The Companies Act 1985

and

The Companies Act 1989

**Private Company Limited by Shares** 

Articles of Association

of

Vertu Motors plc

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### **Articles of Association**

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### Vertu Motors plc

### **PRELIMINARY**

- 1. Disapplication of Table A
- 1.1 The regulations contained in Table A to any Companies Act or Companies (Consolidation) Act prior to the Companies Act 1985 and the regulations contained in Table A of The Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations 1985 in force at the time of adoption of these Articles shall not apply to the Company and these Articles alone shall constitute the regulations of the Company.
- 2. Interpretation
- 2.1 In these Articles, unless the subject or context otherwise requires the following words have the following meanings:

Act

the Companies Act 1985 and every statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force;

these Articles

these Articles of Association, whether as originally adopted or as from time to time altered by special resolutions;

**Auditors** 

the auditors for the time being of the Company;

Cash Memorandum Account

an account designated as a cash memorandum account by the Operator of a relevant system;

Chairman

the Chairman of any general meeting appointed

in accordance with Article 69;

a bank which is a member of CHAPS Clearing

Company Limited;

Company this Company;

Clearing Bank

**Directors** the directors for the time being of the Company or

any of them duly acting as the board of directors

of the Company;

Electronic Communications has the same meaning as that given to it in

section 15 of the Electronic Communications Act

2000;

Listed admitted to the Official List by the UK Listing

Authority and admitted to trading by the London

Stock Exchange;

London Stock Exchange London Stock Exchange;

Member a member of the Company;

Month calendar month;

Office the registered office for the time being of the

Company;

**Register** the register of members of the Company;

Regulations the Uncertificated Securities Regulations made in

substitution for the Regulations made under

section 207 of the Companies Act 1989;

Seal the common seal (if any) of the Company;

Statutes the Act and every other statute, order, regulation,

instrument or other subordinate legislation for the

time being in force relating to companies and

affecting the Company;

Transfer office the place where the register is situated for the

time being;

United Kingdom Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

## **UK Listing Authority**

the Financial Services Authority in its capacity as the competent authority for the purposes of Part VI of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000:

in writing

written, printed, type-written or lithographed, or visibly expressed in all or any of these or reproduced using any methods of representing or reproducing words in a visible form including (to the extent permitted by law) sent by electronic communications;

Year

calendar year;

- the expression "clear days" in relation to a period of notice means 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;
- 2.3 the expression "working days" in relation to a period of notice means that period excluding Saturday, Sunday and days on which Clearing Banks are not open for a full range of banking transactions;
- 2.4 the expressions "debenture" and "debenture-holder" respectively include "debenture stock" and "debenture stockholder";
- the expression "duly certified copy" when used in relation to a power of attorney shall mean a copy of the power which complies with the provisions of section 3 of the Powers of Attorney Act 1971 or any other certification method or procedure the Directors accept;
- 2.6 the expression "dividend" includes bonus:
- 2.7 the expression "executed" includes any mode of execution recognised by law in respect of the document in question;
- 2.8 the expression "paid up" includes credited as paid up;
- the expressions "recognised clearing house" and "recognised investment exchange" shall have the meanings given to them by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;
- 2.10 the expression "secretary" includes (subject to the Statutes) any assistant or deputy secretary of the Company appointed pursuant to Article 137 and any person duly appointed by the Directors to perform any of the duties of the secretary of the Company and, where two or more

- persons are duly appointed to act as joint secretaries, or as joint assistant or deputy secretaries, of the Company, includes any one of those persons;
- 2.11 the expression "transfer" includes any procedure authorised by the Statutes or Regulations and approved or adopted by the Directors for transferring title to securities without a written instrument:
- 2.12 all of the provisions of these Articles which are applicable to paid up shares shall apply to stock and to securities as defined by the Regulations and the words "share" and "shareholder" shall be construed accordingly;
- 2.13 words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number, and vice versa;
- 2.14 words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender;
- 2.15 words importing persons shall include corporations;
- 2.16 references to particular provisions of any of the Statutes or any other Act shall be construed as references to those provisions and every statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force;
- 2.17 words and expressions in these Articles shall have the same meaning as in the Regulations; and
- 2.18 references to a share being in uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security.
- 2.19 subject as aforesaid, any words or expressions defined in the Act shall, if not inconsistent with the subject or context, bear the same meaning in these Articles.
- 2.20 the headings are inserted for convenience only and shall not form part of, or affect the construction of, these Articles.

### **OFFICE**

### 3. Location of registered office

The Office shall be at such place in England or Wales as the Directors shall from time to time appoint.

### SHARE CAPITAL

# 4. Amount and composition of share capital

The share capital of the Company at the time of the adoption of these Articles is £4,500,000 divided into 45,000,000 ordinary shares of £0.10 each.

### 5. Further issues of shares

Without prejudice to any special rights previously conferred on the holders of any existing shares or class of shares, any shares in the capital of the Company for the time being may, subject to the provisions of the Statutes and these Articles, be allotted with such special rights, privileges or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution (before the allotment of such shares) from time to time determine and in particular any such shares may be allotted with a preferential, deferred or qualified right to dividends or to the distribution of assets and with a special or qualified or without any right of voting and (subject to the provisions of the Statutes and these Articles) on the terms that they are, or at the option of the Company or the holder are to be liable, to be redeemed.

# **VARIATION OF RIGHTS AND CLASS MEETINGS**

- 6. Consent requirements and class meeting generally
- Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, whenever the share capital is divided into different classes of shares, all or any of the rights or privileges attached to any class (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) may, whether or not the Company is being wound up, be modified, varied, extended, abrogated or surrendered either in such manner (if any) as may be provided by such rights or privileges or (in the absence of any such provision) with the written consent of the holders of at least three-fourths in nominal value of the issued shares of that class or with the sanction of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate general meeting of the holders of such shares. To every separate general meeting of the holders of the issued shares of a particular class (whether held for the purpose of passing a resolution relating to class rights or for any other purpose) the provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings shall (mutatis mutandis) apply, except that:
  - 6.1.1 no Member shall be entitled to receive notice of such meeting or to attend it unless he is a holder of shares of the class in question and no vote shall be given except in respect of a share of that class;
  - 6.1.2 the necessary quorum shall be two persons at least present in person and holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal amount of the issued shares of the class in question;
  - 6.1.3 if any such separate general meeting shall be adjourned by reason of there being no quorum present and at the adjourned meeting a quorum as defined above shall not be

present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for such adjourned meeting, one holder of shares of the class in question present in person or by proxy shall be a quorum;

- 6.1.4 any holder of shares of the class in question who is present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote may demand a poll; and
- on a poll every holder of shares of the class in question who is present in person or by proxy shall have one vote for every share of that class held by him.

# 7. Shares with preferential rights

If any class of shares shall have any preferential right to dividend or return of capital, the creation or allotment of other shares having rights to either dividend or return of capital which rank either pari passu with or after that class shall be deemed not to be a variation of the rights of the holders of that class of shares unless otherwise expressly provided by these Articles or by the rights attached to the shares of that class. Any lawful purchase by the Company of its own shares of any class shall be deemed not to be a variation of the rights of the holders of that or any other class of shares in the capital of the Company unless otherwise expressly provided by these Articles or by the rights attached to the shares of that or such other class of shares.

### **INCREASE OF CAPITAL**

### 8. Authority to increase capital

The Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution, whether all the shares for the time being authorised shall have been issued, or all the shares for the time being issued shall have been fully paid up, or not, increase its capital by the creation of new shares, such increase to be of such aggregate amount and to be divided into shares of such respective amounts as the resolution shall provide.

#### 9. Status of new shares

Subject to any directions that may be given in accordance with the powers contained in the Memorandum of Association of the Company or these Articles or the Statutes, any capital raised by the creation of new shares shall be considered as part of the original capital, and as consisting of ordinary shares, and shall be subject to the same provisions with reference to the payment of calls, transfer, transmission, forfeiture, lien and otherwise as if it had been part of the original capital.

### OTHER ALTERATIONS OF CAPITAL

- 10. Consolidation, cancellation and sub-division
- Subject to any rights attached to shares in issue, to the provisions of Article 12 and the Statutes, the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution:-
  - 10.1.1 consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of a larger amount than its existing shares; or
  - 10.1.2 cancel any shares which at the date of the passing of the relevant resolution have not been taken or agreed to be taken by any person and diminish the amount of its share capital by the nominal amount of the shares so cancelled; or
  - 10.1.3 subdivide its existing shares, or any of them, into shares of a smaller amount than is fixed by its Memorandum of Association or was fixed by the resolution creating such shares. In any sub-division the proportion between the amount paid and the amount, if any, unpaid on each such share of a smaller amount shall be the same as it was in the case of the share from which the share of a smaller amount was derived. The resolution to effect any sub-division may determine that as between the holders of the resulting shares (but subject and without prejudice to any rights for the time being attached to the shares of any special class) one or more of such shares be given such preference, advantage, restriction or disadvantage as regards dividend, capital, voting or otherwise over the others or any other of such shares as the resolution shall prescribe.
- Subject to any direction by the Company by ordinary resolution, whenever as the result of any consolidation or sub-division and consolidation of shares, Members of the Company are entitled to any issued shares of the Company in fractions, the Directors may deal with such fractions as they shall determine. In particular the Directors may sell the shares to which Members are so entitled in fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable and pay and distribute to and amongst the Members entitled to such shares in due proportions the net proceeds of the sale. For the purpose of giving effect to any such sale the Directors may nominate some person to execute or otherwise effect a transfer of the shares sold on behalf of the Members to the purchaser thereof and may cause the name of the purchaser to be entered in the Register as the holder of the shares comprised in any such transfer. The Purchaser 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 or invalidity in the proceedings in reference to the sale.

## 11. Reduction of capital and purchase of own shares

- 11.1 Subject to the provisions of Article 12, the Company may from time to time:-
  - 11.1.1 by special resolution reduce its share capital, any capital redemption reserve and any share premium account in any manner authorised, and with and subject to any incident prescribed or allowed, by the Statutes; and
  - 11.1.2 purchase its own shares (including any redeemable shares).

# 12. Conditions re: reduction of capital and purchase of own shares

- anything done in pursuance of either Articles 10 or 11 shall be done in the manner provided, and subject to any conditions imposed, by the Statutes and the following provisions of this Article 12, so far as they shall be applicable, and, so far as they shall not be applicable, in accordance with the terms of the resolution authorising the same, and, so far as such resolution shall not be applicable, in such manner as the Directors deem most expedient:
- the Company shall not enter into any contract for the purchase of shares in its own equity share capital unless such purchase has previously been sanctioned by an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of any class of securities issued by the Company which are Listed and convertible into shares in the capital of the Company which are of the same class as those proposed to be purchased. The provisions of Article 6 shall apply for the purpose of any such separate meeting;
- neither the Company nor the Directors shall be required to select the shares to be purchased rateably, or in any particular manner, as between the holders of shares of the same class, or as between them and the holders of shares of any other class, or in accordance with the rights as to dividends or capital conferred by any class of shares.

### **SHARES**

#### 13. Commissions

In addition to all other powers of paying commissions, the Company may at any time and from time to time exercise the power conferred by section 97 of the Act (but subject to the limit and requirements stipulated by that section) to pay a commission to any person in consideration of his subscribing or agreeing to subscribe (whether absolutely or conditionally) or procuring or agreeing to procure

subscriptions (whether absolute or conditional) for any shares in the capital of the Company. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes and to the provisions of any relevant listing rules made by the London Stock Exchange, any such commission may be paid in cash or satisfied by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares in the capital of the Company or by the issue of warrants or options which, if exercised, will result in the Company being required to make such an allotment, or partly in one way and partly in the other, as may be arranged. The Company may also on any issue of shares pay such brokerage as may be lawful.

#### 14. Unissued shares

All unissued shares shall (if and to the extent authorised or permitted by the Statutes, these Articles and any resolution of the Company pursuant thereto and subject to any directions by the Company by ordinary resolution) be at the disposal of the Directors who may (subject to the provisions of the Statutes, these Articles and any such resolution or directions as aforesaid) allot, grant options over, offer or otherwise deal with or dispose of such shares to such persons, at such times and generally on such terms and conditions as they may determine, but no shares shall be issued at a discount.

#### 15. Power to allot shares

- 15.1 The Company may at any time and from time to time pass an ordinary resolution authorising the Directors to allot relevant securities and, upon the passing of such an ordinary resolution, the Directors shall without further formality be generally and unconditionally authorised to exercise all the powers of the Company to allot relevant securities as defined by section 80(2) of the Act provided that:-
  - 15.1.1 the maximum amount of such securities that may be allotted under such authority shall be the sum specified in such ordinary resolution or, if no sum is specified in any such ordinary resolution, an amount equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the Company's unissued ordinary share capital at the time such resolution is passed; and
  - 15.1.2 any such authority shall, unless it is (prior to its expiry) duly revoked or varied or is renewed, expire on the date immediately prior to the fifth anniversary of the date on which such ordinary resolution is passed (or on such earlier date as may be specified in such ordinary resolution) save that the Company shall be entitled, before such expiry, to make an offer or agreement which would or might require relevant securities to be allotted after such expiry.

## 16. Exclusion of pre-emption rights

- 16.1 Subject to the provisions of Article 15 the Company may pass a special resolution authorising the Directors to allot equity securities (as defined in section 94 of the Act) for cash and upon the passing of such special resolution the Directors shall, without further formality, be authorised to allot such equity securities for cash as if section 89(1) of the Act did not apply to any such allotment provided that the power shall be limited to:
  - 16.1.1 allotments for the purpose of, or in connection with an offer (by any person) of equity securities to the holders of the issued ordinary shares in the capital of the Company, where the securities respectively attributable to the interests of such holders are proportionate (as nearly as may be) to the respective numbers of ordinary shares held by such holders. The allotments are subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Directors may consider appropriate, necessary or expedient to deal with any fractional entitlements or with any legal or practical difficulties arising under the laws of any territory or the requirements of any regulatory body or stock exchange or otherwise; and
  - 16.1.2 the allotment (otherwise than pursuant to Article 16.1.1) of the relevant shares (as defined in section 94 of the Act) or other equity securities which gives the right to subscribe or convert into relevant shares, provided that all the relevant shares have an aggregate nominal value not exceeding the sum specified in such special resolution. If no sum is so specified, the special resolution shall have no effect for the purposes of this Article 16.1.2.
- The power to allot equity securities shall expire on the date specified in the special resolution save that the Company will be entitled, before the date of expiry, to make an offer or agreement which would or might require equity securities to be allotted after such expiry.

#### 17. Renunciation of allotments

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles the Directors 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 the share by the allottee in favour of some other person. The Directors may allow an allottee the right to renounce the share upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors may impose but the Directors may refuse to register any renunciation in favour of more than four persons jointly.

## 18. Non-recognition of trusts

Except as required by these Articles or by law or by order of a court of competent jurisdiction and notwithstanding any information received by the Company pursuant to any provision of these Articles or any statutory provision relating to the disclosure of interests in voting shares or otherwise, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust. The Company shall not be bound by or be compelled in any way to recognise (even when having notice thereof) any equitable, contingent, future or partial interest in any share or any interest in any fractional part of a share or any other right in respect of any share except an absolute right to the entirety of the share in the registered holder.

### **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

#### 19. Issue and execution of share certificates

- 19.1 Every share certificate shall be issued under the Seal or an official seal kept by the Company under section 40 of the Act or otherwise executed by the Company in accordance with the Statutes and shall specify the number and class and the distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares to which it relates and the amount paid up thereon. Any such certificate which is executed otherwise than under seal may, if the Directors so determine, bear signatures affixed by some mechanical or other method or system of applying facsimile signatures. No certificate shall be issued representing shares of more than one class. Where the Company sends share certificates to shareholders or their agents by post, such share certificates shall be sent at the shareholders' risk.
- 19.2 If, at any time, all the issued shares of the Company, or all the issued shares of a particular class are fully paid up and rank pari passu for all purposes, none of those shares shall thereafter (subject to any resolution of the Directors to the contrary) have a distinguishing number so long as it remains fully paid up and ranks pari passu for all purposes with all shares of the same class for the time being issued and fully paid up.

## 20. Joint holdings

In the case of a share held jointly by several persons the Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate and delivery of a certificate to any one of the joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all.

### 21. Entitlement to and cancellation of certificates

- 21.1 Subject to the provisions of Articles 19.1 and 20, the Statutes and the Regulations;
  - 21.1.1 upon the allotment or transfer of shares of any one class, any person whose name is entered in the Register shall be entitled without payment to a certificate within the period specified by the Act;
  - 21.1.2 if a share or shares is/are converted from uncertificated into certificated form in accordance with the Regulations, any person whose name is entered in the Register shall be entitled without payment to a certificate within the period specified by the Regulations;
  - 21.1.3 where part only of the shares comprised in a certificated holding are transferred the certificate representing the shares shall be cancelled and a new certificate for the balance of such shares issued in lieu without charge;
  - 21.1.4 any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any Member may at his request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu without charge;
  - 21.1.5 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 Directors may, if they think fit and upon payment of such reasonable out-of-pocket expenses as they shall determine, comply with such request;
  - 21.1.6 if a share certificate shall be worn out, damaged or defaced or alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed a new certificate representing the same shares shall be issued to the holder upon request subject only to (a) 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 as the Directors may think fit and (b) if the Directors shall think fit, reimbursement of any exceptional out of pocket expenses incurred by the Company in connection with the request; and;
  - 21.1.7 in the case of shares held jointly by several persons any such request may be made by any one of the joint holders.

# **CALLS ON SHARES**

#### 22. Power to make calls

The Directors may, subject to the provisions of these Articles and to any relevant terms of allotment, from time to time make such calls upon the Members in respect of all moneys unpaid on their shares (whether on account of the nominal value of the shares or by way of premium) as they think fit, provided that seven days' notice at least is given of each call, and each Member shall be liable to pay the amount of each call so made upon him to the person and at the time and place specified by the Directors in the said notice. A call may be made payable by instalments. A call shall be deemed to have been made as soon as the resolution of the Directors authorising such call shall have been passed. A call may, at any time before receipt by the Company of the money due in respect thereof, be revoked or postponed in whole or in part as the Directors may determine. A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable for all calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.

### 23. Liability of joint holders

Joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all instalments and calls in respect thereof and any one of such persons may give effectual receipts for any return of capital payable in respect of such share.

#### 24. Power of chargee to make calls

If any uncalled capital of the Company is included in or charged by any mortgage or other security, the Directors may delegate to the person in whose favour such mortgage or security is executed, or to any other person in trust for him, the power to make calls on the Members in respect of such uncalled capital and to sue in the name of the Company or otherwise for the recovery of moneys (including any moneys due under Article 25) becoming due in respect of calls so made and to give valid receipts for such moneys. The power so delegated may (if expressed so to be) be assignable.

### 25. Interest on unpaid calls

If any Member is liable to pay any call or instalment and has not paid it by the specified due date, he shall (unless the Directors otherwise determine) pay interest on such amount from the specified date for payment to the time of actual payment. The rate may be fixed by the terms of issue of the share or, if no rate is fixed, the rate may be determined by the Directors but not exceeding the appropriate rate (as defined in section 107 of the Act). Subject to the Directors' discretion the Member shall also pay

all costs, charges and expenses which the Company has incurred or become liable for in procuring payment of or in consequence of the non-payment of any call or instalment.

## 26. When call duly made and payable

Any sum which by the terms of issue of a share is made payable upon allotment or at any fixed date and any instalment of a call shall, for all purposes of these Articles, be deemed to be a call duly made and payable on the date fixed for payment, and in case of non-payment the provisions of these Articles as to payment of interest and expenses and forfeiture, and all the other relevant provisions of the Statutes and these Articles shall apply as if such sum or instalment were a call duly made and notified as hereby provided.

#### 27. Differentiation of calls

The Directors may from time to time on the issue of shares make arrangements so as to differentiate between the holders with regard to the number of calls to be paid on those shares and the times of payment.

### 28. Payments in advance of calls

- 28.1 The Directors may accept from any Member all or any part of the moneys payable on his shares in advance of any calls made under Article 22. The Directors may agree to allow interest on sums paid in advance, at a rate agreed between the Directors and the Member from the date of the advance until the date the call would become payable.
- 28.2 The Member will also be entitled to receive the dividend payable on the part of his shares actually called up, in respect of which the advance has been made but will not be entitled to any part of a dividend subsequently declared, for the period between the date of the advance and the date the call would become payable.

### LIEN ON SHARES

### 29. Company's lien on partly paid shares

The Company shall have a first and paramount lien and charge 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 Company's lien (if any) on a share shall extend to all dividends or other moneys payable thereon. The registration of a transfer of shares shall, unless otherwise agreed between the Directors on behalf of the Company and the person to whom the shares have been so transferred,

operate as a waiver of the Company's lien (if any) on such shares. The Directors may at any time declare any share to be wholly or partly exempt from the provisions of this Article.

### 30. Power of Directors to sell shares over which Company has a lien

For the purpose of enforcing such a lien the Directors may sell all or any of the shares subject to the lien in such manner as they think fit, but only if some sum in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable, and the sum is not paid within seven days after a notice in writing stating the amount due and demanding payment, and giving notice of intention to sell in default, has been served in such manner as the Directors shall think fit on the holder of the shares or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares.

#### 31. Application of sale proceeds

The net proceeds of any such sale after payment of the costs shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of the amount due. The residue (if any) shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of any certificate(s) in respect of the shares sold) be paid to the Member or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares; provided always that the Company shall be entitled to such a lien upon that residue in respect of any moneys due to the Company but not presently payable as it had upon the shares immediately before the sale.

### 32. Registration of purchaser as the holder of the shares

If the Directors sell any shares in accordance with Article 30 they may authorise some person to execute an Instrument of Transfer or otherwise effect a transfer of the shares to the purchaser in the name and on behalf of the holder of the shares or the persons (if any) entitled by transmission to the shares. The Directors may enter the purchaser's name in the Register as holder of the shares, and the purchaser shall not be bound to see to the regularity or validity of, or be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in, the proceedings or be bound to see to the application of the purchase money. After the purchaser's name has been entered in the Register the validity of the sale shall not be impeached by any person, and the remedy of any person aggrieved by the sale shall be in damages only and against the Company exclusively.

### **FORFEITURE OF SHARES**

### 33. Notice requiring payment of unpaid calls

If any Member fails to pay the whole or any part of any call or instalment on or before the day appointed for payment, the Directors may at any time during such time as the whole or any part of the

call or instalment remains unpaid, serve a notice on the Member requiring him to pay the same, together with any accrued interest and any costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment.

### 34. Contents of notice of forfeiture

The notice shall name a further day (being not less than seven days after the date of service of such notice) on or before which the whole or any other part of the call, or instalment and all accrued interest, costs, charges and expenses, are to be paid. It shall also name the place where payment is to be made, and shall state that in the event of non-payment at or before the time and at the place appointed, the shares in respect of which such call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited.

## 35. Forfeiture on non-compliance with notice

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 or instalments, interest, costs, charges and expenses due in respect thereof has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Directors to that effect.

#### 36. Forfeiture to include dividends

A forfeiture of shares under Article 35 shall include all dividends declared in respect of the forfeited shares and not actually paid before the forfeiture.

#### 37. Notice of forfeiture

When any share has been forfeited in accordance with these Articles, notice of the forfeiture shall forthwith be given to the person who before such forfeiture was the holder of the share, or the persons entitled to the share by transmission. An entry of such notice having been given, and the date of the forfeiture, (which shall be the same date as the date of the Directors' resolution forfeiting the shares) shall be made in the Register opposite to the entry of the share; but no forfeiture shall be in any manner invalidated by any omission or neglect to give the notice of forfeiture or to make such entry as aforesaid.

#### 38. Power to deal with forfeited shares

Subject to the provisions of the Statutes every share which is forfeited shall become the property of the Company. No voting rights shall be exercised in respect thereof whilst such share remains the property of the Company and the Directors may within three years after such forfeiture sell, re-allot or

otherwise dispose of it, to any person, upon such terms and in such manner as the Directors shall think fit, and whether with or without all or any part of the amount previously paid on the share being credited as paid. The Directors may authorise some person to transfer a forfeited share to any other person. Any share not disposed of in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Article within a period of three years from the date of its forfeiture shall at the expiry of such period be cancelled in accordance with the Act.

#### 39. Cancellation of forfeiture

Notwithstanding any such forfeiture as aforesaid, the Directors may, at any time before a forfeited share has been sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of or cancelled, permit the forfeiture to be annulled upon the payment of all calls and interest due upon and costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the share, and upon any further or other terms they may think fit.

## 40. Liability to pay all calls made prior to forfeiture

A Member whose shares have been forfeited shall, notwithstanding such forfeiture, be liable to pay to the Company forthwith all calls and instalments, interest and expenses owing on or in respect of such shares at the time of forfeiture, with interest thereon from the time of forfeiture to the date of payment at such rate and in the same manner in all respects as if the shares had not been forfeited, and to satisfy all (if any) the claims and demands which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of forfeiture without any deduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture.

### 41. Effect on forfeiture on claims against the Company in respect of those shares

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

### 42. Statutory declaration conclusive of forfeiture

A statutory declaration (**Declaration**) by a Director of the Company that a share has been forfeited on a specified date shall, as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share, be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it. The Declaration together with, in the case of shares held in certificated form a certificate of proprietorship of the shares issued in accordance with these Articles,

and (subject to the execution or other implementation of any necessary transfer) shall constitute a good title to the shares. The purchaser or allottee shall be discharged from all calls made prior to the purchase or allotment 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 omission, irregularity, or invalidity in or relating to or connected with the proceedings in reference to the forfeiture, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.

#### 43. Surrender in lieu of forfeiture

The Directors may accept the surrender of any share which they are in a position to forfeit. The same consequences shall flow from the surrender of such a share as if such share had been effectively forfeited by the Directors; in particular, any share so surrendered may be disposed of in the same manner as a forfeited share.

#### TRANSFER OF SHARES

#### 44. Form of transfer

- 44.1 Except as may be provided by these Articles the following apply:
  - 44.1.1 all transfers of shares held in certificated form to another holder in certificated form may be effected by an Instrument of Transfer in writing in any usual or common form or in any other form acceptable to the Directors (Instrument of Transfer). The Instrument of Transfer shall be signed by or on behalf of the transferor and (except in the case of fully paid shares) by or on behalf of the transferee and must be left at the Office, or at such other place in England and Wales as the Directors may determine, accompanied by the certificate of the shares to be transferred and such further evidence (if any) the Directors may require to prove the title of the transferor. The transferor shall be deemed to remain the holder of the shares concerned until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register; and
  - 44.1.2 all transfers of shares held in uncertificated form may only be effected in accordance with the rules and regulations for the time being applicable to the relevant system.

# 45. Suspension of registration of transfers

The registration of transfers may be suspended at such times and for such periods as the Directors may from time to time determine and either generally or in respect of any class of shares.

- 45.2 If at any time there are any shares in issue in an uncertificated form the provisions of Article 45.1 above shall be subject always to the Regulations.
- 46. Directors' power to decline to register transfers
- The Directors may (subject to Article 48) in their absolute discretion and without assigning any reason therefore refuse to register or authorise the registration of the transfer of a share in any of the following circumstances:
  - 46.1.1 if the Company has a lien on a partly paid share, provided that the Directors do not exercise their discretion so as to prevent dealings in partly paid shares from taking place on an open and proper basis; or

#### 46.1.2 where:

- 46.1.2.1 a notice has been duly served in respect of the share pursuant to section 212(1) of the Act or any other provision of the Statutes concerning the disclosure of interests in voting shares; and
- the share or shares which were the subject of that notice represented in aggregate at least 0.25 per cent. of that class of share; and
- the person or persons on whom the notice was served failed to comply with the requirements of that notice within the period for compliance specified in the notice and remains in default in complying with such notice 14 days after the date of service thereof unless the transfer in question is to a bona fide unconnected third party such as a sale through a recognised investment exchange or overseas exchange or as a result of an acceptance of a takeover offer (which shall mean an offer to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of shares in the Company to acquire such shares or a specified proportion or number thereof or to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of a particular class of those shares to acquire the shares of that class or a specified proportion or number thereof);
- 46.1.3 if the transfer is of a share or shares (whether fully paid or not) in favour of more than four persons jointly

- 46.2 If the Directors refuse to register or authorise the registration of a transfer which is effected by a written instrument they shall within two Months after the date on which the instrument was lodged with the Company or its registrars send to the transferee notice of the refusal.
- 46.3 If and for so long as a person is in default in complying with such a notice as is referred to in Article 46.1.2, the consequences of such default under that Article shall also apply (but with effect from allotment) to any additional share allotted after service of the notice in right of the shares which were the subject of the notice (including, without limitation, any share allotted pursuant to a rights issue or a bonus issue) as if such additional share had also been the subject of the notice.
- 46.4 For the purposes of Article 46.1.2, a person shall be deemed to be in default in complying with such a notice as is referred to in that Article if he fails or refuses to give all the information required by the notice to the satisfaction of the Directors or if he gives information which he knows to be false or if he recklessly gives information which is false.
- Where the conditions detailed in Articles 46.1.2.1 to 46.1.2.3 inclusive are satisfied and the Directors have refused to register or authorise the registration of any transfer of the shares in question, the authority of the Directors to refuse to register or to authorise the registration of the shares in question shall cease upon the expiry of the period of seven days (or such shorter period as the Directors may determine) after the date of receipt by the Company of the information and/or statement requested in respect of such shares by the notice(s) referred to in Article 46.1.2.1 to the satisfaction of the Directors.

### 47. Further discretion not to recognise an Instrument of Transfer

In addition and without prejudice to their rights under Article 46 the Directors may decline to recognise any Instrument of Transfer unless the Instrument of Transfer is in respect of only one class of share and is deposited at the Transfer Office (or at such other place as the Directors may from time to time determine) accompanied by the relevant share certificate(s) (save as stated in this Article 47) and such other evidence as the Directors 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). Subject thereto and to the provisions of Article 46 the Directors shall register any Instrument of Transfer submitted to them for registration unless forbidden to do so by law. In the case of a transfer by a recognised clearing house or a nominee of a recognised clearing house or of a recognised investment exchange, the lodgement of share certificates will not be

necessary unless and to the extent that certificates must by law have been issued in respect of the shares in question.

# 48. Discretion to register uncertificated shares

In respect of shares held in uncertificated form the Directors may only register or refuse to register the transfer of such a share in accordance with the Regulations.

## 49. Retention of instruments of transfer by the Company

All instruments of transfer which are registered may be retained by the Company. Any Instrument of Transfer which the Directors refuse to register shall (except in the case of fraud) be returned to the person lodging it when notification of the refusal is given.

### 50. No fee payable for registration

No fee shall be charged by the Company in respect of the registration of any transfer or probate or letters of administration or certificate of marriage or death or stop notice or power of attorney or other 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.

### 51. Uncertificated Holdings

- The Directors shall have power to implement such arrangements as they may, in their absolute discretion, think fit in order for any class of shares to be a participating security as defined in the Regulations (subject always to the regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned). Where they do so, Articles 51.2 and 51.3 shall commence to have effect immediately prior to the time at which the operator of the relevant system concerned permits the class of shares concerned to be a participating security.
- In relation to any class of shares which is, for the time being, a participating security, and for so long as such class remains a participating security, no provision of these Articles shall apply or have effect to the extent that it is in any respect inconsistent with:
  - 51.2.1 the holding of shares of that class in uncertificated form;
  - 51.2.2 the transfer of title to shares of that class by means of a relevant system; or
  - 51.2.3 the Regulations.

- 51.3 Without prejudice to the generality of Article 51.2 and notwithstanding anything contained in these Articles, where any class of shares is, for the time being, a participating security (Relevant Class):
  - 51.3.1 the register relating to the Relevant Class shall be maintained at all times in the United Kingdom;
  - 51.3.2 shares of the Relevant Class may be issued in uncertificated form in accordance with and subject as provided in the Regulations;
  - 51.3.3 unless the Directors otherwise determine, shares of the Relevant Class held by the same holder or joint holder in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings;
  - 51.3.4 shares of the Relevant Class may be changed from uncertificated to certificated form, and from certificated to uncertificated form, in accordance with and subject as provided in the Regulations;
  - 51.3.5 the Company shall comply with the provisions of regulations 21 and 22 of the Regulations in relation to the Relevant Class and Articles 46 and 47 in particular shall be read as subject to regulation 22 of the Regulations;
  - 51.3.6 the provisions of these Articles with respect to meetings of holders of the Relevant Class, including notices of such meetings, shall have effect subject to the provisions of regulation 34 of the Regulations;
  - 51.3.7 Articles 19.1, 20 and 21 shall not apply so as to require the Company to issue a certificate to any person holding shares of the Relevant Class in uncertificated form.

### TRANSMISSION OF SHARES

#### 52. Transmission on death

In the 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, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest in his shares, but nothing in this Article shall release the estate of a deceased holder (whether sole or joint) from any liability in respect of any share solely or jointly held by him.

- 53. Notice of election for registration of transfer
- A person who becomes automatically entitled to a share as a result of the death or bankruptcy of a Member may:
  - 53.1.1 elect by notice in writing to be registered as the holder of the share; or
  - 53.1.2 transfer the share to some other person provided in either case that he supplies to the Company such evidence of his title to the shares as the Directors may reasonably require.
- The provisions of these Articles relating to the right to transfer a share and the registration of transfers of shares apply to the election or transfer provided for in this Article 53 as they would have applied to the person originally entitled to the share.
- 54. Rights of person entitled to a share
- A person who becomes automatically entitled to a share as a result of the death or bankruptcy of a Member:
  - 54.1.1 is entitled to any dividends or other moneys payable on the share provided that he supplies to the Company such evidence of his title to the shares as the Directors may reasonably require, but the Directors may withhold payment of the dividend or other moneys until the person has been registered as a holder of the share;
  - 54.1.2 is not entitled to receive notice of or attend or vote at general meetings of the Company or to exercise or enjoy any right or privilege conferred by membership of the Company, except the rights given by Article 54.1.1 until he is registered as a holder of the share.
- 54.2 The Directors may at any time give notice requiring any such person as aforesaid to elect either to be registered himself or to transfer the share and, if the notice is not complied with within sixty days after service thereof, the Directors may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends and other moneys payable on or in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

## **CONVERSION OF SHARES INTO STOCK**

55. Power to convert and reconvert

The Company may, from time to time, by ordinary resolution, convert all or any of its fully paid up shares into stock of the same class as the shares so converted and may from time to time, in like manner, reconvert any such stock into fully paid up shares of the same class and of any denomination.

### 56. Transfers of stock

- If any shares are converted into stock the holders of the stock may transfer all or part of their interests in the stock in the manner directed by the Company by ordinary resolution. In default of such direction, they may transfer the stock in the same manner (or as near as circumstances allow) but subject to the same restrictions as the shares from which the stock was converted might have been transferred.
- 56.2 The Company by ordinary resolution (or in default the Directors) may:-
  - 56.2.1 fix the minimum amount of stock transferable;
  - 56.2.2 restrict or forbid the transfer of fractions of that minimum; and
  - 56.2.3 prescribe that stock is to be divided and transferable in units of corresponding amount:
- 56.3 The Company by ordinary resolution (or in default the Directors) may waive the restrictions and requirements referred to in Articles 56.1 and 56.2.

# 57. Rights of stockholders

The several holders of stock shall be entitled to participate in the dividends and profits of the Company according to the class of such stock and the amount of their respective interests in such stock, and such interests shall, in proportion to the amount thereof, confer on the holders thereof respectively the same privileges and advantages for the purpose of voting at meetings of the Company and for other purposes as if they held the shares from which the stock arose, but so that none of such privileges or advantages, except the participation in the dividends, profits and assets of the Company, shall be conferred by any such amount of stock as would not, if existing in shares, have conferred such privilege or advantage.

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

## 58. Annual general meetings

An annual general meeting shall be held once in every year at such time (within a period of not more than fifteen Months after the holding of the last preceding annual general meeting) and place as may be determined by the Directors.

## 59. Extraordinary general meetings

All general meetings other than annual general meetings shall be called extraordinary general meetings.

## 60. Power to call extraordinary general meetings

The Directors may call an extraordinary general meeting whenever they think fit and shall in any event do so when and in the manner required by section 142 of the Act. Extraordinary general meetings shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by the Statutes. If at any time there are not within the United Kingdom sufficient Directors capable of acting to form a quorum for a meeting of the Directors, any Director or any two Members of the Company may convene an extraordinary general meeting in the same manner as nearly as possible as that in which general meetings may be convened by the Directors.

### NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

## 61. Periods of notice for general meetings and persons entitled to notice

- An annual general meeting and any general meeting at which it is proposed to pass a special resolution or (save as provided by the Statutes) a resolution of which special notice has been given to the Company, shall be called by twenty one clear days' notice in writing at the least. Any other general meeting shall be called by fourteen clear days' notice in writing at the least. Notice of every general meeting shall be given in the manner referred to in this Article 61 to all Members entitled under these Articles or the terms of issue of the shares they hold to receive notice and to the Auditors. If a general meeting has been called by shorter notice than specified in this Article 61 it shall be deemed to have been duly called if:-
  - 61.1.1 in the case of an annual general meeting, all the Members who are entitled to attend and vote agree; and
  - 61.1.2 in the case of an extraordinary general meeting, a majority in number of the Members who are entitled to attend and vote (being a majority together holding not less than such minimum percentage in nominal value of the shares giving that right as the Act may prescribe at the time such meeting is held) agree.
- Where the same is required by these Articles, the accidental omission to give notice or to send a form of proxy with a notice (including in both cases where given by Electronic

Communication) to or the non-receipt of such notice or form of proxy by any person entitled thereto shall not invalidate any resolutions passed or proceedings at any general meeting.

- 61.3 For the purposes of this Article 61 (and for the avoidance of doubt):
  - 61.3.1 notice in writing is to include any case in which notice of the meeting is sent by Electronic Communication to the address notified by any of the persons referred to in Article 61.1 as being entitled to receive such notice:
  - 61.3.2 a notice in writing of a meeting is also to be treated as given to a person entitled to receive such notice where:
    - 61.3.2.1 the Company and that person have agreed that notices of meetings may instead be accessed by him on a website;
    - 61.3.2.2 the meeting is a meeting to which the agreement in Article 61.3.2.1 applies;
    - the person is notified in the manner agreed by him and the Company of the publication of the notice on a website, the address of that website and the place on that website where the notice may be accessed and how it may be accessed; and
    - 61.3.2.4 the notice continues to be published on that website throughout the period beginning with the giving of that notification and ending with the conclusion of the meeting.
- A notice which is treated as given to a person by virtue of Article 61.3 is treated as given at the same time as the notification referred to in Article 61.3.2.3.

#### 62. Contents of notice

- 62.1 Every notice calling a general meeting or a meeting of any class of Members of the Company shall specify the place and the day and hour of the meeting, and there shall appear with reasonable prominence in every such notice a statement that a Member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and, on a poll, vote instead of him and that a proxy need not be a Member of the Company.
- 62.2 In the case of an annual general meeting, the notice shall also specify the meeting as such.
- In the case of any general meeting at which the Directors are retiring and offering themselves for re-election in accordance with Articles 109 and 110, the notice shall also specify the names of the Directors who are offering themselves for re-election.

- In the case of any general meeting at which business other than ordinary business is to be transacted, the notice shall specify the general nature of such business; and if any resolution is to be proposed as an extraordinary resolution or as a special resolution, the notice shall contain a statement to that effect.
- In the case of any general meeting or a meeting of any class of Members, the notice shall contain a statement that a Member is not entitled to attend and vote unless his name is entered on the Register at a time specified in the notice of meeting but which is not more than forty-eight hours before the date of the meeting.

## 63. Meaning of ordinary business

- Ordinary business shall mean and include only business transacted at an annual general meeting of the following classes, that is to say:-
  - 63.1.1 declaring dividends;
  - 63.1.2 receiving and considering the annual accounts of the Company, the reports of the Directors and the Auditors and other documents required by law to be attached or annexed thereto or to be comprised therein;
  - 63.1.3 appointing the Auditors (except when special notice of the resolution for such appointment is required by the Statutes) and fixing the remuneration of the Auditors or determining the manner in which such remuneration is to be fixed;
  - 63.1.4 appointing or re-appointing Directors to fill vacancies arising at the meeting either on retirement by rotation or under Article 114 or otherwise; and
  - 63.1.5 the voting of fees to the Directors.

## 64. Circulation of resolutions etc. on requisition of Members

- The Directors shall on the requisition of Members in accordance with the Statutes, but subject as therein provided:-
  - 64.1.1 give to the Members entitled to receive notice of the next annual general meeting, notice of any resolution which may properly be moved and is intended to be moved at that meeting;
  - 64.1.2 circulate to the Members entitled to have notice of any general meeting, any statement of not more than one thousand words with respect to the matter referred to in any proposed resolution or the business to be dealt with at that meeting; and

64.1.3 unless the Members have resolved that the Company will meet the expense of giving Members notice of any resolution and circulating the statement referred to in Articles 64.1.2, give to the Members notice of a resolution entitling them to decide whether the Company or the requisitionists will meet the said expense.

### PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

#### 65. Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present. Subject to the provisions of Article 66, two Members present in person or by proxy (or, being a corporation, present by a representative duly appointed pursuant to Article 95) and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted shall be a quorum.

# 66. Adjournment if quorum not present

If within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for the holding of a general meeting (or such longer time as the Chairman may in his absolute discretion think fit to allow) a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of Members, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to such day and at such time and place as the Chairman may determine (notice of such adjourned meeting being given in accordance with Article 68). If at an adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Member or Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted shall be a quorum and shall have power to decide upon all matters which could properly have been disposed of at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.

### 67. General Power of adjournment

- 67.1 The Chairman may at any time without the consent of the meeting adjourn any meeting (whether or not it has commenced or a quorum is present) to another time or place where it appears to him that:-
  - 67.1.1 the Members wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place appointed for the meeting; or
  - 67.1.2 the conduct of persons present prevents or is likely to prevent the orderly continuation of business; or
  - 67.1.3 an adjournment is otherwise necessary so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted.

- 67.2 Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 67.1 the Chairman may with the consent of any general meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting from time to time (or sine die) and from place to place.
- No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place. Where a meeting is adjourned sine die, the time and place for the adjourned meeting shall be fixed by the Chairman.
- 67.4 If it appears to the Chairman that the meeting place specified in the notice convening the meeting is inadequate to accommodate all Members entitled and wishing to attend, the meeting is duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the Chairman is satisfied that adequate facilities are available to ensure that a Member who is unable to be accommodated is able to:
  - 67.4.1 participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened;
  - 67.4.2 hear and see all persons present who speak (whether by the use of microphones, loud speakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise), whether in the meeting place or elsewhere; and
  - 67.4.3 be heard and seen by all other persons present in the same way.

### 68. Notice of adjourned meeting

When a meeting is adjourned pursuant to Articles 66 or 67 for thirty days or more or sine die, not less than seven days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in like manner as in the case of the original meeting (save that it shall not be necessary to specify the nature of the business to be transacted). In the case of an adjournment pursuant to Article 66, the notice shall specify the quorum applicable to that adjourned meeting as stated in that Article. Save as aforesaid, it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

### 69. Chairman of meeting

The Chairman (if any) of the Directors, failing whom the deputy Chairman (if any) of the Directors, shall preside as Chairman at each general meeting. If there is no such Chairman or deputy Chairman, or if at any meeting neither are present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting. If there is no Director present or if all the Directors present fail to agree which of their number should take the chair or if each of them declines to take the chair, the Members present and

entitled to vote shall (whether or not they constitute a quorum) choose one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.

### 70. Security procedures

- In the case of any general meeting the Directors may, notwithstanding the specification in the notice of the place of the general meeting (**Principal Place**) at which the Chairman shall preside, make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at other places by Members and proxies entitled to attend the meeting but excluded from the Principal Place under the provisions of this Article 70.2. Such arrangements for simultaneous attendance at the meeting may include arrangements regarding the level of attendance at the Principal Place and the other places provided that they shall operate so that any Members and proxies excluded from attendance at the Principal Place are able to attend at one of the other places. For the purpose of all of the provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.
- The Directors may, for the purpose of facilitating the organisation and administration of any general meeting to which arrangements made under this Article 70 apply, from time to time make arrangements, whether involving the issue of tickets (on a basis intended to offer to all Members and proxies entitled to attend the meeting an equal opportunity of being admitted to the Principal Place) or the imposition of some random means of selection or otherwise as they shall in their absolute discretion consider to be appropriate, and may from time to time vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements in their place. The entitlement of any Member or proxy to attend the meeting at the Principal Place shall be subject to such arrangements as may be for the time being in force whether stated in the notice of the meeting to apply to that meeting or notified to the Members concerned subsequent to the provision of the notice of the meeting.
- The Board may make any arrangement and impose any requirements or restriction it considers appropriate to ensure the security and orderly conduct of a meeting including, without limitation requirements for evidence of identity to be produced, the searching of a person attending the meeting and their person property and the restriction of the items of personal property that may be taken into the meeting place. The Chairman is entitled to refuse entry to a meeting to a person who refuses to comply with these arrangements and restrictions.

## 71. Voting and demands for a poll

- 71.1 At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded by:-
  - 71.1.1 the Chairman; or
  - 71.1.2 not less than five Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote; or
  - 71.1.3 a Member or Members present in person or by proxy and representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the Members having the right to vote at the meeting; or
  - 71.1.4 a Member or Members present in person or by proxy and holding shares in the Company conferring a right to vote at the meeting being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right
- 71.2 for the purposes of Article 71, a demand by a proxy pursuant to Article 83 shall be deemed to be a demand by the person appointing that proxy;
- 71.3 a demand for a poll may be withdrawn with the consent of the Chairman and any demand so withdrawn shall not be taken to have invalidated any result of a show of hands made before the demand was made.

## 72. Declaration of result of voting and conduct of a poll

Unless a poll is required, 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 minute book, shall be conclusive evidence of that fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against such resolution. If a poll is required it shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or tickets) as the Chairman may direct, and the result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded. The Chairman may (and if so directed by the meeting shall) appoint scrutineers (who need not be Members) and may adjourn the meeting to some place and time fixed by him for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll.

### 73. Chairman's casting vote

In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

### 74. Time for taking a poll

A poll demanded on the election of a Chairman of a general meeting or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at such subsequent time (not being more than thirty days from the date of the meeting) and place as the Chairman may direct. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately provided that the time and place at which it is to be taken was announced at the meeting at which it was demanded. 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 has been demanded.

## 75. Amendments to resolutions and Members written resolutions

- Amendments can be proposed to any ordinary resolution under consideration if the Chairman decides that the amendment is appropriate for consideration by the meeting. If the amendment is in good faith ruled out of order by the Chairman, any error in that ruling shall not invalidate the resolution. In the case of a special or extraordinary resolution, no amendments other than clerical amendments to correct an obvious error, may be proposed.
- A resolution in writing executed by or on behalf of each Member who would have been entitled to vote upon it if it had been proposed at a general meeting at which he was present is as effective as if it had been passed at a general meeting duly convened and held. The resolution in writing may consist of several instruments in the same form each duly executed by or on behalf of one or more Members. If the resolution in writing is described as a special resolution or as an extraordinary resolution, it has effect accordingly.

### **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

## 76. Voting rights of Members

76.1 Subject to any restrictions imposed by or pursuant to these Articles and to any special rights, restrictions or prohibitions as regards voting for the time being attached to any special class of shares in the capital of the Company, on a show of hands every Member personally present (or, being a corporation, present by a duly appointed representative) shall have one vote only,

and in case of a poil every Member present in person or by proxy shall (subject as hereinafter provided) have one vote for every share in the capital of the Company held by him.

- 76.2 If:-
  - 76.2.1 any objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter; or
  - 76.2.2 any votes have been counted which ought not to have been counted or which might have been rejected; or
  - 76.2.3 any votes are not counted which ought to have been counted,

the objection or error shall not vitiate the decision of the meeting or adjourned meeting on any resolution unless it is raised or pointed out at the meeting or, as the case may be, the adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is given or tendered or the error occurred. Any such objection or error shall be referred to the Chairman and shall only vitiate the decision of the meeting on any resolution or the poll if the Chairman decides that the same may have affected the decision of the meeting or the poll. The decision of the Chairman shall be final and conclusive.

## 77 Voting rights of persons under disability

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 may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his receiver, curator bonis or other person authorised in that behalf appointed by that court, and any such receiver, curator bonis or other person (by whatever name called) may, on a poll, vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Directors of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at the Transfer Office not less than forty-eight 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.

### 78. Voting rights of joint holders

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 stand in the Register in respect of the share.

### 79. Power to appoint a proxy

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 proxy need not be a Member of the Company. A Member may appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion.

## 80. Form of instruments of proxy

- The appointment of a proxy (**Proxy Form**) can be in any form that the Directors accept. In the case of an individual appointing a proxy, the Proxy Form must be signed by the appointor or by his attorney who is authorised in writing to do so. In the case of a corporation shall be given under its common seal or otherwise executed by it in accordance with the Statutes or signed on its behalf by an attorney or a duly authorised officer of the corporation. The Directors may, but shall not be bound to, require evidence of the authority of any such attorney or officer. Signatures need not be witnessed.
- 80.2 If the Directors in their discretion decide, a proxy may be sent by Electronic Communication.
- The Directors may at the expense of the Company send, by post, or Electronic Communication or otherwise, Proxy Forms (reply pre-paid or otherwise) to Members for use at any general meeting or at any meeting of any class of Members of the Company, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the Directors or any other persons. If for the purpose of any meeting, invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the expense of the Company such invitations shall be issued to all (and not some only) of the Members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote thereat by proxy.

# 81. Deposit of proxy

- A Proxy Form that is not being sent by Electronic Communication must be deposited at the place specified either in, or by way of note to, the notice convening the meeting or in the Proxy Form; or if no place is specified, at the Transfer Office not less than forty-eight hours before the time of the meeting or adjourned meeting or forty-eight hours before the taking of a poll at which the Proxy Form is to be used.
- 81.2 A Proxy Form which is being sent by Electronic Communication must be received at an address specified by the Company for the purpose of receiving such communications:
  - 81.2.1 in (or by way of a note to) the notice convening the meeting; or
  - 81.2.2 in any Proxy Form sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting; or

81.2.3 in any invitation contained in an Electronic Communication to appoint a proxy issued by the Company in relation to the meeting;

in each case not less than forty-eight hours before the time of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the Proxy Form proposes to vote.

- In the case of a poll, where the poll is not taken during or immediately following the meeting, but is taken less than forty-eight hours after it is demanded, the Proxy Form must (unless already deposited pursuant to Article 81.1) be delivered to or received by either to the Chairman of such meeting or the Secretary or to any one of the Directors.
- 81.4 If a Proxy Form is not left, received or delivered in accordance with this Article 81 it will be invalid.
- 81.5 Unless a Proxy Form states otherwise, if a Proxy Form relates to more than one meeting or adjourned meeting and is deposited, delivered or received in accordance with this Article 81, it does not need to be deposited, delivered or received at any subsequent meeting and shall be valid both for any adjourned meeting and any poll demanded at that adjourned meeting.
- The deposit, delivery or receipt of the Proxy Form shall not preclude a Member from attending and voting in person or on a poll at the meeting or any adjourned meeting.
- 81.7 Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 80 above, the provisions of this Article 81 apply to the deposit, delivery or receipt of any power of attorney or authority under which the Proxy Form is signed, or to a duly certified copy of the power of attorney or authority, or, in the case of a power of attorney or authority executed outside the United Kingdom to a notarially authenticated copy, as they do to the Proxy Form.
- Without limiting any other provision in the Articles in relation to any shares which are held in uncertificated form, the Directors may from time permit appointments of a proxy to be made by means of an Electronic Communication in the form of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction, (that is, a properly authenticated dematerialised instruction, and/or other instruction or notification, which is sent by means of the relevant system concerned and received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company as the Directors may prescribe, in such form and subject to such terms and conditions as may from time to time be prescribed by the Directors (subject always to the facilities and requirements of the relevant systems concerned)); and may in a similar manner permit supplements to, or amendments or revocations of, any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction to be made by like means. The

Directors may in addition prescribe the method of determining the time at which any such properly authenticated dematerialised instruction (and/or other instruction or notification) is to be treated as received by the Company or such participant. The Directors may treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder. For the purposes of this Article 81.8 the terms "relevant system" and "properly authenticated dematerialised instruction" shall have the meaning given in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI2001/2755).

## 82. Time limit on validity of proxy

No Proxy Form shall be valid after the expiration of twelve Months from the date stated in it as the date of its execution or, if undated, the date of its receipt by the Company except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or adjourned meeting in cases where the meeting was originally held within that period of twelve Months.

## 83. Authority conferred by proxy

A Proxy Form including one sent by Electronic Communication shall be deemed to give authority for that proxy to demand or join in demanding a poll and generally to act at the meeting for the Member making the appointment but no proxy may as such speak at any meeting or adjourned meeting (save to demand or join in demanding a poll) unless otherwise permitted by the Chairman.

### 84. Power to appoint attorney

Any Member residing out of or absent from the United Kingdom may by power of attorney executed either before or after leaving the United Kingdom appoint any person to be his attorney for the purpose of voting at any meeting or give a general power extending to all meetings at which such Member is entitled to vote. Every such power or a duly certified copy or (if such power was executed outside the United Kingdom) a notarially authenticated copy of such power shall be produced at the Transfer Office and left there for at least forty-eight hours before being acted upon.

### 85. Validity of votes cast by proxy

- A vote given in accordance with the terms of a Proxy Form or power of attorney shall be valid notwithstanding:-
  - 85.1.1 the prior death or insanity of the person who appointed the proxy or attorney;
  - 85.1.2 revocation of the Proxy Form or power of attorney;

- 85.1.3 revocation of the authority appointing the proxy or attorney;
- 85.1.4 transfer of the share in respect of which the vote is given.
- The provisions of Article 85.1 will not apply if notice in writing of the death, insanity, revocation or transfer has been deposited at the Transfer Office (or in the case of a Proxy Form at any other place specified for depositing the Proxy Form) at least forty-eight hours (or such shorter time as the Directors may determine) before the date of the meeting or the adjourned meeting, or the date fixed for the taking of the poll at which the proxy is to be used.

#### **DISENFRANCHISEMENT**

## 86. Circumstances in which shares disenfranchised

- Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, no holder of a share in the Company shall, unless the Directors otherwise determine (any such determination being for such period and subject to such terms and conditions (if any) as the Directors may, in their absolute discretion, decide), be entitled (save as proxy for another Member) to be present or vote at a general meeting either personally or by proxy or to exercise any other right in relation to meetings of the Company in respect of that share if:-
  - 86.1.1 any call or such other sum as is presently payable by him to the Company in respect of that share remains unpaid; or
  - 86.1.2 he or any other person who appears to be interested in that share has been duly served, pursuant to section 212(1) of the Act or any other provision of the Statutes concerning the disclosure of interests in voting shares, with a notice which:-
    - 86.1.2.1 lawfully requires the provision to the Company within such period as is specified in such notice of information regarding that share; and
    - 86.1.2.2 contains a warning of the consequences under this Article 86 and under the provisions of Articles 46.1 and 148 of failing to comply with such notice and he or such other person is in default in complying with such notice after a period of 14 days commencing upon the date of service of such notice; or
  - 86.1.3 he has been duly served with a notice which:-
    - 86.1.3.1 requires him to provide or procure the provision to the Company within such period as is specified in such notice of a written statement signed by him or any other person or persons stating that he (if the statement is signed by him) or (as the case may be) the other person or persons who

has/have signed the statement is/are the beneficial owner(s) of that share and providing such other information (if any) regarding that share as may be required by such notice pursuant to Article 91; and

- 86.1.3.2 contains a warning of the consequences under this Article 86 of failing to comply with such notice and (whether or not he is aware of the identity of the beneficial owner(s) of that share) he is in default in complying with such notice after a period of 14 days from the date of service of such notice; or
- 86.1.4 the provisions of Article 62.5 apply to him.
- 87. Persons deemed to be interested in shares
- 87.1 For the purposes of Article 86.1.2:-
  - 87.1.1 a person shall be treated as appearing to be interested in a share (a) where the Member holding such share has informed the Company that he is, or may be, so interested or (b) where he has given to the Company a notification pursuant to Article 86.1.2 which fails to establish the identity of the person or persons interested in such share and (after taking into account the said notification and any other relevant information given to them) the Directors know or have reasonable cause to believe that the person in question is or may be interested in such share; and
  - 87.1.2 references to persons interested in shares and to interests in shares respectively shall be construed as they are for the purposes of section 212 of the Act.
- 88. Extension of disenfranchisement to rights issue shares and persons deemed to be in default
- 88.1 If and for so long as a person is in default in complying with any notice referred to in Articles 86.1.2 or 86.1.3, the consequences of such default under Article 86 shall also apply (but with effect from allotment) to any additional share allotted after service of the notice in right of the shares which were the subject of the notice (including, without limitation, any share allotted pursuant to a rights issue or a bonus issue) as if such additional share had also been the subject of the notice.
- 88.2 For the purposes of Articles 86.1.2, 86.1.3 and 88.1, a person shall be deemed to be in default in complying with such a notice as is referred to in those Articles if he fails or refuses to give all

the information required by the notice to the satisfaction of the Directors or if he gives information which he knows to be false or if he recklessly gives information which is false.

# 89. Disenfranchisement may apply to only part of a Member's holding

Where a person holds more than one share in the Company or more than one share of a particular class, any notice given pursuant to Articles 86.1.2 or 86.1.3 may relate either to all such shares or to such lesser number of them as is described or stated in the notice.

### 90. Signature of statements on behalf of body corporate

Any statement provided to the Company pursuant to Articles 86.1.2 or 86.1.3 shall, for the purposes of those Articles, be deemed to have been signed by a body corporate if signed by a duly authorised officer who is described in such statement as signing it on behalf of that body corporate.

### 91. Right to require additional information

- Any notice served on the holder of a share pursuant to Article 86.1.3 may require that, where the statement to be provided to the Company pursuant to that notice reveals that the beneficial owner of that share is a body corporate (Corporate Owner), the statement shall also provide the following information:-
  - 91.1.1 whether any other body corporate is a holding company (within the meaning of section 736 of the Act) or a parent company (within the meaning of section 258 of the Act) of the corporate owner and, if so, the name and address of each such holding or parent company; and
  - 91.1.2 whether any body corporate or other person (other than any such holding or parent company) is entitled to exercise or control the exercise of one-third or more of the voting power at general meetings of the corporate owner and, if so, the name and address of each such person.

# 92. When disenfranchisement ceases to apply

- 92.1 Where the disfranchisement provisions of Article 86 apply to a particular share, they shall cease to apply to that share upon:-
  - 92.1.1 the call or such other sum referred to in Article 86.1.1 being paid in respect of that share and received by the Company; or
  - 92.1.2 the expiry of the period of seven days after the earlier of:

- 92.1.2.1 the date of receipt by the Company of the information and/or statement requested in respect of that share by the notice(s) referred to in Articles 86.1.2 and/or 86.1.3 to the satisfaction of the Directors; and
- the date of receipt by the Company at the Transfer Office of a bona fide notice of the sale of that share through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in the Financial Services Act 1986) or overseas exchange or as a result of an acceptance of a take-over offer (which shall mean an offer to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of shares in the Company to acquire such shares or a specified proportion or number thereof or to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of a particular class of those shares to acquire the shares of that class or a specified proportion or number thereof)

or such other earlier date from which the Directors determine that such provisions shall cease to be applicable to that share.

### 93. Registration of information received

For the purposes of section 213 of the Act (relating to registration of interests disclosed under section 212), any information received by the Company pursuant to any notice served on a Member pursuant to Article 86.1.2 shall be deemed to have been received by it in pursuance of a requirement imposed on that Member under section 212 of the Act.

#### 94. Cancellation of notices

Any notice issued under Articles 86.1.2 or 86.1.3 may be cancelled by the Directors at any time.

#### **CORPORATIONS ACTING BY REPRESENTATIVES**

## 95. Representation of corporate Members

Any corporation which is a Member of the Company may, by resolution of its Directors or other governing body, authorise any person to act as its representative at any meeting of the Company or of any class of Members thereof; and such representative shall be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the corporation which he represents as if he had been an individual shareholder, including power, when personally present, to vote on a show of hands. The Directors may, but shall not be

bound to, require evidence of the authority of any person purporting to act as the representative of any such corporation.

## **DIRECTORS**

#### 96. Number of Directors

Subject to the provisions of Article 112 the Directors shall not be less than 2 nor more than 10 in number.

# 97. Directors' share qualification and rights re: general meeting

A Director shall not be required to hold any shares in the Company by way of qualification but a Director who is not a Member of the Company shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend and speak at all general meetings of the Company and any class of Members of the Company.

### 98. Fees for non-executive Directors

Fees may be paid out of the funds of the Company to Directors who are not managing or executive Directors at such rates as the Directors or any committee appointed by the Directors may from time to time determine.

# 99. Reimbursement of expenses

The Directors shall also be entitled to be paid out of the funds of the Company all their travelling, hotel, and other expenses properly incurred by them respectively in and about the business of the Company, including their expenses of travelling to and from meetings of the Directors, committee meetings or general meetings.

## 100. Payment of additional remuneration in special circumstances

Any Director who devotes special attention to the business of the Company, or otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Directors are outside the scope of the ordinary duties of a Director, may be paid such additional remuneration as the Directors or any committee appointed by the Directors may determine.

# 101. Power of Directors to hold offices of profit and to contract with the Company

- 101.1 A Director may hold any other office or place of profit with the Company (other than the office of auditor) in conjunction with his office of Director for such period and on such terms (as to remuneration or otherwise) as the Directors may determine.
- 101.2 Subject to the provisions of the Statutes a Director or intending Director can enter into any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal with the Company (including anything relating

to the terms of any other office or place of profit referred to in Article 101.1), and a Director or any person connected with him may also have a direct or indirect interest in any contract, arrangement or transaction with the Company.

- 101.3 Any contract, arrangement, transaction or proposal referred to in this Article 101 cannot be avoided by the Company or the Director and neither is a Director liable to account to the Company for any profit realised from the contract, arrangement or transaction provided that in any case the Director has declared his interest in accordance with the Statutes.
- 101.4 Any Director may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the Company, and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a Director, provided that nothing herein contained shall authorise a Director or his firm to act as auditor of the Company.
- 101.5 Any Director may continue to be or become a Director of, or hold any other office, employment or place of profit under, or be or become a Member of, any other company in which the Company may be interested. Unless otherwise provided by his terms of service no such Director shall be accountable for any remuneration, salary, profit or other benefits received by him as a Director of, or holder of any other office, employment or place of profit under, or Member of, any such other company. The Directors may exercise the voting powers conferred by the shares in any company held or owned by the Company or exercisable by them as directors of such other company in such manner in all respects as they think fit (including the exercise thereof in favour of any resolution appointing themselves or any of them Directors of or holders of any such office, employment or place of profit under such company, or voting or providing for the payment of remuneration to the Directors of or holders of any such office, employment or place of profit under such company).

### MANAGING AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

## 102. Appointment of Directors to executive offices

The Directors or any committee appointed by the Directors may from time to time appoint one or more of their number to any executive office or employment under the Company (including, but without limitation, that of chief executive or managing director) for such period and on such terms as they or any committee appointed by the Directors think fit, and may also authorise any person appointed to be a Director to continue in any executive office or employment, other than the office of auditor, held by

him before he was so appointed but no service contract or contract for services shall be granted by the Company to any Director or proposed Director except in accordance with the Statutes.

# 103. Remuneration etc. of Directors appointed to executive offices

The remuneration and other terms and conditions of appointment of a Director appointed to any executive office or employment under the Company shall from time to time (without prejudice to the provisions of any agreement between him and the Company) be fixed by the Directors, or any committee appointed by the Directors and may (without limitation) be by way of fixed salary, lump sum, commission on the dividends or profits of the Company (or of any other company in which the Company is interested) or other participation in any such profits or otherwise or by any or all or partly by one and partly by another or others of those modes.

# 104. Application of retirement by rotation provisions to chief executive

The chief executive for the time being of the Company (whether designated as chief executive, managing director or otherwise) shall be subject to the same provisions as to retirement by rotation, resignation and removal as the other Directors and, if he should cease to hold the office of Director for any cause, he shall (without prejudice to any claim he may have for compensation or damages for breach of any agreement between him and the Company) ipso facto and immediately cease to be chief executive.

### 105. Applicability of retirement by rotation provisions to all executive directors

A Director holding any executive office or employment under the Company shall not (by reason only thereof) be exempt from retirement by rotation, and his tenure of such executive office or employment shall not be determined by reason only of his ceasing for any reason to be a Director, but (without prejudice to any claim he may have for compensation or damages for breach of any agreement between him and the Company and subject to the provisions of any such agreement) may be determined at any time thereafter by resolution of the Directors.

#### 106. Delegation to Directors holding executive offices and associate directors

106.1 The Directors may, from time to time, entrust to and confer upon a Director appointed to any executive office or employment pursuant to Article 102 such of the powers exercisable under these Articles by the Directors (other than the power to make calls, forfeit shares, borrow money or issue debentures) as they may think fit, and may confer such powers for such time, and to be exercised for such objects and purposes, and upon such terms and conditions, and

with such restrictions, as they may consider expedient, and may confer such powers collaterally with, or to the exclusion of, and in substitution for all or any of the powers of the Directors in that behalf, and may from time to time revoke, withdraw, alter or vary all or any of such powers.

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

## <u>APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS</u>

# 107. Exclusion of age limit for Directors

Section 293 of the Act shall not apply to the Company but if a resolution is proposed to appoint or re-appoint as a Director a person who is, or will within the six Months following the conclusion or adjournment of the annual general meeting be 70 years of age or more, the notice convening that meeting shall contain a statement to that effect. The accidental omission to insert such a statement shall not, however, invalidate the passing of the relevant resolution.

#### 108. Vacation of office of a Director

- 108.1 A Director shall ipso facto cease to hold office as such in any of the following events, namely:-
  - 108.1.1 if he is prohibited by law from being or acting as a Director or if he ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Statutes; or
  - 108.1.2 if (not being a person holding an executive office or employment under the Company)
    he shall resign by writing under his hand left at the Office or delivered to the Directors
    at a meeting of the Directors or to the Secretary or if (being such a person) he shall
    tender his resignation and the Directors shall resolve to accept the same; or
  - 108.1.3 if he becomes bankrupt or he applies for an interim order pursuant to section 253 of the Insolvency Act 1986 or enters into any voluntary arrangement within the definition contained in that section or has an interim receiver appointed under section 286 of that Act of all or any part of his property; or

- 108.1.4 if he is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or, in Scotland, an application for admission under the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1960; or
- 108.1.5 if in England or elsewhere an order shall be made by any court claiming jurisdiction in matters concerning mental disorder for his detention or for the appointment of a guardian or for the appointment of a receiver, curator bonis or other person (by whatever name called) to exercise powers with respect to his property or affairs; or
- 108.1.6 if he shall be absent from meetings of the Directors for six successive Months without leave and the Directors shall resolve that his office be vacated; or
- 108.1.7 if he is removed from office in accordance with Article 113; or
- 108.1.8 if he is convicted of an indictable offence and the Directors shall resolve that it is undesirable in the interests of the Company that he remains a Director; or
- 108.1.9 if the conduct of a Director (whether or not concerning the affairs of the Company) is the subject of an investigation by an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State or by the Serious Fraud Office and the Directors shall resolve that it is not in the interests of the Company that he remains a Director;
- if he holds any executive office or employment under the Company and that office or employment with the Company is terminated for any reason unless the Directors resolve that he should continue as a Director; or
- if, by notice in writing delivered to the Office or tendered at a meeting of the Directors, his resignation is requested by all of the other Directors.

# 109. Number of Directors subject to retirement by rotation

At the first annual general meeting all the Directors shall retire from office, and at each subsequent annual general meeting there shall retire from office and be eligible for re-election:-

- 109.1 any Director who is required to retire at that meeting pursuant to Article 114; and
- any Director who is identified by the Nominations Committee of the Board as (a) having been first appointed as a Director of the Committee more than nine years before the date fixed for the annual general meeting as stated in the notice convening it, and (b) holding no position of executive responsibility within the Company; and
- such number of the other Directors as represents one third of the Directors for the time being (excluding any Director already required to retire pursuant to Article 109.1 or 109.2) or, if their

number is not a multiple of three, then such number as is nearest to but not less than one third; and

any Director who is not required pursuant to Article 109.1, 109.2 or 109.3 and Article 110 to retire but who, nevertheless was not elected or re-elected at either of the two immediately preceding annual general meetings.

### 110. Selection of Directors to retire by rotation

The Directors to retire pursuant to Article 109.3 shall be those who are subject to retirement by rotation pursuant to the provisions of that Article for the purposes of the meeting in question and who have at the date of the meeting been longest in office since their last election or re-election or appointment, and so that as between persons who were last elected or re-elected Directors on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.

### 111. Resolutions for the appointment of Directors

- 111.1 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.
- 111.2 No person other than a Director retiring at the meeting shall, unless recommended by the Directors for election, be eligible for appointment as a Director unless not less than 7 days and not more than 42 days before the date of the meeting:-
  - 111.2.1 a notice in writing, signed by a Member (other than the person to be proposed) who is qualified to attend and vote at the meeting, containing his intention to propose the person for election; and
  - 111.2.2 notice in writing signed by the person proposed as a Director of his willingness to be elected

have been left at the Office or sent to and received by the Secretary.

## 112. Power to alter limits on the number of Directors

The Company may by ordinary resolution from time to time increase or reduce any limits on the number of Directors specified in Article 96 and may also determine in what rotation such increased or reduced number is to go out of office and may make any appointments required for making any such increase.

# 113. Removal of Directors by extraordinary or ordinary resolution

- 113.1 The Company may by extraordinary resolution or, in accordance with and subject to the provisions of the Statutes, by ordinary resolution of which special notice has been given, remove any Director from office.
- 113.2 The right to remove a Director may be exercised notwithstanding any provisions of these Articles or any agreement between the Company and the Director, but will not prejudice any claim the Director may have for damages for breach of such agreement.
- 113.3 The Company may appoint another person (**Appointee**) in place of the Director removed from office. The Appointee shall, for the purposes of Article 109, be treated as if he became a Director on the same day as the Director in whose place he is appointed was last elected or re-elected. If the Company does not appoint another person, the vacancy may be filled in accordance with Article 114.

### 114. Directors' power to appoint additional directors or to fill casual vacancies

- 114.1 The Directors shall have power at any time and from time to time to appoint any person to be a Director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed the maximum number (if any) fixed by or in accordance with Article 96 or Article 112. Any Director appointed by the Directors shall retire from office at the next annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for election by the Members; he shall not be taken into account in determining the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting but shall be deemed to have retired at the meeting for the purposes of Article 115.
- 114.2 Without prejudice to Article 114.1 or Article 122 but subject to the provisions of Article 111, the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution appoint any person or persons to be a Director of the Company either to fill a vacancy or as an additional Director.

#### 115. Re-election or replacement of retiring Directors

At the meeting at which a Director retires under any provision of these Articles, the Company may fill the office being vacated by electing the retiring Director or some other person eligible for appointment. In default the retiring Director shall be deemed to have been elected or reelected (as the case may be) except in any of the following cases:-

- 115.1.1 where at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill up such vacated office or a resolution for the election or re-election of such Director is put to the meeting and lost; or
- 115.1.2 where such Director has given notice in writing to the Company that he is unwilling to be elected or re-elected; or
- 115.1.3 where the default is due to the moving of a resolution in contravention of Article 111; or
- 115.1.4 where such Director has attained any retiring age applicable to him as a Director.
- 115.2 The retirement shall not have effect until the conclusion of the meeting except where a resolution is passed to elect some other person in the place of the retiring Director or a resolution for his election or re-election is put to the meeting and lost, and accordingly a retiring Director who is elected or re-elected or deemed to have been elected or re-elected will continue in office without a break.

### **PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

# 116. Conduct of board meetings

- The Directors may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes the chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, at any time summon a meeting of the Directors. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of the Directors to any Director for the time being absent from the United Kingdom.

  Any Director may waive notice of any meeting either prospectively or retrospectively.
- 116.2 Notice of meetings of the Directors shall be deemed to be duly given to a Director if it is given to him personally or by word of mouth or sent in writing to him at his last known address in the United Kingdom or any other address in the United Kingdom given by him to the Company for this purpose.
- 116.3 All or any of the Directors or Members of any committee appointed by the Directors may participate in a meeting of the Directors or that committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment whereby all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other and any person participating in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to be present in person at such meeting and, subject to these Articles and the Act, he shall be

entitled to vote and be counted in a quorum accordingly. 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.

### 117. Quorum for a board meeting

The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Directors may be fixed by the Directors and unless so fixed at any other number shall be three except where there are only two Directors when two Directors may form a quorum. A duly convened meeting of the Directors at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions for the time being vested in or exercisable by the Directors.

#### 118. Declaration of Director's interests in contracts

A Director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly and whether for himself or through a person connected with him, interested in a contract, transaction or arrangement or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the Company shall declare the nature of his interest in accordance with the Statutes.

## 119. Restrictions on a Directors' power to vote where he has an interest

- 119.1 Save as provided in this Article 119, a Director shall not vote as a Director in respect of any contract, transaction or arrangement or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement or any other proposal whatsoever in which he has any interest which (together with any interest of any person connected with him) is to his knowledge a material interest (otherwise than by virtue of an interest in shares or debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company), and if he shall do so his vote shall not be counted, nor in relation thereto shall he be counted in the quorum present at the meeting.
- 119.2 A Director shall (in the absence of some other material interest than is indicated below) be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of any resolution relating to any of the following matters namely:-
  - 119.2.1 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; or
  - 119.2.2 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 the Director himself has

- assumed responsibility in whole or in part under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security; or
- 119.2.3 an offer of shares or debentures or other securities of or by the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for subscription or purchase in which offer he is or is to be or may be entitled to participate as a holder of securities or in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of which he is to participate; or
- 119.2.4 any other company in which he or any person connected with him is interested, directly or indirectly, and whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise howsoever, provided that he and any persons connected with him are not to his knowledge the holder (otherwise than as a nominee for the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings) of or beneficially interested in one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of such company (or of any third company through which his interest is derived) or of the voting rights available to Members of the relevant company (any such interest being deemed for the purpose of this Article to be a material interest in all circumstances); or
- 119.2.5 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;
- 119.2.6 the purchase and/or maintenance of any insurance policy for the benefit of Directors or for the benefit of persons including Directors;
- 119.2.7 the approval of a transaction and/or documentation related to a transaction, the completion of which may entitle the Director to a bonus, provided that any such bonus or the terms thereof has been approved by the Directors or by the remuneration committee of the Directors.
- 119.3 A Director shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any resolution concerning his own appointment as the holder of any office or place of profit with the Company or any company in which the Company is interested including fixing or varying the terms of his appointment or the termination thereof.
- 119.4 Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including fixing or varying the terms 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 cases each of the Directors concerned (if not debarred from voting under the proviso to Article 119.2.4) shall be entitled to vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

- 119.5 If any question shall arise at any meeting as to the materiality 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 be referred to the chairman of the meeting and his ruling in relation to any Director (other than himself) shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interests of the Director concerned as known to such Director has not been fairly disclosed.
- 119.6 If any question shall arise in respect of the chairman of the meeting such question shall be decided by a resolution of the Directors (for which purpose the chairman shall be counted in the quorum but shall not vote), and such resolution shall be final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interest of the chairman as known to the chairman has not been fairly disclosed to the Directors.

#### 120. Powers of Directors to act notwithstanding reduction below minimum number

The continuing Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body, but if and so long as the number of Directors is reduced below the minimum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles the continuing Directors or Director may act for the purpose of filling such vacancies or of summoning general meetings, but not for any other purpose. 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.

# 121. Appointment of chairman

The Directors may elect a chairman of their meetings and one or more deputy chairmen and determine the period for which each is to hold office. If no chairman or deputy chairman shall have been elected, or if at any meeting neither the chairman nor a deputy chairman is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Directors present may choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

## 122. Resolutions in writing

A resolution in writing signed or approved (whether by letter, telex, facsimile transmission or otherwise in writing) by all the Directors (or by all the members of a committee appointed by the Directors) for the time being in the United Kingdom and entitled to vote on such resolution and sufficient to form a quorum for the purposes of these Articles, shall be as effective as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Directors or of such committee (as the case may be) duly convened and held and may consist of several documents in the like form, each signed or approved by one or more of the Directors or committee members (as the case may be).

## 123. Appointment of and delegation of powers to committees

The Directors may from time to time appoint committees consisting of such member or members of their body as they think fit, and may delegate any of their powers to any such committee (with power to sub-delegate), and may from time to time revoke any such delegation and discharge any such committee wholly or in part. The Directors or the committee may co-opt onto any such committee persons who are not Directors of the Company and may give such persons voting rights on that committee. The number of such co-opted members shall be less than one-half of the total membership of the committee and a resolution of any committee shall not be effective unless a majority of the members of the committee present at the meeting are Directors of the Company. Any committee appointed by the Directors shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations that may from time to time be imposed upon it by the Directors.

### 124. Proceedings of committees

The meetings and proceedings of any such committee consisting of two or more Directors shall be governed by the provisions of these Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Directors, so far as the same are applicable and are not superseded by any regulations made by the Directors under Article 123.

# 125. Validity of acts of Directors

All acts done by the Directors or by a committee appointed by the Directors or by any person held out by the Company to be a Director shall as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the Company, notwithstanding that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any Director or person held out as aforesaid or that they or any of them were disqualified or had vacated office or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and had continued to be a Director and had been entitled to vote.

# 126. Keeping of minutes and minute books

The Directors shall cause proper minutes to be made of all appointments of the Company's officers, of the resolutions, proceedings and names of all persons who attend meetings of the Directors and committees of the Directors and of the resolutions, proceedings, business transacted and orders made at any general meeting or meeting of any class of Members of the Company. The minutes shall be recorded in minute books and if any minutes are purported to be signed by the chairman of the meeting, or by the chairman of the meeting which approves the minutes, that will be sufficient evidence of the facts stated in the minutes without the need for further proof.

## **BORROWING POWERS**

# 127. General power of Directors to exercise the Company's borrowing powers

Subject to the provisions of Article 128 the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow or raise money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property, assets and uncalled capital or any part thereof, and to issue debentures and other securities, whether outright or as collateral security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Company or its holding company (if any) or any subsidiary of the Company or its holding company or of any third party.

# 128. Restrictions on borrowing powers of Directors

The Directors 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 subsidiaries (if any) so as to secure (as regards subsidiaries so far as by such exercise they can secure) that the aggregate amount for the time being remaining undischarged of all moneys borrowed by the Group (which expression in this Article and Article 130 means and includes the Company and all its subsidiaries for the time being) and for the time being owing to persons outside the Group shall not without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company exceed an amount equal to four times the Adjusted Capital and Reserves as hereinafter defined. The certificate of the Auditors for the time being as to the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves at any time shall be conclusive and binding upon all concerned.

# 129. Protection of third parties if restrictions on borrowing powers breached

No person dealing with the Company or any of its subsidiaries shall by reason of the provisions of Article 128 be concerned to see or inquire whether the limit referred to therein 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 the security was given express notice that the limit hereby imposed had been or would thereby be exceeded.

# 130. Meaning of borrowing

- 130.1 For the purposes of Article 128:-
  - 130.1.1 there shall be deemed, subject as hereinafter provided, to have been borrowed and to be outstanding as moneys borrowed of the relevant member of the Group (to the extent that the same would not otherwise fall to be taken into account):-
    - 130.1.1.1 the principal amount of all debentures of any member of the Group which are not for the time being beneficially owned within the Group;
    - the outstanding amount of the 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;
    - 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;
    - 130.1.1.4 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 or repayment whereof is guaranteed or wholly or partly secured by any member of the Group; and
    - 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;
  - 130.1.2 moneys borrowed by any member of the Group for the purpose of repaying or redeeming (with or without premium) in whole or in part 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;
- 130.1.3 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 of the Department of Trade and Industry or by any other governmental department or non-governmental successor fulfilling a similar function or other like institution carrying on a similar business shall be deemed not to be borrowed moneys;
- 130.1.4 moneys borrowed which are for the time being deposited with H.M. Customs and Excise or other body designated by any relevant legislation or order in connection with import deposits or any similar governmental scheme shall be deemed not to be borrowed moneys;
- 130.1.5 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 of this Article 130.1.5 "minority proportion" shall mean the proportion of the issued equity share capital of the partly-owned subsidiary which is not attributable to the Company;
- 130.1.6 moneys borrowed by a company at the time it becomes a subsidiary of the Company shall for a period of six Months from the date of its becoming a subsidiary be deemed not to be borrowed moneys;
- 130.1.7 borrowed moneys of any member of the Group expressed in or calculated by reference to a currency other than sterling shall be converted for the purpose of calculating the sterling equivalent either:
  - at the rate of exchange specified in a forward purchase contract, currency option, back-to-back loan, swap or other arrangement taken out or entered into to reduce the risk associated with fluctuations in rates of exchange in respect of repayment of those moneys (Hedging Agreement); or

- 130.1.7.2 if repayment of those moneys has not been covered by a Hedging

  Agreement, at the more favourable to the Company of:
  - 130.1.7.2.1 the rate of exchange used for the conversion of that currency in the relevant balance sheet, or
  - 130.1.7.2.2 if no rate was used, the middle-market rate of exchange quoted by National Westminster Bank Plc or, in the event that such bank either ceases to exist or no longer makes such a quotation, such other leading national bank as the Directors may determine at the close of business in London on the date of the relevant balance sheet, or
  - 130.1.7.2.3 if it would result in a lower figure the middle-market rate of exchange quoted by National Westminster Bank Plc or, in the event that such bank either ceases to exist or no longer makes such a quotation, such other leading national bank as the Directors may determine at the close of business in London on the business day immediately preceding the day on which the calculation falls to be made;
- 130.1.8 the expression "Adjusted Capital and Reserves" shall mean at any material time a sum equal to the aggregate of:-
  - 130.1.8.1 the amount paid up or credited as paid up (excluding any premium) on the issued share capital of the Company; and
  - 130.1.8.2 the aggregate amount standing to the credit of the consolidated capital and revenue reserves of the Company and its subsidiaries whether distributable or undistributable (including, without limitation, any share premium account, capital redemption reserve, property revaluation reserve and profit and loss account) all as shown by the then latest audited accounts of those companies but after:-
    - 130.1.8.2.1 excluding any sums set aside for taxation (including deferred taxation);
    - 130.1.8.2.2 making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any variation in the amount of such paid up share capital

or any such reserves subsequent to the relevant balance sheet date, and so that for this purpose share capital allotted or unconditionally agreed to be allotted shall be deemed to have been issued and share capital already called up or payable at any fixed future date within the following six Months shall be treated as already paid up and if any issue or proposed issue of shares by the Company for cash has been underwritten then such shares shall be deemed to have been issued and the amount (including any premium) of the subscription moneys payable in respect thereof (not being moneys payable later than six Months after the date of allotment) shall, to the extent so underwritten, be deemed to have been paid up on the date when the issue of such shares was underwritten (or, if such underwriting was conditional, on the date when it became unconditional);

- of any distributions declared, recommended or made by the Company or its subsidiaries (otherwise than attributable directly or indirectly to the Company) out of profits earned up to and including the date of the latest audited balance sheet of the Company or subsidiary (as the case may be) to the extent that such distribution is not provided for in such balance sheet;
- 130.1.8.2.4 making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any variation in the interests of the Company in its subsidiaries since the date of the latest audited balance sheet of the Company;
- 130.1.8.2.5 if the calculation is required for the purposes of or in connection with a transaction under or in connection with which any company is to become or cease to be a

subsidiary, making all such adjustments as would be appropriate if such transaction had been carried into effect

- 130.1.8.2.6 excluding minority interests in subsidiaries;
- 130.1.8.2.7 eliminating all amounts (if any) attributable to goodwill or otherwise attributable to intangible assets shown as such on consolidation;
- 130.1.8.2.8 excluding such part of the interests of the Company or a subsidiary in an Associated Company (as defined below), not being a subsidiary, as shall be attributable to any post-acquisition undistributed profits and reserves but including such interests at original cost or, if lower, book value; and
- 130.1.8.2.9 after making such other adjustments (if any) as the Auditors may consider appropriate.

For the purpose of the above definition "Associated Company" means any company or partnership which shall be treated by the Auditors as an associated company or partnership for the purpose of any Statement of Standard Accounting Practice for the time being in issue relating to accounting for the results of associated companies published by the Accounting Standards Board or other relevant regulatory body.

- The Directors shall be deemed not to be in breach of the provisions of Article 128 by reason of the borrowing restriction being exceeded immediately after and as a result of any new audited consolidated balance sheet being laid before the Members in general meeting when immediately prior to such general meeting the borrowing restriction had not been exceeded by reference to the immediately preceding audited consolidated balance sheet but in such circumstances the Directors shall ensure that by not later than six Months after the date of such general meeting the Company has sanctioned such excess borrowing by ordinary resolution or the aggregate amount of borrowed moneys remaining outstanding has been reduced to an amount not exceeding the borrowing restriction.
- 130.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article 130 the Directors may act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of the Adjusted Capital and Reserves at any time and if in consequence the limit imposed by this Article is inadvertently exceeded an amount of borrowings equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiration of two days after the

date on which, by reason of a determination of the Auditors or otherwise, the Directors become aware that the said limit has been inadvertently exceeded as aforesaid.

### **GENERAL POWERS OF DIRECTORS**

### 131. Management of the business

The business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors who may exercise all such powers of the Company and do on behalf of the Company all such acts as may be exercised and done by the Company, and as are not by the Statutes or by these Articles required to be exercised or done by the Company in general meeting, subject nevertheless to the provisions of the Statutes and of these Articles and to such regulations, being not inconsistent with the aforesaid provisions, as may be prescribed by the Company by special resolution, but no regulation so made by the Company shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if such regulation had not been made. The general powers given by this Article shall not be limited or restricted by any special authority or power given to the Directors by any other Article.

#### 132. Power to establish local boards etc.

The Directors may establish any local boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere. They may appoint any persons to be members of such local boards, or any managers or agents, and may fix their remuneration, and may delegate to any local board, manager or agent any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in the Directors (other than their power to make calls, forfeit shares, borrow money or issue shares or debentures) with power to sub-delegate, and may authorise the members of any local boards, or any of them, to fill any vacancies therein, and to act notwithstanding vacancies. Any such appointment or delegation may be made upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Directors may think fit, and the Directors 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. The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company under section 39 of the Act and 362 of the Act and the obligations and conditions imposed by both section 39 and 362 shall be duly observed.

## 133. Appointment of attorneys

The Directors 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 Directors, to be the 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 Directors under or pursuant to these Articles) and for such period and subject to such conditions as the Directors may think fit, and any such power of attorney may contain such provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with any such attorney as the Directors may think fit, and may also authorise any such attorney to sub-delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in him. The Directors may remove any person appointed under this Article and may revoke or vary the delegation but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it.

#### 134. Signature of cheques, bills etc

All cheques, promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange, and other negotiable or transferable instruments, and all receipts for moneys paid to the Company, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed, or otherwise executed, as the case may be, in such manner as the Directors shall from time to time by resolution determine.

- 135. Establishment of pension or benefit schemes, clubs, funds etc.
- 135.1 The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to:-
  - 135.1.1 establish or concur or join with other companies (being subsidiary undertakings of the Company or companies with which it is associated in business) in establishing and making contributions out of the Company's moneys to any schemes or funds for providing pensions, annuities, sickness or compassionate allowances, life assurance benefits, donations, gratuities or other benefits for employees (which expression as used in this Article shall include any Director who may hold or have held any office or place of profit) and ex-employees of the Company and of any such other companies and their wives, husbands, widows, widowers, relatives, families or dependants, or any class or classes of such persons;
  - 135.1.2 pay, enter into agreements to pay or make grants (revocable or irrevocable and either subject or not subject to any terms or conditions) of pensions or other retirement, superannuation, death or disability benefits to employees and ex-employees and their wives, husbands, widows, widowers, relatives, families or dependants, or to any of such persons, including pensions or benefits additional to those, if any, to which such employees or ex-employees or any such persons are or may become entitled under

any such scheme or fund as aforementioned. Any such pension or benefit may, as the Directors consider desirable, be granted to an employee either before and in anticipation of or upon or at any time after his actual retirement; and

- 135.1.3 procure the establishment and subsidy of or subscription to and support of any institutions, associations, clubs, funds or trusts calculated to be for the benefit of any such persons as aforesaid or otherwise to advance the interests and well-being of the Company or of any such other company as aforesaid, or its members, and payments for or towards the insurance of any such person as aforesaid, and subscriptions or guarantees of money for charitable or benevolent objects or for any exhibition or for any public, general or useful object.
- The Directors may procure that any of the matters referred to in Articles 135.1.1 to 135.1.3 be done by the Company either alone or in conjunction with any other person.
- 135.3 The Directors may also sanction the exercise of any power conferred upon the Company by section 719 of the Act (relating to the making of provision for employees on cessation or transfer of business).

### **SECRETARY**

### 136. Appointment of secretary

Subject to section 10(2) of the Act the Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors 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. If thought fit, two or more persons may be appointed as joint secretaries.

### 137. Appointment of assistant or deputy secretary

The Directors may at any time and from time to time appoint any person to be an assistant or deputy Secretary of the Company and anything authorised or required by these Articles or by law to be done by or to the Secretary may be done by or to any such assistant or deputy Secretary. Any assistant or deputy Secretary so appointed may be removed by the Directors.

### 138. Restrictions where Director and secretary are one and the same

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

### THE SEAL

### 139. Formalities re: use of the Seal

The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal, which shall only be used by the authority of the Directors or of a committee appointed by the Directors and authorised by the Directors in that behalf, and every instrument to which the Seal shall be affixed shall be signed autographically by one Director and the Secretary or some other person appointed by the Directors for the purpose or by two Directors save that as regards any certificates for shares or debentures or other securities of the Company the Directors may by resolution determine that such signatures or either of them shall be dispensed with or affixed by some mechanical or other method or system of applying facsimile signatures.

### **AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 140. Persons with power to authenticate documents
- 140.1 Any Director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Directors for the purpose, shall have power to authenticate and certify copies of or extracts from:
  - 140.1.1 any documents affecting the constitution of the Company;
  - 140.1.2 any resolutions passed by the Company or the Directors or any committee appointed by the Directors; and
  - 140.1.3 any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company.
- 140.2 The person who has custody of any books, records, documents and accounts (**Documents**) which are held other than at the Office shall be deemed to the person appointed by the Directors for the purposes of this Article 140 to authenticate or certify the Documents.
- 140.3 A copy of a resolution or extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Company or the Directors or any committee appointed by the Directors, which is certified in accordance with this Article 140 shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company on the faith of the certified copy resolution or extract from the minutes, that the resolution has been duly passed or that the extract is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

### **RESERVES**

#### 141. Power to carry profits to reserve

Subject to the Statutes the Directors 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 Directors, shall be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied and pending such application may either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested. The Directors may divide the reserve into such special funds as they think 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 Directors may also without placing the same to reserve carry forward any profits.

#### **DIVIDENDS**

### 142. Power to declare dividends

The Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends but no dividend shall be payable except out of the profits of the Company available for distribution in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes, or in excess of the amount recommended by the Directors.

#### 143. Apportionment of dividends

Subject to any rights or privileges for the time being attached to any shares in the capital of the Company having preferential or special rights in regard to dividend, the profits of the Company which it shall from time to time be determined to distribute by way of dividend shall be applied in payment of dividends upon the shares of the Company in proportion to the amounts paid up respectively on the shares otherwise than in advance of calls. All dividends shall be apportioned and paid pro rata according to the portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid during which any such amount or amounts were paid up, but if the terms of issue of any share provide that it shall rank for dividend as from or after a particular date, or be entitled to dividends declared after a particular date, such share shall rank for or be entitled to dividend accordingly. Dividends may be paid or declared in any currency. The Directors may agree with any Member that dividends which at any time or from time to time shall be declared or become due on his shares in one currency shall be paid or satisfied in another and may agree the basis of conversion to be applied and how and when the amount to be paid in the other currency shall be calculated and paid and for the Company or any other person to bear any costs involved.

## 144. Power to pay interim dividends

If and so far as in the opinion of the Directors the profits of the Company justify such payments, the Directors may 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 payment. Subject thereto they may also from time to time pay interim dividends of such amounts and on such dates as they think fit. If the Directors act in good faith, they shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferred rights for any loss they may suffer in consequence of the payment of any interim dividend on any shares having non-preferred or deferred rights.

#### 145. Dividends not to bear interest

No dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share shall bear interest as against the Company.

# 146. Deduction of debts due to Company

The Directors may deduct from any dividend or other moneys payable to any Member on or in respect of a share all sums of money (if any) presently payable by him to the Company on account of calls or otherwise in relation to shares in the Company.

- 147. Retention of dividends and bonuses payable on shares over which Company has a lien.

  The Directors 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.
- 148. Retention of dividends and bonuses where a section 212 notice has not been complied with
- 148.1 Subject to the provisions of Article 151 the Directors may also retain any dividend (including shares issued in lieu of dividend) or other moneys otherwise payable on or in respect of a share if:-
  - 148.1.1 a notice has been duly served in respect of the share pursuant to section 212(1) of the Act or any other provision of the Statutes concerning the disclosure of interests in voting shares; and
  - 148.1.2 the share or shares which were the subject of that notice represented in aggregate at least 0.25 per cent. of that class of share; and

148.1.3 the person or persons on whom the notice was served failed to comply with the requirements of that notice within 14 days from the date of service thereof and remains in default in complying with such notice.

# 149. When right of retention under Article 148 ceases

- 149.1 Where any right of retention has arisen under the provisions of Article 148 with regard to a particular share, it shall cease to be applicable to that share (and so that, subject to the provisions of Article 148, any dividend or other moneys retained pursuant to the provisions of Article 148 in respect of that share shall again become payable) upon the expiry of a period of seven days after the earlier of:-
  - 149.1.1 the date upon which the person or persons on whom the notice referred to in Article
    148 was served ceasing to be in default in complying with such notice to the satisfaction of the Directors; or
  - 149.1.2 the date of receipt by the Company at the Transfer Office of a bona fide notice of the sale of that share through a recognised investment exchange or overseas exchange or as a result of an acceptance of a take-over offer (which shall mean an offer to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of shares in the Company to acquire such shares or a specified proportion or number thereof or to all of the holders, or to all of the holders other than the offeror and his nominee, of a particular class of those shares to acquire the shares of that class or a specified proportion or number thereof)

or such other earlier date upon which the Directors decide (in their absolute discretion) that such right of retention shall cease to be applicable to that share.

- 149.2 If and for so long as a person is in default in complying with such a notice as is referred to in Article 148 the consequences of such default under that Article shall also apply (but with effect from allotment) to any additional share allotted after service of the notice in right of the shares which were the subject of the notice (including, without limitation, any share allotted pursuant to a rights issue or a bonus issue) as if such additional share had also been the subject of the notice.
- 149.3 For the purposes of Article 148 and this Article 149, a person shall be deemed to be in default in complying with such a notice as is referred to in those Articles if he fails or refuses to give all

the information required by the notice to the satisfaction of the Directors or if he gives information which he knows to be false or if he recklessly gives information which is false.

#### 150. Unclaimed dividends

All unclaimed and retained dividends may be invested or otherwise made use of by the Directors for the benefit of the Company as they shall think fit until the same are claimed or cease to be liable to retention pursuant to these Articles. The Company shall not thereby be constituted as a trustee of the dividends and any dividend remaining unclaimed or retained in accordance with these Articles after a period of twelve years from the date such dividend becomes due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company.

### 151. Payment of dividends in specie

With the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company any dividend may be paid and satisfied, either wholly or in part, by the distribution of specific assets, and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company, or partly in one way and partly in the other, and the Directors shall give effect to such resolution. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution the Directors may settle the same as they think expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates and fix the value for distribution of the whole or part of such specific assets and 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 Directors.

### 152. Receipts by joint holders

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 on or in respect of the share, and payment of dividends in accordance with Article 153 may be made to any one of such persons.

### 153. Method of payment of cash dividends

- 153.1 Any dividend or other moneys payable in cash on or in respect of a share may be paid as follows:
  - 153.1.1 by cheque, warrant, similar financial instrument or by such bank or other funds transfer system as the Directors consider appropriate;

- 153.1.2 in the case of shares held in uncertificated form and, in the case of joint holders where the Company is authorised so to do by each of the joint holders, by means of a relevant system and such payment may include the sending by the Company or by any person on its behalf of an instruction to the operator of the relevant system to credit the Cash Memorandum Account of the member or joint holders or, if permitted by the Company, of any person or persons as the Member or joint holders may in writing direct.
- 153.2 A cheque, warrant or similar financial instrument shall be sent by post to a Member or any other person entitled at his registered address, or to such other person or persons and to such address as the Member or person may in writing direct and shall be made payable to the person to whom it is sent, or, to such person as the holder or joint holders or person or persons entitled to the share in consequence of death or bankruptcy may in writing direct.

# 154. Payment as good discharge

Payment of a cheque, warrant or other financial instrument by the banker upon whom it is drawn or debiting of the Company's account in respect of a bank or funds transfer or, in the case of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment in accordance with the facilities and requirements of a relevant system shall be a good discharge to the Company.

## 155. Cheques etc to be at sole risk

Every cheque, warrant, bank or funds transfer or payment made by any other method shall be sent at the sole risk of the person entitled.

# 156. Right to stop sending dividend warrants by post

- 156.1 Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 153 or any direction given to the Company, the Company may stop sending dividend cheques or warrants by post in relation to a share if:
  - 156.1.1 dividend cheques or warrants have been sent-by post and returned undelivered or left uncashed for a period of at least six Months on two consecutive occasions; or
  - 156.1.2 a dividend cheque or warrant has been sent by post to the registered address of the Member or other person entitled to the dividend on that share and returned undelivered or left uncashed for a period of at least six Months and thereafter reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address of such Member or person.

156.2 If the Company exercises the right conferred upon it by the foregoing provisions of this Article, it shall not be required to use any other method of paying dividends on the share in question but, subject to the provisions of these Articles, shall recommence sending cheques or warrants (or using another method of payment) in respect of dividends on that share if the Member or other person entitled to the dividend claims the arrears of dividend and does not instruct the Company to pay future dividends in some other way.

### 157. Power to specify record dates

Any resolution declaring or resolving to pay a dividend on shares of any class, whether a resolution of the Company in general meeting or a resolution of the Directors, may specify that such dividend shall be payable to the persons registered as the holders of such shares at the close of business on a particular date being any time within 6 Months before or after any date on which such dividend is declared, and in the event that such date is a date prior to that on which the resolution is passed such dividend shall be payable to them in accordance with their respective holdings so registered notwithstanding any subsequent transfer or transmission of such shares, but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of such dividend of transferors and transferees of any such shares. The provisions of this Article shall mutatis mutandis apply to capitalisations to be effected in pursuance of Article 159.

#### **SHARES IN LIEU OF DIVIDEND**

### 158. Power to offer shares in lieu of cash dividends

The Directors may, with the sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer the holders of ordinary shares in the capital of the Company the right to elect to receive in respect of all or part of their holding of such ordinary shares, additional ordinary shares in the Company, credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of all or part of such dividend or dividends and (subject to the following provisions of this Article) upon such terms and conditions and in such manner as may be specified in such ordinary resolution and otherwise as the Directors may determine. Any such resolution may specify a particular dividend and/or all or any dividends (or any part of such dividends) declared or paid within a specified period but no such period may end later than the end of the fifth annual general meeting next following the date on which such ordinary resolution is passed.

- 158.2 When any such right of election is to be offered to the holders of ordinary shares pursuant to this Article, the Directors shall make such offer to such holders in writing (conditionally, if the necessary ordinary resolution has yet to be passed, upon such resolution being passed) and shall make available to or provide such holders with forms of election (in such form as the Directors may approve) whereby such holders may exercise such right and shall notify such holders of the procedure to be followed and of the place at which, and the latest date and time by which duly completed forms of election must be lodged in order to be effective.
- 158.3 Each holder of ordinary shares who elects to receive additional ordinary shares in the Company under a right offered to him pursuant to this Article shall be entitled to receive such whole number of additional ordinary shares as is as nearly as possible equal in value (calculated on the basis of the Market Value of an additional ordinary share in the Company) to (but not in excess of) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) that such holder would otherwise have received by way of dividend. For the purposes of this Article, the "Market Value" of an additional ordinary share in the Company shall be equal to the average of the middle market quotations for an ordinary share in the Company on the London Stock Exchange, as derived from the Daily Official List of the London Stock Exchange on such five consecutive dealing days as the Directors shall determine (save that the first of such dealing days shall be on or after the day when the issued ordinary shares in the Company are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend) or to the nominal value of an ordinary share in the Company (whichever is the higher).
- Following an election by holders of ordinary shares in accordance with this Article, the relevant dividend (or that part of a dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable on the ordinary shares in respect of which the election was made. In lieu of such dividend, the Directors may capitalise out of any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or out of any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital reserves (including any capital redemption reserve) as the Directors may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal value of the number of additional ordinary shares required to be allotted to the holders of ordinary shares who have made such election and shall apply such sum in paying up in full such number of additional ordinary shares and shall allot and distribute the same to and amongst such holders on the basis set out in Article 158.3. The

foregoing provisions of this paragraph shall be subject to any right of the Directors under these Articles to retain any dividend or other moneys payable on or in respect of any share or shares of a particular Member.

- The additional ordinary shares so allotted shall rank pari passu in all respects with the fully paid ordinary shares in the Company then in issue save that they shall not be entitled to participate in the dividend in relation to which the relevant election was made.
- The Directors may at their discretion make any rights of election offered pursuant to this Article subject to such exclusions or arrangements as they may consider necessary or expedient to deal with any legal or other difficulties which would or may otherwise arise under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any territory.
  - 158.7 The Directors may make such provision as they think fit for any fractional entitlements including provisions whereby fractional entitlements are retained and accumulated on behalf of any holder of ordinary shares and such retained entitlements are applied in the allotment of fully paid ordinary shares by way of bonus to such holder or cash subscription of fully paid ordinary shares on such holder's behalf.

### **CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS AND RESERVES**

- 159. Power to capitalise profits and reserves
- 159.1 The Directors may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:-
  - 159.1.1 subject as hereinafter provided, resolve to capitalise any undivided profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of the Company's share premium account or capital reserves;
  - 159.1.2 appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the Members who would have been entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full any unissued shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to that sum, and allot the shares or debentures credited as fully paid to those Members, or as they may direct, in those proportions, or partly in one way and partly in the other; but the share premium account, the capital redemption reserve, and any reserves which

- are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this Article, only be applied in paying up unissued shares to be allotted to Members credited as fully paid;
- 159.1.3 resolve that any shares allotted under this Article to any Member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid ordinary shares shall, so long as such ordinary shares remain partly paid, rank for dividends only to the extent that such partly paid ordinary shares rank for dividend;
- 159.1.4 make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates or by payment in cash or otherwise as they determine in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable under this Article 159 in fractions;
- 159.1.5 authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the Members concerned into an agreement with the Company providing for the allotment to them respectively, credited as fully paid, of any shares or debentures to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made (whether or not in writing) under such authority being binding on all such Members; and
- 159.1.6 generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution as aforesaid.

#### MINUTES AND BOOKS

- 160. Requirements re: minutes
- 160.1 The Directors shall cause minutes to be made in books to be provided for the purpose:-
  - 160.1.1 of all appointments of officers made by the Directors;
  - 160.1.2 of the names of the Directors present at each meeting of the Directors and of any committee appointed by the Directors; and
  - 160.1.3 of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Company and of any class of Members of the Company and of the Directors and of committees appointed by the Directors

and any such minutes as aforesaid, if purporting to be signed by the chairman of the meeting at which such appointments were made, or such Directors were present, or such resolutions were passed or proceedings held (as the case may be), or by the chairman of the next succeeding meeting of the Company or the Directors or committee (as the case may be), shall be sufficient evidence without any further proof of the facts therein stated.

## 161. Requirements re: registers

The Directors shall duly comply with the provisions of the Statutes and in particular the provisions in regard to registration of charges and in regard to keeping a register of Members, a register of Directors and secretaries, a register of charges, a register of Directors' interests and a register for recording information relating to interests in the share capital of the Company, and to the production and furnishing of copies of or extracts from such registers, and in regard to keeping and making available for inspection copies and memoranda of Directors' service contracts.

## 162. Form of registers

Any register, index, minute book, book of account or other book required by these Articles or the Statutes to be kept by or on behalf of the Company may be kept either by making entries in bound books or by recording them in any other manner. In any case in which bound books are not used, the Directors shall take adequate precautions for guarding against falsification and for facilitating its discovery.

### ACCOUNTS

#### 163. Compliance with statutes

The Directors shall cause the Company to comply with the provisions of the Statutes with regard to the keeping of accounting records.

#### 164. Rights to inspect books

The accounting records shall be kept at the Office, or at such other place within Great Britain as the Directors think fit, and shall always be open to the inspection of the Directors. No Member (other than a Director) shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the Company except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Directors.

#### 165. Presentation of Accounts etc. to Members

The Directors shall from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes cause to be prepared and to be laid before a general meeting of the Company such profit and loss accounts, balance sheets, group accounts (if any) and reports which by law must be attached to them (together for the purposes of this Article 165 and Article 166 **Accounts**) as may be necessary.

#### 166. Rights to receive copies of Accounts

166.1 A copy of the Accounts shall, not less than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting, be sent to every Member of, and every holder of debentures of, the Company and to every other

person who is entitled to receive notices of meetings from the Company under the provisions of the Statutes or of these Articles provided that this Article shall not require a copy of these documents to be sent to more than one of joint holders or to any person of whose address the Company is not aware, but any Member or holder of debentures to whom a copy of these documents has not been sent shall be entitled to receive a copy free of charge on application at the Office. Whenever any of the shares, debentures or other securities of the Company are Listed or otherwise quoted or dealt in on the London Stock Exchange or any other recognised stock exchange, there shall be forwarded to the appropriate officer of such stock exchange such number of copies of such documents as may for the time being be required under its regulations or practice.

# **AUDITORS**

## 167. Compliance with statutes

The provisions of the Statutes as to the appointment, powers, rights, remuneration and duties of the Auditors shall be complied with.

## 168. Validity of acts of auditors

Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, 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 was some defect in his appointment or that he was at the time of his appointment not qualified for appointment.

#### 169. Auditors' entitlement re: general meetings

The Auditors shall be entitled to attend any general meeting and to receive all notices of and other communications relating to any general meeting which any Member is entitled to receive, and to be heard at any general meeting on any part of the business of the meeting which concerns them as auditors.

# NOTICES

### 170. Service of notices and documents

170.1 Any notice or document (including a share certificate) may be served on or delivered to any Member by the Company either personally or by sending it by post in a pre-paid cover addressed to such Member at his registered address, or (if he has no registered address within the United Kingdom) to the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied by him

- to the Company as his address for the service of notices or documents or by fax or by Electronic Communication.
- 170.2 Where a notice or other document is sent by post, service or delivery shall be deemed to be effected 24 hours after the time when the cover containing the same is posted and in proving such service or delivery it shall be sufficient to prove that such cover was properly addressed, stamped and posted.
- 170.3 Any notice or document sent by fax or Electronic Communication shall be deemed to be served on the day of transmission. Proof that a notice or other document sent by Electronic Communication was sent in accordance with guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators shall be conclusive evidence that notice was given.

#### 171. Electronic Communication

- 171.1 Where these Articles require the Company to send, circulate or despatch notices or documents to its Members, the Company shall be deemed to have complied with that requirement in relation to any Member if either:
  - 171.1.1 the Company and the Members have agreed to use electronic communication to send such notices or documents;
  - 171.1.2 the notices or documents are notices or documents to which the agreement applies;
  - 171.1.3 copies of the notices or documents are sent by Electronic Communication to the address, number or other location notified by the Member to the Company for that purpose; or
  - 171.1.4 the Company and the Member have agreed to the Member having access to notices or documents on a website, and:
    - 171.1.4.1 the notices or documents are notices or documents to which the agreement applies;
    - the Member is notified of the publication of the notices or documents on the website, the address of the website, the place on the website where the notices or documents can be accessed and how they can be accessed, and the period of time for which the notices or documents will be available on the website.

- 171.2 The period of time referred to in Article 171.1.4.2 must not be less than 21 days from the date of notification or, if later, until the conclusion of any general meeting to which the notices or documents relate.
- 171.3 If the notices or documents are published on the website for a part only of the period of time referred to in Article 171.1.4.2, they will be treated as being published throughout the period if the failure to publish throughout that period is wholly attributable to circumstances which it would not be reasonable to have expected the Company to prevent or avoid.
- 171.4 Where the Company sends notices or documents to shareholders by Electronic Communication in accordance with Article 171.1, it must also make the notices or documents available to Members in printed form and free of charge on request during normal business hours for a period of not less than 21 days from the date of communication or notification or, if later, until the conclusion of any general meeting to which the notices or documents relate.
- 171.5 The printed copies referred to in Article 171.4 must be made available in sufficient numbers to satisfy demand from its Members and be made available at the Company's Office and also at the offices of any of the Company's paying agents in the United Kingdom.

### 172. Notices to joint holders

In the case of joint holders of a share all notices shall be given to that one of the joint holders (if any) described in the Register as having an address for service in the United Kingdom whose name stands first in the Register and notice so given shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders.

#### 173. Death or bankruptcy of a Member

Subject to the provisions of Article 54 and Article 177 a person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a Member shall (upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show his title to the share, and upon supplying also an address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices) be entitled to have served upon or delivered to him at such address any notice or document to which the Member but for his death or bankruptcy would be entitled, and such service or delivery shall for all purposes be deemed a sufficient service or delivery of such notice or document on all persons interested (whether jointly with or as claiming through or under him) in the share. Save as aforesaid any notice or document delivered or sent by post, fax or Electronic Communication to or left at the registered address of any Member in pursuance of these Articles shall, notwithstanding that such Member be then dead or bankrupt and whether or not

the Company has notice of his death or bankruptcy, be deemed to have been duly served or delivered in respect of any share registered in the name of such Member as sole or joint holder.

### 174. Members with addresses outside the UK

A Member who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) has not supplied to the Company an address within the United Kingdom for service of notices shall not be entitled to receive notices from the Company.

## 175. Attendance at meeting to signify receipt of notice

Any Member present, either personally or by proxy, at any meeting of the Company or class of Members of the Company shall for all purposes be deemed to have received due notice of such meeting and, where requisite, of the purposes for which such meeting was convened.

## 176. Suspension of postal services

If at any time by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom the Company is unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post, a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised in at least two leading daily newspapers (at least one of which shall be published in London) and such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all Members entitled thereto at noon on the day when the advertisement appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post if at least seven days prior to the meeting the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

#### 177. Notice by advertisement

Any notice required to be given by the Company to Members and not expressly provided for by these Articles or the Statutes shall be sufficiently given if given by advertisement. Any notice required to be or which may be given by advertisement pursuant to this Article shall be advertised once in at least one leading national daily newspaper published in London and shall be deemed to have been duly served on all Members entitled thereto at noon on the day when the advertisement appears.

## 178. Record dates for service

Any notice or other document may be served or delivered by the Company by reference to the Register as it stands at any time not more than 21 days before the date of service or delivery. No change in the Register after that time shall invalidate that service or delivery. Where any notice or other document is served on or delivered to any person in respect of a share in accordance with these

Articles, no person deriving any title or interest in that share shall be entitled to any further service or delivery of that notice or document but shall be bound by every notice (save as otherwise provided by these Articles) in respect of such shares which previously to his name and address being entered in the Register shall be duly given to the person from whom he derives his title to such shares.

## 179. Signature of notice

The signature to any notice to be given by the Company may be written or printed.

# **UNTRACED SHAREHOLDERS**

- 180. Members with no valid registered address need not be sent notices etc.
- In addition and without prejudice to Article 156, if any Member's registered address or (if he has no registered address within the United Kingdom) the address, if any, supplied by him to the Company as his address for service in the United Kingdom (Address for Service) appears to be incorrect or out of date then the Directors may resolve that the Member may be treated as if he had no registered address or Address for Service but may only so resolve if notice or other documents sent to the Member's registered address or Address for Service (as the case may be) have been returned undelivered on at least two consecutive occasions or if following one occasion reasonable enquiries have failed to establish the Member's new address.
- 180.2 If a resolution pursuant to Article 80.1 has been passed the Company will not be obliged to send the Member notices of meetings copies of the documents referred to in Article 166 or cheque or warrant until the Member has supplied a new registered address or Address for Service.
- 180.3 The provisions of this Article 180 also apply to any address, number or location supplied by a Member for the purpose of Electronic Communication.
- 181. Power of Company to sell shares of untraced Members
- 181.1 The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share provided that:-
  - 181.1.1 for a period of twelve years no cheque or warrant sent by the Company through the post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the Member or to a person entitled by transmission to the share at his address on the Register, or other the 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:
- 181.1.2 no less than three dividends have become payable in the twelve year period referred to in Article 181.1.1; and
- 181.1.3 the Company has at the expiration of the said period of twelve years by advertisement in both a leading London newspaper and in a newspaper circulating in the area in which the address referred to in Article 181.1.1 is located given notice of its intention to sell such share; and
- 181.1.4 the Company has not during the further period of three Months after the date of the advertisement (or, if published on different dates, the later thereof) and prior to the exercise of the power of sale received any communication from the Member or person entitled by transmission; and
- 181.1.5 the Company has first given notice in writing to the Listing Department of the London Stock Exchange of its intention to sell such shares and complied with any requirements of that Exchange,

and if, during any twelve year period referred to in Article 181.1, further shares have been allotted in right of those held at the beginning of such period or of any previously allotted during such period and all the requirements of Articles 181.1.3 to 181.1.5 inclusive have been satisfied in regard to such further shares, the Company may also sell those further shares.

181.2 Upon any such sale as aforesaid the Directors may appoint some person to execute or otherwise effect a transfer of the share or shares sold to the purchaser in the name and on behalf of the registered holder or the person (if any) entitled by transmission to such share or shares and may enter the purchaser's name in the Register as holder. The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the regularity or validity of, or be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in, the proceedings or be bound to see to the application of the purchase money. After his name has been entered in the Register the validity of the sale shall not be impeached by any person, and the remedy of any person aggrieved by the sale shall be in damages only and against the Company exclusively. The Company shall account to the Member or other person entitled to such share for the net proceeds of such sale and shall be deemed to be his debtor and not a trustee for him in respect of the same.

### WINDING UP

### 182. Distribution of assets by liquidator

Subject to any special rights for the time being attached to any class of shares, on a return of assets on liquidation or otherwise the surplus assets of the Company remaining after payment of its liabilities shall be distributed in proportion to the amounts paid up or deemed to be paid up in respect of the nominal value of the shares of the Company then in issue.

### 183. Powers of liquidator

If the Company shall be wound up (whether the liquidation is voluntary, under supervision or by the court) the liquidator may, with the authority of an extraordinary resolution, divide among the Members in specie or kind the whole or any part of the assets of the Company. Whether or not the assets shall consist of property of one kind or shall consist of properties of different kinds the liquidator may for such purpose set such value as he deems fair upon any one or more class or classes of property and may determine how such division shall be carried out as between the Members or different classes of Members. If any such division shall be otherwise than in accordance with the existing rights of the Members every Member shall have the same right of dissent and other ancillary rights as if such resolution were a special resolution passed in accordance with section 110 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The liquidator may, with the like authority, vest any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of Members as the liquidator with the like authority shall think fit, and the liquidation of the Company may be closed and the Company dissolved, but so that no contributory shall be compelled to accept any shares or other property in respect of which there is a liability.

### **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

- 184. Circumstances in which Company may destroy certain documents
- 184.1 The Company shall be entitled to destroy:-
  - 184.1.1 all instruments of transfer which have been registered at any time after the expiration of six years from the date of registration thereof;
  - 184.1.2 all dividend mandates and any variations or cancellations thereof and all notifications of change of address at any time after the expiration of two years from the date of recording thereof;
  - 184.1.3 all registered share certificates which have been cancelled at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of such cancellation;

- 184.1.4 all paid dividend warrants and cheques at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of actual payment thereof;
- 184.1.5 all instruments of proxy which have been used for the purpose of a poll at any time after the expiration of one year from the date of such use save that, in the case of proxies which are used for the purpose of a poll at an adjourned meeting as well as at the original meeting, such period of one year shall commence on the date of the last such use;
- 184.1.6 all instruments of proxy which have not been used for the purpose specified in Article
  184.1.5 at any time after one Month from the end of the meeting (or any adjournment thereof) to which the instrument relates; and
- 184.1.7 any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register has been made at any time after the expiration of six years from the date on which an entry in the Register was first made in respect of it,

and it shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made, that every Instrument of Transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was a valid and effective document duly and properly cancelled, that every other document hereinbefore mentioned so destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with the recorded particulars thereof in the books or records of the Company and that every paid dividend warrant and cheque so destroyed was duly paid.

- 184.2 The foregoing provisions of this Article 184 shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without express notice to the Company of any claim (regardless of the parties thereto) to which the document might be relevant.
- Nothing contained in this Article 184 shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than as aforesaid or in any case where the conditions of Article 184.2 are not fulfilled.
- 184.4 References in this Article 184 to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal thereof in any manner.

#### SECRECY

<u>Members</u> not entitled to information which Board considers would be inexpedient to communicate to the public.

No Member or general meeting or other meeting of Members shall be entitled to require discovery of or any information respecting any detail of the Company's trading or the trading of any of its subsidiaries or any matter that is or may be in the nature of a trade secret or secret process, or that may relate to the conduct of the business of the Company or any of its subsidiaries which in the opinion of the Directors it would be inexpedient in the interests of the Company to communicate to the public.

### INDEMNITY

- 185. Indemnity to Directors and other officers
- 185.1 Without prejudice to any indemnity to which the person concerned may be otherwise entitled, every Director, alternate Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company shall (subject to the provisions of the scheme) be entitled to be indemnified by the Company against any liability incurred by him:-
  - 185.1.1 in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) in which judgment is given in his favour or he is acquitted; or
  - 185.1.2 in connection with any application under section 144(3) or (4) of the Act (acquisition of shares by innocent nominee) or section 727 of the Act (general power to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct) in which relief is granted to him by the court.
- Subject to the provisions of, and so far as may be permitted by, the Statutes but without prejudice to any indemnity to which the person concerned may be otherwise entitled, every such officer of the Company as is referred to in Article 186.1 shall be entitled to be indemnified by the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him in the execution and discharge of his duties or the exercise of his powers or otherwise in relation to or in connection with his duties, powers or office.
- The Directors may purchase and maintain at the cost of the Company insurance cover for any such officer as is referred to in Article 186.1 against any liability which may attach to him in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust towards the Company or otherwise in relation to anything done or omitted to be done or alleged to have been done or omitted to be done by him as an officer of the Company.