Company Number 07855931

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006 PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

NENE VALLEY BREWERY LIMITED

(as adopted by special resolution passed on 2^{n} November 2021)



INDEX TO THE ARTICLES

PART 1 INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- 1. Defined terms
- 2. Liability of members

PART 2 DIRECTORS DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3. Directors' general authority
- 4. Shareholders' reserve power
- 5. Directors may delegate
- 6. Committees

DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS

- 7. Directors to take decisions collectively
- 8. Unanimous decisions
- 9. Calling a directors' meeting
- 10. Participation in directors' meetings
- 11. Quorum for directors' meetings
- 12. Chairing of directors' meetings
- 13. Casting vote
- 14. Conflicts of interest
- 15. Records of decisions to be kept
- 16. Directors' discretion to make further rules

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

- 17. Methods of appointing directors
- 18. Termination of director's appointment
- 19. Directors' remuneration
- 20. Directors' expenses

PART 3 SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS SHARES

- 21. All shares to be fully paid up
- 22. Powers to issue different classes of share
- 23. Company not bound by less than absolute interests
- 24. Share certificates
- 25. Replacement share certificates
- 26. Transfer of shares
- 27. Pre-emption on transfers of shares
- 28. Bring Along Option
- 29. Purchase of own shares

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

- 30. Dividend rights
- 31. Procedure for declaring dividends
- 32. Payment of dividends and other distributions
- 33. No interest on distributions
- 34. Unclaimed distributions
- 35. Non-cash distributions
- 36. Waiver of distributions
- 37. Distribution and exit rights

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

38. Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums

PART 4 DECISION-MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 39. Attendance and speaking at general meetings
- 40. Quorum for general meetings
- 41. Chairing general meetings
- 42. Attendance and speaking by directors and non-shareholders
- 43. Adjournment

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 44. Voting: general
- 45. Errors and disputes
- 46. Poll votes
- 47. Content of proxy notices
- 48. Delivery of proxy notices
- 49. Amendments to resolutions

PART 5 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- 50. Means of communication to be used
- 51. Company seals
- 52. No right to inspect accounts and other records
- 53. Provision for employees on cessation of business

DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

- 54. Indemnity
- 55. Insurance

PART 1

INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Defined terms

1. In the articles, unless the context requires otherwise -

"A ordinary shares" means £0.001 A Ordinary shares in the company;

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

"B ordinary shares" means £0.001 B Ordinary shares in the company;

"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;

"chairman" has the meaning given in article 12;

"chairman of the meeting" has the meaning given in article 41;

"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;

"C ordinary shares" means £0.001 C Ordinary shares in 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 32;

"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;

"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;
"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 register of members as the holder of the shares;
"instrument"	means a document in hard copy form;
"investor majority"	means the holders of the majority of B ordinary shares from time to time;
"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 47;
"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;
"transmittee"	means a person entitled to a share by reason of the

death or bankruptcy of a shareholder or otherwise by

operation of law; 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.

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.

Liability of members

2. 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

Directors' general authority

3. 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.

Shareholders' reserve power

- 4. (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.

Directors may delegate

- 5. (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.

Committees

- 6. (1) 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.
 - (2) 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

Directors to take decisions collectively

- 7. (1) 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.
 - (2) 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.

Unanimous decisions

- **8.** (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.

Calling a directors' meeting

- 9. (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.

Participation in directors' meetings

- 10. (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.

Quorum for directors' meetings

- 11. (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, 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.

Chairing of directors' meetings

- 12. (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 ten minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating directors must appoint one of themselves to chair it.

Casting vote

13. (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.

Conflicts of interest

- 14. (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.

Records of decisions to be kept

15. 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.

Directors' discretion to make further rules

16. 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.

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Methods of appointing directors

- 17. (1) Any person 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.
 - (2) In any case where, as a result of death, the company has no shareholders and no directors, the personal representatives of the last shareholder to have died have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a person to be a director.
 - (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), 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.

Termination of director's appointment

- 18. 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 Act 2006 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;
 - (e) [paragraph omitted pursuant to The Mental Health (Discrimination) Act 2013]
 - (f) 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.

Directors' remuneration

- 19. (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.

Directors' expenses

- **20.** 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

All shares to be fully paid up

- 21. (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.

Powers to issue different classes of share

- 22. (1) Subject to the articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any existing share, the company may issue shares with such rights or restrictions as may be determined by ordinary resolution.
 - (2) 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, and the directors may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such shares.

Company not bound by less than absolute interests

23. 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.

Share certificates

- 24. (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.

Replacement share certificates

- 25. (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.

Transfer of shares

26. General

- (1) In these articles, reference to the transfer of a share includes the transfer, assignment or other disposal of a beneficial or other interest in that share, or the creation of a trust or encumbrance over that share, and reference to a share includes a beneficial or other interest in a share.
- (2) No share shall be transferred unless it is permitted by article 27 or has been made in accordance with article 28 or article 29 and the directors shall refuse to register a transfer of any share unless it is permitted by article 27 or has been made in accordance with article 28 or article 29.

27. Pre-emption on transfer of shares

(1) Except where the provisions of article 28 or article 29 apply, any transfer of shares by a shareholder shall be subject to the pre-emption rights in this article 27.

- (2) Any shareholder (the "**proposing transferor**") proposing to transfer any shares (the "**sale shares**") shall be required before effecting, or purporting to effect the transfer, to give a notice in writing to the company (the "**transfer notice**") that he desires to transfer all but not some of the sale shares and specifying the price at which he is prepared to sell the sale shares in accordance with the following provisions of this article 27 (the "**proposed price**"). The transfer notice shall constitute the company his agent for the sale of all the sale shares (together with all rights then attached thereto) during the prescribed period (as defined in article 27(8)) to any A or B shareholders and/or the company on the basis set out in the following provisions of this article 27.
- (3) The sale shares shall be offered for purchase in accordance with this article 27 at a price per sale share (the "sale price") as agreed between the proposing transferor and the directors or, failing such agreement, as determined pursuant to article 27(4).
- (4) If agreement of the sale price cannot be reached in accordance with article 27(3), then the directors shall within 7 days refer the matter to an independent firm of Chartered Accountants who shall be nominated by agreement between the parties or failing such agreement within 14 days after the request of any party, nominated by the President for the time being of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (the "expert"), which shall within 60 days determine and certify the sum per share considered by them to be the fair value thereof as at the date of the Transfer notice. In so determining and certifying, the expert shall:
- (a) not take into account the proportion of the relevant class of shares which the sale shares represent;
- (b) value the sale shares as on an arm's length sale between a willing seller and a willing purchaser or if a bona fide offer has been made for the shares, the amount and terms of the offer;
- (c) take into account the provisions of this article 27;
- (d) take into account prospective earnings of the company for the then current financial year as shown by the agreed budget and its current management accounts;
- (e) assume that the sale shares can be transferred without restriction.
- The expert shall act hereunder as experts and not as arbitrators and their determination shall be final and binding on all persons concerned and (in the absence of fraud) they shall be under no liability to any such person by reason of their determination or certificate or by anything done or omitted to be done by them for the purpose thereof or in connection therewith. The expert shall allocate its costs equitably based upon the reasonableness of the parties' conduct, or lack thereof, in connection with attempts to establish a sale price prior to the appointment of the expert.
- (5) The company shall offer the sale shares for purchase at the sale price by a written offer notice (the "first offer notice") given within 7 days after the sale price is agreed ("the notice date") or determined under article 27(4) to the company.
- (6) The period during which the company may accept the offer contained in the first offer notice shall commence on the date of the first offer notice and terminate 14 days thereafter.
- (7) Any shares which are not accepted pursuant to the offer contained in the first offer notice will be offered by the company by a further written notice (the

"second offer notice") given within 21 days of the date of the first offer notice to the persons (other than the proposing transferor) who, on the notice date, were the registered holders of shares in the company on terms that the sale shares shall be sold to the acceptors in proportion (as nearly as may be without involving fractions or increasing the number sold to any member beyond that applied for by him) to their existing holdings of shares (and the shareholding of the proposing transferor shall be ignored for the purpose of calculating this proportion). Any shares which are not accepted pursuant to the offer contained in the second offer notice will be offered by the company by a further written. notice (the "further notice") given within 21 days of the date of the second offer notice to those shareholders whom accepted shares pursuant to the offer contained in the second offer notice, such further offer to be in proportion to their holdings of shares as increased by their acceptance of the offer contained in the second offer notice (for the purpose of calculating the relevant proportion, ignoring the proposing transferor's shareholding and also ignoring the shareholdings of any shareholders who did not accept the offer contained in the second offer notice).

- (8) The period during which the relevant shareholder may accept the offer contained in the second offer notice shall commence on the date of the second offer notice and terminate 14 days thereafter. The period during which a relevant shareholder may accept the offer contained in the further notice shall commence on the date of further notice and terminate 14 days thereafter. The aggregate of the periods referred to in this article 27(8) shall be referred to in total as the "prescribed period".
- (9) After the expiry of the prescribed period, the directors shall allocate the sale shares in accordance with the acceptances received on the basis set out in article 27(6) and 27(7). The directors shall within 7 days of the expiry of the prescribed period give notice in writing (the "sale notice") to the proposing transferor and to each accepting shareholder and/or the company (each a "purchaser") specifying the name and address of each purchaser, the number of sale shares agreed to be purchased by him and the aggregate price payable for them.
- (10) Completion of a sale and purchase of all the sale shares pursuant to a sale notice shall take place at the registered office of the company at the time specified in the sale notice (being not less than 3 days nor more than ten days after the date of the sale notice) when the proposing transferor, upon payment to him by a purchaser of the sale price in respect of all the sale shares allocated to that purchaser, shall transfer those sale shares and deliver the relevant share certificates to that purchaser. No sale shares shall be sold unless all the sale shares are sold, save where the proposing transferor waives this requirement.
- (11) If a proposing transferor shall fail or refuse to transfer any sale shares to a purchaser(s) hereunder the directors may authorise any director or holder of shares in the company to execute and deliver on his behalf the necessary transfer and the company may receive the purchase money in trust for the proposing transferor and cause the purchaser(s) to be registered as the holder(s) of such shares. The receipt of the company for the purchase money shall constitute a good discharge to the purchaser(s) who shall not be bound to see to the application thereof and after the purchaser(s) has been registered in purported exercise of the aforesaid powers and validity of the proceedings shall not be questioned by any person. The company shall not pay the purchase

money to the proposing transferor until he shall have delivered his share certificate(s) or a suitable indemnity and the necessary transfers to the company. (12) Any shares not accepted by any of the members pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this article 27 by the end of the last day of the prescribed period may be offered by the proposing transferor to such persons as he may think fit for purchase at a price not less than the sale price for a period of three months commencing on the day after the day on which the prescribed period terminates. (13) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this article 27, if the sale shares offered by the proposing transferor are C ordinary shares, the sale price per share shall be calculated on the basis of the net asset value of the company at the date of the transfer notice and the number of C ordinary shares comprised in the transfer notice as a proportion of the total issued ordinary share capital of the company provided the proposing transferor is under 65 years of age and neither an employee nor a director of the company.

28. Bring along option

- (1) If any C shareholder who has offered their C ordinary shares under the provisions of article 27, but has not had all of their C ordinary shares acquired under that article (the "selling shareholders") shall within 30 days of the last prescribed period receive an offer to acquire all the shares of such class held by the selling shareholders then, before accepting such offer and within 10 days of receipt of such offer, the selling shareholders may serve a notice (an "article 28(1) notice") on all the other shareholders of the class (the "remaining shareholders") specifying in reasonable detail the terms of the offer, together with a copy of any written offer received by the selling shareholders.
- (2) Following service of an article 28(1) notice, the selling shareholders shall have the option (the "bring along option") to require all the remaining shareholders to transfer all their shares of the relevant class to the purchaser or as the purchaser shall direct in accordance with the remaining provisions of this article 28 and upon the same terms as those on which the purchaser is to acquire the selling shareholders' shares and, for the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of article 27 shall not apply to such proposed sale or transfer.
- (3) The selling shareholder shall exercise the bring along option by giving notice to that effect (a "bring along notice") to all the remaining shareholders at any time before the transfer of the selling shareholders' shares to the third party purchaser. A bring along notice shall specify that the remaining shareholders are required to transfer all their shares of the relevant class (the "remaining shares") pursuant to this article 28 to the purchaser, the price at which the remaining shares are to be transferred and the proposed date of transfer. A bring along notice shall be irrevocable unless the purchaser refuses to acquire the remaining shares on the terms of this article 28 in which case the remaining shareholders shall be under no obligation to sell their shares to such third party purchaser.
- (4) The remaining shareholders shall be obliged to sell the remaining shares at the price specified in the bring along notice and completion of this sale and purchase shall take place on the same date as the date proposed for completion of the sale of the selling shareholders' shares.
- (5) Each of the remaining shareholders shall, on service of the bring along notice, be deemed to have appointed each director of the company at the time as his attorney to execute any stock transfer form and to do such other things as

may be necessary or desirable to accept, transfer and complete the sale of the remaining shares to the third party purchaser pursuant to this article 28.

Purchase of own shares

- 29. (1) Subject to the Companies Acts but without prejudice to any other provision of these articles, the company may purchase its own shares in accordance with Chapter 4 of Part 18 of the Companies Act 2006 (the "Act"), including (without limitation) out of capital up to any amount in a financial year not exceeding the lower of:
 - (a) £15,000; and
 - (b) The nominal value of 5% of the company's fully paid share capital at the beginning of each financial year.
 - (2) Subject to the above provisions of this article 29, on a purchase of shares in accordance with Chapter 4 of Part 18 of the Act, the company may:
 - (a) hold the shares (or any of them) in treasury;
 - (b) deal with any of the shares, at any time, in accordance with section 727 of the Act; or
 - (c) cancel any of the shares, at any time, in accordance with section 729 of the Act.

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

Dividend rights

- 30. (1) The first £38,000 of any dividend declared by the company in respect of a financial year shall be paid to the holders of B ordinary shares in proportion to the percentage of the total number of issued B ordinary shares held by each of them; and
 - (2) the remainder of any dividend declared by the company in respect of a financial year shall be paid to the holders of A ordinary shares, B ordinary shares and C ordinary shares in proportion to the percentage of the total issued ordinary share capital of the company held by each of them.

Procedure for declaring dividends

- 31. (1) The company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends, and the directors may decide to pay interim dividends.
 - (2) A dividend must not 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 the shareholders' resolution to declare or directors' decision to pay a dividend, or 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.

Payment of dividends and other distributions

- 32. (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 either in writing or as the directors may otherwise decide;
 - (b) sending a cheque made payable to the distribution recipient by post to the distribution recipient at the distribution recipient's 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.

No interest on distributions

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

Unclaimed distributions

- **34.** (1) All dividends or other sums which are—
 - (a) payable in respect of shares, and
 - (b) 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.
 - (3) 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.

Non-cash distributions

- 35. (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.

Waiver of distributions

- 36. 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.

Distribution and exit rights

- 37. (1) On a distribution of assets on a liquidation or a return of capital the assets of the company remaining after payment of its liabilities ("Surplus Assets") shall be distributed in the following manner:
 - (a) any share premium that the shareholders resolve to repay to the shareholders ("Repayable Share Premium") shall be paid only to those shareholders to which the Repayable Share Premium relates in proportion

to the shares held by each member as a percentage of the total issued shares in respect of which the Repayable Share Premium is to be repaid; and

- (b) in respect of any other distribution of assets or return of capital the Surplus Assets shall be distributed (to the extent that the company is lawfully permitted to do so) amongst the holders of the shares in proportion to the shares held by each member as a percentage of the total issued share capital of the Company.
- (2) On a share sale the proceeds of sale shall be distributed to the holders of shares in proportion to the shares held by each member as a percentage of the total issued share capital of the company and the directors shall not register any transfer of shares if the proceeds of sale are not so distributed.

CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums

- **38.** (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) 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

Attendance and speaking at general meetings

- 39. (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—
 - (a) 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.

Quorum for general meetings

40. 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.

Chairing general meetings

- 41. (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 ten 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.
 - (3) The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".

Attendance and speaking by directors and non-shareholders

42. (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.

Adjournment

- 43. (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 it.
 - (2) 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.
 - (3) The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
 - (4) 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.
 - (5) 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.
 - (6) 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

Voting: general

44. (1) A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with the articles; and (2) the holders of A ordinary shares and B ordinary shares shall be entitled to vote on a show of hands, but the holders of C ordinary shares or ordinary shares shall not be entitled to vote on a show of hands.

Errors and disputes

45. (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.

Poll votes

- 46. (1) On a poll vote, the holders of A ordinary shares and B ordinary shares shall have one vote per A ordinary share and B ordinary share held, but the holders of ordinary shares and C ordinary shares shall have no voting rights in respect of ordinary shares and C ordinary shares they hold.
 - (2) 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.

Content of proxy notices

47. (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.

Delivery of proxy notices

- 48. (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.

Amendments to resolutions

- **49.** (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

- 50. (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 2006 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.

Company seals

- 51. (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

52. 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.

Provision for employees on cessation of business

53. 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

Indemnity

- 54. (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 2006),
 - (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.
- (3) In this article—
- (a) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate, and
- (b) a "relevant director" means any director or former director of the company or an associated company.

Insurance

- 55. (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—
 - (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.