

**A PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES  
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
of  
BBI DIAGNOSTICS UK 4 LIMITED (the "company")  
(REGISTERED NO 8881854)**

**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
- 13A Alternates voting at directors' meetings
- 14 Transactions or other arrangements with the company
- 14A Directors' 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
- 20A Appointment and removal of alternates
- 20B Rights and responsibilities of alternate directors
- 20C Termination of alternate directorship

#### PART 3

#### SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS

#### SHARES

- 21 [DELETED]
- 22 Powers to issue different classes of share
- 23 Company not bound by less than absolute interests
- 23A Issue of shares
- 24 Share certificates
- 24A Consolidated share certificates
- 25 Replacement share certificates
- 25A Company's lien over partly paid shares
- 25B Enforcement of the company's lien
- 25C Call notices
- 25D Liability to pay calls
- 25E When call notice need not be issued
- 25F Failure to comply with call notice automatic consequences
- 25G Notice of intended forfeiture
- 25H Directors' power to forfeit shares

- 25I Effect of forfeiture
- 25J Procedure following forfeiture
- 25K Surrender of shares
- 26 Share transfers
- 27 Transmission of shares
- 28 Exercise of transmitters' rights
- 29 Transmitters bound by prior notices
- 29A Procedure for Disposing of Fractions of Shares

#### DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

- 30 Procedure for declaring dividends
- 30A Calculation of dividends
- 31 Payment of dividends and other distributions
- 32 No interest on distributions
- 33 Unclaimed distributions
- 34 Non-cash distributions
- 35 Waiver of distributions

#### CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS

- 36 Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums

#### PART 4

##### DECISION-MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS

##### ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 37 Attendance and speaking at general meetings
- 38 Quorum for general meetings
- 39 Chairing general meetings
- 40 Attendance and speaking by directors and non-shareholders
- 41 Adjournment

##### VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 42 Voting general
- 43 Errors and disputes
- 44 Poll votes
- 45 Content of proxy notices
- 46 Delivery of proxy notices
- 47 Amendments to resolutions

## PART 5

### ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

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

### DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

- 52 Indemnity
- 53 Insurance

### COMMUNICATION

- 54 Communication

## **PART 1**

### **INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

#### **Defined terms**

1 In the articles, unless the context requires otherwise—

"alternate" or "alternate director" has the meaning given in article 20A,

"appointor" has the meaning given in article 20A,

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

"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,

"call" has the meaning given in article 25C,

"call notice" has the meaning given in article 25C,

"call payment date" has the meaning given in article 25F,

"chairman" has the meaning given in article 12,

"chairman of the meeting" has the meaning given in article 39,

"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,

"company's lien" has the meaning given in article 25A,

"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 31,

"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,

"forfeiture notice" has the meaning given in article 25F,

"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,

"lien enforcement notice" has the meaning given in article 25B,

"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,

"partly paid" in relation to a share means that part of that share's nominal value or any premium at which it was issued has not been paid to the company,

"proxy notice" has the meaning given in article 45,

"relevant rate" has the meaning given in article 25F,

"secretary" means the secretary of the company, if any, appointed in accordance with article 20D or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the company, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary,

"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,

"working day" means any day other than Saturday or Sunday or a public or bank holiday in the part of the United Kingdom in which the company is registered, 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

In these articles, any reference to a provision of the Companies Act 2006 shall be deemed to include a reference to any statutory modification, replacement, consolidation or re-enactment of that provision in force from time to time

In these articles, unless the context otherwise requires, the masculine includes the feminine and the neuter, and the singular includes the plural and vice versa

## **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

##### **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

- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, article 11 shall not be construed as requiring the company to have more than one director and shall not apply in the event the company has only one director
- (4) Subject to these articles, each director participating in a directors' meeting has one vote

### **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

#### **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

### **Alternates voting at directors' meetings**

13A A director who is also an alternate director has an additional vote on behalf of each of his appointors who is

- (a) not participating in a directors' meeting, and
- (b) would have been entitled to vote if they were participating in it

### **Transactions or other arrangements with the company**

14 (1) Subject to sections 177(5) and 177(6) and sections 182(5) and 182(6) of the Companies Act 2006 and provided he has declared the nature and extent of his interest in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts, a director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in an existing or proposed transaction or arrangement with the company

- (a) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the company, or in which the company is otherwise (directly or indirectly) interested,
- (b) shall be an eligible director for the purposes of any proposed decision of the directors (or committee) in respect of such contract or proposed contract in which he is interested,
- (c) shall be entitled to vote at a meeting of directors or of a committee of the directors, or participate in any unanimous decision, in respect of such contract or proposed contract in which he is interested,
- (d) may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the company (otherwise than as auditor) and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a director,
- (e) may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to a transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate in which the company is otherwise (directly or indirectly) interested, and
- (f) shall not, save as he may otherwise agree, be accountable to the company for the benefit which he (or a person connected with him as defined in section 252 of the Companies Act 2006) derives from any such contract, transaction or arrangement or from any such office or employment or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such contract, transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit nor shall the receipt of any such remuneration or other benefit constitute a breach of his duty under section 176 of the Companies Act 2006

(2) For the purpose of this article 14, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any directors' meeting or part of a directors' meeting

(3) Subject to article 14(4), if a question arises at a meeting of directors or 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

- (4) 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

#### **Directors' conflicts of interest**

- 14A (1) For the purposes of section 175 of the Companies Act 2006 the directors may, in accordance with the requirements set out in this article 14A authorise any matter proposed to them by any director which would, if not authorised constitute or give rise to a situation in which a director has or can have, a direct or indirect interest which conflicts, or possibly may conflict with the interest of the company (including, without limitation, in relation to the exploitation of any property, information or opportunity, whether or not the company could take advantage of it) (a 'conflict')
- (2) Any authorisation under this article 14A (a 'conflict authorisation') will be effective only if
- (a) the director has disclosed to the other directors the nature and extent of his interest in any conflict, such disclosure to be made as soon as reasonably practicable,
  - (b) the matter in question shall have been proposed by any director for consideration at a meeting of directors in the same way that any other matter may be proposed to the directors under the provisions of these articles or in such other manner as the directors may determine,
  - (c) any requirement as to the quorum at the meeting of the directors at which the matter is considered is met without counting the director in question, and
  - (d) the matter was agreed to without his voting or would have been agreed to if his vote had not been counted
- (3) Any conflict authorisation may (whether at the time of giving the authority or subsequently)
- (a) extend to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter so authorised,
  - (b) be subject to such terms and for such duration, or impose such limits or conditions as the directors may determine,
  - (c) be terminated or varied by the directors at any time
- This will not affect anything done by the director prior to such termination or variation in accordance with the terms of the authorisation
- (4) In giving a conflict authorisation the directors may decide (whether at the time of giving the authority or subsequently) that if a director has obtained any information through his involvement in the conflict otherwise than as a director of the company and in respect of which he owes a duty of confidentiality to another person the director is under no obligation to
- (a) disclose such information to the directors or to any director or other officer or employee of the company,

- (b) use or apply any such information in performing his duties as a director of the company, where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence
- (5) In giving a conflict authorisation the directors may provide (whether at the time of giving the authority or subsequently) without limitation to article 14A(3)(b) that the director
  - (a) is excluded from discussions and/or the making of decisions (whether at meetings of directors or otherwise) related to the conflict,
  - (b) is not given any documents or other information relating to the conflict,
  - (c) may or may not vote (or may or may not be counted in the quorum) at any future meeting of directors in relation to any resolution relating to the conflict
- (6) Where the directors give a conflict authorisation
  - (a) the terms of the conflict authorisation shall be recorded in writing (but the authority shall be effective whether or not the terms are so recorded),
  - (b) the director will be obliged to conduct himself in accordance with any terms imposed by the directors in relation to the conflict authorisation,
  - (c) the director will not infringe any duty he owes to the company by virtue of sections 171 to 177 of the Companies Act 2006 provided he acts in accordance with such terms, limits and conditions (if any) as the directors impose in respect of the conflict authorisation
- (7) A director is not required, by reason of being a director (or because of the fiduciary relationship established by reason of being a director), to account to the company for any remuneration, profit or other benefit which he derives from or in connection with a relationship involving a conflict which has been authorised by the directors or by the company in general meeting (subject in each case to any terms, limits or conditions attaching to that authorisation) and no contract shall be liable to be avoided on such grounds

#### **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 and removing 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, or removed from office
  - (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 members and no directors, the transmittee(s) of the last member to have died or to have a bankruptcy order made against him (as the case may be) shall have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a person (including a transmittee who is a natural person), who is willing to act and is permitted to do so, to be a director
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), where 2 or more members die in circumstances rendering it uncertain who was the last to die, a younger member is deemed to have survived an older member

#### **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,
- (g) that person has been absent without the permission of the directors from the previous four directors' meetings and the directors resolve to vacate that person's office

#### **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

#### **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

### **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

#### **Appointment and removal of alternates**

20A

- (1) Any director (the "appointor") may appoint as an alternate any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors, to
  - (a) exercise that director's powers, and
  - (b) carry out that director's responsibilities, in relation to the taking of decisions by the directors in the absence of the alternate's appointor ("alternate" or "alternate director")
- (2) Any appointment or removal of an alternate must be effected by notice in writing to the company signed by the appointor, or in any other manner approved by the directors
- (3) The notice must
  - (a) identify the proposed alternate, and
  - (b) in the case of a notice of appointment, contain a statement signed by the proposed alternate that the proposed alternate is willing to act as the alternate of the director giving the notice

#### **Rights and responsibilities of alternate directors**

20B

- (1) An alternate director has the same rights, in relation to any directors' meeting or directors' written resolution, as the alternate's appointor
- (2) Except as the articles specify otherwise, alternate directors
  - (a) are deemed for all purposes to be directors,
  - (b) are liable for their own acts and omissions,

- (c) are subject to the same restrictions as their appointors, and
  - (d) are not deemed to be agents of or for their appointors
- (3) A person who is an alternate director but not a director
- (a) may be counted as participating for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present (but only if that person's appointor is not participating), and
  - (b) may sign a written resolution (but only if it is not signed or to be signed by that person's appointor)

No alternate may be counted as more than one director for such purposes

- (4) An alternate director is not entitled to receive any remuneration from the company for serving as an alternate director except such part of the alternate's appointor's remuneration as the appointor may direct by notice in writing made to the company

#### **Termination of alternate directorship**

20C An alternate directors appointment as an alternate terminates

- (a) when the alternate's appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the company in writing specifying when it is to terminate,
- (b) on the occurrence in relation to the alternate of any event which, if it occurred in relation to the alternate's appointor, would result in the termination of the appointor's appointment as a director,
- (c) on the death of the alternate's appointor, or
- (d) when the alternate's appointor's appointment as a director terminates

### **SECRETARY**

20D A secretary may be appointed by the directors or by the members passing an ordinary resolution for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit, and any secretary so appointed may be removed by them

## **PART 3**

### **SHARES AND DISTRIBUTIONS**

#### **SHARES**

21 [DELETED]

#### **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

#### **Issue of shares**

23A

- (1) Shares may be issued as nil, partly or fully paid
- (2) Unless the members of the company by special resolution direct otherwise, all shares which the directors propose to issue must first be offered to the members in accordance with the following provisions of this article
- (3) Shares must be offered to members in proportion as nearly as may be to the number of existing shares held by them respectively
- (4) The offer shall be made by notice specifying
  - (a) terms of the offer (including the price per share),
  - (b) number of shares offered to all offerees in aggregate,
  - (c) number of shares offered to the offeree to whom the offer is made, and
  - (d) period, being not less than 14 days within which the offer, if not accepted, will be deemed to have been declined
- (5) An offeree shall be entitled to accept the offer by notice to the company for all or any of the shares offered to him After the expiry of the offer period or, if earlier, on receipt of notices from all the offerees as to whether or not they accept the offer, the shares for which acceptances are not received shall be offered to the offerees who have accepted the previous offer in full, in proportion to their existing holdings of shares and the offer shall be on the same terms and be open for the same period as the original offer Further offers shall then be made on the same terms and in the same manner until such time as the shares are not capable of being offered as aforesaid other than by way of fractions
- (6) On the expiry of the first offer, or if any further offers are made, the last offer, the accepting offerees shall pay the subscription price to the company and the directors shall allot the shares accordingly
- (7) Shares which are offered in accordance with this article but for which acceptances are not received may be disposed of by the directors to any person they choose but the disposal shall not be on terms more favourable to the acquirer than the terms offered to the offerees

- (8) In accordance with section 567 of the Companies Act 2006, sections 561 and 562 of the Companies Act 2006 shall not apply

#### **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) the amount paid-up on those shares, 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

#### **Consolidated share certificates**

24A

- (1) When a member's holding of shares of a particular class increases, the company may issue that member with
  - (a) a single, consolidated certificate in respect of all the shares of a particular class which that member holds, or
  - (b) a separate certificate in respect of only those shares by which that member's holding has increased
- (2) When a member's holding of shares of a particular class is reduced, the company must ensure that the member is issued with one or more certificates in respect of the number of shares held by the member after that reduction. But the company need not (in the absence of a request from the member) issue any new certificate if
  - (a) all the shares which the member no longer holds as a result of the reduction, and
  - (b) none of the shares which the member retains following the reduction, were, immediately before the reduction, represented by the same certificate
- (3) A member may request the company, in writing, to replace

- (a) the member's separate certificates with a consolidated certificate, or
  - (b) the member's consolidated certificate with two or more separate certificates representing such proportion of the shares as the member may specify
- (4) When the company complies with such a request it may charge such reasonable fee as the directors may decide for doing so
- (5) A consolidated certificate must not be issued unless any certificates which it is to replace have first been returned to the company for cancellation

#### **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

#### **Company's lien over partly paid shares**

25A

- (1) The company has a first and paramount lien (the "company's lien") over every share (whether or not such share is fully or partly paid) standing registered in the name of any person indebted or under liability to the company, whether he is the sole holder thereof or is one of two or more joint holders, for all monies payable by him and his estate to the company (whether or not such moneys are presently due and payable)
- (2) The company's lien over a share
- (a) takes priority over any third party's interest in that share, and
  - (b) extends to any dividend or other money payable by the company in respect of that share and (if the lien is enforced and the share is sold by the company) the proceeds of sale of that share
- (3) The directors may at any time decide that a share which is or would otherwise be subject to the company's lien shall not be subject to it, either wholly or in part

- (4) Where a security interest has been granted over any share pursuant to a security agreement granted in favour of any bank or institution, such share shall be exempt from all liens (whether present or future) in favour of the Company that would arise pursuant to these articles or otherwise howsoever and the Company shall not claim any lien (howsoever arising) in respect of such share while such security interest remains unreleased. A certificate executed by the party to whom such security interest has been granted that such security remains unreleased shall be conclusive evidence of such fact.

#### **Enforcement of the company's lien**

25B

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this article, if
- (a) a notice of the company's intention to enforce a lien (a "lien enforcement notice") has been sent in respect of a share, and
  - (b) the person to whom the notice was sent has failed to comply with it, the company may sell that share in such manner as the directors decide.
- (2) A lien enforcement notice
- (a) may only be sent in respect of a share which is subject to the company's lien, in respect of which a sum is payable and the due date for payment of that sum has passed,
  - (b) must specify the share concerned,
  - (c) must require payment of the sum payable within 14 days of the notice,
  - (d) must be addressed either to the holder of the share or to a person entitled to it by reason of the holder's death, bankruptcy or otherwise, and
  - (e) must state the company's intention to sell the share if the notice is not complied with.
- (3) Where shares are sold under this article
- (a) the directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser, and
  - (b) the transferee is not bound to see to the application of the consideration, and the transferee's title is not affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to the sale.
- (4) The net proceeds of any such sale (after payment of the costs of sale and any other costs of enforcing the lien) must be applied
- (a) first, in payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as was payable at the date of the lien enforcement notice,
  - (b) second, in payment to the person entitled to the shares at the date of the sale, but only after the certificate for the shares sold has been surrendered to the company for

cancellation or a suitable indemnity has been given for any lost certificates, and subject to a lien equivalent to the company's lien over the shares before the sale for any money payable in respect of the shares after the date of the lien enforcement notice

- (5) A statutory declaration by a director or the company secretary that the declarant is a director or the company secretary and that a share has been sold to satisfy the company's lien on a specified date
  - (a) is conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share, and
  - (b) subject to compliance with any other formalities of transfer required by the articles or by law, constitutes a good title to the share

### **Call notices**

#### **25C**

- (1) Subject to the articles and the terms on which shares are allotted, the directors may send a notice (a "call notice") to a member requiring the member to pay the company a specified sum of money (a "call") which is payable in respect of shares which that member holds at the date when the directors decide to send the call notice
- (2) A call notice
  - (a) may not require a member to pay a call which exceeds the total sum unpaid on that member's shares (whether as to the share's nominal value or any amount payable to the company by way of premium),
  - (b) must state when and how any call to which it relates it is to be paid, and
  - (c) may permit or require the call to be paid by instalments
- (3) A member must comply with the requirements of a call notice, but no member is obliged to pay any call before 14 days have passed since the notice was sent
- (4) Before the company has received any call due under a call notice the directors may
  - (a) revoke it wholly or in part, or
  - (b) specify a later time for payment than is specified in the notice, by a further notice in writing to the member in respect of whose shares the call is made

### **Liability to pay calls**

#### **25D**

- (1) Liability to pay a call is not extinguished or transferred by transferring the shares in respect of which it is required to be paid
- (2) Joint holders of a share are jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of that share

- (3) Subject to the terms on which shares are allotted, the directors may, when issuing shares, provide that call notices sent to the holders of those shares may require them
  - (a) to pay calls which are not the same, or
  - (b) to pay calls at different times

#### **When call notice need not be issued**

25E

- (1) A call notice need not be issued in respect of sums which are specified, in the terms on which a share is allotted, as being payable to the company in respect of that share (whether in respect of nominal value or premium)
  - (a) on allotment,
  - (b) on the occurrence of a particular event, or
  - (c) on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue
- (2) But if the due date for payment of such a sum has passed and it has not been paid, the holder of the share concerned is treated in all respects as having failed to comply with a call notice in respect of that sum, and is liable to the same consequences as regards the payment of interest and forfeiture

#### **Failure to comply with call notice automatic consequences**

25F

- (1) If a person is liable to pay a call and fails to do so by the call payment date
  - (a) the directors may issue a notice of intended forfeiture (a "forfeiture notice") to that person, and
  - (b) until the call is paid, that person must pay the company interest on the call from the call payment date at the relevant rate
- (2) For the purposes of this article
  - (a) the "call payment date" is the date on which the call notice states that a call is payable, unless the directors give a notice specifying a later date, in which case the "call payment date" is that later date,
  - (b) the "relevant rate" is
    - (i) the rate fixed by the terms on which the share in respect of which the call is due was allotted,
    - (ii) such other rate as was fixed in the call notice which required payment of the call, or has otherwise been determined by the directors, or
    - (iii) if no rate is fixed in either of these ways, 5 per cent per annum

- (3) The relevant rate must not exceed by more than five percentage points the base lending rate most recently set by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England in connection with its responsibilities under Part 2 of the Bank of England Act 1998
- (4) The directors may waive any obligation to pay interest on a call wholly or in part

#### **Notice of intended forfeiture**

25G

##### **A forfeiture notice**

- (a) may be sent in respect of any share in respect of which a call has not been paid as required by a call notice,
- (b) must be sent to the holder of that share or to a person entitled to it by reason of the holder's death, bankruptcy or otherwise,
- (c) must require payment of the call and any accrued interest by a date which is not less than 14 days after the date of the forfeiture notice,
- (d) must state how the payment is to be made, and
- (e) must state that if the forfeiture notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which the call is payable will be liable to be forfeited

#### **Directors' power to forfeit shares**

25H If a forfeiture notice is not complied with before the date by which payment of the call is required in the forfeiture notice, the directors may decide that any share in respect of which it was given is forfeited, and the forfeiture is to include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture

#### **Effect of forfeiture**

25I

- (1) Subject to the articles, the forfeiture of a share extinguishes
  - (a) all interests in that share, and all claims and demands against the company in respect of it, and
  - (b) all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the person in whose name the share was registered prior to the forfeiture and the company
- (2) Any share which is forfeited in accordance with the articles
  - (a) is deemed to have been forfeited when the directors decide that it is forfeited,
  - (b) is deemed to be the property of the company, and
  - (c) may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of as the directors think fit

- (3) If a person's shares have been forfeited
- (a) the company must send that person notice that forfeiture has occurred and record it in the register of members,
  - (b) that person ceases to be a member in respect of those shares,
  - (c) that person must surrender the certificate for the shares forfeited to the company for cancellation,
  - (d) that person remains liable to the company for all sums payable by that person at the date of forfeiture in respect of those shares, including any interest (whether accrued before or after the date of forfeiture), and
  - (e) the directors may waive payment of such sums wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal
- (4) At any time before the company disposes of a forfeited share, the directors may decide to cancel the forfeiture on payment of all calls and interest due in respect of it and on such other terms as they think fit

#### **Procedure following forfeiture**

25J

- (1) If a forfeited share is to be disposed of by being transferred, the company may receive the consideration for the transfer and the directors may authorise any person to execute the instrument of transfer
- (2) A statutory declaration by a director or the company secretary that the declarant is a director or the company secretary and that a share has been forfeited on a specified date
  - (a) is conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share, and
  - (b) subject to compliance with any other formalities of transfer required by the articles or by law, constitutes a good title to the share
- (3) A person to whom a forfeited share is transferred is not bound to see to the application of the consideration (if any) nor is that person's title to the share affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to the forfeiture or transfer of the share
- (4) If the company sells a forfeited share, the person who held it prior to its forfeiture is entitled to receive from the company the proceeds of such sale, net of any commission, and excluding any amount which
  - (a) was, or would have become, payable, and
  - (b) had not, when that share was forfeited, been paid by that person in respect of that share, but no interest is payable to such a person in respect of such proceeds and the company is not required to account for any money earned on them

## **Surrender of shares**

25K

- (1) A member may surrender any share
  - (a) in respect of which the directors may issue a forfeiture notice,
  - (b) which the directors may forfeit, or
  - (c) which has been forfeited
- (2) The directors may accept the surrender of any such share
- (3) The effect of surrender on a share is the same as the effect of forfeiture on that share
- (4) A share which has been surrendered may be dealt with in the same way as a share which has been forfeited

## **Share transfers**

- 26
- (1) Certificated 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
    - (a) the transferor, and
    - (b) (if any of the shares is nil or partly paid) the transferee
  - (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 at their absolute discretion refuse to register the transfer of a share, whether such share is fully paid of not, 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

26A

Notwithstanding any other provision contained in these articles or the Companies Act 2006 to the contrary, the directors and/or the Company shall not decline to register any transfer of shares where such transfer is executed by or in favour of any bank or institution to whom such shares have been charged or mortgaged (or by or in favour of any nominee of such bank or institution) or where such transfer is effected upon the enforcement of the charge or mortgage in favour of any such bank or institution, nor may the directors suspend the registration of any member which is a bank or institution (or nominee thereof) to whom such shares have been charged or mortgaged. A certificate by any official of such bank or institution that the relevant shares are so charged or mortgaged shall be conclusive evidence of such fact.

### **Transmission of shares**

- 27
- (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
  - (4) Nothing in these articles releases the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of a share solely or jointly held by that member

### **Exercise of transmittees' rights**

- 28
- (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) All the articles relating to the transfer of shares apply to
    - (a) any notice in writing given to the company by a transmittee in accordance with article 28(1), and
    - (b) any instrument of transfer executed by a transmittee in accordance with article 28(2), as if such notice or instrument were an instrument of transfer executed by the person from whom the transmittee derived rights in respect of the share, and as if the event which gave rise to the transmission had not occurred

### **Transmittees bound by prior notices**

- 29
- If a notice is given to a shareholder in respect of shares and a transmittee is entitled to those shares, the transmittee is bound by the notice if it was given to the shareholder before the transmittee's name has been entered in the register of members

### **Procedure for Disposing of Fractions of Shares**

29A

- (1) This article applies where
  - (a) there has been a consolidation or division of shares, and

- (b) as a result, members are entitled to fractions of shares
- (2) The directors may
  - (a) sell the shares representing the fractions to any person including the company for the best price reasonably obtainable,
  - (b) in the case of a certificated share, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser, and
  - (c) distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among the holders of the shares
- (3) Where any holder's entitlement to a portion of the proceeds of sale amounts to less than a minimum figure determined by the directors, that member's portion may be distributed to an organisation which is a charity for the purposes of the law of England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland
- (4) The person to whom the shares are transferred is not obliged to ensure that any purchase money is received by the person entitled to the relevant fractions
- (5) The transferee's title to the shares is not affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to their sale

## **DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS**

### **Procedure for declaring dividends**

- 30 (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

## **Calculation of dividends**

30A

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by the articles or the rights attached to shares, all dividends must be
  - (a) declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid,  
  
and
  - (b) apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid
- (2) If any share is issued on terms providing that it ranks for dividend as from a particular date, that share ranks for dividend accordingly
- (3) For the purposes of calculating dividends, no account is to be taken of any amount which has been paid up on a share in advance of the due date for payment of that amount

## **Payment of dividends and other distributions**

- 31 (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**

- 32 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**

- 33 (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**

- 34 (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**

- 35 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**

### **Authority to capitalise and appropriation of capitalised sums**

- 36 (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
- (a) in or towards paying up any amounts unpaid on existing shares held by the persons entitled, or
  - (b) 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**

- 37
- (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**

- 38
- 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**

- 39
- (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**

- 40 (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**

- 41 (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**

- 42 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

### **Errors and disputes**

- 43 (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**

- 44 (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

### **Content of proxy notices**

- 45 (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, and
  - (e) Proxy notices and any authentication of such notices demanded by the company must be received at an address specified by the company in the proxy notice not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the proxy appointed pursuant to the proxy notice proposes to vote, and any proxy notice or authentication of such notice received at such address less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting shall be invalid
- (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**

- 46 (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**

- 47 (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**

- 48
- (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**

- 49
- (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**

- 50 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**

- 51 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**

52

- (1) Subject to article 52(2) but without prejudice to any other indemnity to which the relevant officer is otherwise entitled
  - (a) each relevant officer shall be indemnified out of the company's assets against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him as a relevant officer in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties, or in relation to them, including (in each case) any liability incurred by him in defending any civil or criminal proceedings, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or the proceedings are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of any duty on his part or in connection with any application in which the court grants him, in his capacity as a relevant officer, relief from liability from negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company's (or any associated company's) affairs, and
  - (b) the company may provide any relevant officer with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in connection with any proceedings or application referred to in article 52(1)(a) and otherwise may take any action to enable any such relevant officer to avoid incurring such expenditure
- (2) This article 52 does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by the provisions of the Companies Acts or by any 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 officer' means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the company or an associated company but excluding in each case any person engaged by the company (or associated company) as an auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent that he acts in his capacity as auditor

## **Insurance**

- 53
- (1) The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the company, for the benefit of any relevant officer in respect of any relevant loss
  - (2) In this article—
    - (a) a 'relevant officer' means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the company or an associated company but excluding in each case any person engaged by the company (or associated company) as an auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent that he acts in his capacity as auditor,
    - (b) a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant officer in connection with that officer'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

## **COMMUNICATION**

### **Communication**

54

- (1) Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, a document or information may be sent or supplied by the company to a person by being made available on a website
- (2) A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who gives to the company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be sent to him or an address to which notices may be sent by electronic means is entitled to have notices sent to him at that address, but otherwise no such member is entitled to receive any notices from the company
- (3) If any share is registered in the name of joint holders, the company may send notices and all other documents to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding and the company is not required to serve notices or other documents on any of the other joint holders
- (4) If the company sends or supplies notices or other documents by first class post and the company proves that such notices or other documents were properly addressed, prepaid and posted, the intended recipient is deemed to have received such notices or other documents 48 hours after posting

- (5) If the company sends or supplies notices or other documents by electronic means and the company proves that such notices or other documents were properly addressed, the intended recipient is deemed to have received such notices or other documents 24 hours after they were sent or supplied
- (6) If the company sends or supplies notices or other documents by means of a website, the intended recipient is deemed to have received such notices or other documents when such notices or other documents first appeared on the website or, if later, when the intended recipient first received notice of the fact that such notices or other documents were available on the website
- (7) For the purposes of this article 54, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day

Dated 22/08/2014