THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

Private Company Limited by Guarantee

Articles of Association of NEW WRITING NORTH

Company Number 03166037

Registered Charity No: 1062727

(Adopted by special resolution passed on 7 December 2023)

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1. Defined Terms

1.1. The following definitions and rules of interpretation shall apply in these Articles:

Address Includes a number or address used for the purposes of

sending or receiving documents by electronic means.

Articles The Charity's articles of association from time to time being

in force.

Chair The person appointed as chair of the Trustees pursuant to

article 10.

Charities Act Charities Act 2011

Charity New Writing North which is registered in England and Wales

as a company limited by guarantee under number

03166037 and as a charity under number 1062729.

Charity Commission Means the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Circulation Date In relation to a written resolution, has the meaning given to

it by the Companies Acts.

Clear Days In relation to a period of a notice, that period excluding the

day when the notice is deemed to be given and the day for

which it is given or on which it is to take effect.

Companies Act The Companies Act 2006 and any legislation identified in

section 2 of the Companies Act 2006 in so far as the same

apply to the Charity.

Conflict of interest Any direct or indirect interest of a Trustee (whether

personal, by virtue of duty of loyalty to another organisation or otherwise) that conflicts or might conflict with the interests

of the Charity.

Connected Person Any person falling within one of the following categories:

a) any spouse, civil partner, parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent, or grandchild of a Trustee.

b) the spouse of civil partner of any person in (a).

c) any person living with a Trustee as his or her

partner; or

 any company, partnership, or firm of which a Trustee is a paid director, member, partner or employee, or shareholder holding more than 1% of

the capital.

Document Includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or

supplied in Electronic Form.

Electronic Form and Electronic Means

Have the meanings respectively given to them in the

Companies Acts.

Financial Expert an individual, company or firm who, or which, who is

reasonably believed by the Trustees to be qualified to give advice on investments by reason of his, hers, or its ability in and practical experience of financial and other matters

relating to investments.

Hard Copy Form have the meaning given in the Companies Acts.

Members Has the meaning given in Article 27 and a reference to a

Member is a reference to each of them.

Model Articles The model articles for private companies limited by

guarantee contained in Schedule 2 to the Companies

(Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/3229).

Objects The objects of the Charity as stated in Article 2.

Proxy Notice Has the meaning given in Article 43.

Public Holiday Means Christmas Day, Good Friday and any day that is a

bank holiday under the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971 in the part of the United Kingdom where the Charity is

registered.

Secretary The secretary of the Charity (if any) or any person

exercising the authority of Secretary pursuant to article 48.

Special Resolutions has the meaning given in section 283 of the Act;

Subsidiary Company Any company in which the Charity holds more than 50% of

the shares, controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares or has the right to appoint a majority

of the board of the company.

Treasurer The person appointed as chair of the Trustees pursuant to

article 10.

Trustee A director of the Charity and/or any person occupying the

position of director by whatever name called.

UK

Writing The representation of reproduction of words, symbols, or

other information in a visible form by method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in Electronic Form or

otherwise

Vice-Chair The person appointed as chair of the Trustees pursuant to

article 10.

1.2. Words or expressions contained in the Articles bear the same meaning as those in the Companies

Acts unless the context otherwise requires.

- 1.3. A reference to any enactment includes a reference to that enactment as re-enacted or amended from time to time and to any subordinate legislation made under it.
- 1.4. Headings are used for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these Articles.
- 1.5. A reference to an article is a reference to the relevant Article of these Articles unless expressly provided otherwise.
- 1.6. Any phrase following the terms including, include, in particular, or any other similar expression, shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding those terms.
- 1.7. Words or expressions in the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular unless the context otherwise requires.
- 1.8. The Model Articles shall not apply to the Charity.

2. Objects

The Objects are restricted specifically in each case, to:

- 2.1. Foster the awareness, knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of contemporary writing for the benefit of the general public, particularly, but not exclusively, for the people of the North of England through any medium including prose, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, theatre, broadcast media, film and published works and via the production of projects, festivals, commissions and published works;
- 2.2. Support and promote the work of writers particularly, but not exclusively, in the North of England, and to assist them with awards, professional development opportunities and through other initiatives that will positively contribute to developing the diverse literary cultures of the UK;
- 2.3. Engage with young people and disadvantaged communities in the North of England to grow their appreciation and enjoyment of literature and to support them to express themselves creatively through the use of the written word via the provision of participatory events, educational activities, engagement with professional writers and through the production of publications and live and broadcast events;
- 2.4. Support positive social change and equality within society by ensuring that the work of the Charity reaches communities and individuals who have less access than others to literature and to support those whose voices are less well heard and represented within the art form of literature regionally, nationally, and internationally.

3. Powers

In pursuance of the Objects, but not further or otherwise, the Charity may:

- 3.1. provide and assist in the provision of money, materials, or other help,
- 3.2. organise and assist in the provision of conferences, courses of instruction, exhibitions, lectures and other educational activities;
- 3.3. publish and distribute books, pamphlets, reports, leaflets, journals, films, tapes, and instructional matter on any media;
- 3.4. promote, encourage, carry out or commission research, surveys, studies, or other work making the useful results available;

- 3.5. provide or procure the provision of counselling and guidance;
- 3.6. provide or procure the provision of advice;
- 3.7. alone or with other organisations, seek to influence public opinion and make representations to and seek to influence governmental and other bodies and institutions regarding the reform, development and implementation of appropriate policies, legislation, and regulations provided that all such activities shall be confined to those which an English and Welsh charity may properly undertake:
- 3.8. enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies;
- 3.9. acquire or rent any property of any kind and any rights or privileges in and over property and construct, maintain, alter, and equip any buildings or facilities;
- 3.10. dispose of or deal with all or any of its property with or without payment and subject to such conditions as the Trustees think fit (subject to compliance with the appropriate provisions of the Charities Act)
- 3.11. borrow or raise and secure the payment of money for any purpose including for the purposes of investment or of raising funds (subject to compliance with the appropriate provisions of the Charities Act);
- 3.12. set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;
- 3.13. invest any of the Charity's money which is not immediately required in or upon any investments, securities, or property;
- 3.14. arrange for investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a nominee or nominees (being a corporate body registered or having an established place of business in England and Wales) under the control of the Trustees or of a Financial Expert acting under their instructions and pay any reasonable fee required;
- 3.15. lend money and give credit to, take security for such loans or credit and guarantee or give security for the performance of contracts by any person or company;
- 3.16. open and operate bank accounts and other facilities for banking and draw, accept, endorse, issue, or execute promissory notes, bills of exchange, cheques and other instruments;
- 3.17. accept (or disclaim) gifts of money and any other property:
- 3.18. raise funds by way of subscription, donation or otherwise;
- 3.19. trade in the course of carrying out the Objects and carry on any other trade, which is not expected to give rise to taxable profits;
- 3.20. incorporate subsidiary companies to carry on any trade;
- 3.21. subject to Article 4.
- 3.21.1. engage and pay employees, consultants and professional or other advisers; and
- 3.21.2. make reasonable provision for the payment of pensions and other retirement benefits to or on behalf of employees and their spouses and dependents;
- 3.22. establish and support or aid in the establishment and support of any other organisations and subscribe, lend or guarantee money or property for charitable purposes;
- 3.23. become a member, associate or affiliate of or act as trustee or appoint trustees of any other

- organisation (including without limitation any charitable trust of permanent endowment property held for any of the charitable purposes included in the Objects);
- 3.24. undertake and execute charitable trusts;
- 3.25. amalgamate or merge with or acquire or undertake all or any of the property, liabilities and engagements of any body having objects wholly or in part similar to the Objects;
- 3.26. co-operate with charities, voluntary bodies, statutory authorities, and other bodies and exchange information and advice with them;
- 3.27. insure the property of the Charity against any foreseeable risk and take out other insurance policies as are considered necessary by the Trustees to protect the Charity;
- 3.28. provide indemnity insurance for the Trustees and/or any officer of the Charity in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in section 189 of the Charities Act; and
- 3.29. do any other such other lawful things which, in the reasonable opinion of the Trustees, may further the Objects.
- 4. Limitations on private benefits
- 4.1. The income and property of the Charity shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.
 - Permitted benefits to Members
- 4.2. Except as otherwise provided in the Articles, no part of the income and property of the Charity may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any Member. This shall not prevent any payment in good faith by the Charity of:
- 4.2.1. any payments made to a Member in his, her, or its capacity as a beneficiary of the Charity;
- 4.2.2. reasonable and proper remuneration to a Member for any goods or services supplied to the Charity (including services performed by the Member under a contract of employment with the Charity), provided that if such Member is a Trustee Articles 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 shall apply;
- 4.2.3. interest at a reasonable and proper rate on money lent by a Member to the Charity;
- 4.2.4. any reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any Member to the Charity; and
- 4.2.5. any payments to a Member who is also a Trustee which are permitted under Articles 4.4 or 4.5.
 - Permitted Benefits to Trustees and Connected Persons
- 4.3. Unless the payment is permitted by Article 4.4 no Trustee may:
- 4.3.1. sell goods, services or any interest in land to the Charity
- 4.3.2. be employed by, or receive any remuneration from, the Charity; or
- 4.3.3. receive any other financial benefit from the Charity;
- 4.4. A Trustee may receive the following benefits from the Charity:
- 4.4.1. a Trustee or Connected Person may receive a benefit from the Charity in their capacity as a beneficiary of the Charity;
- 4.4.2. a Trustee may be reimbursed by the Charity for, or may pay out of the Charity's property, reasonable

expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Charity;

- 4.4.3. a Trustee or Connected Person may be paid reasonable and proper remuneration by the Charity for any goods or services supplied to the Charity on the instructions of the Trustees (excluding the service of acting as Trustee and services performed by a Trustee under a contract of employment with the Charity) provided that:
 - a) if such person is a Trustee the procedure described in Article 21 (Conflicts of Interest) must be followed in considering the appointment of the Trustee and in relation to any other decisions regarding the remuneration authorised by this provision;
 - if such person is a Connected Person the procedure described in Article 21 (Conflicts of Interest) must be followed by the relevant Trustee in relation to any decisions regarding such Connected Person:
 - c) the Trustees are satisfied that it is in the best interests of the Charity to contract with the Trustee or Connected Person rather than someone who is not a Trustee or Connected Person and in reaching that decision the Trustees must balance the advantages of contracting with a Trustee or Connected Person against the disadvantages of doing so; and
 - d) no more than half of the Trustees currently in office (and for these purposes such provision shall be treated as applying to a Trustee if it applies to a person who is a Connected Person in relation to that Trustee) are in receipt of remuneration or payments authorised by this article 4.4.3
- 4.4.4. a Trustee or Connected Person may receive interest at a reasonable and proper rate on money lent to the Charity;
- 4.4.5. a Trustee or Connected Person may receive reasonable and proper rent for premises let to the Charity;
- 4.4.6. the Charity may pay reasonable and proper premiums in respect of indemnity insurance effected in accordance with Article 3.28;
- 4.4.7. a Trustee or other officer of the Charity may receive payment under an indemnity from the Charity in accordance with the indemnity provisions set out at Article 6; and
- 4.4.8. a Trustee or Connected Person may receive or retain any payments authorised in Writing by the Charity Commission.
- 4.5. In Articles 4.3 and 4.4 references to the Charity shall be read as references to the Charity and/or any Subsidiary Company provided that in relation to services supplied to a Subsidiary Company the words in Article 4.4.3 "(excluding the service of acting as Trustee and services performed by a Trustee under a contract of employment with the Charity)" shall be treated as though they read "(excluding the service of acting as Trustee but including other services by any person performed under a contract of employment with any Subsidiary Company)".
- 4.6. For any transaction authorised by Articles 4.4 or 4.5, the Trustee's duty (arising under the Companies Acts) to avoid a conflict of interest with the Charity shall be disapplied to the extent that such disapplication is permitted by law.

LIABILITY, INDEMNITY AND WINDING UP

- 5. Liability of Members
- 5.1. The liability of each Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charity in the event of its being wound up while he, she or it is a Member or within one year after he, she or it ceases to be a Member, for:
- 5.1.1. payment of the Charity's debts and liabilities contracted before he, she or it ceases to be a Member;

- 5.1.2. payment of the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up: and
- 5.1.3. adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.
- 6. Indemnity
- 6.1. Without prejudice to any indemnity to which a Trustee may otherwise be entitled and subject to clause 6.2:
- 6.1.1. every Trustee of the Charity shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Charity in relation to any liability incurred by him or her in that capacity but only to the extent permitted by the Companies Acts; and
- 6.1.2. every other officer of the Charity may be indemnified out of the assets of the Charity in relation to any liability incurred by him or her in that capacity,
- 6.2. This article does not authorise any indemnity to the extent that such indemnity would be prohibited by the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law and any such indemnity is limited accordingly.
- 7. Winding up
- 7.1. On the winding up or dissolution of the Charity, after provision has been made for all its debts and liabilities, any assets or property that remain (Remaining Assets) shall not be paid or distributed to the Members (except to a Member that is itself a charity and qualifies to benefit under this Article) but shall be applied or transferred:
- 7.1.1. directly for one or more of the Objects;
- 7.1.2. to any charity or clarities for purposes similar to the Objects; or
- 7.1.3. to any charity or charities for particular purposes falling within the Objects.
- 7.2. The decision on who is to benefit from distribution of the Remaining Assets pursuant to this article 7 may be made by resolution of the Members at or before the time of winding up or dissolution and, subject to any such resolution of the Members, may be made by resolution of the Trustees at or before the time of winding up or dissolution.
- 7.3. In the event that no resolution is passed by the Members or by the Trustees in accordance with this Article, the Remaining Assets shall be applied for charitable purposes as directed by the court or the Charity Commission.

TRUSTEES' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

8. Trustees' general authority

Subject to the Articles, the Trustees are responsible for the management of the Charity's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the Charity.

- 9. Members' reserve power
- 9.1. The Members may, by special resolution, direct the Trustees to take, or refrain from taking, specified action.
- 9.2. No such special resolution invalidates anything which the Trustees have done before the passing of the resolution.
- 10. Chair

The Trustees may appoint one of their number to be the Chair of the Trustees for such term of office as they determine and may at any time remove him or her from that office,

- 11. Trustees may delegate
- 11.1. Subject to the Articles. the Trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to any committee.
- 11.2. Subject to the Articles, the Trustees may delegate the implementation of their decisions or day-to-day management of the affairs of the Charity to any person or committee.
- 11.3. Any delegation by the Trustees may be:
- 11.3.1. by such means;
- 11.3.2. to such an extent;
- 11.3.3. in relation to such matters or territories; and
- 11.3.4. on such terms and conditions;
 - as they think fit.
- 11.4. The Trustees may authorise further delegation of the relevant powers, functions, implementation of decisions or day-to-day management by any person or committee to whom they are delegated.
- 11.5. The Trustees may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.
- 11.6. The Trustees may by power of attorney or otherwise appoint any person to be the agent of the Charity for such purposes and on such conditions as they determine.
- 12. Committees
- 12.1. In the case of delegation to committees:
- 12.1.1. the resolution making the delegation must specify those who shall serve or be asked to serve on the committee (although the resolution may allow the committee to make co- options up to a specified number);
- 12.1.2. the composition of any committee shall be entirely in the discretion of the Trustees and may include such of their number (if any) as the resolution may specify
- 12.1.3. the deliberations of any committee must be reported regularly to the Trustees and any resolution passed or decision taken by any committee must be reported promptly to the Trustees and every committee must appoint a secretary for that purpose;
- 12.1.4. the Trustees may make such regulations and impose such terms and conditions and give such mandates to any committee as they may from time to time think fit; and
- 12.1.5. no committee shall knowingly incur expenditure or liability on behalf of the Charity except where authorised by the Trustees or in accordance with a budget, which has been approved by the Trustees.
- 12.2. The meetings and proceedings of any committee shall be governed by the Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Trustees so far as they apply and are not superseded by any regulations made by the Trustees.
- 13. Delegation of investment management

The Trustees may delegate the management of investments to a Financial Expert.

14. Trustees to take decisions collectively

Any decision of the Trustees must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with Article 20.

15. Calling a Trustees' meeting

- 15.1. Two Trustees may (and the Secretary must at the request of two Trustees) call a Trustees' meeting.
- 15.2. A Trustees' meeting must be called by at least seven Clear Days' notice unless either:
- 15.2.1. all the Trustees agree; or
- 15.2.2. urgent circumstances require shorter notice.
- 15.3. Notice of Trustees' meetings must be given to each Trustee.
- 15.4. Every notice calling a Trustees' meeting must specify:
- 15.4.1. the place, day and time of the meeting;
- 15.4.2. the general particulars of ail business to be considered at such meeting; and
- 15.4.3. if it is anticipated that Trustees 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.
- 15.5. Notice of Trustees' meetings need not be in Writing.
- 15.6. Notice of Trustees' meetings may be sent by Electronic Means to an Address provided by the Trustee for the purpose.
- 16. Participation in a Trustees' meetings
- 16.1. Subject to the Articles, Trustees participate in a Trustees' meeting, or part of a Trustees' meeting, when:
- 16.1.1. the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the Articles; and
- 16.1.2. they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting
- 16.2. In determining whether Trustees are participating in a Trustees' meeting, it is irrelevant where any Trustee is or how they communicate with each other.
- 16.3. If all the Trustees 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.

17. Quorum for Trustees' meetings

- 17.1. At a Trustees' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 17.2. The quorum for Trustees' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the Trustees, but it must never be less than two.
- 17.3. If the total number of Trustees for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Trustees must not take any decision other than a decision:

- 17.3.1. to appoint further Trustees, or
- 17.3.2. to call a general meeting so as to enable the Members to appoint further Trustees.

18. Chairing of Trustees' meetings

The Chair, if any, or in his or her absence another Trustee nominated by the Trustees present shall preside as chair of each Trustees' meeting.

- 19. Decision-making at meetings
- 19.1. Questions arising at a Trustees' meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes.
- 19.2. In the case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have, unless, in accordance with the Articles, the chair of the meeting is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.
- 20. Decisions without a meeting
- 20.1. The Trustees may take a unanimous decision without a Trustees' meeting in accordance with this Article by indicating to each other by any means, including without limitation by Electronic Means, that they share a common view on a matter. Such a decision may, but need not, take the form of a resolution in Writing, copies of which have been signed by each Trustee or to which each Trustee has otherwise indicated agreement in Writing.
- 20.2. A decision that is made in accordance with Article 20.1 shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting duty convened and held, provided the following conditions are complied with:
- 20.2.1. approval from each Trustee must be received by one person being either such person as all the Trustees have nominated in advance for that purpose or such other person as volunteers if necessary (Recipient) and such person may, for the avoidance of doubt, be one of the Trustees:
- 20.2.2. following receipt of responses from all of the Trustees, the Recipient must communicate to all of the Trustees by any means whether the resolution has been formally approved by the Trustees in accordance with this Article 20.2:
- 20.2.3. the date of the decision shall be the date of the communication from the Recipient confirming formal approval;
- 20.2.4. the Recipient must prepare a minute of the decision in accordance with Article 50.
- 21. Conflicts of interest
- 21.1. Whenever a Trustee finds himself or herself in a situation that is reasonably likely to give rise to a Conflict of Interest, he or she must declare his or her interest to the Trustees unless, or except to the extent that, the other Trustees are or ought reasonably to be aware of it already.
- 21.2. If any question arises as to whether a Trustee has a Conflict of Interest, the question shall be decided by a majority decision of the other Trustees.
- 21.3. Whenever a Trustee has a Conflict of Interest either in relation to a matter to be discussed at a meeting or a decision to be made in accordance with Article 20.
- 21.3.1. if the Conflict of Interest relates to a benefit permitted under Article 4.4.3 (or Article 4.4.3 as it applies by virtue of Article 4.5) then the Trustee must comply with Article 21.4;
- 21.3.2. for all other Conflicts of Interest, either the Trustee must comply with Article 21.4 or authorisation must be given by the unconflicted Trustees under Article 22.

- 21.4. If a Trustee with a Conflict of Interest is required to comply with Article 21.4 he or she must:
- 21.4.1. remain only for such part of the meeting as in the view of the other Trustees is necessary to inform the debate;
- 21.4.2. not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting; and
- 21.4.3. withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter.
- 21.5. When a Trustee has a Conflict of Interest which he or she has declared to the Trustees, he or she shall not be in breach of his or her duties to the Charity by withholding confidential information from the Charity if to disclose it would result in a breach of any other duty or obligation of confidence owed by him or her.

22. Trustees' power to authorise a conflict of interest

The Trustees have power to authorise a Trustee to be in a position of Conflict of Interest provided:

- 22.1.1. this power cannot be used to authorise a Conflict of Interest arising from a benefit permitted under Article 4.4.3 (or Article 4.4.3 as it applies by virtue of Article 4.5);
- 22.1.2. in relation to the decision to authorise a Conflict of Interest, the conflicted Trustee must comply with Article 21.4:
- 22.1.3. in authorising a Conflict of Interest, the Trustees can decide the manner in which the Conflict of Interest may be dealt with and, for the avoidance of doubt, they can decide that the Trustee with a Conflict of Interest can participate in a vote on the matter and can be counted in the quorum;
- 22.1.4. the decision to authorise a Conflict of Interest can impose such terms as the Trustees think fit and is subject always to their right to vary or terminate the authorisation and
- 22.1.5. nothing in this Article 22 shall have the effect of allowing the Trustees to authorise a benefit that is not permitted in accordance with Article 4.
- 22.2. If a matter, or office, employment or position, has been authorised by the Trustees in accordance with Article 22.1 then, even if he or she has been authorised to remain at the meeting by the other Trustees, the Trustee may absent himself or herself from meetings of the Trustees at which anything relating to that matter, or that office, employment or position, will or may be discussed.
- 22.3. A Trustee shall not be accountable to the Charity for any benefit that he or she derives from any matter, or from any office, employment or position, which has been authorised by the Trustees in accordance with Article 22.1 (subject to any limits or conditions to which such approval was subject).
- 23. Trustees' interests
- A Trustee must declare the nature and extent of any interest. direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Chart or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the Charity, which has not previously been declared.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF TRUSTEES

24. Number of Trustees

There shall be at least three Trustees.

25. Appointment of Trustees and retirement of Trustees by rotation

- 25.1. Those persons notified to the Registrar of Companies as the first directors of the Charity shall be the first Trustees.
- 25.2. Any person who is willing to act as a Trustee, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Trustee:
- 25.2.1. by ordinary resolution; or
- 25.2.2. by a decision of the Trustees.
- 25.3. Each Trustee shall be appointed for a three-year fixed term. At the end of each three-year term a Trustee shall retire from office but may be re-appointed in accordance with Article 25.4.
- 25.4. The retiring Trustee may, if:
- 25.4.1. willing to act; and
- 25.4.2. having met any criteria for continuation of their office specified by the Trustees;
 - be re-appointed by the Trustees for up to two further terms of three years each, totaling nine consecutive years.
- 25.5. No Trustee shall serve in office for more than nine consecutive years. Except if there are exceptional circumstances in the interest of the Company and the Trustees resolve by majority that they are reappointed the Chair, the Treasurer and the Vice-Chair may be co-re-appointed for an additional one-year term each year for a maximum of three consecutive one-year terms.
- 25.6. Exceptional circumstances will be defined by the Chair and discussed at a Trustees meeting where a vote will be made.
- 25.7. Notwithstanding anything in these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution at a general Meeting which special notice has been given in accordance with the Companies Acts remove any Trustee before the expiration of their period of office.
- 25.8. No person may be appointed as a Trustee unless he or she has reached the age of 16 years;
- 25.9. No person other than a Trustee retiring by virtue of Article 25.3 shall be appointed or reappointed a Trustee at any general meeting unless
- 25.9.1. he or she is recommended by the Trustees; or
- 25.9.2. at least 10 but not more than 35 Clear Days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice executed by a Member qualified to vote at the meeting has been given to the Charity of the intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment stating the particulars which would, if he or she were so appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Charity's register of Trustees together with notice executed by that person of his or her willingness to be appointed or reappointed.
- 25.10. At least five but not more than 28 Clear Days before the date appointed for holding a general meeting notice must be given to all who are entitled to receive notice of the meeting of any person (other than a Trustee retiring by virtue of Article 25.3 at the meeting) who is recommended by the Trustees for appointment or reappointment as a Trustee at the meeting or in respect of whom notice has been duly given to the Charity of the intention to propose him or her at the meeting for appointment or reappointment as a Trustee.
- 25.11. A Trustee who retires at an annual general meeting and who is not reappointed shall retain office until either:
- 25.11.1.the meeting appoints someone in his or her place, or

- 25.11.2.(if no one is appointed in his or her place) until the end of the meeting.
- 25.12. A Trustee may not appoint an alternate director or anyone to act on his or her behalf at meetings of the Trustees.

26. Termination of Trustee's appointment

A person ceases to be a Trustee as soon as:

- 26.1. 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;
- 26.2. that person is disqualified under the Charities Act 1993 from acting as a trustee of a charity;
- 26.3. a bankruptcy order is made against that person, or an order is made against that person in individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy
- 26.4. a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- 26.5. the Trustees reasonably believe he or she is suffering from mental disorder and incapable of acting and they resolve that he or she be removed from office:
- 26.6. notification is received by the Charity from the Trustee that the Trustee is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms (but only if at least three Trustees will remain in office when such resignation has taken effect);
- 26.7. the Trustee fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Trustees and the Trustees resolve that the Trustee be removed for this reason:
- 26.8. at a general meeting of the Charity, a resolution is passed that the Trustee be removed from office, provided the meeting has invited the views of the Trustee concerned and considered the matter in the light of such views; or
- 26.9. at a meeting of the Trustees at which at least half of the Trustees are present a resolution is passed that he or she be removed from office. Such a resolution shall not be passed unless the Trustee has been given at least 14 Clear Days' notice that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has been afforded a reasonable opportunity of either, at the option of the Trustee being removed, being heard by or of making written representations to the Trustees.
- 27. Becoming a Member
- 27.1. The Members of the Charity are the persons who are admitted to membership in accordance with the Articles and whose names are entered in the Charity's register of Members (Register).
- 27.2. With the exception of any person who is already admitted as a Member at the date of the adoption of these Articles, no person may become a Member unless:
- 27.2.1. that person has completed an application for membership in a form approved by the Trustees; and
- 27.2.2. the Trustees have approved the application,
- 27.3. The Trustees may in their absolute discretion decline to accept any person as a Member and need not give reasons for so doing.
- 27.4. The Trustees may from time to time prescribe criteria for membership but will not be obliged to accept persons fulfilling those criteria as Members.

- 27.5. The names of the Members of the Charity must be entered in the Register and the name of any person ceasing to be a Member shall be removed from the Register.
- 28. Termination of membership
- 28.1. Membership is not transferable.
- 28.2. A Member shall cease to be a Member
- 28.2.1. if the Member dies or, if the Member is an organisation, it ceases to exist
- 28.2.2. on the expiry of at least seven Clear Days' notice given by the Member to the Charity of his, her or its intention to withdraw; or
- 28.2.3. if any subscription or other sum payable by the Member to the Charity is not paid on the due date and remains unpaid at the end of the period of six calendar months beginning with the due date. The Trustees may re-admit to membership any person who ceases to be a Member on this ground on him, her or it paying such reasonable sum as the Trustees may determine;
- 28.2.4. if, at a meeting of the Trustees at which at least half of the Trustees are present, a resolution is passed resolving that the Member be expelled on the ground that his, her or its continued membership is harmful to or is likely to become harmful to the interests of the Charity. Such a resolution may not be passed unless the Member has been given at least 14 Clear Days' notice that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify expulsion. and has been afforded a reasonable opportunity of being heard by or of making written representations to the Trustees. A Member expelled by such a resolution will nevertheless remain liable to pay to the Charity any subscription or other sum owed by him, her, or it.

ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 29. Annual general meetings
- 29.1. The Charity must hold an annual general meeting (AGM) once in every calendar year and not more than 15 months shall pass between one annual general meeting and the next.
- 29.2. The AGM shall be held at such time and place as the Trustees think fit.
- 30. Other general meetings
- 30.1. The Trustees may call a general meeting at any time.
- 30.2. The Trustees must call a general meeting if required to do so by the Members pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Acts.
- 31. Length of notice

All general meetings must be called by either:

- 31.1. at least 14 Clear Days' notice: or
- 31.2. shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority in number of the Members having a right to attend and vote at that meeting and any such majority must together represent at least 90% of the total voting rights at that meeting of all the Members.
- 32. Contents of notice
- 32.1. Every notice calling a general meeting must specify the place, day and time of the meeting, whether it is a general or an annual general meeting, and the general nature of the business to be

transacted.

- 32.2. If a special resolution is to be proposed, the notice must include the proposed resolution and specify that it is proposed as a special resolution.
- 32.3. In every notice calling a meeting of the Charity there must appear with reasonable prominence a statement informing the Member of his, her or its rights to appoint another person as his, her or its proxy at a general meeting.
- 33. Service of notice

Notice of general meetings must be given to every Member to the Trustees and to the auditors of the Charity.

- 34. Attendance and speaking at general meetings
- 34.1. 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.
- 34.2. A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:
- 34.2.1. that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting; and
- 34.2.2. 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.
- 34.3. The Trustees may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.
- 34.4. 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.
- 34.5. 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.
- 35. Quorum for general meetings
- 35.1. No business (other than the appointment of the chair of the meeting) may be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present.
- 35.2. Two persons entitled to vote on the business to be transacted (each being a Member, a proxy for a Member or a duly authorised representative of a Member) or 10% of the total membership (represented in person, by proxy or by duly authorised representative) whichever is greater shall be a quorum.
- 35.3. If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to such day. time and place as the Trustees may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting those present and entitled to vote shall be a quorum.
- 36. Chairing general meetings
- 36.1. The Chair (if any) or in his or her absence some other Trustee nominated by the Trustees will preside as chair of every general meeting.
- 36.2. If neither the Chair nor any Trustee nominated in accordance with this article 36 is present within

fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the Trustees present shall elect one of their number to chair the meeting and, if there is only one Trustee present and willing to act, he or she shall be chair of the meeting.

- 36.3. If no Trustee is present and willing to act as chair of the meeting within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Members present in person, by proxy or by duly authorised representative and entitled to vote must choose one of the Members present in person to be chair of the meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, a proxy holder who is not a Member entitled to vote shall not be entitled to be appointed chair of the meeting.
- 37. Attendance and speaking by Trustees and non-Members
- 37.1. A Trustee may, even if not a Member, attend and speak at any general meeting.
- 37.2. The chair of the meeting may permit other persons who are not Members to attend and speak at a general meeting.
- 38. Adjournment
- 38.1. The chair of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
- 38.1.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment or
- 38.1.2 it appears to the chair 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.
- 38.2. The chair of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 38.3. When adjourning a general meeting, the chair of the meeting must:
- 38.3.1 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 Trustees; and
- 38.3.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment, which have been given by the meeting.
- 38.4. If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than fourteen days after it was adjourned, the Charity must give at least seven Clear Days' notice of it:
- 38.4.1. to the same persons to whom notice of the Charity's general meetings is required to be given; and
- 38.4.2. containing the same information, which such notice, is required to contain,
- 38.5. No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

39. Voting: general

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

- 40. Votes
- 40.1. On a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting every person present in person who is a Member, proxy or duly authorised representative of a Member shall have one vote, provided that if such a person attends the meeting in more than one capacity, he or she is not entitled to cast

- more than one vote.
- 40.2. On a vote on a resolution on a poll at a meeting every Member present (whether in person, by proxy or via duly authorised representative) shall have one vote.
- 40.3. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chair of the meeting shall not be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have.
- 40.4. No Member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all monies presently payable by him, her or it to the Charity have been paid.
- 40.5. The following provisions apply to any organisation that is a Member (Member Organisation):
- 40.5.1. a Member Organisation may nominate any individual to acat as its representative (Nominee) at any meeting of the Charity;
- 40.5.2. the Member Organisation must give notice in Writing to the Charity of the name of its Nominee. The Nominee will not be entitled to represent the Member Organisation at any meeting of the Charity unless such notice has been received by the Charity. The Nominee may continue to represent the Member Organisation until notice in Writing is received by the Charity to the contrary;
- 40.5.3. a Member Organisation may appoint a Nominee to represent it at a particular meeting of the Charity or at all meetings of the Charity until notice in Writing to the contrary is received by the Charity;
- 40.5.4. any notice in Writing received by the Charity shall be conclusive evidence of the Nominee's authority to represent the Member Organisation or that his or her authority has been revoked. The Charity shall not be required to consider whether the Nominee has been properly appointed by the Member Organisation;
- 40.5.5. subject to Article 40.1, the Nominee is entitled to exercise (on behalf of the Member Organisation) the same powers as the Member Organisation could exercise as if it were an individual Member;
- 40.5.6. subject to Article 40.1 on a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting of the Charity, the Nominee has the same voting rights as the Member Organisation would be entitled to if it was an individual Member present in person at the meeting; and
- 40.5.7. the power to appoint a Nominee under this Article 40.5 is without prejudice to the Member Organisation's rights under the Companies Acts and the Articles to appoint a proxy or a corporate representative,
- 41. Errors and disputes
- 41.1. 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.
- 41.2. Any such objection must be referred to the chair of the meeting whose decision is final.
- 42. Poll votes
- 42.1. A poll on a resolution may be demanded:
- 42.1.1. in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote; or
- 42.1.2. 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.
- 42.2. A poll may be demanded by:

- 42.2.1. the chair of the meeting :
- 42.2.2. the Trustees;
- 42.2.3. two or more persons having the right to vote on the resolution;
- 42.2.4. any person, who, by virtue of being appointed proxy or duly authorised representative for one or more Members having the right to vote on the resolution, holds two or more votes; or
- 42.2.5. a person or persons representing not less than one tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members having the right to vote on the resolution.
- 42.3. A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if:
- 42.3.1. the poll has not yet been taken; and
- 42.3.2. the chair of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- 42.4. Polls must be taken immediately and in such manner as the chair of the meeting directs.
- 43. Content of proxy notices
- 43.1. Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in Writing (Proxy Notice) which:
- 43.1.1. states the name and address of the Member appointing the proxy;
- 43.1.2. identifies the person appointed to be that Members proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
- 43.1.3. is signed by or on behalf of the Member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Trustees may determine; and
- 43.1.4. is delivered to the Charity in accordance with the Articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 43.2. The Charity may require Proxy Notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 43.3. 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.
- 43.4. Unless a Proxy Notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
- 43.4.1. 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
- 43.4.2. 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.
- 44. Delivery of proxy notices
- 44.1. A Proxy Notice and any evidence of authority under which it is executed may:
- 44.1.1. be deposited at the registered office of the Charity or at such other place within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Charity in relation to the meeting at least 48 hours (not including any part of a day that is a Saturday, Sunday or Public Holiday) before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the Proxy Notice proposes to vote; or

- 44.1.2. where an Address for the purpose of sending or receiving Documents or information by Electronic Means has been specified:
 - a) in the notice calling the meeting; or
 - b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Charity in relation to the meeting; or
 - c) in any invitation to appoint a proxy issued by the Charity in relation to the meeting;

be sent by Electronic Means to that Address provided it is received at such address not less than 48 hours (not including any part of a day that is a Saturday, Sunday or Public Holiday) before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the Proxy Notice proposes to vote;

and Proxy Notice, which is not deposited, delivered or received in a manner so permitted, shall be invalid.

- 44.2. 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 Charity by or on behalf of that person.
- 44.3. An appointment under a Proxy Notice may be revoked by delivering to the Charity a notice in Writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the Proxy Notice was given.
- 44.4. A notice revoking the appointment of a proxy only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 45. Amendments to resolutions
- 45.1. An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
- 45.1.1. notice of the proposed amendment is given to the Charity 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 chair of the meeting may determine); and
- 45.1.2. the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chair of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 45.2. A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
- 45.2.1. the chair of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
- 45.2.2. the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- 45.3. if the chair of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chair's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS

- 46. Written resolutions
- 46.1. Subject to Article 46.3, a written resolution of the Charity passed in accordance with this Article 46 shall have effect as if passed by the Charity in general meeting:

- 46.1.1. A written resolution is passed as an ordinary resolution if it is passed by a simple majority of the eligible Members.
- 46.1.2. A written resolution is passed as a special resolution if it is passed by Members representing not less than 75% of the eligible Members. A written resolution is not a special resolution unless it states that it was proposed as a special resolution.
- 46.2. in relation to a resolution proposed as a written resolution of the Charity the eligible Members are the Members who would have been entitled to vote on the resolution on the Circulation Date of the resolution.
- 46.3. A Members' resolution under the Companies Acts removing a Trustee or an auditor before the expiration of his or her term of office may not be passed as a written resolution.
- 46.4. A copy of the written resolution must be sent to every Member together with a statement informing the Member how to signify their agreement to the resolution and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse. Communications in relation to written resolutions shall be sent to the Charity's auditors in accordance with the Companies Acts.
- 46.5. A Member signifies their agreement to a proposed written resolution when the Charity receives from them (or from someone acting on their behalf) an authenticated Document identifying the resolution to which it relates and indicating the Member's agreement to the resolution. For these purposes:
- 46.5.1. if the Document is sent to the Charity in Hard Copy Form, it is authenticated if it bears the signature of the person sending it;
- 46.5.2. if the Document is sent to the Charity in Electronic Form, it is authenticated if the identity of the sender is confirmed in a manner specified by the Charity or, where no such manner has been specified by the Charity, if the communication contains or is accompanied by a statement of the identity of the sender and the Charity has no reason to doubt the truth of that statement.
- 46.6. A written resolution is passed when the required majority of eligible Members have signified their agreement to it.
- 46.7. A proposed written resolution lapses if it is not passed within 28 days beginning with the Circulation Date.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 47. Means of communication to be used
- 47.1. Subject to the Articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Charity under the Articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Acts provides for Documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of the Companies Acts to be sent or supplied by or to the Charity.
- 47.2. Subject to the Articles, any notice or Document to be sent or supplied to a Trustee in connection with the taking of decisions by Trustees may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Trustee has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or Documents for the time being.
- 47.3. A Trustee may agree with the Charity that notices or Documents sent to that Trustee 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.
- 48. Secretary

A Secretary may be appointed by the Trustees for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit, and may be removed by them. If there is no Secretary:

- 48.1. anything authorised or required to be given or sent to, or served on, the Charity by being sent to its Secretary may be given or sent to, or served on, the Charity itself, and if addressed to the Secretary shall be treated as addressed to the Charity; and
- 48.2. anything else required or authorised to be done by of to the Secretary of the Charity may be done by or to a Trustee, or a person authorised generally or specifically in that behalf by the Trustees.

49. Irregularities

The proceedings at any meeting or on the taking of any poll or the passing of a written resolution or the making of any decision shall not be invalidated by reason of any accidental informality or irregularity (including any accidental omission to give or any non-receipt of notice) or any want of qualification in any of the persons present or voting or by reason of any business being considered which is not specified in the notice.

50. Minutes

The Trustees must cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose: of all appointments of officers made by the Trustees;

- 50.1. of all resolutions of the Charity and of the Trustees (including, without limitation, decisions of the Trustees made without a meeting); and
- 50.2. of all proceedings at meetings of the Charity and of the Trustees, and of committees of Trustees, including the names of the Trustees present at each such meeting;

and any such minute, if purported to be signed (or in the case of minutes of Trustees' meetings signed or authenticated) by the chair of the meeting at which the proceedings were had, or by the chair of the next succeeding meeting, shall, as against any Member or Trustee, be sufficient evidence of the proceedings.

51. Records and accounts

- 51.1. The Trustees shall comply with the requirements of the Companies Acts and of the Charities Act as to maintaining a members' register, keeping financial records, the audit or examination of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission of:
- 51.1.1. annual reports;
- 51.1.2. annual returns; and
- 51.1.3. annual statements of account.
- 51.2. Except as provided by law or authorised by the Trustees or an ordinary resolution of the Charity, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Charity's accounting or other records or Documents merely by virtue of being a Member.

52. Regulations

The Trustees may, from time to time, make, repeal, or alter regulations as to the management of the Charity and its affairs, the duties of any officers or employees of the Charity, the conduct of business of the Trustees or any committee and any of the matters or things within the powers or under the control of the Trustees. Such regulations must not be inconsistent with the Companies Acts, the Articles or any other applicable rule of law.