

**No. 04586941**

**QINETIQ GROUP PLC**

**Incorporated on 11 November 2002**

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**(Adopted by Special Resolution passed on 26 July 2012)**

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## ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

### QINETIQ GROUP PLC (the "Company")

(adopted by special resolution passed on 26 July 2012)

#### PRELIMINARY

#### DEFINITIONS

1. (1) In these articles the following words bear the following meanings:

**"Business Day"** means a day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) on which banks are open for the conduct of general banking business in England and Wales;

**"Acts"** means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to the Company;

**"articles"** means the articles of association of the Company;

**"British Citizen"** has the meaning given by the British Nationality Act 1981 as in effect as at the date of adoption of these articles;

**"chairman"** means the person appointed to the office of chairman in accordance with these articles;

**"chief executive"** means the chief executive, managing director or joint managing director of the Company (by whatsoever name called and whether or not he is a director);

**"clear days"** means in relation to the period of a notice, that period excluding the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect;

**"Compliance Principles"** means the following principles:

- (a) QinetiQ should provide, and should be perceived to provide, impartial scientific and technical advice and support to the Ministry of Defence;
- (b) QinetiQ's support to the Ministry of Defence should be objective and it should observe the highest standards of integrity, fair dealing and ethical behaviour;
- (c) QinetiQ should avoid or manage conflicts of interest in accordance with the generally applicable standard requirements of the Ministry of Defence from time to time in relation to conflicts of interest;
- (d) QinetiQ should maintain the confidentiality of information belonging to the Ministry of Defence or others, in accordance with its legal obligations; and
- (e) QinetiQ should comply with the security procedures and security requirements of the UK Government (including, but not limited to, the Ministry of Defence) from time to time,

all in a manner consistent with, and with the overriding objective of protecting, the United Kingdom's defence and security interests from time to time and references to **"QinetiQ"** in this definition mean the Company and each other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group, provided that in respect of members of the QinetiQ Controlled Group (other than the Company and its wholly-

owned subsidiaries incorporated in the United Kingdom, in respect of which this proviso shall not apply and which shall be subject to an absolute obligation to adhere to the Compliance Principles) this shall only require the Company to do all that a reasonable person reasonably could do to exercise, or procure the exercise of, all rights, influence and control exercisable by it so as to ensure, as far as possible, that no such member shall conduct itself in a manner which (either alone or when taken together with any other action or inaction) would result in the variation of any of the rights attached to the Special Share and/or a breach of the Compliance Principles;

**"Compliance System"** means:

- (a) the roles and responsibility of the board of directors relating to the Compliance Principles and their application; and
- (b) a sound compliance management system of internal controls and processes for ensuring the effective application of the Compliance Principles by the QinetiQ Controlled Group;

**"Control"** means, in relation to any person (the **"Controlled Person"**), the ability of another person (the **"Controller"**) to ensure that the activities and business of the Controlled Person are conducted in accordance with the wishes of the Controller, and a person shall be deemed to have Control of a body corporate or partnership if that person possesses or is entitled to acquire (i) the majority of the issued share capital in that body corporate; and/or (ii) the majority of the voting rights in that body corporate or partnership; and/or (iii) the right to receive the majority of the income of that body corporate or partnership on any distribution by it of all of its income or the majority of its assets on a winding up; and/or (iv) the right to appoint a majority of the directors (or equivalent officers) to the board (or equivalent body) of that body corporate or partnership, and/or (v) the right as a general partner of a limited partnership to conduct ordinary matters connected with the business of that limited partnership, and **"Controlled"** and **"Controlling"** shall be construed accordingly;

**"Crown"** means one or more of Her Majesty's Secretaries of State, another Minister of the Crown, the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, the Treasury Solicitor, any body corporate wholly owned by any of the foregoing or any other person acting on behalf of the Crown and **"Crown representative"** shall be construed accordingly;

**"electronic address"** means any number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving notices, documents or information by electronic means;

**"electronic form"** has the same meaning as in the Acts;

**"electronic means"** has the same meaning as in the Acts;

**"executed"** means any mode of execution;

**"Group"** means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings from time to time;

**"holder"** means in relation to shares, the member whose name is entered in the register of members as the holder of the shares;

**"IAS 28"** means International Accounting Standard 28 as published by the International Accounting Standards Board as at 24 January 2006;

**"IAS 31"** means International Accounting Standard 31 as published by the International Accounting Standards Board as at 24 January 2006;

**"Ministry of Defence"** means the Secretary of State for Defence (acting as the Ministry of Defence) and any Permitted Transferee of the Ministry of Defence;

**"Office"** means the registered office of the Company;

**"Operator"** means the same as in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations;

**"Ordinary Share"** means the ordinary shares of 1 penny each in the Company's share capital;

**"Ordinary Shareholder"** means any holder of Ordinary Shares from time to time;

**"Permitted Transferee"** means, unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Company and the Ministry of Defence, any Crown representative;

**"QinetiQ Consolidated Group"** means:

- (a) the Company and any entity which is its subsidiary or holding company, or any entity which is a subsidiary of that holding company; and
- (b) an arrangement of an entity within (a) which under IAS 31 would be accounted for as a joint venture, whether or not such arrangement is itself an entity;

**"QinetiQ Controlled Group"** means those entities and/or arrangements which are:

- (a) a member of the QinetiQ Consolidated Group;
- (b) an associate under IAS 28 of a member of the QinetiQ Consolidated Group; or
- (c) an entity Controlled by another entity or arrangement within (a) or (b) above;

**"QinetiQ Holdings Limited"** means a company registered in England and Wales as company number 4154556;

**"QinetiQ Limited"** means a company registered in England and Wales as company number 3796233;

**"seal"** means the common seal (if any) of the Company and an official seal (if any) kept by the Company by virtue of section 50 of the Companies Act 2006, or either of them as the case may require;

**"secretary"** means the secretary of the Company or any other person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Company, including a joint, assistant or deputy secretary;

**"Special Share"** means the special rights redeemable preference share of £1 issued in the Company's share capital;

**"Special Shareholder"** means any holder of the Special Share from time to time acting in this capacity and not in its capacity as holder of any Ordinary Shares;

**"Stock Exchange"** means London Stock Exchange plc;

**"Strategic Assets"** means any assets which the Special Shareholder has agreed from time to time with the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited in writing as being assets of strategic importance which, in the case of those Strategic Assets comprising land, includes the buildings and other structures thereon and will be deemed to include (if not specified) the benefits as legal rights and legal easements of all rights of way, privileges, easements, quasi-rights and quasi-easements (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, rights of access and rights for services) (together **"ancillary rights"**) as from time to time reasonably required for the use and enjoyment of the same (but for the purposes of the Options and Pre-Emption Right (each as defined in article 17) including (if not specified as aforesaid) only those ancillary rights reasonably required for such use and enjoyment at the time of exercise of the relevant Option or Pre-Emption Right in relation to those Strategic Assets) or (in either such case) as otherwise may specifically be agreed in writing between the Special Shareholder and the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited in relation to any specific Strategic Asset as being the ancillary rights to be included in that Strategic Asset;

**"UK Government"** means the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and

**"Uncertificated Securities Regulations"** means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001.

- (2) In these articles, references to a share being in uncertificated form are references to that share being an uncertificated unit of a security and references to a share being in certificated form are references to that share being a certificated unit of a security, provided that any reference to a share in uncertificated form applies only to a share of a class which is, for the time being, a participating security, and only for so long as it remains a participating security.
- (3) Save as aforesaid and unless the context otherwise requires, words or expressions contained in these articles have the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 or the Uncertificated Securities Regulations (as the case may be).
- (4) Except where otherwise expressly stated, a reference in these articles to any primary or delegated legislation or legislative provision includes a reference to any modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force.
- (5) In these articles, unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) words in the singular include the plural, and vice versa;
  - (b) words importing any gender include all genders; and
  - (c) a reference to a person includes a reference to a body corporate and to an unincorporated body of persons.
- (6) In these articles:
  - (a) references to writing include references to typewriting, printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form whether sent or supplied in electronic form or made available on a website or otherwise;

- (b) the words and phrases "other", "otherwise", "including" and "in particular" shall not limit the generality of any preceding words or be construed as being limited to the same class as the preceding words where a wider construction is possible;
  - (c) references to a power are to a power of any kind, whether administrative, discretionary or otherwise; and
  - (d) references to a committee of the directors are to a committee established in accordance with these articles, whether or not comprised wholly of directors.
- (7) The headings are inserted for convenience only and do not affect the construction of these articles.

#### **Exclusion of other regulations**

2. No regulations or model articles contained in any statute or subordinate legislation including without prejudice to such generality, the regulations contained in Table A to the Companies Act 1985 and the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008, shall apply as the articles.

### **SHARE CAPITAL**

#### **Liability of members**

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

#### **Further issues and rights attaching**

4. (1) Without prejudice to any rights attached to any existing shares, any share may be issued with such rights or restrictions as the Company may by ordinary resolution determine or, if the Company has not so determined, as the directors may determine.
- (2) In the event that rights and restrictions attaching to shares are determined by ordinary resolution pursuant to this article, those rights and restrictions shall apply, in particular in place of any rights or restrictions that would otherwise apply by virtue of the Companies Act 2006 in the absence of any provisions in the articles of a company, as if those rights and restrictions were set out in the articles.

#### **Redeemable shares**

5. (1) Any share may be issued which is or is to be liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder, and the directors may determine the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any such share.
- (2) In the event that rights and restrictions attaching to shares are determined by the directors pursuant to this article, those rights and restrictions shall apply, in particular in place of any rights or restrictions that would otherwise apply by virtue of the Companies Act 2006 in the absence of any provisions in the articles of a company, as if those rights and restrictions were set out in the articles.

#### **Payment of commissions**

6. The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions conferred by the Acts. Any such commission may be satisfied by the payment of cash or by the allotment of fully or partly paid shares, or partly in one way and partly in the other and may be in respect of a conditional or an absolute subscription.

### **Trusts not recognised**

7. Except as required by law, no person shall be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust. Except as otherwise provided by these articles or by law, the Company shall not be bound by or recognise (even if having notice of it) any equitable, contingent, future, partial or other claim or any interest in any share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all the rights attaching to it.

### **Uncertificated shares**

8. Without prejudice to any powers which the Company or the directors may have to issue, allot, dispose of, convert, or otherwise deal with or make arrangements in relation to shares and other securities in any form:
- (a) the holding of shares in uncertificated form and the transfer of title to such shares by means of a relevant system shall be permitted; and
  - (b) the Company may issue shares in uncertificated form and may convert shares from certificated form to uncertificated form and vice versa.

If and to the extent that any provision of these articles is inconsistent with such holding or transfer as is referred to in paragraph (a) of this article or with any provision of the Uncertificated Securities Regulations, it shall not apply to any share in uncertificated form.

### **Separate holdings of shares in certificated and uncertificated form**

9. Notwithstanding anything else contained in these articles, where any class of shares is, for the time being, a participating security, unless the directors otherwise determine, shares of any such class held by the same holder or joint holder in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings.

## **REGISTERED OFFICE**

### **Registered Office**

10. The Office shall be at such place in England and Wales as the board of directors of the Company shall from time to time decide.

## **SPECIAL SHARE**

### **Special Share held by the Crown**

11. The Special Share may only be issued to, held by and transferred to the Crown (or as it directs). The directors must register any transfer of the Special Share within 7 days.

### **Variation of rights attaching to the Special Share**

12. Amendment of the effect of, or removal of the following provisions of, these articles will be deemed to be a variation of the rights attaching to the Special Share and requires the written consent (which must be provided in hard copy and not in electronic form) of the Special Shareholder:
- (a) in article 1(1) the definitions of "British Citizen," "chairman," "chief executive," "Compliance Principles", "Compliance System", "Control", "Crown", "QinetiQ Consolidated Group", "QinetiQ Controlled Group", "Special Share", "Special Shareholder" and "Strategic Assets";
  - (b) articles 11 to 23 (Special Share); and
  - (c) any other reference in these articles to the Ministry of Defence, to the Special Share or to the Special Shareholder.

### **Special Shareholder rights**

13. The Special Shareholder has the following rights:
- (a) to require the Company to implement and maintain (as from the date of adoption of these articles) a Compliance System, so as to make at all times effective its and each member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group's application of the Compliance Principles, in a manner acceptable to the Special Shareholder;
  - (b) to refer matters to the board of directors for its consideration in relation to the application of the Compliance Principles;
  - (c) to require the board of directors to take action to rectify any omission in the application of the Compliance Principles if the Special Shareholder is of the opinion that such steps are necessary to protect the defence or security interests of the United Kingdom;
  - (d) the consent in writing of the Special Shareholder shall be required:
    - (i) if at any time when the chairman is not a British Citizen, it is proposed to appoint any person to the office of chief executive, who is not a British Citizen; and
    - (ii) if at any time when the chief executive is not a British Citizen, it is proposed to appoint any person to the office of chairman, who is not a British Citizen; and
  - (e) to demand a poll at any of the Company's meetings (even though it may have no voting rights except those given to it under articles 11 to 23);

provided that in respect of members of the QinetiQ Controlled Group (other than the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries incorporated in the United Kingdom, in respect of which this proviso shall not apply and which shall be subject to an absolute obligation to comply with such rights) this shall only require the Company to do all that a reasonable person reasonably could do to exercise, or procure the exercise of, all rights, influence and control exercisable by it so as to ensure, as far as possible, that no such member shall conduct itself in a manner which (either alone or when taken together with any other action or inaction) would result in the variation of any of the rights attached to the Special Share and/or a breach of the Compliance Principles.

### **Notice to Special Shareholder in respect of proposed appointments**

14. (1) At any time when:
- (a) the chairman is not a British Citizen, the board of directors shall give notice in writing to the Special Shareholder in advance of the proposed appointment of any person to the office of chief executive, where that person is not a British Citizen; or
  - (b) the chief executive is not a British Citizen, the board of directors shall give notice in writing to the Special Shareholder in advance of the proposed appointment of any person to the office of chairman, where that person is not a British Citizen;
- and in either case the Special Shareholder shall provide a decision in writing in respect of each such notice within a period of 30 Business Days.
- (2) The chief executive shall notify the company forthwith, upon his ceasing to be a British Citizen, of that fact.

- (3) The chairman shall notify the company forthwith, upon his ceasing to be a British Citizen, of that fact.
- (4) If the chief executive ceases to be a British Citizen at a time when the chairman is not a British Citizen, the Special Shareholder shall be entitled to require the board to remove the chief executive from his office as chief executive by notice in writing on the grounds that that person is no longer a British Citizen.
- (5) If the chairman ceases to be a British Citizen at a time when the chief executive is not a British Citizen, the Special Shareholder shall be entitled to require the board to remove the chairman from his office as chairman by notice in writing on the grounds that that person is no longer a British Citizen.

#### **Redemption of the Special Share**

- 15. (1) The Special Shareholder may, subject to the provisions of the Acts, require the Company to redeem the Special Share at par (such sum being payable on redemption) at any time by serving written notice (which must be provided in hard copy and not in electronic form) on the Company and delivering the relevant share certificate to the Company.
- (2) Save as described in paragraph (1) of this article, the Special Share is not redeemable in any other way.

#### **Special Shareholder written consent**

- 16. The written consent (which must be provided in hard copy and not in electronic form) of the Special Shareholder is also required before the following events can take place:
  - (a) (subject to article 17) the disposal or destruction of, or voluntary closure of or cessation of any operations conducted by means of, all or any part of, a Strategic Asset by the Company or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group (other than disposal of all or any part of a Strategic Asset by the Company or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group in accordance with article 17(8)); and
  - (b) the entering into of any agreement by, or the permitting of, any member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group to undertake any of the matters restricted by paragraph (a) of this article.

#### **Strategic Assets**

- 17. (1) In this article 17:
  - "Completion"** means the date of completion of the sale and purchase of the Selected Strategic Assets pursuant to the exercise of the Options (as described in article 17(2)) or either of them or (as applicable) of the exercise of the Pre-emption Right (as described in article 17(3));
  - "Consideration"** means the value of the Selected Strategic Assets as determined in accordance with agreements in writing between the Company and the Special Shareholder from time to time;
  - "Relevant Date"** means any date that:
    - (a) the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate) goes into liquidation (whether compulsory or voluntary) or the

Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate) has an administrator appointed or a receiver or manager, or administrative receiver is appointed over the whole or any part of the assets or undertaking of the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate), or a petition is presented or a shareholders' resolution passed for the liquidation or administration of the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate), or any steps are taken by the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate) with a view to proposing or agreeing (under any enactment or otherwise) any kind of composition, scheme, compromise or arrangement involving the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group with a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset (as appropriate) and its creditors generally (including, for the avoidance of doubt, a proposal for a company voluntary arrangement under the Insolvency Act 1986 or scheme of arrangement under the Acts) and in this paragraph (a) references to the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited are in each case to them whether or not having a subsisting interest in the relevant Strategic Asset; or

- (b) the Special Shareholder determines that circumstances have arisen which it considers constitute unacceptable ownership, influence or control over the Company and/or QinetiQ Holdings Limited and/or QinetiQ Limited and/or any other member of the QinetiQ Consolidated Group which has a subsisting interest in a Strategic Asset contrary to the defence or security interests of the United Kingdom; or
- (c) the Special Shareholder receives notice pursuant to agreements in writing between the Company and the Special Shareholder from time to time or otherwise determines that a company which was a member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group and which has a subsisting interest in a Strategic Asset has ceased to be a member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group without the prior written consent of the Special Shareholder; and

**"Selected Strategic Assets"** means such of the Strategic Assets as the Special Shareholder has notified the Company, in its written notification to the Company (pursuant to article 17(2) or 17(3), as being those Strategic Assets which the Special Shareholder wishes to acquire pursuant to its exercise of the Options (as described in article 17(2) or either of them or (as appropriate) the exercise of the Pre-Emption Right (as described in article 17(3)).

- (2) Without prejudice to the Special Shareholder's rights under articles 16(a) and 16(b), the Special Shareholder has an option to purchase any Strategic Asset

comprising land (including the buildings and other structures situated thereon) and also an option to purchase any Strategic Asset not comprising land (each an "**Option**" and together the "**Options**"). The Options are, subject to the provisions of article 17(14), exercisable by written notice served by the Special Shareholder on the Company at any time within 90 days from a Relevant Date.

- (3) Without prejudice to the Special Shareholder's rights under articles 16(a) and 16(b), the Special Shareholder has the right to purchase any Strategic Assets which the Company wants to sell or otherwise dispose of at any time (the "**Pre-Emption Right**").
- (4) If and on each occasion that the Company wishes to sell or otherwise dispose of any Strategic Asset, the Company must give the Special Shareholder written notice that it does. The notice must specify the Strategic Assets proposed to be sold or disposed of (together with the prices (if any) which have been offered to the Company for such Strategic Assets) and the nature of the proposed disposal (the "**Proposed Disposal**") and offer to sell the same to the Special Shareholder for the Consideration and with limited title guarantee free of all liens, charges and encumbrances and on the further terms set out in this article 17 (as if the same had been set out in such notice) (an "**Offer Notice**").
- (5) The Company may at any time after it has given an Offer Notice but before the Pre-Emption Right has ceased to be exercisable as hereinafter provided give the Special Shareholder a further notice specifying any changes to the Proposed Disposal or to the Disposal Terms (as defined in article 17(6)) as particularised in the Offer Notice or (as the case may be) in the Disposal Terms since giving of the Offer Notice or particulars of the Disposal Terms (a "**Revision Notice**").
- (6) Following receipt of an Offer Notice or a Revision Notice, if the Special Shareholder shall by written notice to the Company so require (an "**Information Request**"), the Company shall within 21 days of receipt of an Information Request provide to the Special Shareholder in writing such information and documents with regard to the relevant Proposed Disposal as may be specified in the Information Request ("**Disposal Terms**").
- (7) The Pre-Emption Right is exercisable by written notice of acceptance in respect of any of the specified Strategic Assets, served by the Special Shareholder on the Company at any time before the "**Last Exercise Date**", being the latest of:
  - (a) ninety days after the receipt of the Offer Notice by the Special Shareholder;
  - (b) (if the Special Shareholder has made an Information Request within thirty days of receipt of the Offer Notice or a Revision Notice by the Special Shareholder) thirty five days after the receipt by the Special Shareholder of the Disposal Terms; and
  - (c) if a Revision Notice has been given, thirty five days after receipt of the Revision Notice by the Special Shareholder,

and the Company will be bound to sell and the Special Shareholder will be bound to purchase the Selected Strategic Assets on the terms of the Offer Notice as varied or supplemented by any Revision Notice.

- (8) If and to the extent that the Pre-Emption Right is not exercised **before** the Last Exercise Date or if the Special Shareholder shall give the Company written notice that the Special Shareholder does not wish to exercise the Pre-Emption Right on that occasion, the Company will be free to sell or otherwise dispose of the Strategic Assets specified in the Offer Notice (as varied or supplemented by any Revision Notice) by way of the Proposed Disposal and in accordance with the Offer Notice (as varied or supplemented by any Revision Notice) and any Disposal Terms (and not further or otherwise).
- (9) If the relevant sale or disposal by the Company is not **completed** within the period of 180 days commencing on the receipt of the relevant Offer Notice by the Special Shareholder, the provisions of this article 17 will thereafter have effect in relation to the relevant Strategic Assets as if no Offer Notice had been served in respect thereof.
- (10) Upon service of a written notice exercising the Options or either of them, the Company will be bound to sell with limited title guarantee free of all liens, charges and encumbrances the Selected Strategic Assets to the Special Shareholder and the Special Shareholder will be bound to purchase the same for the Consideration.
- (11) Completion of the sale and purchase of the Selected Strategic Assets will take place at such time and place as the Special **Shareholder** may specify on (i) the date ninety days following exercise of the Options or either of them or (as applicable) the Pre-Emption Right, or if not a Business Day on the first such day thereafter or at the option of the Special Shareholder or (ii) such earlier date as the Special Shareholder may specify. Upon Completion, the Company must deliver or procure the delivery to the Special Shareholder (or its nominee) of the Selected Strategic Assets in a form and substance satisfactory to the Special Shareholder and otherwise in such manner as the Special Shareholder may direct, and:
  - (a) if the amount of the Consideration has been determined on or before Completion the Special Shareholder must pay to the Company the Consideration in same day funds to such bank account as the Company may specify; or
  - (b) if the amount of the Consideration has not been determined on or before Completion, the Company must, in any event, deliver or transfer (as the case may be) the Selected Strategic Assets and the Special Shareholder must, within 20 Business Days after the amount of the Consideration has been determined, pay the Consideration to the Company in accordance with paragraph (a) of this article; or
  - (c) if the Special Shareholder fails to make due and punctual payment of the Consideration or any amount payable by it in respect of Value Added Tax in accordance with paragraphs (a) or (b) of this article

(whichever shall apply) the Special Shareholder shall pay interest thereon (or on the unpaid part) from the date 30 Business Days after the due date for payment until payment at a rate equal to two per cent above the published base rate from time to time of such London clearing bank as the Special Shareholder may nominate for this purpose, such interest to run from day to day.

- (12) The Consideration payable by the Special Shareholder is exclusive of Value Added Tax. Where and to the extent properly chargeable, Value Added Tax will be added to the Consideration and shall be payable by the Special Shareholder. Value Added Tax shall be dealt with in accordance with agreements in writing between the Company and the Special Shareholder.
- (13) The Company must, at the request and expense of the Special Shareholder execute such documents and do such acts and things as the Special Shareholder may reasonably request for the purpose of vesting the Selected Strategic Assets in the Special Shareholder (or its nominee) and for giving the Special Shareholder the full benefit of this article 17.
- (14) The Option to purchase any Strategic Asset comprising land is exercisable (in accordance with its terms) at any time during such period as is permitted by law for the time being. The Option to purchase any Strategic Asset not comprising land is exercisable (in accordance with its terms) during the period ending on the expiration of twenty-one years from the death of the survivor of the descendants now living of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.
- (15) The Company must maintain, repair, rebuild, renew and/or replace (as may from time to time be necessary) any Strategic Assets to the standard from time to time specified by, and to the satisfaction of, the Special Shareholder in accordance with agreements in writing from time to time between the Company and the Special Shareholder.

### **Third party rights**

18. The rights of any third parties who contract with the Company will not be affected by any breach of article 13(a).

### **Special shareholder voting rights**

19. If an attempt is made to change any of the provisions set out in article 12, to engage in any activity in breach of article 13 or to approve any of the events listed in article 16, on an ordinary resolution the Special Shareholder will have no less than one vote more than the total number of all other votes cast and, on a special resolution, it will have no less than one vote more than 25 per cent. of the total votes cast.

### **Application of compliance principles**

20. (1) In relation to each entity or arrangement which is a member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group at the date of adoption of these articles, the Company will in relation to itself and any of its wholly-owned subsidiaries incorporated in the United Kingdom (and, in relation to any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group, will do all that a reasonable person reasonably could do to) exercise, or procure the exercise of, all rights, influence and control exercisable by it so as to ensure, as far as possible, that no such member shall conduct itself in a manner which (either alone or when taken together with any other

action or inaction) would result in the variation of any of the rights attached to the Special Share and/or a breach of the Compliance Principles.

- (2) The Company will in relation to any of its wholly-owned subsidiaries incorporated in the United Kingdom (and, in relation to any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group will do all that a reasonable person reasonably could do to) procure that any entity or arrangement which becomes a member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group after the date of adoption of these articles is established on terms which give the directors the right to require that the entity or arrangement conducts itself in accordance with articles 11 to 23 (*Special Share*) and the Company will in relation to any of its wholly-owned subsidiaries incorporated in the United Kingdom (and, in relation to any other member of the QinetiQ Controlled Group will do all that a reasonable person reasonably could do to) exercise, or procure the exercise of, all rights, influence and control exercisable by it so as to ensure, as far as possible, that no such member shall conduct itself in a manner which (either alone or when taken together with any other action or inaction) would result in the variation of any of the rights attached to the Special Share and/or a breach of the Compliance Principles.
- (3) The Company shall not place work with a member of the QinetiQ Consolidated Group over which it does not have Control in order to avoid, or in an effort to avoid, the application of the Compliance Principles to that work.

#### **Defence and security interests of the United Kingdom**

21. The purpose of this article is to impose restrictions on any person holding a material interest in the Company where such interest would be contrary to the defence or security interests of the United Kingdom or where they have a material conflict of interest by reason of the fact that they are engaged in: (i) any activity likely to result in a breach of the Compliance Principles or (ii) in Defence Manufacturing falling within the Restricted Category.

- (1) For the purposes of this article:

**"Associate"** means, in relation to a Shareholder, all persons over which it is able to exercise Control and other persons over which any such persons are able to exercise Control, any person which is able to exercise Control over it and any other persons which are able to exercise Control over such persons from time to time (and any person which acts as general partner, limited partner, trustee, nominee, manager of, or investment management adviser to, any of the foregoing);

**"Commercial Quantities"** means a sufficient amount of arms, munitions, War Materials or Essential Components thereof which would permit or sustain a commercially viable manufacture, assembly or production taking into account the available market for the relevant product;

**"Defence Manufacturing"** means the manufacture, assembly or production of arms, munitions, War Materials or Essential Components thereof and, for the purposes of this definition, **"War Materials"** include, but are not limited to, C31, detection, counter measures, electronic warfare and attack, defence intelligence equipment, transport aircraft and troop carriers;

**"the DTRs"** means the Disclosure and Transparency Rules;

**"Essential Component"** means a component which:

- (a) is required for the achievement, by the item of which it forms part, of its intended military purpose; and/or
- (b) for which there is no substitute component which is readily available on reasonable terms in the market;

and the categories of Defence Manufacturing to which each of (a) and (b) apply shall be determined in accordance with arrangements agreed in writing made in hard copy form by the Company and the Special Shareholder from time to time;

**"interest"** means, in relation to Shares, any interest which would be taken into account in determining for the purposes of rule 5 of the DTRs whether a person has a notifiable interest in a Share and **"interested"** shall be construed accordingly;

**"Relevant Person"** means any person (whether or not identified) who has, or who appears to the Special Shareholder to have, at any time (whether alone or together with any other person or persons with whom they are, or with whom they appear to the Special Shareholder to be, "acting in concert" within the meaning of the Takeover Code) an interest in:

- (a) 3 per cent. or more of the Relevant Share Capital and whose interest would, in the opinion of the Special Shareholder, be contrary to the defence or security interests of the United Kingdom; or
- (b) 10 per cent. or more of the Relevant Share Capital and whose interest would, in the opinion of the Special Shareholder, give rise to a material conflict of interest by reason of the fact that they or any of their Associates are engaged (whether directly or indirectly) in:
  - (i) any activity which is, in the opinion of the Special Shareholder, likely to result in a breach of any of the Compliance Principles; or
  - (ii) any Defence Manufacturing activity falling within the Restricted Category,

or who is deemed for the purposes of this article to be a Relevant Person and, for the purposes of this article, where the Special Shareholder decides that it has made reasonable enquiries of such person(s) and that it is unable to determine:

- (a) whether or not a particular person has an interest in any particular Shares comprised in the Relevant Share Capital; or
- (b) who is interested in any particular Shares so comprised,

the Shares concerned shall be deemed to be Relevant Shares and all persons interested in them to be Relevant Persons;

**"Relevant Share Capital"** means the Company's issued capital of shares which carry rights to vote in all circumstances at general meetings of the Company including shares (such as preference shares) which, following the exercise of an option for their conversion, event of default or otherwise, have become fully enfranchised for voting purposes;

**"Relevant Shares"** means all Shares comprised in the Relevant Share Capital in which a Relevant Person has, or which the Special Shareholder decides that

they appear to have, an interest or which are deemed for the purposes of this article to be Relevant Shares;

**"Relevant System"** means a relevant system as defined in the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/3755);

**"Required Disposal"** means, in relation to any Relevant Shares, a disposal or disposals of such number of Relevant Shares or interests therein as will cause the Relevant Person:

- (a) in the case of a Relevant Person within limb (a) of the definition thereof, to cease to hold any Shares or any interest therein; and
- (b) in the case of a Relevant Person within limb (b) of the definition thereof, to cease to be a Relevant Person;

**"Restricted Category"** means Defence Manufacturing which is conducted for UK Supply Chain Customers but not directly for the UK Government and where the Relevant Person is manufacturing, assembling or producing Commercial Quantities of the arms, munitions or War Materials in question, or any Essential Component thereof;

**"Shares"** means any shares in the capital of the Company;

**"Takeover Code"** means the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers (as amended, modified or re-enacted from time to time); and

**"UK Supply Chain Customers"** means any customer of the Relevant Person which is seeking to manufacture, assemble or produce arms, munitions or War Materials, or any Essential Components thereof (which are manufactured, assembled or produced by the Relevant Person) for any actual or reasonably foreseeable purposes of the UK Government or the UK armed forces.

References to writing include references to typewriting, printing, lithography, photography and any other modes of representing or reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form save that **for the purposes of this Article 21 only** documents and information sent or supplied in electronic form or made available on a website are not "in writing".

- (2) The Special Shareholder may by notice in writing to the directors require the Company to issue a notice in writing requiring any holder or other person appearing to the Special Shareholder to be, or to have been, interested in Shares to disclose to the Company in writing as soon as practicable (and, in any event, within 10 Business Days of receipt by such person of such notice) all such information as the Special Shareholder shall require relating to the ownership of or interests in the Shares in question (supported, if the Special Shareholder so requires, by a written declaration and/or by independent evidence) including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) any information which the Company is entitled to seek pursuant to these articles and/or section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 and any other information which the Special Shareholder shall deem necessary or desirable in order to determine whether any Shares are Relevant Shares or any person is a Relevant Person.
- (3) Whether or not a notice pursuant to article 21(2) has been given, the Special Shareholder may by notice in writing to the directors require the Company to issue a notice in writing requiring any holder or other person appearing to be, or to have been, interested in Shares to show to the satisfaction of the Special

Shareholder that the Shares in question are not Relevant Shares and/or that such person is not a Relevant Person. Any person on whom such a notice or any notice issued pursuant to article 21(2) has been served and any other person who is interested in such Shares may, within 10 Business Days of such notice (or such longer period as the Special Shareholder may consider reasonable), make representations to the Special Shareholder as to why such Shares should not be treated as Relevant Shares and/or why such person is not a Relevant Person. If, after considering any such representations and such other information as seems to it to be relevant, the Special Shareholder believes such Shares to be Relevant Shares or such person to be a Relevant Person, it may determine that such Shares shall be deemed to be Relevant Shares and/or such person to be a Relevant Person and they shall thereupon be treated as such for all purposes of this article.

- (4) The Special Shareholder may require the Company to give notice pursuant to article 21(2) or 21(3) at any time and the Special Shareholder may require the Company to give one or more than one such notice to, or in respect of, the same holder or other person in respect of the same Shares.
- (5) The directors shall, at the written request of the Special Shareholder, promptly (and, in any event, within two Business Days) undertake any of the actions referred to in article 21(2) and/or 21(3) as the Special Shareholder may from time to time require.
- (6) The directors shall promptly (and, in any event, within two Business Days) forward to the Special Shareholder such information as it receives from any holder or other person who provides information pursuant to articles 21(2) to 21(3), in accordance with its rights under these articles or Part 22 of the Companies Act 2006, or otherwise.
- (7) Each holder shall notify the Company immediately upon becoming aware that any Share or Shares in which he is interested:
  - (a) are or have become Relevant Shares; or
  - (b) have ceased to be Relevant Shares.
- (8) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, if, to the knowledge of any director, any person becomes interested in more than 3% of the Relevant Share Capital, the directors shall promptly (and, in any event, within two Business Days) inform the Special Shareholder of that fact by notice in writing, and shall provide the Special Shareholder with such information as it may reasonably require (being information in the possession, custody or control of the Company) in order to assess whether the person is a Relevant Person or any Shares are Relevant Shares.
- (9) Whether or not a notice pursuant to articles 21(2) or 21(3) has been given, if the Special Shareholder gives notice in writing to the directors that, in its opinion, any person is a Relevant Person or Shares are Relevant Shares, the directors shall promptly (and, in any event, within two Business Days) give notice in writing to all persons specified by the Special Shareholder (being persons who appear to the Special Shareholder to have an interest in the Relevant Shares and, if different, to the holder or holders of those Shares). The notice shall set out the restrictions referred to in article 21(13) below and shall require a Required Disposal to be made within 10 Business Days of receipt of such notice (the "**Disposal Period**"). The Special Shareholder may direct the

directors to extend the period in which any such notice is required to be complied with and may at its discretion, direct the directors to, withdraw any such notice (whether before or after the expiry of the Disposal Period) if it appears to it that there is no Relevant Person in relation to the Shares concerned. After the giving of such a notice, and save for the purpose of a Required Disposal under this or the following paragraph, no transfer of any of the Relevant Shares may be made or registered until either the notice is withdrawn or a Required Disposal has been made to the satisfaction of the Special Shareholder and registered. Before effecting any such Required Disposal, the holder or holders of the Relevant Shares shall consult with the Company with a view to ensuring that such disposal would not disturb the operation of an orderly market in the Shares, and such holder or holders shall seek to effect any such disposal in a way which does not have such effect.

- (10) If a notice given by the directors under article 21(9) above has not been complied with in all respects to the satisfaction of the Special Shareholder and has not been withdrawn, the Special Shareholder may by written notice to the directors require the directors to make a Required Disposal (or procure that a Required Disposal is made) and to give written notice of the disposal to those persons on whom the notice given under article 21(9) above was served. The holder or holders of the Shares duly disposed of and all other persons interested in such Shares shall be deemed irrevocably and unconditionally to have authorised the directors to make such Required Disposal. The manner, timing and terms (including price) of any such Required Disposal shall be such as the directors determine, provided that, in effecting such disposal, the directors shall have proper regard to the need to ensure that such disposal does not disturb the operation of an orderly market in the Shares. If, in relation to any Required Disposal, Relevant Shares are held by more than one holder (treating joint holders of any Relevant Shares as a single holder) the directors shall cause as nearly as practicable the same proportion of each holding (so far as known to it) of the Relevant Shares to be sold.
- (11) Any Required Disposal pursuant to Article 21(10) shall be at the best price reasonably obtainable by the directors on the day or days on which the directors determine to make the Required Disposal. The proceeds of any Required Disposal shall be received by the Company or any person nominated by the Company whose receipt shall be a good discharge for the purchase money, and shall be paid (without any interest being payable in respect of it and after deduction of any expenses incurred by the directors in the sale) to the former holder (or, in the case of joint holders, the first of them named in the register) together with, if appropriate, a new certificate in respect of the balance of the Relevant Shares to which he is entitled, upon surrender for cancellation of any certificate in respect of the transferred Shares. Neither the Special Shareholder nor the directors shall be liable to the holder or holders of the Relevant Shares or any other person interested in such Shares for any alleged deficiency in the amount of the sale proceeds (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any realised loss in the value of the Relevant Shares) or any other matter relating to the Required Disposal.
- (12) For the purpose of effecting any Required Disposal, the directors may make such arrangements as they deem appropriate. In particular, and without limitation, they may:

- (a) authorise any officer or employee of the Company to execute any necessary transfer or other document on behalf of any holder or holders of the Relevant Shares; and
- (b) in the case of any Share in uncertificated form, make such arrangements as they think fit on behalf of the relevant holder or holders to convert such Share into certificated form or transfer title to the Relevant Share through a Relevant System; and

may enter the name of the transferee in the register in respect of the transferred Shares notwithstanding the absence of any Share certificate and may issue a new certificate to the transferee. An instrument of transfer executed by any officer or employee of the Company so authorised by the directors shall be as effective as if it has been executed by the holder or holders of the transferred Shares and the title of any transferee shall not be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale.

- (13) A holder of any Relevant Share to whom a notice has been given under article 21(9) shall not in respect of that Share be entitled, until such time as the notice has been complied with to the satisfaction of the Special Shareholder or withdrawn, to attend or vote at any general meeting of the Company or any meeting of the holders of Relevant Share Capital or of any class thereof, or to exercise any other right conferred by membership of the Company and any dividend payable in respect of such Share shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the holder shall not be entitled to elect to receive shares instead of that dividend.
- (14) The directors shall not be obliged to give any notice required under this article to any person if it does not know either his identity or his address. The absence of such a notice in those circumstances and any accidental delay, error in or failure to give any notice to any person to whom notice is required to be given under this article shall not prevent the implementation of, or invalidate, any procedure under this article.
- (15) Save as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the provisions of these articles applying to the giving of notice of meetings to holders shall apply to the giving of any notice required by this article. Any notice required by this article to be given to a person who is not a holder, or who is a holder or, in the case of joint holders, who is the person first named in the register, whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom and who has not given to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be given to him, shall be deemed validly served if it is sent through the post in a pre-paid envelope addressed to that person at the address (or, if more than one, at one of the addresses), if any, at which any director believes him to be resident or carrying on business or to his last known address as shown on the register. Service shall in such a case be deemed to be effected on the day of posting. Evidence that the envelope was properly addressed, pre-paid and posted shall be conclusive proof that the notice was given.
- (16) Any resolution or determination of, or decision or exercise of any discretion or power by, the Special Shareholder, the directors, any director or by the chairman of any meeting under or pursuant to the provisions of this article (including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, as to the manner, timing and terms of any Required Disposal made under this article) shall be final and conclusive and binding on all persons concerned and shall

not be open to challenge, whether as to its validity or otherwise on any ground whatsoever. Neither the directors nor any other person shall be required to give any reasons for any decision, determination or declaration taken or made in accordance with this article.

- (17) This article shall apply notwithstanding any provision in any other of these articles which is inconsistent with or contrary to it.
- (18) Nothing in this article shall constitute the holders of Relevant Shares as a separate class.
- (19) No failure to exercise nor any delay in exercising any right, power, privilege or remedy under this article shall in any way impair or affect the exercise thereof or operate as a waiver thereof in whole or in part.

#### **Failure to comply with the Special Shareholder rights**

- 22. Failure to comply with any of the rights contained in articles 11 to 23 (*Special Share*) will be deemed to be a variation of the Special Shareholder's rights.

#### **Only special shareholder may exercise rights**

- 23. Only the Special Shareholder has rights under articles 11 to 23 (*Special Share*) and these rights are in addition to any rights contained elsewhere in these articles.

### **VARIATION OF RIGHTS**

#### **Variation of rights**

- 24. If at any time the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights attached to any class may be varied, either while the Company is a going concern or during or in contemplation of a winding up:
  - (a) in such manner (if any) as may be provided by those rights; or
  - (b) in the absence of any such provision, with the consent in writing of the holders of three-quarters in nominal value of the issued shares of that class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares), or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of that class,but not otherwise. To every such separate meeting the provisions of these articles relating to general meetings shall apply, except that the necessary quorum shall be (i) at any such meeting other than an adjourned meeting two persons together holding or representing by proxy at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class in question (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares) and (ii) at an adjourned meeting one person holding shares of the class in question (other than treasury shares) or his proxy.

#### **Rights deemed not varied**

- 25. Unless otherwise expressly provided by the rights attached to any class of shares, those rights shall be deemed not to be varied by the purchase by the Company of any of its own shares or the holding of such shares as treasury shares.

### **SHARE CERTIFICATES**

#### **Rights to share certificates**

- 26. (1) On becoming the holder of any share other than a share in uncertificated form, every person (other than a financial institution in respect of whom the Company is not required by law to complete and have ready a certificate) shall be entitled,

without payment, to have issued to him within two months after allotment or lodgement of a transfer (unless the terms of issue of the shares provide otherwise) one certificate for all the shares of each class registered in his name or, upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable sum as the directors may determine, several certificates each for one or more of his shares.

- (2) Every certificate shall be issued under the seal or under such other form of authentication as the directors may determine (which may include manual or facsimile signatures by one or more directors), and shall specify the number, class and distinguishing numbers (if any) of the shares to which it relates and the amount or respective amounts paid up on them.
- (3) Where a member (other than a financial institution) has transferred part only of the shares comprised in a certificate, the member is entitled, without payment, to have issued to him a certificate in respect of the balance of shares held by him or, upon payment for every certificate after the first of such reasonable sum as the directors may determine, several certificates each for one or more of his shares.
- (4) When a member's (other than a financial institution's) holding of shares of a particular class increases, the Company may issue that member with a single, consolidated certificate in respect of all the shares of a particular class which that member holds or a separate certificate in respect of only those shares by which that member's holding has increased.
- (5) A member (other than a financial institution) may request the Company, in writing, to replace the member's separate certificates with a consolidated certificate or the member's consolidated certificate with two or more separate certificates representing such proportion of the shares as the member may specify, provided that any certificate(s) which it is (or they are) to replace has first been returned to the Company for cancellation. When the Company complies with such a request it may charge such reasonable sum as the directors may determine for doing so.
- (6) The Company shall not be bound to issue more than one certificate for shares held jointly by several persons and delivery of a certificate to the senior shall be a sufficient delivery to all of them, and seniority shall be determined in the manner described in article 80.
- (7) If a certificate issued in respect of a member's shares is damaged or defaced or said to be lost, stolen or destroyed, then that member is entitled to be issued with a replacement certificate in respect of the same shares. A member exercising the right to be issued with such a replacement certificate:
  - (a) must return the certificate which is to be replaced to the Company if it is damaged or defaced; and
  - (b) must comply with such conditions as to evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee as the directors may determine.

## **LIEN**

### **Company's lien on shares not fully paid**

27. The Company has a lien over every share which is partly paid for all amounts (whether presently payable or not) payable at a fixed time or called in respect of that share. The directors may declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of this article. The Company's lien over a share takes priority over any third party's interest in that share, and extends to any dividend or other money payable by the Company in

respect of that share (and, if the lien is enforced and the share is sold by the Company, the proceeds of sale of that share).

#### **Enforcing lien by sale**

28. The Company may sell, in such manner as the directors determine, any share over which the Company has a lien if an amount in respect of which the lien exists is presently payable and is not paid within fourteen clear days after notice has been given to the holder of the share, or the person entitled to it in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder or otherwise, demanding payment and stating that if the notice is not complied with the shares may be sold.

#### **Giving effect to a sale**

29. To give effect to the sale:
- (a) in the case of a share in certificated form, the directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser; and
  - (b) in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the directors may:
    - (i) to enable the Company to deal with the share in accordance with the provisions of this article, require the Operator of a relevant system to convert the share into certificated form; and
    - (ii) after such conversion, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer and/or take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer.
30. The title of the transferee to the share shall not be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

#### **Application of proceeds of sale**

31. The net proceeds of the sale, after payment of the costs, shall be applied in payment of so much of the amount for which the lien exists as is presently payable. Any residue shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the share sold, in the case of a share in certificated form, and subject to a like lien for any amount not presently payable as existed upon the share before the sale) be paid to the person entitled to the share at the date of the sale.

### **CALLS ON SHARES AND FORFEITURE**

#### **Calls**

32. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may make calls upon the members in respect of any amounts unpaid on their shares (whether in respect of nominal value or premium) and each member shall (subject to receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying when and where payment is to be made) pay to the Company as required by the notice the amount called on his shares. A call may be required to be paid by instalments. A call may, before receipt by the Company of an amount due under it, be revoked in whole or in part and payment of a call may be postponed in whole or part. A person upon whom a call is made shall remain liable for calls made upon him notwithstanding the subsequent transfer of the shares in respect of which the call was made.
33. A call shall be deemed to have been made at the time when the resolution of the directors authorising the call was passed.

### **Joint and several liability in respect of calls**

34. The joint holders of a share shall be jointly and severally liable to pay all calls in respect of it.

### **Interest**

35. If a call or an instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable, the person from whom it is due shall pay interest on the amount unpaid, from the day it became due and payable until it is paid at the rate fixed by the terms of allotment of the shares in question or fixed in the notice of the call or, if no rate is fixed, at the appropriate rate (as defined in the Acts). The directors may, however, waive payment of the interest wholly or in part.

### **Sums treated as calls**

36. An amount payable in respect of a share on allotment or at any fixed date, whether in respect of nominal value or premium or as an instalment of a call, shall be deemed to be a call and if it is not paid these articles shall apply as if that sum had become due and payable by virtue of a call.

### **Power to differentiate**

37. Subject to the terms of allotment, the directors may differentiate between the holders in the amounts and times of payment of calls on their shares.

### **Payment of calls in advance**

38. The directors may receive from any member willing to advance, it all or any part of the amount unpaid on the shares held by him (beyond the sums actually called up) as a payment in advance of calls, and such payment shall, to the extent of it, extinguish the liability on the shares in respect of which it is advanced. The Company may pay interest on the amount so received, or so much of it as exceeds the sums called up on the shares in respect of which it has been received, at such rate (if any) as the member and the directors agree.

### **Notice if call not paid and forfeiture**

39. If a call or an instalment of a call remains unpaid after it has become due and payable the directors may give to the person from whom it is due not less than fourteen clear days' notice requiring payment of the amount unpaid together with any interest which may have accrued. The notice shall name the place where payment is to be made and shall state that if the notice is not complied with the shares in respect of which the call was made will be liable to be forfeited. If the notice is not complied with, any shares in respect of which it was given may, before the payment required by the notice has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the directors and the forfeiture shall include all dividends and other amounts payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

### **Sale of forfeited shares**

40. A forfeited share may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of on such terms and in such manner as the directors determine either to the person who was before the forfeiture the holder or to any other person and, at any time before the disposition, the forfeiture may be cancelled on such terms as the directors determine. Where for the purposes of its disposal a forfeited share is to be transferred to any person.
- (a) in the case of a share in certificated form, the directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer; and

- (b) in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the directors may:
  - (i) to enable the Company to deal with the share in accordance with the provisions of this article, require the Operator of a relevant system to convert the share into certificated form; and
  - (ii) after such conversion, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer and/or take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer.

#### **Cessation of membership and continuing liability**

41. A person whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the shares forfeited and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation any certificate for the shares forfeited. However, such persons shall remain liable to the Company for all amounts which at the date of forfeiture were presently payable by him to the Company in respect of those shares with interest at the rate at which interest was payable on those amounts before the forfeiture or, if no interest was so payable, at the appropriate rate (as defined in the Acts) from the date of forfeiture until payment. The directors may waive payment wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.

#### **Statutory declaration as to forfeiture**

42. A statutory declaration by a director or the secretary that a share has been forfeited on a specified date shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share and the declaration shall (subject to the execution of an instrument of transfer if necessary, in the case of a share in certificated form) constitute a good title to the share and the person to whom the share is disposed of shall not be bound to see to the application of the consideration, if any, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings relating to the forfeiture or disposal of the share.

### **TRANSFER OF SHARES**

#### **Transfer of shares in certificated form**

43. The instrument of transfer of a share in certificated form may be in any usual form or in any other form which the directors approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and, where the share is not fully paid, by or on behalf of the transferee.

#### **Transfer of shares in uncertificated form**

44. Where any class of shares is, for the time being, a participating security, title to shares of that class which are recorded on an Operator register of members as being held in uncertificated form may be transferred by means of the relevant system concerned. The transfer may not be in favour of more than four transferees.

#### **Refusal to register transfers**

45. (1) The directors may, in their absolute discretion, refuse to register the transfer of a share in certificated form which is not fully paid provided that if the share is listed on the Official List of the UK Listing Authority such refusal does not prevent dealings in the shares from taking place on an open and proper basis. They may also refuse to register a transfer of a share in certificated form (whether fully paid or not) unless the instrument of transfer:
- (a) is lodged, duly stamped, at the Office or at such other place as the directors may appoint and (except in the case of a transfer by a financial

institution where a certificate has not been issued in respect of the share) is accompanied by the certificate for the share to which it relates and such other evidence as the directors may reasonably require to show the right of the transferor to make the transfer;

- (b) is in respect of only one class of share; and
  - (c) is in favour of not more than four transferees.
- (2) The directors may refuse to register a transfer of a share in uncertificated form to a person who is to hold it thereafter in certificated form in any case where the Company is entitled to refuse (or is excepted from the requirement) under the Uncertificated Securities Regulations to register the transfer.

#### **Notice of and reasons for refusal**

46. If the directors refuse to register a transfer of a share, they shall as soon as practicable and in any event within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company (in the case of a transfer of a share in certificated form) or the date on which the Operator-instruction was received by the Company (in the case of a transfer of a share in uncertificated form to a person who is to hold it thereafter in certificated form) send to the transferee notice of the refusal together with reasons for the refusal. The directors shall send such further information about the reasons for the refusal to the transferee as the transferee may reasonably request.

#### **No fee for registration**

47. No fee shall be charged for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document or instruction relating to or affecting the title to any share.

#### **Retention or return of instrument of transfer**

48. The Company shall be entitled to retain any instrument of transfer which is registered, but 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 notice of the refusal is given.

#### **Recognition of renunciation**

49. Nothing in these articles shall preclude the directors from recognising a renunciation of the allotment of any share by the allottee in favour of some other person.

### **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

#### **Transmission on death**

50. If a member dies the survivor or survivors where he was a joint holder, or his personal representatives where he was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only persons recognised by the Company as having any title to his interest. However, nothing in this article shall release the estate of a deceased member from any liability in respect of any share which had been solely or jointly held by him.

#### **Election of person entitled by transmission**

51. A person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member may, upon such evidence being produced as the directors may properly require, elect either to become the holder of the share or to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee. If he elects to become the holder, he shall give notice to the Company to that effect. If he elects to have another person registered he shall transfer title to the share to that person. All the provisions of these articles relating to the transfer of shares shall apply to the notice or instrument of transfer (if any) as if it were

an instrument of transfer signed by the member and the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred.

### **Rights of person entitled by transmission**

52. A person becoming entitled to a share by reason of the death or bankruptcy of a member shall have the rights to which he would be entitled if he were the holder of the share, except that he shall not, before being registered as the holder of the share, be entitled in respect of it to attend or vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares.

## **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

### **Disclosure of interests**

53. (1) If a member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by that member, has been given a notice under section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 and has failed in relation to any shares (the "**default shares**") to give the Company the information thereby required within fourteen days from the date of giving the notice, the following sanctions shall apply, unless the directors otherwise determine:
- (a) the member shall not be entitled in respect of the default shares to be present or to vote (either in person or by representative or proxy) at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or on any poll; and
  - (b) where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent of their class (calculated exclusive of treasury shares):
    - (i) any dividend payable in respect of the shares shall be withheld by the Company, which shall not have any obligation to pay interest on it, and the member shall not be entitled to elect, pursuant to these articles, to receive shares instead of that dividend; and
    - (ii) no transfer, other than an excepted transfer, of any shares held by the member in certificated form shall be registered unless:
      - (A) the member is not himself in default as regards supplying the information required; and
      - (B) the member proves to the satisfaction of the directors that no person in default as regards supplying such information is interested in any of the shares the subject of the transfer;
    - (iii) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b)(ii) of this article, in the case of shares held by the member in uncertificated form, the directors may, to enable the Company to deal with the shares in accordance with the provisions of this article, require the Operator of a relevant system to convert the shares into certificated form.
- (2) Where the sanctions under paragraph (1) of this article apply in relation to any shares, they shall cease to have effect at the end of the period of seven days (or such shorter period as the directors may determine) following the earlier of:
- (a) receipt by the Company of the information required by the notice mentioned in that paragraph; and

- (b) receipt by the Company of notice that the shares have been transferred by means of an excepted transfer;

and the directors may suspend or cancel any of the sanctions at any time in relation to any shares.

- (3) Any new shares in the Company issued in right of default shares shall be subject to the same sanctions as apply to the default shares, and the directors may make any right to an allotment of the new shares subject to sanctions corresponding to those which will apply to those shares on issue, provided that:
  - (a) any sanctions applying to, or to a right to, new shares by virtue of this paragraph shall cease to have effect when the sanctions applying to the related default shares cease to have effect (and shall be suspended or cancelled if and to the extent that the sanctions applying to the related default shares are suspended or cancelled); and
  - (b) paragraph (1) of this article shall apply to the exclusion of this paragraph (3) if the Company gives a separate notice under section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 in relation to the new shares.
- (4) Where, on the basis of information obtained from a member in respect of any share held by him, the Company gives a notice under section 793 of the Companies Act 2006 to any other person, it shall at the same time send a copy of the notice to the member. The accidental omission to do so, or the non-receipt by the member of the copy, shall, however, not invalidate or otherwise affect the application of paragraph (1) of this article.
- (5) For the purposes of this article:
  - (a) a person, other than the member holding a share, shall be treated as appearing to be interested in that share if the member has informed the Company that the person is, or may be, so interested, or if the Company (after taking account of any information obtained from the member or, pursuant to a notice under section 793 of the Companies Act 2006, from anyone else) knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person is, or may be, so interested;
  - (b) **"interested"** shall be construed as it is for the purpose of section 793 of the Companies Act 2006;
  - (c) reference to a person having failed to give the Company the information required by a notice, or being in default as regards supplying such information, includes (i) reference to his having failed or refused to give all or any part of it and (ii) reference to his having given information which he knows to be false in a material particular or having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular; and
  - (d) an **"excepted transfer"** means, in relation to any shares held by a member:
    - (i) a transfer pursuant to acceptance of a takeover offer (within the meaning of section 974 of the Companies Act 2006) in respect of shares in the Company; or
    - (ii) a transfer in consequence of a sale made through a recognised investment exchange (as defined in the Financial Services and

Markets Act 2000) or any other stock exchange outside the United Kingdom on which the Company's shares are normally traded; or

- (iii) a transfer which is shown to the satisfaction of the directors to be made in consequence of a sale of the whole of the beneficial interest in the shares to a person who is unconnected with the member and with any other person appearing to be interested in the shares.
- (6) Nothing in this article shall limit the powers of the Company under section 794 of the Companies Act 2006 or any other powers of the Company whatsoever.

### **UNTRACED MEMBERS**

#### **Untraced members**

54. (1) The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share held by a member, or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission, if:
- (a) for a period of twelve years no cheque or warrant or other method of payment for amounts payable in respect of the share sent and payable in a manner authorised by these articles has been cashed or effected and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or person concerned;
  - (b) during that period the Company has paid at least three dividends (whether interim or final) and no such dividend has been claimed by the member or person concerned;
  - (c) the Company has, after the expiration of that period, by advertisement in a national newspaper published in the United Kingdom and in a newspaper circulating in the area of the registered address or last known address of the member or person concerned, given notice of its intention to sell such share and the advertisements, if not published on the same day, shall have been published within 30 days of each other; and
  - (d) the Company has not during the further period of three months following the date of publication of the advertisements (or, if published on different dates, the later or latest of them) and prior to the sale of the share received any communication from the member or person concerned.
- (2) The Company shall also be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any additional share issued during the said period of twelve years in right of any share to which paragraph (1) of this article applies (or in right of any share so issued), if the criteria in sub-paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) of that paragraph are satisfied in relation to the additional share (but as if the words "for a period of twelve years" were omitted from sub-paragraph (a) and the words ", after the expiration of that period," were omitted from sub-paragraph (c)).
- (3) To give effect to the sale of any share pursuant to this article:

- (a) in the case of a share in certificated form, the directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the share to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser; and
- (b) in the case of a share in uncertificated form, the directors may:
  - (i) to enable the Company to deal with the share in accordance with the provisions of this article, require the Operator of a relevant system to convert the share into certificated form; and
  - (ii) after such conversion, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer and/or take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as it thinks fit to effect the transfer.

The purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the proceeds of sale, nor shall his title to the share be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale. The Company shall be indebted to the member or other person entitled to the share for an amount equal to the net proceeds of the sale, but no trust or duty to account shall arise and no interest shall be payable in respect of the proceeds of sale.

## **ALTERATION OF CAPITAL**

### **Consolidation and sub-division**

55. The Company may by ordinary resolution-

- (a) consolidate and divide all or any of its share capital into shares of larger amount than its existing shares;
- (b) sub-divide its shares, or any of them, into shares of smaller amount than its existing shares; and
- (c) determine that, as between the shares resulting from such a sub-division, any of them may have any preference or advantage as compared with the others,

and where any difficulty arises in regard to any consolidation or division, the directors may settle such difficulty as they see fit. In particular, without limitation, the directors may sell to any person (including the Company) the shares representing the fractions for the best price reasonably obtainable and distribute the net proceeds of sale in due proportion among those members or retain such net proceeds for the benefit of the Company and;

- (i) in the case of shares in certificated form, the directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the shares to the purchaser or a person nominated by the purchaser; and
- (ii) in the case of shares in uncertificated form, the directors may, to enable the Company to deal with the share in accordance with the provisions of this article, require the Operator of a relevant system to convert the share into certificated form and after such conversion, authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer and/or take such other steps (including the giving of directions to or on behalf of the holder, who shall be bound by them) as they think fit to effect the transfer.

The transferee shall not be bound to see the application of the purchase money nor shall his title to the shares be affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the proceedings in reference to the sale.

## **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **Calling general meetings**

56. The directors may call general meetings. If there are not sufficient directors to form a quorum in order to call a general meeting, any director may call a general meeting. If there is no director, any member of the Company may call a general meeting.

### **Notice of annual general meetings and other general meetings**

57. An annual general meeting and all other general meetings of the Company shall be called by at least such minimum period of notice as is prescribed or permitted under the Acts. The notice shall specify the place, the date and the time of meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted, and in the case of an annual general meeting shall specify the meeting as such. Where the Company has given an electronic address in any notice of meeting, any document or information relating to proceedings at the meeting may be sent by electronic means to that address, subject to any conditions or limitations specified in the relevant notice of meeting. Subject to the provisions of these articles and to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares, notices shall be given to all members, to all persons entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member and to the directors and auditors of the Company.

### **Omission or failure to give notice and non-receipt of notice**

58. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the failure to give notice due to circumstances beyond the Company's control to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

### **Power to stop sending notices to untraced shareholders**

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

## **PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **Quorum**

60. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. Two persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporation which is a member (including for this purpose two persons who are proxies or corporate representatives of the same member), shall be a quorum.

### **Procedure if quorum not present**

61. If a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned in accordance with article 69(1).

### **Chairing general meetings**

62. The chairman (if any) of the board of directors, or in his absence the deputy-chairman, or in the absence of both of them some other director nominated prior to the meeting by the directors, shall preside as chairman of the meeting. If neither the chairman nor the deputy-chairman nor such other director (if any) is present within fifteen minutes after

the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the directors present shall elect one of their number present and willing to act to be chairman of the meeting, and if there is only one director present he shall be chairman of the meeting.

63. If no director is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present and entitled to vote shall choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

#### **Security arrangements and orderly conduct**

64. The directors or the chairman of the meeting may direct that any person wishing to attend any general meeting should submit to and comply with such searches or other security arrangements (including without limitation, requiring evidence of identity to be produced before entering the meeting and placing restrictions on the items of personal property which may be taken into the meeting) as they or he consider appropriate in the circumstances. The directors or the chairman of the meeting may in their or his absolute discretion refuse entry to, or eject from, any general meeting any person who refuses to submit to a search or otherwise comply with such security arrangements.
65. The directors or the chairman of the meeting may take such action, give such direction or put in place such arrangements as they or he consider appropriate to secure the safety of the people attending the meeting and to promote the orderly conduct of the business of the meeting. Any decision of the chairman of the meeting on matters of procedure or matters arising incidentally from the business of the meeting, and any determination by the chairman of the meeting as to whether a matter is of such a nature, shall be final.

#### **Directors entitled to attend and speak**

66. Directors may attend and speak at general meetings and at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, whether or not they are members. The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not members of the Company or otherwise entitled to exercise the rights of members in relation to general meetings to attend and, at the chairman of the meeting's discretion, speak at a general meeting or at any separate class meeting.

#### **Attendance and participation at different places and by electronic means**

67. In the case of any general meeting, the directors may, notwithstanding the specification in the notice convening the general meeting of the place at which the chairman of the meeting shall preside (the "**Principal Place**"), make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation by electronic means allowing persons not present together at the same place to attend, speak and vote at the meeting (including the use of satellite meeting places). The arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at any place at which persons are participating, using electronic means may include arrangements for controlling or regulating the level of attendance at any particular venue provided that such arrangements shall operate so that all members and proxies wishing to attend the meeting are able to attend at one or other of the venues.
68. The members or proxies at the place or places at which persons are participating via electronic means shall be counted in the quorum for, and be entitled to vote at, the general meeting in question, and that meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the chairman of the meeting is satisfied that adequate facilities are available throughout the meeting to ensure that the members or proxies attending at the places at which persons are participating via electronic means are able to:
- (a) participate in the business for which the meeting has been convened; and

- (b) see and hear all persons who speak (whether through the use of microphones, loud speakers, audiovisual communication equipment or otherwise) in the Principal Place (and any other place at which persons are participating via electronic means).

For the purposes of all other provisions of these articles (unless the context requires otherwise), the members shall be treated as meeting at the Principal Place.

If it appears to the chairman of the meeting that the facilities at the Principal Place or any place at which persons are participating via electronic means have become inadequate for the purposes set out in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above, the chairman of the meeting may, without the consent of the meeting, interrupt or adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at the general meeting up to the point of the adjournment shall be valid. The provisions of article 69(3) shall apply to that adjournment.

### **Adjournments**

- 69. (1) If a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for holding the meeting, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such date, time and place as (subject to the provisions of the Acts) the directors may determine. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.
- (2) Without prejudice to any other power of adjournment he may have under these articles or at common law:
  - (a) the chairman of the meeting may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place; and
  - (b) the chairman of the meeting may, without the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting before or after it has commenced, to another date, time or place which the chairman of the meeting may decide, if the chairman of the meeting considers that:
    - (i) there is not enough room for the number of members and proxies who wish to attend the meeting;
    - (ii) the behaviour of anyone present prevents, or is likely to prevent, the orderly conduct of the business of the meeting;
    - (iii) an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting; or
    - (iv) an adjournment is otherwise necessary in order for the business of the meeting to be properly carried out.
- (3) Subject to the provisions of the Acts, it shall not be necessary to give notice of an adjourned meeting except that when a meeting is adjourned for fourteen days or more, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place of the adjourned meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. No business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

## **AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTIONS**

### **Amendments to special and ordinary resolutions**

70. (1) A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
- (a) the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
  - (b) the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a clear error in the resolution.
- (2) An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
- (a) written notice of the terms of the proposed amendment and of the intention to move the amendment have been delivered to the Company at the Office at least 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or the adjourned meeting at which the ordinary resolution in question is proposed and the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution; or
  - (b) the chairman of the meeting, in his absolute discretion, decides that the proposed amendment may be considered or voted on.

### **Withdrawal and ruling amendments out of order**

71. With the consent of the chairman of the meeting, an amendment may be withdrawn by its proposer before it is voted on. If an amendment proposed to any resolution under consideration is ruled out of order by the chairman of the meeting, the proceedings on the resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in the ruling.

## **POLLS**

### **Demand for a poll**

72. A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is validly demanded. A poll on a resolution may be demanded either before a vote on a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.
- A poll on a resolution may be demanded by:
- (a) the chairman of the meeting;
  - (b) a majority of the directors present at the meeting;
  - (c) not less than five members having the right to vote at the meeting;
  - (d) a member or members representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting (excluding any voting rights attached to any shares in the Company held as treasury shares);
  - (e) a member or members holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than one-tenth of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding any shares in the Company conferring a right to vote at the meeting which are held as treasury shares); or
  - (f) the Special Shareholder.

### **Chairman's declaration**

73. Unless a poll is duly demanded and the demand is not subsequently withdrawn, a declaration by the chairman of the meeting 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 in respect of such declaration in the minutes of the meeting, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

### **Withdrawal of demand for a poll**

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

### **Polls to be taken as chairman directs**

75. Polls at general meetings shall, subject to articles 76 and 77 below, be taken when, where and in such manner as the chairman of the meeting directs. The chairman of the meeting may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and decide how and when the result of the poll is to be declared. The result of a poll shall be the decision of the meeting in respect of the resolution on which the poll was demanded.

### **When poll to be taken**

76. A poll on the election of the chairman of the meeting or on a question of adjournment must be taken immediately. Any other polls must be taken either immediately or within 30 days of the poll being demanded. A demand for a poll does not prevent a general meeting from continuing, except as regards the question on which the poll was demanded. If a poll is demanded before the declaration of the result of a show of hands and the demand is duly withdrawn, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made.

### **Notice of poll**

77. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately if the time and place at which it is to be taken are announced at the meeting at which it is demanded. In any other case, at least seven clear days' notice must be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.

## **VOTES OF MEMBERS**

### **Voting rights**

78. Subject to any rights or restrictions attached to any shares:
- (a) on a show of hands:
    - (i) every member who is present in person has one vote;
    - (ii) every proxy present who has been duly appointed by one or more members entitled to vote on the resolution has one vote, except that if the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and is instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and by one or more others to vote against it, or is instructed by one or more of those members to vote in one way and is given discretion as to how to vote by one or more others (and wishes to use that discretion to vote in the other way) he has one vote for and one vote against the resolution; and

- (iii) every corporate representative present who has been duly authorised by a corporation has the same voting rights as the corporation would be entitled to;
- (b) on a poll every member (present in person or by duly authorised proxy) or corporate representative has one vote for every share (other than the Special Share) of which he is the holder or in respect of which his appointment as proxy or corporate representative has been made.

A member, proxy or corporate representative entitled to more than one vote need not, if he votes, use all his votes or cast all the votes he uses the same way.

#### **Voting record date**

79. For the purposes of determining which persons are entitled to attend or vote at a general meeting and how many votes such persons may cast, the Company may specify in the notice convening the meeting a time, being not more than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting (and for this purpose no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day), by which a person must be entered on the register in order to have the right to attend or vote at the meeting.

#### **Votes of joint holders**

80. In the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders, and seniority shall be determined by the order in which the names of the holders stand in the register of members.

#### **Votes on behalf of an incapable member**

81. 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, on a show of hands or on a poll, by any person authorised in that behalf by that court and the person so authorised may exercise other rights in relation to general meetings, including appointing a proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the directors of the authority of the person claiming the right to vote shall be delivered to the Office, or such other place as is specified in accordance with these articles for the delivery or receipt of appointments of proxy, not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised, and in default the right to vote shall not be exercisable.

#### **No right to vote where sums overdue**

82. No member shall have the right to vote at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in person or by proxy, in respect of any share held by him unless all amounts presently payable by him in respect of that share have been paid.

#### **Objections and validity of votes**

83. (1) Any objection to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting or on a poll or to the counting of, or failure to count, any vote, must be made at the meeting or adjourned meeting or at the time the poll is taken (if not taken at the meeting or adjourned meeting) at which the vote objected to is tendered. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive. If a vote is not disallowed by the chairman of the meeting it is valid for all purposes.
- (2) The Company shall not be bound to enquire whether any proxy or corporate representative votes in accordance with the instructions given to him by the

member he represents and if a proxy or corporate representative does not vote in accordance with the instructions of the member he represents the vote or votes cast shall nevertheless be valid for all purposes.

## **PROXIES AND CORPORATE REPRESENTATIVES**

### **Appointment of proxies**

84. A member is entitled to appoint another person as his proxy to exercise all or any of his rights to attend and to speak and vote at a meeting of the Company. The appointment of a proxy shall be deemed also to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll. Delivery of an appointment of proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting at the meeting or at any adjournment of it. A proxy need not be a member. A member may appoint more than one proxy in relation to a meeting, provided that each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by him. References in these articles to an appointment of proxy include references to an appointment of multiple proxies.
85. Where two or more valid appointments of proxy are received in respect of the same share in relation to the same meeting, the one which is last sent shall be treated as replacing and revoking the other or others. If the Company is unable to determine which is last sent, the one which is last received shall be so treated. If the Company is unable to determine either which is last sent or which is last received, none of such appointments shall be treated as valid in respect of that share.

### **Form of proxy appointment**

86. (1) Subject to article 87, an appointment of a proxy shall be in writing in any usual form or in any other form which the directors may approve and shall be executed by or on behalf of the appointor which in the case of a corporation may be either under its common seal or under the hand of a duly authorised officer or other person duly authorised for that purpose. The signature on the appointment of proxy need not be witnessed.
- (2) Where the appointment of a proxy is expressed to have been or purports to have been executed by a duly authorised person on behalf of a member:
- (i) the Company may treat the appointment as sufficient evidence of that person to execute the appointment of proxy on behalf of that member; and
  - (ii) the member shall, if requested by or on behalf of the Company, send or procure the sending of any authority under which the appointment of proxy has been executed, or a certified copy of any such authority to such address and by such time as required under article 88 and, if the request is not complied with in any respect, the appointment of proxy may be treated as invalid.

### **Proxies sent or supplied in electronic form**

87. The directors may (and shall if and to the extent that the Company is required to do so by the Acts) allow an appointment of proxy to be sent or supplied in electronic form subject to any conditions or limitations as the directors may specify. Where the Company has given an electronic address in any instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy, any document or information relating to proxies for the meeting (including any document necessary to show the validity of, or otherwise relating to, an appointment of proxy, or notice of the termination of the authority of a proxy) may be

sent by electronic means to that address, subject to any conditions or limitations specified in the relevant notice of meeting.

#### **Receipt of appointments of proxy**

88. An appointment of proxy may:
- (a) in the case of an appointment of proxy in hard copy form, be received at the Office or such other place in the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting, or in any appointment of proxy or any invitation to appoint a proxy sent out or made available by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates; or
  - (b) in the case of an appointment of proxy in electronic form, be received at the electronic address specified in the notice convening the meeting, or in any instrument of proxy or any invitation to appoint a proxy sent out or made available by the Company in relation to the meeting, not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates; or
  - (c) in the case of a poll taken subsequently to the date of the meeting or adjourned meeting, be received as aforesaid not less than 24 hours (or such shorter time as the directors may determine) before the time appointed for the taking of the poll.

The directors may specify in the notice convening the meeting that in determining the time for delivery of proxies pursuant to this article, no account shall be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day. An appointment of proxy which is not received or delivered in a manner so permitted shall be invalid.

#### **Termination of appointments of proxy**

89. A vote given or poll demanded by proxy shall be valid notwithstanding the previous termination of the authority of the person voting or demanding a poll, unless notice of the termination was delivered in writing to the Company at such place or address at which an appointment of proxy may be duly received, under article 88 not later than the last time at which an appointment of proxy should have been received under article 88 in order for it to be valid.

#### **Availability of appointments of proxy**

90. The directors may at the expense of the Company send or make available appointments of proxy or invitations to appoint a proxy to the members by post or by electronic means or otherwise (with or without provision for their return prepaid) for use at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares, either in blank or nominating in the alternative any one or more of the directors or any other person. If for the purpose of any meeting, appointments of proxy or invitations to appoint as proxy a person or one of a number of persons specified in the invitations are issued at the Company's expense, they shall be issued to all (and not to some only) of the members entitled to be sent a notice of the meeting and to vote at it. The accidental omission, or the failure due to circumstances beyond the Company's control, to send or make available such an appointment of proxy or give such an invitation to, or the non-receipt thereof by, any member entitled to attend and vote at a meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

### **Corporations acting by representatives,**

91. (1) Subject to the provisions of the Acts, any corporation (other than the Company itself) which is a member of the Company may, by resolution of its directors or other governing body, authorise a person or persons to act as its representative or representatives at any meeting of the Company, or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares. The corporation shall for the purposes of these articles be deemed to be present in person at any such meeting if a person or persons so authorised is present at it. The Company may require such person or persons to produce a certified copy of the resolution before permitting him to exercise his powers.
- (2) A vote given or poll demanded by a corporate representative shall be valid notwithstanding that he is no longer authorised to represent the member unless notice of the termination was delivered in writing to the Company at such place or address and by such time as is specified in article 88 for the receipt of an appointment of proxy.

## **DIRECTORS**

### **Number of directors**

92. Unless otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution the number of directors (disregarding alternate directors) shall not be less than two nor more than twenty.

### **Directors' remuneration and expenses**

93. (1) Until otherwise determined by the Company by ordinary resolution, there shall be paid to each of the directors (other than alternate directors) such fees for his services in the office of director as the directors may determine (not exceeding £500,000 per annum in aggregate in respect of all of the non-executive directors, other than the chairman of the directors, or such larger amount as the Company may by ordinary resolution decide). The fees shall be deemed to accrue from day to day and shall be distinct from and additional to any remuneration or other benefits which may be paid or provided to any director pursuant to any other provision of these articles.
- (2) The directors may also be paid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the directors or of committees of the directors or general meetings or separate meetings of the holders of any class of shares or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties as directors.
- (3) Any director who performs, or undertakes to perform, services which the directors consider go beyond the ordinary duties of a director may be paid such special remuneration (whether by way of fixed sum, bonus, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the directors may determine.

## **ALTERNATE DIRECTORS**

### **Appointment and removal of an alternate director**

94. Any director (other than an alternate director) may appoint any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors and willing to act and permitted by law to do so, to be an alternate director and may remove an alternate director appointed by him from his appointment as alternate director.

### **Rights of an alternate director**

95. An alternate director shall be entitled to receive notices of meetings of the directors and of committees of the directors of which his appointor is a member, to attend and vote at any such meeting at which the director appointing him is not present, and generally to perform all the functions of his appointor as a director in his absence. A alternate director shall not (unless the Company by ordinary resolution otherwise determines) be entitled to any fees for his services as an alternate director, but shall be entitled to be paid such expenses as might properly have been paid to him if he had been a director.

### **Termination of an alternate director's appointment**

96. An alternate director shall cease to be an alternate director if his appointor ceases to be a director; however, if a director retires by rotation or otherwise but is reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed at the meeting at which he retires, any appointment of an alternate director made by him which was in force immediately prior to his retirement shall continue after his reappointment.
97. An alternative director shall cease to be an alternate director on the occurrence in relation to the alternate director of any event which, if it occurred in relation to his appointer, would result in the termination of the appointer's appointment as a director.

### **Method of appointment or removal of an alternate director**

98. An appointment or removal of an alternate director shall be by notice in writing to the Company signed by the director making or revoking the appointment or in any other manner approved by the directors.

### **Other provisions regarding alternate directors**

99. Save as otherwise provided in these articles, an alternate director shall:
- (a) be deemed for all purposes to be a director;
  - (b) alone be responsible for his own acts and omissions;
  - (c) in addition to any restrictions which may apply to him personally, be subject to the same restrictions as his appointor; and
  - (d) not be deemed to be the agent of or for the director appointing him.

## **POWERS OF DIRECTORS**

### **General powers of the company vested in the directors**

100. The business of the Company shall be managed by the directors who, subject to the provisions of these articles and to any directions given by special resolution, to take or refrain from taking, specified action, may exercise all the powers of the Company. No alteration of these articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the directors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this article shall not be limited by any special power given to the directors by these articles and a meeting of the directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.

### **Borrowing powers and restrictions**

101. (1) The directors shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its subsidiary undertakings so as to secure (as regards subsidiary undertakings so far as by such exercise they can secure) that the aggregate principal amount (including any premium payable on final repayment) outstanding of all money borrowed

by the Group (excluding amounts borrowed by any member of the Group from any other member of the Group, other than amounts to be taken into account under paragraph (3)(c) and (d) of this article) shall not at any time, save with the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, exceed an amount equal to three times the aggregate of:

- (a) the amount paid up or credited as paid up, on the share capital of the Company (excluding any share capital presented as debt); and
- (b) the total of any credit balance on the distributable and undistributable reserves of the Group, but excluding amounts attributable to outside shareholders in subsidiary undertakings of the Company and deducting any debt balance on any reserve.

all as shown in the then latest audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group, but adjusted as may be necessary in respect of any variation in the paid up share capital or share premium account or capital redemption reserve of the Company since the date of that balance sheet and further adjusted as the directors may reasonably consider to be appropriate to reflect any change since that date in the companies comprising the Group and, for the avoidance of doubt any balance representing the Company's own shares (whether held pursuant to an employee's share scheme (within the meaning of section 1166 of the Companies Act 2006 or as treasury shares) shall reduce the reserves of the Group for the purposes of paragraph (1)(b) of this article.

(2) In this article:

- (a) **"the Group"** means the Company and its subsidiary undertakings (if any); and
- (b) **"subsidiary undertaking"** means a subsidiary undertaking which falls to be treated as such in the audited accounts of the Group.

(3) For the purposes of this article, but without prejudice to the generality of the terms **"borrowing"** and **"borrowed"**:

- (a) amounts borrowed for the purpose of repaying the whole or any part of any amounts previously borrowed and then outstanding (including any premium payable on final repayment) and to be applied for that purpose within six months of the borrowing shall not, pending such application, be taken into account as money borrowed;
- (b) the principal amount (including any premium payable on final repayment) of any debentures issued in whole or in part for a consideration other than cash shall be taken into account as money borrowed by the member of the Group issuing them;
- (c) money borrowed by a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking and not owing to another member of the Group shall (notwithstanding sub-paragraph (b) of this paragraph) be taken into account subject to the exclusion of a proportion of it equal to the minority proportion, and money borrowed and owing to a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking by another member of the Group shall (subject to sub-paragraph (d) of this paragraph) be taken into account to the extent of a proportion of it equal to the minority proportion (and for the purpose of this sub-paragraph **"minority proportion"** means the proportion of the

- issued equity share capital of the partly-owned subsidiary undertaking which is not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the Company);
- (d) in the case of money borrowed and owing to a partly-owned subsidiary undertaking by another partly-owned subsidiary undertaking the proportion which would otherwise be taken into account under sub-paragraph (c) of this paragraph shall be reduced by excluding such part of it as is equal to the proportion of the issued equity share capital of the borrowing subsidiary undertaking which is not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the Company; and
  - (e) the amount of moneys borrowed shall be reduced by any cash balances as shown in the audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group.
- (4) In calculating the aggregate amount of borrowings for the purpose of this article, money borrowed by any member of the Group which is denominated or repayable in a currency other than sterling shall be treated as converted into sterling:
- (a) at the rate of exchange used for the conversion of that currency in the latest audited balance sheet of that member; or
  - (b) if no rate was so used, at the middle market rate of exchange prevailing in London at the close of business on the date of that balance sheet, but if the amount in sterling resulting from conversion at that rate would be greater than that resulting from conversion at the middle market rate prevailing in London at the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the day on which the calculation falls to be made, the latter rate shall apply instead.
- (5) No debt incurred or security given in respect of money borrowed or to be taken into account as money borrowed in excess of the above limit shall be invalid or ineffectual except in the case of express notice to the lender or the recipient of the security at the time when the debt was incurred or security given that the limit hereby imposed had been or was thereby exceeded, but no lender or other person dealing with the Company shall be concerned to see or enquire whether such limit is observed.
- (6) In this article references to a consolidated balance sheet of the Group are to be taken:
- (a) in a case where the Company had no subsidiary undertakings at the relevant time, as references to the balance sheet of the Company;
  - (b) in a case where the Company had subsidiary undertakings at the relevant time but there are no consolidated accounts of the Group, as references to the respective balance sheets of the companies comprising the Group; and
  - (c) in a case where the Company had subsidiary undertakings at the relevant time, one or more of which has, in accordance with the Acts, been excluded from consolidation as references to the consolidated balance sheet of the Company and those of its subsidiary undertakings included in the consolidation.

## **DELEGATION OF DIRECTORS' POWERS**

### **Provision for employees on cessation or transfer of business**

102. The directors may decide to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its subsidiaries (other than a director or former director or shadow director) in connection with the cessation or transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that subsidiary.

### **Delegation to persons or committees**

103. (1) Subject to the provisions of these articles, the directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the articles:
- (a) to such person or committee;
  - (b) by such means (including by power of attorney);
  - (c) to such an extent;
  - (d) in relation to such matters or territories; and
  - (e) on such terms and conditions, as they think fit.
- (2) If the directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.
- (3) The directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.
- (4) The power to delegate under this article includes power to delegate the determination of any fee, remuneration or other benefit which may be paid or provided to any director.
- (5) Subject to paragraph (6) of this article, the proceedings of any committee appointed under paragraph (1)(a) of this article with two or more members shall be governed by such of these articles as regulate the proceedings of directors so far as they are capable of applying.
- (6) The directors may make rules regulating the proceedings of such committees, which shall prevail over any rules derived from these articles pursuant to paragraph (5) of this article if, and to the extent that, they are not consistent with them.

### **Annual retirement of non-executive director who has served nine years or more**

104. Any non-executive director (other than the chairman) who has held office as a non-executive director for nine years or more shall retire from office at each annual general meeting and shall be eligible for reappointment.

## **APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS**

### **Number and identity of directors to retire by rotation**

105. (1) At the annual general meeting in every year there shall retire from office by rotation:
- (a) all directors who held office at the time of each of the two preceding annual general meetings and who did not retire at either of them; and
  - (b) if the number of directors retiring under (a) above is less than one-third of the Relevant Directors (or, if the number of Relevant Directors is

not three or a multiple of three, is less than the number which is nearest to but does not exceed one-third of the Relevant Directors), such additional number of directors as shall, together with the directors retiring under (a) above, equal one-third of the Relevant Directors (or, if the number of Relevant Directors is not three or a multiple of three, the number which is nearest to but does not exceed one-third of the Relevant Directors).

- (2) Subject to the provisions of this article the directors, if any, to retire by rotation under paragraph (1)(b) of this article shall be those other Relevant Directors who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment, but, as between persons who became or were last reappointed directors on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.
- (3) Any director who is to retire at or prior to the annual general meeting for any reason other than retirement by rotation under this article shall be an "**Excluded Director**". An Excluded Director shall not be taken into account in determining the number or identity of the directors to retire by rotation at that meeting pursuant to this article 105.
- (4) The number and identity of the directors to retire at an annual general meeting pursuant to this article 105 shall be determined by reference to the number and identity of the directors, other than any Excluded Director, at 9.00 am (London time) on the date of the notice convening the annual general meeting (the "**Relevant Directors**") notwithstanding any change in the number or identity of such directors after that time but before the close of that annual general meeting.

#### **Filling of vacancy**

106. If the Company, at the meeting at which a director retires under any provision of these articles, does not fill the vacancy the retiring director shall, if willing to act, be deemed to have been reappointed unless at the meeting it is resolved not to fill the vacancy or a resolution for the reappointment of the director is put to the meeting and lost.

#### **Procedure for appointment or reappointment at general meeting**

107. No person other than a director retiring at the meeting shall be appointed or reappointed a director at any general meeting unless:
- (a) he is recommended by the directors; or
  - (b) not less than seven nor more than thirty-five days before the date appointed for holding the meeting, notice executed by a member qualified to vote on the appointment or reappointment has been given to the Company of the intention to propose that person for appointment or reappointment, stating the particulars which would, if he were appointed or reappointed, be required to be included in the Company's register of directors, together with notice executed by that person of his willingness to be appointed or reappointed.

#### **Election of two or more directors**

108. At a general meeting a motion for the appointment of two or more persons as directors by a single resolution shall not be made, unless a resolution that it shall be so made has been first agreed to by the meeting without any vote being given against it, and for the purposes of this article a motion for approving a person's appointment or for nominating a person for appointment shall be treated as a motion for his appointment.

### **Power of company to appoint a director**

109. Subject to the provisions of these articles, the Company may by ordinary resolution appoint a person who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, to be a director either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director.

### **Power of directors to appoint a director**

110. The directors may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a director, and is permitted by law to do so, to be a director, either to fill a vacancy or as an additional director, provided that the appointment does not cause the number of directors to exceed any number fixed as the maximum number of directors. A director so appointed shall retire at the next annual general meeting and shall then be eligible for reappointment.

### **Director not reappointed at annual general meeting**

111. A director who retires at an annual general meeting may be reappointed. If he is not reappointed or deemed to have been reappointed, he shall retain office until the meeting elects someone in his place or, if it does not do so, until the close of the meeting.

## **DISQUALIFICATION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS**

### **Removal of director**

112. In addition to any power of removal under the Acts, the Company may, by special resolution, remove a director before the expiration of his period of office and, subject to these articles, may, by ordinary resolution, appoint another person who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, to be a director instead of him. A person so appointed shall be treated, for the purposes of determining the time at which he or any other director is to retire, as if he had become a director on the day on which the director in whose place he is appointed was last appointed or reappointed a director.

### **Termination of a director's appointment**

113. A person ceases to be a director as soon as:
- (a) that person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Acts or is prohibited from being a director by law; or
  - (b) a bankruptcy order is made against that person; or
  - (c) a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts; or
  - (d) by reason of that person's mental health, a court makes an order which wholly or partly prevents that person from personally exercising any powers or rights which that person would otherwise have; or
  - (e) notification is received by the Company from that person that he is resigning or retiring from his office as director, and such resignation or retirement has taken effect in accordance with its terms; or
  - (f) in the case of a director who holds any executive office, his appointment as such is terminated or expires and the directors resolve that he should cease to be a director; or
  - (g) that person is absent without permission of the other directors from meetings of the directors for more than six consecutive months and the other directors resolve that he should cease to be a director; or
  - (h) a notice in writing is served upon him personally, or at his residential address provided to the Company for the purposes of section 165 of the Companies Act

2006, signed by all the other directors stating that that person shall cease to be a director with immediate effect (and such notice may consist of several copies each signed by one or more directors, but a notice executed by an alternate director need not also be executed by his appointor and, if it is executed by a director who has appointed an alternate director, it need not also be executed by the alternate director in that capacity).

#### **DIRECTORS' APPOINTMENTS AND INTERESTS**

##### **Other interests and offices**

114. (1) Provided that he has disclosed to the directors the nature and extent of any material interest of his, a director notwithstanding his office:

- (a) may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the Company or in which the Company is otherwise interested; and
- (b) may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to any transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate in which the Company is interested,

and (i) he shall not, by reason of his office, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such office or employment or from any such transaction or arrangement or from any interest in any such body corporate; (ii) he shall not infringe his duty to avoid a situation in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company as a result of any such office or employment or any such transaction or arrangement or any interest in any such body corporate; (iii) he shall not be required to disclose to the Company, or use in performing his duties as a director of the Company, any confidential information relating to such office or employment if to make such a disclosure or use would result in a breach of a duty or obligation of confidence owed by him in relation to or in connection with such office or employment; (iv) he may absent himself from discussions, whether in meetings of the directors or otherwise, and exclude himself from information, which will or may relate to such office, employment, transaction, arrangement or interest; and (v) no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the ground of any such interest or benefit.

(2) For the purposes of this article:

- (a) a general notice given to the directors that a director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any transaction or arrangement in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the director has an interest in any such transaction of the nature and extent so specified;
- (b) an interest of which a director has no knowledge and of which it is unreasonable to expect him to have knowledge shall not be treated as an interest of his;
- (c) a director shall be deemed to have disclosed the nature and extent of an interest which consists of him being a director, officer or employee of any subsidiary undertaking of the Company;

- (d) a director need not disclose an interest if it cannot be reasonably regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; and
  - (e) a director need not disclose an interest if, or to the extent that, the other directors are already aware of it (and for this purpose the other directors are treated as aware of anything of which they ought reasonably to be aware).
115. (1) The directors may (subject to such terms and conditions, if any, as they may think fit to impose from time to time, and subject always to their right to vary or terminate such authorisation) authorise, to the fullest extent permitted by law:
- (a) any matter which would otherwise result in a director infringing his duty to avoid a situation in which he has, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the interests of the Company and which may reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest (including a conflict of interest and duty or conflict of duties); and
  - (b) a director to accept or continue in any office, employment or position in addition to his office as a director of the Company and without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1)(a) of this article may authorise the manner in which a conflict of interest arising out of such office, employment or position may be dealt with, either before or at the time that such a conflict of interest arises,
- provided that the authorisation is effective only if (i) any requirement as to the quorum at the meeting at which the matter is considered is met without counting the director in question or any other interested director, and (ii) the matter was agreed to without their voting or would have been agreed to if their votes had not been counted.
- (2) If a matter, or office, employment or position, has been authorised by the directors in accordance with this article then (subject to such terms and conditions, if any, as the directors may think fit to impose from time to time, and subject always to their right to vary or terminate such authorisation or the permissions set out below):
- (a) the director shall not be required to disclose to the Company, or use in performing his duties as a director of the Company, any confidential information relating to such matter, or such office, employment or position if to make such a disclosure or use would result in a breach of a duty or obligation of confidence owed by him in relation to or in connection with that matter, or that office, employment or position;
  - (b) the director may absent himself from discussions, whether in meetings of the directors or otherwise, and exclude himself from information, which will or may relate to that matter, or that office, employment or position; and
  - (c) a director shall not, by reason of his office as a director of the Company, be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he derives from any such matter, or from any such office, employment or position.

### **Executive directors**

116. The directors may appoint one or more of their number to the office of managing director or to any other executive office of the Company and any such appointment may be made for such term, at such remuneration and on such other conditions as the directors think fit. Any appointment of a director to an executive office shall terminate if he ceases to be a director but without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of the contract of service between the director and the Company.

#### **DIRECTORS' GRATUITIES AND PENSIONS**

117. The directors may (by the establishment of, or maintenance of, schemes or otherwise) provide benefits, whether by the payment of allowances, gratuities or pensions, or by insurance or death, sickness or disability benefits or otherwise, for any director or any former director of the Company or of any body corporate which is or has been a subsidiary of the Company or a predecessor in business of the Company or of any such subsidiary, and for any member of his family (including a spouse or civil partner or a former spouse or former civil partner) or any person who is or was dependent on him and may (before as well as after he ceases to hold such office) contribute to any fund and pay premiums for the purchase or provision of any such benefit.

#### **PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS**

##### **Procedures regarding board meetings**

118. (1) Subject to the provisions of these articles, the directors may make any rule which they think fit about how they take decisions, and about how such rules are to be recorded or communicated to directors.
- (2) A director may, and the secretary at the request of a director shall, call a meeting of the directors.
- (3) Notice of a board meeting may be given to a director personally, or by telephone, or sent in hard copy form to him at a postal address in the United Kingdom notified by him to the Company for this purpose, or sent in electronic form to such electronic address (if any) as may for the time being be notified by him to the Company for that purpose. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a board meeting to a director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom unless he has requested that notices of board meetings shall during his absence be given in hard copy form or in electronic form to him at a postal address or electronic address notified by him to the Company for that purpose. Such notices, however need not be given any earlier than notices given to directors not so absent. A director may waive notice of any board meeting and any such waiver may be retrospective.
- (4) Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall (unless he is not entitled to vote on the resolution in question) have a second or casting vote. A director who is also an alternate director shall be entitled in the absence of his appointor to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor in addition to his own vote; and an alternate director who is appointed by two or more directors shall be entitled to a separate vote on behalf of each of his appointors in the appointor's absence.
- (5) A meeting of the directors may consist of a conference between directors some or all of whom are in different places provided that each director who participates in the meeting is able:
- (a) to hear each of the other participating directors addressing the meeting;  
and

- (b) if he so wishes, to address each of the other participating directors simultaneously,

whether directly, by conference telephone or by any other form of communication equipment (whether in use when this article is adopted or developed subsequently) or by a combination of such methods. A quorum shall be deemed to be present if those conditions are satisfied in respect of at least the number of directors required to form a quorum. A meeting held in this way shall be deemed to take place at the place where the largest group of directors is assembled or, if no such group is readily identifiable, at the place from where the chairman of the meeting participates at the start of the meeting.

### **Quorum**

119. No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the directors unless a quorum is present. The quorum may be fixed by the directors. If the quorum is not fixed by the directors, the quorum shall be two. A director shall not be counted in (or when his vote cannot be counted) the quorum present in relation to a matter or resolution on which he is not entitled to vote but shall be counted in the quorum present in relation to all other matters or resolutions considered or voted on at the meeting. An alternate director who is not himself a director shall, if his appointor is not present, be counted in the quorum.

### **Number of directors below minimum**

120. The continuing directors or a sole continuing director may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of directors is less than the number fixed as the quorum or the minimum, the continuing directors or director may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.

### **Election and removal of chairman and deputy-chairman**

121. The directors may elect from their number, and remove, a chairman and a deputy-chairman of the board of directors. The chairman, or in his absence the deputy-chairman, shall preside at all meetings of the directors, but if there is no chairman or deputy-chairman, or if at the meeting neither the chairman nor the deputy-chairman is present within ten minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, or if neither of them is willing to act as chairman, the directors present may choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.

### **Resolutions in writing**

122. A resolution in writing agreed to by all the directors entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the directors and who would be entitled to vote (and whose vote would have been counted) on the resolution at a meeting of the directors shall (if that number is sufficient to constitute a quorum) be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the directors, duly convened and held. A resolution in writing is adopted when all such directors have signed one or more copies of it or have otherwise indicated their agreement to it in writing. A resolution agreed to by an alternate director, however, need not also be agreed to by his appointor and, if it is agreed to by a director who has appointed an alternate director, it need not also be agreed to by the alternate director in that capacity.

### **Permitted interests and voting**

123. (1) Subject to the provisions of these articles, a director shall not vote at a meeting of the directors on any resolution concerning a matter in which he has, directly or indirectly, a material interest (other than an interest in shares, debentures or other securities of, or otherwise in or through, the Company), unless his

interest arises only because the case falls within one or more of the following sub-paragraphs:

- (a) the resolution relates to the giving to him of a guarantee, security, or indemnity in respect of money lent to, or an obligation incurred by him for the benefit of, the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings;
  - (b) the resolution relates to the giving to a third party of a guarantee, security, or indemnity in respect of an obligation of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings for which the director has assumed responsibility in whole or part and whether alone or jointly with others under a guarantee or indemnity or by the giving of security;
  - (c) the resolution relates to the giving to him of any other indemnity which is on substantially the same terms as indemnities given or to be given to all of the other directors and/or to the funding by the Company of his expenditure on defending proceedings or the doing by the Company of anything to enable him to avoid incurring such expenditure where all other directors have been given or are to be given substantially the same arrangements;
  - (d) the resolution relates to the purchase or maintenance for any director or directors of insurance against any liability;
  - (e) his interest arises by virtue of his being, or intending to become, a participant in the underwriting or sub-underwriting of an offer of any shares in or debentures or other securities of the Company for subscription, purchase or exchange;
  - (f) the resolution relates to an arrangement for the benefit of the employees and directors and/or former employees and former directors of the Company or any of its subsidiary undertakings, and/or the members of their families (including a spouse or civil partner or a former spouse or former civil partner) or any person who is or was dependent on such persons, including but without being limited to a retirement benefits scheme and an employees' share scheme, which does not accord to any director any privilege or advantage not generally accorded to the employees and/or former employees to whom the arrangement relates; and
  - (g) the resolution relates to a transaction or arrangement with any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly, provided that he is not the holder of or beneficially interested in one per cent. or more of any class of the equity share capital of that company (or of any other company through which his interest is derived) and not entitled to exercise one per cent. or more of the voting rights available to members of the relevant company (and for the purpose of calculating the said percentage there shall be disregarded (i) any shares held by the director as a bare or custodian trustee and in which he has no beneficial interest; (ii) any shares comprised in any authorised unit trust scheme in which the director is interested only as a unit holder; and (iii) any shares of that class held as treasury shares).
- (2) Where proposals are under consideration concerning the appointment (including the fixing or varying of terms of appointment) of two or more directors to offices or employments with the Company or any body corporate

in which the Company is interested, the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each director separately and (provided he is not for any other reason precluded from voting) each of the directors concerned shall be entitled to vote and be counted in the quorum in respect of each resolution except that concerning his own appointment.

#### **Suspension or relaxation or prohibition on voting**

124. The Company may by ordinary resolution suspend or relax to any extent, in respect of any particular matter, any provision of these articles prohibiting a director from voting at a meeting of the directors or of a committee of the directors.

#### **Questions regarding director's rights to vote**

125. If a question arises at a meeting of the directors as to the right of a director to vote, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman of the meeting (or, if the director concerned is the chairman, to the other directors at the meeting), and his ruling in relation to any director other than himself (or, as the case may be, the ruling of the majority of the other directors in relation to the chairman) shall be final and conclusive.

### **DIVIDENDS**

#### **Declaration of dividends by Company**

126. The Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members, but no dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the directors. The Special Shareholder shall not be entitled to a dividend in respect of the Special Share.

#### **Payment of interim dividends**

127. The directors may pay interim dividends if it appears to them that they are justified by the profits of the Company available for distribution. If the share capital is divided into different classes, the directors may pay interim dividends on shares which confer deferred or non-preferred rights with regard to dividend as well as on shares which confer preferential rights with regard to dividend, but no interim dividend shall be paid on shares carrying deferred or non-preferred rights if, at the time of payment, any preferential dividend is in arrear. The directors may also pay at intervals settled by them any dividend payable at a fixed rate if it appears to them that the profits available for distribution justify the payment. 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 by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferred rights.

#### **Payment according to amount paid up**

128. Except as otherwise provided by these articles or the rights attached to shares, all dividends shall be declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid. If any share is issued on terms that it ranks for dividend as from a particular date, it shall rank for dividend accordingly. In any other case (and except as aforesaid), dividends shall be apportioned and paid proportionately to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid. For the purpose of this article, no account is to be taken of any amount which has been paid up on a share in advance of the due date for payment of that amount.

### **Non-cash distribution**

129. A general meeting declaring a dividend may, upon the recommendation of the directors, direct that it shall be satisfied wholly or partly by the distribution of specific assets and, in particular of fully paid shares or debentures of any other company. Where any difficulty arises in regard to the distribution, the directors may settle the same as they think fit and in particular (but without limitation) may:
- (a) issue fractional certificates or other fractional entitlements (or ignore fractions) and fix the value for distribution of such specific assets or any part thereof;
  - (b) determine that cash shall be paid to any member on the basis of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of those entitled to participate in the dividend; and
  - (c) vest any such specific assets in trustees.

### **Dividend payment procedure**

130. Any dividend or other money payable in respect of a share may be paid by cheque or warrant sent by post to the registered address of the person entitled or, if two or more persons are the holders of the share or are jointly entitled to it by reason of the death or bankruptcy of the holder, to the registered address of that one of those persons who is first named in the register of members or to such person and to such address as the person or persons entitled may by notice direct. Any such dividend or other money may also be paid by any other method (including direct debit or credit and bank transfer or, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, where the Company is authorised to do so by or on behalf of the holder or joint holders in such manner as the directors may from time to time consider sufficient, by means of a relevant system) which the directors consider appropriate. Any joint holder or other person jointly entitled to a share as aforesaid may give receipts for any dividend or other money payable in respect of the share. Every cheque or warrant shall be made payable to the order of or to the person or persons entitled or to such other person as the person or persons entitled may by notice direct. Payment of such cheque, warrant or order, the collection of funds from or transfer of funds by a bank in accordance with such direct debit or bank transfer or, in respect of shares in uncertificated form, the making of payment by means of a relevant system, shall be a good discharge to the Company.

### **Right to cease sending payment**

131. The Company may cease to send any cheque or warrant (or to use any other method of payment) for any dividend payable in respect of a share if:
- (a) in respect of at least two consecutive dividends payable on that share the cheque or warrant has been returned undelivered or remains uncashed (or that other method of payment has failed); or
  - (b) following one such occasion, reasonable enquiries have failed to establish any new address or account of the person entitled to the payment,
- but, subject to the provisions of these articles, may recommence sending cheques or warrants (or using another method of payment) for dividends payable on that share if the person or persons entitled so request and have supplied in writing a new address or account to be used for that purpose.

### **No interest on dividends**

132. No dividend or other money payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company, unless otherwise provided by the rights attached to the share.

### **Forfeiture of unclaimed dividends**

133. Any dividend which has remained unclaimed for twelve years from the date when it became due for payment shall, if the directors so resolve, be forfeited and cease to remain owing by the Company.

### **Scrip dividends**

134. The directors may, with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company, offer any holders of Ordinary Shares the right to elect to receive ordinary shares ("**New Ordinary Shares**"), credited as fully paid, instead of cash in respect of the whole (or some part, to be determined by the directors) of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution. The following provisions shall apply:
- (a) the resolution may specify a particular dividend (whether or not declared), or may specify all or any dividends declared or payable within a specified period, but such period may not end later than the beginning of the fifth annual general meeting next following the date of the meeting at which the ordinary resolution is passed;
  - (b) the entitlement of each holder of Ordinary Shares to New Ordinary Shares shall be such that the relevant value of the entitlement shall be as nearly as possible equal to (but not greater than) the cash amount (disregarding any tax credit) that such holder would have received by way of dividend. For this purpose "**relevant value**" shall be calculated by reference to the average of the middle market quotations for the Ordinary Shares as derived from the London Stock Exchange Daily Official List, for the day on which the Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend and the four subsequent dealing days, or in such other manner as may be determined by or in accordance with the ordinary resolution. A certificate or report by the auditors as to the amount of the relevant value in respect of any dividend shall be conclusive evidence of that amount;
  - (c) no fraction of a share shall be allotted and the directors may make such provision for fractional entitlements as they think fit, including provision:
    - (i) for the whole or part of the benefit of fractional entitlements to be disregarded or to accrue to the Company; or
    - (ii) for the value of fractional entitlements to be accumulated on behalf of a member (without entitlement to interest) and applied in paying up new shares in connection with a subsequent offer by the Company of the right to receive shares instead of cash in respect of a future dividend;
  - (d) the directors shall, after determining the basis of allotment, notify the holders of Ordinary Shares of the right of election offered to them, and (except in the case of any holder from whom the Company has received written notice in such form as the directors may require which is effective for the purposes of the relevant dividend that such holder wishes to receive shares instead of cash in respect of all future dividends in respect of which a right of election is offered) shall send with, or following, such notification, forms of election and specify the procedure to be followed and place at which, and the latest time by which, elections must be received in order to be effective;
  - (e) the directors may on any occasion decide that rights of election shall only be made available subject to such exclusions, restrictions or other arrangements as

they shall in their absolute discretion deem necessary or desirable in order to comply with legal or practical problems under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or stock exchange in, any territory;

- (f) the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been given) shall not be payable on Ordinary Shares in respect of which an election has been duly made ("**the Elected Ordinary Shares**"). Instead, additional Ordinary Shares shall be allotted to the holders of the Elected Ordinary Shares on the basis of allotment determined as aforesaid. For such purpose the directors shall capitalise out of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve) or any of the profits which could otherwise have been applied in paying dividends in cash, as the directors may determine, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of the additional Ordinary Shares to be allotted on that basis and apply it in paying up in full the appropriate number of unissued ordinary shares for allotment and distribution to the holders of the Elected Ordinary Shares on that basis;
- (g) the directors shall not proceed with any election unless the Company has sufficient reserves or funds that may be capitalised to give effect to it after the basis of allotment is determined;
- (h) the additional Ordinary Shares when allotted shall rank pari passu in all respects with the fully paid Ordinary Shares then in issue except that they will not be entitled to participation in the dividend in lieu of which they were allotted; and
- (i) the directors may do all acts and things which they consider necessary or expedient to give effect to any such capitalisation, and may authorise any person to enter on behalf of all the members interested into an agreement with the Company providing for such capitalisation and incidental matters and any agreement so made shall be binding on all concerned.

### **CAPITALISATION OF PROFITS**

#### **Capitalisation of profits**

135. (1) The directors may with the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company:
- (a) subject as provided in this article, resolve to capitalise any profits of the Company not required for paying any preferential dividend (whether or not they are available for distribution) or any sum standing to the credit of any reserve or fund of the Company (including any share premium account, capital redemption reserve, merger reserve or revaluation reserve);
  - (b) appropriate the sum resolved to be capitalised to the members in proportion to the nominal amounts of the shares (whether or not fully paid) held by them respectively which would (or in the case of treasury shares, which would if such shares were not held as treasury shares) entitle them to participate in a distribution of that sum if the shares were fully paid and the sum were then distributable and were distributed by way of dividend and apply such sum on their behalf either in or towards paying up the amounts, if any, for the time being unpaid on any shares held by them respectively, or in paying up in full shares or debentures of the Company of a nominal amount equal to

that sum, and allot such 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 profits which are not available for distribution may, for the purposes of this article, only be applied in paying up shares to be allotted to members credited as fully paid;

- (c) resolve that any shares so allotted to any member in respect of a holding by him of any partly paid shares shall so long as such shares remain partly paid rank for dividend only to the extent that the latter shares rank for dividend;
  - (d) make such provision by the issue of fractional certificates or other fractional entitlements (or by ignoring fractions) or by payment in cash or otherwise as they think fit in the case of shares or debentures becoming distributable in fractions (including provision whereby the benefit of fractional entitlements accrues to the Company rather than to the members concerned);
  - (e) 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 further shares to which they are entitled upon such capitalisation, any agreement made under such authority being binding on all such members; and
  - (f) generally do all acts and things required to give effect to such resolution as aforesaid.
- (2) Where, pursuant to an employees' share scheme (within the meaning of section 1166 of the Companies Act 2006) the Company has granted options to subscribe for shares on terms which provide (inter alia) for adjustments to the subscription price payable on the exercise of such options or to the number of shares to be allotted upon such exercise in the event of any increase or reduction in or other reorganisation of the Company's issued share capital and an otherwise appropriate adjustment would result in the subscription price for any share being less than its nominal value, then, the directors may, on the exercise of any of the options concerned and payment of the subscription price which would have applied had such adjustment been made, capitalise any such profits or other sum as is mentioned in paragraph (1)(a) above to the extent necessary to pay up the unpaid balance of the nominal value of the shares which fall to be allotted on the exercise of such options and apply such amount in paying up such balance and allot shares fully paid accordingly. The provisions of paragraphs (1)(a) to (f) above shall apply with the necessary alterations to this paragraph (but as if the authority of an ordinary resolution of the Company were not required).

## **RECORD DATES**

### **Company or directors may fix record dates for payment or distribution**

136. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, but without prejudice to the rights attached to any shares, the Company or the directors may fix a date as the record date by reference to which a dividend will be declared or paid or a distribution, allotment or issue made, and that date may be before, on or after the date on which the dividend, distribution, allotment or issue is declared, paid or made. Where such a record date is fixed, references in these articles to a holder of shares or member to whom a dividend is

to be paid or a distribution, allotment or issue is to be made shall be construed accordingly.

## NOTICES AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.

### Requirements for writing

137. Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to these articles shall be in writing other than a notice calling a meeting of the directors which need not be in writing.

### Methods of sending or supplying

138. (1) Any notice, document or information may (without prejudice to articles 146 and 147) be sent or supplied by the Company to any member either:
- (a) personally; or
  - (b) by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his registered address or postal address given pursuant to article 143(4), or by leaving it at that address; or
  - (c) by sending it in electronic form to a person who has agreed (generally or specifically) that the notice, document or information may be sent or supplied in that form (and has not revoked that agreement); or
  - (d) by making it available on a website, provided that the requirements in paragraph (2) of this article and the provisions of the Acts are satisfied.
- (2) The requirements referred to in paragraph (1)(d) of this article are that:
- (a) the member has agreed (generally or specifically) that the notice, document or information may be sent or supplied to him by being made available on a website (and has not revoked that agreement), or the member has been asked by the Company to agree that the Company may send or supply notices, documents and information generally, or the notice, document or information in question, to him by making it available on a website and the Company has not received a response within the period of 28 days beginning on the date on which the Company's request was sent and the member is therefore taken to have so agreed (and has not revoked that agreement);
  - (b) the member is sent a notification of the presence of the notice, document or information on a website, the address of that website, the place on that website where it may be accessed, and how it may be accessed ("**notification of availability**");
  - (c) in the case of a notice of meeting, the notification of availability states that it concerns a notice of a company meeting, specifies the place, time and date of the meeting, and states whether it will be an annual general meeting; and
  - (d) the notice, document or information continues to be published on that website, in the case of a notice of meeting, throughout the period beginning with the date of the notification of availability and ending with the conclusion of the meeting and in all other cases throughout the period specified by any applicable provision of the Acts, or, if no such period is specified, throughout the period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the notification of availability is sent to the member, save that if the notice, document or information is made available for part only of that period then failure to make it available

throughout that period shall be disregarded where such failure is wholly attributable to circumstances which it would not be reasonable to have expected the Company to prevent or avoid.

- (3) In the case of joint holders of a share:
  - (a) it shall be sufficient for all notices, documents and other information to be sent or supplied to the joint holder whose name stands first in the register of members in respect of the joint holding (the "**first named holder**") only; and
  - (b) the agreement of the first named holder that notices, documents and information may be sent or supplied in electronic form or by being made available on a website shall be binding on all the joint holders.
- (4) A member whose registered address is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice, document or information from the Company unless he gives to the Company an address (not being an electronic address) within the United Kingdom at which notices, documents or information may be sent or supplied to him.
- (5) For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this article are subject to article 58.
- (6) The Company may at any time and at its sole discretion choose to send or supply notices, documents and information only in hard copy form to some or all members.

#### **Deemed receipt of notice**

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

#### **Notice by reference to register of members**

140. (1) Any notice to be given to a member may be given by reference to the register of members as it stands at any time within the period of 21 days before the notice is given; and no change in the register after that time shall invalidate the giving of the notice.
- (2) Every person who becomes entitled to a share shall be bound by any notice in respect of that share which, before his name is entered in the register of members, has been given to the person from whom he derives his title; but this paragraph does not apply to a notice given under section 793 of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Notice when post not available**

141. Where, by reason of any suspension or curtailment of postal services, the Company is unable effectively to give notice of a general meeting, the board may decide that the only persons to whom notice of the affected general meeting must be sent are: the directors; the Company's auditors; those members to whom notice to convene the general meeting can validly be sent by electronic means and those members to whom notification as to the availability of the notice of meeting on a website can validly be sent by electronic means. In any such case the Company shall also:
- (a) advertise the general meeting in at least two national daily newspapers published in the United Kingdom; and

- (b) send or supply a confirmatory copy of the notice to members in the same manner as it sends or supplies notices under article 138 if at least seven clear days before the meeting the posting of notices again becomes practicable.

**Other notices and communications advertised in national newspaper**

142. Any notice, document or information to be sent or supplied by the Company to the members or any of them, not being a notice of a general meeting, shall be sufficiently sent or supplied if sent or supplied by advertisement in at least one national daily newspaper published in the United Kingdom.

**When notice or other communication deemed to have been received**

143. Any notice, document or information sent or supplied by the Company to the members or any of them:
- (a) by post, shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after the time at which the envelope containing the notice, document or information was posted unless it was sent by second class post or there is only one class of post, or it was sent by air mail to an address outside the United Kingdom, in which case it shall be deemed to have been received 48 hours after it was posted. Proof that the envelope was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or information was sent;
  - (b) by being left at a member's registered address or postal address given pursuant to article 138(4), shall be deemed to have been received on the day it was left;
  - (c) by electronic means, shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after it was sent. Proof that a notice, document or information in electronic form was addressed to the electronic address provided by the member for the purpose of receiving communications from the Company shall be conclusive evidence that the notice, document or information was sent;
  - (d) by making it available on a website, shall be deemed to have been received on the date on which notification of availability on the website is deemed to have been received in accordance with this article or, if later, the date on which it is first made available on the website;
  - (e) by means of a relevant system shall be deemed to have been received 24 hours after the Company or any sponsoring system-participant acting on the Company's behalf, sends the issuer-instruction relating to the notice, document or information; and
  - (f) by advertisement, shall be deemed to have been received on the day on which the advertisement appears.

**Communications sent or supplied to persons entitled by transmission**

144. Any notice, document or information may be sent or supplied by the Company to the person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member by sending or supplying it in any manner authorised by these articles for the sending or supply of notice to a member addressed to that person by name, or by the title of representative of the deceased or trustee of the bankrupt or by any like description, at the address, if any, within the United Kingdom supplied for that purpose by the person claiming to be so entitled. Until such an address has been supplied, a notice may be sent or supplied in any manner in which it might have been given if the death or bankruptcy had not occurred.

### **Power to stop sending communications to untraced members**

145. If on three consecutive occasions notices, documents or information sent or supplied to a member have been returned undelivered, the member shall not be entitled to receive any subsequent notice, document or information until he has supplied to the Company (or its agent) a new registered address, or a postal address within the United Kingdom, or (without prejudice to article 138(4)) shall have informed the Company, in such manner as may be specified by the Company, of an electronic address. For the purposes of this article, references to notices, documents or information include references to a cheque or other instrument of payment; but nothing in this article shall entitle the Company to cease sending any cheque or other instrument of payment for any dividend, unless it is otherwise so entitled under these articles.

### **Validation of documents in electronic form**

146. Where a document is required under these articles to be signed by a member or any other person, if the document is in electronic form, then in order to be valid the document must either:
- (a) incorporate the electronic signature, or personal identification details (which may be details previously allocated by the Company), of that member or other person, in such form as the directors may approve; or
  - (b) be accompanied by such other evidence as the directors may require in order to be satisfied that the document is genuine.

The Company may designate mechanisms for validating any such document and a document not validated by the use of any such mechanisms shall be deemed as having not been received by the Company. In the case of any document or information relating to a meeting, an instrument of proxy or invitation to appoint a proxy, any validation requirements shall be specified in the relevant notice of meeting in accordance with Articles 57 and 87.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Making and retention of minutes**

147. The directors shall cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose:
- (a) of all appointments of officers made by the directors; and
  - (b) of all proceedings at meetings of the Company, of the holders of any class of shares in the Company, and of the directors, and of committees of the directors, including the names of the directors present at each such meeting.

Minutes shall be retained for at least ten years from the date of the appointment or meeting and shall be kept available for inspection in accordance with the Acts.

### **Inspection of accounts**

148. Except as provided by statute or by order of the court or authorised by the directors or an ordinary resolution of the Company, no person is entitled to inspect any of the Company's accounting or other records or documents merely by virtue of being a member.

### **Appointment of secretary**

149. The secretary shall be appointed by the directors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such other conditions as they think fit; and any secretary so appointed may be removed by them.

### **Use of the seal**

150. The seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the directors or of a committee of the directors. The directors may determine whether any instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed and, if it is to be signed, who shall sign it. Unless otherwise determined by the directors:

- (a) share certificates and, subject to the provisions of any instrument constituting the same, certificates issued under the seal in respect of any debentures or other securities, need not be signed and any signature may be applied to any such certificate by any mechanical or other means or may be printed on it; and
- (b) every other instrument to which the seal is affixed shall be signed by:
  - (i) two directors of the Company; or
  - (ii) one director and the secretary of the Company; or
  - (iii) at least one authorised person in the presence of a witness who attests the signature.

For this purpose an authorised person is any director of the Company or the secretary of the Company, or any person authorised by the directors for the purpose of signing instruments to which the seal is affixed.

### **Official seal for use abroad**

151. The Company may have an official seal for use in any place abroad. Such a seal shall be used only by the authority of a resolution of the directors or of a committee of the directors.

### **Destruction of documents**

152. (1) The Company may destroy:
- (a) any instrument of transfer, after six years from the date on which it is registered;
  - (b) any dividend mandate or notification of change of name or address, after two years from the date on which it is recorded;
  - (c) any share certificate, after one year from the date on which it is cancelled; and
  - (d) any other document on the basis of which an entry in the register of members is made, after six years from the date on which it is made.
- (2) Any document referred to in paragraph (1) of this article may be destroyed earlier than the relevant date authorised by that paragraph, provided that a copy of the document (whether made electronically, by microfilm, by digital imaging or by any other means) has been made which is not destroyed before that date.
- (3) It shall be conclusively presumed in favour of the Company that every entry in the register of members purporting to have been made on the basis of a document destroyed in accordance with this article was duly and properly made, that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was duly registered, that every share certificate so destroyed was duly cancelled, and that every other document so destroyed was valid and effective in accordance with the particulars in the records of the Company, provided that:

- (a) this article shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without notice of any claim (regardless of the parties to it) to which the document might be relevant;
- (b) nothing in this article shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document otherwise than in accordance with this article which would not attach to the Company in the absence of this article; and
- (c) references in this article to the destruction of any document include references to the disposal of it in any manner.

### **Change of name**

153. The Company may change its name by resolution of the directors.

## **WINDING UP**

### **Winding up**

154. If the Company is wound up, the liquidator may, with the sanction of a special resolution and any other sanction required by law, divide among the members in specie the whole or any part of the assets of the Company and may, for that purpose, value any assets and determine how the division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. The liquidator may, with the like sanction, vest the whole or any part of the assets in trustees upon such trusts for the benefit of the members as he may with the like sanction determine, but no member shall be compelled to accept any assets upon which there is a liability.

## **INDEMNITY**

### **Power to indemnify directors**

155. Subject to the provisions of the Acts, the Company may, to the maximum extent permitted by law:

- (a) indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director, or a director of any associated company, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him), against any loss or liability, whether in connection with any proven or alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise, in relation to the Company or any associated company (a "**Claim**"), and pay the reasonable legal and other expenses incurred by the director in defending any Claim (whether in relation to civil or criminal proceedings) on an "as incurred basis"; and/or
- (b) indemnify to any extent any person who is or was a director of an associated company that is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme, directly or indirectly (including by funding any expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him) against any liability incurred by him in connection with the company's activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme; and/or
- (c) purchase and maintain insurance for any person who is or was a director, or a director of any associated company, against any loss or liability or any expenditure he may incur, whether in connection with any proven or alleged negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust by him or otherwise, in relation to the Company or any associated company, to the extent that such insurance can be obtained at such cost and on such terms as the board considers to be reasonable.

