### THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

### PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

## ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

### **CLIFFORD SPRINGS LIMITED**

(Company number: 07324248)

(the "Company")

### PART 1

### INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

### 1 Defined Terms

(1) The regulations contained in the Model Articles for Private Companies Limited by Shares set out in Schedule 1 of The Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (SI 3229/2008), shall not apply to the Company.

(2) In the articles, unless the context requires otherwise:

"articles" means the Company's articles of association;

"A shares" means the A ordinary shares of £0.001 each in the capital of the

Company;

"available profits" means profits available for distribution within the meaning of the

Companies Act 2006;

"bad leaver" means an employee who becomes a departing employee and

is not a good leaver;

"bankruptcy" includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other

than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an

effect similar to that of bankruptcy;

"board" means the board of directors from time to time;

"B shares" means the B ordinary shares of £0.001 each in the capital of the

Company;

"business day" means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in

England on which banks in London are open for business;

"chairman" has the meaning given in article 12;
"chairman of the meeting" has the meaning given in article 45;

"Companies Acts" means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the

Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to the Company;

"connected" has the meaning given in section 1122 of the Corporation Tax

Act 2010;

"departing employee" means an employee who ceases to be a director and/or

employee of the Company;

"director" means a director of the Company, and includes any person

occupying the position of director, by whatever name called;

"distribution recipient" has the meaning given in article 37(2);

"document" includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or

supplied in electronic form;

"electronic form" has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Companies Act

2006:

"employee" means a shareholder holding B shares who is, or has been, a

director and/or employee of the Company;

"fair value" shall be determined in accordance with article 29(2);

"fully paid" in relation to a share, means that the nominal value and any

premium to be paid to the Company in respect of that share

have been paid to the Company in full;

"good leaver" means an employee who becomes a departing employee by

reason of:

 a. retirement, permanent disability or permanent incapacity through ill-health (otherwise than as a result of drug or alcohol abuse);

b. redundancy (as defined in the Employment Rights Act 1996);

c. death; or

 d. who does not fall within the categories above, but is otherwise declared to be a good leaver entirely at the discretion of the board (acting by a simple majority

decision);

"hard copy form" has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Companies Act

2006;

"holder" in relation to shares means the person whose name is entered

in the Company's register of members as the holder of the

shares;

"instrument" means a document in hard copy form;

"ordinary resolution" has the meaning given in section 282 of the Companies Act

2006;

"paid" means paid or credited as paid;

"participate" in relation to a directors' meeting, has the meaning given in

article 10;

"proxy notice" has the meaning given in article 51;

"shareholder" means a person who is the holder of a share;

"shares" means shares in the Company;

"special resolution" has the meaning given in section 283 of the Companies Act

2006;

"subsidiary" has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Companies Act

2006;

"termination date" means:

 a. where employment ceases by virtue of notice given by the employer to the employee, the date on which such notice expires;

b. where a contract of employment is terminated by the employer and a payment is made in lieu of notice, the

date on which notice of termination was served;

- where the employee concerned is a director but not an employee, the date on which his office with the Company is terminated; or
- d. in any other case, the date on which the employment or holding of office is terminated.

"transmittee"

means a person entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a shareholder or otherwise by operation of law;

"valuers"

an independent firm of accountants or valuers appointed by the seller and the board or, in the absence of agreement between the seller and the board on the identity of the expert within 10 business days, an independent firm of accountants appointed by the President for the time being, of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, at the request of the board;

and

"writing"

means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

- (3) Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 as in force on the date when these articles become binding on the Company.
- 2 Liability of members

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

### PART 2

### **DIRECTORS**

# DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

3 Directors' general authority

Subject to the articles, the directors are responsible for the management of the Company's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the Company.

- 4 Shareholders' reserve power
- (1) The shareholders may, by special resolution, direct the directors to take, or refrain from taking, specified action.
- (2) No such special resolution invalidates anything which the directors have done before the passing of the resolution.
- 5 Directors may delegate
- (1) Subject to the articles, the directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the articles:
  - (a) to such person or committee;
  - (b) by such means (including by power of attorney);
  - (c) to such an extent;

- (d) in relation to such matters or territories; and
- (e) on such terms and conditions;

as they think fit.

- (2) If the directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- (3) The directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.
- 6 Committees

Committees to which the directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of the articles which govern the taking of decisions by directors. The directors may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the articles if they are not consistent with them.

## **DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS**

7 Directors to take decisions collectively

The general rule about decision-making by directors is that any decision of the directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with article 8. If:

- (a) the Company only has one director, and
- (b) no provision of the articles requires it to have more than one director,

the general rule does not apply, and the director may take decisions without regard to any of the provisions of the articles relating to directors' decision-making.

- 8 Unanimous decisions
- (1) A decision of the directors is taken in accordance with this article when all eligible directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.
- (2) Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing, copies of which have been signed by each eligible director or to which each eligible director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.
- (3) References in this article to eligible directors are to directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a directors' meeting.
- (4) A decision may not be taken in accordance with this article if the eligible directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.
- 9 Calling a directors' meeting
- (1) Any director may call a directors' meeting by giving notice of the meeting to the directors or by authorising the Company secretary (if any) to give such notice.
- (2) Notice of any directors' meeting must indicate:
  - (a) its proposed date and time;
  - (b) where it is to take place; and
  - (c) if it is anticipated that directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- (3) Notice of a directors' meeting must be given to each director, but need not be in writing.

- (4) Notice of a directors' meeting need not be given to directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting, by giving notice to that effect to the Company not more than 7 days after the date on which the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has been held, that does not affect the validity of the meeting, or of any business conducted at it.
- 10 Participation in directors' meetings
- (1) Subject to the articles, directors participate in a directors' meeting, or part of a directors' meeting, when:
  - (a) the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the articles, and
  - (b) they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- (2) In determining whether directors are participating in a directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any director is or how they communicate with each other.
- (3) If all the directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.
- 11 Quorum for directors' meetings
- (1) At a directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- (2) The quorum for directors' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the directors, but it must never be less than two unless there is just a sole director in office, and unless otherwise fixed it is two.
- (3) If the total number of directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
  - (a) to appoint further directors, or
  - (b) to call a general meeting so as to enable the shareholders to appoint further directors.
- 12 Chairing of directors' meetings
- (1) The directors may appoint a director to chair their meetings.
- (2) The person so appointed for the time being is known as the chairman.
- (3) The directors may terminate the chairman's appointment at any time.
- (4) If the chairman is not participating in a directors' meeting within 30 minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating directors must appoint one of themselves to chair it.
- 13 Casting vote
- (1) If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the chairman or other director chairing the meeting has a casting vote.
- (2) But this does not apply if, in accordance with the articles, the chairman or other director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.
- 14 Conflicts of interest
- (1) If a proposed decision of the directors is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company in which a director is interested, that director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.
- (2) But if paragraph (3) applies, a director who is interested in an actual or proposed transaction or

arrangement with the Company is to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum and voting purposes.

- (3) This paragraph applies when:
  - (a) the Company by ordinary resolution disapplies the provision of the articles which would otherwise prevent a director from being counted as participating in the decision-making process;
  - (b) the director's interest cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; or
  - (c) the director's conflict of interest arises from a permitted cause.
- (4) For the purposes of this article, the following are permitted causes:
  - (a) a guarantee given, or to be given, by or to a director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
  - (b) subscription, or an agreement to subscribe, for shares or other securities of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, or to underwrite, sub-underwrite, or guarantee subscription for any such shares or securities; and
  - (c) arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and directors or former employees and directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries which do not provide special benefits for directors or former directors.
- (5) For the purposes of this article, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any directors' meeting or part of a directors' meeting.
- (6) Subject to paragraph (7), if a question arises at a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors as to the right of a director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman whose ruling in relation to any director other than the chairman is to be final and conclusive.
- (7) If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the chairman, the question is to be decided by a decision of the directors at that meeting, for which purpose the chairman is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.
- 15 Records of decisions to be kept

The directors must ensure that the Company keeps a record, in writing, for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the directors.

16 Directors' discretion to make further rules

Subject to the articles, the directors may make any rule which they think fit about how they take decisions, and about how such rules are to be recorded or communicated to directors.

### NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 17 Methods of appointing directors
- (1) There shall be no maximum number of directors and the minimum number of directors shall be one. Whenever the Company has two or more directors, at least one of them shall be a natural person.
- (2) Any person 18 years of age or more and who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a director:
  - (a) by ordinary resolution; or

- (b) by a decision of the directors.
- (3) In any case where, as a result of death, the Company has no shareholders and no directors, the personal representatives of the last holder of A shares to have died have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a person to be a director.
- (4) For the purposes of paragraph (3), where 2 or more shareholders die in circumstances rendering it uncertain who was the last to die, a younger shareholder is deemed to have survived an older shareholder.
- 18 Termination of director's appointment
- (1) A person ceases to be a director as soon as:
  - (a) that person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts or is prohibited from being a director by law;
  - (b) a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
  - (c) a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
  - (d) a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to the Company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months; and
  - (e) notification is received by the Company from the director that the director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.
- 19 Directors' remuneration
- (1) Directors may undertake any services for the Company that the directors decide.
- (2) Directors are entitled to such remuneration as the directors determine:
  - (a) for their services to the Company as directors, and
  - (b) for any other service which they undertake for the Company.
- (3) Subject to the articles, a director's remuneration may:
  - (a) take any form, and
  - (b) include any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, or any death, sickness or disability benefits, to or in respect of that director.
- (4) Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors' remuneration accrues from day to day.
- (5) Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors are not accountable to the Company for any remuneration which they receive as directors or other officers or employees of the Company's subsidiaries or of any other body corporate in which the Company is interested.
- 20 Directors' expenses

The Company may pay any reasonable expenses which the directors properly incur in connection with their attendance at:

- (a) meetings of directors or committees of directors;
- (b) general meetings, or
- (c) separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company, or otherwise in connection with the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their responsibilities in relation to the Company.

### PART 3

### SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

### **SHARES**

- 21 Share Rights
- (1) Income and Dividends

Any available profits which the Company may decide to distribute shall be applied in distributing such profits among the holders of the A Shares and the B Shares (pari passu as if the A Shares and the B Shares constituted one class of shares) pro rata to their respective shareholdings.

(2) Return of Capital

On a return of capital on winding-up or otherwise (but not in respect of any conversion, redemption, share capital reduction or purchase by the Company of any shares), the surplus assets of the Company remaining after the payment of its debts and liabilities shall be applied among the holders of the A Shares and the B Shares (pari passu as if the A Shares and the B Shares constituted one class of shares) pro rata to their respective shareholdings.

- (3) Voting
  - (a) The holders of the A shares shall have the right to attend, speak and vote at any general meeting of the Company. The voting rights attached to the A Shares shall be as follows:
    - (i) on a written resolution, every shareholder holding one or more A shares shall have one vote for each A share held by him; and
    - (ii) on a resolution to be passed at a general meeting of the Company, every shareholder holding one or more A shares (being an individual) present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) present by a representative or by proxy shall have:
      - (A) on a show of hands, one vote each; and
      - (B) on a poll, one vote for each A share of which he is the holder.
  - (b) The holders of the B shares shall not have the right to attend, speak and vote at any general meeting of the Company.
- 22 All shares to be fully paid up
- (1) No share is to be issued for less than the aggregate of its nominal value and any premium to be paid to the Company in consideration for its issue.
- (2) This does not apply to shares taken on the formation of the Company by the subscribers to the Company's memorandum.
- 23 Powers to issue different classes of share
- (1) The directors shall be generally and unconditionally authorised for the purposes of section 551 of the Companies Act 2006 to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot (or grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into) shares up to an aggregate nominal amount of £0.105 in the share capital of the Company during the period from the date of adoption of these Articles until the fifth anniversary of that date unless the authority is varied or revoked or renewed by the Company in general meeting, provided that this authority shall entitle the directors to make at any time before the expiry of this authority an offer or agreement which will or may require relevant securities to be allotted after the expiry of the authority.
- (2) Sections 561 and 562 of the Companies Act 2006 shall not apply to the allotment of equity securities in the Company.

24 Company not bound by less than absolute interests

Except as required by law, no person is to be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust, and except as otherwise required by law or the articles, the Company is not in any way to be bound by or recognise any interest in a share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all the rights attaching to it.

- 25 Share certificates
- (1) The Company must issue each shareholder, free of charge, with one or more certificates in respect of the shares which that shareholder holds.
- (2) Every certificate must specify:
  - (a) in respect of how many shares, of what class, it is issued;
  - (b) the nominal value of those shares;
  - (c) that the shares are fully paid; and
  - (d) any distinguishing numbers assigned to them.
- (3) No certificate may be issued in respect of shares of more than one class.
- (4) If more than one person holds a share: only one certificate may be issued in respect of it.
- (5) Certificates must:
  - (a) have affixed to them the Company's common seal, or
  - (b) be otherwise executed in accordance with the Companies Acts.
- 26 Replacement share certificates
- (1) If a certificate issued in respect of a shareholder's shares is:
  - (a) damaged or defaced; or
  - (b) said to be lost, stolen or destroyed,

that shareholder is entitled to be issued with a replacement certificate in respect of the same shares.

- (2) A shareholder exercising the right to be issued with such a replacement certificate:
  - (a) may at the same time exercise the right to be issued with a single certificate or separate certificates;
  - (b) must return the certificate which is to be replaced to the Company if it is damaged or defaced; and
  - (c) must comply with such conditions as to evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee as the directors decide.
- 27 Share transfers
- (1) Shares may be transferred by means of an instrument of transfer in any usual form or any other form approved by the directors, which is executed by or on behalf of the transferor.
- (2) No fee may be charged for registering any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any share.
- (3) The Company may retain any instrument of transfer which is registered.
- (4) The transferor remains the holder of a share until the transferee's name is entered in the register of

members as holder of it.

- (5) The directors may (by simple majority decision) refuse to register the transfer of a share, and if they do so, the instrument of transfer must be returned to the transferee with the notice of refusal unless they suspect that the proposed transfer may be fraudulent.
- 28 Compulsory Transfers
- (1) A shareholder who is an employee ("seller") may entirely at the discretion of the board be deemed to have served a notice in writing to the Company ("transfer notice") specifying that the shareholder wishes to transfer all of the shares held by that shareholder ("sale shares") at any time after that shareholder becomes a departing employee.
- (2) The transfer notice takes effect on the basis that:
  - (a) the identity of the buyer shall be the Company (or its nominee) or some other person identified by the board (acting by simple majority)(the "applicant"); and
  - (b) it does not state a price for the sale shares.
- (3) If a seller is deemed to have given a transfer notice as a result of this article 28, the price for the sale shares ("transfer price") shall, where the departing employee is:
  - (a) a bad leaver, be £1.00 in aggregate for all the sale shares; and
  - (b) a good leaver, be the fair value of each such sale share.
- (4) A seller does not have a right to withdraw the transfer notice following a valuation.
- (5) Completion of the sale and purchase of the sale shares shall take place within five business days of the determination of the transfer price in accordance with article 28(3) and article 29, at which time the applicant will be bound to buy and the seller will be bound to sell all of the sale shares on such terms. The seller shall, against payment from the applicant, execute and deliver a transfer of the sale shares allocated to the applicant, together with the relevant share certificate(s) (or an indemnity in lieu thereof) and such other documents as the board may reasonably require to show good title to the sale shares, or to enable the applicant to be registered as the holder of the sale shares.
- (6) If the seller defaults in transferring any of the sale shares pursuant to this article 28, the Company:
  - (a) may receive the transfer price;
  - (b) may nominate some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the sale shares in the name and on behalf of the seller;
  - (c) shall cause the name of the applicant to be entered in the Company's register of members as the holder of such sale shares when the instrument of transfer has been duly stamped (if required); and
  - (d) shall hold the transfer price on trust (without interest) for the seller, the receipt of the Company for the transfer price being a good discharge to the applicant (who shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money).
- (7) In the event that a transfer notice is deemed to have been served, the board shall entirely at its discretion determine how and when the transfer price is to be paid to the applicant.
- 29 Valuation Of Shares
- (1) The valuers shall be requested to determine the fair value within 10 business days of their appointment and to notify the Company and the seller in writing of their determination.
- (2) The fair value for any sale share shall be the price per share determined in writing by the valuers on the following bases and assumptions:

- (a) valuing each of the sale shares as a proportion of the total value of all the issued shares in the capital of the Company without any premium or discount being attributable to the percentage of the issued share capital of the Company which they represent or for the rights or restrictions applying to the sale shares;
- (b) if the Company is then carrying on business as a going concern, on the assumption that it will continue to do so;
- (c) the sale is to be on arms' length terms between a willing seller and a willing buyer;
- (d) the sale shares are sold free of all encumbrances;
- (e) the sale is taking place on either:
  - (i) the date the valuers were requested to determine the fair value; or
  - (ii) the relevant termination date,

as determined entirely at the discretion of the board; and

- (f) taking account of any other factors that the valuers reasonably believe should be taken into account.
- (3) The shareholders are entitled to make submissions to the valuers and will provide (or procure that the Company provides) the valuers with such assistance and documents as the valuers reasonably require for the purpose of reaching a decision, subject to the valuers agreeing to give such confidentiality undertakings as the shareholders may reasonably require.
- (4) To the extent not provided for by this article 29, the valuers may, in their reasonable discretion, determine such other procedures to assist with the valuation as they consider just or appropriate, including (to the extent they consider necessary), instructing professional advisers to assist them in reaching their valuation.
- (5) The valuers shall act as expert and not as arbitrator and their written determination shall be final and binding on the parties (in the absence of manifest error or fraud).
- (6) The cost of obtaining the valuers' valuation shall be borne by the Company and the seller equally.
- 30 Drag Along
- (1) If any one or more shareholders receives an offer in writing from a bona fide third party ("third party") to purchase the entire equity share capital in the Company not already owned by the third party ("third party offer") and the holders of at least 75% of the issued shares accept the third party offer ("accepting shareholders"), the accepting shareholders are entitled to issue to the remaining shareholders ("other shareholders") written notice ("drag along notice") requiring the other shareholders to sell to the third party all of the other shareholders' shares upon the terms and conditions specified in the drag along notice.
- (2) The terms on which the accepting shareholders require the other shareholders to sell their shares must be no less favourable than the terms on which the accepting shareholders are selling their shares to the third party.
- (3) The drag along notice must specify:
  - (a) the details of the third party;
  - (b) the price payable for each share and other consideration (if any) to be received (directly or indirectly) by the accepting shareholders; and
  - (c) any other material terms upon which the other shareholders' shares shall be purchased pursuant to the drag along notice.
- (4) If any other shareholder shall not, within five business days of being required to do so, execute and

deliver transfers in respect of the shares held by such other shareholder and deliver the certificate(s) in respect of the same (or a suitable indemnity in lieu thereof) together with such other relevant transaction documents as may be reasonably required in connection with the transaction by the board of the third party, then any accepting shareholder shall be entitled to execute (acting as agent), and shall be entitled to authorise and instruct such person as the relevant accepting shareholder thinks fit to execute (acting as agent), the necessary transfer(s), indemnities and any other relevant transaction documentation on the other shareholder's behalf and, against receipt by the Company (on trust for such shareholder) of the consideration payable for the relevant shares, deliver such transfer(s), certificate(s) or indemnities or other relevant transaction documents to the third party (or its nominee) and register such third party (or its nominee) as the holder thereof and, after such registration, the validity of such proceedings shall not be questioned by any person.

- (5) The other shareholders are not obliged to sell their shares in accordance with this article 30 if the accepting shareholders do not complete the sale of all their shares to the third party on the same terms and conditions set out in the drag along notice.
- 31 Tag Along
- (1) If at any time one or more shareholders ("proposed sellers") propose to sell to any person ("proposed buyer"), in one or a series of related transactions, such number of shares which when registered would result in that person (together with persons connected or acting in concert with such person) holding or increasing their holding to 50% of the issued equity share capital of the Company ("proposed sale"), the proposed sellers shall give written notice ("tag along notice") to the other holders of shares ("other tag shareholders") of the proposed sale at least 10 business days prior to the proposed date of completion thereof.
- (2) The tag along notice must specify:
  - (a) the details of the proposed buyer;
  - (b) the sale price for each share and other consideration (if any) to be received (directly or indirectly) by the proposed sellers; and
  - (c) any other material terms upon which the other tag shareholders' shares shall be purchased pursuant to the tag along notice.
- (3)The proposed sale may not be completed unless the proposed buyer has unconditionally offered to buy all the other issued shares (other than any shares already owned by the proposed buyer or persons connected or acting in concert with such proposed buyer) on the same terms and conditions as apply to the proposed sale. Such offer shall remain open for acceptance for not less than 10 business days. If any other tag shareholder shall not, within five business days of being required to do so, execute and deliver transfers in respect of the shares held by such other tag shareholder and deliver the certificate(s) in respect of the same (or a suitable indemnity in lieu thereof) or such other relevant transaction documents as may be reasonably required by the board or the proposed buyer in connection with the transaction, then any proposed seller shall be entitled to execute (as agent), and shall be entitled to authorise and instruct such person as the relevant proposed seller thinks fit to execute (as agent), the necessary transfer(s), indemnities and other relevant transaction documents on the other tag shareholder's behalf and, against receipt by the Company (on trust for such shareholder) of the consideration payable for the relevant shares, deliver such transfer(s), certificate(s) or indemnities and other relevant transaction documents to the proposed buyer (or its nominee) and register such proposed buyer (or its nominee) as the holder thereof and, after such registration, the validity of such proceedings shall not be questioned by any person.
- (4) The provisions of this article 31 shall not apply to any proposed sale which is to take place pursuant to a third party offer under article 30.
- 32 Transmission of shares
- (1) If title to a share passes to a transmittee, the Company may only recognise the transmittee as having any title to that share.

- (2) A transmittee who produces such evidence of entitlement to shares as the directors may properly require:
  - (a) may, subject to the articles, choose either to become the holder of those shares or to have them transferred to another person, and
  - (b) subject to the articles, and pending any transfer of the shares to another person, has the same rights as the holder had.
- (3) But transmittees do not have the right to attend or vote at a general meeting, or agree to a proposed written resolution, in respect of shares to which they are entitled, by reason of the holder's death or bankruptcy or otherwise, unless they become the holders of those shares.
- 33 Exercise of transmitees' rights
- (1) Transmittees who wish to become the holders of shares to which they have become entitled must notify the Company in writing of that wish.
- (2) If the transmittee wishes to have a share transferred to another person, the transmittee must execute an instrument of transfer in respect of it.
- (3) Any transfer made or executed under this article is to be treated as if it were made or executed by the person from whom the transmittee has derived rights in respect of the share, and as if the event which gave rise to the transmission had not occurred.
- 34 Transmitees bound by prior notices

If a notice is given or deemed to be given to a shareholder in respect of shares and a transmittee is entitled to those shares, the transmittee is bound by the notice whether it was given to the shareholder before or after the transmittee's name has been entered in the Company's register of members.

35 Purchase of own shares

Subject to the Companies Act but without prejudice to any other provision of these articles, the Company may purchase its own shares with cash up to any amount in a financial year not exceeding the lower of:

- (a) £15,000; or
- (b) the value of 5% of the Company's share capital.

# **DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS**

- 36 Procedure for declaring dividends
- (1) The Company may, by ordinary resolution declare dividends, and the directors may decide to pay interim dividends.
- (2) No dividend may be declared unless the directors have made a recommendation as to its amount. Such a dividend must not exceed the amount recommended by the directors.
- (3) No dividend may be declared or paid unless it is in accordance with shareholders' respective rights.
- (4) Unless:
  - (a) the shareholders' resolution to declare; or
  - (b) directors' decision to pay a dividend; or
  - (c) the terms on which shares are issued, specify otherwise,

it must be paid by reference to each shareholder's holding of shares on the date of the resolution or

decision to declare or pay it.

- (5) If the Company's share capital is divided into different classes, no interim dividend may be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear.
- (6) The directors may pay at intervals any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment.
- (7) If the directors act in good faith, they do not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on shares with deferred or non-preferred rights.
- 37 Payment of dividends and other distributions
- (1) Where a dividend or other sum which is a distribution is payable in respect of a share, it must be paid by one or more of the following means:
  - (a) transfer to a bank or building society account specified by the distribution recipient in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide; or
  - (b) sending a cheque made payable to the distribution recipient, by post to the distribution recipient at his registered address (if the distribution recipient is a holder of the share), or (in any other case) to an address specified by the distribution recipient either in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide;
  - (c) sending a cheque made payable to such person by post to such person at such address as the distribution recipient has specified either in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide; or
  - (d) any other means of payment as the directors agree with the distribution recipient either in writing or by such other means as the directors decide.
- (2) In the articles, the "distribution recipient" means, in respect of a share in respect of which a dividend or other sum is payable:
  - (a) the holder of the share; or
  - (b) if the share has two or more joint holders, whichever of them is named first in the register of members; or
  - (c) if the holder is no longer entitled to the share by reason of death or bankruptcy, or otherwise by operation of law, the transmittee.

## 38 No interest on distributions

The Company may not pay interest on any dividend or other sum payable in respect of a share unless otherwise provided by the terms on which the share was issued, or the provisions of another agreement between the holder of that share and the Company.

## 39 Unclaimed distributions

- (1) All dividends or other sums which are payable in respect of shares and unclaimed after having been declared or become payable, may be invested or otherwise made use of by the directors for the benefit of the Company until claimed.
- (2) The payment of any such dividend or other sum into a separate account does not make the Company a trustee in respect of it and if:
  - (a) twelve years have passed from the date on which a dividend or other sum became due for payment; and

(b) the distribution recipient has not claimed it,

the distribution recipient is no longer entitled to that dividend or other sum and it ceases to remain owing by the Company.

- 40 Non-cash distributions
- (1) Subject to the terms of issue of the share in question, the Company may, by ordinary resolution on the recommendation of the directors, decide to pay all or part of a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a share by transferring non-cash assets of equivalent value (including, without limitation, shares or other securities in any company).
- (2) For the purposes of paying a non-cash distribution, the directors may make whatever arrangements they think fit, including, where any difficulty arises regarding the distribution:
  - (a) fixing the value of any assets;
  - (b) paying cash to any distribution recipient on the basis of that value in order to adjust the rights of recipients; and
  - (c) vesting any assets in trustees.
- 41 Waiver of distributions
- (1) Distribution recipients may waive their entitlement to a dividend or other distribution payable in respect of a share by giving the Company notice in writing to that effect, but if:
  - (a) the share has more than one holder, or
  - (b) more than one person is entitled to the share, whether by reason of the death or bankruptcy of one or more joint holders, or otherwise,

the notice is not effective unless it is expressed to be given, and signed, by all the holders or persons otherwise entitled to the share.

# CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

- 42 Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums
- (1) Subject to the articles, the directors may, if they are so authorised by an ordinary resolution:
  - (a) decide to capitalise any profits of the Company (whether or not they are available for distribution) which are not required for paying a preferential dividend, or any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital redemption reserve; and
  - (b) appropriate any sum which they so decide to capitalise (a "capitalised sum") to the persons who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend (the "persons entitled") and in the same proportions.
- (2) Capitalised sums must be applied:
  - (a) on behalf of the persons entitled, and
  - (b) in the same proportions as a dividend would have been distributed to them.
- (3) Any capitalised sum may be applied in paying up new shares of a nominal amount equal to the capitalised sum which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.
- (4) A capitalised sum which was appropriated from profits available for distribution may be applied in paying up new debentures of the Company which are then allotted credited as fully paid to the persons entitled or as they may direct.

- (5) Subject to the articles the directors may:
  - (a) apply capitalised sums in accordance with paragraphs (3) and (4) above partly in one way and partly in another;
  - (b) make such arrangements as they think fit to deal with shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions under this article (including the issuing of fractional certificates or the making of cash payments); and
  - (c) authorise any person to enter into an agreement with the Company on behalf of all the persons entitled which is binding on them in respect of the allotment of shares and debentures to them under this article.

## PART 4

### **DECISION-MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS**

### ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 43 Attendance and speaking at general meetings
- (1) A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.
- (2) A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
  - that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting,
     and
  - (b) that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.
- (3) The directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.
- (4) In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more members attending it are in the same place as each other.
- (5) Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.
- 44 Quorum for general meetings

No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum. The quorum for a general meeting is two members present in person or by proxy.

- 45 Chairing general meetings
- (1) If the directors have appointed a chairman, the chairman shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.
- (2) If the directors have not appointed a chairman, or if the chairman is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not present within 30 minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start:
  - (a) the directors present, or
  - (b) (if no directors are present), the meeting, must appoint a director or shareholder to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.

The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".

- 46 Attendance and speaking by directors and non-shareholders
- (1) Directors may attend and speak at general meetings, whether or not they are shareholders.
- (2) The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not:
  - (a) shareholders of the Company, or
  - (b) otherwise entitled to exercise the rights of shareholders in relation to general meetings, to attend and speak at a general meeting.

## 47 Adjournment

- (1) If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present the chairman of the meeting must adjourn. The Chairman of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
  - (a) the meeting consents to an adjournment, or
  - (b) it appears to the chairman of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- (2) The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- (3) When adjourning a general meeting, the chairman of the meeting must:
  - (a) either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the directors; and
  - (b) have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- (4) If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the Company must give at least 7 clear days' notice of it (that is, excluding the day of the adjourned meeting and the day on which the notice is given):
  - (a) to the same persons to whom notice of the Company's general meetings is required to be given, and
  - (b) containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- (5) No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

## **VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

# 48 Voting: general

A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded and acted upon in accordance with the articles.

- 49 Errors and disputes
- (1) No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.
- (2) Any such objection must be referred to the chairman of the meeting, whose decision is final.

- 50 Poll votes
- (1) A poll on a resolution may be demanded:
  - (a) in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote, or
  - (b) at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.
- (2) A poll may be demanded by:
  - (a) the chairman of the meeting;
  - (b) the directors;
  - (c) two or more persons having the right to vote on the resolution; or
  - (d) a person or persons representing not less than one tenth of the total voting rights of all the shareholders having the right to vote on the resolution.
- (3) A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:
  - (a) the poll has not yet been taken, and
  - (b) the chairman of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- (4) Polls must be taken immediately and in such manner as the chairman of the meeting directs.
- 51 Content of proxy notices
- (1) Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a "proxy notice") which:
  - (a) states the name and address of the shareholder appointing the proxy;
  - (b) identifies the person appointed to be that shareholder's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
  - (c) is signed by or on behalf of the shareholder appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the directors may determine; and
  - (d) is delivered to the Company in accordance with the articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- (2) The Company may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- (3) Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- (4) Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
  - (a) allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting; and
  - (b) appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.
- 52 Delivery of proxy notices
- (1) A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the Company by or on behalf of that person.
- (2) An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the Company a notice in writing

- given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- (3) A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- (4) If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor's behalf.
- 53 Amendments to resolutions
- (1) An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
  - (a) notice of the proposed amendment is given to the Company in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chairman of the meeting may determine), and
  - (b) the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- (2) A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
  - (a) the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
  - (b) the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- (3) If the chairman of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chairman's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

## PART 5

## ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- Means of communication to be used
- (1) Subject to the articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Company under the articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by or to the Company.
- (2) Subject to the articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a director in connection with the taking of decisions by directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.
- (3) A director may agree with the Company that notices or documents sent to that director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.
- 55 Company seals
- (1) Any common seal may only be used by the authority of the directors.
- (2) The directors may decide by what means and in what form any common seal is to be used.
- (3) Unless otherwise decided by the directors, if the Company has a common seal and it is affixed to a document, the document must also be signed by at least one authorised person in the presence of a witness who attests the signature.
- (4) For the purposes of this article, an authorised person is:
  - (a) any director of the Company;

- (b) the Company secretary (if any); or
- (c) any person authorised by the directors for the purpose of signing documents to which the common seal is applied.
- No right to inspect accounts and other records

Except as provided by law or authorised by the directors or an ordinary resolution of the Company, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Company's accounting or other records or documents merely by virtue of being a shareholder.

57 Provision for employees on cessation of business

The directors may decide to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries (other than a director or former director or shadow director) in connection with the cessation or transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

### **DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE**

- 58 Indemnity
- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a relevant director of the Company or an associated company may be indemnified out of the Company's assets against:
  - (a) any liability incurred by that director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company or an associated company;
  - (b) any liability incurred by that director in connection with the activities of the Company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Companies Act);
  - (c) any other liability incurred by that director as an officer of the Company or an associated company.
- (2) This article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.
- 59 Insurance
- (1) The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Company, for the benefit of any relevant director in respect of any relevant loss.
- (2) In this article and article 58 above:
  - (a) a "relevant director" means any director or former director of the Company or an associated company;
  - (b) a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant director in connection with that director's duties or powers in relation to the Company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the Company or associated company; and
  - (c) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.