

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

- of -

CHAUCER NEWCO LIMITED

Company Number: 13077992

(Adopted by Special Resolution

On 24 March 2023)

A PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

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CONTENTS

No.	Topic	Page
1.	Interpretation	1
2.	Restrictions on Exercise of Directors' Powers	3
3.	Unanimous Decisions.....	3
4.	Calling a Directors' Meeting	3
5.	Quorum for Directors' Meetings	3
6.	Casting Vote.....	4
7.	Transactions or Other Arrangements with the Company.....	4
8.	Directors' Conflicts of Interest	5
9.	Records of Decisions to be Kept.....	6
10.	Number of Directors	6
11.	Appointment and Removal of Directors	6
12.	Appointment and Removal of Alternate Directors	7
13.	Rights and Responsibilities of Alternate Directors	7
14.	Termination of Alternate Directorship.....	8
15.	Purchase of Own Shares	8
16.	Issue of New Shares	8
17.	Quorum for General Meetings.....	9
18.	Poll Votes	9
19.	Proxies	9
20.	Means of Communication to be Used	9
21.	Indemnity.....	10
22.	Insurance.....	11
23.	Special Article.....	11

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

A PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

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OF

CHAUCER NEWCO LIMITED

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Introduction

1. Interpretation

1.1. In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Act" means the Companies Act 2006;

"Appointor" has the meaning given in Article 12.1;

"Articles" means the Company's articles of association for the time being in force;

"Business Day" means any day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in the United Kingdom) on which clearing banks in the City of London are generally open for business;

"Company" means Chaucer Newco Limited (company number 13077992);

"Conflict" has the meaning given in Article 8.1;

"Eligible Director" means a director who would be entitled to vote on the matter at a meeting of directors (but excluding any director whose vote is not to be counted in respect of the particular matter);

"Group" in relation to the Company, that company, any subsidiary or the Parent Company from time to time of the Company, and any subsidiary from time to time of the Holding Company. Each company in a group is a **member of the Group**. Unless the context otherwise requires, the application of the definition of Group to a company at any time will apply to the company as it is at that time;

"Model Articles" means the model articles for private companies limited by shares contained in Schedule 1 of the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (*SI 2008/3229*) as amended prior to the date of adoption of these Articles and for ease of reference annexed to the end of these Articles; and

"Parent Company" means the registered holder of not less than 75% of the nominal value of the issued shares giving the right to attend and vote at general meetings of the Company.

1.2. Save as otherwise specifically provided in these Articles, words and expressions which have particular meanings in the Model Articles shall have the same meanings in these Articles, subject to which and unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions which have particular meanings in the Act shall have the same meanings in these Articles.

1.3. Headings in these Articles are used for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these Articles.

- 1.4. A reference in these Articles to an "article" is a reference to the relevant article of these Articles unless expressly provided otherwise.
- 1.5. Unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to a statute, statutory provision or subordinate legislation is a reference to it as it is in force from time to time, taking account of:
 - 1.5.1. any subordinate legislation from time to time made under it; and
 - 1.5.2. any amendment or re-enactment and includes any statute, statutory provision or subordinate legislation which it amends or re-enacts.
- 1.6. A reference to a "**holding company**" or "**subsidiary**" means a holding company or a subsidiary (as the case may be) as defined in section 1159 of the Act and for the purposes only of the membership requirement contained in sections 1159(1)(b) and (c), a company shall be treated as a member of another company even if its shares in that other company are registered in the name of (a) another person (or its nominee), by way of security or in connection with the taking of security, or (b) its nominee.
- 1.7. Any phrase introduced by the terms "**including**", "**include**", "**in particular**" or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding those terms.
- 1.8. The Model Articles shall apply to the Company, except in so far as they are modified or excluded by, or are inconsistent with, these Articles.
- 1.9. Articles 4, 8(3), 9(1), 11(2) and (3), 13, 14(1), (2), (3) and (4), 17(1)(a), 17(2), 38, 44(2), 49, 52 and 53 of the Model Articles shall not apply to the Company.
- 1.10. Article 7 of the Model Articles shall be amended by:
 - 1.10.1. the insertion of the words "for the time being" at the end of Article 7(2)(a); and
 - 1.10.2. the insertion in Article 7(2) of the words "(for so long as he remains the sole director)" after the words "and the director may";
 - 1.10.3. the insertion of the words at the end of Article 7(2) "A sole director shall be entitled to exercise all powers and discretions conferred on the directors by the Act or the Articles and nothing in these Articles is to be construed as requiring the Company to have more than one director".
- 1.11. In Article 8(2) of the Model Articles, the words "copies of which have been signed by each eligible director" shall be deleted and replaced with the words "of which each Eligible Director has signed one or more copies".
- 1.12. Article 20 of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "(including alternate directors) " before the words "properly incur".
- 1.13. In Article 25(2)(c) of the Model Articles, the words "evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee" shall be deleted and replaced with the words "evidence and indemnity".
- 1.14. Article 27(3) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words ", subject to article 10," after the word "But".
- 1.15. Article 29 of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words ", or the name of any person(s) named as the transferee(s) in an instrument of transfer executed under Article 28(2)," after the words "the transmittee's name".

- 1.16. In Article 30(4) of the Model Articles, the words "the terms on which shares are issued" shall be deleted and replaced with "the rights attached to any shares".
- 1.17. Articles 31(1)(a) to (c) (inclusive) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the deletion, in each case, of the words "either" and "or as the directors may otherwise decide". Article 31(d) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the deletion of the words "either" and "or by such other means as the directors decide".
- 1.18. In Article 32(a) of the Model Articles, the words "the terms on which the share was issued" shall be deleted and replaced with "the rights attached to the share".

Directors

2. Restrictions on Exercise of Directors' Powers

- 2.1. To the extent permitted by law, the Parent Company may from time to time restrict the exercise of all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions conferred on the directors under these Articles. The imposition of any such restriction shall be effected by the Parent Company giving notice to the Company in accordance with Article 21. Any such restriction shall take effect:
 - 2.1.1. in the respect and to the extent specified in the notice; and
 - 2.1.2. immediately upon receipt of the giving of such notice at the registered office of the Company or, if later, the date specified in the notice.
- 2.2. No restriction imposed by the Parent Company pursuant to Article 2.1 shall invalidate any action taken pursuant to the exercise of any of the powers, authorities and discretions conferred on the directors under these Articles prior to the giving of the notice imposing the restriction.
- 2.3. No person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether any restriction has been imposed by the Parent Company pursuant to Article 2.1 and no transaction or arrangement entered into by the Company with any third party in breach of any restriction imposed by the Parent Company pursuant to Article 2.1 shall be invalid or ineffectual unless the third party had express notice of the restriction.

3. Unanimous Decisions

- 3.1. 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.
- 3.2. Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing, where each eligible director has signed one or more copies of it, or to which each eligible director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.
- 3.3. 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.

4. Calling a Directors' Meeting

Any director may call a directors' meeting by giving not less than 5 business days' notice of the meeting (or such lesser notice as all the directors may agree) to the directors or by authorising the company secretary (if any) to give such notice.

5. Quorum for Directors' Meetings

- 5.1. Subject to Article 5.2, the quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of directors is any two eligible directors (of whom at least one shall be a director nominated and appointed by the Parent Company), unless the Company has a sole director, then provided he is an eligible director

he shall have all the powers and be subject to all the provisions herein conferred on the eligible directors and he or any alternate eligible director appointed by him shall alone constitute a quorum at any meeting of the eligible directors. The directors appointed by the Parent Company in attendance at any board meeting of the directors of the Company shall, irrespective of the number of directors present, have such number of votes as will constitute a majority of the votes to be cast at that board meeting.

- 5.2. For the purposes of any meeting (or part of a meeting) held to authorise a director's conflict pursuant to Article 8, if there is only one eligible director in office other than the conflicted director(s), the quorum for such meeting (or part of a meeting) shall be one eligible director.
- 5.3. If the total number of directors in office for the time being is less than the quorum required, the directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
 - 5.3.1. to appoint further directors; or
 - 5.3.2. to call a general meeting so as to enable the shareholders to appoint further directors.

6. Casting Vote

If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal at a meeting of directors are equal, the chairman or other director chairing the meeting shall not have a casting vote.

7. Transactions or Other Arrangements with the Company

- 7.1. Subject to sections 177(5) and 177(6) and sections 182(5) and 182(6) of the Act and provided he has declared the nature and extent of his interest in accordance with the requirements of the Act, a director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in an existing or proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company:
 - 7.1.1. 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;
 - 7.1.2. shall be an Eligible Director for the purposes of any proposed decision of the directors (or committee of directors) in respect of such existing or proposed transaction or arrangement in which he is interested;
 - 7.1.3. 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 existing or proposed transaction or arrangement in which he is interested;
 - 7.1.4. 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;
 - 7.1.5. 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
 - 7.1.6. shall not, save as he may otherwise agree, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he (or a person connected with him (as defined in section 252 of the Act)) derives from any such transaction or arrangement or from any such office or employment or from any interest in any such body corporate and no such 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 Act.

- 7.2. The provisions of Article 7.1.1 to Article 7.1.6 (inclusive) are subject, where applicable, to any terms and conditions imposed by the directors in accordance with Article 8.3.

8. Directors' Conflicts of Interest

- 8.1. The directors may, in accordance with the requirements set out in this Article, authorise any matter or situation proposed to them by any director which would, if not authorised, involve a director (an **"Interested Director"**) breaching his duty under section 175 of the Act to avoid conflicts of interest (**"Conflict"**).
- 8.2. Any authorisation under this Article 8 will be effective only if:
- 8.2.1. to the extent permitted by the Act, the matter in question shall have been proposed by any director for consideration 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;
 - 8.2.2. any requirement as to the quorum for consideration of the relevant matter is met without counting the Interested Director or any other interested director; and
 - 8.2.3. the matter was agreed to without the Interested Director voting or would have been agreed to if the Interested Director's and any other interested director's vote had not been counted.
- 8.3. Any authorisation of a Conflict under this Article 8 may (whether at the time of giving the authorisation or subsequently):
- 8.3.1. extend to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter or situation so authorised;
 - 8.3.2. provide that the Interested Director be excluded from the receipt of documents and information and the participation in discussions (whether at meetings of the directors or otherwise) related to the Conflict;
 - 8.3.3. provide that the Interested Director shall or shall not be an eligible director in respect of any future decision of the directors in relation to any resolution related to the Conflict;
 - 8.3.4. impose upon the Interested Director such other terms for the purposes of dealing with the Conflict as the directors or Parent Company think fit;
 - 8.3.5. provide that, where the Interested Director obtains, or has obtained (through his involvement in the Conflict and otherwise than through his position as a director of the Company) information that is confidential to a third party, he will not be obliged to disclose that information to the Company, or to use it in relation to the Company's affairs where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence; and
 - 8.3.6. permit the Interested Director to absent himself from the discussion of matters relating to the Conflict at any meeting of the directors and be excused from reviewing papers prepared by, or for, the directors to the extent they relate to such matters.
- 8.4. Where the directors authorise a Conflict, the Interested Director will be obliged to conduct himself in accordance with any terms and conditions imposed by the directors in relation to the Conflict.
- 8.5. The directors may revoke or vary such authorisation at any time, but this will not affect anything done by the Interested Director, prior to such revocation or variation, in accordance with the terms of such authorisation.

- 8.6. A director, notwithstanding his office, may be a director or other officer of, employed by, or otherwise interested (including by the holding of shares) in, any member of the Group and no further authorisation under Article 8.1 shall be necessary in respect of any such interest.
- 8.7. 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.
- 8.8. The Parent Company shall have the power to authorise, by resolution and in accordance with the provisions of these Articles, any matter or situation proposed to it by a director/s which would, if not so authorised, involve a breach of duty by a director/s under section 175 of the Companies Act 2006 to avoid a Conflict on such terms as it sees fit and the provisions of Articles 8.3 to 8.6 shall apply to authorisation by the Parent Company in the same way as they apply to authorisation by the directors.
- 8.9. The Interested Director seeking authorisation of the Conflict must provide the Parent Company with such details as are necessary for the Parent Company to decide whether or not to authorise the Conflict, together with such additional information as may be requested by the Parent Company.

9. Records of Decisions to be Kept

Where decisions of the directors are taken by electronic means, such decisions shall be recorded by the directors in permanent form, so that they may be read with the naked eye.

10. Number of Directors

Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall not be less than one natural person. A sole director shall have all the powers, duties and discretions conferred on or vested in the directors by these Articles.

11. Appointment and Removal of Directors

- 11.1. 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:
- 11.1.1. by a decision of the directors; or
 - 11.1.2. by the Parent Company.
- 11.2. The Parent Company may at any time remove any director or directors (however appointed) from office.
- 11.3. The appointment or removal of a director by the Parent Company shall take effect when it is delivered to the registered office of the Company or, if it is produced at a meeting of the directors, when it is so produced.
- 11.4. Any such removal shall be without prejudice to any claim that a director may have under any contract between him and the Company.
- 11.5. In any case where, as a result of death or bankruptcy, the Company has no shareholders and no directors, the transmittee(s) of the last shareholder to have died or to have a bankruptcy order made against him (as the case may be) have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a natural

person (including a transmittee who is a natural person), who is willing to act and is permitted to do so, to be a director.

11.6. Model Article 18 shall be amended by the inclusion of the words "notification of the director's removal is received by the Company from the Parent Company pursuant to Article 11.2" as a new paragraph (g) at the end of that Model Article.

11.7. A director appointed by the Parent Company shall not be subject to retirement by rotation and shall not be removed except by the Parent Company.

12. Appointment and Removal of Alternate Directors

12.1. Any director ("**appointor**") may appoint as an alternate any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors, to:

12.1.1. exercise that director's powers; and

12.1.2. carry out that director's responsibilities,

in relation to the taking of decisions by the directors, in the absence of the alternate's appointor.

12.2. 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.

12.3. The notice must:

12.3.1. identify the proposed alternate; and

12.3.2. 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.

13. Rights and Responsibilities of Alternate Directors

13.1. An alternate director may act as alternate director to more than one director and has the same rights in relation to any decision of the directors as the alternate's appointor.

13.2. Except as the Articles specify otherwise, alternate directors:

13.2.1. are deemed for all purposes to be directors;

13.2.2. are liable for their own acts and omissions;

13.2.3. are subject to the same restrictions as their appointors; and

13.2.4. are not deemed to be agents of or for their appointors

and, in particular (without limitation), each alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which his appointor is a member.

13.3. A person who is an alternate director but not a director:

13.3.1. 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);

13.3.2. may participate in a unanimous decision of the directors (but only if his appointor is an eligible director in relation to that decision, but does not participate); and

13.3.3. shall not be counted as more than one director for the purposes of Articles 13.3.1 and 13.3.2.

- 13.4. A director who is also an alternate director is entitled, in the absence of his appointor, to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor, in addition to his own vote on any decision of the directors (provided that his appointor is an eligible director in relation to that decision), but shall not count as more than one director for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.
- 13.5. An alternate director may be paid expenses and may be indemnified by the Company to the same extent as his appointor but shall not be 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.

14. Termination of Alternate Directorship

- 14.1. An alternate director's appointment as an alternate terminates:
- 14.1.1. when the alternate's appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the Company in writing specifying when it is to terminate;
 - 14.1.2. 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;
 - 14.1.3. on the death of the alternate's appointor; or
 - 14.1.4. when the alternate's appointor's appointment as a director terminates.

Shares and Distribution of Shares

15. Purchase of Own Shares

- 15.1. Subject to the Act but without prejudice to any other provision of these Articles, the Company may, with the written consent of the Parent Company, purchase its own shares with cash up to any amount in a financial year not exceeding the lower of:
- 15.1.1. £15,000; and
 - 15.1.2. the value of 5% of the Company's share capital.

16. Issue of New Shares

The directors shall not exercise any power of the Company to allot shares or other securities in, or to grant rights to subscribe for, or convert into, shares or other securities of, the Company without the prior written consent of the Parent Company. Without limitation, the powers of the directors under section 550 of the Act are limited accordingly.

Decision making by shareholders

17. Quorum for General Meetings

- 17.1. No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum is present at the commencement of the meeting and also when that business is voted on.
- 17.2. A representative of the Parent Company must be present in person or by proxy at a general meeting for it to be quorate.

18. Poll Votes

- 18.1. A poll may be demanded at any general meeting by any qualifying person (as defined in section 318 of the Act) present and entitled to vote at the meeting.
- 18.2. Article 44(3) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "A demand so withdrawn shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made" as a new paragraph at the end of that Article.

19. Proxies

- 19.1. Article 45(1)(d) of the Model Articles shall be deleted and replaced with the words "is delivered to the Company in accordance with the Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised and in accordance with any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting (or adjourned meeting) to which they relate".
- 19.2. Article 45(1) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "and a proxy notice which is not delivered in such manner shall be invalid, unless the directors, in their discretion, accept the notice at any time before the meeting" as a new paragraph at the end of that Article.

Administrative arrangements

20. Means of Communication to be Used

- 20.1. Subject to Article 20.2, any notice, document or other information shall be deemed served on or delivered to the intended recipient:
 - 20.1.1. if delivered by hand, on signature of a delivery receipt or at the time the notice, document or other information is left at the address; or
 - 20.1.2. if sent by fax, at the time of transmission; or
 - 20.1.3. if sent by pre-paid United Kingdom first class post, recorded delivery or special delivery to an address in the United Kingdom, at 9.00 am on the second Business Day after posting; or
 - 20.1.4. if sent or supplied by e-mail, one hour after the notice, document or information was sent or supplied; or
 - 20.1.5. if sent or supplied by means of a website, when the material is first made available on the website or (if later) when the recipient receives (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material is available on the website; and
 - 20.1.6. if deemed receipt under the previous paragraphs of this Article 20.1 would occur outside business hours (meaning 9.00 am to 5.30 pm Monday to Friday on a day that is not a public holiday in the place of deemed receipt), at 9.00 am on the day when business

next starts in the place of deemed receipt. For the purposes of this Article, all references to time are to local time in the place of deemed receipt.

For the purposes of this Article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a business day.

20.2. To prove service, it is sufficient to prove that:

- 20.2.1. if delivered by hand, the notice was delivered to the correct address; or
- 20.2.2. if sent by fax, a transmission report was received confirming that the notice was successfully transmitted to the correct fax number; or
- 20.2.3. if sent by post, the envelope containing the notice was properly addressed, paid for and posted; or
- 20.2.4. if sent by e-mail, the notice was properly addressed and sent to the e-mail address of the recipient.

21. Indemnity

21.1. Subject to Article 21.2, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a relevant officer is otherwise entitled:

21.1.1. 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:

21.1.1.1. in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties, or in relation to them; and

21.1.1.2. in relation to the Company's (or any associated company's) activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Act);

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 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 for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company's (or any associated company's) affairs; and

21.1.2. 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 21.1.1 and otherwise may take any action to enable any such relevant officer to avoid incurring such expenditure.

21.2. This Article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Act or by any other provision of law.

21.3. In this Article:

21.3.1. companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate; and

21.3.2. a "relevant officer" means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the Company or an associated company (including any company which is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined by section 235(6) of the Act) , but

excluding in each case any person engaged by the Company (or associated company) as auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent he acts in his capacity as auditor).

22. Insurance

22.1. 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.

22.2. In this Article:

22.2.1. a "**relevant officer**" means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the Company or an associated company (including any company which is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined by section 235(6) of the Act) , but excluding in each case any person engaged by the Company (or associated company) as auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent he acts in his capacity as auditor);

22.2.2. a "**relevant loss**" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant officer in connection with that relevant 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

22.2.3. companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

23. Special Article

23.1. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Articles, this Special Article shall take precedence over all other provisions of these Articles whether expressly or impliedly contradictory to the provisions of this Special Article (to the effect that any provision contained in this Special Article shall override any other provision of these Articles).

23.2. The directors shall not decline to register any transfer of shares, nor may they suspend registration thereof, where such transfer:-

23.2.1. is to any bank, institution or other person to which such shares have been charged by way of security, or to any nominee of such a bank, institution or other person (or a person acting as agent or security trustee for such person) (a "**Secured Institution**"); or

23.2.2. is delivered to the Company for registration by a Secured Institution or its nominee in order to perfect its security over the shares; or

23.2.3. is executed by a Secured Institution or its nominee pursuant to a power or sale or other power existing under such security,

and the directors shall forthwith register any such transfer of shares upon receipt and furthermore notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in these Articles no transferor of any shares in the Company or proposed transferor of such shares to a Secured Institution or its nominee and no Secured Institution or its nominee shall (in either such case) be required to offer the shares which are or are to be the subject of any transfer as aforesaid to the shareholders for the time being of the Company or any of them and no such shareholder shall have any right under the Articles or otherwise howsoever to require such shares to be transferred to them whether for any valuable consideration or otherwise.

- 23.3. The directors shall not issue any share certificates (whether by way of replacement or otherwise) without the prior written consent of (or on behalf of) all (if any) Secured Institutions (as defined in Special Article 23.2.1 above).
- 23.4. The Company shall have no lien on any shares which have been charged by way of security to a Secured Institution.

SCHEDULE 1

MODEL ARTICLES FOR PRIVATE COMPANIES LIMITED BY SHARES

The Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/3229)
As amended by the Mental Health (Discrimination) Act 2013

Note: These Model Articles are adopted subject to the exclusions and amendments in article 1.9 of the Articles of Association

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. Share transfers
- 27. Transmission of shares
- 28. Exercise of transmitters' rights
- 29. Transmitters bound by prior notices

DIVIDENDS AND OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

- 30. Procedure for declaring 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

PART 1
INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Defined terms

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

"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;

"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;

"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;

"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;

"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 45;

"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) [removed by 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.

Share transfers

26.—(1) Shares may be transferred by means of an instrument of transfer in any usual form or any other form approved by the directors, which is executed by or on behalf of the transferor.

- (2) No fee may be charged for registering any instrument of transfer or other document relating to or affecting the title to any share.
- (3) The company may retain any instrument of transfer which is registered.
- (4) The transferor remains the holder of a share until the transferee's name is entered in the register of members as holder of it.
- (5) The directors may refuse to register the transfer of a share, and if they do so, the instrument of transfer must be returned to the transferee with the notice of refusal unless they suspect that the proposed transfer may be fraudulent.

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.

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) Any transfer made or executed under this article is to be treated as if it were made or executed by the person from whom the transmittee has derived rights in respect of the share, and as if the event which gave rise to the transmission had not occurred.

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.

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.

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 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.
- (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 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

53.—(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.