS	13
42 Destruction of documents	13
ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL	14
43 Increase, consolidation, cancellation and sub-division	14
44 Fractions	14
45 Reduction of capital	15
46 Purchase of own shares	15
VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS	15
47 Sanction to variation	15
48 Class meetings	16
49 Deemed variation	16
GENERAL MEETINGS	16
50 Annual general meetings	16
51 Extraordinary general meetings	16
52 Convening of extraordinary general meeting	16
53 Notice of general meetings	16
54 Omission to send notice or non-receipt of notice	17
55 Postponement of general meetings	17
PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS	17
56 Quorum	17
57 If quorum not present	18
58 Chairman	18
59 Entitlement to attend and speak	18
60 Power to adjourn	18
61 Notice of adjourned meeting	19
62 Business of adjourned meeting	19
63 Accommodation of members and security arrangements	19
64 Orderly Conduct	19
VOTING AND POLLS	20
65 Method of voting	20
66 Chairman's declaration conclusive on show of hands	20
67 Objection to or error in voting	20
68 Amendment to resolutions	20
69 Procedure on a poll	21
70 Votes of members	21
71 Votes of joint holders	21
72 Votes of member suffering incapacity	21
PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES	22
73 Voting by proxy	22
74 Form of proxy	22
75 Deposit or receipt of proxy	23
76 Maximum validity of proxy	23
77 Multiple proxies	23
78 Revocation of proxy	23
79 Corporate representative	24
80 Failure to disclose interests in shares	24
UNTRACED MEMBERS	26
81 Power of sale	26
82 Application of proceeds of sale	27
PRESIDENT	27
83 Appointment of President	27
84 Duties of President	27

APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS	27
85 Number of Directors	27
86 Power of Company to appoint Directors	27
87 Power of Board to appoint Directors	27
88 Appointment of executive Directors	27
89 Eligibility of new Directors	28
90 Share qualification	28
91 Resolution for appointment of two or more Directors	28
92 Retirement at annual general meetings	28
93 Position of retiring Director	28
94 Deemed re-appointment	29
95 Removal by ordinary resolution	29
96 Vacation of office by Director	29
97 Resolution as to vacancy conclusive	29
ALTERNATE DIRECTORS	30
98 Appointments	30
99 Participation in Board meetings	30
100 Alternate Director responsible for own acts	30
101 Interests of alternate Director	30
102 Revocation of appointment	30
DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS	31
103 Directors' fees	31
104 Expenses	31
105 Additional remuneration	31
106 Remuneration of executive Directors	31
107 Pensions and other benefits	31
POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD	32
108 Powers of the Board	32
109 Powers of Directors being less than minimum number	32
110 Powers of executive Directors	32
111 Delegation to committees	32
112 Delegation to individual Directors	33
113 Local management	33
114 Power of attorney	33
115 Associate directors	34
116 Exercise of voting power	34
117 Provision for employees	34
118 Overseas registers	34
119 Borrowing powers	34
PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES	34
120 Board meetings	34
121 Notice of Board meetings	34
122 Quorum	35
123 Chairman of Board	35
124 Voting	35
125 Electronic participation in meetings	35
126 Resolution in writing	35
127 Minutes of proceedings	36
128 Validity of proceedings	36
DIRECTORS' INTERESTS	36
129 Director may have interests	36
130 Disclosure of interests to Board	37
131 Interested Director not to vote or count for quorum	37
132 Director's interest in own appointment	38
133 Chairman's ruling conclusive on Director's interest	38

134	Directors' resolution conclusive on Chairman's interest	38
135	Relaxation of provisions and connected persons	38
AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS		39
136	Power to authenticate documents	39
SEALS		39
137	Safe custody	39
138	Application of seals	39
139	Execution as a deed without sealing	39
140	Official seal for use abroad	39
THE SECRETARY		40
141	The Secretary	40
DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS		40
142	Declaration of dividends	40
143	Interim dividends	40
144	Entitlement to dividends	40
145	Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends	40
146	Distribution in specie	40
147	Dividends not to bear interest	41
148	Method of payment	41
149	Uncashed dividends	42
150	Unclaimed dividends	42
151	Payment of scrip dividends	42
152	Reserves	43
153	Capitalisation of reserves	43
154	Record dates	44
ACCOUNTS		45
155	Accounting records	45
156	Inspection of records	45
157	Accounts to be sent to members	45
158	Summary financial statements	45
NOTICES		45
159	Form of Notices	45
160	Service of notice on members	46
161	Service of notice in case of death or bankruptcy, etc	46
162	Evidence of service	47
163	Notice binding on transferees	47
164	Notice by advertisement	47
165	Suspension of postal services	47
WINDING UP		48
166	Division of assets	48
167	Transfer or sale under section 110 Insolvency Act 1986	48
INDEMNITY		48
168	Right to indemnity	48
169	Power to insure	48

THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

NEW
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
of

Portland Gas plc

(As adopted by Special Resolution passed on 6 November 2007)

PRELIMINARY

1 Table A not to apply

- 1.1 No regulations set out in any statute or in any statutory instrument or other subordinate legislation concerning companies (including the regulations in Table A of The Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 as amended) shall apply to the Company, but the following shall be the Articles of Association of the Company

2 Interpretation

- 2.1 In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings

"address" includes a number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving documents or information by electronic means,

"AIM" means the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange,

"these Articles" means these Articles of Association as originally adopted or altered or varied from time to time (and **"Article"** means one of these Articles),

"Auditors" means the auditors for the time being of the Company or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them,

"authenticated" means (subject to section 1146 CA 2006) authenticated in such manner as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine,

"Board" means the board of Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present or deemed to be present at a duly convened meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present,

"CA 1985" means the Companies Act 1985 (to the extent for the time being in force),

"CA 2006" means the Companies Act 2006 (to the extent for the time being in force),

"cash memorandum account" means an account so designated by the Operator of the relevant system,

"Chairman" means the chairman (if any) of the Board or, where the context requires, the chairman of a general meeting of the Company,

"clear days" means (in relation to the period of a notice) that period excluding the day when the notice is given and the day of the meeting,

"Company" means New Portland plc,

"Companies Acts" means CA 1985, CA 2006 and, where the context requires, every other statute from time to time in force concerning companies and affecting the Company,

"Depository" means a custodian or other person (or a nominee for such custodian or other person) appointed under contractual arrangements with the Company or other arrangements approved by the Board whereby such custodian or other person or nominee holds or is interested in shares of the Company or rights or interests in shares of the Company and issues securities or other documents of title or otherwise evidencing the entitlement of the holder thereof to or to receive such shares, rights or interests, provided and to the extent that such arrangements have been approved by the Board for the purpose of these Articles, and shall include, where approved by the Board, the trustees (acting in their capacity as such) of any employees' share scheme established by the Company or any other scheme or arrangement principally for the benefit of employees or those in the service of the Company and/or its subsidiaries or their respective businesses and the managers (acting in their capacity as such) of any investment or savings plan, which in each case the Board has approved,

"Director" means a director for the time being of the Company,

"EGM" or **"extraordinary general meeting"** means any general meeting other than an annual general meeting,

"electronic form" and **"electronic means"** have the meanings given to them in section 1168 CA 2006,

"execution" includes any mode of execution (and **"executed"** shall be construed accordingly),

"FSMA" means the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000,

"holder" means (in relation to any share) the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder or, where the context permits, the members whose names are entered in the Register as the joint holders of that share,

"London Stock Exchange" means London Stock Exchange plc or other principal stock exchange in the United Kingdom for the time being,

"member" means a member of the Company or, where the context requires, a member of the Board or of any committee,

"Office" means the registered office for the time being of the Company,

"Operator" means Euroclear UK & Ireland Limited or such other person as may for the time being be approved by HM Treasury as Operator under the Regulations,

"Ordinary Share" means an Ordinary Share of the Company (as defined in Article 5),

"paid up" means paid up or credited as paid up,

"participating security" means a security title to units which are permitted by the Operator to be transferred by means of a relevant system,

"recognised clearing house" means a clearing house granted recognition under FSMA,

"recognised investment exchange" means an investment exchange granted recognition under FSMA,

"recognised person" means a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange which is designated as mentioned in section 185(4) CA 1985,

"Register" means the register of members of the Company to be kept pursuant to the Companies Acts or, as the case may be, any overseas branch register kept pursuant to Article 118,

"Regulations" means The Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No 3755) as amended from time to time and any provisions of or under the Companies Acts which supplement or replace such Regulations,

"relevant system" means a computer-based system and procedures, which enable title to units of a security to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument pursuant to the Regulations,

"Seal" means the common seal of the Company or any official or securities seal that the Company may be permitted to have under the Companies Acts,

"Secretary" means the secretary for the time being of the Company or any other person appointed to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company including (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) a joint, temporary, assistant or deputy secretary,

"share" means a share of the Company,

"United Kingdom" means Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

"working day" has the meaning given to it in section 1173 CA 2006, and

"writing or written" means printing, typewriting, lithography, photography and any other mode or modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form, including (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) in electronic form

- 2 2 In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires
- 2 2 1 words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa,
- 2 2 2 words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender,
- 2 2 3 a reference to a person includes a body corporate and an unincorporated body of persons, and
- 2 2 4 a reference to an uncertificated share or to a share (or to a holding of shares) being in uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security which, for the time being, is a participating security, and references to a certificated share or to a share being in certificated form are references to that share being a unit of a security which is not an uncertificated unit,
- 2 2 5 a reference to any statute or statutory provision shall include any orders, regulations or other subordinate legislation made under it and any statutory modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force, and
- 2 2 6 words or expressions shall have the meaning given to them in the Companies Acts
- 2 3 The headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Articles

3 Form of resolution

Subject to the Companies Acts, where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution shall also be effective

4 Uncertificated shares

- 4 1 Notwithstanding anything in these Articles to the contrary, any shares in the Company may be issued, held, registered, converted to, transferred or otherwise dealt with in uncertificated form and converted from uncertificated form to certificated form in accordance with the Regulations and practices instituted by the Operator of the relevant system. The provisions of these Articles shall not apply to any uncertificated shares to the extent that such provisions are inconsistent with
 - 4 1 1 the holding of shares in uncertificated form,
 - 4 1 2 the transfer of title to shares by means of a relevant system, or
 - 4 1 3 any provision of the Regulations
- 4 2 Without prejudice to the generality and effectiveness of the foregoing
 - 4 2 1 Articles 12, 13 and 33 and the second sentence of Article 35 shall not apply to uncertificated shares. The first sentence of Article 35 shall apply in relation to such shares as if the reference to the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company were a reference to the date on which the appropriate instruction was received by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system,
 - 4 2 2 without prejudice to Article 34, the Board may refuse to register a transfer of uncertificated shares in such other circumstances as may be permitted or required by the Regulations and the relevant system,
 - 4 2 3 references in these Articles to a requirement on any person to execute or deliver an instrument of transfer or certificate or other document which shall not be appropriate in the case of uncertificated shares shall, in the case of uncertificated shares, be treated as references to a requirement to comply with any relevant requirements of the relevant system and any relevant arrangements or regulations which the Board may make from time to time pursuant to Article 4 2 12 below,
 - 4 2 4 for the purposes referred to in Article 40, a person entitled by transmission to a share in uncertificated form who elects to have some other person registered shall either
 - (a) procure that instructions are given by means of the relevant system to effect transfer of such uncertificated share to that person, or
 - (b) change the uncertificated share into certificated form and execute an instrument of transfer of that certificated share to that person,
 - 4 2 5 the Company shall enter on the Register the number of shares which are held by each member in uncertificated form and in certificated form and shall maintain the Register in each case as is required by the Regulations and the relevant system and, unless the Board otherwise determines, holdings of the same holder or joint holders in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings,
 - 4 2 6 a class of share shall not be treated as two classes by virtue only of that class comprising both certificated shares and uncertificated shares or as a result of any provision of these Articles or the Regulations which applies only in respect of certificated shares or uncertificated shares,

- 4 2 7 references in Article 42 to instruments of transfer shall include, in relation to uncertificated shares, instructions and/or notifications made in accordance with the relevant system relating to the transfer of such shares,
- 4 2 8 for the purposes referred to in Article 44 3, the Board may in respect of uncertificated shares authorise some person to transfer and/or require the holder to transfer the relevant shares in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system,
- 4 2 9 for the purposes of Article 80 1 2, the Board may only exercise its discretion not to register a transfer of shares in uncertificated form if permitted to do so by the Regulations, and it may determine to treat shares of a member in certificated and uncertificated form as separate holdings and apply the sanctions only to the former or to the latter or make different provisions for the former and the latter,
- 4 2 10 for the purposes of Article 148 1, any payment in the case of uncertificated shares may be made by means of the relevant system (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) and such payment may be made by the sending by the Company or any person on its behalf of an instruction to the Operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders of such shares or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may direct in accordance with Article 148 and, for the purposes of Article 148 3, the making of a payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned shall be a good discharge to the Company,
- 4 2 11 subject to the Companies Acts, the Board may issue shares as certificated shares or as uncertificated shares in its absolute discretion and Articles 6, 12, 151 and 153 shall be construed accordingly,
- 4 2 12 the Board may make such arrangements or regulations (if any) as it may from time to time in its absolute discretion think fit in relation to the evidencing and transfer of uncertificated shares and otherwise for the purpose of implementing and/or supplementing the provisions of this Article 4 and the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system and such arrangements and regulations (as the case may be) shall have the same effect as if set out in this Article 4,
- 4 2 13 the Board may utilise the relevant system to the fullest extent available from time to time in the exercise of the Company's powers or functions under the Companies Acts or these Articles or otherwise in effecting any actions, and
- 4 2 14 the Board may resolve that a class of shares is to become a participating security and may at any time determine that a class of shares shall cease to be a participating security
- 4 3 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 of any relevant system 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 of the relevant system) shall include the right to
- 4 3 1 request or require the deletion of any computer-based entries in the relevant system relating to the holding of such shares in uncertificated form, and/or
- 4 3 2 require any holder of any uncertificated shares which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement, by notice in writing to the holder concerned, to change his holding of such uncertificated shares into certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice, prior to completion of any disposal, sale or transfer of such shares, or 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, and/or

- 4 3 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 such shares as may be required to effect a transfer of such shares and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the registered holder of the uncertificated shares concerned, and/or
- 4 3 4 transfer any uncertificated 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, and/or
- 4 3 5 otherwise rectify or change the Register in respect of that share in such manner as may be appropriate, and
- 4 3 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
- 4 4 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 on such assumptions. 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)

SHARE CAPITAL

5 Authorised share capital

- 5 1 The authorised share capital of the Company at the date of the adoption of these Articles is £10,050,000, divided into 100,000,000 Ordinary Shares of 10p each and £50,000 redeemable preference shares of £1 each

6 Allotment

- 6 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any relevant authority of the Company in general meeting required by the Companies Acts, unissued shares at the date of adoption of these Articles and any shares hereafter created shall be at the disposal of the Board, which may allot (with or without conferring rights of renunciation), grant options over, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of them or rights to subscribe for or convert any security into shares to such persons (including the Directors themselves), at such times and generally on such terms and conditions as the Board may decide, provided that no share shall be issued at a discount
- 6 2 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 accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation and/or allow the rights represented thereby to be one or more participating securities, in each case upon the subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit to impose

7 Redeemable shares

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any special rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued which is, or at the option of the Company or of the holder of such share is liable, to be redeemed on such terms and in such manner as these Articles may provide

8 Power to attach rights

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any special rights for the time being attached to any existing shares, any shares may be allotted or issued with, or have attached to them, such preferred, deferred or other special rights or restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, voting, transfer, return of capital or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine or, if no such resolution has been passed or so far as the resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine

9 Share warrants to bearer

- 9 1 The Company may, with respect to any fully paid shares, issue a warrant (a "share warrant") stating that the bearer of the warrant is entitled to the shares specified in it and may provide (by coupons or otherwise) for the payment of future dividends on the shares included in a share warrant
- 9 2 The powers referred to in Article 9 1 may be exercised by the Board, which may determine and vary the conditions on which share warrants shall be issued, and in particular on which
- 9 2 1 a new share warrant or coupon will be issued in the place of one damaged, defaced, worn out or lost (provided that no new share warrant shall be issued to replace one that has been lost unless the Board is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been destroyed),
- 9 2 2 the bearer of a share warrant shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend, vote and demand a poll at general meetings,
- 9 2 3 dividends will be paid, and
- 9 2 4 a share warrant may be surrendered and the name of the holder entered in the Register in respect of the shares specified in it

Subject to such conditions and to these Articles, the bearer of a share warrant shall be deemed to be a member for all purposes. The bearer of a share warrant shall be subject to the conditions for the time being in force and applicable thereto, whether made before or after the issue of such share warrant

10 Commission and brokerage

The Company may in connection with the issue of any shares exercise all powers of paying commission and brokerage conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of cash, the allotment of fully or partly paid shares, the grant of an option to call for an allotment of shares or any combination of such methods

11 Trusts not to be recognised

- 11 1 Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Articles, as required by law, or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall not recognise any person as holding any share on any trust, and the Company shall not be bound by or required in any way to recognise (even when having notice of it) any equitable, contingent, future, partial or other claim to or interest in any shares other than an absolute right of the holder to the whole of the share

SHARE CERTIFICATES

12 Right to certificates

- 12 1 On becoming the holder of any share, every person (except a recognised person in respect of whom the Company is not by law required to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) shall be entitled, without charge, to have issued within two months after allotment or lodgement

of a transfer (unless the terms of issue of the shares provide otherwise) one certificate for all of the shares of that class registered in his name. Such certificate shall specify the number and class of the shares in respect of which it is issued and the amount or respective amounts paid up thereon and shall be issued as provided in Article 138.

- 12.2 The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate in respect of shares held jointly by two or more persons. Delivery of a certificate to the person first named on the register shall be sufficient delivery to all joint holders.
- 12.3 Where a member (other than a recognised person) has transferred part only of the shares comprised in a certificate, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the balance of such shares. Where a member receives more shares of any class, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the extra shares of that class.
- 12.4 No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class or in respect of shares held by a recognised person.

13 Replacement certificates

- 13.1 Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at his request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu without charge on surrender of the original certificates for cancellation.
- 13.2 If any member shall surrender for cancellation a share certificate representing shares held by him and request the Company to issue in lieu two or more share certificates representing such shares in such proportions as he may specify, the Board may, if it thinks fit, comply with such request.
- 13.3 Share certificates may be renewed or replaced on such terms as to provision of evidence and indemnity (with or without security) and to payment of any exceptional out of pocket expenses, including those incurred by the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity and security, as the Board may decide, and on surrender of the original certificate (where it is defaced, damaged or worn out), but without any further charge.
- 13.4 In the case of shares held jointly by several persons, any such request as is mentioned in this Article 13 may be made by any one of the joint holders.

LIEN ON SHARES

14 Lien on shares not fully paid

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on each of its shares which is not fully paid, for all amounts payable to the Company (whether presently or not) in respect of that share and to the extent and in the circumstances permitted by the Companies Acts. The Board may waive any lien which has arisen and may resolve that any share shall for some limited period be exempt wholly or partially from the provisions of this Article.

15 Enforcement of lien by sale

The Board may sell all or any of the shares subject to any lien at such time or times and in such manner as it may determine. However, no sale shall be made until such time as any moneys in respect of which such lien exists are presently payable or the liability or engagement in respect of which such lien exists is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged, and until notice in writing shall have been served on the holder or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares, demanding the amount due or specifying the liability or engagement and demanding payment or fulfilment or discharge thereof and giving notice of intention to sell in default and default in payment, fulfilment or discharge shall have been made by him or them for 14 clear days after service of such notice. For giving effect to any such sale, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold in the name and on behalf

of the holder or the persons entitled by transmission in favour of the purchaser or as the purchaser may direct. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, and the title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

16 Application of proceeds of sale

The net proceeds of any sale of shares subject to any lien, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of so much of the amount due to the Company or of the liability or engagement (as the case may be) as is presently payable or is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged. The balance (if any) shall (on surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold, and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable or any liability or engagement not liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged as existed on the shares before the sale) be paid to the holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares so sold (without interest).

CALLS ON SHARES

17 Calls

Subject to the terms of allotment of shares, the Board may from time to time make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on the shares, of any class, held by them respectively (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and not payable on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue. Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made and whether or not by instalments) be liable to pay the amount of every call so made on him as required by the notice. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising such call was passed or (as the case may require) any person to whom power has been delegated pursuant to these Articles serves notice of exercise of such power. A call may be required to be paid by instalments and may, before receipt by the Company of any sum due thereunder, be either revoked or postponed in whole or part as regards all or any such members as the Board may determine. A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.

18 Liability of joint holders

The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all calls in respect thereof.

19 Interest on calls

If the whole of the sum payable in respect of any call is not paid on or before the day appointed for payment, the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay all costs, charges and expenses that the Company may have incurred by reason of such non-payment, together with interest on the unpaid amount from the day appointed for payment thereof to the time of actual payment at the rate fixed by the terms of the allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is so fixed, at such rate, not exceeding 15 per cent per annum, as the Board shall determine. The Board may waive payment of such costs, charges, expenses or interest in whole or in part.

20 Rights of member when call unpaid

Unless the Board otherwise determines, no member shall be entitled to receive any dividend or to be present and vote at a general meeting or at any separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares either in person or (save as proxy for another member) by proxy, or be reckoned in a quorum, or to exercise any other right or privilege as a member in respect of a share held by him unless and until he shall have paid all calls for the time being due and payable by him in respect of that share, whether alone or jointly with any other person, together with interest and expenses (if any) to the Company.

21 Sums due on allotment treated as calls

Any sum payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium or as an instalment of a call, shall for all purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made. If it is not paid, the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if such amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.

22 Power to differentiate

The Board may make arrangements on the allotment or issue of shares for a difference as between the allottees or holders of such shares in the amount and time of payment of calls.

23 Payment in advance of calls

The Board may, if it thinks fit, receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on the shares held by him. Such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish pro tanto the liability on the shares on which it is made. The Company may pay interest on the money paid in advance, or so much of it as exceeds the amount for the time being called up on the shares in respect of which such advance has been made, at such rate as the Board may decide. The Board may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than three months' notice in writing of its intention in that behalf, unless before the expiration of such notice the amount so advanced shall have been called up on the shares in respect of which it was advanced.

FORFEITURE OF SHARES

24 Notice if call not paid

If any member fails to pay the whole of any call or any instalment of any call on or before the day appointed for payment, the Board may at any time serve a notice in writing on such member or on any person entitled to the shares by transmission, requiring payment, on a date not less than 14 clear days from the date of the notice, of the amount unpaid and any interest which may have accrued thereon and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall name the place where the payment is to be made and state that, if the notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which such call was made will be liable to be forfeited.

25 Forfeiture for non-compliance

If the notice referred to in Article 24 is not complied with, any share in respect of which it was given may, at any time before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Board to that effect. Such forfeiture shall include all dividends declared or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

26 Notice after forfeiture

When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served on the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share or the person entitled to such share by transmission (as the case may be). An entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register in respect of such share. However, no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to give such notice or to make such entry as aforesaid.

27 Forfeiture may be annulled

The Board may, at any time before any share so forfeited has been cancelled or sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, annul the forfeiture, on the terms that payment shall be made of all

calls and interest due thereon and all expenses incurred in respect of the share and on such further terms (if any) as the Board shall see fit

28 Surrender

The Board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited. In such case, references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender.

29 Disposal of forfeited shares

Every share which is forfeited shall on forfeiture become the property of the Company. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, either to the person who was the holder before forfeiture or otherwise entitled to the share, or to any other person, on such terms and in such manner as the Board shall determine. The Board may, for the purposes of the disposal, authorise some person to transfer the share in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred share in the Register, notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect of the share and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the share. The Company may receive the consideration (if any) given for the share on its disposal.

30 Effect of forfeiture

A shareholder whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the shares forfeited and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for such shares. He shall nevertheless be liable to pay to the Company all calls made and not paid on such shares at the time of forfeiture, and interest thereon at 15 per cent per annum (or such lower rate as the Board may determine) from the date of the forfeiture to the date of payment, in the same manner in all respects as if the shares had not been forfeited, and to satisfy all (if any) claims, demands and liabilities which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of forfeiture, without any reduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

31 Extinction of claims

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 holder whose share is forfeited and the Company, except only such of those rights and liabilities as are by these Articles expressly saved, or as are by the Companies Acts given or imposed in the case of past members.

32 Evidence of forfeiture

A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been forfeited in pursuance of these Articles, and stating the date on which it was forfeited, shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to that share, be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated. The declaration, together with the receipt of the Company for the consideration (if any) given for the share on the sale or disposition thereof and a certificate for the share delivered to the person to whom the same is sold or disposed of, shall (subject if necessary to the execution of an instrument of transfer) constitute a good title to the share. Subject to the execution of any necessary transfer, such person shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such sale or disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or other consideration (if any), nor shall his title to the share be affected by any act, omission or irregularity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share. Such person shall not (except by express agreement with the Company) become entitled to any dividend which might have accrued on the share before the completion of the sale or disposition thereof.

TRANSFER OF SHARES

33 Form of transfer

Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, each member may transfer all or any of his shares by instrument of transfer in writing in any usual form or in any form approved by the Board. Such instrument shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a transfer of a share which is not fully paid up) by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of such share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of it. All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company.

34 Right to refuse registration

34 1 The Board may, in its absolute discretion and without giving any reason, refuse to register any transfer of a share (or renunciation of a renounceable letter of allotment) unless

34 1 1 it is in respect of a share which is fully paid up,

34 1 2 it is in respect of only one class of shares,

34 1 3 it is in favour of a single transferee or not more than four joint transferees,

34 1 4 it is duly stamped (if so required), and

34 1 5 it is delivered for registration to the Office or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine, accompanied (except in the case of a transfer by a recognised person where a certificate has not been issued or in the case of a renunciation) by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to prove the title of the transferor or person renouncing and the due execution of the transfer or renunciation by him or, if the transfer or renunciation is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person to do so,

provided that the Board shall not refuse to register any transfer or renunciation of partly paid shares which are admitted to AIM on the grounds that they are partly paid shares in circumstances where such refusal would prevent dealings in such shares from taking place on an open and proper basis.

34 2 Transfers of shares will not be registered in the circumstances referred to in Article 80.

35 Notice of refusal

If the Board refuses to register a transfer of a share it shall, within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send notice of the refusal to the transferee. Any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall (except in the case of suspected or actual fraud) be returned to the person depositing it.

36 Closing of Register

The registration of transfers of shares or of any class of shares may be suspended (to the extent the same is consistent with the Companies Acts) at such times and for such periods (not exceeding 30 days in any year) as the Board may from time to time determine. Notice of closure of the Register shall be given in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts.

37 Fees on registration

No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or on the registration of any probate, letters of administration, certificate of death or marriage, power of attorney, notice or other instrument relating to or affecting the title to any shares.

38 Other powers in relation to transfers

Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the Board from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person or, if empowered by these Articles to authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of a share, from authorising any person to transfer that share in accordance with any procedures implemented pursuant to Article 15

TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

39 On death

If a member dies, the survivors or survivor, where he was a joint holder, and his executors or administrators, where he was a sole or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares. Nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which has been solely or jointly held by him

40 Election of person entitled by transmission

Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, may, on such evidence as to his title being produced as the Board may require, elect either to become registered as a member or to have some person nominated by him registered as a member. If he elects to become registered himself, he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have some other person registered, he shall execute an instrument of transfer of such share to that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (as the case may be) as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and his death, bankruptcy or other event as aforesaid had not occurred. Where the entitlement of a person to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law is proved to the satisfaction of the Board, the Board shall within two months after proof cause the entitlement of that person to be noted in the Register

41 Rights on transmission

Where a person becomes entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, the rights of the holder in relation to such share shall cease. However, the person so entitled may give a good discharge for any dividends and other moneys payable in respect of it and shall have the same rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before he is 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 of 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. If the notice is not complied with within 60 days, the Board may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of such share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with

DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

42 Destruction of documents

42 1 The Company may destroy

42 1 1 any instrument of transfer, after six years from the date on which it is registered,

42 1 2 any dividend mandate or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address, after two years from the date on which it is recorded,

- 42 1 3 any share certificate, after one year from the date on which it is cancelled, and
 - 42 1 4 any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made, after six years from the date on which an entry was first made in the Register in respect of it,
- Provided that the Company may destroy any such type of document at a date earlier than that authorised by this Article if a copy of such document is made and retained (whether made electronically, by microfilm, by digital imaging or by any other means) until the expiration of the period applicable to the destruction of the original of such document
- 42 2 It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled, that every other document so destroyed had been properly dealt with in accordance with its terms and was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that
 - 42 2 1 this Article 42 shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant,
 - 42 2 2 nothing in this Article 42 shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than as provided for in this Article 42 which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 42, and
 - 42 2 3 references in this Article 42 to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner

ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL

43 Increase, consolidation, cancellation and sub-division

The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution

- 43 1 increase its share capital by such sum to be divided into shares of such amount as the resolution prescribes,
- 43 2 consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares,
- 43 3 cancel any shares which, at the date of the passing of the resolution, have not been taken, or agreed to be taken, by any person and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled, and
- 43 4 subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, sub-divide its shares or any of them into shares of smaller amount, and may by such resolution determine that, as between the shares resulting from such sub-division, one or more of the shares may, as compared with the others, have any such preferred, deferred or other special rights or be subject to any such restrictions as the Company has power to attach to unissued or new shares

44 Fractions

- 44 1 Whenever as the result of any consolidation, division or sub-division of shares any holders would become entitled to fractions of a share, the Board may, on behalf of those holders
- 44 1 1 sell the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale after deduction of the expenses of sale in due proportion among those holders (except that any amount otherwise due to a holder, being less than £3 or such other sum as the Board may from time to time determine, may be retained for the benefit of the Company), or

- 44 1 2 provided that the necessary unissued shares are available, the Board may issue to such holder credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation the minimum number of shares required to round up his holding to an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share (such issue being deemed to have been effected prior to consolidation), and the amount required to pay up such shares shall be appropriated at the Board's discretion from any of the sums standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or to the credit of profit and loss account and capitalised by applying the same in paying up the share. In relation to such a capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on it by Article 153 without an ordinary resolution of the Company
- 44 2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may treat shares of a holder in certificated form and in uncertificated form as separate holdings in giving effect to subdivisions and/or consolidations and may cause any shares arising on subdivision or consolidation and representing fractional entitlements to be entered in the Register as shares in certificated form where this is desirable to facilitate the sale thereof
- 44 3 For the purposes of any sale of consolidated shares pursuant to Article 44 1, the Board may authorise a person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with, the directions of the purchaser, and the transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale

45 Reduction of capital

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any rights for the time being attached to any shares, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve, share premium account or other undistributable reserve in any way

46 Purchase of own shares

- 46 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any rights for the time being attached to any shares, the Company may purchase, or may enter into a contract under which it will or may purchase, any of its own shares of any class (including any redeemable shares). Any shares to be so purchased may be selected in any manner whatsoever
- 46 2 The Company may not exercise any right in respect of treasury shares held by it, including any right to attend or vote at meetings, to participate in any offer by the Company to shareholders or to receive any distribution (including in a winding-up), but without prejudice to its right to sell the treasury shares, to transfer the shares for the purposes of or pursuant to an employees' share scheme, to receive an allotment of shares as fully paid bonus shares in respect of the treasury shares or to receive any amount payable on redemption of any redeemable treasury shares

VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS

47 Sanction to variation

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, if at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into shares of different classes, any of the rights for the time being attached to any share or class of shares in the Company (whether or not the Company may be or is about to be wound up) may from time to time be varied or abrogated in such manner (if any) as may be provided by such rights or, in the absence of any such provision, either with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters 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 a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of shares of the class duly convened and held in accordance with these Articles

48 Class meetings

All the provisions in these Articles as to general meetings shall, with any necessary modifications, apply equally to every meeting of the holders of any class of shares. The Board may convene a meeting of the holders of any class of shares whenever it thinks fit and whether or not the business to be transacted involves a variation or abrogation of class rights. The quorum at every such meeting shall be not less than two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third of the nominal amount paid up on the issued shares of the class in question (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares). Every holder of shares of the class (other than a holder of treasury shares), present in person or by proxy, may demand a poll. Each such holder shall on a poll be entitled to one vote for every share of the class held by him (subject to any rights or restrictions attached to that class). If at any adjourned meeting of such holders a quorum is not present, one person holding shares of the class in question (whatever the number of shares held by him but excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) who is present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.

49 Deemed variation

Subject to the terms of issue of or rights attached to any shares, the rights or privileges attached to any class of shares shall not be deemed to be varied or abrogated by the creation or issue of any new shares ranking *pari passu* in all respects (save as to the date from which such new shares shall rank for dividend) with or subsequent to those already issued or by the reduction of the capital paid up on such shares or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares or the sale of any shares held as treasury shares in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles.

GENERAL MEETINGS

50 Annual general meetings

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, annual general meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Board may determine.

51 Extraordinary general meetings

All general meetings, other than annual general meetings, shall be called extraordinary general meetings.

52 Convening of extraordinary general meeting

The Board may convene an extraordinary general meeting whenever it thinks fit. An extraordinary general meeting shall also be convened on a members' requisition, or in default may be convened by the requisitionists, as provided by sections 303-305 (inclusive) CA 2006. At any meeting convened on a members' requisition or by the requisitionists no business shall be transacted except that stated by the requisition or proposed by the Board. If there are within the United Kingdom insufficient members of the Board to convene a general meeting, any Director may call a general meeting.

53 Notice of general meetings

- 53.1 An annual general meeting shall be convened by not less than 21 clear days' notice in writing and an extraordinary general meeting shall be convened by not less than 14 clear days' notice in writing (or such longer period as may be requested by law from time to time).
- 53.2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and notwithstanding that it is convened by shorter notice than that specified in this Article 53, a general meeting shall be deemed to have been duly convened if it is so agreed.

- 53 2 1 in the case of an annual general meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting, and
- 53 2 2 in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent in nominal value of the shares giving that right
- 53 3 The notice of any general meeting shall specify
 - 53 3 1 whether the meeting is an annual general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting,
 - 53 3 2 the place, the day and the time of the meeting,
 - 53 3 3 the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting,
 - 53 3 4 if the meeting is convened to consider a special resolution, the text of the resolution and the intention to propose the resolution as such, and
 - 53 3 5 with reasonable prominence, that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to attend and to speak and vote instead of him and that the proxy or proxies need not also be a member provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member
- 53 4 The notice shall be given to the members (other than any who, under the provisions of these Articles or of any restrictions imposed on any shares, are not entitled to receive notice from the Company), to the Directors and to the Auditors and to any other person who may be entitled to receive it

54 Omission to send notice or non-receipt of notice

The accidental omission to give or send notice of any meeting or, in cases where it is intended that it be sent out with the notice, any other document relating to the meeting including an appointment of proxy to, or the non-receipt of either by, any person entitled to receive the same shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting

55 Postponement of general meetings

- 55 1 If the Board, in its absolute discretion, considers that it is impractical or unreasonable for any reason to hold a general meeting on the date or at the time or place specified in the notice calling the general meeting, it may postpone the general meeting to another date, time and/or place. The Board shall take reasonable steps to ensure that notice of the date, time and place of the postponed meeting is provided to any member trying to attend the meeting at the original time and place. When a meeting is so postponed, notice of the date, time and place of the postponed meeting shall, if practicable, also be placed in at least two national newspapers in the United Kingdom. Notice of the business to be transacted at such postponed meeting shall not be required. If a meeting is postponed in accordance with this Article, the appointment of a proxy will be valid if it is delivered and received as required by these Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the postponed meeting. The Board may (for the avoidance of doubt) also postpone any meeting which has been rearranged under this Article
- 55 2 In calculating the period mentioned in Article 55 1, no account shall be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

56 Quorum

- 56 1 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Save as otherwise provided in these Articles, two persons

entitled to attend and to vote on the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member, shall be a quorum

- 56 2 In calculating whether a quorum is present for the purposes of Article 56 1, if two or more persons are appointed as proxies for the same member or two or more persons are appointed as corporate representatives of the same corporate member, only one of such proxies or only one of such corporate representatives shall be counted

57 If quorum not present

If within five minutes (or such longer interval as the Chairman in his absolute discretion thinks fit) from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting a quorum is not present, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting, if convened by or upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved. In any other case, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to later on the same day or to such other day and at such time and place as the Chairman (or, in default, the Board) may determine. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within five minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, one person entitled to vote on the business to be transacted, being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member, shall be a quorum

58 Chairman

The Chairman (if any) of the Board shall preside as Chairman at every general meeting of the Company. If there is no Chairman or if at any meeting he is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or is unwilling to act as Chairman, the Deputy Chairman (if any) of the Board shall (if present and willing to act) preside as Chairman at such meeting. If neither the Chairman nor the Deputy Chairman is present and willing to act, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act or, if there is only one Director present, he shall be Chairman if willing to act. If no Director is present and willing to act, the members present (in person or by proxy) and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.

59 Entitlement to attend and speak

Each Director shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company. The Chairman may invite any person to attend and speak at any general meeting where he considers this will assist in the deliberations of the meeting.

60 Power to adjourn

The Chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time (or indefinitely) and from place to place as the meeting shall determine. However, without prejudice to any other power which he may have under these Articles or at common law, the Chairman may, without the need for the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn any meeting (whether or not it has commenced or a quorum is present) from time to time and from place to place, or for an indefinite period, if he is of the opinion that it has become necessary to do so in order to secure the proper and orderly conduct of the meeting or to give all persons entitled to do so a reasonable opportunity of attending, speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of. No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting, had the adjournment not taken place.

61 Notice of adjourned meeting

Where a meeting is adjourned indefinitely, the Board shall fix the time and place for the adjourned meeting. Whenever a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more or indefinitely, at least seven clear days' notice, specifying the place, the day and time of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, shall be given in the same manner as in the case of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, no member shall be entitled to any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

62 Business of adjourned meeting

No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

63 Accommodation of members and security arrangements

63 1 The Board may, for the purpose of controlling the level of attendance and ensuring the safety of those attending at any place specified for the holding of a general meeting, from time to time make such arrangements as the Board shall in its absolute discretion consider to be appropriate and may from time to time vary any such arrangements in place or make new arrangements. The entitlement of any member or proxy to attend a general meeting at such place shall be subject to any such arrangements as may be for the time being approved by the Board. In the case of any meeting to which such arrangements apply the Board may, when specifying the place of the meeting

63 1 1 direct that the meeting shall be held at a place specified in the notice at which the Chairman of the meeting shall preside ("**the Principal Place**"), and

63 1 2 make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at other places by members otherwise entitled to attend the general meeting, but excluded from the Principal Place under the provisions of this Article, or who wish to attend at any of such other places, provided that persons attending at the Principal Place and at any of such other places shall be able to see, and hear and be seen and heard by, persons attending at the Principal Place and at such other places, by any means.

Such arrangements for simultaneous attendance may include arrangements for controlling the level of attendance in any manner at any of such other places (as stated above), provided that they shall operate so that any members and proxies excluded from attending at the Principal Place are able to attend at one of the other places. For the purposes of all other provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.

63 2 The Board may direct that any person wishing to attend any meeting should provide evidence of identity and submit to such searches or other security arrangements or restrictions as the Board shall consider appropriate in the circumstances. The Board shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to refuse entry to, or eject 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.

64 Orderly Conduct

The Chairman shall take such action or give such directions as he thinks fit to promote the orderly conduct of the business of the meeting as laid down in the notice of the meeting. The Chairman's decision on matters of procedure or arising incidentally from the business of the meeting shall be final, as shall his determination as to whether any matter is of such a nature

VOTING AND POLLS

65 Method of voting

- 65 1 At any general meeting a resolution put to a vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, a poll may be demanded by
- 65 1 1 the Chairman of the meeting, or
- 65 1 2 by at least five members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the resolution, or
- 65 1 3 a member or members present in person or by proxy representing not less than ten per cent of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution (excluding any voting rights attached to shares in the Company which are held as treasury shares), or
- 65 1 4 a member or members present in person or by proxy holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution, being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than ten per cent of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote on the resolution which are held as treasury shares)
- 65 2 The Chairman may also demand a poll before a resolution is put to the vote on a show of hands
- 65 3 At general meetings, resolutions shall be put to the vote by the Chairman and there shall be no requirement for the resolution to be proposed or seconded by any person

66 Chairman's declaration conclusive on show of hands

Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution on a show of hands has been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of proceedings of the Company, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against such resolution

67 Objection to or error in voting

No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, except at the meeting or adjourned meeting or poll at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs. Any objection or error shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the Chairman decides that the same is of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution or may otherwise have affected the decision of the meeting. Any vote which is not disallowed at such a meeting or poll shall be valid for all purposes. The decision of the Chairman on such matters shall be final and conclusive

68 Amendment to resolutions

- 68 1 If an amendment is proposed to any resolution under consideration but is in good faith ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, any error in such ruling shall not invalidate the proceedings on the substantive resolution
- 68 2 In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment thereto (other than a clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted on and in the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution, no amendment thereto (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted on, unless either at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed, notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the Office or the Chairman of

the meeting in his absolute discretion decides that it may be considered or voted on. The Chairman of the meeting can agree to the withdrawal of any proposed amendment before it is voted on at the meeting.

- 68 3 In calculating the periods mentioned in Article 68 2, no account shall be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day.

69 Procedure on a poll

- 69 1 Any poll duly demanded on the election of a Chairman of a meeting or on any question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll duly demanded on any other matter shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or electronic means, or any combination thereof) and at such time and place, not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the poll was demanded, as the Chairman shall direct. The Chairman may appoint scrutineers who need not be members. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- 69 2 The demand for a poll (other than on the election of a Chairman of the meeting or any question of adjournment) shall not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business, other than the question on which a poll has been demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result on a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 69 3 The demand for a poll may be withdrawn at any time before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the Chairman of the meeting. A demand so withdrawn shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 69 4 On a poll votes may be given in person 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.

70 Votes of members

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to Article 73, to any special terms as to voting on which any shares may have been issued or may for the time being be held and to any suspension or abrogation of voting rights pursuant to these Articles, at any general meeting, every member who is present in person or by proxy shall, on a show of hands, have one vote and every member present in person or by proxy shall, on a poll, have one vote for each share of which he is the holder.

71 Votes of joint holders

If two or more persons are joint holders of a share, then in voting on any question, 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. For this purpose, seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register.

72 Votes of member suffering incapacity

- 72 1 Where in England or elsewhere a receiver or other person (by whatever name called) has been appointed by any court claiming jurisdiction in that behalf to exercise powers with respect to the property or affairs of any member on the ground (however formulated) of mental disorder, the Board may, in its absolute discretion, on or subject to the production of such evidence of the appointment as the Board may require, permit such receiver or other person to vote in person or, on a poll, by proxy on behalf of such member at any general meeting. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at the Office, or deposited or received at such other place or address as is

specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit or receipt of appointments of proxy, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised, and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable

- 72 2 In calculating the periods mentioned in Article 72 1, no account shall be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day

PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES

73 Voting by proxy

Any person or persons (whether a member of the Company or not) may be appointed to act as a proxy provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member. The appointment of a proxy or proxies shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person on a show of hands or on a poll on any matters in respect of which the proxy or proxies is or are appointed. In the event that and to the extent that a member personally votes his shares his proxy or proxies shall not be entitled to vote and any vote cast by a proxy in such circumstances shall be ignored

74 Form of proxy

- 74 1 The appointment of a proxy or proxies shall, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts
- 74 1 1 be in writing, in any common form or in such other form as the Board may approve, and (i) if in writing but not in electronic form, made under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing, or, if the appointor is a corporation, under its common seal or under the hand of some officer or attorney or other person duly authorised in that behalf, or (ii) if in writing in electronic form, submitted by or on behalf of the appointor and authenticated,
- 74 1 2 be deemed (subject to any contrary direction contained in it) to confer authority to exercise all or any rights of his or their appointee to demand or join in demanding a poll and to speak at any meeting and to vote (whether on a show of hands or on a poll) on any resolution or amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given, as the proxy or proxies think(s) fit,
- 74 1 3 unless the contrary is stated in it, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates, and
- 74 1 4 where it is stated to apply to more than one meeting, be valid for all such meetings as well as for any adjournment of any such meetings
- 74 2 The Board may allow a proxy for a holder of any shares in uncertificated form to be appointed by electronic communication in the form of an uncertificated proxy instruction. The Board may also allow any supplement to the uncertificated proxy instruction or any amendment or revocation of any uncertificated proxy instruction to be made by a further uncertificated proxy instruction
- 74 3 The Board may decide what method should be used to determine at what time the instruction or notification is treated as being received by the Company. The Board may treat any notification purporting or expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share in uncertificated form as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending the instruction to send it on behalf of that holder
- 74 4 For the purposes of this Article 74, an uncertificated proxy instruction is a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, sent through a relevant system to a participant in that system chosen by the Board to act for the Company. The uncertificated proxy instruction may be in any form and subject to any terms and conditions that the Board deems appropriate, but always subject to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system

75 Deposit or receipt of proxy

- 75 1 The appointment of a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is authenticated, or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Board, shall
- 75 1 1 in the case of an instrument in writing (including, whether or not the appointment of proxy is in electronic form, any such power of attorney or other authority) be deposited at the Office, or at such other place or places within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any notice of any adjourned meeting or in any appointment of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time of the holding of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote, or
- 75 1 2 in the case of an appointment in electronic form, where an address has been specified for the purpose of receiving documents or information in electronic form
- (a) in the notice convening the meeting, or
 - (b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting, or
 - (c) in any invitation in electronic form to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting,
- be received at such address not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote, or
- 75 1 3 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll, or
- 75 1 4 in the case of a poll not taken forthwith but taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the Chairman of the meeting or to any Director
- 75 2 In calculating the periods mentioned in Article 75 1, no account shall be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day

76 Maximum validity of proxy

An appointment of proxy not deposited, delivered or received in the manner specified in Article 75 shall be invalid. No appointment of proxy shall be valid after the expiry of 12 months from the date named in it as the date of its execution or the date of its submission, except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting, in cases where the meeting was originally held within 12 months from such date

77 Multiple proxies

When two (or more) valid but differing appointments of proxy are received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting and in respect of the same matter, the one which is last validly received (regardless of its date or of the date of its execution or submission) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others as regards that share. If the Company is unable to determine which appointment was last validly received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share

78 Revocation of proxy

- 78 1 A vote given or demand for a poll made by a proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the death or mental disorder of the principal or the revocation of the appointment of proxy, or of the authority

under which the appointment of proxy was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the appointment of proxy is given, unless notice in writing of such death, mental disorder, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the Office, or at such other place or places or address as has or have been appointed for the deposit or receipt of appointments of proxy

- 78 1 1 in the case of a meeting or adjourned meeting, at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting,
- 78 1 2 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it was demanded, at least 24 hours before the taking of the poll,
- 78 1 3 in the case of a poll not taken forthwith but taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, at the meeting at which the poll was deemed
- 78 2 In calculating the periods mentioned in Article 78 1, no account shall be taken of any part of the day which is not a working day (as defined in section 1173 CA 2006)

79 Corporate representative

A corporation (whether or not a company within the meaning of the Companies Acts) which is a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise such person or persons as it thinks fit to act as its representative or representatives at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. Any person or persons so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation (in respect of that part of the corporation's holdings to which the authority relates) that the corporation could exercise if it were an individual member. The corporation shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present at it, and all references to attendance and voting in person shall be construed accordingly. A Director, the Secretary, or some person authorised for the purpose by the Secretary, may require any representative to produce a certified copy of the resolution so authorising him or such other evidence of his authority reasonably satisfactory to them before permitting him to exercise his powers

80 Failure to disclose interests in shares

- 80 1 Where a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been issued with a notice pursuant to section 793 CA 2006 (a "**Section 793 Notice**") and has failed in relation to any shares ("**the default shares**", which expression includes any shares issued after the date of such notice in respect of those shares) to give the Company the information required within the prescribed period from the service of the notice, the following sanctions shall apply unless the Board otherwise determines
 - 80 1 1 the member shall not be entitled (in respect of the default shares) to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or by proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll, or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll, and
 - 80 1 2 where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent in nominal value of the issued shares of their class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares)
 - (a) any dividend or other money payable in respect of the shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect, pursuant to Article 151, to receive shares instead of that dividend, and
 - (b) no transfer, (other than an excepted transfer), of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless

- (i) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required, and
- (ii) the member proves to the satisfaction of the Board that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer

- 80 2 Where the sanctions under Article 80 1 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect (and any dividends withheld under subparagraph 80 1 2 shall become payable)
- 80 2 1 if the shares are transferred by means of an excepted transfer but only in respect of the shares transferred, or
- 80 2 2 at the end of a period of 7 days (or such shorter period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the Section 793 Notice and the Board being fully satisfied that such information is full and complete
- 80 3 Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company issues a Section 793 Notice to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the Section 793 Notice to the member, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 80 1
- 80 4 Where default shares in which a person appears to be interested are held by a Depositary, the provisions of this Article 80 shall be treated as applying only to those shares held by the Depositary in which such person appears to be interested and not (insofar as such person's apparent interest is concerned) to any other shares held by the Depositary
- 80 5 Where the member on which a Section 793 Notice is served is a Depositary acting in its capacity as such, the obligations of the Depositary as a member of the Company shall be limited to disclosing to the Company such information relating to any person appearing to be interested in the shares held by it, as has been recorded by it pursuant to the arrangements entered into by the Company, or approved by the Board pursuant to which it was appointed as a Depositary
- 80 6 For the purposes of this Article 80
- 80 6 1 a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a Section 793 Notice, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested,
- 80 6 2 "**interested**" shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 CA 2006,
- 80 6 3 reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a Section 793 Notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes, without limitation, reference
- (a) to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it, and
 - (b) to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or his having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular,
- 80 6 4 "**prescribed period**" means 14 days,
- 80 6 5 "**excepted transfer**" means, in relation to any shares held by a member
- (a) a transfer by way of or pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 CA 2006), or

- (b) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded, or
- (c) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a bona fide sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member or with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares. For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (c), any associate (as defined in section 435 Insolvency Act 1986) shall be included in the class of persons who are connected with the member or any person appearing to be interested in such shares

80 7 Nothing contained in this Article 80 shall be taken to limit the powers of the Company under section 794 CA 2006

UNTRACED MEMBERS

81 Power of sale

- 81 1 The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share of a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, if and provided that
 - 81 1 1 during the period of 12 years immediately prior to the date of the publication of the advertisements referred to in sub-paragraph 81 1 2 below (or, if published on different dates, the earlier or earliest thereof) (the "**relevant period**"), the Company has paid at least three cash dividends (whether interim or final) on the share and no cash dividend payable on the share has either been claimed or cashed,
 - 81 1 2 on or after expiry of the relevant period, the Company has given notice of its intention to sell such share by advertisements in two newspapers, of which one shall be a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and the other shall be a newspaper circulating in the area of the address on the Register or other last known address of the member or the person entitled by transmission to the share or the address for the service of notices notified under Article 160 3,
 - 81 1 3 the said advertisements, if not published on the same day, shall have been published within 30 days of each other, and
 - 81 1 4 during the further period of three months following the date of publication of the said advertisements (or, if published on different dates, the later or latest thereof) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale, the Company has not received any communication in respect of such share from the member or person entitled by transmission
- 81 2 To give effect to any sale of shares pursuant to this Article, the Board may authorise some person to transfer the shares in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred shares in the Register, notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof, and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the shares. The purchaser 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 or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale
- 81 3 If, during the relevant period referred to in Article 81 1 or during any period ending on the date when all the requirements of sub-paragraphs 81 1 1 to 81 1 4 above have been satisfied, any additional shares have been issued in respect of those held at the beginning of, or previously so issued during, any such period and all the requirements of sub-paragraphs 81 1 2 to 81 1 4 above have been satisfied in regard to such additional shares, the Company shall also be entitled to sell the additional shares

82 Application of proceeds of sale

The net proceeds of sale shall belong to the Company which shall account to the member or other person entitled to such share for an amount equal to such net proceeds by carrying all moneys in respect thereof to a separate account. The Company shall be deemed to be a debtor to, and not a trustee for, such member or other person in respect of such moneys. Moneys carried to such separate account may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments as the Board may from time to time think fit. No interest shall be payable to such member or other person in respect of such moneys and the Company shall not be required to account for any money earned on them.

PRESIDENT

83 Appointment of President

The Board may appoint any person who is or has been a Director and who, in the opinion of the Board, has rendered outstanding services to the Company to be President and may determine the period for which he is to hold office. Any such appointment may be made on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may think fit and may be terminated by the Board.

84 Duties of President

It shall be the duty of the President to advise the Board on such matters as he or it may deem to be of interest to the Company. The President shall not by virtue of his office as such have any powers or duties in relation to the management of the business of the Company and shall not by virtue of his office as such be a Director.

APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

85 Number of Directors

Unless and until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, the number of Directors (other than any alternate Directors) shall be not less than two.

86 Power of Company to appoint Directors

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 addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles.

87 Power of Board to appoint Directors

Without prejudice to the power of the Company in general meeting under these Articles to appoint any person to be a Director, the Board shall have power at any time to appoint any person who is willing to act as a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but so the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall retire at the first annual general meeting of the Company following his appointment and shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at that meeting.

88 Appointment of executive Directors

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board may from time to time appoint one or more directors to hold any employment or executive office (including that of Chief Executive or Managing Director) for such term (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) and subject to such other conditions as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, thinks fit in accordance with Article 110. The Board, or any

committee authorised by the Board, may revoke or terminate any such appointment without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of contract between the Director and the Company

89 Eligibility of new Directors

No person, other than a Director retiring (by rotation or otherwise), shall, unless recommended by the Board for election, be appointed or re-appointed a Director at any general meeting unless not less than seven nor more than 42 clear days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice in writing duly executed by a member (other than the person to be proposed) qualified to vote at the meeting of the intention to propose that person for appointment or re-appointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or re-appointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors, together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or re-appointed, is lodged at the Office

90 Share qualification

A Director shall not be required to hold any shares of the Company

91 Resolution for appointment of two or more Directors

A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall be void unless an ordinary resolution that it shall be so proposed has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it

92 Retirement at annual general meetings

- 92 1 At each annual general meeting, any Director who was elected or last re-elected at or before the annual general meeting held in the third calendar year before the current year shall automatically retire
- 92 2 At each annual general meeting of the Company, one-third of the Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not exceeding one-third, shall retire from office. If there are fewer than three Directors who are subject to retirement by rotation, one Director shall retire from office
- 92 3 In addition to any Director required to retire by rotation under Article 93 1, there shall also be required to retire by rotation any Director who at an annual general meeting of the Company shall have been a Director at each of the preceding two annual general meetings of the Company and who was not required to retire by rotation at either such annual general meeting and who has not otherwise ceased to be a Director (either by resignation, retirement, removal or otherwise) and been re-elected by general meeting of the Company at or since either such annual general meeting
- 92 4 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of these Articles, the Directors to retire by rotation at each annual general meeting shall be so far as necessary to obtain the number required, first, any Director who wishes to retire and not offer himself for re-election and secondly, those Directors who have been longest in office since their appointment or last re-appointment. As between two or more Directors who have been in office for an equal length of time, the Director to retire shall, in default of agreement between them, be determined by lot. The Directors to retire on each occasion (both as to number and identity) shall be determined by the composition of the Board at the start of business on the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting notwithstanding any change in the number or identity of the Directors after that time but before the close of the meeting

93 Position of retiring Director

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting (whether by rotation or otherwise) may, if willing to act, be re-appointed. If he is not re-appointed or deemed to have been re-appointed,

he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting

94 Deemed re-appointment

94 1 At any general meeting at which a Director retires under any provision of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution fill the vacancy by electing the retiring Director or some other person eligible for appointment. If the Company does not do so, the retiring Director shall (if willing) be deemed to have been re-appointed except in the following circumstances

94 1 1 it is expressly resolved not to fill the vacancy,

94 1 2 a resolution for the re-appointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost

95 Removal by ordinary resolution

In addition to any power of removal conferred by the Companies Acts, the Company may by ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office, but without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company, and may (subject to these Articles) by ordinary resolution appoint another person who is willing to act to be a Director in his place. Any person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other Director is to retire, as if he had become a Director on the day on which the person in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or re-appointed a Director

96 Vacation of office by Director

96 1 Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement (by rotation or otherwise) contained in these Articles, the office of a Director shall be vacated if

96 1 1 he resigns by notice in writing delivered to, or, if in electronic form, received by, the Secretary at the Office or tendered at a Board meeting,

96 1 2 he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, is removed from office pursuant to these Articles or the Companies Acts, or becomes prohibited by law from being a Director,

96 1 3 he becomes bankrupt, has an interim receiving order made against him, makes any arrangement or compounds with his creditors generally or applies to the court for an interim order under section 253 Insolvency Act 1986 in connection with a voluntary arrangement under that Act,

96 1 4 an order is made by any court of competent jurisdiction on the ground (howsoever formulated) of mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a guardian or receiver or other person to exercise powers with respect to his affairs or he becomes a patient for any purpose of any statute relating to mental health and the Board resolves that his office be vacated,

96 1 5 both he and his alternate Director appointed pursuant to the provisions of these Articles (if any) are absent, without the permission of the Board, from Board meetings for six consecutive months

97 Resolution as to vacancy conclusive

A resolution of the Board declaring a Director to have vacated office under the terms of Article 96 shall be conclusive as to the fact and grounds of vacation stated in the resolution

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

98 Appointments

- 98 1 Each Director (other than an alternate Director) may, by notice in writing delivered to or, if in electronic form, received by the Secretary at the Office, or in any other manner approved by the Board, appoint any other Director or any person approved for that purpose by the Board and willing to act, to be his alternate and remove from office an alternate director so appointed by him
- 98 2 No appointment of an alternate Director who is not already a Director shall be effective until his consent to act as a Director in the form prescribed by the Companies Acts has been received at the Office
- 98 3 An alternate Director need not hold a share qualification and shall not be counted in reckoning any maximum or minimum number of Directors allowed by these Articles

99 Participation in Board meetings

Every alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served on him) be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the Board and all committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member and, in the absence from such meetings of his appointor, to attend and vote at such meetings and to exercise all the powers, rights, duties and authorities of his appointor (except as regards power to appoint an alternate) A Director acting as alternate Director shall have a separate vote at Board meetings for each Director for whom he acts as alternate Director (and who is not present) in addition to his own vote (if any) as a Director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present

100 Alternate Director responsible for own acts

- 100 1 Every person acting as an alternate Director shall be an officer of the Company, shall alone be responsible to the Company for his own acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing him

101 Interests of alternate Director

An alternate Director shall be entitled to contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements with the Company and to be repaid expenses and to be indemnified to the same extent as if he were a Director However, he shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any fees in his capacity as an alternate director, except only such part (if any) of the fees payable to his appointor as his appointor may by notice in writing to the Company direct Subject to this Article, the Company shall pay to an alternate Director such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a Director

102 Revocation of appointment

An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director

- 102 1 if his appointor revokes his appointment, or
- 102 2 if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director, provided that if any Director retires but is re-appointed or deemed to be re-appointed at the same meeting, any valid appointment of an alternate Director which was in force immediately before his retirement shall remain in force, or
- 102 3 if any event happens in relation to him which, if he were a Director otherwise appointed, would cause him to vacate office, or
- 102 4 if he resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company

DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS

103 Directors' fees

The Directors (other than alternate Directors) shall be entitled to receive by way of fees for their services as Directors such sum as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may from time to time determine (not exceeding £200,000 per annum or such other sum as the Company in general meeting by ordinary resolution shall from time to time determine) Such sum (unless otherwise directed by the resolution of the Company by which it is voted) shall be divided among the Directors in such proportions and in such manner as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may determine or, in default of such determination, equally (except that in such event any Director holding office for less than the whole of the relevant period in respect of which the fees are paid shall only rank in such division in proportion to the time during such period for which he holds office) Any fees payable pursuant to this Article shall be distinct from any salary, remuneration or other amounts payable to a Director pursuant to any other provisions of these Articles and shall accrue from day to day

104 Expenses

Each Director shall be entitled to be repaid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by him in or about the performance of his duties as Director, including any expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company

105 Additional remuneration

If by arrangement with the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, any Director shall perform or render any special duties or services outside his ordinary duties as a Director and not in his capacity as a holder of employment or executive office, he may be paid such reasonable additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may from time to time determine

106 Remuneration of executive Directors

The salary or remuneration of any Director appointed to hold any employment or executive office in accordance with the provisions of these Articles may be either a fixed sum of money, or may altogether or in part be governed by business done or profits made or otherwise determined by the Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, and may be in addition to or in lieu of any fee payable to him for his services as Director pursuant to these Articles

107 Pensions and other benefits

The Board, or any committee authorised by the Board, may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide pensions or other retirement or superannuation benefits and to provide death or disability benefits or other allowances or gratuities (whether by insurance or otherwise) for, or to institute and maintain any institution, association, society, club, trust, other establishment or profit-sharing, share incentive, share purchase or employees' share scheme calculated to advance the interests of the Company or to benefit, any person who is or has at any time been a Director or employee of the Company or any company which is a holding company or a subsidiary undertaking of or allied to or associated with the Company or any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking or any predecessor in business of the Company or of any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse or former spouse) and any person who is or was dependent on him For such purpose the Board may establish, maintain, subscribe and contribute to any scheme, institution, association, club, trust or fund and pay premiums and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, lend money or make payments to, guarantee or give an indemnity in respect of, or give any financial or other assistance in connection with any of the aforesaid matters The

Board may procure any of such matters to be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person. Any Director or former Director shall be entitled to receive and retain for his own benefit any pension or other benefit provided under this Article and shall not be obliged to account for it to the Company.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

108 Powers of the Board

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Memorandum of Association of the Company, these Articles and to any directions given by special resolution of the Company, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board, which may exercise all the powers of the Company, whether relating to the management of the business or not. No alteration of the Memorandum of Association or of these Articles and no such direction given by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such alteration had not been made or such direction had not been given. Provisions contained elsewhere in these Articles as to any specific power of the Board shall not be deemed to limit the general powers given by this Article.

109 Powers of Directors being less than minimum number

If the number of Directors is less than the minimum for the time being prescribed by these Articles, the remaining Director or Directors shall act only for the purposes of appointing an additional Director or Directors to make up such minimum or of convening a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of making such appointment. If there are no Director or Directors able or willing to act, any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, any additional Director so appointed shall hold office only until the dissolution of the first annual general meeting of the Company following his appointment unless he is re-elected during such meeting.

110 Powers of executive Directors

The Board may from time to time delegate or entrust to and confer on any Director holding executive office (including a Chief Executive or Managing Director) such of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit, and the Board may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

111 Delegation to committees

- 111 1 The Board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, all powers, authorities and discretion whose exercise involves or may involve the payment of remuneration to or the conferring of any other benefit on all or any of the Directors) for such time on such terms and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit to any committee consisting of one or more Directors and (if thought fit) one or more other persons.
- 111 2 Any such committee shall, unless the Board otherwise resolves, have power to sub-delegate to sub-committees any of the powers, authorities or discretions delegated to it.
- 111 3 A majority of the members of any committee or sub-committee shall be Directors and no resolution of a committee or sub-committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present when it is passed are Directors or alternate Directors.
- 111 4 The Board may confer any of its powers, authorities and discretions either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers and discharge any such committee or sub-committee in whole or in part. Insofar as any power, authority or discretion is so delegated, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Board of such

power, authority or discretion shall be construed as if it were a reference to the exercise of such power, authority or discretion by such committee or sub-committee. The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board

- 111 5 The meetings and proceedings of any such committee or sub-committee consisting of more than one person shall be governed mutatis mutandis by the provisions of these Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board, so far as the same are not superseded by any regulations made by the Board under this Article 111

112 Delegation to individual Directors

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

113 Local management

The Board may establish any local or divisional boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company in any specified locality, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local or divisional board, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration. The Board may delegate to any local or divisional board, manager or agent so appointed any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) and may authorise the members for the time being of any such local or divisional board, or any of them, to fill any vacancies and to act notwithstanding vacancies, and any such appointment or delegation may be made for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may think fit. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers. Subject to any terms and conditions expressly imposed by the Board, the proceedings of any local or divisional board or agency with two or more members shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Board, so far as they are capable of applying. The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board

114 Power of attorney

The Board may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person or persons to be the agent of the Company and may delegate to any such person or persons any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate), in each case for such purposes and for such time, on such terms (including as to remuneration) and subject to such conditions as it thinks fit. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers. The power to delegate contained in this Article shall be effective in relation to the powers, authorities and discretions of the Board generally and shall not be limited by the fact that in certain Articles, but not in others, express reference is made to particular powers, authorities or discretions being exercised by the Board or by a committee authorised by the Board

115 Associate directors

The Board may appoint any person (not being a Director) to any office or employment having a designation or title including the word "director" or attach to any existing office or employment with the Company such designation or title and may terminate any such appointment or the use of such designation or title. The inclusion of the word "director" in the designation or title of any such office or employment shall not imply that such person is, or is deemed to be, or is empowered in any respect to act as, a Director for any of the purposes of the Companies Acts or these Articles.

116 Exercise of voting power

The Board may exercise or cause to be exercised the voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company, or any power of appointment to be exercised by the Company, in such manner in all respects as it thinks fit (including the exercise of the voting power or power of appointment in favour of the appointment of any Director as a director or other officer or employee of such company or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors, officers or employees of such company).

117 Provision for employees

The Board may exercise any power conferred on the Company by the Companies Acts to make provision for the benefit of persons (other than directors, former directors or shadow directors) employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings (or any member of his family or any person who is dependent on him) in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary undertaking.

118 Overseas registers

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may exercise the powers conferred on the Company with regard to the keeping of an overseas branch, local or other register and may make and vary such regulations as it thinks fit respecting the keeping of any such register.

119 Borrowing powers

- 119.1 The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present and future) and uncalled capital of the Company and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to create and issue debenture and other loan stock and debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

120 Board meetings

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

121 Notice of Board meetings

One Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, summon a Board meeting at any time on reasonable notice. Notice of a Board meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address (or any other address given by him to the Company for that purpose). A Director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of any Board meeting, either prospectively or retrospectively. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a Board meeting to a Director who is absent from the United Kingdom, unless he has requested

the Board in writing that notices of Board meetings shall during his absence be given to him at any address in the United Kingdom given by him to the Company for this purpose or, in the case of notices in electronic form, any address given by him to the Company for that purpose, but such notices need not be given any earlier than notices given to Directors not so absent

122 Quorum

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business may be determined by the Board and until otherwise determined, shall be two persons, each being a Director or an alternate Director. A duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers, and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Board. Subject to these Articles, any Director who ceases to be a Director at a meeting of the Board may continue to be present and to act as a Director and be counted in the quorum until the termination of the meeting if no other Director objects and if otherwise a quorum of Directors would not be present.

123 Chairman of Board

The Board may appoint one or more of its body as Chairman or Joint Chairman and one or more of its body as Deputy Chairman of its meetings and may determine the period for which he is or they are to hold office and may at any time remove him or them from office. If no such Chairman or Deputy Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting neither a Chairman nor a Deputy Chairman is present within five minutes of the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting. In the event there are two or more Joint Chairmen or, in the absence of a Chairman, two or more Deputy Chairmen present, the Joint Chairman or Deputy Chairman to act as Chairman of the meeting shall be decided by those Directors present. Any Chairman or Deputy Chairman may also hold executive office under the Company.

124 Voting

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

125 Electronic participation in meetings

- 125 1 Any Director or his alternate may validly participate in a meeting of the Board or a committee of the Board by means of conference telephone or any other form of communications equipment, provided that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout such meeting, or by a series of telephone calls from the Chairman of the meeting or by exchange of communication in electronic form addressed to the Chairman of the meeting.
- 125 2 A person so participating by being present or being in telephone communication with or by exchanging communication in electronic form with those in the meeting or with the Chairman of the meeting shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall accordingly be counted in a quorum and be entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no group which is larger than any other group, where the Chairman of the meeting is.
- 125 3 A resolution passed at any meeting held in the above manner, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be) duly convened and held.

126 Resolution in writing

- 126 1 A resolution in writing authenticated by all the Directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a Board meeting and not being less than a quorum, or by all the members of a committee of the Board for the time entitled to receive notice of such committee meeting and not being less than a quorum of that committee, shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as a

resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be) Such a resolution

- 126 1 1 may consist of several documents in the same form each authenticated by one or more of the Directors or members of the relevant committee,
- 126 1 2 need not be authenticated by an alternate Director if it is authenticated by the Director who appointed him,
- 126 1 3 if authenticated by an alternate Director, need not also be authenticated by his appointor,
- 126 1 4 to be effective, need not be authenticated by a Director who is prohibited by these Articles from voting thereon, or by his alternate

127 Minutes of proceedings

- 127 1 The Board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of recording
- 127 1 1 all appointments of officers and committees made by the Board, and
- 127 1 2 the names of Directors present at every meeting of the Board, of a committee of the Board, of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company, and all orders, resolutions and proceedings of such meetings
- 127 2 Any such minutes, if purporting to be authenticated by the Chairman of the meeting at which the proceedings were held or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting or the Secretary, shall be prima facie evidence of the matters stated in such minutes without any further proof

128 Validity of proceedings

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

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

129 Director may have interests

- 129 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and provided that Article 130 is complied with, a Director, notwithstanding his office
- 129 1 1 may enter into or otherwise be interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested,
- 129 1 2 may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor or of auditor of a subsidiary of the Company) in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and in any such case on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may arrange, either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for by any other Article,
- 129 1 3 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 company promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested or as regards which the Company has any powers of appointment, and

- 129 1 4 shall not be liable to account to the Company for any profit, remuneration or other benefit realised by any such office, employment, contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal, and no such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit

130 Disclosure of interests to Board

- 130 1 A Director who, to his knowledge, is in any way (directly or indirectly) interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company shall declare the nature of his interest at the meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into the contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal is first considered, if he knows his interest then exists or, in any other case, at the first meeting of the Board after he knows that he is or has become so interested
- 130 2 For the purposes of this Article
- 130 2 1 a general notice given to the Board by a Director that he is to be regarded as having an interest (of the nature and extent specified in the notice) in any contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a sufficient disclosure under this Article in relation to such contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal, and
- 130 2 2 an interest of which a Director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of his

131 Interested Director not to vote or count for quorum

- 131 1 Save as provided in this Article, a Director shall not vote on, or be counted in the quorum in relation to, any resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board concerning any contract, arrangement, transaction or any other proposal whatsoever in which he has an interest which (together with any interest of any person connected with him within the meaning of section 252 CA 2006) is to his knowledge a material interest (otherwise than by virtue of his interests in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company) A Director shall be entitled to vote on and be counted in the quorum in relation to any resolution which concerns any of the following matters
- 131 1 1 the giving of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him or any other person at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings,
- 131 1 2 the giving of any guarantee, security or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security,
- 131 1 3 the giving of any other indemnity where all other Directors are also being offered indemnities on substantially the same terms,
- 131 1 4 any proposal concerning an offer of shares or debentures or other securities of or by the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings in which offer he is or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which he is to participate,
- 131 1 5 any proposal concerning any other body corporate in which he (together with persons connected with him within the meaning of section 252 CA 2006) does not to his knowledge have an interest (as the term is used in Part 22 CA 2006) in one per cent or more of the issued equity share capital of any class of such body corporate (calculated exclusive of any shares of that class in that company held as treasury shares) nor to his knowledge hold one per cent or more of the voting rights available to members of such body corporate,

- 131 1 6 any proposal relating to an arrangement for the benefit of the employees of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings which does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the employees to whom such arrangement relates,
- 131 1 7 any proposal concerning insurance which the Company proposes to maintain or purchase for the benefit of Directors or for the benefit of persons who include Directors, or
- 131 1 8 any proposal concerning the funding of expenditure by one or more Directors on defending proceedings against him or them, or doing anything to enable such Director or Directors to avoid incurring such expenditure

132 Director's interest in own appointment

A Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution of the Board or committee of the Board concerning his own appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of his appointment or its termination) as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested. Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment or its termination) of two or more Directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and a separate resolution considered in relation to each Director. In such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under these Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

133 Chairman's ruling conclusive on Director's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of a Director's interest (other than the Chairman's interest) or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than the Chairman) to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting. The Chairman's ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Director concerned (so far as it is known to him) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.

134 Directors' resolution conclusive on Chairman's interest

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of the Chairman's interest or as to the entitlement of the Chairman to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be decided by resolution of the Directors or committee members present at the meeting (excluding the Chairman), whose majority vote shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Chairman (so far as it is known to him) has not been fairly disclosed to the Board.

135 Relaxation of provisions and connected persons

- 135 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax the provisions of Articles 129 to 134, either generally or in respect of any particular matter, or ratify any transaction not duly authorised by reason of a contravention of these Articles.
- 135 2 For the purposes of Articles 129 to 134 (which shall apply equally to alternate Directors) an interest of a person who is connected (within the meaning of section 252 CA 2006) with a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director.

AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS

136 Power to authenticate documents

Any Director, the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolution passed by the Company or the Board or any committee, and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company, and to certify copies thereof or extracts therefrom as true copies or extracts, and where any books, records, documents or accounts are elsewhere than at the Office the local manager or other officer of the Company having their custody shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Board for this purpose. A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or an extract from the minutes of a meeting, of the Company or of the Board or any committee which is so certified shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that any minute so extracted is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

SEALS

137 Safe custody

The Board shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and of any other seal of the Company.

138 Application of seals

138 1 The Seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board so authorised. The Board may determine whether any instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it and by what means. The Board may also determine, either generally or in a particular case, that a signature may be dispensed with or affixed by mechanical or other means. Unless otherwise so determined.

138 1 1 share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the Seal in respect of any debentures or other securities need not be signed and any signature may be affixed to or printed on any such certificate by any means approved by the Board, and

138 1 2 every other instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed by one Director and by the Secretary or by two Directors (or such other persons as the Board or a committee of the Board shall appoint for that purpose (and if the Secretary is a limited company, such company may nominate any person to act on its behalf)).

139 Execution as a deed without sealing

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

140 Official seal for use abroad

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may have an official seal for use in any place abroad.

THE SECRETARY

141 The Secretary

- 141 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board shall appoint a Secretary or Joint Secretaries and shall have power to appoint one or more persons to be an Assistant or Deputy Secretary at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit and any such person so appointed may be removed by the Board
- 141 2 Any provision of the Companies Acts or of these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS

142 Declaration of dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends to be paid to members according to their respective rights and interests in the profits of the Company. However, no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board

143 Interim dividends

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may declare and pay such interim dividends (including any dividend payable at a fixed rate) as appears to the Board to be justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes, the Board may pay such interim dividends on shares which rank after shares conferring preferential rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares conferring preferential rights, unless at the time of payment any preferential dividend is in arrear. Provided that the Board acts in good faith, it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferential rights for any loss that they may suffer by the lawful payment of any interim dividend on any shares ranking after those with preferential rights

144 Entitlement to dividends

Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid but no amount paid up on a share in advance of the date on which a call is payable shall be treated for the purposes of this Article as paid up on the share. Subject as aforesaid, 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, it shall rank for dividend accordingly

145 Calls or debts may be deducted from dividends

The Board may deduct from any dividend or other money payable to any person on or in respect of a share all such sums as may be due from him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to the shares of the Company

146 Distribution in specie

The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, direct that payment of any dividend declared may be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets, and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company, or in any one or more of such ways. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit. In particular, the Board may

- 146 1 issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions),
- 146 2 fix the value for distribution of such assets or any part thereof and determine that cash payments may be made to any members on the footing of the value so fixed, in order to adjust the rights of members, and
- 146 3 vest any such assets in trustees on trust for the persons entitled to the dividend

147 Dividends not to bear interest

Unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share, no dividend or other moneys payable by the Company on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company

148 Method of payment

- 148 1 The Company may pay any dividend, interest or other sum payable in respect of a share in cash or by direct debit, bank transfer, cheque, dividend warrant, or money order or by any other method (including by electronic media) as the Board may consider appropriate. In respect of shares in uncertificated form, where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Company shall from time to time consider sufficient, the Company may also pay any such dividend, interest or other moneys by means of the relevant system concerned (subject always to the facilities and requirements of that relevant system)
- 148 2 Every such cheque, warrant or order may be sent by post or other delivery service (or by such other means offered by the Company as the member or persons entitled to it may agree in writing) to the registered address (or in the case of a Depositary, subject to the approval of the Board, such persons and addresses as the Depositary may require) of the member or person entitled to it (or, if two or more persons are holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the member or otherwise by operation of law, to the registered address of such of those persons as is first named in the Register) or to such person and such address as such member or person or persons may direct in writing. In respect of shares in uncertificated form, every such payment made by such other method as is referred to in Article 148 1 shall be made in such manner as may be consistent with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, such payment may include the sending by the Company or by any person on its behalf of an instruction to the Operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct
- 148 3 Every cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment is sent at the risk of the person entitled to the money represented by it, and shall be made payable to the person or persons entitled, or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may direct in writing. Payment of the cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment (including, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned) shall be a good discharge to the Company. If any such cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment has or shall be alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the Board may, at the request of the person entitled thereto, issue a replacement cheque or warrant or order or make payment in some other form, subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may think fit
- 148 4 Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share may give an effective receipt for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of such share
- 148 5 The Board may, at its discretion, make provisions to enable a Depositary and/or any member as the Board shall from time to time determine to receive duly declared dividends in a currency or currencies other than sterling. For the purposes of the calculation of the amount receivable in respect of any dividend, the rate of exchange to be used to determine the foreign currency

equivalent of any sum payable as a dividend shall be such rate or rates and the payment thereof shall be on such terms and conditions as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine

149 Uncashed dividends

If cheques, warrants or orders for dividends or other sums payable in respect of a share sent by the Company to the person entitled thereto are returned to the Company or left uncashed on two consecutive occasions or, following one occasion, reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address to be used for the purpose, the Company shall not be obliged to send any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of that share due to that person until he notifies the Company of an address to be used for the purpose

150 Unclaimed dividends

All dividends, interest or other sum payable and unclaimed for 12 months after having become payable may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Board for the benefit of the Company until claimed and the Company shall not be constituted a trustee in respect thereof. All dividends unclaimed for a period of 12 years after having been declared or become due for payment shall (if the Board so resolves) be forfeited and shall cease to remain owing by the Company

151 Payment of scrip dividends

The Board may, with the prior authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, offer to any holders of Ordinary Shares (excluding any member holding shares as treasury shares) the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares, credited as fully paid, instead of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the Board) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply

- 151 1 the said resolution may specify a particular dividend or dividends (whether or not already declared), or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period or periods (but such period or periods may not end later than the fifth anniversary of the date of the meeting at which the said resolution is passed),
- 151 2 the entitlement of each holder of Ordinary Shares to new Ordinary Shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) of the dividend that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose "relevant value" shall be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Ordinary Shares on the London Stock Exchange, as derived from the Daily Official List, for the day on which the Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days, or in such other manner as the Board may determine on such basis as it considers to be fair and reasonable. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount,
- 151 3 no fractions of a share shall be allotted. The Board may make such provisions as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, the benefit thereof accrues to the Company and/or under which fractional entitlements are accrued and/or retained and in each case accumulated on behalf of any member and such accruals or retentions are applied to the allotment by way of bonus to or cash subscription on behalf of such member of fully paid Ordinary Shares and/or provisions whereby cash payments may be made to members in respect of their fractional entitlements,
- 151 4 the Board shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of Ordinary Shares in writing of the right of election offered to them, and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be lodged in order to be effective save that in the case of any holder of ordinary shares who has previously made, and has not revoked, an earlier election to receive ordinary shares in lieu of all future dividends, the Board shall instead send him a reminder that such election has been made, indicating how that election may be revoked in time for the next dividend proposed to be paid,

- 151 5 the Board may exclude from any offer any holders of Ordinary Shares or any Ordinary Shares held by a Depositary where the Board considers that the making of the offer to them or in respect of such shares would or might involve the contravention of the laws of or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange or other authority in any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them or in respect of such shares,
- 151 6 the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on Ordinary Shares in respect of which an election has been duly made ("the elected Ordinary Shares") and instead additional Ordinary Shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the Board may capitalise, out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or of 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 Ordinary Shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued Ordinary Shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on that basis. A Board resolution capitalising any part of such reserve or fund or profits shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been declared by ordinary resolution of the Company in accordance with Article 153 and in relation to any such capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on them by Article 153 without need of such ordinary resolution,
- 151 7 the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with each other and with the fully paid Ordinary Shares in issue on the record date for the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been offered, except that they will not rank for any dividend or other distribution or other entitlement which has been declared, paid or made by reference to such record date,
- 151 8 the Board may terminate, suspend or amend any offer of the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of any cash dividend at any time and generally may implement any scrip dividend scheme on such terms and conditions as the Board may from time to time determine and take such other action as the Board may deem necessary or desirable from time to time in respect of any such scheme, and
- 151 9 The Board may establish or vary from time to time a procedure for election mandates in respect of future rights of election and may determine that every duly effected election in respect of any Ordinary Shares shall be binding on every successor in title to the holder thereof until the election mandate is revoked following that procedure

152 Reserves

The Board may, before recommending any dividend (whether preferential or otherwise), carry to reserve out of the profits of the Company such sums as it thinks fit. All sums standing to reserve may be applied from time to time, at the discretion of the Board, for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied, and pending such application may, at the like discretion, either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments as the Board thinks fit. The Board may divide the reserve into such special funds as it thinks fit, and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided as it thinks fit. Any sum which the Board may carry to reserve out of the unrealised profits of the Company shall not be mixed with any reserve to which profits available for distribution have been carried. The Board may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which it may think prudent not to distribute.

153 Capitalisation of reserves

The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company

- 153 1 subject as provided in this Article, resolve to capitalise any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or

any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund of the Company which is available for distribution or standing to the credit of share premium account or capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve,

153 2 appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the holders of Ordinary Shares in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those holders of Ordinary Shares or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other, provided that

(a) the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, any other undistributable reserve and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to holders of Ordinary Shares credited as fully paid, and

(b) where the amount capitalised is applied in paying up in full unissued shares, the Company will also be entitled to participate in the relevant distribution in relation to any Ordinary Shares held by it as treasury shares and the proportionate entitlement of the members to the distribution will be calculated accordingly

153 3 resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall, so long as such shares remain partly paid, rank for dividends only to the extent that such partly paid shares rank for dividends,

153 4 make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates (or by ignoring fractions or by accruing the benefit thereof to the Company rather than to the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned) or by payment in cash or otherwise as it thinks fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions,

153 5 authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for either

(a) the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid up, of any shares or debentures to which they may be entitled on such capitalisation, or

(b) the payment up by the Company on behalf of such holders by the application thereto of their respective proportions of the reserves or profits resolved to be capitalised, of the amounts or any part of the amounts remaining unpaid on their existing shares

(any agreement made under such authority being effective and binding on all such holders), and

153 6 generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution

154 Record dates

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares and subject always to the Companies Acts, the Company or the Board may by resolution specify any date (the "record date") as the date at the close of business (or such other time as the Board may determine) on which persons registered as the holders of shares or other securities shall be entitled to receipt of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment, issue, notice, information, document or circular and such record date may be on or at any time before the date on which the same is paid, made, given or served or (in the case of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment or issue) at any time after the same is recommended, resolved, declared or announced but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of the same of transferors and transferees of any such shares or other securities. No change in the register of such holders after the record date shall invalidate the same

ACCOUNTS

155 Accounting records

The Board shall cause accounting records to be kept in accordance with the Companies Acts

156 Inspection of records

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

157 Accounts to be sent to members

157 1 Except as provided in Article 158, a copy of the Directors' and Auditors' reports accompanied by copies of the annual accounts shall, not less than 21 clear days before the annual general meeting before which they are to be laid, be delivered or sent to every member and holder of debentures of the Company and to the Auditors and to every other person who is entitled to receive notice of general meetings. However, this Article shall not require a copy of those documents to be sent to any person who under the provisions of these Articles is not entitled to receive notices from the Company or of whose address the Company is unaware or to any holder of debentures of whose address the Company is unaware or to more than one of the joint holders of any shares or debentures

157 2 The provisions of Article 159 2 apply, mutatis mutandis, to any reports or accounts supplied by means of a website

158 Summary financial statements

The Company may, in accordance with section 251 CA 1985 and any regulations made under it, send a summary financial statement to any member instead of or in addition to the documents referred to in Article 157. Where it does so, the statement shall be delivered or sent to the member, or made available on a website in accordance with the Companies Acts, not less than 21 clear days before the annual general meeting before which those documents are to be laid

NOTICES

159 Form of Notices

159 1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Articles, any notice or document to be given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged (or the equivalent) to or by any person pursuant to these Articles (other than a notice calling a meeting of the Directors) shall be in writing and any such notice or document shall be deemed given, sent, issued, deposited, served, delivered or lodged, or the equivalent where it is sent in electronic form, to an address for the time being notified for that purpose to the person giving the notice, but subject always to the provisions of Article 162 2 and, in the case of notices or other documents sent in electronic form, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts

159 2 Subject to the Companies Acts, any document or information is validly sent or supplied by a Company if it is made available on a website

159 3 Where a document or information is sent or supplied to the Company by a person on behalf of another, the Company may require reasonable evidence of the authority of the former to act on behalf of the latter

159 4 Any amendment or revocation of a notification given to the Company under this Article shall only take effect if in writing, authenticated by the member and on actual receipt by the Company thereof

- 159 5 An electronic communication shall not be treated as received by the Company if it is rejected by computer virus protection arrangements

160 Service of notice on members

- 160 1 The Company may give any notice or document (including a share certificate) to a member, either personally or by sending it by post or other delivery service in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or by leaving it at that address or by any other means authorised in writing by the member concerned or, subject to and in accordance with the Companies Acts, by sending it in electronic form to an address for the time being notified to the Company by the member or by making it available on a website. In the case of a member registered on an overseas branch register any such notice or document may be posted either in the United Kingdom or in the territory in which such branch register is maintained
- 160 2 In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices or documents shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding. Notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders. Anything agreed or specified by the first-named joint holder in relation to documents or information sent to him in respect of a joint holding shall be binding on all joint holders
- 160 3 Where a member (or, in the case of joint holders, the person first named in the Register) has a registered address outside the United Kingdom but has notified the Company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices or other documents may be given to him or, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, of an address to which notices or documents may be sent in electronic form, he shall be entitled to have notices or documents given or sent to him at that address, but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice or document from the Company
- 160 4 If on at least two consecutive occasions the Company has attempted to send notices or documents in electronic form to an address for the time being notified to the Company by a member for that purpose but the Company is aware that there has been a failure of delivery of such notice or document, then the Company shall thereafter send notices or documents through the post to such member at his registered address or his address for the service of notices by post, in which case the provisions of Article 160 5 shall apply
- 160 5 If on three consecutive occasions notices or other documents have been sent through the post to any member at his registered address or his address for the service of notices but have been returned undelivered, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices or other documents from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices or, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts, an address to which notices may be sent in electronic form

161 Service of notice in case of death or bankruptcy, etc

The Company may send or supply any notice or document on the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law, by sending or delivering it in any manner authorised by these Articles for the giving of a notice or document to a member, addressed to that person by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased or trustee of the bankrupt or representative by operation of law or by any like description, at the address (if any) within the United Kingdom to which notices may be sent by electronic means supplied for the purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been so supplied, any notice, document or other communication sent or supplied to any member pursuant to these Articles in any manner in which it might have been sent or supplied if the death, bankruptcy or other event had not occurred shall, notwithstanding that the member is then dead or bankrupt or that any other event giving rise to the transmission of the share by operation of law has occurred and whether or not the Company has notice of the death, bankruptcy or other event, be deemed to have been properly served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of that member as sole or joint holder

162 Evidence of service

- 162 1 Any notice, certificate or other document, addressed to a member at his registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall, if sent by post, be deemed to have been served or delivered on the working day after the day when it was put in the post (or, where second-class mail is employed, on the second working day after the day when it was put in the post) Proof that an envelope containing the notice or document was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given Any notice, certificate or other document not sent by post but delivered or left at a registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom shall be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day (or, if not a working day, the next working day) and at the time on which it was so delivered or left
- 162 2 Any notice or other document addressed to a member shall, if sent using electronic means, be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day it was first sent or, if the day it is sent is not a working day, on the next working day In proving such service or delivery it shall be conclusive to prove that the address used for the electronic communication was correct and that the electronic communication was properly dispatched by the Company, unless the Company is aware that there has been a failure of delivery of such notice or document following at least two attempts in which case such notice or document shall be sent to the member at his registered address or address for service in the United Kingdom within 24 hours of the original electronic communication
- 162 3 In calculating a period of hours for the purposes of this Article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day
- 162 4 Any notice or other document sent by a relevant system shall be deemed to have been served or delivered when the Company (or a sponsoring system - participant acting on its behalf) sends the issuer instructions relating to the notice or document
- 162 5 Any member present, either personally or by proxy, at any general meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of share in the Company shall for all purposes be deemed to have received due notice of that meeting, and of the purposes for which the meeting was called

163 Notice binding on transferees

Every person who, by operation of law, transfer or by any other means becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share (other than a notice given by the Company under section 793 CA 2006) which, before his name is entered in the Register, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title

164 Notice by advertisement

Any notice to be given by the Company to the members or any of them, and not otherwise provided for by these Articles, shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement in at least one national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained Any notice given by advertisement shall be deemed to have been served at noon on the day on which the advertisement first appears

165 Suspension of postal services

Subject to the Companies Acts and to any other provision of these Articles, if at any time by reason of the suspension, interruption or curtailment of postal services or threat thereof within the United Kingdom the Company is or would be unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post, a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in accordance with Article 164 Such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members entitled thereto at noon on the day on which the first of such advertisements appears In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the

notice by post if, at least seven days prior to the meeting, the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable

WINDING UP

166 Division of assets

If the Company is wound up the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by law, divide among the members (excluding any member holding shares as treasury shares) 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 carried out as between the members or different classes of members. Any such division may be otherwise than in accordance with the existing rights of the members, but if any division is resolved otherwise than in accordance with such rights, the members shall have the same right of dissent and consequential rights as if such resolution were a special resolution passed pursuant to section 110 Insolvency Act 1986. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees on such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction shall determine, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets on which there is a liability.

167 Transfer or sale under section 110 Insolvency Act 1986

A special resolution sanctioning a transfer or sale to another company duly passed pursuant to section 110 Insolvency Act 1986 may in the like manner authorise the distribution of any shares or other consideration receivable by the liquidator among the members (excluding any member holding shares as treasury shares) otherwise than in accordance with their existing rights, and any such determination shall be binding on all the members, subject to the right of dissent and consequential rights conferred by the said section.

INDEMNITY

168 Right to indemnity

168 1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may otherwise be entitled, every Director or officer of the Company (except the Auditors) shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him for negligence, default, breach of duty, breach of trust or otherwise in relation to the affairs of the Company or of an associated company, or in connection with the activities of the Company, or of an associated company, as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 150(5) Finance Act 2004) that is established under a trust.

168 2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may at the discretion of the Board provide a Director or officer of the Company (except the Auditors) with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him (or to enable such Director or officer to avoid incurring such expenditure) in defending any criminal or civil proceedings or in connection with any application under the provisions referred to in section 205(5) CA 2006.

169 Power to insure

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a Director or other officer (excluding the Auditors) or employee of the Company or of any other company which is a subsidiary or subsidiary undertaking of the Company or in which the Company has an interest whether direct or indirect or who is or was at any time a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust in which any employee of the Company or of any such other company or subsidiary undertaking is or has been interested indemnifying such person against any liability which may attach to him or loss or expenditure which he may incur in relation

to anything done or alleged to have been done or omitted to be done as a Director, officer, employee or trustee

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 1989

COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

PORTLAND GAS A LIMITED¹

PRELIMINARY

- 1 In these Articles "Table A" means the Regulations contained in Table A in the Schedule to the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985
- 2 Any reference to any Act in these Articles shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force
- 3 The regulations contained in Table A shall apply to the Company with the exceptions, modifications and additions hereinafter contained. The Regulations of Table A numbered 8, 23, 24, 35, 65-70 inclusive, 73-78 inclusive, 81, 94-97 inclusive, 115 and 118 shall not apply to the Company
- 4 The Company is a Private Company and no shares in the Company shall be issued at a discount and no offer or invitation to the public to subscribe for any share in or debentures of the Company shall be made

SHARES

- 5 The capital of the Company is £150,000 divided into 15,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £0.01 each
- 6 The Directors are unconditionally authorised for the purposes of Section 80 of the Companies Act 1985 to allot and dispose of or grant options over the Company's shares to such persons (including the Directors), on such terms and in such manner as they think fit, up to the amount of the share capital created on incorporation of the Company at any time or times during the period of five years from the date of incorporation
- 7 Any shares which the Directors are not authorised to deal with by virtue of Article 6 above may, with the consent of the Company in General Meeting, be dealt with by the Directors, who may allot and dispose of or grant options over the same to such persons, on such terms, and in such manner as they think fit for a period not exceeding five years from the date of such consent

¹ By a written resolution passed on 6 November 2007, which became unconditional on 15 January 2008, the Company changed its name from Portland Gas Limited to Portland Gas A Limited

- 8 Accordingly, sub-section (1) of Section 89 and Section 90 of the Companies Act 1985 shall be excluded from applying to the Company

REDEEMABLE SHARES

- 9 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 -

- 9 1 the Company may issue shares which are to be redeemed or are liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder thereof on such terms and in such manner as the Company before the issue of the shares may by special resolution determine,
- 9 2 any redeemable shares issued by the Company may be redeemed out of distributable profits of the Company, out of the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for the purposes of the redemption, or out of the capital of the Company, and
- 9 3 any premium payable on redemption may be paid out of distributable profits of the Company or otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 1985

PURCHASE OF COMPANY'S SHARES

- 10 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 1985 -

- 10 1 the Company may purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares) and enter into a contingent purchase contract for the purchase of its shares, and
- 10 2 any purchase by the Company of its own shares may be made out of distributable profits of the Company, out of the proceeds of a fresh issue of shares made for the purpose, or out of the capital of the Company

LIEN

- 11 The Company shall have a first and paramount lien upon every share (whether a fully paid up share or not) registered in the name of any member, either alone or jointly with any other person, for his or his estate's debts, liabilities and engagements, whether solely or jointly with any other person, to or with the Company, whether the period for the payment, fulfilment or discharge thereof shall have actually arrived or not. Such lien shall extend to all dividends from time to time declared or other moneys payable in respect of every such share, but the Directors may at any time declare any share to be exempt, wholly or partially, from the provisions of this Article

TRANSFER OF SHARES

- 12 The instrument of transfer of any share shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor, and the transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the share until the name of the transferee is entered in the register of members in respect thereof. In the case of a partly paid share only, the instrument of transfer must also be executed by or on behalf of the transferee
- 13 The Directors may in their absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefor decline to register any transfer of any share whether or not it is a fully paid share
- 14 No instrument of transfer may be registered unless it is duly stamped

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 15 Every notice convening a General Meeting shall comply with the provisions of Section 372(3) of the Companies Act 1985 as to giving information to members in regard to their right to appoint

proxies and all notices of a General Meeting shall also be sent to the Directors and the Auditor of the Company for the time being

- 16 Regulation 37 shall be modified by the addition at the end of the regulation of the following sentence "If the Company has only a single member, such member shall be entitled at any time to call a general meeting "
- 17 Regulation 41 shall be modified by the addition at the end of that regulation of the following sentence "If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved. Provided that if the Company has only a single member, the preceding provisions of this regulation as to adjournment shall not apply and, if within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall be dissolved and shall not be adjourned "
- 18 One member having the right to vote at the meeting may demand a poll and Regulation 46 of Table A shall be modified accordingly
- 19 If a resolution in writing is described as a special resolution or as an extraordinary resolution it shall have effect accordingly
- 20 The following provisions of this Article apply if the Company has only a single member
- 20 1 regulation 40 shall be modified by the insertion at the end of that regulation of the following proviso ", provided that if the Company has only a single member, the quorum shall be one such person ", and
- 20 2 if the single member takes any decision which may be taken by the Company in general meeting and which has effect as if agreed by the Company in general meeting, the single member shall (unless the decision is taken by way of a written resolution) provide the Company with a written record of that decision. However, failure to do so shall not affect the validity of such decision

DIRECTORS

- 21 If and so long as the number of Directors is reduced below the minimum fixed by or pursuant to these Articles or Table A, the continuing Director or Directors may act for the purpose of summoning a general meeting of the Company but for no other purpose, and Regulation 90 of Table A shall be modified accordingly
- 22 A Director shall not require any shareholding qualification

POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS

- 23 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Memorandum and the Articles and to any directions given by ordinary resolution, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of the Memorandum or Articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this Article shall not be limited by any special power given to the Directors by these Articles or by Table A and a meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Directors
- 24 A meeting of the Directors may be held with some or all Directors present by telephone, in which case each such Director shall be counted both for the purpose of establishing whether a quorum is present and in any vote taken at such meeting on which he could have voted were he present in person

- 25 Subject to such disclosure as is required by Section 317 of the Companies Act 1985 a Director may vote as a Director in regard to any contract, matter or arrangement in which he or the Company is interested, whether or not the Director or the Company is a party to the same and if he shall so vote his vote shall be counted and he shall be counted in a quorum when any such contract, matter or arrangement is under consideration

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

- 26 Any Director (other than an alternate Director) may appoint any other Director, or any other person approved by resolution of the Directors and willing to act, to be an alternate Director and may remove from office an alternate Director so appointed by him
- 27 An alternate Director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of Directors and of all meetings of committees of Directors of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote 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 but shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration from the Company for his services as an alternate Director except by agreement with the Director whom he represents. But it shall not be necessary to give notice of such a meeting to an alternate Director who is absent from the United Kingdom
- 28 An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director if his appointor ceases to be a Director, but if a Director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate Director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment
- 29 Any appointment or removal of an alternate Director shall be by notice to the Company signed by the Director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the Directors and subject as aforesaid shall take effect when the notice effecting the same is delivered to the Secretary or is produced at a Meeting of the Directors
- 30 An alternate Director shall be deemed for all purposes to be a Director and shall alone be responsible for his own acts and defaults and he shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing him
- 31 When acting also as a Director or as an alternate Director for more than one Director, an alternate Director shall have one vote for every Director he represents, in addition to his own, if himself a Director, and when so acting, where the quorum exceeds two, shall be considered as two Directors for the purpose of making a quorum

REMOVAL, DISQUALIFICATION AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 32 A member or members holding a majority in nominal value of the issued shares for the time being in the capital of the Company shall have power from time to time to appoint any person or persons as a Director or Directors either as an additional Director or to fill any vacancy (provided that the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number from time to time prescribed by or in accordance with these Articles) and to remove from office any Director howsoever appointed. Any such appointment or removal shall be effected by notice in writing to the Company signed by the member or members making the same or in the case of a member being a company signed by any director thereof or by any person so authorised by resolution of the directors or of any other governing body thereof. Any such appointment or removal shall take effect when the notice effecting the same is delivered to the registered office of the Company or to the Secretary or is produced at a meeting of the Directors, and any such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim which a Director so removed may have under any contract between him and the Company
- 33 The office of Director shall be vacated -
- 33 1 if he resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company, or

- 33 2 if he becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally, or
- 33 3 if he becomes prohibited from being a Director by reason of any order made under Sections 296 to 299 inclusive of the Companies Act 1985, or
- 33 4 if he becomes of unsound mind, or
- 33 5 if he is otherwise duly removed from office
- 34 No Director shall vacate his office or be ineligible for re-election, nor shall any person be ineligible for appointment as a Director, by reason only of his attaining or having attained any particular age and Section 293 of the Companies Act 1985 shall not apply to the Company
- 35 The Directors shall not be subject to retirement from office by rotation
- 36 A Director who retires at an annual general meeting may be re-appointed

NOTICES

- 37 A member present, either in person or by proxy or, being a corporation, by its representative, at any meeting of the Company or of holders of any class of shares in the Company shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which it was called
- 38 Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given. A notice shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be given at the expiry of 24 hours after the envelope containing it was posted

INDEMNITY

- 39 Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be consistent with, the Companies Act 1985 or any other statute for the time being in force concerning companies and affecting the Company, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a director may be otherwise entitled, every director, auditor, secretary or other officer of the Company shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in the execution and/or discharge of his duties and/or the exercise of his powers and/or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or office including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) any liability incurred by him in defending any proceedings, 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 and in which judgment is given in his favour (or the proceedings are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of duty on his part) or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application under any statute for relief from liability in respect of any such act or omission in which relief is granted to him by the Court