

Articles of Association

Coms plc

The Companies Acts 2006  
Public company limited by shares  
Company No. 05332126

As adopted by Special Resolution passed on 2011

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## CONTENTS

Article	Page
<b>PRELIMINARY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1 Exclusion of Model Articles .....	1
2 Interpretation .....	1
3 Limited liability .....	5
4 Change of name .....	5
5 Unissued shares .....	5
6 Uncertificated Shares .....	5
7 Redeemable Shares .....	8
8 Power To Attach Rights .....	8
9 Share Warrants .....	8
10 Commission And Brokerage .....	8
11 Trusts Not To Be Recognised .....	9
<b>SHARE CERTIFICATES .....</b>	<b>9</b>
12 Right To Certificates .....	9
13 Replacement Certificates .....	9
<b>LIEN ON SHARES .....</b>	<b>10</b>
14 Lien On Shares Not Fully Paid .....	10
15 Enforcement Of Lien By Sale .....	10
16 Application Of Proceeds Of Sale .....	10
<b>CALLS ON SHARES .....</b>	<b>11</b>
17 Calls .....	11
18 Liability Of Joint Holders .....	11
19 Interest On Calls .....	11
20 Rights Of Member When Call Unpaid .....	11
21 Sums Due On Allotment Treated As Calls .....	11
22 Power To Differentiate .....	12

23	Payment In Advance Of Calls .....	12
24	Delegation Of Power To Make Calls .....	12
<b>FORFEITURE OF SHARES .....</b>		<b>12</b>
25	Notice If Call Not Paid .....	12
26	Forfeiture For Non-Compliance .....	12
27	Notice After Forfeiture .....	13
28	Forfeiture May Be Annulled .....	13
29	Surrender .....	13
30	Disposal Of Forfeited Shares .....	13
31	Effect Of Forfeiture .....	13
32	Extinction Of Claims .....	14
33	Evidence Of Forfeiture .....	14
<b>TRANSFER OF SHARES .....</b>		<b>14</b>
34	Form Of Transfer .....	14
35	Right To Refuse Registration .....	14
36	Notice Of Refusal .....	16
37	Closing Of Register .....	16
38	Fees On Registration .....	17
39	Other Powers In Relation To Transfers .....	17
<b>TRANSMISSION OF SHARES .....</b>		<b>17</b>
40	On Death .....	17
41	Election Of Person Entitled By Transmission .....	17
42	Rights On Transmission .....	17
<b>DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS .....</b>		<b>18</b>
43	Destruction Of Documents .....	18
<b>ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL .....</b>		<b>19</b>
44	Increase, Consolidation, Cancellation And Sub-Division .....	19
45	Fractions .....	19

46	Reduction Of Capital .....	20
47	Purchase Of Own Shares .....	20
<b>VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS .....</b>		<b>20</b>
48	Sanction To Variation .....	20
49	Class Meetings .....	20
50	Deemed Variation .....	21
<b>RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS ATTACHED TO THE DEFERRED SHARES.....</b>		<b>21</b>
51	Income .....	21
52	Capital.....	21
53	Attendance and Voting at General Meetings .....	21
54	Form of Transfer .....	21
55	Class Rights.....	21
56	Transfer and Purchase .....	22
57	Deletion of Articles 51 to 57 when no Deferred Shares in Existence.....	22
<b>RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS ATTACHED TO THE 2011 DEFERRED SHARES.....</b>		<b>22</b>
58	Income .....	22
59	Capital.....	22
60	Attendance and Voting at General Meetings .....	23
61	Form of Transfer .....	23
62	Class Rights.....	23
63	Transfer and Purchase .....	23
64	Deletion of Articles 58 to 63 when no Deferred Shares in Existence.....	23
<b>GENERAL MEETINGS.....</b>		<b>24</b>
65	Annual General Meetings .....	24
66	Convening Of a General Meeting .....	24
67	Notice Of General Meetings.....	24
68	Omission To Send Notice .....	25
69	Special Business.....	25

<b>PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS .....</b>	<b>25</b>
70 Form Of Resolution .....	25
71 Quorum .....	26
72 If Quorum Not Present .....	26
73 Chairman .....	26
74 Directors And Other Persons May Attend And Speak .....	26
75 Power To Adjourn .....	26
76 Notice Of Adjourned Meeting .....	27
77 Business Of Adjourned Meeting .....	27
78 Accommodation Of Members And Security Arrangements .....	27
<b>VOTING .....</b>	<b>28</b>
79 Method Of Voting .....	28
80 Chairman's Declaration Conclusive On Show Of Hands .....	28
81 Objection To Error In Voting .....	28
82 Amendment To Resolutions .....	29
83 Procedure On A Poll .....	29
84 Votes Of Members .....	29
85 Restriction On Voting Rights For Unpaid Calls .....	30
86 Voting By Proxy .....	30
87 Form Of Proxy .....	31
88 Receipt Of Proxy .....	31
89 Uncertificated Proxy Instruction .....	32
90 Board May Supply Proxy Cards .....	32
91 Revocation Of Proxy .....	33
92 Corporate Representative .....	33
93 Failure To Disclose Interests In Shares .....	33
<b>UNTRACED MEMBERS .....</b>	<b>35</b>
94 Power Of Sale .....	35

95	Application Of Proceeds Of Sale .....	36
<b>PRESIDENT.....</b>		<b>37</b>
96	Appointment Of President.....	37
97	Duties Of President.....	37
<b>APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS.....</b>		<b>37</b>
98	Number Of Directors .....	37
99	Power Of Company To Appoint Directors.....	37
100	Power Of Board To Appoint Directors.....	37
101	Appointment Of Executive Directors .....	37
102	Eligibility Of New Directors.....	38
103	Share Qualification.....	38
104	Resolution For Appointment .....	38
105	Retiring Directors .....	38
106	Position Of Retiring Director .....	38
107	Re-Election Of Retiring Director.....	38
108	Removal By Ordinary Resolution.....	39
109	Vacation Of Office By Director .....	39
110	Resolution As To Vacancy Conclusive .....	40
<b>ALTERNATE DIRECTORS.....</b>		<b>40</b>
111	Appointments .....	40
112	Participation In Board Meetings .....	40
113	Alternate Director Responsible For Own Acts .....	40
114	Interests Of Alternate Director .....	40
115	Revocation Of Appointment.....	41
<b>DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS.....</b>		<b>41</b>
116	Directors' Fees .....	41
117	Expenses .....	41
118	Additional Remuneration.....	41

119	Remuneration Of Executive Directors.....	42
120	Pensions And Other Benefits.....	42
	<b>POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD.....</b>	<b>42</b>
121	Powers Of The Board .....	42
122	Powers Of Directors Being Less Than Minimum Number .....	42
123	Powers Of Executive Directors .....	43
124	Delegation To Committees .....	43
125	Local Management .....	43
126	Power Of Attorney.....	44
127	Associate Directors .....	44
128	Exercise of Voting Power.....	44
129	Provision For Employees .....	44
130	Overseas Registers .....	44
131	Borrowing Powers.....	44
	<b>PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES .....</b>	<b>45</b>
132	Board Meetings.....	45
133	Notice Of Board Meetings .....	45
134	Quorum .....	45
135	Chairman Of Board .....	45
136	Voting.....	45
137	Participation By Telephone Or Video Conference .....	45
138	Directors' written resolutions .....	46
139	Proceedings Of Committees .....	46
140	Minutes Of Proceedings.....	47
141	Validity Of Proceedings.....	47
	<b>DIRECTORS' INTERESTS .....</b>	<b>47</b>
142	Director May Have Interests .....	47
143	Conflicts of Interests .....	48

144	Directors' Declarations of Interests .....	49
145	Interested Director Can Vote Or Count For Quorum .....	50
146	Director's Interest In Own Appointment .....	50
147	Chairman's Ruling Conclusive On Director's Interest .....	50
148	Directors' Resolution Conclusive On Chairman's Interest .....	50
149	Ratification of Acts of Directors .....	51
150	Connected Persons .....	51
	<b>AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS.....</b>	<b>51</b>
151	Power To Authenticate Documents .....	51
	<b>SEALS .....</b>	<b>51</b>
152	Safe Custody .....	51
153	Application Of Seals.....	51
154	Official Seal For Use Abroad .....	52
	<b>THE SECRETARY .....</b>	<b>52</b>
155	The Secretary .....	52
	<b>DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS .....</b>	<b>52</b>
156	Declaration Of Dividends .....	52
157	Interim Dividends .....	52
158	Entitlement To Dividends .....	53
159	Calls Or Debts May Be Deducted From Dividends.....	53
160	Distribution In Specie .....	53
161	Dividends Not To Bear Interest.....	53
162	Method Of Payment .....	53
163	Uncashed Dividends .....	54
164	Unclaimed Dividends .....	54
165	Payment Of Scrip Dividends .....	54
166	Reserves.....	56
167	Capitalisation Of Reserves .....	56



168	Record Dates .....	57
<b>ACCOUNTS.....</b>		<b>58</b>
169	Accounting Records .....	58
170	Accounts To Be Sent To Members .....	58
171	Summary Financial Statements .....	58
172	Accounts And Summary Financial Statements .....	58
<b>NOTICES .....</b>		<b>59</b>
173	Notices .....	59
174	Service Of Notice On Members .....	59
175	Notice In Case Of Death, Bankruptcy Or Mental Disorder.....	60
176	Evidence Of Service .....	60
177	Notice Binding On Transferees .....	61
178	Notice By Advertisement.....	61
179	Suspension Of Postal Services And Electronic Communications.....	61
<b>WINDING UP .....</b>		<b>61</b>
180	Division Of Assets .....	61
181	Transfer Or Sale Under Section 110 Insolvency Act 1986 .....	62
<b>INDEMNITY .....</b>		<b>62</b>
182	Right To Indemnity for Directors .....	62
183	Right To Indemnity for Auditors .....	63
184	Power To Insure.....	63
<b>DOCUMENTS.....</b>		<b>63</b>
185	Signature Of Documents.....	63

## PRELIMINARY

### 1 Exclusion of Model Articles

No regulations set out in any statute or in any statutory instrument or other subordinate legislation concerning companies shall apply to the Company, but the following shall be the Articles of Association of the Company.

### 2 Interpretation

2.1 In these Articles, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings:

<b>2011 Deferred Shares</b>	the deferred shares of 0.1 pence (one tenth of a penny) each in the capital of the Company.
<b>address</b>	has the meaning set out in section 1148(1) of the Companies Act 2006.
<b>Articles</b>	these Articles of Association as originally adopted or altered or varied from time to time (and <b>Article</b> means any provision of these Articles).
<b>associated company</b>	has the same meaning as in section 256 of CA 2006.
<b>Auditors</b>	the auditors for the time being of the Company or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them.
<b>Board</b>	the board of Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present or deemed to be present at a duly convened meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present.
<b>CA 1985</b>	subject to paragraph 2.3 of this Article, the Companies Act 1985 and, where the context requires, every other statute from time to time in force concerning companies and affecting the Company (including, without limitation, the Regulations).
<b>CA 2006</b>	the Companies Act 2006.
<b>cash memorandum account</b>	an account so designated by the operator of the relevant system.
<b>certified share</b>	a share which is not an uncertificated share and references to a share being held in certificated form shall be construed accordingly.
<b>Chairman</b>	the chairman (if any) of the Board or, where the context requires, the chairman of a general meeting of the Company.
<b>clear days</b>	in relation to the period of a notice means that

period, excluding the day when the notice is served or deemed to be served and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect.

<b>Company</b>	Coms plc.
<b>Companies Acts</b>	means the Companies Acts (as defined in Section 2 of the Companies Act 2006) in as far as they apply to the Company.
<b>Custodian</b>	a custodian or other person (or a nominee for such custodian or other person) appointed under contractual arrangements with the Company or other arrangements approved by the Board whereby such custodian or other person or nominee holds or is interested in shares of the Company or rights or interests in shares of the Company and issues securities or other documents of title or otherwise evidencing the entitlement of the holder thereof to or to receive such shares, rights or interests, provided and to the extent that such arrangements have been approved by the Board for the purpose of these Articles, and shall include, where approved by the Board, the trustees (acting in their capacity as such) of any employees' share scheme established by the Company or any other scheme or arrangement principally for the benefit of employees or those in the service of the Company and/or its subsidiaries or their respective businesses and the managers (acting in their capacity as such) of any investment or savings plan, which in each case the Board has approved.
<b>Deferred Shares</b>	the deferred shares of £0.01 (one pence) each in the capital of the Company.
<b>Director</b>	a director for the time being of the Company.
<b>electronic communication</b>	has the meaning given to it in the Electronic Communications Act 2000.
<b>electronic signature</b>	has the meaning given to it by section 7(2) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000.
<b>execution</b>	any mode of execution including execution under hand or under seal and, in the case of an electronic communication, by electronic signature (and <b>executed</b> shall be construed accordingly).
<b>holder</b>	(in relation to any share) the member whose name is entered in the Register as the holder or, where the context permits, the members whose names are entered in the Register as the joint

	holders, of that share.
<b>London Stock Exchange</b>	London Stock Exchange plc or other such principal stock exchange in the United Kingdom for the time being.
<b>member</b>	a member of the Company.
<b>Office</b>	the registered office from time to time of the Company.
<b>Operator</b>	has the meaning given to it in the Regulations.
<b>Ordinary Shares</b>	ordinary shares of 0.1 pence (one tenth of a penny) each in the capital of the Company, issued and unissued, as the context requires.
<b>paid up</b>	paid up or credited as paid up.
<b>properly authenticated dematerialised instruction</b>	shall have the meaning given in the Regulations.
<b>qualifying person</b>	has the meaning given in section 318(3) of CA 2006.
<b>recognised person</b>	a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange who is designated as mentioned in section 185(4) to 4(D) CA 1985.
<b>Register</b>	the register of members of the Company.
<b>Regulations</b>	The Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No 3755) including any modification thereof and rules made thereunder or any regulations in substitution therefore made under the Companies Acts for the time being in force.
<b>relevant system</b>	has the meaning given to it in the Regulations.
<b>Seal</b>	the common seal of the Company or any official or securities seal that the Company may be permitted to have under the Companies Acts.
<b>Secretary</b>	the secretary of the time being of the Company any other person appointed to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company including where the context allows a joint, temporary, assistant or deputy secretary.
<b>sent or supplied</b>	has the meaning set out in section 1148(2) of the Companies Act 2006.
<b>share</b>	a share of the Company.

<b>subsidiary</b>	has the meaning given to it in section 1159 of CA 2006.
<b>UK Listing Authority</b>	the Financial Services Authority acting in its capacity as the competent authority for the purposes of Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
<b>uncertificated shares or participating security</b>	a share which is recorded in the Register as being in uncertificated form and title to which may be transferred by means of a relevant system and references to a share being held in uncertificated form shall be construed accordingly.
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
<b>writing or written</b>	any method of representing or reproducing words or other information in a legible and non-transitory form including by way of electronic communication (but in respect of the use of electronic communications only to the extent that (a) the Directors so decide: and (b) the recipient (if not the Company) has requested or agreed).

- 2.2 Unless the context otherwise requires:
- 2.2.1 words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa;
  - 2.2.2 words importing the masculine gender include the feminine gender; and
  - 2.2.3 a reference to a person includes a body corporate and an unincorporated body of persons.
- 2.3 A reference to any statute or provision of a statute shall include any orders, regulations or other subordinate legislation made under it and shall, unless the context otherwise requires, include any statutory modification or re-enactment of it from time to time in force.
- 2.4 Save as aforesaid, and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these Articles shall bear the same meaning as in the Companies Acts (excluding any modification to them by a further Act which is not in force when these Articles are adopted).
- 2.5 References to a document being executed include references to its being executed under hand or under seal or by any other method and in the case of a communication in electronic form, such references are to its being authenticated as specified the Companies Acts.
- 2.6 References in these Articles to documents or information being sent or supplied by or to a company (including the Company) shall be construed in accordance with the provisions of section 1148(3) of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2.7 The headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect the construction of these Articles.

### **3 Limited liability**

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

### **4 Change of name**

- 4.1 The Company may change its name by resolution of the Board.

### **5 Unissued shares**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles, the Board may offer, allot, grant options over or otherwise dispose of shares in the Company to such persons, at such times and for such consideration and upon such terms as the Board may decide.

### **6 Uncertificated Shares**

- 6.1 Notwithstanding anything in these Articles to the contrary, any shares in the Company may be issued, held, registered, converted to, transferred or otherwise dealt with in uncertificated form and converted from uncertificated form to certificated form in accordance with the Regulations and practices instituted by the Operator of the relevant system. Any provisions of these Articles shall not apply to any uncertificated shares to the extent that such provisions are inconsistent with:

- 6.1.1 the holding of shares in uncertificated form;
- 6.1.2 the transfer of title to shares by means of a relevant system; or
- 6.1.3 any provision of the Regulations.

- 6.2 Without prejudice to the generality and effectiveness of the foregoing:

- 6.2.1 Articles 12, 13 and 34 and the second and third sentences of Article 36 shall not apply to uncertificated shares and the remainder of Article 36 shall apply in relation to such shares as if the reference therein to the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company were a reference to the date on which the appropriate instruction was received by or on behalf of the Company in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system;
- 6.2.2 the Board may refuse to register a transfer of uncertificated shares in such circumstances as may be permitted or required by the Regulations and the relevant system;
- 6.2.3 references in these Articles to a requirement on any person to execute or deliver an instrument of transfer or certificate or other document which shall not be appropriate in the case of uncertificated shares shall, in the case of uncertificated shares, be treated as references to a requirement to comply with any relevant requirements of the relevant system and any relevant arrangements or regulations which the Board may make from time to time pursuant to Article 6.2.11 below;

- 6.2.4 for the purposes referred to in Article 41, a person entitled by transmission to a share in uncertificated form who elects to have some other person registered shall either:
- (a) procure that instructions are given by means of the relevant system to effect transfer of such uncertificated share to that person; or
  - (b) change the uncertificated share to certificated form and execute an instrument of transfer of that certificated share to that person;
- 6.2.5 the Company shall enter on the Register the number of shares which are held by each member in uncertificated form and in certificated form and shall maintain the Register in each case as is required by the Regulations and the relevant system and, unless the Board otherwise determines, holdings of the same holder or joint holders in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings;
- 6.2.6 a class of share shall not be treated as two classes by virtue only of that class comprising both certificated shares and uncertificated shares or as a result of any provision of these Articles or the Regulations which applies only in respect of certificated shares or uncertificated shares;
- 6.2.7 references in Article 43 to instruments of transfer shall include, in relation to uncertificated shares, instructions and/or notifications made in accordance with the relevant system relating to the transfer of such shares;
- 6.2.8 for the purposes referred to in Article 45.2, the Board may in respect of uncertificated shares authorise some person to transfer and/or require the holder to transfer the relevant shares in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system;
- 6.2.9 for the purposes of Article 162.1, any payment in the case of uncertificated shares may be made by means of the relevant system (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system) and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing such payment may be made by the sending by the Company or any person on its behalf of an instruction to the Operator of the relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders of such shares or, if permitted by the Company, of such person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct and for the purposes of Article 162.2 the making of a payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned shall be a good discharge to the Company;
- 6.2.10 subject to the Companies Acts, the Board may issue shares as certificated shares or as uncertificated shares in its absolute discretion and these Articles shall be construed accordingly;
- 6.2.11 the Board may make such arrangements or regulations (if any) as it may from time to time in its absolute discretion consider appropriate in relation to the evidencing and transfer of uncertificated shares and otherwise for the purpose of implementing and/or supplementing the provisions of this Article 6 and the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system and such arrangements and regulations (as the case may be) shall have the same effect as if set out in this Article 6;

- 6.2.12 the Board may utilise the relevant system to the fullest extent available from time to time in the exercise of the Company's powers or functions under the Companies Acts or these Articles or otherwise in effecting any actions; and
  - 6.2.13 the Board may resolve that a class of shares is to become a participating security and may at any time determine that a class of shares shall cease to be a participating security.
- 6.3 Where any class of shares in the capital of the Company is a participating security and the Company is entitled under any provisions of the Companies Acts or the rules made and practices instituted by the Operator of any relevant system or under these Articles to dispose of, forfeit, enforce a lien or sell or otherwise procure the sale of any shares which are held in uncertificated form, such entitlement (to the extent permitted by the Regulations and the rules made and practices instituted by the operator of the relevant system) shall include the right to:
- 6.3.1 request or require the deletion of any computer-based entries in the relevant system relating to the holding of such shares in uncertificated form; and/or
  - 6.3.2 require any holder of any uncertificated shares which are the subject of any exercise by the Company of any such entitlement, by notice in writing to the holder concerned, to change his holding of such uncertificated shares into certificated form within such period as may be specified in the notice, prior to completion of any disposal, sale or transfer of such shares or direct the holder to take such steps, by instructions given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, as may be necessary to sell or transfer such shares; and/or
  - 6.3.3 send a notification in writing to the Operator requiring the conversion of those shares into certificated form (such conversion being required to enable the Company to deal with the shares in question in accordance with the Articles); and/or
  - 6.3.4 appoint any person to take such other steps, by instruction given by means of a relevant system or otherwise, in the name of the holder of such shares as may be required to effect a transfer of such shares and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the registered holder of the uncertificated shares concerned; and/or
  - 6.3.5 take such other action as may be necessary to enable those shares to be registered in the name of the person to whom the shares have been sold or disposed of or as directed by him.
- 6.4 The Company may assume that the entries on any record of securities which it maintains in accordance with the Regulations is regularly reconciled against the relevant Operator register of securities that that those entries are a complete and accurate copy of the particulars entered in the Operator register of securities. The Company shall not be liable in respect of any act or thing done or omitted to be done by or on behalf of the Company in relying on such assumption, in particular, any provision of these Articles which requires or envisages that action will be taken in reliance on information contained in the register shall be construed to permit that action to be taken in reliance on information contained in any relevant record of securities (as so maintained and reconciled).



## **7 Redeemable Shares**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any special rights from time to time attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued which is to be redeemed, or is 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 share.

## **8 Power To Attach Rights**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any special rights from time to time attached to any existing shares, any shares may be allotted or issued with or have attached to them such preferred, deferred or other special rights or restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, voting, transfer, return of capital or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine or, if no such resolution has been passed or so far as the resolution does not make specific provision, as the Board may determine.

## **9 Share Warrants**

9.1 The Company may, with respect to any fully paid shares, issue a warrant (**share warrant**) stating that the bearer of the warrant is entitled to the shares specified in it and may provide (by coupons or otherwise) for the payment of future dividends on the shares included in a share warrant.

9.2 The powers referred to in Article 9.1 may be exercised by the Board, which may determine and vary the conditions on which share warrants shall be issued, and in particular on which:

9.2.1 a new share warrant or coupon will be issued in the place of one damaged, defaced, worn out or lost (provided that no new share warrant shall be issued to replace one that has been lost unless the Board is satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been destroyed);

9.2.2 the bearer of a share warrant shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend, vote and demand a poll at general meetings;

9.2.3 dividends will be paid; and

9.2.4 a share warrant may be surrendered and the name of the holder entered in the Register in respect of the shares specified in it.

9.3 Subject to such conditions and to these Articles, the bearer of a share warrant shall be deemed to be a member for all purposes. The bearer of a share warrant shall be subject to the conditions for the time being in force and applicable thereto, whether made before or after the issue of such share warrant.

## **10 Commission And Brokerage**

The Company may in connection with the issue of any shares exercise all powers of paying commission and brokerage conferred or permitted by the Companies Acts. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission or brokerage may be satisfied by the payment of cash, the allotment of fully or partly paid shares, the grant of an option to call for an allotment of shares or any combination of such methods.

## **11 Trusts Not To Be Recognised**

Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Articles, as required by law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall not recognise any person as holding any share on any trust, and (except as aforesaid) the Company shall not be bound by or recognise (even if having notice of it) any equitable, contingent, future, partial or other claim to or interest in any share except an absolute right of the holder to the whole of the share.

## **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

### **12 Right To Certificates**

- 12.1 On becoming the holder of any share, every person (except a recognised person in respect of whom the Company is not by law required to complete and issue a certificate) shall be entitled, without charge, to have issued within two months after allotment or lodgement of a transfer (unless the terms of issue of the shares provide otherwise) one certificate for all the shares of each class registered in his name. Such certificate shall specify the number, class, and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares in respect of which it is issued and the amount or respective amounts paid up thereon and shall be issued as provided in Article 153.
- 12.2 The issued shares of a particular class which are fully paid up and rank *pari passu* for all purposes shall not bear a distinguishing number. All other shares shall bear a distinguishing number.
- 12.3 The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate in respect of shares held jointly by two or more persons. Delivery of a certificate to the person first named on the register shall be sufficient delivery to all joint holders.
- 12.4 Where a member (other than a recognised person) has transferred part only of the shares comprised in a certificate, he shall be entitled without charge to a certificate for the balance of such shares.
- 12.5 No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class or in respect of shares held by a recognised person.

### **13 Replacement Certificates**

- 13.1 Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at his request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu without charge on surrender of the original certificates for cancellation.
- 13.2 If any member shall surrender for cancellation a share certificate representing shares held by him and request the Company to issue in lieu two or more share certificates representing such shares in such proportions as he may specify, the Board may, if it thinks fit, comply with such request.
- 13.3 Share certificates may be renewed or replaced on such terms as to provision of evidence and indemnity (with or without security) and to payment of any exceptional out of pocket expenses, including those incurred by the Company in investigating such evidence and preparing such indemnity and security, as the Board may decide, and on surrender of the original certificate (where it is defaced, damaged or worn out), but without any further charge.

- 13.4 In the case of shares held jointly by several persons, any such request as is mentioned in this Article 13 may be made by any one of the joint holders.

## **LIEN ON SHARES**

### **14 Lien On Shares Not Fully Paid**

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on each of its shares which is not fully paid, for all amounts payable to the Company from time to time in respect of that share and to the extent and in the circumstances permitted by the Companies Acts. The Board may waive any lien which has arisen and may resolve that any share shall for some limited period be exempt wholly or partially from the provisions of this Article.

### **15 Enforcement Of Lien By Sale**

- 15.1 The Board may sell all or any of the shares subject to any lien at such time or times and in such manner as it may determine. No sale shall be made until such time as:

- 15.1.1 all or part of the moneys in respect of which such lien exists is payable; or
- 15.1.2 the liability or engagement in respect of which such lien exists is liable to be fulfilled or discharged; and
- 15.1.3 until a demand and notice in writing stating the amount due or specifying the liability or engagement and demanding payment or fulfilment or discharge thereof and giving notice of intention to sell in default shall have been served on the holder or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares, and default in payment, fulfilment or discharge shall have been made by him or them for 14 clear days after service of such notice. For giving effect to any such sale, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares sold in the name and on behalf of the holder or the persons entitled by transmission in favour of the purchaser or as the purchaser may direct. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, and the title of the transferee to the shares shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

### **16 Application Of Proceeds Of Sale**

The net proceeds of any sale of shares subject to any lien, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of so much of the amount due to the Company or of the liability or engagement (as the case may be) as is presently payable or is liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged. The balance (if any) shall (on surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold, and subject to a like lien for any moneys not presently payable or any liability or engagement not liable to be presently fulfilled or discharged as existed on the shares before the sale) be paid to the holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares so sold (without interest).

## **CALLS ON SHARES**

### **17 Calls**

Subject to the Articles and the terms of allotment of shares, the Board may from time to time make calls on the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on the shares, of any class, held by them respectively (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and not payable on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue. Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice in writing specifying when and where payment is to be made and whether or not by instalments) be liable to pay the amount of every call so made on him as required by the notice. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising such call was passed or (as the case may require) any person to whom power has been delegated pursuant to these Articles serves notice of exercise of such power. A call may be required to be paid by instalments and may, before receipt by the Company of any sum due thereunder, be either revoked or postponed in whole or part as regards all or any such members as the Board may determine. A person on whom a call is made shall remain liable jointly and severally with the successors in title to his shares for all calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.

### **18 Liability Of Joint Holders**

The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable for the payment of all calls in respect thereof.

### **19 Interest On Calls**

If the whole of the sum payable in respect of any call is not paid on or before the day appointed for payment, the person from whom it is due and payable shall pay all costs, charges and expenses that the Company may have incurred by reason of such non-payment, together with interest on the unpaid amount from the day appointed for payment thereof to the time of actual payment at the rate fixed by the terms of the allotment of the share or in the notice of the call or, if no rate is so fixed, at such rate, not exceeding 15 per cent per annum (compounded on a 6 monthly basis), as the Board shall determine, and all costs, charges and expenses that have been incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The Board may waive payment of such costs, charges, expenses or interest in whole or in part.

### **20 Rights Of Member When Call Unpaid**

Unless the Board otherwise determines, no member shall be entitled to receive any dividend or to be present and vote at a general meeting or at any separate general meeting of the holders of any class of shares either in person or (save as proxy for another member) by proxy, or be reckoned in a quorum, or to exercise any other right or privilege as a member in respect of a share held by him unless and until he shall have paid all calls from time to time due and payable by him in respect of that share, whether alone or jointly with any other person, together with interest and expenses (if any) to the Company.

### **21 Sums Due On Allotment Treated As Calls**

Any sum payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium or as an instalment of

a call, shall for all purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made. If it is not paid, the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if such amount had become due and payable by virtue of a call.

**22 Power To Differentiate**

The Board may make arrangements on the allotment or issue of shares for a difference as between the allottees or holders of such shares in the amount and time of payment of calls.

**23 Payment In Advance Of Calls**

The Board may, if it considers appropriate, receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on the shares held by him. To the extent on which it is made, such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish the liability on such shares. The Company may pay interest on the money paid in advance, or so much of it as exceeds the amount from time to time called up on the shares in respect of which such advance has been made, at such rate as the Board may decide. The Board may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than three months' notice in writing of its intention in that behalf, unless before the expiration of such notice the amount so advanced shall have been called up on the shares in respect of which it was advanced.

**24 Delegation Of Power To Make Calls**

If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any mortgage or other security, the Board may delegate on such terms as it considers appropriate to the person in whose favour such mortgage or security is executed, or to any other person in trust for him, the power to make calls on the members in respect of such uncalled capital, to sue in the name of the Company or otherwise for the recovery of moneys becoming due in respect of calls so made and to give valid receipts for such moneys. The power so delegated shall subsist during the continuance of the mortgage or security, notwithstanding any change of Directors, and shall be assignable if expressed so to be.

**FORFEITURE OF SHARES**

**25 Notice If Call Not Paid**

If any member fails to pay the whole of any call or any instalment of any call on or before the day appointed for payment, the Board may at any time serve a notice in writing on such member or on any person entitled to the shares by transmission, requiring payment, on a date not less than 14 clear days from the date of the notice, of the amount unpaid and any interest which may have accrued thereon and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment. The notice shall specify where the payment must be made and state that, if the notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which such call was made will be liable to be forfeited.

**26 Forfeiture For Non-Compliance**

If the notice referred to in Article 25 is not complied with, any share in respect of which it was given may, at any time before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Board to that effect. Such forfeiture

shall include all dividends declared or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

**27 Notice After Forfeiture**

When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served on the person who was before forfeiture the holder of the share or the person entitled to such share by transmission (as the case may be). An entry of such notice having been given and of the forfeiture with the date thereof shall forthwith be made in the Register in respect of such share. However, no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission to give such notice or to make such entry as aforesaid.

**28 Forfeiture May Be Annulled**

The Board may, at any time before any share so forfeited has been cancelled or sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, annul the forfeiture, on the terms that payment shall be made of all calls and interest due thereon and all expenses incurred in respect of the share and on such further terms (if any) as the Board shall consider appropriate.

**29 Surrender**

The Board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited. In such case references in these Articles to forfeiture shall include surrender.

**30 Disposal Of Forfeited Shares**

Every share which shall be forfeited shall thereupon become the property of the Company. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of, either to the person who was before forfeiture the holder thereof or entitled thereto or to any other person, on such terms and in such manner as the Board shall determine. The Board may, for the purposes of the disposal, authorise some person to transfer the share in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred share in the Register notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the share. The Company may receive the consideration (if any) given for the share on its disposal.

**31 Effect Of Forfeiture**

A shareholder whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the shares forfeited and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate for such shares. He shall nevertheless be liable to pay to the Company all calls made and not paid on such shares at the time of forfeiture, and interest thereon from the date of the forfeiture to the date of payment, in the same manner in all respects as if the shares had not been forfeited, and to satisfy all (if any) claims, demands and liabilities which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of forfeiture, without any reduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

### **32 Extinction Of Claims**

The forfeiture of a share shall involve the extinction at the time of forfeiture of all interest in and all claims and demands against the Company in respect of the share and all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the holder whose share is forfeited and the Company, except only such of those rights and liabilities as are by these Articles expressly saved, or as are by the Companies Acts given or imposed in the case of past members.

### **33 Evidence Of Forfeiture**

33.1 A statutory declaration by a Director or the Secretary that:

33.1.1 a share has been forfeited in pursuance of these Articles; and

33.1.2 stating the date on which it was forfeited;

shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share adversely to the forfeiture thereof, be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated.

33.2 The declaration, together with the receipt of the Company for the consideration (if any) given for its share on the sale or disposition and a certificate for the share under the Seal delivered to the person to whom the same is sold or disposed of, shall (subject if necessary to the execution of an instrument of transfer) constitute a good title to the share. Subject to the execution of any necessary transfer, such person shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such sale or disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or other consideration (if any), nor shall his title to the share be affected by any act, omission or irregularity relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture or disposal of the share. Such person shall not (except by express agreement with the Company) become entitled to any dividend which might have accrued on the share before the completion of its sale or disposition.

## **TRANSFER OF SHARES**

### **34 Form Of Transfer**

Subject to such of the restrictions of these Articles as may be applicable, each member may transfer all or any of his shares by instrument of transfer in writing in any usual form or in any form approved by the Board. Such instrument shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a transfer of a share which is not fully paid up) by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of such share until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of it.

### **35 Right To Refuse Registration**

35.1 The Board refuse to register any transfer of a share (or renunciation of a renounceable letter of allotment):

35.1.1 unless in respect of a certificated share:

(a) it is in respect of a share which is fully paid up;

- (b) it is in respect of only one class of shares;
- (c) it is in favour of a single transferee or not more than four joint transferees;
- (d) it is duly stamped (if so required); and
- (e) it is delivered for registration to the Office or such other place as the Board may from time to time determine, accompanied (except in the case of a transfer by a recognised person where a certificate has not been issued or in the case of a renunciation) by the certificate for the shares to which it relates and such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to prove the title of the transferor or person renouncing and the due execution of the transfer or renunciation by him or, if the transfer or renunciation is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person to do so;

35.1.2 in the case of an uncertificated share in the circumstances set out in the Regulations.

35.2 The Directors may also decline to register a transfer of shares (whether fully paid or not) where the holding represents as least 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the relevant class and there has been a failure to comply with any notice (whether served in writing or in electronic form) under section 793 of CA 2006 requiring the disclosure of information relating to interests in the shares concerned unless the shareholder has not, and proves that no other person has, failed to supply the information. Such refusal may continue until the failure has been remedied, but the Directors shall not decline to register:-

35.2.1 a transfer pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 of CA 2006); or

35.2.2 a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in FSMA) or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the shares are normally traded; or

35.2.3 a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Directors to be made in consequence of a sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares.

35.3 If any holder or any person appearing to be interested in any shares of the Company fails within 14 days after the date of service of such notice to comply with the statutory disclosure requirements then:

35.3.1 if the shares are held in certificated form from the time of such failure until not more than 7 days after the earlier of (a) receipt by the Company of notice that there has been a transfer of the shares pursuant to an arm's length sale and (b) due compliance to the satisfaction of the Company, with the statutory disclosure requirements (should the Directors so resolve) such holder shall not be entitled to attend or vote or to exercise any right conferred by membership at meetings of the Company in respect of all the shares for the time being registered in the account in the register of members of the Company in respect of which such notice was served. In circumstances where the holding represents at least 0.25 per cent. of the



issued shares of the relevant class (calculated exclusive of treasury shares) and (should the Directors so resolve) the payment of dividends in respect of the shares may be withheld, and (in circumstances where the holding represents at least 0.25 per cent. of the issued shares of the relevant class (calculated exclusive of treasury shares) and (should the Directors so resolve) such holder shall not be entitled to transfer such shares otherwise than pursuant to an arm's length sale.

35.3.2 If the shares are held in uncertificated form, the Directors may serve upon the registered holder of such shares a notice requiring the holder to convert his holding of such uncertificated shares into certificated form within such period as is specified in the notice and require the holder to continue to hold such shares in certificated form for so long as such failure continues. If the holder shall fail to do so within such time as is specified in the said notice from the Company, the Directors are empowered to authorise some person to take all such steps and issue such instructions by means of the relevant system or otherwise in the name of the holder as may be necessary to effect the conversion of such shares to certificated form and such steps shall be as effective as if they had been taken by the registered holder of the relevant uncertificated shares. When such conversion to certificated form shall have been effected, the above rules in relation to shares in certificated form shall apply.

35.4 Notwithstanding this Article 35.4 the Board shall not refuse to register any transfer or renunciation of partly paid shares which are listed on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange plc on the grounds that they are partly paid shares in circumstances where such refusal would prevent dealings in such shares from taking place on an open and proper basis.

35.5 Transfers of shares will not be registered in the circumstances referred to in Article 93.

### **36 Notice Of Refusal**

36.1 If the Board refuses to register a transfer of a share it shall, within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send notice of the refusal to the transferee and transferor. Such notice shall give reasons for the decision to refuse registration

36.2 Any instrument of transfer which the Board refuses to register shall (except in the case of suspected or actual fraud) be returned to the person depositing it. All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company.

### **37 Closing Of Register**

The registration of transfers of shares or of any class of shares may be suspended (to the extent the same is consistent with the Companies Acts) at such times and for such periods (not exceeding 30 days in any year) as the Board may from time to time determine. Notice of closure of the Register shall be given in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts. In the case of uncertificated shares the Register shall not be closed without the consent of the operator of the relevant system.

### **38 Fees On Registration**

No fee shall be charged for registration of a transfer or on the registration of any probate, letters of administration, certificate of death or marriage, power of attorney, notice or other instrument relating to or affecting the title to any shares.

### **39 Other Powers In Relation To Transfers**

39.1 Nothing in these Articles shall preclude the Board:

39.1.1 from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person; or

39.1.2 if empowered by these Articles to authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of a share, from authorising any person to transfer that share in accordance with any procedures implemented pursuant to Article 15.

## **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

### **40 On Death**

If a member dies, the survivors or survivor, where he was a joint holder, and his executors or administrators, where he was a sole or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his shares. Nothing in these Articles shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which has been solely or jointly held by him.

### **41 Election Of Person Entitled By Transmission**

Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, may, on such evidence as to his title being produced as the Board may require, elect either to become registered as a member or to have some person nominated by him registered as a member. If he elects to become registered himself, he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have some other person registered, he shall execute an instrument of transfer of such share to that person. All the provisions of these Articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (as the case may be) as if it were an instrument of transfer executed by the member and his death, bankruptcy or other event as aforesaid had not occurred. Where the entitlement of a person to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or of any other event giving rise to its transmission by operation of law is proved to the satisfaction of the Board, the Board shall within two months after proof cause the entitlement of that person to be noted in the Register.

### **42 Rights On Transmission**

Where a person becomes entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of any member, or of any other event giving rise to a transmission of such entitlement by operation of law, the rights of the holder in relation to such share shall cease. However, the person so entitled may give a good discharge for any dividends and other moneys payable in respect of it and shall have the same rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before he is registered as the holder of the share, (except with the authority of the board) be

entitled in respect of it to receive notice of, or to attend or vote at, any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company. The Board may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share. If the notice is not complied with within 60 days, the Board may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable in respect of such share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

## **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

### **43 Destruction Of Documents**

43.1 The Company may destroy:

43.1.1 any instrument of transfer, after six years from the date on which it is registered;

43.1.2 any dividend mandate or any variation or cancellation thereof or any notification of change of name or address, after two years from the date on which it is recorded;

43.1.3 any share certificate, after one year from the date on which it is cancelled; and

43.1.4 any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made, after six years from the date on which an entry was first made in the Register in respect of it

43.2 provided that the Company may destroy any such type of document at a date earlier than that authorised by this Article if a copy of such document is retained on microfilm or by other similar means which such copy is retained until the expiration of the period applicable to the destruction of the original of such document.

43.3 It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled, that every other document so destroyed had been properly dealt with in accordance with its terms and was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that:

43.3.1 this Article 43 shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant;

43.3.2 nothing in this Article 43 shall be construed as imposing on the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than as provided for in this Article 43 which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this Article 43; and

43.3.3 references in this Article 43 to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner.

## **ALTERATION OF SHARE CAPITAL**

### **44 Increase, Consolidation, Cancellation And Sub-Division**

- 44.1 The Company in general meeting may from time to time by ordinary resolution:
- 44.1.1 increase its share capital by such sum to be divided into shares of such amount as the resolution prescribes;
  - 44.1.2 consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares;
  - 44.1.3 cancel any shares which at the date of the passing of the resolution have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person, and diminish the amount of its share capital by the amount of the shares so cancelled; and
  - 44.1.4 subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, sub-divide its shares or any of them into shares of smaller amount, and may by such resolution determine that, as between the shares resulting from such sub-division, one or more of the shares may, as compared with the others, have any such preferred, deferred or other special rights or be subject to any such restrictions as the Company has power to attach to unissued or new shares.

### **45 Fractions**

- 45.1 Whenever as the result of any consolidation, division or sub-division of shares any difficulty arises, the Board may settle it as it thinks fit, and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) where the number of shares held by any holder is not an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share and as a result of such consolidation such holder would become entitled to a fraction of a consolidated share:
- 45.1.1 the Board may determine which of the shares of such holder are to be treated as giving rise to such fractional entitlement and may decide that any of those shares shall be consolidated with any of the shares of any other holder or holders which are similarly determined by it to be treated as giving rise to a fractional entitlement for such other holder or holders, into a single consolidated share and the Board may, on behalf of all such holders, sell such consolidated share for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale after deduction of the expenses of sale in due proportion among those holders (except that any amount otherwise due to a holder, being less than £3 or such other sum as the Board may from time to time determine, may be retained for the benefit of the Company); or
  - 45.1.2 provided that the necessary unissued shares are available, the Board may issue to such holder credited as fully paid by way of capitalisation the minimum number of shares required to round up his holding to an exact multiple of the number of shares to be consolidated into a single share (such issue being deemed to have been effected prior to consolidation); and the amount required to pay up such shares shall be appropriated at the Board's discretion from any of the sums standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or to the credit of profit and loss account and

capitalised by applying the same in paying up the share. In relation to such a capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on it by Article 167 without an ordinary resolution of the Company.

- 45.2 For the purposes of any sale of consolidated shares pursuant to Article 45.1, the Board may authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with, the directions of the purchaser, and the transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

#### **46 Reduction Of Capital**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any rights from time to time attached to any shares, the Company may by special resolution reduce its share capital or any capital redemption reserve or share premium account in any way.

#### **47 Purchase Of Own Shares**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to any rights from time to time attached to any shares, the Company may purchase any of its own shares of any class (including any redeemable shares). Any shares to be so purchased may be selected in any manner whatsoever.

### **VARIATION OF CLASS RIGHTS**

#### **48 Sanction To Variation**

Any of the rights from time to time attached to any share or class of shares in the Company (and notwithstanding that the Company may be or be about to be in liquidation) may be varied or abrogated in such manner (if any) as may be provided by such rights or, in the absence of any such provision, either with the consent in writing of the holders of not less than three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of the class or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of shares of the class duly convened and held as hereinafter provided (but not otherwise).

#### **49 Class Meetings**

All the provisions in these Articles as to general meetings shall apply to every meeting of the holders of any class of shares with any necessary changes. The Board may convene a meeting of the holders of any class of shares whenever it considers appropriate and whether or not the business to be transacted involves a variation or abrogation of class rights. The quorum at every such meeting shall be not less than two persons holding or representing by proxy at least one-third of the nominal amount paid up on the issued shares of the class. Every holder of shares of the class, present in person or by proxy, may demand a poll. Each such holder shall on a poll be entitled to one vote for every share of the class held by him. If at any adjourned meeting of such holders such quorum as aforesaid is not present, one person holding shares of the class who is present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum.

## **50 Deemed Variation**

Subject to the terms of issue of or rights attached to any shares, the rights or privileges attached to any class of shares shall be deemed not to be varied or abrogated by the creation or issue of any new shares ranking equally in all respects (save as to the date from which such new shares shall rank for dividend) with or subsequent to those already issued or by the reduction of the capital paid up on such shares or by the purchase or redemption by the Company of its own shares in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles.

### **RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS ATTACHED TO THE DEFERRED SHARES**

Notwithstanding any other provisions in these Articles which relate to shares, the provision of Articles 51 to 57 comprise all the rights and restrictions which relate to the Deferred Shares.

## **51 Income**

51.1 The Deferred Shares shall confer no right to participate in the profits of the Company.

## **52 Capital**

52.1 On a return of capital on a winding-up (excluding any intra-group reorganisation on a solvent basis) there shall be paid to the holders of the Deferred Shares the nominal capital paid up or credited as paid up on such Deferred Shares after paying to the holders of the Ordinary Shares and holders of any other shares in issue (other than the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares), the nominal capital paid up or credited as paid up on the Ordinary Shares and/or any other shares in issue held by them respectively, together with the sum of £1,000,000 on each Ordinary Share.

52.2 The holders of the Deferred Shares shall not be entitled to any further right of participation in the assets of the Company.

## **53 Attendance and Voting at General Meetings**

53.1 The holders of the Deferred Shares shall not be entitled to receive notice of any general meeting of the Company or to attend, speak or vote at any such meeting.

## **54 Form of Transfer**

54.1 The Deferred Shares shall not be listed on any stock exchange nor shall any share certificates be issued in respect of such shares. The Deferred Shares shall not be transferable except in accordance with Article 56 or with the written consent of the Directors.

## **55 Class Rights**

55.1 The Company may from time to time create, allot and issue further shares, whether ranking *pari passu* with or in priority to the Deferred Shares, and on such creation allotment or issue any further shares (whether or not ranking in any respect in priority to the Deferred Shares) shall be treated as being in accordance with the rights attaching to the Deferred Shares and shall not involve a variation of such rights for any purpose or require the consent of the holders of the Deferred Shares.

- 55.2 Any reduction of capital by the Company of the capital paid up on the Deferred Shares shall be in accordance with the rights attaching to the Deferred Shares and shall not involve a variation of such rights for any purpose and the Company shall be authorised at any time to reduce its capital (subject to the confirmation of the Court in accordance with the Companies Acts) without obtaining the consent to the holders of the Deferred Shares.

## **56 Transfer and Purchase**

- 56.1 The Company shall have irrevocable authority at any time after the adoption of this Article (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) without obtaining the sanction of the holders of the Deferred Shares to:

56.1.1 appoint any person to execute on behalf of any holder of Deferred Shares a transfer of all of the Deferred Shares or any part thereof (and/or an agreement to purchase and transfer the same) to the Company or to such person as the Directors may determine (whether or not an officer of the Company) and purchase the same in any case for not more than £0.01 for all the Deferred Shares then being purchased; and

56.1.2 cancel all or any of the Deferred Shares so purchased by the Company in accordance with the Act.

## **57 Deletion of Articles 51 to 57 when no Deferred Shares in Existence**

- 57.1 Articles 51 to 57 shall remain in force until there are no longer any Deferred shares in existence, notwithstanding any provision in the Articles to the contrary. Thereafter Articles 51 to 57 shall be and shall be deemed to be of no effect and shall be deleted and replaced with the wording "Articles 51 to 57 have been deleted, and the register for the holders of the Deferred Shares shall no longer be required to be maintained by the Company; but the validity of anything done under Articles 51 to 57 before that date shall not otherwise be affected and any actions taken under Articles 51 to 57 before that date shall be conclusive and shall not be open to challenge on any grounds whatsoever.

## **RIGHTS AND RESTRICTIONS ATTACHED TO THE 2011 DEFERRED SHARES**

Notwithstanding any other provisions in these Articles which relate to shares, the provisions of Articles 58 to 63 comprise all the rights and restrictions which relate to the 2011 Deferred Shares.

## **58 Income**

- 58.1 The 2011 Deferred Shares shall confer no right to participate in the profits of the Company.

## **59 Capital**

- 59.1 On a return of capital on a winding-up (excluding any intra-group reorganisation on a solvent basis) there shall be paid to the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares the nominal capital paid up or credited as paid up on such 2011 Deferred Shares after paying to the holders of the Ordinary Shares, the holders of the Deferred Shares and holders of any other shares in issue, the nominal capital paid up or credited as paid up on the Ordinary Shares, the Deferred Shares and/or any other shares in issue

held by them respectively, together with the sum of £1,000,000 on each Ordinary Share.

- 59.2 The holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares shall not be entitled to any further right of participation in the assets of the Company.

## **60 Attendance and Voting at General Meetings**

- 60.1 The holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares shall not be entitled to receive notice of any general meeting of the Company or to attend, speak or vote at any such meeting.

## **61 Form of Transfer**

- 61.1 The 2011 Deferred Shares shall not be listed on any stock exchange nor shall any share certificates be issued in respect of such shares. The 2011 Deferred Shares shall not be transferable except in accordance with Article 63 or with the written consent of the Directors.

## **62 Class Rights**

- 62.1 The Company may from time to time create, allot and issue further shares, whether ranking pari passu with or in priority to the 2011 Deferred Shares, and on such creation allotment or issue any further shares (whether or not ranking in any respect in priority to the 2011 Deferred Shares) shall be treated as being in accordance with the rights attaching to the 2011 Deferred Shares and shall not involve a variation of such rights for any purpose or require the consent of the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares.
- 62.2 Any reduction of capital by the Company of the capital paid up on the 2011 Deferred Shares shall be in accordance with the rights attaching to the 2011 Deferred Shares and shall not involve a variation of such rights for any purpose and the Company shall be authorised at any time to reduce its capital (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) without obtaining the consent to the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares.

## **63 Transfer and Purchase**

- 63.1 The Company shall have irrevocable authority at any time after the adoption of this Article (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) without obtaining the sanction of the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares to:
- 63.1.1 appoint any person to execute on behalf of any holder of 2011 Deferred Shares a transfer of all of the 2011 Deferred Shares or any part thereof (and/or an agreement to purchase and transfer the same) to the Company or to such person as the Directors may determine (whether or not an officer of the Company) and purchase the same in any case for not more than 0.1 pence for all the 2011 Deferred Shares then being purchased; and
- 63.1.2 cancel all or any of the 2011 Deferred Shares so purchased by the Company in accordance with the Act.

## **64 Deletion of Articles 58 to 63 when no Deferred Shares in Existence**

- 64.1 Articles 58 to 63 shall remain in force until there are no longer any 2011 Deferred shares in existence, notwithstanding any provision in the Articles to the contrary.



Thereafter Articles 58 to 63 shall be and shall be deemed to be of no effect and shall be deleted and replaced with the wording "Articles 58 to 63 have been deleted, and the register for the holders of the 2011 Deferred Shares shall no longer be required to be maintained by the Company; but the validity of anything done under Articles 58 to 63 before that date shall not otherwise be affected and any actions taken under Articles 58 to 63 before that date shall be conclusive and shall not be open to challenge on any grounds whatsoever.

## **GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **65 Annual General Meetings**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, annual general meetings shall be held at such time and place as the Board may determine. The Company must hold an Annual General Meeting once in each period of six months beginning with day following the Company's accounting date, in addition to any other General Meetings which are held in the year. The notice calling the Annual General Meeting must say that the meeting is the Annual General Meeting.

### **66 Convening Of a General Meeting**

The Board may convene a general meeting whenever it considers it appropriate. A general meeting shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by the Companies Acts. At any meeting convened on such requisition or by such requisitionists no business shall be transacted except that stated by the requisition or proposed by the Board. If there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient members of the Board to convene a general meeting, any Director may call a general meeting.

### **67 Notice Of General Meetings**

67.1 An annual general meeting shall be convened by not less than 21 clear days' notice in writing. All other general meetings shall be convened by not less than 14 clear days' notice in writing.

67.2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, and notwithstanding that it is convened by shorter notice than that specified in this Article 67, a general meeting shall be deemed to have been duly convened if it is so agreed:

67.2.1 in the case of an annual general meeting, by all the members entitled to attend and vote at the meeting; and

67.2.2 in the case of any other meeting, by a majority in number of the members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority together holding not less than 95 per cent in nominal value of the shares giving that right.

67.3 The notice shall specify:

67.3.1 whether the meeting is an annual general meeting or a general meeting;

67.3.2 the place, the day and the time of the meeting;

67.3.3 in the case of special business, the general nature of that business;

- 67.3.4 if the meeting is convened to consider a special resolution, the intention to propose the resolution as such; and
  - 67.3.5 with reasonable prominence, that a member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint one or more proxies to exercise all or any of his rights to attend, speak and vote instead of him and that a proxy need not also be a member.
- 67.4 The notice shall be given to the members (other than any who, under the provisions of these Articles or of any restrictions imposed on any shares, are not entitled to receive notice from the Company), to the Directors and to the Auditors.
- 67.5 The Board may specify in the notice of meeting a time by which a person must be entered on the Register in order to have the right to attend or vote at the meeting. The time specified must not be more than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting.
- 67.6 A member present in person or by proxy at an annual general meeting or a general meeting shall be deemed to have received proper notice that annual general meeting or general meeting and, where applicable, the purpose of that meeting.

## **68 Omission To Send Notice**

The accidental omission to send a notice of meeting or, in cases where it is intended that it be sent out with the notice, an instrument of proxy to, or the non-receipt of either by, any person entitled to receive the same shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

## **69 Special Business**

- 69.1 All business that is transacted at a general meeting shall be deemed special, except the following transactions at an annual general meeting:
- 69.1.1 the declaration of dividends;
  - 69.1.2 the receipt and consideration of the annual accounts and the reports of the Directors and the Auditors and any other document required to be annexed to the annual accounts;
  - 69.1.3 the election or re-election of Directors;
  - 69.1.4 the re-appointment of the Auditors retiring (unless they were last appointed otherwise than by the Company in general meeting) and the fixing of the remuneration of the Auditors or the determination of the manner in which such remuneration is to be fixed.

## **PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **70 Form Of Resolution**

- 70.1 Subject to the Companies Acts, where for any purpose an ordinary resolution of the Company is required, a special resolution shall also be effective.
- 70.2 A written resolution executed by or on behalf of each member who would be entitled to vote on it at a general meeting at which he was present shall be as effective as if

it had been passed at a general meeting properly convened and held and may consist of several instruments in the like form each executed by or on behalf of one or more of the members.

## **71 Quorum**

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business. Two qualifying persons present at a meeting shall be a quorum.

## **72 If Quorum Not Present**

72.1 If within five minutes (or such longer interval as the Chairman in his absolute discretion considers appropriate) from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting a quorum is not present, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting:

72.1.1 if convened on the requisition of members, shall be dissolved; or

72.1.2 in any other case, shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or to later on the same day or to such other day and at such time and place as the Chairman (or, in default, the Board) may determine. If at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within five minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, one person entitled to vote on the business to be transacted, being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member, shall be a quorum.

## **73 Chairman**

The Chairman of the Board shall preside at every general meeting of the Company. If there be no such Chairman or if at any meeting he is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or is unwilling to act as Chairman, the deputy Chairman (if any) of the Board shall, if present and willing to act, preside at such meeting. If no Chairman or deputy Chairman is present and willing to act, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to act or, if there is only one Director present, he shall be Chairman if willing to act. If there is no Director present and willing to act, then a member may be elected to be the Chairman by a resolution of the Company passed at general meeting.

## **74 Directors And Other Persons May Attend And Speak**

A Director (and any other person invited by the Chairman to do so) shall, notwithstanding that he is not a member, be entitled to attend and speak at any general meeting and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company.

## **75 Power To Adjourn**

The Chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn any meeting from time to time (or indefinitely) and from place to place as the meeting shall determine. However, without prejudice to any other power which he may have under these Articles or at common law, the Chairman may, without the need for the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn any meeting from time to time and from place to place or for an

indefinite period if he is of the opinion that it has become necessary to do so in order to secure the proper and orderly conduct of the meeting or to give all persons entitled to do so a reasonable opportunity of attending, speaking and voting at the meeting or to ensure that the business of the meeting is properly disposed of.

## **76 Notice Of Adjourned Meeting**

Where a meeting is adjourned indefinitely, the Board shall fix the time and place for the adjourned meeting. Whenever a meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more or indefinitely, seven clear days' notice at the least, specifying the place, the day and time of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, shall be given in the same manner as in the case of an original meeting. Save as aforesaid, no member shall be entitled to any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

## **77 Business Of Adjourned Meeting**

No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

## **78 Accommodation Of Members And Security Arrangements**

78.1 The Board may, for the purpose of controlling the level of attendance and ensuring the safety of those attending at any place specified for the holding of a general meeting, from time to time make such arrangements as the Board shall in its absolute discretion consider to be appropriate and may from time to time vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements in place of them. The entitlement of any member or proxy to attend a general meeting at such place shall be subject to any such arrangements as may from time to time be approved by the Board. In the case of any meeting to which such arrangements apply the Board may, when specifying the place of the meeting:

78.1.1 direct that the meeting shall be held at a place specified in the notice at which the Chairman of the meeting shall preside (**Principal Place**); and

78.1.2 make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at other places by members otherwise entitled to attend the general meeting but excluded therefrom under the provisions of this Article or who wish to attend at any of such other places, provided that persons attending at the Principal Place and at any of such other places shall be able to see, and hear and be seen and heard by, persons attending at the Principal Place and at such other places, by any means.

78.2 Such arrangements for simultaneous attendance may include arrangements for controlling the level of attendance at any of such other places, provided that they shall operate so that any such excluded members are able to attend at one of such other places. For the purposes of all other provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.

78.3 The Board may direct that any person wishing to attend any meeting should provide such evidence of identity and submit to such searches or other security arrangements or restrictions as the Board shall consider appropriate in the circumstances and the Board shall be entitled in its absolute discretion to refuse entry to any meeting to any person who fails to provide such evidence of identity or to

submit to such searches or otherwise to comply with such security arrangements or restrictions.

## **VOTING**

### **79 Method Of Voting**

79.1 At any general meeting a resolution put to a vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions the Companies Acts, a poll may be demanded by:

79.1.1 the Chairman of the meeting; or

79.1.2 the Directors; or

79.1.3 by at least two members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote at the meeting; or

79.1.4 any person or persons representing in aggregate not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution.

79.2 In addition the Chairman may demand a poll before a resolution is put to the vote on a show of hands.

79.3 At general meetings, resolutions shall be put to the vote by the Chairman and there shall be no requirement for the resolution to be proposed or seconded by any person.

### **80 Chairman's Declaration Conclusive On Show Of Hands**

Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn, a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority shall be conclusive evidence thereof, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution. An entry in respect of such a declaration in the minutes of the meeting recorded in accordance with the Companies Acts is also conclusive evidence of that fact without such proof. This Article does not have effect if a poll is demanded in respect of the resolution (and the demand is not subsequently withdrawn).

### **81 Objection To Error In Voting**

No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or at which the error occurs. Any objection or error shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution if the Chairman decides that the same is of sufficient magnitude to vitiate the resolution or may otherwise have affected the decision of the meeting. The decision of the Chairman on such matters shall be final.

## **82 Amendment To Resolutions**

- 82.1 If an amendment shall be proposed to any resolution under consideration but shall in good faith be ruled out of order by the Chairman of the meeting, any error in such ruling shall not invalidate the proceedings on the substantive resolution.
- 82.2 In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution, no amendment (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted on. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution no such amendment (other than an amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted on unless either at least 48 hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such ordinary resolution is to be proposed notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the Office or the Chairman of the meeting in his absolute discretion decides that it may be considered or voted on.

## **83 Procedure On A Poll**

- 83.1 Any poll duly demanded on the election of a Chairman of a meeting or on any question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll duly demanded on any other matter shall be taken in such manner (including the use of a ballot, electronic voting or voting papers or tickets) and at such time and place, not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the poll was demanded, as the Chairman shall direct. The Chairman may appoint scrutineers who need not be members. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- 83.2 The demand for a poll (other than on the election of a Chairman or any question of adjournment) shall not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which a poll has been demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result on a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.
- 83.3 The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn, but only with the consent of the Chairman. A demand so withdrawn shall validate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 83.4 On a poll votes may be given in person or by proxy. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way.

## **84 Votes Of Members**

- 84.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to any special terms as to voting on which any shares may have been issued or may from time to time be held and to any suspension or abrogation of voting rights pursuant to these Articles, at any general meeting:
- 84.1.1 on a show of hands every member (who is entitled to be present and to vote) who is present in person or by proxy (who has been duly appointed by a member) or, being a company, by a company representative shall have one vote; and

- 84.1.2 on a poll, every member (who is entitled to be present and to vote) who is present in person or by proxy (who has been duly appointed) or, being a company, by a company representative shall have one vote for each Ordinary Share of which he is the holder. A member entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses the same way.
- 84.2 If two or more persons are joint holders of a share, then in voting on any question the vote of the senior who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders. For this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register.
- 84.3 Where in England or elsewhere a receiver or other person (by whatever name called) has been appointed by any court claiming jurisdiction in that behalf to exercise powers with respect to the property or affairs of any member on the ground (however formulated) of mental disorder, the Board may in its absolute discretion, on or subject to production of such evidence of the appointment as the Board may require, permit such receiver or other person to vote in person or, on a poll, by proxy on behalf of such member at any general meeting. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be delivered to the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the delivery or receipt of instruments of proxy, 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 default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

## **85 Restriction On Voting Rights For Unpaid Calls**

No member shall, unless the Board otherwise determines, be entitled to vote at a general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in person or by proxy, or to exercise any other right or privilege as a member in respect of a share held by him unless and until all calls or other sums presently due and payable by him in respect of that share whether alone or jointly with any other person together with interest and expenses (if any) have been paid to the Company.

## **86 Voting By Proxy**

- 86.1 A member may appoint a proxy or, subject to Article 86.2, proxies to exercise all or any of his rights to attend or speak and vote at a general meeting of the Company. A proxy need not be a member.
- 86.2 A member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to a general meeting provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by him. If more than one proxy is appointed in respect of the same share to act at the same meeting, only the last appointment received will be treated as valid (regardless of its date or the date of its execution) and irrespective of the means by which it was submitted). If the Company is unable to determine which proxy is the last appointment then the Company may (in its absolute discretion) determine which appointment is valid or whether any of them are valid and its decision shall be final.
- 86.3 Delivery or receipt of an instrument of proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting in person at the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed or at any adjournment of it.

## **87 Form Of Proxy**

87.1 An instrument appointing a proxy shall:

- 87.1.1 be in such form as the Board may approve (including, but not limited to the appointment of a proxy using electronic communication);
- 87.1.2 save in respect of any appointment by electronic communication, be under the hand of the appointor or of his attorney duly authorised in writing or, if the appointor is a corporation, under its common seal or under the hand of some officer or attorney or other person duly authorised in that behalf;
- 87.1.3 be deemed (subject to any contrary direction contained in the same) to confer authority (in accordance with section 329 CA 2006) to demand or join in demanding a poll and to vote on any resolution or amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given, as the proxy considers appropriate, but shall not confer any further right to speak at the meeting, except with the permission of the Chairman (or as otherwise determined by the Board where the relevant shares are held by a Custodian);
- 87.1.4 unless the contrary is stated therein, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates; and
- 87.1.5 where it is stated to apply to more than one meeting, be valid for all such meetings as well as for any adjournment of any such meetings.

## **88 Receipt Of Proxy**

88.1 The instrument appointing a proxy and the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which it is signed, or a copy of such authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Board, shall:

- 88.1.1 in the case of an instrument in writing be delivered to the Office or at such other place or places within the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any notice of any adjourned meeting or in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting not less than 48 hours before the time of the holding of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote; or
- 88.1.2 in the case of an appointment contained in an electronic communication, where an address has been specified for the purpose of receiving electronic communications:
  - (a) in the notice of convening the meeting; or
  - (b) in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or
  - (c) in any invitation contained in an electronic communication to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting;

be received at such address not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote;



88.1.3 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be delivered or received as aforesaid after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for the taking of the poll; or

88.1.4 where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting at which the poll was demanded to the Chairman of the meeting or to any Director;

and an instrument of proxy not delivered or received in a manner so permitted shall be invalid. No instrument appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiry of 12 months from whichever is the earlier of the date named in it as the date of its execution or the date on which notice of the appointment was received by the Company, except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting in cases where the meeting was originally held within 12 months from such date. In this Article and in Article 91 **address** in relation to electronic communications, includes any number or address (including, in the case of any Uncertificated Proxy Instruction permitted pursuant to Article 89 an identification number of a participant in the relevant system concerned) used for the purposes of such communications.

88.2 Any appointment of a proxy contained in an electronic communication which is rejected by any arrangements relating to the detection of computer viruses shall not be treated as received by the Company.

## **89 Uncertificated Proxy Instruction**

89.1 Without limiting the foregoing, in relation to any shares which are held in uncertificated form, the Directors may from time to time permit appointments of a proxy to be made by means of an electronic communication in the form of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction, (that is, a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, which is sent by means of the relevant system concerned and received by which participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company as the Directors may prescribe, in such form and subject to such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Directors (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned)); and may in a similar manner permit supplements to, or amendments or revocations of, any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction to be made by like means.

89.2 The Directors may in addition prescribe the method of determining the time at which any such properly authenticated dematerialised instruction (and/or other instruction or notification) is to be treated as received by the Company or such participant. The Directors may treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

## **90 Board May Supply Proxy Cards**

The Board may at the expense of the Company send, by post or otherwise, instruments of proxy (reply-paid or otherwise) to members for use at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the Directors or any other persons. If for the purpose of any meeting invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the expense of the Company, such invitations shall, subject to Article 68, be issued to all (and not

some only) of the members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote at the same by proxy.

## **91 Revocation Of Proxy**

A vote given or poll demanded in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the death or mental disorder of the principal or the revocation of the instrument of proxy, or of the authority under which the instrument of proxy was executed, or the transfer of the share in respect of which the instrument of proxy is given, unless notice in writing of such death, mental disorder, revocation or transfer shall have been received by the Company at the Office, or at such other place or address as has been appointed for the deposit or receipt of instruments of proxy, at least 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting or the taking of the poll at which the instrument of proxy is used.

## **92 Corporate Representative**

A corporation (whether or not a company within the meaning of the Companies Acts) which is a member may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise such person (or if, but only if, such corporation is a Custodian voting in its capacity as such, persons) as it considers appropriate to act as its representative (or, as the case may be, representatives) at any meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. Any person so authorised shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation (in respect of that part of the corporation's holdings to which the authority relates) as the corporation could exercise if it were an individual member. The corporation shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person so authorised is present at it; and all references to attendance and voting in person shall be construed accordingly. A Director, the Secretary or some person authorised for the purpose by the Secretary may require the representative to produce a certified copy of the resolution so authorising him or such other evidence of his authority reasonably satisfactory to them before permitting him to exercise his powers.

## **93 Failure To Disclose Interests In Shares**

93.1 If a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been issued with a notice pursuant to section 793 CA 2006 and has failed in relation to any shares (**default shares**, which expression includes any shares issued after the date of such notice in right of those shares) to give the Company the information thereby required within the prescribed period from the service of the notice, the following sanctions shall apply unless the Board otherwise determines:

93.1.1 the member shall not be entitled in respect of the default shares to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to any such meeting or poll; and

93.1.2 where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent. in nominal value of the issued shares of their class:

(a) any dividend or other money payable in respect of the shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to

pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect, pursuant to Article 165, to receive shares instead of that dividend; and

(b) (subject to the requirement of the relevant system where the share is in uncertificated form) no transfer, other than an excepted transfer, of any shares held by the member shall be registered unless:

(i) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required; and

(ii) the member proves to the satisfaction of the Board that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer.

93.1.3 Any notice issued pursuant to section 793 CA 2006 may treat certificated and uncertificated shares of a shareholder as a separate holding and either apply only to certificated shares or make provision for certificated and uncertificated shares. In the case of shares in uncertificated form the Directors can only use their discretion to prevent transfers to the extent allowed by the Regulations.

93.2 Where the sanctions under Article 93.1 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect (and any dividends withheld under Article 93.1.2 shall become payable):

93.2.1 if the shares are transferred by means of an excepted transfer but only in respect of the shares transferred; or

93.2.2 at the end of the period of seven days (or such shorter period as the Board may determine) following receipt by the Company of the information required by the notice mentioned in that paragraph and the Board being fully satisfied that such information is full and complete.

93.3 Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company issues a notice pursuant to section 793 CA 2006 to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the notice to the member, but the accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 93.1.

93.4 Where default shares in which a person appears to be interested are held by a Custodian, the provisions of this Article 93 shall be treated as applying only to those shares held by the Custodian in which such person appears to be interested and not (insofar as such person's apparent interest is concerned) to any other shares held by the Custodian.

93.5 Where the member on which a notice under section 793 CA 2006 is served is a Custodian acting in its capacity as such, the obligations of the Custodian as a member of the Company shall be limited to disclosing to the Company such information relating to any person appearing to be interested in the shares held by it as has been recorded by it pursuant to the arrangements entered into by the Company or approved by the Board pursuant to which it was appointed as a Custodian.

93.6 For the purposes of this Article 93:

- 93.6.1 a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a notice under section 793 CA 2006, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;
- 93.6.2 **interested** has the meaning in Part 22 CA 2006;
- 93.6.3 reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes reference:
- (a) to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it; and
  - (b) to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular;
- 93.6.4 **prescribed period** means 14 days;
- 93.6.5 **excepted transfer** means, in relation to any shares held by a member:
- (a) a transfer by way of or pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 CA 2006); or
  - (b) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in section 285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000) or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or
  - (c) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares.
- 93.7 Nothing contained in this Article 93 shall be taken to limit the powers of the Company under section 793 CA 2006.

## **UNTRACED MEMBERS**

### **94 Power Of Sale**

- 94.1 The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share of a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, provided that:
- 94.1.1 during the period of 12 years prior to the date of the publication of the advertisements referred to in sub-paragraph 94.1.2 below (or, if published on different dates, the earlier or earliest thereof) (**Qualifying Period**) no cheque, order or warrant in respect of such share sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid envelope addressed to the member or to the person entitled by transmission to the share, at his address on the Register

or other last known address given by the member or person to which cheques, orders or warrants in respect of such share are to be sent has been cashed and the Company has received no communications in respect of such share from such member or person, provided that during the Qualifying Period the Company has paid at least three cash dividends (whether interim or final) and no such dividend has been claimed by the person entitled to it;

- 94.1.2 on or after expiry of the Qualifying Period the Company has given notice of its intention to sell such share by advertisements in two newspapers of which one shall be a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and the other shall be a newspaper circulating in the area of the address on the Register or other last known address of the member or the person entitled by transmission to the share or the address for the service of notices notified under Article 174;
  - 94.1.3 such advertisements, if not published on the same day, shall have been published within 30 days of each other; and
  - 94.1.4 during the further period of three months following the date of publication of such advertisements (or, if published on different dates, the later or latest thereof) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale the Company has not received any communication in respect of such share from the member or person entitled by transmission.
- 94.2 To give effect to any sale of shares pursuant to this Article the Board may authorise some person to transfer the shares in question and may enter the name of the transferee in respect of the transferred shares in the Register notwithstanding the absence of any share certificate being lodged in respect thereof and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by that person shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder of, or the person entitled by transmission to, the shares. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys, nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale.
- 94.3 If during the Qualifying Period, or during any period ending on the date when all the requirements of paragraphs 94.1.1 to 94.1.4 of Article 94.1 have been satisfied, any additional shares have been issued in respect of those held at the beginning of, or previously so issued during, any such period and all the requirements of paragraphs 94.1.2 to 94.1.4 of Article 94.1 have been satisfied in regard to such additional shares, the Company shall also be entitled to sell the additional shares.

## **95 Application Of Proceeds Of Sale**

The Company shall account to the member or other person entitled to such share for the net proceeds of such sale by carrying all moneys in respect thereof to a separate account. The Company shall be deemed to be a debtor to, and not a trustee for, such member or other person in respect of such moneys. Moneys carried to such separate account may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments as the Board may from time to time consider appropriate. No interest shall be payable to such member or other person in respect of such moneys and the Company shall not be required to account for any money earned on them.

## **PRESIDENT**

### **96 Appointment Of President**

The Board may appoint any person who is or has been a Director and who in the opinion of the Board has rendered outstanding services to the Company to be President and may determine the period for which he is to hold office. Any such appointment may be made on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may think fit and may be terminated by the Board.

### **97 Duties Of President**

It shall be the duty of the President to advise the Board on such matters as he or it may deem to be of interest to the Company. The President shall not by virtue of his office as such have any powers or duties in relation to the management of the business of the Company and shall not by virtue of his office as such be a Director.

## **APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS**

### **98 Number Of Directors**

Unless and until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, the number of Directors (other than any alternate Directors) shall be not more than ten or less than two.

### **99 Power Of Company To Appoint Directors**

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed in accordance with these Articles.

### **100 Power Of Board To Appoint Directors**

Without prejudice to the power of the Company to appoint any person to be a Director pursuant to these Articles, the Board shall have power at any time to appoint any person who is willing to act as a Director, either to fill a vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, but the total number of Directors shall not exceed any maximum number fixed in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall retire and be eligible for election at the annual general meeting of the Company next following such appointment.

### **101 Appointment Of Executive Directors**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may from time to time appoint one or more of its body to hold any employment or executive office (including that of Chief Executive or Managing Director) for such term (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts) and subject to such other conditions as the Board considers appropriate in accordance with Article 123. The Board may revoke or terminate any such appointment without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of contract between the Director and the Company.

## **102 Eligibility Of New Directors**

102.1 No person, other than a Director retiring, shall be appointed or re-appointed a Director at any general meeting unless:

102.1.1 he is recommended by the Board; or

102.1.2 not less than seven nor more than 42 clear days before the date appointed for the meeting, notice duly executed by a member (other than the person to be proposed) qualified to vote at the meeting has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment or re-appointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or re-appointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors, together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or re-appointed, is lodged at the Office.

## **103 Share Qualification**

A Director shall not be required to hold any shares of the Company.

## **104 Resolution For Appointment**

A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall be void unless an ordinary resolution that it shall be so proposed has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it.

## **105 Retiring Directors**

105.1 Subject to Article 105.2, at each annual general meeting of the Company all those Directors who have been in office for three years or more since their election or last re-election shall retire from office. In addition, any Director who wishes to retire from office may do so at any annual general meeting.

105.2 At each annual general meeting of the Company all those non-executive Directors who have been in office for three years or more since the date on which they were originally elected as a non-executive Director of the Company shall retire from office.

## **106 Position Of Retiring Director**

A Director who retires at an annual general meeting may, if willing to act, be re-appointed. If he is not re-appointed or deemed to have been re-appointed, he shall retain office until the meeting appoints someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the end of the meeting.

## **107 Re-Election Of Retiring Director**

107.1 The Company at the meeting at which a Director retires under any provision of these Articles may by ordinary resolution fill the office being vacated by electing thereto the retiring Director or some other person eligible for election. In default the retiring Director shall be deemed to have been elected except in any of the following cases:

107.1.1 where at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill such office or a resolution for the election of such Director is put to the meeting and lost;

- 107.1.2 where such Director has given notice in writing to the Company that he is unwilling to be re-elected; or
  - 107.1.3 where the default is due to the moving of a resolution in contravention of Article 104; or
  - 107.1.4 where such Director is for any other reason no longer eligible for re-election.
- 107.2 The retirement shall not have effect until the conclusion of the meeting except where a resolution is passed to elect some other person in the place of the retiring Director or a resolution for his re-election is put to the meeting and lost and accordingly a retiring Director who is re-elected or deemed to have been re-elected will continue in office without a break.

## **108 Removal By Ordinary Resolution**

In addition to any power of removal conferred by the Companies Acts, the Company may by ordinary resolution remove any Director before the expiration of his period of office, but without prejudice to any claim for damages which he may have for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company, and may (subject to these Articles) by ordinary resolution appoint another person who is willing to act to be a Director in his place. Any person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other Director is to retire, as if he had become a Director on the day on which the person in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or re-appointed a Director.

## **109 Vacation Of Office By Director**

- 109.1 Without prejudice to the provisions for retirement (by rotation or otherwise) contained in these Articles, the office of a Director shall be vacated if:
- 109.1.1 all his co-directors dismiss him from such office by signing a written resolution to that effect (in which case the co-directors shall account to the shareholders at the next general meeting of the Company for their course of action);
  - 109.1.2 he resigns by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary at the Office or tendered at a Board meeting;
  - 109.1.3 he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, is removed from office pursuant to these Articles or the Companies Acts or becomes prohibited by law from being a Director;
  - 109.1.4 he becomes bankrupt, has an interim receiving order made against him, makes any arrangement or compounds with his creditors generally or applies to the court for an interim order under section 253 of the Insolvency Act 1986 in connection with a voluntary arrangement under that Act;
  - 109.1.5 an order is made by any court of competent jurisdiction on the ground (howsoever formulated) of mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a guardian or receiver or other person to exercise powers with respect to his affairs or he is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983



or, in Scotland, under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984 and the Board resolves that his office be vacated;

109.1.6 both he and his alternate Director appointed pursuant to the provisions of these Articles (if any) are absent, without the permission of the Board, from Board meetings for six consecutive months and the Board resolves that his office be vacated.

109.2 If the office of director is vacated for any reason, he shall cease to be a member or any committee or sub-committee of the board.

#### **110 Resolution As To Vacancy Conclusive**

A resolution of the Board declaring a Director to have vacated office under the terms of Article 109 shall be conclusive as to the fact and grounds of vacation stated in the resolution.

### **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

#### **111 Appointments**

111.1 Each Director (other than an alternate Director) may, by notice in writing delivered to the Secretary at the Office, or in any other manner approved by the Board, appoint any other Director or any person approved for that purpose by the Board and willing to act, to be his alternate.

111.2 No appointment of an alternate Director who is not already a Director shall be effective until his consent to act as a Director in the form prescribed by the Companies Acts has been received at the Office.

111.3 An alternate Director need not hold a share qualification and shall not be counted in reckoning any maximum or minimum number of Directors allowed by these Articles.

#### **112 Participation In Board Meetings**

Every alternate Director shall (subject to his giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served on him) be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of the Board and all committees of the Board of which his appointor is a member and, in the absence from such meetings of his appointor, to attend and vote at such meetings and to exercise all the powers, rights, duties and authorities of his appointor. A Director acting as alternate Director shall have a separate vote at Board meetings for each Director for whom he acts as alternate Director, but he shall count as only one for the purpose of determining whether a quorum is present.

#### **113 Alternate Director Responsible For Own Acts**

Every person acting as an alternate Director shall be an officer of the Company, shall alone be responsible to the Company for his own acts and defaults and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing him.

#### **114 Interests Of Alternate Director**

An alternate Director shall be entitled to contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements with the Company and to be repaid expenses and to

be indemnified to the same extent mutatis mutandis as if he were a Director. However, he shall not be entitled to receive from the Company any fees for his services as alternate, except only such part (if any) of the fee payable to his appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company direct. Subject to this Article, the Company shall pay to an alternate Director such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a Director.

## **115 Revocation Of Appointment**

115.1 An alternate Director shall cease to be an alternate Director:

115.1.1 if his appointor revokes his appointment; or

115.1.2 if his appointor ceases for any reason to be a Director, provided that if any Director retires but is re-appointed or deemed to be re-appointed at the same meeting, any valid appointment of an alternate Director which was in force immediately before his retirement shall remain in force; or

115.1.3 if any event happens in relation to him which, if he were a Director otherwise appointed, would cause him to vacate office.

## **DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION, EXPENSES AND PENSIONS**

### **116 Directors' Fees**

The Directors (other than alternate Directors) shall be entitled to receive by way of fees for their services as Directors such sum as the Board may from time to time determine. Such sum (unless otherwise directed by the resolution of the Company by which it is voted) shall be divided among the Directors in such proportions and in such manner as the Board may determine or, in default of such determination, equally (except that in such event any Director holding office for less than the whole of the relevant period in respect of which the fees are paid shall only rank in such division in proportion to the time during such period for which he holds office). Any fees payable pursuant to this Article shall be distinct from any salary, remuneration or other amounts payable to a Director pursuant to any other provisions of these Articles and shall accrue from day to day.

### **117 Expenses**

Each Director shall be entitled to be repaid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by him in or about the performance of his duties as Director, including any expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Board or any committee of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company.

### **118 Additional Remuneration**

If by arrangement with the Board any Director shall perform or render any special duties or services outside his ordinary duties as a Director and not in his capacity as a holder of employment or executive office, he may be paid such reasonable additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Board may from time to time determine.

## **119 Remuneration Of Executive Directors**

The salary or remuneration of any Director appointed to hold any employment or executive office in accordance with the provisions of these Articles may be either a fixed sum of money, or may altogether or in part be governed by business done or profits made or otherwise determined by the Board, and may be in addition to or in lieu of any fee payable to him for his services as Director pursuant to these Articles.

## **120 Pensions And Other Benefits**

The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide pensions or other retirement or superannuation benefits and to provide death or disability benefits or other allowances or gratuities (whether by insurance or otherwise) for, or to institute and maintain any institution, association, society, club, trust, other establishment or profit-sharing, share incentive, share purchase or employees' share scheme calculated to advance the interests of the Company or to benefit, any person who is or has at any time been a Director or employee of the Company or any company which is a holding company or a subsidiary undertaking of or allied to or associated with the Company or any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking or any predecessor in business of the Company or of any such holding company or subsidiary undertaking, and for any member of his family (including a spouse or former spouse) and any person who is or was dependent on him. For such purpose the Board may establish, maintain, subscribe and contribute to any scheme, institution, association, club, trust or fund and pay premiums and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, lend money or make payments to, guarantee or give an indemnity in respect of, or give any financial or other assistance in connection with any of the aforesaid matters. The Board may procure any of such matters to be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person. Any Director or former Director shall be entitled to receive and retain for his own benefit any pension or other benefit provided under this Article and shall not be obliged to account for it to the Company.

## **POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD**

### **121 Powers Of The Board**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and these Articles and to any directions given by ordinary resolution of the Company, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Board, which may exercise all the powers of the Company, whether relating to the management of the business or not. No alteration of these Articles and no such direction given by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such alteration had not been made or such direction had not been given. Provisions contained elsewhere in these Articles as to any specific power of the Board shall not be deemed to limit the general powers given by this Article.

### **122 Powers Of Directors Being Less Than Minimum Number**

If the number of Directors is less than the minimum for the time being prescribed by these Articles, the remaining Director or Directors shall act only for the purposes of appointing an additional Director or Directors to make up such minimum or of convening a general meeting of the Company for the purpose of making such appointment. If there are no Director or Directors able or willing to act, any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors. Subject to the provisions of these Articles, any additional Director so appointed shall

hold office only until the dissolution of the annual general meeting of the Company next following such appointment unless he is re-elected during such meeting.

### **123 Powers Of Executive Directors**

123.1 The Board may from time to time:

123.1.1 delegate or entrust to and confer on any Director holding executive office (including a Chief Executive or Managing Director) such of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as it considers appropriate; and

123.1.2 revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

### **124 Delegation To Committees**

124.1 The Board may delegate any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) for such time on such terms and subject to such conditions as it considers appropriate to any committee consisting of one or more Directors and (if considered appropriate) one or more other persons, provided that:

124.1.1 a majority of the members of a committee shall be Directors; and

124.1.2 no resolution of a committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present when it is passed are Directors or alternate Directors.

124.2 The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers and discharge any such committee in whole or in part. Insofar as any power, authority or discretion is so delegated, any reference in these Articles to the exercise by the Board of such power, authority or discretion shall be construed as if it were a reference to the exercise of such power, authority or discretion by such committee.

### **125 Local Management**

The Board may establish any local or divisional boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company in any specified locality, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local or divisional board, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration. The Board may delegate to any local or divisional board, manager or agent so appointed any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate) and may authorise the members from time to time of any such local or divisional board, or any of them, to fill any vacancies and to act notwithstanding vacancies; and any such appointment or delegation may be made for such time, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may consider appropriate. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers. Subject to any terms and conditions expressly imposed by the Board, the proceedings of any local or divisional board or agency with two or more members shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Board, so far as they are capable of applying.

## **126 Power Of Attorney**

The Board may, by power of attorney or otherwise, appoint any person or persons to be the agent of the Company and may delegate to any such person or persons any of its powers, authorities and discretions (with power to sub-delegate), in each case for such purposes and for such time, on such terms (including as to remuneration) and subject to such conditions as it considers appropriate. The Board may confer such powers either collaterally with, or to the exclusion of and in substitution for, all or any of the powers of the Board in that respect and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary any of such powers.

## **127 Associate Directors**

The Board may appoint any person (not being a Director) to any office or employment having a designation or title including the word "director" or attach to any existing office or employment with the Company such designation or title and may terminate any such appointment or the use of such designation or title. The inclusion of the word "director" in the designation or title of any such office or employment shall not imply that such person is, or is deemed to be, or is empowered in any respect to act as, a Director for any of the purposes of the Companies Acts or these Articles.

## **128 Exercise of Voting Power**

The Board may exercise or cause to be exercised the voting power conferred by the shares in any other company held or owned by the Company, or any power of appointment to be exercised by the Company, in such manner in all respects as it considers appropriate (including the exercise of the voting power or power of appointment in favour of the appointment of any Director as a director or other officer or employee of such company or in favour of the payment of remuneration to the directors, officers or employees of such company).

## **129 Provision For Employees**

The Directors may decide to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings or any member of his family or any person who is dependent on him (other than a Director or former Director or shadow Director) in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary undertaking.

## **130 Overseas Registers**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may exercise the powers conferred on the Company with regard to the keeping of an overseas branch, local or other register and may make and vary such regulations as it considers appropriate respecting the keeping of any such register.

## **131 Borrowing Powers**

The Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge all or any part of the undertaking, property and assets (present and future) and uncalled capital of the Company and, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, to create and issue debenture and other loan stock and debentures and other securities, and to give security whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

## PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES

### **132 Board Meetings**

Subject to the provisions of these Articles, the Board may meet for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate its proceedings as it considers appropriate.

### **133 Notice Of Board Meetings**

Any Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, summon a Board meeting at any time on reasonable notice. Notice of a Board meeting shall be deemed to be properly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or by electronic means at his last known electronic address or number or sent in writing to him at his last known address or any other address given by him to the Company for that purpose. A Director may waive the requirement that notice be given to him of any Board meeting, either prospectively or retrospectively. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a Board meeting to a Director who is absent from the United Kingdom unless he supplies the Company with the information necessary to ensure that he receives notice of the meeting before it takes place and he shall not be entitled to a longer period of notice than if he had been present in the United Kingdom at his last known address.

### **134 Quorum**

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business may be determined by the Board and until otherwise determined shall be two persons, each being a Director or an alternate Director. A duly convened meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers, and discretions from time to time vested in or exercisable by the Board.

### **135 Chairman Of Board**

The Board may appoint one or more of its body Chairman or joint Chairman and one or more of its body deputy Chairman of its meetings and may determine the period for which he is or they are to hold office and may at any time remove him or them from office. If no such Chairman or deputy Chairman is elected, or if at any meeting neither a Chairman nor a deputy Chairman is present within five minutes of the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of such meeting. In the event of two or more joint Chairmen or, in the absence of a Chairman, two or more deputy Chairmen being present, the joint Chairman or deputy Chairman to act as Chairman of the meeting shall be decided by those Directors present. Any Chairman or deputy Chairman may also hold executive office under the Company.

### **136 Voting**

Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes the Chairman of that meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

### **137 Participation By Telephone Or Video Conference**

137.1 Any Director or his alternate may validly participate in a meeting of the Directors or a committee of the Directors through the medium of telephone or video conference or any other form of electronic communication or communications equipment, provided

that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and speak to each other throughout such meeting, or by a series of telephone calls or video conferences or any other form of electronic communication from and to the Chairman of the meeting.

- 137.2 A person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall accordingly be counted in a quorum and be entitled to vote. A meeting which takes place by a series of telephone calls or video conferences or any other form of electronic communication shall be deemed to take place where the Chairman of the meeting then is. Otherwise such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no group which is larger than any other group, where the Chairman of the meeting then is.
- 137.3 A resolution passed at any meeting held in the above manner, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be) duly convened and held.

### **138 Directors' written resolutions**

- 138.1 A directors' written resolution is adopted when all the directors entitled to vote on such a resolution and not being less than a quorum, or by all the members of a committee of the Board for the time entitled to vote on such a resolution and not being less than a quorum of that committee have signed one or more copies of it or otherwise indicated their agreement to it in writing.
- 138.2 A directors' written resolution shall be as valid and effective for all purposes as a resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Board (or committee, as the case may be). Such a resolution:
- 138.2.1 may consist of several documents in the same form each executed by one or more of the Directors or members of the relevant committee, including executions evidenced by means of facsimile transmission;
  - 138.2.2 need not be signed by an alternate Director if it is signed by the Director who appointed him;
  - 138.2.3 if signed by an alternate Director, need not also be signed by his appointor;
  - 138.2.4 to be effective, need not be signed by a Director who is prohibited by these Articles from voting thereon, or by his alternate.
- 138.3 Subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors may impose, a directors' written resolution may be passed using electronic communications and no signatures are required if electronic communications are used. Any such resolution shall be valid and effectual as a resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Directors.
- 138.4 Once a directors' written resolution has been adopted, it must be treated as if it had been a resolution passed at a directors' meeting in accordance with these Articles.

### **139 Proceedings Of Committees**

All committees of the Board shall, in the exercise of the powers delegated to them and in the transaction of business, conform with any mode of proceedings and regulations which the Board may prescribe and subject thereto shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Board as are capable of applying.

## **140 Minutes Of Proceedings**

- 140.1 The Board shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose of recording:
- 140.1.1 all appointments of officers and committees made by the Board and of any such officer's salary or remuneration; and
  - 140.1.2 the names of Directors present at every meeting of the Board, of a committee of the Board, of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares or debentures of the Company, and all orders, resolutions and proceedings of such meetings.
- 140.2 Any such minutes, if purporting to be signed by the Chairman of the meeting at which the proceedings were held or by the Chairman of the next succeeding meeting or the Secretary, shall be prima facie evidence of the matters stated in such minutes without any further proof.

## **141 Validity Of Proceedings**

All acts done by a meeting of the Board, or of a committee of the Board, or by any person acting as a Director, alternate Director or member of a committee shall, notwithstanding that it is afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any person or persons acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were or was disqualified from holding office or not entitled to vote, or had in any way vacated their or his office, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed, and was duly qualified and had continued to be a Director, alternate Director or member of a committee and entitled to vote.

## **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

### **142 Director May Have Interests**

- 142.1 Subject to the provisions the Companies Acts and provided that Article 144 is complied with, a Director, notwithstanding his office:
- 142.1.1 may enter into or otherwise be interested in any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested, either in regard to his tenure of any office or place of profit or as vendor, purchaser or otherwise;
  - 142.1.2 may hold any other office or place of profit under the Company (except that of Auditor or of auditor of a subsidiary of the Company) in conjunction with the office of Director and may act by himself or through his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and in any such case on such terms as to remuneration and otherwise as the Board may arrange, either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for by any other Article;
  - 142.1.3 may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with or otherwise interested in, any company promoted by the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested or as regards which the Company has any powers of appointment; and



142.1.4 shall not be liable to account to the Company for any profit, remuneration or other benefit realised by any such office, employment, contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal;

and no such contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal shall be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit.

### **143 Conflicts of Interests**

143.1 The Directors may authorise any matter which would otherwise result in a Director infringing his duty to avoid a situation in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company under section 175 of the CA 2006.

143.2 For the purposes of this article, a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.

143.3 Any authorisation under article 143.1 is effective only if

143.3.1 any requirement as to the quorum at the meeting at which the matter is considered is met without counting the Director in question or any other interested Director; and

143.3.2 the matter was agreed to without the Director voting or would have been agreed to if the votes of such Director had not been counted; and

143.3.3 the Director has declared the full nature and extent of the matter to the other Directors; and

143.3.4 the Director acts in accordance with any terms and conditions imposed by the board pursuant to article 143.4 below.

143.4 The Directors may (whether at the time of the authorisation or subsequently) make any such authorisation upon such terms and conditions, if any, as they may think fit to impose from time to time, and subject always to their right to vary or terminate such authorisation at any time. Such terms and conditions may include (without limitation):

143.4.1 the exclusion of the interested Director from all information and discussion by the Company relating to the matter;

143.4.2 without prejudice to the general obligation of confidentiality) the interested Director being subject to a strict duty of confidentiality to the Company for any confidential information of the Company in relation to the relevant matter; and

143.4.3 the Director may or may not vote (or may or may not be counted in the quorum) at any future meeting of the directors in relation to any resolution relating to the matter.

143.5 This Article shall not apply to a potential or actual conflict of interest arising in relation to any transaction or arrangement with the Company.

- 143.6 If a matter has been authorised by the Directors in accordance with these Articles and such matter then gives rise to a conflict or potential conflict of direct or indirect interest then:
- 143.6.1 the Director shall not be required to disclose any confidential information relating to such matter to the Company if to make such a disclosure would result in a breach of duty or obligation of confidence owed by him in relation to or in connection with that matter;
  - 143.6.2 the Director may absent himself from discussions, whether meetings of the Directors or otherwise, and exclude himself from information which will or may relate to that matter; and
  - 143.6.3 a Director shall not, by reason of his office as a Director of the Company, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he (or a person connected with him) derives from any such matter authorised by the Directors under Article 143.1 and any contract, transaction, arrangement or proposal relating thereto shall not be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such benefit.

#### **144 Directors' Declarations of Interests**

- 144.1 A Director who is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company shall declare the nature and extent of that interest to the other Directors before the Company enters into the transaction or arrangement by written declaration to the Company or in such other manner as the Directors may determine. Any such declaration may (but need not) be made at a meeting of the Directors or by notice to the Directors in accordance with section 184 of the CA 2006 (notice in writing) or section 185 of the CA 2006 (general notice).
- 144.2 A Director who is in any way, directly or indirectly, interested in a transaction or arrangement that has been entered into by the Company shall declare the nature and extent of the interest to the other Directors as soon as reasonably practicable, by written declaration to the Company or in such other manner as the Directors may determine unless the interest has already been declared under article 144.1 above. Any such declaration must be made at a meeting of the Directors or by notice in writing in accordance with section 184 of the CA 2006 or by general notice in accordance with section 185 of the CA 2006.
- 144.3 For the purposes of this article, a general notice to the other Directors by a Director to the effect that (a) he is a member of a specified company or firm and is to be regarded as interested in any contract which may after the date of the notice be made with that company or firm or (b) he is to be regarded as interested in any contract which may after the date of the notice be made with a specified person who is connected with him, shall be deemed to be a sufficient declaration of interest under this article in relation to any such contract; provided that no such notice shall be effective unless either it is given at a meeting of the Board or the Director takes reasonable steps to secure that it is brought up and read at the next Board meeting after it is given.
- 144.4 If any declarations of interest made under this article prove to be, or become, inaccurate or incomplete, a further declaration shall be made.
- 144.5 A Director need not declare an interest under this article:

- 144.5.1 if it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest
- 144.5.2 if, or to the extent that, the other Directors are already aware of it or ought reasonably to be aware of it
- 144.5.3 if, or to the extent that, it concerns terms of his service contract that have been or are to be considered by a meeting of the Directors or by a committee of the Directors appointed for the purpose under these articles or
- 144.5.4 if the Director is not aware of his interest or is not aware of the transaction or arrangement in question (and for this purpose a Director is not treated as being aware of matters of which he ought reasonably to be aware).

#### **145 Interested Director Can Vote Or Count For Quorum**

- 145.1 Subject, where applicable, to the disclosures required under Article 144 and to any terms and conditions imposed by the Directors in accordance with Article 143.4, a Director shall be entitled to vote in respect of any proposed or existing transaction or arrangement with the Company in which he is interested and if he shall do so his vote shall be counted and he shall be taken into account in ascertaining whether a quorum is present.

#### **146 Director's Interest In Own Appointment**

A Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution of the Board or committee of the Board concerning his own appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of his appointment or its termination) as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested. Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment or its termination) of two or more Directors to offices or places of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and a separate resolution considered in relation to each Director. In such case each of the Directors concerned (if not otherwise debarred from voting under these Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

#### **147 Chairman's Ruling Conclusive On Director's Interest**

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of a Director's interest (other than the Chairman's interest) or as to the entitlement of any Director (other than the Chairman) to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be referred to the Chairman of the meeting. The Chairman's ruling in relation to the Director concerned shall be final and conclusive.

#### **148 Directors' Resolution Conclusive On Chairman's Interest**

If any question arises at any meeting as to the materiality of the Chairman's interest or as to the entitlement of the Chairman to vote or be counted in a quorum, and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting or being counted in the quorum, such question shall be decided by resolution of the Directors

or committee members present at the meeting (excluding the Chairman), whose majority vote shall be final and conclusive.

#### **149 Ratification of Acts of Directors**

149.1 The Company may by ordinary resolution ratify any conduct of a Director or an alternate Director not properly authorised by reason of a contravention of Articles 142 to 148.

#### **150 Connected Persons**

For the purposes of Articles 142 to 147 (which shall apply equally to alternate Directors) an interest of a person who is for the purposes of CA 2006 connected (which word shall have the meaning given to it by sections 252 and 253 CA 2006) with a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director.

### **AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS**

#### **151 Power To Authenticate Documents**

Any Director, the Secretary or any person appointed by the Board for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolution passed by the Company or the Board or any committee, and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company, and to certify copies thereof or extracts therefrom as true copies or extracts; and where any books, records, documents or accounts are elsewhere than at the Office the local manager or other officer of the Company having their custody shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Board for this purpose. A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution, or an extract from the minutes of a meeting, of the Company or of the Board or any committee which is so certified shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that any minute so extracted is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

### **SEALS**

#### **152 Safe Custody**

The Board shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and of any other seal of the Company.

#### **153 Application Of Seals**

153.1 The Seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the Board or of a committee of the Board so authorised. The Board may determine whether any instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it and by what means. The Board may also determine, either generally or in a particular case, that a signature may be dispensed with or affixed by mechanical or other means. Unless otherwise so determined:

153.1.1 share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the Seal in respect of any debentures or other securities need not be signed and any signature may

be affixed to or printed on any such certificate by any means approved by the Board; and

153.1.2 every other instrument to which the Seal is affixed shall be signed by one Director and by the Secretary or by two Directors.

153.2 Every certificate or share warrant shall be issued either under the Seal (which may be affixed to it or printed on it by mechanical or other means) or in such other manner as the Board, having regard to the terms of issue, the Companies Acts and the regulations of the UK Listing Authority, may authorise; all references in these Articles to the Seal shall be construed accordingly.

#### **154 Official Seal For Use Abroad**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Company may have an official seal for use in any place abroad.

### **THE SECRETARY**

#### **155 The Secretary**

155.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board shall appoint a Secretary or joint Secretaries and shall have power to appoint one or more persons to be an Assistant or Deputy Secretary at such remuneration and on such terms and conditions as it considers appropriate and any such person so appointed may be removed by the Board.

155.2 Any provision of the Companies Acts or of these Articles requiring or authorising a thing to be done by or to a Director and the Secretary shall not be satisfied by its being done by or to the same person acting both as Director and as, or in place of, the Secretary.

### **DIVIDENDS AND OTHER PAYMENTS**

#### **156 Declaration Of Dividends**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of these Articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends to be paid to members according to their respective rights and interests in the profits of the Company. However, no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board.

#### **157 Interim Dividends**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may declare and pay such interim dividends (including any dividend payable at a fixed rate) as appears to the Board to be justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If at any time the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes, the Board may pay such interim dividends on shares which rank after shares conferring preferential rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares conferring preferential rights, unless at the time of payment any preferential dividend is in arrears. Provided that the Board acts in good faith, it shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferential rights for any loss that they may suffer by the lawful payment of any interim dividend on any shares ranking after those with preferential rights.

## **158 Entitlement To Dividends**

Except as otherwise provided by the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up (otherwise than in advance of calls) on the shares on which the dividend is paid. Subject as aforesaid, all dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid, but if any share is issued on terms providing that it shall rank for dividend as from a particular date, it shall rank for dividend accordingly.

## **159 Calls Or Debts May Be Deducted From Dividends**

The Board may deduct from any dividend or other money payable to any person on or in respect of a share all such sums as may be due from him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to the shares of the Company.

## **160 Distribution In Specie**

160.1 The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, direct that payment of any dividend declared may be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of assets, and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company, or in any one or more of such ways. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle it as it considers appropriate. In particular, the Board may:

160.1.1 issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions);

160.1.2 fix the value for distribution of such assets or any part thereof and determine that cash payments may be made to any members on the footing of the value so fixed, in order to adjust the rights of members; and

160.1.3 vest any such assets in trustees on trust for the persons entitled to the dividend.

## **161 Dividends Not To Bear Interest**

Unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share or any terms of issue, no dividend or other moneys payable by the Company or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.

## **162 Method Of Payment**

162.1 The Company may pay any dividend, interest or other sum payable in respect of a share in cash or by direct debit, bank transfer, cheque, dividend warrant, or money order or by any other method (including by electronic communication) as the Board may consider appropriate and may send the same by post or other delivery service (or by such other means offered by the Company as the member or persons entitled to it may agree in writing) to the registered address (or in the case of a Custodian, subject to the approval of the Board, such persons and addresses as the Custodian may require) of the member or person entitled to it (or, if two or more persons are holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the member or otherwise by operation of law, to the registered address of such of those persons as is first named in the Register) or to such person and such address as such member or person or persons may direct in writing.

- 162.2 Every cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment is sent at the risk of the person entitled to the money represented by it, shall (where relevant) be crossed in accordance with the Cheques Act 1992 and shall be made payable to the person or persons entitled, or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may direct in writing. Payment of the cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment shall be a good discharge to the Company. If any such cheque, warrant, order or other form of payment has or shall be alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the Board may, at the request of the person entitled thereto, issue a replacement cheque or warrant or order or make payment in some other form, subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may consider appropriate.
- 162.3 Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share may give an effective receipt for any dividend or other moneys payable in respect of such share.
- 162.4 The Board may, at its discretion, make provisions to enable a Custodian and/or any member as the Board shall from time to time determine to receive duly declared dividends in a currency or currencies other than sterling. For the purposes of the calculation of the amount receivable in respect of any dividend, the rate of exchange to be used to determine the foreign currency equivalent of any sum payable as a dividend shall be such rate or rates and the payment thereof shall be on such terms and conditions as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine.

### **163 Uncashed Dividends**

If cheques, warrants or orders for dividends or other sums payable in respect of a share sent by the Company to the person entitled thereto are returned to the Company or left uncashed on two consecutive occasions or, following one occasion, reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address to be used for the purpose, the Company shall not be obliged to send any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of that share due to that person until he notifies the Company of an address to be used for the purpose.

### **164 Unclaimed Dividends**

All dividends, interest or other sum payable and unclaimed for 12 months after having become payable may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Board for the benefit of the Company until claimed and the Company shall not be constituted a trustee in respect thereof. All dividends unclaimed for a period of 12 years after having been declared or become due for payment shall (if the Board so resolves) be forfeited and shall cease to remain owing by the Company.

### **165 Payment Of Scrip Dividends**

- 165.1 The Board may, with the prior authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may determine, offer to any holders of Ordinary Shares the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares, credited as fully paid, instead of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the Board) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply:
- 165.1.1 such resolution may specify a particular dividend, or may specify all or any dividends declared within a specified period or periods;

- 165.1.2 the entitlement of each holder of Ordinary Shares to new Ordinary Shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) of the dividend that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose "relevant value" shall be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Ordinary Shares on the London Stock Exchange's market for listed securities, as derived from the Daily Official List, for the day on which the Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days, or in such other manner as the Board may determine on such basis as it considers to be fair and reasonable. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount;
- 165.1.3 no fractions of a share shall be allotted. The Board may make such provisions as it considers appropriate for any fractional entitlements including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, the benefit thereof accrues to the Company and/or under which fractional entitlements are accrued and/or retained and in each case accumulated on behalf of any member and such accruals or retentions are applied to the allotment by way of bonus to or cash subscription on behalf of such member of fully paid Ordinary Shares and/or provisions whereby cash payments may be made to members in respect of their fractional entitlements;
- 165.1.4 the Board shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of Ordinary Shares in writing of the right of election offered to them, and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be lodged in order to be effective;
- 165.1.5 the Board may exclude from any offer any holders of Ordinary Shares or any Ordinary Shares held by a Custodian or any Ordinary Shares on which dividends are payable in foreign currency where the Board considers that the making of the offer to them or in respect of such shares would or might involve the contravention of the laws of any territory or that for any other reason the offer should not be made to them or in respect of such shares;
- 165.1.6 the Board may establish or vary from time to time a procedure for election mandates in respect of future rights of election and may determine that every duly effected election in respect of any Ordinary Shares shall be binding on every successor in title to the holder thereof;
- 165.1.7 the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on Ordinary Shares in respect of which an election has been duly made (**elected Ordinary Shares**) and instead additional Ordinary Shares shall be allotted to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the Board may capitalise, out of any amount from time to time standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or of any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash as the Board may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional Ordinary Shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued Ordinary Shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on that basis. A Board resolution capitalising



any part of such reserve or fund or profits shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been declared by ordinary resolution of the Company in accordance with Article 167 and in relation to any such capitalisation the Board may exercise all the powers conferred on them by Article 167 without need of such ordinary resolution. The Board may do all acts and things considered necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation;

165.1.8 the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank *pari passu* in all respects with each other and with the fully paid Ordinary Shares in issue on the record date for the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been offered, except that they will not rank for any dividend or other distribution or other entitlement which has been declared, paid or made by reference to such record date; and

165.1.9 the Board may terminate, suspend or amend any offer of the right to elect to receive Ordinary Shares in lieu of any cash dividend at any time and generally may implement any scrip dividend scheme on such terms and conditions as the Board may from time to time determine and take such other action as the Board may deem necessary or desirable from time to time in respect of any such scheme.

## **166 Reserves**

The Board may, before recommending any dividend (whether preferential or otherwise), carry to reserve out of the profits of the Company such sums as it considers appropriate. All sums standing to reserve may be applied from time to time, at the discretion of the Board, for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied, and pending such application may, at the like discretion, either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments as the Board considers appropriate. The Board may divide the reserve into such special funds as it considers appropriate, and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided as it considers appropriate. The Board may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which it may think prudent not to distribute.

## **167 Capitalisation Of Reserves**

167.1 The Board may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:

167.1.1 subject as provided in this Article, resolve to capitalise any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund of the Company which is available for distribution or standing to the credit of share premium account or capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve;

167.1.2 appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the holders of Ordinary Shares in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, from time to time unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying

up in full unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those holders of Ordinary Shares or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other, provided that:

- (a) the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, any other undistributable reserve and any profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to holders of Ordinary Shares credited as fully paid; and
  - (b) in a case where any sum is applied in paying amounts from time to time unpaid on any shares of the Company or in paying up in full debentures of the Company, the amount of the net assets of the Company at that time is not less than the aggregate of the called up share capital of the Company and its undistributable reserves as shown in the latest audited accounts of the Company or such other accounts as may be relevant and would not be reduced below that aggregate by the payment thereof;
- 167.1.3 resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall, so long as such shares remain partly paid, rank for dividends only to the extent that such partly paid shares rank for dividends;
- 167.1.4 make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates (or by ignoring fractions or by accruing the benefit thereof to the Company rather than to the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned) or by payment in cash or otherwise as it considers appropriate in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions;
- 167.1.5 authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the holders of Ordinary Shares concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for either:
- (a) the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid up, of any shares or debentures to which they may be entitled on such capitalisation; or
  - (b) the payment up by the Company on behalf of such holders by the application thereto of their respective proportions of the reserves or profits resolved to be capitalised, of the amounts or any part of the amounts remaining unpaid on their existing shares
  - (c) (any agreement made under such authority being effective and binding on all such holders); and
  - (d) generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution.

## **168 Record Dates**

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares and subject always to the Companies Acts the

Company or the Board may by resolution specify any date (**record date**) as the date at the close of business (or such other time as the Board may determine) on which persons registered as the holders of shares or other securities shall be entitled to receipt of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment, issue, notice, information, document or circular and such record date may be on or at any time before the date on which the same is paid, made, given or served or (in the case of any dividend, distribution, interest, allotment or issue) at any time after the same is recommended, resolved, declared or announced but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of the same of transferors and transferees of any such shares or other securities. No change in the register of such holders after the record date shall invalidate the same.

## **ACCOUNTS**

### **169 Accounting Records**

The Board shall cause to be kept accounting records sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions, and such as to disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company at that time and to enable the Directors to ensure that any accounts required to be prepared comply with the requirements of the 2006 Act.

### **170 Accounts To Be Sent To Members**

Except as provided in Article 171 and subject to Article 172, a copy of the Directors' and Auditors' reports accompanied by copies of the annual accounts shall, not less than 21 clear days before the annual general meeting before which they are to be laid, be delivered or sent or made available to every member and holder of debentures of the Company and to the Auditors and to every other person who is entitled to receive notice of general meetings. However, this Article shall not require a copy of those documents to be sent to any person who under the provisions of these Articles is not entitled to receive notices from the Company or of whose address the Company is unaware or to any holder of debentures of whose address the Company is unaware or to more than one of the joint holders of any shares or debentures. If all or any of the shares in or debentures of the Company are listed or dealt in on any stock exchange, there shall at the same time be forwarded to the secretary of that stock exchange such number of copies of each of those documents as the regulations of that stock exchange may require.

### **171 Summary Financial Statements**

The Company may, in accordance with sections 426 to 429 CA 2006 and any regulations made under it, send a summary financial statement to any member instead of or in addition to the documents referred to in Article 170. Where it does so, the statement shall be subject to Article 172 delivered or sent by post to the member not less than 21 clear days before the annual general meeting before which those documents are to be laid.

### **172 Accounts And Summary Financial Statements**

172.1 As far as the Companies Acts allow copies of the Director's and Auditor's Reports, annual accounts and summary financial statements (if applicable) may be sent, delivered or made available to any of the persons to whom the Company is required to send deliver or make available such documents pursuant to Articles 171 and 172 by any of the following methods:

- 172.1.1 by post;
- 172.1.2 by fax to an address notified to the Company by such person for such purpose;
- 172.1.3 by electronic communication to an address notified to the Company by such person for such purpose; and
- 172.1.4 by publishing such documents on a web site or web sites and notifying such persons (by one of the methods referred to in Article 172.1.1 – 172.1.3) of the publication of such documents on a web site, the address of the web site and where and how such documents may be accessed.

## **NOTICES**

### **173 Notices**

Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these Articles shall be in writing, except that a notice convening a Board or Board committee meeting need not be in writing.

### **174 Service Of Notice On Members**

- 174.1 The Company may deliver a notice or other document, including a share certificate, to a member:
  - 174.1.1 by delivering it by hand to the member at his registered address; or
  - 174.1.2 by post or other delivery service in a pre-paid envelope to the member at his registered address; or
  - 174.1.3 by fax (except for share certificates) to an address notified to the Company by the member for such purpose; or
  - 174.1.4 by electronic communication (except for share certificates) to an address notified to the Company by the member for such purpose; or
  - 174.1.5 where the Companies Acts permit by publishing such notice or document on a web site or web sites and notifying members (by one of the methods listed in paragraphs 174.1.1 - 174.1.4 of this Article) of the publication of such notice and documents on a web site, the address of the web site and where and how such notices or documents may be accessed.
- 174.2 In the case of joint holders of a share, all notices or documents shall be given to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of the joint holding. Notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders.
- 174.3 Where a member (or, in the case of joint holders, the person first named in the Register) has a registered address outside the United Kingdom but has notified the Company of an address within the United Kingdom at which notices or other documents may be given to him or an address to which notices may be sent using electronic communications, he shall be entitled to have notices given to him at that address; but otherwise no such member shall be entitled to receive any notice or document from the Company.

174.4 If on three consecutive occasions notices or other documents have been sent through the post to any member at his registered address or his address for the service of notices but have been returned undelivered, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive notices or other documents from the Company until he shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing a new registered address or address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices.

#### **175 Notice In Case Of Death, Bankruptcy Or Mental Disorder**

The Company may give notice to the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member or otherwise by operation of law, by sending or delivering it in any manner authorised by these Articles for the giving of notice to a member, addressed to that person by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased or trustee of the bankrupt or representative by operation of law or by any like description, at the address (if any) within the United Kingdom supplied for the purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been so supplied, a notice may be given in any manner in which it might have been given if the death or bankruptcy or operation of law had not occurred.

#### **176 Evidence Of Service**

176.1 Any member present, in person or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or of the holders of any class of shares of the Company shall be deemed to have received due notice of such meeting, and, where requisite, of the purposes for which such meeting was called.

176.2 Any notice, certificate or other document, addressed to a member at his registered address, address for service in the United Kingdom or an address to which notices and other documents may be sent using electronic communications shall:

176.2.1 if sent by post, be deemed to have been served or delivered:

- (a) 24 hours after it was posted, if sent by first class post; or
- (b) 48 hours after it was posted, if sent by second class post;

176.2.2 if delivered by hand or left at such address be deemed to have been served or delivered on the day on which it was so delivered or left;

176.2.3 if sent by fax (other than a share certificate), be deemed to have been served or delivered 24 hours after it was transmitted and proof that the fax was properly addressed and transmitted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given;

176.2.4 if sent by electronic communications (other than a share certificate), be deemed to have been served or delivered 24 hours after it was transmitted and proof that the fax was properly addressed and transmitted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given; and

176.2.5 if published on a website (other than a share certificate) be deemed to have been served or delivered 24 hours after notice of the publication and the address of the website is sent.

The deemed delivery or service of any notice in accordance with paragraphs 176.2.1 and 176.2.4 of this Article shall not be effected by the failure in any transmission by fax or electronic communications beyond the control of the Company.

#### **177 Notice Binding On Transferees**

Every person who, by operation of law, transfers or by any other means becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share (other than a notice given by the Company under section 793 CA 2006) which, before his name is entered in the Register, has been duly given to a person from whom he derives his title.

#### **178 Notice By Advertisement**

Any notice to be given by the Company to the members or any of them, and not otherwise provided for by these Articles, shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement in at least one national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained. Any notice given by advertisement shall be deemed to have been served at noon on the day on which the advertisement first appears.

#### **179 Suspension Of Postal Services And Electronic Communications**

If at any time by reason of the suspension, interruption or curtailment of postal services or electronic communications or threat of the same within the United Kingdom the Company is or would be unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post or using electronic communications, such a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in at least one national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and, where the Company keeps an overseas branch register, in at least one daily newspaper published in the territory in which such register is maintained. Such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members entitled to it at noon on the day on which the first of such advertisements appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post or using electronic communications to any member who has not previously been sent the notice by another method permitted by these Articles if, at least seven days prior to the meeting, the posting of notices to addresses or the use of electronic communications throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

### **WINDING UP**

#### **180 Division Of Assets**

If the Company is wound up the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by law, divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. Any such division may be otherwise than in accordance with the existing rights of the members, but if any division is resolved otherwise than in accordance with such rights, the members shall have the same right of dissent and consequential rights as if such resolution were a special resolution passed pursuant to section 110 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees on such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction

shall determine, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets on which there is a liability.

## **181 Transfer Or Sale Under Section 110 Insolvency Act 1986**

- 181.1 A special resolution sanctioning a transfer or sale to another company duly passed pursuant to section 110 of the Insolvency Act 1986 may in the like manner authorise the distribution of any shares or other consideration receivable by the liquidator among the members otherwise than in accordance with their existing rights, and any such determination shall be binding on all the members, subject to the right of dissent and consequential rights conferred by the said section.

## **INDEMNITY**

### **182 Right To Indemnity for Directors**

- 182.1 Subject to the provisions, and so far as may be permitted by and consistent with, the Companies Acts and Article 182.2, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may be otherwise entitled, every Director or alternate Director and every Director or alternate Director of any Associated Company shall be entitled to be indemnified, if the Board so determines, out of the assets of the Company against:

182.1.1 all costs, charges, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him in the actual or purported execution or discharge of his duties or exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation thereto, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) paying his reasonable costs as they are incurred and any other liability incurred in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) brought by any person which relate to anything done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted by him in relation to the Company; and/or

182.1.2 to the extent any Director or alternate Director is or was a Director of an Associated Company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme, any liability incurred by him directly or indirectly (including any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) in connection with the Company's activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme.

- 182.2 Article 170.1 does not permit a Director or Alternate Director to be indemnified against any liability:

182.2.1 to pay a fine imposed on him in criminal proceedings; or

182.2.2 to pay a sum payable to a regulatory authority by way of a penalty in respect of non-compliance with any requirement of a regulatory nature (however arising);

or incurred by him:

182.2.3 in defending any criminal proceedings in which he is convicted or

182.2.4 in defending any civil proceedings brought by the Company, or an associated company, in which judgment is given against him; or

- 182.2.5 in connection with any application under section 144 (3) or (4) (acquisition of shares by innocent nominee) or section 727 (general power to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct) of the CA 1985.
- 182.3 Any liability of a Director or alternate Director satisfied by the Company or an associated company in defending any criminal proceedings in which he is convicted or any civil proceedings brought by the Company, or an associated company, in which judgment is given against him shall be repaid by him immediately following his conviction or judgement.
- 182.4 For the purposes of this Article 182 **Associated Company** shall have the meaning given by section 256 of the CA 2006.

### **183 Right To Indemnity for Auditors**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which he may be otherwise entitled, an Auditor may be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses, damages and liabilities incurred by him in the actual or purported execution or discharge of his duties or exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation thereto, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) and liability incurred in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) which relate to anything done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted or alleged to have been done or omitted by him as auditor and in which judgement is given in his favour or which his is acquitted or in connection with any application under the Companies Acts in which relief is granted to him by any court of competent jurisdiction.

### **184 Power To Insure**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any person who is or was at any time a Director or other officer or employee or auditor of the Company or of any other company which is a subsidiary or subsidiary undertaking of the Company or in which the Company has an interest whether direct or indirect or who is or was at any time a trustee of any pension fund or employee benefits trust in which any employee of the Company or of any such other company or subsidiary undertaking is or has been interested indemnifying such person against any liability which may attach to him or loss or expenditure which he may incur in relation to anything done or alleged to have been done or omitted to be done as a Director, officer, employee, auditor or trustee.

## **DOCUMENTS**

### **185 Signature Of Documents**

If these Articles require a document (including, but not limited to, a proxy form) to be signed by a member or any other person and that document is contained in, or constituted by, an electronic communication, the Directors may, in their absolute discretion, disapply the requirement for that document to be signed or require the electronic signature or personal identification details of that member or other person to be contained within that electronic communication or impose such other terms and conditions as the Directors may in their absolute discretion determine. If any document is not verified in accordance with the provisions of this Article, then that document shall not be treated as received by the Company.