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Company number: 05984855

The Companies Act 2006
Private Company Limited by Shares
Articles of Association
of
Vertu Motors plc ~~(CN : 05984855)~~

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Adopted by special resolution on _____ 2023

muckle^{LLP}

Muckle LLP
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BF

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The Companies Act 2006
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
VERTU MOTORS PLC

Private Company Limited by Shares

Articles of Association

of

Vertu Motors plc

(Company)

1. **Definitions and Interpretation**

1.1 Any regulations containing or prescribing model or default articles of association for companies including (without limitation) the regulations contained in the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 shall not apply to the Company. The following shall be the articles of association of the Company.

1.2 In these articles of association:

1.2.1 the following words have the following meanings:

Act the Companies Act 2006 including any statutory modification, re-enactment or replacement of it for the time being in force.

address includes a number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving documents or information by electronic means (including, in the case of any Uncertificated Proxy Instruction permitted pursuant to Article 15.13, an identification number of a participant in the relevant system concerned).

AIM a market operated by the London Stock Exchange plc.

Articles the articles of association of the Company as from time to time amended.

Auditors the auditors for the time being of the Company or, in the case of joint auditors, any one of them.

bankruptcy includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to bankruptcy.

Board	the board of Directors for the time being of the Company or the Directors present at a duly convened meeting of Directors at which a quorum is present.
cash memorandum account <u>accounts</u>	an account so designated by the relevant system concerned.
certificate	a paper certificate (other than a share warrant) evidencing a person's title to specified shares or other securities.
certificated	in relation to a share, means that it is not an uncertificated share or a share in respect of which a share warrant has been issued and is current.
clear days	in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect.
Companies Acts	the Companies Acts as defined in section 2 of the Act and every other statute or regulation for the time being in force concerning companies and in each case insofar as they affect the Company including, for the avoidance of doubt, the Uncertificated Securities Regulations.
Depository <u>Depository</u>	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 Directors 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.
Director	a director for the time being of the Company.
document	includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form.

<u>electronic facility</u>	<u>includes, without limitation, website addresses and conference call systems, and any device, system, procedure, method or other facility whatsoever providing an electronic means of attendance at or participation in (or both attendance at and participation in) a general meeting determined by the Board pursuant to Article 14.</u>
executed	includes any mode of execution.
general meeting	includes any general meeting held as the Company's annual general meeting in accordance with section 336 of the Act.
hard copy form and hard copy	have the meanings given to those terms in section 1168 of the Act.
holder	in relation to shares, the person whose name is entered in the Register as the holder of the shares or, in the case of a share in respect of which a share warrant has been issued (and not cancelled), the person in possession of that warrant.
instrument	a document in hard copy form.
London Stock Exchange	London Stock Exchange plc.
month	calendar month.
Office	the registered office of the Company for the time being or, in the case of sending or supplying documents or information by electronic means, the address specified by the Board for the purpose of receiving documents or information by electronic means.
paid	paid or credited as paid.
properly authenticated dematerialised instruction	has the meaning given in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations.
Recognised Person	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 778 of the Act.
Register	the register of members of the Company.

Relevant Public Market	AIM or the Main Market for listed securities of the London Stock Exchange.
relevant system	has the same meaning as in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations.
Seal	the common seal of the Company.
Secretary	the secretary of the Company or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary.
Securities Seal	an official seal kept by the Company for use for sealing securities issued by the Company and for sealing documents creating or evidencing such securities.
transmittee	a person entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a shareholder or otherwise by operation of law.
UK Listing Authority	the Financial Conduct Authority in its capacity as competent authority for official listing under Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.
Uncertificated Proxy Instruction<u>Instructions</u>	has the meaning set out in Article 15.13.
Uncertificated Securities Regulations	the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 including any substitution, modification or re-enactment of those Regulations for the time being in force.
United Kingdom	Great Britain and Northern Ireland. and
year	calendar year.
1.2.2	any gender includes any other gender;
1.2.3	the singular includes the plural number and vice versa;
1.2.4	words or expressions contained in the Articles, if not defined in the Articles, bear the same meaning as in the Act as in force on the date when the Articles become binding on the Company;

- 1.2.5 references to persons include bodies corporate, unincorporated associations, governments, states, partnerships and trusts (in each case, whether or not having separate legal personality);
- 1.2.6 references to **documents** includes references to notices and/or consents;
- 1.2.7 references to **in writing** means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise;
- 1.2.8 a special resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required under any provision of the Articles; and
- 1.2.9 general words shall not be given a restrictive interpretation by reason of their being preceded or followed by words indicating a particular class of acts, matters or things.

2. **Liability of members**

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

3. **Shares**

- 3.1 Without prejudice to any special rights previously conferred on the holders of any shares or class of shares for the time being issued, the Company may issue shares with such preferred, deferred, or other special rights, or subject to such restrictions, whether as regards dividend, return of capital, voting or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine (or, in the absence of any such determination, as the Board may determine) and the Company may issue any shares which are, or at the option of the Company or the holder are liable, to be redeemed. The Board may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such shares. All new shares shall be subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and of the Articles with reference to allotment, payment of calls, lien, transfer, transmission, forfeiture and otherwise.
- 3.2 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts relating to authority, pre-emption rights and otherwise and subject to any resolution of the Company in general meeting duly passed, all shares shall be at the disposal of the Board and it may allot (with or without conferring a right of renunciation), grant options over or otherwise dispose of them to such persons, at such times and on such terms as it thinks proper. No share may be issued at a discount.

- 3.3 The Company may pay any person a commission in consideration for that person subscribing or agreeing to subscribe for securities or procuring or agreeing to procure subscriptions for securities. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, any such commission may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares or other securities or partly in one way and partly in the other and in respect of a conditional or absolute subscription. The Company may also on any issue of shares pay such brokerage as may be lawful.
- 3.4 The Board may at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the Register as the holder recognise a renunciation of it by the allottee in favour of some other person and may accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Board may think fit to impose.
- 3.5 Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust, and the Company shall not be bound by or compelled in any way to recognise any equitable, contingent, future or partial interest in any share, or any interest in any fractional part of a share, or (except only as by the Articles or by law otherwise provided) any other right in respect of any share, except an absolute right of the holder to the ownership of the entirety of it and all the rights attaching to it.
- 3.6 Whenever the share capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the special rights attached to any class may (subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts and unless otherwise provided by those rights) be varied or abrogated either with the consent in writing of the holders of 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 the shares of the class (but not otherwise) and may be so varied or abrogated either whilst the Company is a going concern or during or in contemplation of a winding-up. To every such separate general meeting all the provisions of the Articles relating to general meetings of the Company (including as to notice) and to the proceedings at them shall mutatis mutandis apply, except that the necessary quorum shall be two persons at least holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class (but that at any adjourned meeting any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum) and that any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy may demand

a poll and that every such holder shall on a poll have one vote for every share of the class held by him.

3.7 The provisions of Article ~~3.6~~3.6 shall apply to the variation or abrogation of the special rights attached to some only of the shares of any class as if each group of shares of the class differently treated formed a separate class.

3.8 The special rights attached to any class of shares having preferential rights shall not, unless otherwise expressly provided by their terms of issue, be deemed to be varied by the creation or issue of further shares ranking as regards participation in the profits or assets of the Company in some or all respects pari passu with them but in no respect in priority to them. The special rights attached to the ordinary shares shall be deemed not to be varied by the creation or issue of any further shares ranking in priority to them.

3.9 Whenever as a result of a consolidation of shares any members would become entitled to fractions of a share, the Board may, on behalf of those members or, if the net proceeds in respect of any holding do not exceed £5.00, on behalf of the Company, sell the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable to any person (including the Company) and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members or the Company, as the case may be, and the Board may, in the case of shares in certificated form, authorise some person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser; and in the case of shares in uncertificated form, the Board may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer. 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.

4. ~~Share Certificates – Certificated Shares~~certificates – certificated shares

4.1 Every share certificate shall be executed by the Company in such manner as the Board by resolution may decide (which may include the use of the Seal or a Securities Seal, or printing a representation of the Seal or Securities Seal on the certificate or, in the case of shares on a branch register, an official seal for use in the relevant territory or printing a representation of such Seal) and/or manual or facsimile or printed signatures of one or more Directors or one

Director and the Company Secretary or such signatures or either of them may be dispensed with so that share certificates need not be signed by any person. Such certificate shall specify the number and class of shares to which it relates and the amount paid up thereon. No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class. No certificate shall normally be issued in respect of shares held by a Recognised Person.

- 4.2 In the case of a share held jointly by several persons in certificated form the Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate and delivery of a certificate to one of joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all.
- 4.3 Any person (except a person to whom the Company is not required by law to issue a certificate) whose name is entered in the Register in respect of any shares in certificated form of any one class upon the issue or transfer thereof to him shall be entitled without payment to a certificate therefor (in the case of issue) within one month (or such longer period as the terms of issue shall provide) after allotment or (in the case of a transfer of fully paid shares) within 14 days after lodgement of a transfer or (in the case of a transfer of partly-paid shares) within two months after lodgement of a transfer.
- 4.4 Where some only of the shares comprised in a share certificate are transferred, the old certificate shall be cancelled and a new certificate for the balance of such shares issued in lieu without charge.
- 4.5 Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at his request be cancelled and, to the extent that the balance is to be held in certificated form, a single new certificate representing all such shares issued in lieu without charge.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 If a share certificate shall be damaged or defaced or alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, a new certificate representing the same shares may be issued to the holder upon request subject to delivery up of the old certificate or (if alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed) compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of

any exceptional out of pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Board may think fit.

4.8 In the case of shares held jointly by several persons any such request may be made by any one or more of the joint holders.

4.9 This Article ~~44~~ shall not apply to shares in respect of which a share warrant has been issued or to uncertificated shares.

5. **Uncertificated ~~Shares~~shares**

5.1 Without prejudice to any powers which the Company or the Board may have to issue, allot, dispose of, convert, or otherwise deal with or make arrangements in relation to, shares and other securities in any form:

5.1.1 the holding of shares and other securities in uncertificated form and the transfer of title to such shares and securities by means of a relevant system shall be permitted; and

5.1.2 the Company may issue shares or other securities in uncertificated form and may convert shares or such securities from certificated form to uncertificated form and vice versa.

~~4.15.2~~ If and to the extent that any provision of the Articles is inconsistent with the holding, transfer, issue or conversion as is referred to in Article 5.1 or with any provision of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations, it shall not apply to any share or security in uncertificated form.

~~5.25.3~~ Subject to the Uncertificated Securities Regulations, the Board can lay down regulations which:

~~5.2.15.3.1~~ govern the issue, holding and transfer and, where appropriate, the mechanics of conversion and redemption of uncertificated shares and securities;

~~5.2.25.3.2~~ govern the mechanics for payment involving a relevant system; and

~~5.2.35.3.3~~ make any other provision which the Board considers are necessary to ensure that the Articles are consistent with the Uncertificated Securities Regulations and with any rules or guidance of an operator of a relevant system.

If the Board does make any such regulations, Article 5.2 will still apply to the Articles, read with those regulations.

6. **Calls on ~~Shares~~shares**

6.1 The Board may from time to time make calls upon the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether on account of the nominal value of the shares or, when

permitted, by way of premium) but subject always to the terms of issue of such shares. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the Board authorising the call was passed and may be made payable by instalments.

- 6.2 Each member shall (subject to receiving at least 14 clear days' notice specifying the time or times and place of payment) pay to the Company at the time or times and place so specified the amount called on his shares. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect thereof. A call may be revoked or postponed as the Board may determine.
- 6.3 If a sum called in respect of a share is not paid before or on the day appointed for payment thereof, the person from whom the sum is due shall pay interest on the sum from the day appointed for payment to the time of actual payment at such rate (not exceeding 15% per annum) as the Board determines but the Board shall be at liberty in any case or cases to waive payment of such interest wholly or in part.
- 6.4 Any sum (whether on account of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium) which by the terms of issue of a share becomes payable upon allotment or at any fixed date shall for all the purposes of the Articles be deemed to be a call duly made and payable on the date on which by the terms of issue the same becomes payable. In case of non-payment all the relevant provisions of the Articles as to payment of interest and expenses, forfeiture or otherwise shall apply as if such sum had become payable by virtue of a call duly made and notified.
- 6.5 The Board may on the allotment of shares differentiate between the holders as to the amount of calls to be paid and the times of payment.
- 6.6 The Board may if they think fit receive from any member willing to advance the same all or any part of the moneys (whether on account of the nominal value of the shares or by way of premium) uncalled and unpaid upon the shares held by him and such payment in advance of calls shall extinguish pro tanto the liability upon the shares in respect of which it is made and upon the money so received (until and to the extent that the same would but for such advance become payable) the Company may pay interest at such rate as the member paying such sum and the Board may agree.

7. **Forfeiture and Lien-lien**

- 7.1 If a member fails to pay in full any call or instalment of a call on the due date for payment thereof, the Board may at any time thereafter serve a notice on him requiring payment of so much of the call or instalment as is unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued thereon and any expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment.
- 7.2 The notice shall name a further day (not being less than seven clear days from the date of service of the notice) on or before which and the place where the payment required by the notice is to be made, and shall state that in the event of non-payment in accordance with it the shares on which the call has been made will be liable to be forfeited.
- 7.3 If the requirements of any such notice are not complied with, any share in respect of which such notice has been given may at any time thereafter, before payment of all calls and interest and expenses due in respect thereof has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Board to that effect. Such forfeiture shall include all dividends declared in respect of the forfeited share and not actually paid before forfeiture. The Board may accept a surrender of any share liable to be forfeited hereunder.
- 7.4 A share so forfeited or surrendered shall become the property of the Company and may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of either to the person who was before such forfeiture or surrender the holder thereof or entitled thereto or to any other person upon such terms and in such manner as the Board shall think fit and at any time before a sale, re-allotment or disposition the forfeiture or surrender may be cancelled on such terms as the Board thinks fit. The Board may, if necessary, in the case of a share in certificated form, authorise some person to transfer a forfeited or surrendered share to any such other person as aforesaid and in the case of a forfeited or surrendered share in uncertificated form, the Board may take such steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as it thinks fit to effect the transfer.
- 7.5 A person whose shares have been forfeited or surrendered shall cease to be a member in respect of such shares and shall, in the case of shares held in certificated form, surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate(s) for such shares. Such person shall, notwithstanding the forfeiture or surrender, remain liable to pay to the Company all moneys which at the date of forfeiture or surrender were presently payable by him to the Company in

respect of such shares with interest thereon at 15% per annum (or such lower rate as the Board may determine) from the date of forfeiture or surrender until payment and the Board may at its absolute discretion enforce payment without any allowance for the value of such shares at the time of forfeiture or surrender or waive payment in whole or in part.

~~4.27.6~~ The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on every share (not being a fully paid share) for all moneys (whether presently payable or not) called or payable at a fixed time in respect of such share. 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 7.6.

~~7.67.7~~ The Company may sell in such manner as the Board thinks fit any share on which the Company has a lien, but no sale shall be made unless some sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable nor until the expiration of 14 clear days after a notice in writing stating and demanding payment of the sum presently payable and giving notice of its intention to sell in default shall have been given by the Company to the holder for the time being of the share or the person entitled thereto by reason of his death or bankruptcy.

~~7.77.8~~ The net proceeds of such sale after payment of the costs of such sale shall be applied in or towards payment or satisfaction of the debts or liabilities in respect whereof the lien exists so far as the same are then payable and any residue shall (subject to a like lien for debts or liabilities not presently payable as existed upon the shares prior to the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the shares at the time of the sale. For the purpose of giving effect to any such sale the Board may, in the case of shares in certificated form, authorise some person to transfer the shares sold to the purchaser and, in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the Board may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer.

~~7.87.9~~ A statutory declaration that the declarant is a Director or the Secretary of the Company and that a share has been duly forfeited or surrendered or sold to satisfy a lien of the Company on a date stated in the declaration shall be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share. Such declaration and the receipt of the Company for the consideration (if any) given for the share on the sale, re-allotment or disposal thereof together with, in the case of a share in certificated form, the share certificate delivered to a purchaser or allottee thereof shall (subject to, in the case of a share in certificated form,

the execution of a transfer if the same be required) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is sold, re-allotted or disposed of shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money (if any) nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the forfeiture, surrender, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.

8. **Transfer of ~~Shares~~shares**

8.1 The transfer of a share in certificated form may be effected by transfer in writing in any usual or common form or in any other form which the Board may approve and may be under hand only and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, unless the share is fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor shall remain the holder of the shares concerned until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of them.

8.2 All transfers of shares which are in uncertificated form may, unless the Uncertificated Securities Regulations otherwise provide, be effected by means of a relevant system.

8.3 The Board may in its discretion decline to recognise any transfer of a share in certificated form unless:

8.3.1 the instrument of transfer of a share is in respect of only one class of share; and

8.3.2 is lodged (duly stamped if required) at the place where the Register is kept for the time being (or, in the case of sending or supplying documents or information by electronic means, the address specified by the Board for the purpose of receiving documents or information by electronic means) accompanied by the relevant share certificate(s); and

8.3.3 when lodged it is accompanied by such other evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer (and, if the instrument of transfer is executed by some other person on his behalf, the authority of that person so to do).

Where any shares are admitted to trading on a Relevant Public Market such discretion may not be exercised in such a way as to prevent dealings in the shares of the class in question from taking place on an open and proper basis. In the case of a transfer by a Recognised Person the lodgement of share certificates will only be necessary if and to the extent that certificates have been issued in respect of the shares in question.

- 8.4 The Board may also refuse to register a transfer of shares (whether fully paid or not and whether in certificated or uncertificated form) in favour of more than four persons jointly.
- 8.5 The Board may refuse to register a transfer of a share in uncertificated form in any case where the Company is entitled to refuse (or is exempted from the requirement) under the Uncertificated Securities Regulations to register the transfer.
- 8.6 If the Board refuses to register a transfer they shall as soon as practicable and in any event within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company (in the case of a share in certificated form) or the date on which the operator - instruction was received by the Company (in the case of a share in uncertificated form) send to the transferee notice of the refusal giving reasons for the refusal.
- 8.7 All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company.
- 8.8 No fee will be charged by the Company in respect of the registration of any allotment or transfer or any document relating to or affecting the title to any shares or otherwise for making any entry in the Register affecting the title to any shares.

9. **Destruction of ~~Documents~~documents**

- 9.1 Subject to compliance with the rules (as defined in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations) applicable to shares of the Company in uncertificated form, the Company shall be entitled to destroy:
- 9.1.1 all instruments of transfer or other documents (whether in hard copy or electronic form) which have been registered or in respect of which an entry shall have been made on the Register at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of registration or entry; and
- 9.1.2 all dividend mandates, variations or cancellations of dividend mandates and other written instructions as to the payment of dividends or interest and notifications of change of address at any time after the expiration of two years from the date of recording; and
- 9.1.3 all certificates for shares or debentures or representing any other form of security of the Company which have been cancelled at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of the cancellation;

9.1.4 all paid dividend warrants and cheques from one year after the date of actual payment;
and

9.1.5 all proxy notices from one year after the end of the meeting to which the proxy notice relates.

9.2 It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that:

9.2.1 every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of an instrument of transfer or other document so destroyed or deleted was duly and properly made;

9.2.2 every instrument of transfer or other document so destroyed or deleted was a valid and effective instrument or document duly and properly registered;

9.2.3 every certificate so destroyed was a valid and effective certificate duly and properly cancelled; and

9.2.4 every other document so destroyed or deleted was a valid and effective document in accordance with the recorded particulars in the records of the Company.

9.3 However:

~~4.2.19.3.1~~ Article 9.2 shall apply only to the destruction or deletion of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties thereto) to which the document might be relevant;

~~4.2.29.3.2~~ nothing in Article ~~9.29.2~~ shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction or deletion of any such document earlier than as aforesaid or in any other circumstances which would not attach to the Company in the absence of Article 9.2;

~~9.3.19.3.3~~ references in Article ~~9.29.2~~ to the destruction or deletion of any document include references to the disposal thereof in any manner; and

~~4.2.39.3.4~~ a document referred to in Articles 9.3.2 and 9.3.3 may, subject to the Companies Acts, be destroyed or deleted at a date earlier than that authorised by Article 9.1 provided that a copy of such document (whether made electronically, by microfilm, by digital imaging or by any other means) has been made and is retained until the end of the relevant period.

10. **Transmission of ~~Shares~~shares**

10.1 In case of the death of a member, the survivors or survivor where the deceased was a joint holder, and the executors or administrators of the deceased where he was a sole or only surviving holder as transmittees, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest in the shares, but nothing in this Article ~~40~~10 shall release the estate of a deceased holder (whether sole or joint) from any liability in respect of any share held by him.

10.2 Any transmittree may (subject as hereinafter provided) upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show his title to the share either be registered himself as holder of the share upon giving to the Company notice in writing to that effect or transfer such share to some other person. All the limitations, restrictions and provisions of the Articles relating to the right to transfer and the registration of transfers of shares shall be applicable to any such notice or transfer as aforesaid as if the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred and the notice or transfer were a transfer executed by such member.

10.3 Except as otherwise provided by the Articles, a transmittree (upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Board may reasonably require to show his title to the share) shall be entitled to the same dividends and other advantages as those to which he would be entitled if he were the registered holder of the share except that he shall not be entitled in respect of it (except with the authority of the Board) to exercise any right conferred by membership in relation to meetings of the Company until he shall have been registered as a member in respect of the share.

11. **Untraced ~~Shareholders~~shareholders**

11.1 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 if and provided that:

11.1.1 for a period of six years no cheque or warrant sent by the Company through the post in a pre-paid letter 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 the person entitled by transmission to which cheques and warrants are to be sent has been cashed and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or the person entitled by transmission provided that in any such

period of six years the Company has paid at least three dividends whether interim or final and no such dividend has been claimed; and

~~11.1.2 the Company has, at the expiration of the said period of six years, by advertisement in both a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the address referred to in Article 11.1.1 is located given notice of its intention to sell such share; and~~

11.1.2 the Company has given notice of its intention to sell such share by sending a notice to the member or person entitled by transmission to the share at their address on the Register or other last known address given by the member or person entitled by transmission to the share and before sending such a notice to the member or other person entitled by transmission, the Company must have used reasonable efforts to trace the member or other person entitled, engaging, if considered appropriate, a professional asset reunification company or other tracing agent and/or, if considered appropriate, giving notice of its intention to sell the share by advertisement in a national newspaper and in a newspaper circulating in the area of the address of the member or person entitled by transmission to the share shown in the Register.; and

11.1.3 the Company has not during the further period of three months after the date of the notice or advertisement, as appropriate, and prior to the exercise of the power of sale received any communication from the member or person entitled by transmission.

~~4.311.2~~ The Company shall also be entitled to sell, in the manner provided for in Article ~~411~~, any share (**additional share**) issued during the said period or periods of six years and three months in respect of any share to which Article 11.1 applies or in respect of any share issued during either of such periods, provided that the requirements of Articles 11.1.1 (but modified to exclude the words **for a period of six years** and modified to exclude the proviso), ~~1.1.144.1.2~~ (but modified to exclude the words **at the expiration of the said period of six years**) and 11.1.3 are satisfied in respect of such additional share.

~~41.211.3~~ To give effect to any such sale the Company may, in the case of a share in certificated form, appoint any person to execute as transferor an instrument of transfer of such share and such instrument of transfer shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the registered holder of, or person entitled by transmission to, such share and in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the Company may take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as he thinks fit to effect the transfer. ~~The Company~~

~~net proceeds of sale shall account belong to the member Company and, upon their receipt, the Company shall become indebted to the former holder of or other person entitled by transmission to such share the shares for an amount equal to the net proceeds of such sale by carrying all monies unless and until forfeited under this Article. No interest shall be payable in respect thereof to a separate account which of it and no trust shall be a permanent created in respect of the debt of the Company and the Company shall be deemed to be a debtor and not a trustee in respect thereof for such member or other person. Monies carried to such separate account may either not be required to account for any money earned from the net proceeds which may be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investments (other than shares of the as it thinks fit. If no valid claim for the money has been received by the Company or its holding company if any) as the Board may from time during a period of two years from the date on which the relevant shares were sold by the Company under this Article, the money will be forfeited and will belong to time think fit the Company.~~

12. **Disclosure of ~~Interests~~ interests**

12.1 If a member or any other person whom the Company knows or has reasonable cause to believe to be interested in the Company's shares or to have been so interested at any time during the immediately preceding three years, has been given notice (a **statutory notice**) under section 793 of the Act and has failed in relation to any shares (the **default shares**) to give the Company the information thereby required within the period specified in the statutory notice, the Board may by notice to that member direct that any one or more of the consequences set out in Article ~~42.3~~12.3 shall apply. In order to enforce these consequences, the Board can give notice to the relevant person requiring him to change default shares which are uncertificated shares to certificated shares by the time given in the notice. The notice can also say that the relevant person may not change any default shares which are certificated shares to uncertificated shares. If the person does not comply with the notice, the Board can authorise any person to change any default shares which are uncertificated shares to certificated shares in the name and on behalf of the relevant person.

12.2 These consequences will not take effect earlier than 14 days after service of the statutory notice.

12.3 The consequences that may be applied are as follows:

12.3.1 where the default shares are less than 0.25% of the shares of a particular class of the Company, the member in relation to those default shares shall be prohibited from attending meetings of the Company and no voting rights shall be exercisable in respect of the default shares;

12.3.2 where the default shares are of 0.25% or more of the shares of a particular class of the Company:

~~(a)~~12.3.2.1 the member shall be prohibited from attending meetings of the Company and no voting rights shall be exercisable in respect of the default shares;

~~(b)~~12.3.2.2 dividend payments and shares issued in lieu of dividend on the default shares may be withheld and the Company shall not have any obligation to pay interest on such dividend and the member shall not be entitled to elect to receive shares instead of dividend; and/or

~~(c)~~12.3.2.3 any transfer of the default shares shall be void and shall not be registered unless that transfer is an approved transfer.

~~4.4~~12.4 Where the consequences under Article 12.3 apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect seven days after the earlier of the following:

~~12.3.3~~12.4.1 if those shares are transferred by means of an approved transfer; or

~~4.4.1~~12.4.2 when the Board is satisfied that the information required by the statutory notice mentioned in Article 12.1 has been received in hard copy form by the Company; or

~~12.3.4~~12.4.3 if and to the extent that the Board so determines.

~~12.4~~12.5 For the purposes of this Article ~~12~~12:

~~12.4.1~~12.5.1 references to persons interested in shares and to interests in shares shall be construed as they are for the purpose of section 793 of the Act;

~~12.4.2~~12.5.2 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 to his having:

~~(a)~~12.5.2.1 failed to comply with a notice in whole or in part; and

~~(b)~~12.5.2.2 made a statement which he knows to be false in a material particular or having recklessly made a statement which is false in a material particular;

~~12.4.3~~12.5.3 an **approved transfer** means, in relation to any shares:

~~(a)~~12.5.3.1 a transfer of shares to an offeror by way of acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company (within the meaning of section 974 of the Act); or

~~(b)~~12.5.3.2 a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange or an overseas exchange on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or

~~(c)~~12.5.3.3 a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the Board to be made in consequence of a genuine outright 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;

~~12.4.4~~12.5.4 the expression **default shares** shall include any further shares issued in right of any default shares. The Board can also make restrictions in the notice which applies to any right to an allotment of further shares associated with the default shares.

~~4.5~~12.6 Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any shares of the Company, the Company gives a notice under section 793 of the Act 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 that member of the copy, shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of Article 12.1.

~~12.5~~12.7 Where any person appearing to be interested in any shares has been served with a statutory notice and such shares which are the subject of such notice are held by a Depositary the provisions of this Article ~~12~~12 shall be treated as applying only to such default shares held by the Depositary and not (in the absence of any other reason why they should be so treated) to any other shares held by the Depositary.

~~12.6~~12.8 Where the member on which a statutory notice is served as a Depositary acting in its capacity as such the obligations of the Depositary 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 Depositary or otherwise.

~~42.7~~12.9 Neither the Company nor any of its directors shall be liable to any person as a result of the Board, acting in good faith, having imposed the consequences set out in this Article ~~42~~12 or failed to determine that any or all of such consequences shall cease to apply.

~~42.8~~12.10 This Article ~~42~~12 does not restrict in any way the provisions of the Act which apply to failures to comply with notices under section 793 of the Act.

~~4.6~~12.11 The provisions of this Article ~~42~~12 are without prejudice to Article 3.5.

13. **General ~~Meetings~~meetings**

13.1 The Board may call general meetings whenever it thinks fit and, on the requisition of members pursuant to the provisions of the Act, shall immediately proceed to convene a general meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

13.2 Ordinary business shall mean and include only business transacted at an annual general meeting of the following classes, that is to say:

13.2.1 declaring dividends;

13.2.2 receiving the accounts, the reports of the Board and auditors, the directors' remuneration report and other documents required to be attached or annexed to the accounts;

13.2.3 appointing or re-appointing Directors to fill vacancies arising at the meeting on retirement whether by rotation or otherwise;

13.2.4 re-appointing the retiring auditors (unless they were last appointed otherwise than by the Company in general meeting);

13.2.5 fixing the remuneration of the auditors or determining the manner in which such remuneration is to be fixed;

13.2.6 the approval of fees to the Directors; and

13.2.7 the allotment of shares.

13.3 Subject to the provisions of the Articles and to any restrictions imposed on any shares, a notice of general meeting shall be given to all the members, to all transmittes and to the Board and the Auditors. Subject to section 360B of the Act, the Company may determine that only those persons entered on the Register at the close of business on a day determined by the Company shall be entitled to receive such a notice.

13.4 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that general meeting.

14. **Proceedings at ~~General Meetings~~general meetings**

14.1 In this Article 14:

14.1.1 **physical meeting** means a general meeting held and conducted by physical attendance by members and proxies at a particular place; and

14.1.2 a **hybrid meeting** means a general meeting held and conducted by both physical attendance by members and proxies at a particular place and by members and proxies also being able to attend and participate by electronic means without needing to be in physical attendance at that place.

14.2 The Board may in its absolute discretion decide in relation to any general meeting (including a postponed or adjourned meeting) whether the general meeting is to be held as a physical meeting or as a hybrid meeting (and shall, for the avoidance of doubt, be under no obligation to convene a meeting as a hybrid meeting whatever the circumstances).

14.3 The Board may make such arrangements as they see fit (subject to the requirements of the Companies Acts) in connection with the facilities for participation by electronic means in a hybrid meeting, and the entitlement of any member or proxy to attend the general meeting, or to participate in it by electronic means, shall be subject to such arrangements. In the case of a hybrid meeting, the provisions of these Articles shall be treated as modified to permit any such arrangements and in particular:

14.3.1 references in these Articles to attending and being present at the meeting, including in relation to the quorum for the meeting and the right to vote at the meeting, shall be treated as including participating in the meeting by electronic means;

14.3.2 a notice of a general meeting which is to be a hybrid meeting shall state details of the facilities for attendance and participation by electronic means at the meeting or shall state where such details will be made available by the Company prior to the meeting;

14.3.3 the meeting shall be treated as having commenced if it has commenced at the physical place specified in the notice of the meeting;

14.3.4 the meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the chairman of the meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities have been made available so that all persons (being entitled to do so) attending the hybrid meeting by electronic means, may participate in the business of the meeting, but under no circumstances shall the inability of one or more members or proxies to access, or continue to access, the facilities for participation in the meeting despite adequate facilities being made available by the Company, affect the validity of the meeting or any business conducted at the meeting, provided that a quorum is present;

14.3.5 all resolutions put to members at a hybrid meeting, including in relation to procedural matters, shall be decided on a poll, and for the purposes of Article 14.12, this Article 14.3.5 shall be taken as a demand from the chairman of the meeting for such a poll;

14.3.6 the Board may authorise any voting application, system or facility in respect of the electronic platform for the hybrid general meetings as they may see fit; and

14.3.7 if it appears to the chairman of the meeting that the electronic facilities for a hybrid meeting have become inadequate for the purpose of holding the meeting then the chairman of the general meeting may, with or without the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting, the provisions in Article 14.9 shall apply to any such adjournment and all business conducted at the hybrid meeting up to the point of the adjournment shall be valid.

14.4 If, after the sending of notice of a hybrid meeting but before the meeting is held (or after the adjournment of a hybrid meeting but before the adjourned meeting is held), the Board consider that it is impracticable or unreasonable to hold the meeting at the time specified in the notice of meeting using the electronic facilities stated in the notice of meeting or made available prior to the meeting, they may change the meeting to a physical meeting or change the electronic facilities (and make details of the new facilities available in the matter stated in the notice of meeting) or both, and may postpone the time at which the meeting is to be held.

14.5 An adjourned general meeting or postponed general meeting may be held as a physical meeting or a hybrid meeting irrespective of the form of the general meeting which was adjourned or postponed.

14.6 The Board or chairman of the meeting may make any arrangement and impose any requirement or restriction they or he consider appropriate to ensure the security of a hybrid meeting including, but not limited to, requirements for evidence of identity:

14.6.1 necessary to ensure the identification of those taking part and the security of the electronic communication; and

14.6.2 proportionate to those objectives.

14.114.7 No business other than the appointment of a chairman shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present. Two qualifying persons present at the general meeting and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted shall be a quorum, where a **qualifying person** is any of the following:

14.1.114.7.1 an individual who is a member;

14.1.214.7.2 a person authorised to act as the representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting; and

14.1.314.7.3 a person appointed as a proxy of a member in relation to the meeting,

unless each is a qualifying person only because he is authorised to act as the representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting and they are representatives of the same corporation or each is a qualifying person only because he is appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting and they are proxies of the same member.

14.214.8 If within five minutes from the time appointed for a general meeting (or such longer interval as the chairman of the meeting may think fit to allow) a quorum is not present, the meeting (the **original meeting**), if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved and in any other case it shall stand adjourned to a date which is at least 10 days after the original meeting and, if at the adjourned meeting, a quorum is not present within 15 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting, any two members present in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum. If new business which was not covered in the notice of original meeting is to be dealt with at the adjourned meeting, then that adjourned meeting must be held on 21 days' notice unless the Company has passed a resolution (and that resolution is still in force) in accordance with section 307A of the Act allowing general meetings to be held on 14 days' notice, in which case that adjourned meeting must be held on 14 days' notice. If a general meeting is adjourned for a reason other than lack of quorum, the adjourned meeting may be

called by notice shorter than the notice periods referred to in this article [14.814.28](#) in which case article [14.1214.612](#) shall apply.

[14.314.9](#) The chairman of the Board, failing whom the deputy chairman, shall preside as chairman of the meeting. If there be no such chairman or deputy chairman, or if at any meeting neither be present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and be willing to act, the Directors present shall elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting and, if there is only one Director present and willing to act, he shall be chairman of the meeting.

[14.414.10](#) If no Director is willing to act as chairman of the meeting, or if no Director is present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

[14.514.11](#) A Director 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 in the Company.

[14.614.12](#) The chairman may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (or if in his opinion it is not practicable to obtain such consent but it appears to him necessary in order to facilitate the business of the meeting) and shall if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time (or sine die) and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place. Where a meeting is adjourned sine die, the time and place for the adjourned meeting shall be fixed by the Board. When a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more or sine die or to some other place, not less than seven clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in like manner as in the case of the original meeting.

[14.714.13](#) Except as expressly provided in the Articles, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

[14.814.14](#) 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 the proceedings on the resolution in its original form shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling. In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution no amendment thereto (other than an

amendment to correct a clerical or other manifest error) may in any event be considered or voted upon.

~~14.9.14.15~~ A resolution put to the vote of the meeting at any general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the resolution is put to a vote, or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands on that resolution a poll is duly demanded. Subject to the provisions of the Act a poll may be demanded:

~~14.9.14.15.1~~ by the chairman of the meeting; or

~~14.9.214.15.2~~ by not less than five members present in person or by proxy having the right to vote on the resolution; or

~~14.9.314.15.3~~ by a member or members present in person or by proxy representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution; or

~~14.9.414.15.4~~ by a member or members present in person or by proxy and holding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote on the resolution being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right.

~~14.1014.16~~ Unless a poll is duly demanded a declaration by the chairman that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

~~14.1114.17~~ The demand for a poll may, before the poll is taken, be withdrawn but only with the consent of the chairman of the meeting and a demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.

~~14.1214.18~~ A poll shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or tickets) as the chairman of the meeting directs and he may (and if so directed by the meeting shall) appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and fix a time and place for declaring the result of the poll. The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded. The chairman may adjourn the meeting to some place and time fixed by him for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll. The right to appoint

scrutineers is in addition to any rights of members under section 342 of the Act to require an independent report on a poll.

~~14.13~~14.19 A poll demanded on the election of a chairman or on a question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such time and place as the chairman directs not being more than 30 days from the date of the meeting at which the poll is demanded. 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 demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.

15. **Votes of ~~Members~~members**

15.1 Subject to any special rights or restrictions as to voting attached by, or in accordance with, the Articles to any class of shares, on a show of hands the number of votes each member has, whether voting in person or by proxy is as set out in sections 284 and 285 of the Act. On a poll demanded at a meeting of the Company, all or any of the voting rights of a member may be exercised by one or more duly appointed proxies.

15.2 In the case of joint holders of a share 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; and for this purpose seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the Register in respect of the share.

~~4.7~~15.3 A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder or capacity may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by a person authorised in that behalf by that court, and any such person may, on a poll, vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Board of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at the Office, or at such other place as is specified in accordance with the Articles under Article 15.10, 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. In calculating the said period of 48 hours, no account shall be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day.

~~15.3~~15.4 A member which is a corporation may authorise a person to exercise that member's power to vote in accordance with section 323 of the Act.

~~15.4~~15.5 No member shall, unless the Board otherwise determines, be entitled in respect of shares held by him to vote at a general meeting either personally or by proxy or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to meetings of the Company if any call or other sum presently payable by him to the Company in respect of such shares remains unpaid.

~~15.5~~15.6 On a poll votes may be given either personally or by proxy and a person entitled to more than one vote need not use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses in the same way. A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. A proxy need not be a member of the Company. A proxy appointed by more than one member (an **appointing member**) is not restricted by instructions received from any one appointing member from casting a second or further vote in different ways under any discretionary authority given by other appointing members if the proxy chooses so to do.

~~15.6~~15.7 No objection shall be raised as to the admissibility of any vote except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is or may be given or tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid for all purposes. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

~~15.7~~15.8 The Company is under no obligation to check whether proxies or corporate representatives of members vote in accordance with instructions given by their appointing members and any such vote shall not be invalidated if such instructions are not followed.

~~15.8~~15.9 An appointment of proxy shall:

~~15.8.1~~15.9.1 be in writing and, if the Board determines, may be contained in electronic form, in any such case in any common form or in such other form as the Board may approve and:

~~(a)~~15.9.1.1 if in hard copy form, 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 duly authorised in that behalf; or

~~(b)~~15.9.1.2 in the case of an appointment contained in electronic form, submitted by or on behalf of the appointor, subject to such terms and conditions and authenticated in such manner as the Board may in its absolute discretion determine;

~~15.8.2~~15.9.2 be deemed (subject to any contrary direction contained in the same) to confer authority 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 thinks fit and to speak at the meeting; and

~~15.8.3~~15.9.3 unless the contrary is stated therein, be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates.

~~15.9~~15.10 The Board may require a member to provide the Company with reasonable evidence of the identity of the member or of the proxy appointed by such member. In addition, the appointment of 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, together with any supporting documentation as evidence of identity shall:

~~15.9.1~~15.10.1 in the case of an instrument in hard copy (including any such power of attorney or other authority) be deposited at the Office or at such other place or places and in such location or locations as is or are specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any appointment 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

~~15.9.2~~15.10.2 in the case of an appointment contained in electronic form, where an address has been specified for the purpose of receiving communications:

~~(a)~~15.10.2.1 in the notice convening the meeting; or

~~(b)~~15.10.2.2 in any instrument of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or

~~(c)~~15.10.2.3 in any invitation contained in electronic form 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; or

~~15.9.3~~15.10.3 in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, be deposited 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

~~15.9.4~~15.10.4 where the poll is not taken immediately 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, the Secretary or some person authorised for the purpose by the Secretary.

and an appointment of proxy not deposited, delivered or received in a manner so permitted shall be invalid. No appointment of proxy shall be valid after the expiry of 12 months from the date named in it as the date of its execution or the date of its submission, 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.

~~15.8~~15.11 The Board may determine that, in calculating the periods mentioned in Article 15.10, no account shall be taken of any part of any day which is not a working day (within the meaning of section 1173 of the Act).

~~15.10~~15.12 A member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion. When two or more valid but differing appointments of proxy are delivered or received in respect of the same share for use at the same meeting and in respect of the same matter, the one which is last validly delivered or received (regardless of its date or of the date of its execution or submission) shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others as regards that share. If the Company is unable to determine which appointment was last validly delivered or received, none of them shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.

~~15.11~~15.13 Without limiting the foregoing, in relation to any shares which are held in uncertificated form, the Board may from time to time permit appointments of a proxy to be made by electronic form 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 such participant in that system acting on behalf of

the company as the Board may prescribe, in such form and subject to such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board (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 Instructions to be made by like means. The Board may in addition prescribe the method for 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 Board 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.

45.1215.14 A vote given or poll demanded by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporation shall be valid notwithstanding the previous termination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll unless notice in writing of the termination was received by the Company at the Office or at such other place at which the instrument of proxy was duly deposited or, where the appointment of proxy was contained in electronic form, at the address at which such appointment was duly received before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or the poll demanded or (in the case of a poll taken otherwise than on the same day as the meeting or adjourned meeting) the time appointed for taking the poll.

45.1315.15 The Board may at the expense of the Company send instruments of proxy to the members by post in hard copy form, in electronic form or otherwise (with or without provision for their return prepaid) 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 person. 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 Company's expense, they shall be issued to all (and not to some only) of the members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote at it. The accidental omission to send such an instrument or give such an invitation to, or the non-receipt thereof by, any member entitled to attend and vote at a meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

45.1415.16 From time to time the Board may (consistently with the Act and the Articles) make such regulations and establish such procedures as it considers appropriate to receive and verify the

appointment of a proxy or termination of a proxy appointment. Any such regulations may be general or specific to a particular meeting. Without limitation, any regulations may include provisions that the Board (or some person or persons appointed by the Board) may conclusively determine any matter or dispute relating to:

~~45.14.4~~15.16.1 the appointment or purported appointment or termination of a proxy appointment;

and/or

~~45.14.2~~15.16.2 any instruction contained or allegedly contained in any such appointment or termination.

and any such regulations may also include rebuttable or conclusive presumptions of any fact concerning those matters. The Board may from time to time modify or revoke any such regulations as they fit, provided that no subsisting valid appointment of a proxy or termination of a proxy appointment or any voting instruction shall thereby be rendered invalid.

16. **Number of ~~DIRECTORS~~directors**

Unless and until otherwise determined by ordinary resolution the number of Directors shall not be less than two or more than ten.

17. **Appointment and ~~Retirement~~retirement of ~~DIRECTORS~~directors**

17.1 A Director shall retire from office (but may offer himself for re-election by members of the Company) at the first annual general meeting after his or her appointment and thereafter shall retire from office (and may again offer himself for such re-election) at the third annual general meeting after the annual general meeting at which he was last re-appointed.

~~4.9~~17.2 If the Company, at the meeting at which a Director retires in accordance with Article ~~47~~17, does not fill the vacancy the retiring Director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been reappointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or unless a resolution for the reappointment of the Director is put to the meeting and lost or if the retiring Director has given notice in writing to the Company that he is unwilling to be re-elected or where the default in filling the vacancy is due to the moving of a resolution in contravention of Article 17.4.

~~47.2~~17.3 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.

~~4.10~~17.4 A resolution for the appointment of two or more persons as Directors by a single resolution shall not be moved at any general meeting unless a resolution that it shall be so moved has first been agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it; and any resolution moved in contravention of this provision shall be void. For the purposes of this Article 17.4 a resolution for approving a person's appointment or for nominating a person for appointment as a Director shall be treated as a resolution for his appointment.

~~47.3~~17.5 No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Board for election, be eligible for appointment or reappointment as a Director at any general meeting unless not less than seven nor more than 42 days (inclusive of the date on which the notice is given) before the date appointed for the meeting there shall have been lodged at or sent to the Office notice in writing signed by some member (other than the person to be proposed) duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given of his intention to propose such person for election stating the particulars which would, if he were so appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Company's Register of Directors, together with notice in writing signed by the person to be proposed of his willingness to be appointed or reappointed.

~~47.4~~17.6 Subject as aforesaid the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint any person to be a Director either to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional Director. Without prejudice thereto the Board shall have power at any time so to do, but so that the total number of Directors shall not thereby exceed the maximum number (if any) fixed by or in accordance with the Articles. Any person so appointed by the Board shall hold office only until the next annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for re-election.

~~47.5~~17.7 A Director shall not be required to hold any shares of the Company by way of qualification. A Director who is not a member of the Company shall nevertheless be entitled to attend and speak at general meetings.

~~47.6~~17.8 Subject as aforesaid, a Director who retires at an annual general meeting may, if willing to act, be reappointed. If he is not reappointed, 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.

18. **Disqualification and ~~Removal~~removal of ~~DIRECTORS~~directors**

18.1 The office of a Director shall be vacated if:

18.1.1 he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts or he otherwise becomes prohibited by law from being a director; or

18.1.2 he becomes bankrupt or has a bankruptcy order made against him or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally or becomes subject to a bankruptcy restriction order or undertaking; or

18.1.3 a registered medical practitioner who is treating that Director gives a written opinion to the Company stating that the Director has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months; or

18.1.4 he shall for more than six consecutive months have been absent without permission of the Board from meetings of the Board held during that period and the Board resolves that his office be vacated;

18.1.5 he resigns his office by notice in writing to the Company or he offers in writing to resign and the Board resolves to accept such offer; or

18.1.6 being a Managing Director or a Director holding an executive office, he is dismissed from such office; or

18.1.7 he is requested in writing by all the other Directors to resign.

19. **~~DIRECTORS'~~Directors' fees and remuneration**

19.1 Each of the Directors may be paid a fee at such rate as may from time to time be determined by the Board. However, the aggregate of all fees payable to the Directors (other than amounts payable under any other provision of these Articles) must not exceed £350,000 a year or such higher amount as may from time to time be decided by ordinary resolution of the Company. Any fees payable under this Article shall be distinct from any salary, remuneration or other amounts payable to a Director under any other provisions of these Articles and shall accrue from day to day.

19.2 Any Director who holds any executive office (including for this purpose the office of chairman or deputy chairman whether or not such office is held in an executive capacity), or who serves on any committee of the Board, or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Board are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director, may be paid such extra

remuneration by way of salary, commission or otherwise as the Board or any committee of the Board may determine.

19.3 The salary or remuneration of any Director appointed to hold any employment or executive office in accordance with 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 instead of any fee payable to him for his services as Director under these Articles.

~~20.~~ DIRECTORS' EXPENSES

20. Directors' expenses

The Directors may be paid all travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the Board or committees of the Board or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or of debentures of the Company or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties-

21. Directors' ~~Appointments~~ appointments

21.1 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts the Board may appoint one or more of their number to the office of Managing Director or to any other executive office under the Company, may enter into an agreement or arrangement with any Director for his employment by the Company or for the provision by him of any services outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director and may permit any person appointed to be a Director to continue in any other office or employment held by him in the Company before he was so appointed. Any such appointment, agreement or arrangement may be made upon such terms as the Board or any committee of the Board may determine and it may remunerate any such Director for his services as it thinks fit.

~~4.11~~21.2 Without prejudice to the generality of Article 21.1 the Board may entrust to and confer upon any Director holding any executive office any of the powers exercisable by them as Directors upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as they think fit, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own powers, and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

~~21.221.3~~ Any appointment of a Director to an executive office shall terminate if he ceases to be a Director but without prejudice to any claim to damages for breach of the contract of service between the Director and the Company.

22. **Authorisation of ~~Directors' Conflicts~~ directors' conflicts of Interest interest**

22.1 The Board may authorise any matter where any Director (or former Director if that former Director is still subject to the statutory duty to avoid conflicts of interest) has or may have a direct or indirect interest and/or duty that conflicts or possibly may conflict with the interests and/or duties of the Company provided that:

22.1.1 the Director concerned and any other interested Director are not counted towards any requirement as to quorum; and

22.1.2 the matter is agreed without such Director or other Director voting (or would have been agreed to if their votes had not counted).

~~4.122.2~~ Any authorisation of a matter under this Article ~~2222~~ shall extend to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter so authorised. However, for the avoidance of doubt, no authorisation is required under Article 22.1 in relation to a transaction or arrangement with the Company.

~~4.1322.3~~ The authorising Directors may impose any limits or conditions on their authorisation under Article 22.1 at the time when such authorisation is given or subsequently as they in their discretion consider appropriate including the following:

~~22.1.322.3.1~~ limiting or preventing the disclosure of information to the Director who has or may have the interest that is the subject of the authorisation;

~~22.1.422.3.2~~ limiting or preventing the attendance of such Director at any board meeting or discussion; and

~~22.1.522.3.3~~ limiting or preventing the availability of board or briefing papers to such Director, in each case to the extent the authorising Directors consider appropriate to protect that Director from being in breach of his statutory duty to avoid conflicts of interest.

~~4.1422.4~~ Provided a Director complies with any limits or conditions referred to in Article 22.3, he shall not, except as otherwise agreed by him, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he (or a person connected with him) derives from any matter authorised by the Board

under this Article ~~22~~22 and any contract, transaction or arrangement relating thereto shall not be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such benefit.

~~23. DIRECTORS' PERMITTED INTERESTS~~

23. Directors' permitted interests

23.1 Provided he has declared to the Board the nature and extent of any interest of his at a meeting of the Board or in the manner set out in section 184 or 185 of the Act, a Director, notwithstanding his office:

23.1.1 may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with a Relevant Company;

23.1.2 may be a director or other officer of, or employed by or otherwise interested in any Relevant Company;

23.1.3 may act (or any firm of which he is a partner, employee or member may act) in a professional capacity for any Relevant Company (other than as auditor) whether or not he or it is remunerated; and

23.1.4 may have any other interest authorised by ordinary resolution of the Company.

No authorisation under Article 22 shall be necessary in respect of any such interest.

23.2 Such Director shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such Relevant Company and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.

23.3 For the purposes of this Article ~~23~~23, **Relevant Company** means:

23.3.1 the Company;

23.3.2 a subsidiary undertaking of the Company;

23.3.3 any holding company of the Company or a subsidiary undertaking of any such holding company;

23.3.4 any body corporate promoted by the Company; or

23.3.5 any body corporate in which the Company is otherwise interested.

24. **Directors' ~~Gratuities~~gratuities and ~~Expenses~~expenses**

The Company may provide benefits, whether by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or otherwise, for any Director or former Director and for any member of his family (including a spouse

or civil partner or a former spouse or civil partner) or for any person who is or was dependent on him, and may (as well before as after he ceases to hold such office or employment) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

25. **Powers of ~~Directors~~directors**

~~4.15~~25.1 The business and affairs of the Company shall be managed by the Directors, who may exercise all such powers of the Company as are not by the Companies Acts or by the Articles required to be exercised by the Company in general meeting subject nevertheless to any regulations of the Articles, to the provisions of the Companies Acts and to such regulations, being not inconsistent with the aforesaid regulations or provisions, as may be prescribed by special resolution of the Company, but no regulation so made by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Board which would have been valid if such regulation had not been made. The general powers given by this Article 25.1 shall not be limited or restricted by any special authority or power given to the Directors by any other Article. Subject to the provisions of the Articles all powers of the Directors shall be exercised at a meeting of the Board which has been validly convened and at which a quorum is present.

~~25.1~~25.2 The Board may exercise any power conferred by the Act to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries (other than a Director or former director or shadow director) in connection with the cessation or the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

26. **Delegation of ~~dIRECTORS' Powers~~directors' powers**

26.1 The Board may establish any local, group or divisional boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local, group or divisional boards, or any managers or agencies, and may fix their remuneration, and may subject to the provisions of the Articles delegate to any local, group or divisional board, managers or agencies any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in the Board, with power to sub-delegate, and may authorise the members of any such boards or agencies or any of them to fill any vacancies therein and to act notwithstanding vacancies, and any such appointment or delegation may be made upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board may think fit, and the Board may remove

any person so appointed, and may annul or vary any such delegation, but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of any such annulment or variation shall be affected thereby.

26.2 The Board may from time to time and at any time by power of attorney or otherwise appoint any company, firm or person or any fluctuating body of persons, whether nominated directly or indirectly by the Board, to be the agent or agents or attorney or attorneys of the Company for such purposes and with such powers, authorities and discretions (not exceeding those vested in or exercisable by the Board under the Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as they may think fit, and any such appointment or power of attorney may contain such provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such agent or attorney as the Board may think fit, and may also authorise any such agent or attorney to sub-delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him.

26.3 The Board may delegate any of their powers or discretions to committees consisting of one or more members of their body and (if thought fit) one or more other persons co-opted as hereinafter provided. Any committee so formed shall in the exercise of the powers so delegated conform to any regulations which may from time to time be imposed by the Board. Any such regulations may provide for or authorise the co-option to the committee of persons other than Directors and for such co-opted members to have voting rights as members of the committee but so that:

26.3.1 the number of co-opted members shall be less than one half of the total number of members of the committee; and

26.3.2 no resolution of the committee shall be effective unless a majority of the members of the committee present at the meeting are Directors.

26.4 The meetings and proceedings of any such committee consisting of two or more members shall be governed mutatis mutandis by the provisions of the Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board, so far as the same are not superseded by any regulations made by the Board under Article ~~26.3~~26.3.

27. **Borrowing ~~Powers~~powers**

27.1 Subject as hereinafter provided and to the provisions of the Companies Acts the Board may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money, and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and uncalled capital, and to issue debentures and other securities,

whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

~~4.16~~27.2 The Board shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary companies (if any) so as to secure (so far, as regards subsidiaries, as by such exercise they can secure) that the aggregate amount for the time being remaining outstanding of all moneys borrowed by the Group (which expression in this Article ~~27.27~~ means and includes the Company and its subsidiaries for the time being) and for the time being owing to persons outside the Group shall not at any time without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed an amount equal to four times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves (as defined in Article 27.3.1.

~~27.2~~27.3 For the purpose of the foregoing limit the following provisions shall apply:

~~27.2~~27.3.1 the Adjusted Capital and Reserves shall mean the aggregate of:

~~(a)~~27.3.1.1 the amount paid up on the issued share capital of the Company; and

~~(b)~~27.3.1.2 the total of the capital and revenue reserves of the Group (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve fund, credit balance on the consolidated profit and loss account and credit balance on any other undistributable reserves) but excluding sums set aside for taxation (including deferred taxation) and amounts attributable to outside shareholders in subsidiaries and deducting any debit balance on the consolidated profit and loss account (except to the extent that such deduction has already been made)

~~(c)~~27.3.1.3 all as shown in the latest audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group but adjusted as may be necessary in respect of any variation in the paid up share capital or share premium account or other reserves (other than as a result of trading profits or losses) of the Company since the date of its latest audited balance sheet and to reflect any change since that date in the companies comprising the Group and to take account of any other factor which the Auditors consider relevant;

~~27.2.227.3.2~~ there shall be deemed, subject as hereinafter provided, to have been borrowed and to be outstanding as borrowed moneys of the relevant member of the Group (to the extent that the same would not otherwise fall to be taken into account):

~~(a)27.3.2.1~~ the principal amount of all debentures (including any fixed or minimum premium payable on final repayment) of any member of the Group which are not for the time being beneficially owned within the Group;

~~(b)27.3.2.2~~ the outstanding amount of acceptances (not being acceptances of trade bills in respect of the purchase or sale of goods in the ordinary course of trading) by any member of the Group or by any bank or accepting house under any acceptance credit opened on behalf of and in favour of any member of the Group;

~~(c)27.3.2.3~~ the nominal amount of any issued and paid up share capital (other than equity share capital) of any subsidiary of the Company not for the time being beneficially owned by other members of the Group;

~~(d)27.3.2.4~~ the nominal amount of any other issued and paid up share capital and the principal amount of any other debentures or other borrowed moneys (not being shares or debentures which or borrowed moneys the indebtedness in respect of which is for the time being beneficially owned within the Group) the redemption whereof is guaranteed or wholly or partly secured by any member of the Group; and

~~(e)27.3.2.5~~ any fixed or minimum premium payable on final redemption or repayment of any debentures, share capital or other borrowed moneys falling to be taken into account;

~~27.2.327.3.3~~ moneys borrowed by any member of the Group for the purpose of repaying or redeeming (with or without premium) in whole or in part of any other borrowed moneys falling to be taken into account and intended to be applied for such purpose within six months after the borrowing thereof shall not during such period, except to the extent so applied, themselves be taken into account;

~~27.2.427.3.4~~ any amounts borrowed by any member of the Group from bankers or others for the purpose of financing any contract up to an amount not exceeding that part of the price

receivable under such contract which is guaranteed or insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department or other like institution carrying on a similar business shall be deemed not to be borrowed moneys;

~~27.2.5~~27.3.5 moneys borrowed by a partly-owned subsidiary and not owing to another member of the Group shall be taken into account subject to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the minority proportion and moneys borrowed and owing to a partly owned subsidiary by another member of the Group shall be taken into account to the extent of a proportion thereof equal to the minority proportion; for the purposes aforesaid **minority proportion** shall mean the proportion of the issued equity share capital of such partly owned subsidiary which is not attributable to the Company;

~~27.2.6~~27.3.6 borrowed moneys of any member of the Group expressed in or calculated by reference to a currency other than sterling shall be translated into sterling using the methods applied in translating the appropriate item in the balance sheet of the relevant member of the Group for the preparation of the last audited consolidated accounts of the Group or by reference to the rate of exchange or approximate rate of exchange ruling on whatever date and determined on whatever basis the Auditors may determine or approve.

~~27.3~~27.4 No person dealing with the Company or any of its subsidiaries shall be concerned to see or enquire whether the said limit is observed and no debt incurred or security given in excess of such limit shall be invalid or ineffectual unless the lender or the recipient of the security had, at the time when the debt was incurred or security given, express notice that the said limit had been or would thereby be exceeded.

~~27.4~~27.5 In this Article ~~27~~27 references to a consolidated balance sheet or profit and loss account are to be taken, in the case where the Company has no subsidiaries, as references to the balance sheet or profit and loss account of the Company and, in a case where the Company has subsidiaries but there are no consolidated accounts of the Group, as references to the respective balance sheets or profit and loss accounts of the companies comprising the Group.

~~27.5~~27.6 A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves or the amount of moneys borrowed or to the effect that the limit imposed by this Article ~~27~~27 was

not or will not be exceeded at any time or times shall be conclusive evidence of such amount or fact for the purpose hereof.

28. **Proceedings of ~~The DIRECTORS~~the directors**

28.1 Subject to the provisions of the Articles, the Board may regulate its proceedings as it thinks fit.

A Director may, and the Secretary at the request of a Director shall, call a meeting of the Board.

A Director is treated as having waived his entitlement to receive notice of a meeting of the Board unless he supplies to the Company the information necessary to ensure that he receives notice of such a meeting before it takes place.

28.2 Any Director may waive notice of any meeting or waive circulation of the text of any proposed written resolution of the Board to him and any such waiver may be prospective or retrospective.

Any retrospective waiver shall not affect the validity of the meeting or of any business conducted at the meeting.

28.3 Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. Any Director may participate in a meeting by means of conference telephone or other communication equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear and speak to each other throughout the meeting and any Director so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at that meeting. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled, or if there is no such group, where the chairman of the meeting then is.

28.4 The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board may be fixed by the Board and unless so fixed at any other number shall be three. A meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all powers and discretions for the time being exercisable by the Board.

28.5 The continuing Directors or a sole continuing Director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of Directors is less than the number fixed as the quorum, they may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting. If there be no Directors or Director able or willing to act, then any two members may summon a general meeting for the purpose of appointing Directors.

- 28.6 The Directors may elect from their number a chairman of the Board and one or more deputy chairmen and determine the period for which each is to hold office, but if no chairman or deputy chairman has been appointed or if at any meeting of the Board no chairman or deputy chairman shall be present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Directors present may appoint one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
- 28.7 If at any time there is more than one deputy chairman the right in the absence of the chairman to preside at a meeting of the Board or of the Company shall be determined as between the deputy chairmen present (if more than one) by seniority in length of appointment or otherwise as resolved by the Board.
- 28.8 All acts done by a meeting of the Board, or of a committee of the Board, or by a person acting as a Director shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment of any Director or that any of them were disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a Director, as the case may be, and had been entitled to vote.
- 28.9 A resolution in writing is adopted when all of the Directors entitled to vote on such a resolution have signed one or more copies of it or otherwise indicated their agreement to it in writing and, once adopted, shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board or (as the case may be) a committee of the Board duly convened and held.
- 28.10 A resolution in writing of the Board is not adopted if the number of Directors who have agreed to it is less than the quorum for Board meetings or for a meeting of the relevant committee.
- 28.11 A resolution which is signed or approved by all the directors entitled to vote on that resolution (and whose vote would have been counted) shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a board meeting duly called and constituted. The resolution may be contained in one document or electronic communication or in several documents or electronic communications in like form, each signed or approved by one or more directors concerned. For the purpose of this article, the approval of a director must be given in writing or by electronic means.

29. **Restrictions on ~~Voting~~voting and ~~Quorum~~quorum**

29.1 Except as otherwise provided by the Articles and whether or not the interest is one which is authorised pursuant to Article ~~22 or permitted under Article 23~~22, a Director shall not be entitled to vote on any resolution in respect of any contract, transaction or arrangement or any other proposal in which he or any person connected with him has an interest. Any vote of a Director in respect of a matter where he is not entitled to vote shall be disregarded.

29.2 A Director shall not be counted in the quorum at a meeting in relation to any resolution on which he is not entitled to vote.

29.3 Subject to the Companies Acts, a Director shall (in the absence of some other interest than is set out below) be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of any resolution concerning any of the following matters, namely:

29.3.1 proposals relating to any indemnities or provision of funds from the Company in favour of the Director which comply with the relevant provisions of Article ~~42;~~42;

29.3.2 proposals in which he has an interest only by virtue of interests in shares, debentures or other securities of the Company, or by reason of any other interest in or through the Company;

29.3.3 the giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of money lent or obligations incurred by him or by any other person at the request of or for the benefit of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings;

29.3.4 the giving of any security, guarantee or indemnity in respect of a debt or obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which he himself has assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;

29.3.5 where the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings is offering securities in which offer he is or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which he is to participate;

29.3.6 any proposal concerning another company in which he and any persons connected with him do not to his knowledge hold an interest (as that term is used in sections 820 and 822-824 of the Act) representing 1% or more of either any class of the equity share capital, or the voting rights, in such company;

- 29.3.7 any proposal relating to an arrangement for the benefit of the employees of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings which does not award him any privilege or benefit not generally awarded to the employees to whom such arrangement relates;
- 29.3.8 any proposal concerning insurance which the Company proposes to purchase or maintain for the benefit of Directors;
- 29.3.9 any proposal in which he has an interest of which he is not aware or an interest which cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; or
- 29.3.10 proposals in respect of which his interest or the interest of Directors generally has been authorised by an ordinary resolution of the Company.
- 29.4 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment or termination of appointment (including fixing or varying the terms of appointment or termination of appointment) of two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested, such proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such case each of the Directors concerned (if not debarred from voting under the Articles) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment or termination of appointment.
- 29.5 If any question shall arise at any meeting as to the existence of a Director's interest or as to the entitlement of any Director to vote and such question is not resolved by his voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, such question shall (unless the Director concerned is the chairman in which case he shall withdraw from the meeting and the Board shall elect (if it shall not already have done so) a deputy chairman to consider the question in place of the chairman) be referred to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any other Director shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the Director concerned has not been disclosed in accordance with the Articles and the Companies Acts and provided that any such question shall, for the purposes of disclosure of the interest in the accounts of the Company, be finally and conclusively decided by a majority of the Board (other than the Director concerned).

30. **Confidential ~~Information~~information**

30.1 Subject to Article ~~30-230.2~~, if a Director, otherwise than by virtue of his position as Director, receives information in respect of which he owes a duty of confidentiality to a person other than the Company, he shall not be required:

30.1.1 to disclose such information to the Company or to the Board, or to any Director, officer or employee of the Company; or

30.1.2 otherwise to use or apply such confidential information for the purpose of or in connection with the performance of his duties as a Director.

~~1.17~~30.2 Where such duty of confidentiality arises out of a situation in which the Director has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or may possibly conflict, with the interests of the Company, Article 30.1 shall apply only if the conflict arises out of a matter which has been authorised under Article ~~2222~~, or falls within Article 23.1.

~~30-230.3~~ This Article ~~3030~~ is without prejudice to any equitable principle or rule of law which may excuse or release the Director from disclosing information, in circumstances where disclosure may otherwise be required under this Article ~~30-30~~.

31. **Directors' ~~Interests — General~~interests - general**

31.1 For the purposes of Articles ~~2222~~, ~~2323~~, ~~28-10~~28.10 and ~~3030~~:

31.1.1 an interest of a person connected with a Director shall be treated as an interest of the Director; and

31.1.2 section 252 of the Act shall determine whether a person is connected with a Director.

31.2 Where a Director has an interest which can reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest, the Director shall, if so requested by the Board, take such additional steps as may be necessary or desirable for the purpose of managing such conflict or interest, including compliance with any procedures laid down from time to time by the Board for the purposes of managing conflicts of interest generally and/or any specific procedures approved by the Board for the purpose of or in connection with the situation or matter in question, including:

31.2.1 absenting himself from any meetings of the Board at which the relevant situation or matter falls to be considered; and

31.2.2 not reviewing documents or information made available to the Board generally in relation to such situation or matter and/or arranging for such documents or information to be reviewed by a professional adviser to ascertain the extent to which it might be appropriate for him to have access to such documents or information.

32. Secretary

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Secretary shall be appointed by the Board for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them, but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between him and the Company. If thought fit two or more persons may be appointed as joint secretaries. The Board may also appoint from time to time on such terms as they may think fit a deputy secretary or one or more assistant secretaries.

33. The Seal

33.1 The Board shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal and any Securities Seal and neither shall be used without the authority of the Board or of a committee authorised by the Board in that behalf.

33.2 Subject as otherwise provided in these Articles, every instrument to which the Seal or Securities Seal shall be affixed (other than a certificate for or evidencing shares, debentures or other securities (including options) issued by the Company) shall be signed by one Director and the Secretary or by two Directors or by a Director in the presence of an attesting witness or by any other person authorised by the Board for the purpose of signing instruments to which the Seal is applied.

33.3 The Securities Seal shall be used only for sealing securities issued by the Company and documents creating or evidencing securities so issued. Any such securities or documents sealed with the Securities Seal shall not require to be signed unless the Board decides otherwise or the law otherwise requires.

33.4 A document or instrument signed on behalf of the Company by two authorised signatories (within the meaning of section 44(3) of the Act) or a by a Director in the presence of a witness who attests the signature shall have the same effect as if it were under seal and a document so executed which makes it clear on its face that it is intended to be a deed (in whatever form of words) has effect, upon delivery, as a deed.

34. **Authentication of ~~Documents~~documents**

Any Director or 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 resolutions 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 the custody thereof shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Board as aforesaid. 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 certified as aforesaid shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company in reliance thereon 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.

35. **Reserves**

The Board may from time to time set aside out of the profits of the Company and carry to reserve such sums as they think proper which, at the discretion of the Board, shall be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may be properly applied and pending such application may either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested. The Board may divide the reserve into such special funds as it thinks fit and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided. The Board may also without placing the same to reserve carry forward any profits. In carrying sums to reserve and in applying the same the Board shall comply with the provisions of the Companies Acts.

36. **Dividends**

36.1 Subject to the Act, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends but no such dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Board.

36.2 If and so far as in the opinion of the Board the profits of the Company justify such payments, the Board may declare and pay the fixed dividends on any class of shares carrying a fixed dividend expressed to be payable on fixed dates on the half yearly or other dates prescribed for the payment thereof and may also from time to time declare and pay interim dividends on shares of any class of such amounts and on such dates and in respect of such periods as it thinks fit. Provided that the Board shall act in good faith, the Directors shall not incur any liability

to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss which they may suffer in consequence of the payment of a dividend on any shares having non-preferred or deferred rights.

- 36.3 Unless and to the extent that the rights attached to any shares or the terms of issue thereof otherwise provide, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid and shall (as regards any shares not fully paid throughout the period in respect of which the dividend is paid) be apportioned and paid pro rata according to the amounts paid on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid. For the purposes of this Article ~~3636~~ no amount paid on a share in advance of calls shall be treated as paid on the share.
- 36.4 No dividend shall be paid otherwise than out of profits available for distribution under the provisions of the Companies Acts.
- 36.5 Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, where any asset, business or property is bought by the Company as from a past date (whether such date be before or after the incorporation of the Company) the profits and losses thereof as from such date may at the discretion of the Board in whole or in part be carried to revenue account and treated for all purposes as profits or losses of the Company. Subject as aforesaid, if any shares or securities are purchased cum dividend or interest, such dividend or interest may at the discretion of the Board be treated as revenue, and it shall not be obligatory to capitalise the same or any part thereof.
- 36.6 No dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.
- 36.7 The Board may retain any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share on which the Company has a lien and may apply the same in or towards satisfaction of the debts, liabilities or engagements in respect of which the lien exists.
- 36.8 The Board may retain the dividends payable upon shares in respect of which any person is under the provisions as to the transmission of shares hereinbefore contained entitled to become a member, or which any person is under those provisions entitled to transfer, until such person shall become a member in respect of such shares or shall transfer the same.

- 36.9 The waiver in whole or in part of any dividend on any share by any document (whether or not under seal) shall be effective only if such document is signed by the shareholder (or the person entitled to the share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder) and delivered to the Company and if or to the extent that the same is accepted as such or acted upon by the Company.
- 36.10 The payment by the Board of any unclaimed dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect thereof and any dividend unclaimed after a period of six years from the date the dividend became due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.
- 36.11 The Company may upon the recommendation of the Board by ordinary resolution direct payment of a dividend in whole or in part by the distribution of specific assets (and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company) and the Board shall give effect to such resolution. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution, the Board may settle the same as it thinks expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates, may fix the value for distribution of such specific assets or any part thereof, may determine that cash payments shall be made to any members upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of all parties and may vest any such specific assets in trustees as may seem expedient to the Board.

~~36.12 The Company may transmit any dividend or any other moneys payable in respect of any share in the form of a cheque, warrant or similar financial instrument by post to the registered address of the holder or person entitled thereto or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to any one of such persons, or to such person and address as the holder or joint holders or person or persons entitled may be writing direct. Alternatively, if the Board shall so determine, such payment may be made by bank transfer or any form of electronic media to a bank account of the person otherwise entitled to receive payment by cheque or warrant pursuant to Articles 36.12, 36.13 and 36.14. Every such cheque or warrant shall be made payable to or to the order of the person to whom it is sent and any payment by electronic media shall be paid to the bank account details of which shall have been provided to the Company in writing by the person entitled to receive the same. Every such payment shall be sent at the risk of the person entitled to receive the same and shall be a good discharge to the Company. If cheques or warrants in respect of dividends are returned undelivered or are left uncashed on two consecutive occasions or if the transfer or other means of payment has failed and reasonable enquiries made by the Company have failed to establish any new address of the holder of those shares, the Board may cause the Company to cease sending such cheques or warrants by post or stop the transfer of any sum by any bank or other funds transfer system or stop any other means of payment to the member or members or person or persons concerned.~~

36.12 Any dividend or other money payable in cash relating to a share can be paid by such method as the Board may in its absolute discretion decide. The Board may decide to use different

methods of payment for different shareholders or groups of shareholders. Without limiting any other method of payment which the Board may decide upon, the Board may decide that payment can be made, wholly or partly and exclusively or optionally:

36.12.1 by inter-bank transfer or by other electronic means (including payment through CREST) directly to an account with a bank or other financial institution (or other organisations operating deposit accounts if allowed by the Company) in the United Kingdom nominated in a written instruction from the person entitled to receive the payment under these Articles; or

36.12.2 in some other way requested in writing by the shareholder (or all joint shareholders) and agreed with the Company.

36.13 Where written instruction is received from a person entitled to receive payment under these Articles for a specific purpose, such as a bank mandate for dividend payments, the Company can rely on this written instruction to make payment of any other money payable in cash relating to a share.

36.14 If the Board decides that any dividend or other money payable in cash in respect of any share will be made exclusively by inter-bank transfer or other electronic means to an account, but no such account is nominated by the person entitled to receive the payment, or an inter-bank transfer or other electronic payment into a nominated account is rejected or refunded, the Company may credit that dividend or other money payable in cash to an account of the Company, to be held until the person entitled to receive the payment nominates a valid account to which the payment shall be made.

36.15 Any amount credited to an account of the Company under Article 36.14 is to be treated as having been paid to the shareholder at the time it is credited to that account. The Company will not be a trustee of the money and will not be liable to pay interest on it.

36.16 The Company can cease using any method of payment (including intra-bank transfers or other electronic means, such as payment through CREST) for dividend payments or other sums payable on or in respect of those shares for any dividend or other payment if:

36.16.1 for any one dividend the payment by any method has failed (including where the payment has been rejected or refunded) and reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new account of the registered shareholder; or

36.16.2 the Company has stopped sending notices to a shareholder in accordance with these Articles.

36.17 Subject to these Articles, the Company must recommence sending dividend payments if requested in writing by the shareholder, or the person entitled to a share by law.

36.18 Where any dividends or other amounts payable in respect of any share have not been claimed (including amounts which have been credited to an account under Article 36.14), the Board can invest them or use them in any other way for the Company's benefit until they are claimed. The Company will not be a trustee of the money and will not be liable to pay interest on it. If a dividend or other money has not been claimed for six years after being declared or becoming due for payment (whether by the shareholder nominating an appropriate account as may be required under Article 36.14 or otherwise), it will be forfeited and go back to the Company unless the Board decides otherwise.

36.1336.19 In respect of shares in uncertificated form:

36.1336.19.1 where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the Company shall from time to time consider sufficient, the Company may also pay any dividend or any other moneys payable in respect of any share by means of the relevant system concerned (subject always to the facilities and requirements of that relevant system and the provisions of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations);

36.1336.19.2 every such payment by means of such relevant system shall be made in such manner as may be consistent with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned and such payment may include the sending by the Company or by any person on its behalf of an instruction to the operator of such relevant system to credit the cash memorandum account of the holder or joint holders or, if permitted by the Company, of such other person as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct;

36.1336.19.3 the payment by the Company of any sum in accordance with Articles 36.1236.12, 36.1336.13, 36.14, 36.15 and 36.1636.16 (including in respect of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned) shall be a good discharge to the Company.

~~36.14 If two or more persons are registered as joint holders of any share, or are entitled jointly to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, any one of them may give effectual receipts for any dividend or other moneys payable or property distributable on or in respect of the share.~~

37. **Record ~~Dates~~dates**

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Articles, but without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares or to the rights inter se in respect thereof of transferors and transferees of any shares and subject always to the Companies Acts, the Company or the Board may fix a date as the record date by reference to which a dividend will be declared or paid or a distribution or an allotment or issue made or a notice, information or document sent or circulated, and that date may be before, on or after the date on which the dividend or distribution is declared or paid, the allotment or issue is made or the notice, information or document is sent or circulated.

38. **Capitalisation of ~~Profits~~profits and ~~Reserves~~reserves**

38.1 The Board may, with the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, capitalise any sum standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve or other undistributable reserve) or any sum standing to the credit of profit and loss account by appropriating such sum to the holders of ordinary shares on the Register at the close of business on the date of the resolution (or such other date as may be specified therein or determined as therein provided) in proportion to their then holdings of ordinary shares and applying such sum on their behalf in paying up in full unissued ordinary shares (or, subject to any special rights previously conferred on any shares or class of shares for the time being issued, unissued shares of any other class not being redeemable shares) for allotment and distribution credited as fully-paid up to and amongst them as bonus shares in the proportion aforesaid provided that the Company shall not apply an unrealised profit in paying up debentures or any amounts unpaid on any of its issued shares and the only purpose to which sums standing to a share premium account or capital redemption reserve shall be applied pursuant to this Article ~~38~~38 shall be the payment up in full of unissued shares to be allotted and distributed as aforesaid. The Board may do all acts and things considered necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation, with full power to the Board to make such provisions as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements which would arise on the basis aforesaid (including provisions whereby fractional entitlements are disregarded or the benefit thereof accrues to the Company rather than to the members concerned). The Board may authorise

any person to enter on behalf of all the members interested into an agreement with the Company providing for any such capitalisation and matters incidental thereto and any agreement made under such authority shall be effective and binding on all concerned.

~~4.18~~38.2 Where pursuant to an employees' share scheme, the Company has granted options to subscribe for shares on terms which provide inter alia for adjustments to the subscription price payable on the exercise of such options or to the number of shares to be allotted upon such exercise in the event of any increase or reduction in or other reorganisation of the Company's issued share capital and an otherwise appropriate adjustment would result in the subscription price for any share being less than its nominal value, then, subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the Board may, on the exercise of any of the options concerned and payment of the subscription which would have applied had such adjustment been made, capitalise any such profits or other sum as is mentioned in Article 38.1 to the extent necessary to pay up the unpaid balance of the nominal value of the shares which fall to be allotted on the exercise of such options and apply such amount in paying up such balance and allot shares fully paid accordingly.

~~4.19~~38.3 The provisions of Article 38.1 shall apply mutatis mutandis to Article 38.2 (but as if the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company were not required).

~~38.2~~38.4 The Board may with the prior sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company offer the holders of ordinary shares the right to elect to receive ordinary shares, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of such dividend or dividends (or part thereof) as are specified by any such resolution. The following provisions shall apply:

~~38.2~~38.4.1 the said resolution may specify a particular dividend or may specify all or any dividends declared or resolved in respect of a specified period but such period may not end later than the expiry of two months following the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the meeting at which such resolution is passed provided nevertheless that the Board may in its absolute discretion suspend or terminate (whether temporarily or otherwise) such right to elect and may do such things and acts considered necessary or expedient with regard to, or in order to effect, any such suspension or termination;

~~38.2.238.4.2~~ the entitlement of each ordinary shareholder to new ordinary shares shall be determined by the Board so that the Relevant Value thereof shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not in excess of) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) that such shareholders would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose **Relevant Value** shall be calculated by reference to the average of (admitted to the Official List of the Financial Conduct Authority and to trading on the Main Market for listed securities of the London Stock Exchange) the middle market quotations for the Company's ordinary shares, as derived from the Daily Official List, or (where the shares are admitted to trading on AIM) the average of the highest and lowest prices for bargains transacted in such shares, as derived from the Appendix to the Daily Official List, in either case on the day when the ordinary shares are first quoted ~~ex~~ the relevant dividend and on the four subsequent dealing days, adjusted (if need be) as the auditors may consider appropriate to be fair and reasonable. A certificate or report by the Company's auditors as to the amount of the Relevant Value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount;

~~38.2.338.4.3~~ in each year when a dividend or dividends become payable on fully-paid ordinary shares the first 0.1p per share of the first dividend to be declared in each year (or, if less, the amount of such dividend) shall not be subject to the said right of election but shall in any event be payable in cash;

~~38.2.438.4.4~~ the Board may specify a minimum number of ordinary shares in respect of which the right of election may be exercised. The basis of allotment shall be such that no member may receive a fraction of a share and the Board may make such provision as it thinks fit for any fractional entitlements including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, the benefit accrues to the Company;

~~38.2.538.4.5~~ the Board may make exclusions or restrictions as respects the rights of certain shareholders to elect to receive ordinary shares instead of cash as it thinks necessary or desirable in relation to compliance with legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory;

~~38.2-6~~38.4.6 the Board, after determining the basis of allotment, shall notify the holders of ordinary shares in writing of the right of election and specify the procedure (including any form of election) determined by the Board to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which (being at least 21 days after the despatch of the notice), duly completed forms of election must be lodged in order to be effective;

~~4.19-138.4.7~~ the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered and other than the part payable in cash under Article 38.4.3) shall not be payable on ordinary shares in respect whereof the said election has been duly made (the **Elected Ordinary Shares**) and instead thereof 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 shall capitalise out of such of the sums standing to the credit of reserves (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or 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 such basis and apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued ordinary shares for allotment and distribution to and amongst the holders of the Elected Ordinary Shares on such basis. A resolution of the Board capitalising any part of the reserves or profits hereinbefore mentioned shall have the same effect as if such capitalisation had been sanctioned by an ordinary resolution of the Company in accordance with Articles 38.1, 38.2 and 38.3;

~~38.2-7~~38.4.8 notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may at any time prior to payment of the relevant dividend determine, if it appears to the Board desirable to do so because of a change in circumstances, that the dividend shall be payable wholly in cash after all and if they so determine then all elections made shall be disregarded. The dividend shall be payable wholly in cash if the ordinary share capital of the Company ceases to be admitted to trading on a Relevant Public Market any time prior to the due date of issue of the additional shares or if the listing is suspended and not reinstated by the date immediately preceding the due date of such issue;

~~38.2-8~~38.4.9 the additional ordinary shares so allotted shall be allotted as of the record date for the dividend in respect of which the right of election has been offered and shall rank pari passu in all respects with the fully paid ordinary shares then in issue except only that the shares so allotted will not rank for any dividend or other distribution or other entitlement which has been declared, made, paid or payable by reference to such record date or any earlier record date;

~~38.2-9~~38.4.10 the Board shall apply to the UK Listing Authority for the additional ordinary shares so allotted to be admitted to listing on a Relevant Public Market (as appropriate); and

~~1.19-2~~38.4.11 the Board shall have power to do all acts and things as it considers necessary or expedient to give effect to this Article 38.4.

39. **Auditors**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, all acts done by any person acting as an auditor shall, as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the Company, be valid, notwithstanding that there is some defect in his appointment or that he was at the time of his appointment not qualified for appointment or subsequently became disqualified.

40. **Communications**

~~40.1~~ Manner~~Manners~~ of Communications

Any documents or information to be sent or supplied by or to the Company may be sent or supplied in hard copy form, in electronic form or by means of a website to the extent permitted by the Companies Acts and the Articles.

~~40.2~~ Communications by the Company by means of a Website

A document or information may only be sent or supplied by the Company to a person by being made available on a website if the person:

40.2.1 has agreed (generally or specifically) that the document or information may be sent or supplied to him or her in that manner; or

40.2.2 is taken to have so agreed in accordance with the Act, and has not revoked that agreement.

~~40.3~~ Communications by ~~Other Means~~other means

40.3.1 A document or information that is sent or supplied to the Company otherwise than in hard copy form, electronic form or by means of a website is validly sent or supplied if it is sent or supplied in a form or manner that has been agreed by the Company.

40.3.2 A document or information that is sent or supplied by the Company or the Board otherwise than in hard copy form, electronic form or by means of a website is validly sent or supplied if it is sent or supplied in a form or manner that has been agreed by the intended recipient.

40.4 Suspension of ~~Supply~~supply of ~~Documents~~documents and ~~Information~~information to a ~~Member~~member

40.4.1 If on three consecutive occasions documents or information (including any dividend payment or a copy of any statutory accounts or summary financial statement) have been sent or supplied to any member in accordance with any provisions of this Article ~~40~~40, such member shall not thereafter be entitled to receive any documents or information from the Company until he or she shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing (signed by him or her) to the Company a new registered address or an address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices.

40.4.2 If any document or information (including any dividend payment or a copy of any statutory accounts or summary financial statement) have been sent or supplied by electronic means in accordance with this Article ~~40~~40 to any member at his or her address specified for the purpose or deemed to be so specified and the Company becomes aware of a failure in delivery (and subsequent attempts to send or supply such document or information by electronic means also result in a failure in delivery), the Company shall either:

~~(a)~~40.4.2.1 send or supply a hard copy of such document or information to such member; or

~~(b)~~40.4.2.2 notify such member that such information or document is available on a specified website and how the member may access that website.

40.5 When ~~Service Effected~~service effected on a ~~Member~~member

40.5.1 Where a document or information is sent or supplied by post to any member, service or delivery shall be deemed to be effected at the expiration of 24 hours after the time

when the cover containing the same is posted (irrespective of the class or type of post used) and in proving such service or delivery it shall be sufficient to prove that such cover was properly addressed and posted.

40.5.2 Where a document or information is sent or supplied by electronic means to any member to an address specified for the purpose by the intended recipient, service or delivery shall be deemed to be effected on the same day on which it is sent or supplied and in proving such service it will be sufficient to prove that it was properly addressed.

40.5.3 Where a document or information is sent or supplied to any member by means of a website, service or delivery shall be deemed to be effected when:

~~(a)~~ 40.5.3.1 the material is first made available on the website; or

~~(b)~~ 40.5.3.2 if later, when the recipient received (or, in accordance with this Article ~~40.5~~40.5, is deemed to have received) notification of the fact that the material was available on the website.

40.6 Documents and ~~Information~~information to ~~Joint Holders~~joint holders

40.6.1 In respect of joint holdings, documents or information shall be validly sent or supplied to all joint holders if sent or supplied to that one of the joint holders whose name first appears in the register.

40.6.2 Anything to be agreed or specified in relation to documents or information to be sent or supplied to joint holders, may be agreed or specified by that one of the joint holders whose name appears first in the register.

40.7 Members ~~Not Entitled~~not entitled to ~~Documents~~documents and ~~Information~~information

A member who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) has not supplied to the Company an address in the United Kingdom at which documents or information may be sent or supplied to him or her in hard copy form, or an address to which documents or information may be sent or supplied to him or her by electronic means, is not entitled to have documents or information sent or supplied to him or her by the Company.

40.8 Communications to ~~Directors~~directors

40.8.1 Communications to Directors may be provided to a Director in hard copy form, by word of mouth or by electronic means and, in the case of a written communication or a

communication sent by electronic means, sent to the Director at his last known address or such other address as may be notified to the Secretary from time to time.

40.8.2 A communication to a Director sent by fax or electronic mail shall be deemed to have been given or served at the time of despatch and if sent by post or courier shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours from the time of posting or despatch (if within the United Kingdom) and 48 hours in the case of international mail or couriers. A communication to a Director shall be deemed duly served if sent to the address, fax number or electronic mail address last provided by each Director to the Secretary.

~~4.19.3~~40.8.3 The non-receipt by any Director of any communication served in accordance with this Article ~~40.8~~40.8 shall not invalidate any meeting of the Board or any written resolution of the Board agreed to in accordance with Article 28.9 to which the communication relates if such meeting or resolution is otherwise held or agreed to in accordance with the provisions of the Articles.

40.9 Companies Acts ~~Requirements-requirements~~

Nothing in the Articles shall affect any requirement of the Companies Acts that any particular offer, notice or other document be served in any particular manner.

41. **Winding Up**

If the Company is wound up (whether the liquidation is voluntary, under supervision, or by the Court), the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution of the Company and any other sanction required by the Companies Acts, divide among the members in specie or kind the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets as he deems fair and determine and how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he with the like sanction determines, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

42. **Indemnity and ~~Funding~~funding of ~~Defence Costs~~defence costs**

42.1 Subject to the provisions of and so far as may be consistent with the Act and rules made by the UK Listing Authority (if applicable), the Company shall provide:

42.1.1 for a Director or for a director of an associated company of the Company an indemnity out of the assets of the Company to the extent that such indemnity is a **qualifying third party indemnity provision** within the meaning of section 234 of the Act;

42.1.2 a Director with funds in accordance with section 205 of the Act to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending any criminal or civil proceedings or in connection with any application under the provisions mentioned in section 205(5) of the Act or to enable a Director to avoid incurring such expenditure, but so that any provision of funds will become repayable by the Director or any liability of the Company under any transaction connected with any provision of funds will become repayable by the Director not later than:

~~(a)~~42.1.2.1 in the event of the Director being convicted in the proceedings, the date when the conviction becomes final;

~~(b)~~42.1.2.2 in the event of judgment being given against him in the proceedings, the date when the judgment becomes final; or

~~(c)~~42.1.2.3 in the event of the court refusing to grant him relief on the application, the date when the refusal of relief becomes final; and

42.1.3 a Director with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in defending himself in an investigation by a regulatory authority or against action proposed to be taken by a regulatory authority in connection with any alleged negligence, breach of duty or breach of trust by that Director in relation to the Company or an associated company of the Company or to enable a Director to avoid incurring such expenditure.

42.2 Subject to the provisions of the Act and rules made by the UK Listing Authority (if applicable), where the Company or an associated company of the Company is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme, the Company may provide for a Director or for a director of such associated company an indemnity out of the assets of the Company against liability incurred in connection with the activities of the Company or such associated company as trustee of such a scheme provided that such indemnity complies with the provisions of section 235 of the Act.

42.3 In this Article 42.42, companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

43. **Insurance**

- 43.1 Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Board may purchase and maintain insurance at the expense of the Company for the benefit of any Director or former director or other officer of the Company or for any director, former director or other officer of an associated company of the Company 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 or officer.
- 43.2 In this Article ~~43~~43, companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.