

Company No. 1818486

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**PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES**

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**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

**of**

**PERSIMMON Plc**

(Adopted by special resolution passed on ~~19 March 2015~~ [\[28 April 2021\]](#))

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(Company No. 1818486)

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**DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

**Exclusion of model articles**

1. No articles set out in any statute or other instrument having statutory force apply to the Company and the following are the Company's articles of association.

**Definitions**

2. In these Articles:

**"address"** in relation to a communication made by electronic means, includes any number or address used for the purposes of that communication (including, without limitation, in the case of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction (as defined in Article ~~108~~[109](#)) an identification number of a participant in the Relevant System concerned);

**"these Articles"** means these articles of association as from time to time altered;

**"Board"** means the board of Directors or the Directors present or deemed present at a duly convened meeting of the Directors at which a quorum is present;

**"CA06"** means the Companies Act 2006;

**"certificated"** means, in relation to any share or other security of the Company, that it is not held or to be held in uncertificated form;

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

**"Director"** means a director of the Company;

**"electronic form"** means the same as in CA06;

**"electronic means"** means the same as in CA06;

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

**"FCA"** [means the Financial Conduct Authority \(or any other relevant body from time to time\) acting as the competent authority for the purposes of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended;](#)

**"financial institution"** means any financial institution as that expression is defined in Section 778 CA06;

**"hard copy"** means the same as in CA06;

**"holder"** means in relation to shares the person entered in the Register and **"shareholder"** and **"member"** shall be construed accordingly;

**"London Stock Exchange"** [London Stock Exchange plc;](#)

**"month"** means calendar month;

**"Office"** means the registered office of the Company for the time being;

**"Official List"** means the Official List of the ~~UK Listing Authority~~ [FCA](#);

**"Ordinary Shares"** means ordinary shares of 10p each;

**"paid up"** means paid or credited as paid up;

**"record date"** means the same as in Article 191;

**"Register"** in relation to any period on or before 25 November 2001, means the register of members of the Company and, in relation to any period after that date means, in relation to a certificated share or the holder of it, the register of members maintained by the Company and, in relation to an uncertificated share or the holder of it, the register of members of the Company maintained by the operator of the Relevant System through which title to that share is evidenced and transferred and **"registered"** shall be construed accordingly;

**"Regulations"** means the Uncertificated Securities Regulations 2001, as amended or replaced from time to time and any subordinate legislation or rules made under them for the time being in force;

**"Relevant System"** means any computer-based system and procedures, permitted by the Regulations and the rules of the ~~UK Listing Authority~~ FCA, which enable title to units of a security to be evidenced and transferred without a written instrument and which facilitate supplementary and incidental matters;

**"Seal"** means the common seal (if any) of the Company and the Securities Seal (if any) 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 (subject to the provisions of the Statutes) a joint, deputy or assistant Secretary;

**"Securities Seal"** means the official seal (if any) kept by the Company under the provisions of Section 50 CA06;

**"share"** means (unless the context otherwise requires) a share in the Company;

**"Statutes"** means CA06 and every other statute (and any subordinate legislation, order or regulations made under any of them for the time being in force) concerning companies and affecting the Company including, without limitation, the Regulations;

**"Subsidiary"** means a subsidiary and/or subsidiary undertaking of the Company as each of the terms are defined in CA06;

**"uncertificated"** means, in relation to any share or other security of the Company, that title to it is evidenced and transferred or to be evidenced and transferred by means of a Relevant System;

~~**"UK Listing Authority"** means the Financial Conduct Authority (or any other relevant body from time to time) acting as the competent authority for the purposes of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;~~

**"United Kingdom"** means Great Britain and Northern Ireland;

**"working day"** means the same as in CA06;

**"writing"** includes handwriting, typewriting, printing, lithography, photocopying and other modes of representing or reproducing words in legible and non-transient form including, unless provided otherwise, by electronic means or in electronic form; and

"year" means calendar year.

### **Meaning of references**

3. In these Articles unless the context otherwise requires:
  - (a) the masculine, feminine or neuter **gender** respectively includes the other genders and any reference to the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
  - (b) a **person** includes any individual, firm, company, corporation, government state or agency of state or any association, trust or partnership (whether or not having a separate legal personality); and
  - (c) a **statute** or **statutory provision** includes any consolidation or re-enactment, modification or replacement of the same, any statute or statutory provision of which it is a consolidation, re-enactment, modification or replacement and any subordinate legislation in force under any of the same from time to time.

### **Headings and table of contents**

4. In these Articles, the table of contents and headings are included for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction of these Articles.

### **Definitions from the Statutes**

5. Unless the context otherwise requires, any words and expressions defined in the Statutes and not defined in these Articles shall have the meanings given to them in the Statutes.

### **Electronic signature**

6. Where pursuant to any provision of these Articles any notice, appointment of proxy or other document which is in electronic form is required to be signed or executed by or on behalf of any person, that signature or execution includes the affixation by or on behalf of that person of an electronic signature (as defined in Section 7(2) Electronic Communications Act 2000) in such form as the Directors may approve.

### **Form of resolution**

7. A special resolution shall be effective for any purpose for which an ordinary resolution is expressed to be required under any provision of these Articles.

## **LIABILITY OF MEMBERS**

### **Liability of members**

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

## **SHARE CAPITAL**

### **Rights attached to shares**

9. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes and without prejudice to any rights for the time being conferred on the holders of any class of shares (which rights shall not be varied or abrogated except with such consent or sanction as is required by Article 15) any share may be issued with

such preferred, deferred or other rights, or such restrictions, whether in regard to dividend, return of capital, voting or otherwise, as the Company may from time to time by ordinary resolution determine (or, failing any such determination, as the Directors may determine).

### **Redeemable shares**

10. The Company may issue shares which are to be redeemed, or are liable to be redeemed at the option of the Company or the holder. The Directors may decide the terms, conditions and manner of redemption of any of those shares and must do so before the shares are allotted.

### **Shares**

11. Subject to the provisions of these Articles and of the Statutes, and to any direction given by the Company in general meeting the Directors may allot, grant options over, or otherwise dispose of shares to such persons (including the Directors themselves) at such times and on such terms as the Directors may think proper.

### **Payment of commission**

12. The Company may exercise the powers of paying commissions conferred by the Statutes to the full extent permitted by the Statutes. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes 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. The Company may also on any issue of shares pay such brokerage as may be lawful.

### **Trusts not recognised**

13. Except as required by law, no person may be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust, and the Company is not bound by or compelled in any way to recognise even when having express notice of it any equitable, contingent, future or partial interest in any share, or any interest in any fractional part of a share, or (except only as otherwise provided by these Articles or by law) any other right in respect of any share, except an absolute right to the entirety in the holder.

### **Renunciation**

14. The Directors may at any time after the allotment of any share but before any person has been entered in the Register as the holder recognise a renunciation of such allotment by the allottee in favour of some other person and may accord to any allottee of a share a right to effect such renunciation upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Directors may think fit to impose.

### **~~Rights and restrictions attached to B Shares~~**

~~14.A Article 14.A has been deleted.~~

### **~~Rights and restrictions attached to C Shares~~**

~~14.B Article 14.B has been deleted.~~

### **~~Rights and restrictions attached to the Deferred Shares~~**

~~14.C Article 14.C has been deleted.~~



## VARIATION OF RIGHTS

### Variation of rights

15. Whenever the capital of the Company is divided into different classes of shares, the rights or privileges attached to any class may (unless otherwise provided by the terms of issue of the shares of that class) be varied or abrogated, either whilst the Company is a going concern or during or in contemplation of a winding-up, either with the consent in writing of the holders of three-fourths in nominal value of the issued shares of the class (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares), or with the sanction of a special resolution passed at a separate general meeting of such holders (but not otherwise). All the provisions of these Articles relating to general meetings shall, mutatis mutandis, apply to every such separate general meeting, except that:
- (a) the necessary quorum shall be two persons present holding at least one-third in nominal value of the issued shares of the class excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares (but so that if at any adjourned meeting a quorum as defined above is not present, one person present holding shares of the class in question shall be a quorum) provided that where a person is present by proxy or proxies, ~~he~~that person is treated as holding only the shares in respect of those proxies which are authorised to exercise voting rights;
  - (b) any holder of shares of the class present in person or by proxy may demand a poll; and
  - (c) every such holder shall, on a poll, have one vote for every share of the class held by ~~him~~them.

### Pari passu issues and purchase of own shares

16. Unless otherwise expressly provided by these Articles or by the rights conferred upon the holders of any class of shares, those rights are not deemed to be varied by:
- (a) the creation or issue of further shares ranking pari passu (save as to the date from which such new shares shall rank for dividend) or subsequent to them; or
  - (b) the purchase by the Company of any of its own shares.

## ALTERATION OF CAPITAL

### Sub-division

17. Any resolution authorising the Company to sub-divide its shares or any of them may determine that, as between the shares resulting from the sub-division, any of them may have any preference or advantage or be subject to any restriction as compared with the others.

### Fractions arising upon consolidation or sub-division

18. Subject to any direction by the Company in general meeting, whenever as the result of any consolidation or sub-division of shares any members of the Company are entitled to fractions of a share, the Directors may:
- (a) deal with such fractions as they think fit and in particular (but without prejudice to the foregoing) may sell the shares representing the fractions to any person (including, subject to the Statutes, the Company) for the best price reasonably obtainable and distribute the net proceeds of sale to and among the members entitled to such shares in due proportions.

For the purpose of giving effect to any such sale the Directors may, in respect of certificated shares, nominate some person to execute a transfer ~~or on behalf of the relevant member or, in respect of uncertificated shares, nominate any person to transfer such shares in accordance with the facilities and requirements of the Relevant System concerned or make such other arrangements as are compatible with the Relevant System concerned or, in either case,~~ deliver the shares sold to or in accordance with the directions of the purchaser and may cause the name of the purchaser or such person as ~~he~~the person so nominated may direct to be entered in the Register as the holder of the shares comprised in any such transfer and ~~he~~the purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money nor shall ~~his~~their title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings in reference to the sale; or

- (b) subject to the Statutes issue to each such ~~holder~~member credited as fully paid up by way of capitalisation the minimum number of shares required to round up ~~his~~their holding to a whole number (such issue being deemed to have been effected immediately prior to consolidation) and the amount required to pay up such shares shall be appropriated at their discretion from any of the sums standing to the credit of any of the Company's reserve accounts (including share premium account and capital redemption reserve) or to the credit of the profit and loss account (or income statement) and capitalised by applying the same in paying up such shares.

## SHARE CERTIFICATES

### Rights to a share certificate

19. ~~(a) — Every~~(a) Subject to Article 23 and the Statutes, every person whose name is entered as a member in the Register ~~(other than a financial institution in respect of whom the Company is not required by law to complete and have ready for delivery a certificate) shall (except where the Directors have passed a resolution pursuant to Article 23) shall~~ be entitled, ~~except as provided by the Statutes,~~ without payment to receive one certificate for all the shares of each class held by ~~him~~them or, upon payment of such reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for every certificate after the first as the Directors shall from time to time determine, to several certificates each for one or more of ~~his~~their shares.
- (b) Every certificate shall be issued within two months (or such longer period as the terms of issue shall provide) after allotment or within fourteen days after lodgement with the Company of the transfer of the shares provided that this is not a transfer which the Company is for any reason entitled to refuse to register and does not register.
- (c) Where some only of the shares comprised in a share certificate are transferred the old certificate shall be cancelled and a new certificate for the balance of such shares issued in lieu without charge.
- (d) Any two or more certificates representing shares of any one class held by any member may at ~~his~~their request be cancelled and a single new certificate for such shares issued in lieu without charge.
- (e) If any member shall surrender for cancellation a share certificate representing shares held by ~~him~~them and request the Company to issue in lieu two or more share certificates

representing such shares in such proportions as ~~he~~such member may specify, the Directors may, if they think fit, comply with such request.

### Execution and signing of certificates

20. Every certificate shall be issued under the Seal (or under a Securities Seal or, in the case of shares on a branch register, under an official seal for use in the relevant territory) or, subject to the provisions of the Statutes, in such other manner as the Directors may resolve. Each share certificate shall specify the number and class of the shares to which it relates and the amount paid up on them. Whether or not certificates are issued under the Seal, the Directors may by resolution decide that any signatures on any certificates need not be autographic but may be affixed by some method or system of mechanic or electronic signature or that certificates need not be signed by any person.

### Joint holders

21. ~~(a)~~(a) Neither the Company nor the operator of any Relevant System shall be bound to register more than four persons as the joint holders of any share or shares ~~(except in the case of executors or trustees of a deceased member).~~
- (b) 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 any one of joint holders shall be sufficient delivery to all of them.
- (c) In the case of shares held jointly by several persons any request for a replacement certificate may be made by any one of the joint holders.

### Replacement share certificates

22. If a share certificate or any other document of title is worn out, defaced, lost, stolen or destroyed, it must be renewed free of charge on such terms (if any) as to evidence and indemnity with or without security as the Directors require. In the case of loss, theft or destruction the person to whom the new certificate is issued shall pay to the Company any exceptional out of pocket expenses incidental to the investigation of evidence of loss or destruction and the preparation of the requisite form of indemnity and in the case of defacement or wearing out ~~he~~they shall deliver up the old certificate to the Office.

### Uncertificated securities

23. ~~(a) — Nothing in these Articles shall require title to any shares or other securities of the Company to be evidenced by a certificate if the Statutes and the UK Listing Authority permit otherwise.~~(a) Unless otherwise determined by the Directors and permitted by the Regulations, no person shall be entitled to receive a certificate in respect of any share for so long as the title to that share is evidenced otherwise than by a certificate and for so long as transfers of that share may be made otherwise than by a written instrument by virtue of the Regulations. Notwithstanding any provisions of these Articles, the Directors shall have power to implement any arrangements they may, in their absolute discretion, think fit in relation to the evidencing of title to and transfer of an uncertificated share (subject always to the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the relevant system concerned).

- (b) ~~Subject to the Statutes and the rules of the UK Listing Authority, the Directors without further consultation with the holders of any shares or securities of the Company may resolve that any class or classes of shares or other securities of the Company from time to time in issue or to be issued may be in uncertificated form and no provision of these Articles will apply to any uncertificated shares or other securities of the Company to the extent they are inconsistent with the holding of such shares or other securities in uncertificated form or the transfer of title to any such shares or other securities by means of a Relevant System.~~ Conversion of a certificated share into an uncertificated share, and vice versa, may be made in such manner as the Directors may, in their absolute discretion, think fit (subject always to the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the applicable Relevant System). The Company shall be entitled, in accordance with the Regulations, to require the conversion of an uncertificated share into certificated form to enable it to deal with the share in accordance with any provision in these Articles (including, in particular, Articles 18, 56 and 61).
- (c) ~~To the extent that any provision of these Articles is inconsistent in any respect with the terms of the Regulations in relation to any uncertificated shares or other securities of the Company, such provision shall not apply thereto and the Regulations shall be given effect thereto in accordance with their terms.~~ The Company shall enter in the Register the number of shares held by each member in uncertificated form and in certificated form and shall maintain the Register in each case as required by the Regulations and the applicable Relevant System. Unless the Directors otherwise determine, holdings of the same holder or joint holder in certificated form and uncertificated form shall be treated as separate holdings.
- (d) A class of share shall not be treated as two classes by virtue only of that class comprising both certificated shares and uncertificated shares or as a result of any provision of these Articles or the Regulations which applies only in respect of certificated or uncertificated shares.
- (e) The provisions of Articles 19 to 22 inclusive shall not apply to uncertificated shares. No provision of these Articles shall apply or have effect to the extent that it is in any respect inconsistent with the holding of shares in uncertificated form.

## CALLS ON SHARES

### Calls

24. Subject to the terms of issue of the shares and to the provisions of these Articles the Directors may from time to time make calls upon the members in respect of any moneys unpaid on their shares (whether on account of the nominal value of the shares or by way of premium).

### Timing of call

25. A call shall be deemed to have been made when the resolution of the Directors authorising the call was passed, and may be required to be made payable by instalments.

### **Payment upon calls**

26. Each member shall (subject to receiving at least fourteen clear days' notice specifying the time and place of payment) pay to the Company, at the time or times and place of payment so specified the amount called on ~~his~~their shares. A call may be revoked or postponed in whole or in part as the Directors may determine.

### **Liability of joint holders**

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

### **Interest due on non-payment**

28. If a sum called in respect of a share is not paid before or on the day appointed for payment, the person from whom the sum is due shall pay interest on such sum from the day fixed for payment of such sum to the time of actual payment at the rate specified by the terms of issue of the share or, if no rate is specified, at an appropriate rate or at such rate as the Directors may determine not exceeding 15 per cent per annum together with all expenses that may have been incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment but the Directors shall be at liberty in any case or cases to waive payment of such interest and expenses wholly or in part.

### **Sums due on allotment treated as calls**

29. Any sum (whether on account of the nominal value of the share or by way of premium) which by the terms of issue of a share becomes payable on allotment or at any fixed date shall for the purposes of these Articles be deemed to be a call duly made and payable on the date on which, by the terms of issue, the same becomes payable. In case of non-payment all the relevant provisions of these Articles as to payment of interest and expenses, forfeiture or otherwise and all other relevant provisions of these Articles shall apply as if such sum had become payable by virtue of a call duly made and notified.

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

30. The Directors may, if they think fit, receive from any member willing to advance the same, all or any part of the moneys uncalled and unpaid on any shares held by ~~him~~them. The Company may pay interest upon the money so received, or as much of it as exceeds for the time being the amount called up on the shares in respect of which such advance has been made, at such rates as the member paying such sum and the Directors agree (not exceeding 15 per cent per annum) in addition to the dividend payable on such part of the share in respect of which such advance has been made as is actually called up. No dividend shall be payable on so much of the moneys paid up on a share as exceeds the amount for the time being called up on a share. The Directors may at any time repay the amount so advanced on giving to such member not less than three months' notice in writing of their intention to do so, unless before the expiration of such notice the amount so advanced shall have been called up on the share in respect of which it was advanced.

### **Power to differentiate on calls**

31. The Directors may on the allotment of shares differentiate between the holders as to the amount of calls to be paid and the time of payment of such calls.

### **Delegation of power to make calls**

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

## LIEN ON SHARES

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

33. The Company shall have a first and paramount lien on any of its shares which are not fully paid in the circumstances and to the extent permitted by the Statutes for all amounts (whether presently payable or not) called or payable in respect of that share; but the Directors may waive any lien which has arisen and may at any time declare any share to be wholly or in part exempt from the provisions of Articles 33 to 36. The Company's lien (if any) on a share shall further extend to all dividends and interest payable on such share.

### Enforcing lien by sale

34. The Company may sell, in such manner as the Directors think fit, any shares on which the Company has a lien, but no sale shall be made unless some sum in respect of which the lien exists is due and payable, nor until a notice in writing, stating and demanding payment of the sum presently payable, and giving notice of the intention to sell in default, shall have been given to the holder for the time being of the share, or to the person entitled to the share by reason of ~~his~~their death or bankruptcy and default in payment shall have been made by ~~him~~such holder or ~~them~~other person for seven clear days after the notice.

### Giving effect to a sale

35. To give effect to any permitted sale of any shares on which the Company has a lien the Directors may authorise a person to execute a transfer of the shares sold to, or in accordance with the directions of, the purchaser. Subject to payment of any stamp or other duty due the purchaser shall be entered in the Register as the holder of the shares comprised in any such transfer, and ~~he~~the purchaser shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money, nor shall ~~his~~their title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings in reference to the sale.

### Application of proceeds of sale

36. The net proceeds of a permitted sale of shares in which the Company has a lien shall be received by the Company and, after payment of the costs of such sale, be applied in or towards satisfaction of the amount due to the Company in respect of which the lien exists, so far as the same is presently payable, and the balance (if any) shall (upon surrender to the Company for cancellation of the certificate for the shares sold and subject to a like lien for sums not presently payable as existed upon the shares before the sale) be paid to the holder at the date of the sale.

## FORFEITURE AND SURRENDER OF SHARES

### Notice if call or instalment not paid

37. If a member fails to pay the whole or any part of any call or instalment of a call on the day fixed for payment, the Directors may, at any time after such date, serve a notice on ~~him~~them requiring payment of so much of the call or instalment as is unpaid, together with any accrued interest and any expenses incurred by the Company by reason of such non-payment.

#### **Form of notice**

38. The notice shall name a further day (not being less than fourteen clear days from the date of the notice) on or before which, and the place where, the payment required by the notice is to be made and shall state that, in the event of non-payment in accordance with such notice, the shares in respect of which the call was made or instalment is payable will be liable to be forfeited.

#### **Forfeiture if non-compliance with notice**

39. If the notice is not complied with, any share in respect of which such notice was given may at any time thereafter, before payment of all calls or instalments and interest and expenses due in respect of it has been made, be forfeited by a resolution of the Directors to that effect. Every forfeiture shall include all dividends declared or other amounts payable in respect of the forfeited share and not actually paid before the forfeiture. The Directors may accept the surrender of any share which they are in a position to forfeit upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed and, subject to any such terms and conditions, a surrendered share shall be treated as if it had been forfeited.

#### **Sale of forfeited or surrendered shares**

40. Subject to the Statutes, a forfeited or surrendered share shall become the property of the Company and may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of either to the person who before such forfeiture was the holder of such share or to any other person upon such terms and such conditions as the Directors shall think fit and the Company may receive the consideration, if any, for such sale, re-allotment or disposal. The Directors may if they reasonably consider it necessary authorise some person to execute the transfer of a forfeited or surrendered share. At any time before sale, re-allotment or disposal the forfeiture or surrender may be cancelled on such terms as the Directors think fit. Any share not disposed of in accordance with this Article 40 within a period of three years from the date of its forfeiture or surrender shall, at the expiry of that period, be cancelled in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes.

#### **Notice after forfeiture**

41. When any share has been forfeited, notice of the forfeiture shall be served upon the person who was before the forfeiture the holder of the share but no forfeiture shall be invalidated by any omission or neglect to give notice.

#### **Arrears to be paid notwithstanding forfeiture**

42. A person whose shares have been forfeited shall cease to be a member in respect of the forfeited shares and shall surrender to the Company for cancellation the certificate in relation to such shares, but shall, notwithstanding the forfeiture or surrender, remain liable to pay to the Company all moneys which at the date of forfeiture or surrender were then payable by ~~him~~such person to the Company in respect of those shares, with interest on those moneys at such rate (not exceeding 15 per cent per annum) as the Directors shall think fit from the date of forfeiture or surrender until payment, and ~~he~~such member shall remain liable to satisfy all (if any) the claims and demands which the Company might have enforced in respect of the shares at the time of

forfeiture or surrender without any reduction or allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or surrender or for any consideration received on their disposal; but ~~his~~their liability shall cease if and when the Company shall have received payment in full of all such moneys in respect of the shares.

### **Effects of forfeiture**

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

### **Statutory declaration as to forfeiture or sale to satisfy lien**

44. A statutory declaration in writing by a Director or the Secretary that a share has been duly forfeited or surrendered or sold to satisfy a lien of the Company on a date stated in the declaration shall be conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share. Such declaration shall (subject to the execution of any necessary instrument of transfer) constitute a good title to the share. The person to whom the share is sold or disposed shall be registered as the holder of the share and shall be discharged from all calls made prior to such sale or disposition and shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase money or other consideration (if any), nor shall ~~his~~their title to the share be affected by any act, omission or irregularity in, or invalidity of the proceedings, with reference to the forfeiture or surrender, sale, re-allotment or disposal of the share.

## **~~SHARE WARRANTS~~**

### **~~Power to issue Share Warrants~~**

- ~~45.—The Company with respect to fully paid shares may in its discretion issue Share Warrants under the Seal or in accordance with Article 20 above or Articles 167 to 169 below stating that the bearer of the Share Warrant is entitled to the shares specified in that Share Warrant and may provide by coupons or otherwise for the payment of future dividends and any other sum becoming payable on the shares comprised in such Share Warrant and for the purpose of obtaining in respect of such shares an allotment or offer of shares or debentures or the exercise of any other rights of any description to which members may be or become entitled.~~

### **~~Conditions governing Share Warrants~~**

- ~~46.—The Directors may determine, and may from time to time vary, the conditions upon which Share Warrants shall be issued, and in particular the conditions upon which a new Share Warrant may be issued in place of one worn out, defaced, stolen, lost or destroyed (where, in the case of a Share Warrant stolen, lost or destroyed the Directors are satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the original has been stolen, lost or destroyed), upon which the bearer of a Share Warrant shall be entitled, if at all, to attend and vote at general meetings and upon which a Share Warrant may be surrendered and the name of the bearer entered in the Register in respect of the shares comprised in such Share Warrant. Subject to such conditions and to these Articles the~~



~~bearer of a Share Warrant shall be deemed to be a member and shall have the same rights and privileges as if his name were entered in the Register in respect of the shares comprised in such Share Warrant. The bearer of a Share Warrant shall be subject to the conditions governing Share Warrants for the time being in force whether made before or after the issue of Share Warrants.~~

## TRANSFER OF SHARES

### Form of transfer

~~45.~~ ~~47.~~ Subject to such of the restrictions contained in these Articles as may be applicable, any member may transfer all or any of ~~his~~their shares by transfer in writing in any usual or common form or in any other form acceptable to the Directors or by any other manner acceptable to the Directors and permitted by the Statutes and the ~~UK Listing Authority~~FCA.

### Execution of transfer

~~46.~~ ~~48.~~ Every written instrument of transfer of a share shall be executed by or on behalf of the transferor and (in the case of a partly paid share) by or on behalf of the transferee. The transferor of any share shall remain the holder of the share concerned until the name of the transferee is entered in the Register in respect of that share.

### Right to decline registration of partly paid shares and shares subject to lien

~~47.~~ ~~49.~~ The Directors may, in their absolute discretion, refuse to register the transfer of ~~a~~any share which is not fully paid (whether certificated or uncertificated) or on which the Company has a lien provided that, where any such ~~share is~~shares are listed on the Official List, such discretion may not be exercised in ~~such~~ a way ~~as to prevent~~that the FCA or the London Stock Exchange regards as preventing dealings in the shares of ~~that~~the relevant class or classes from taking place on an open and proper basis. The Directors may also refuse to register a transfer to joint holders of a share (whether certificated or uncertificated), if the number of joint holders to whom the share is to be transferred exceeds four.

### Other rights to decline registration of a transfer of a certificated share

~~48.~~ ~~50.~~ The Directors may also refuse to register a transfer of a certificated share unless:

- (a) the transfer 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 or in any other circumstance 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; and
- (b) the transfer is in respect of only one class of share; ~~and~~
- (c) ~~(e) in the case of a transfer to joint holders of a share, the number of joint holders to whom the share is to be transferred does not exceed four.~~

### Notice of refusal to register a transfer

49. ~~51.~~ If the Directors refuse to register a transfer of a share they shall, within two months after the date on which the transfer was lodged with the Company, send to the transferee notice of the refusal together with reasons for the refusal.

#### **Recognition of renunciation**

50. ~~52.~~ 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.

#### **Retention and return of instruments of transfer**

51. ~~53.~~ 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 case of fraud) be returned to the person lodging it when notice of the refusal is given.

#### **No fees for registration**

52. ~~54.~~ No fee shall be charged by the Company for the registration of any instrument of transfer or other document or instruction relating to or affecting the title to any share.

#### **Requirement for written transfer to evidence title**

53. ~~55.~~ All transfers of uncertificated shares shall be made in accordance with, and be subject to, the Regulations and the facilities and requirements of the Relevant System and, subject thereto, in accordance with any arrangements made by the Directors pursuant to Article 23. For the avoidance of doubt nothing in these Articles shall require shares to be transferred by a written instrument if the Statutes provide otherwise and the Directors shall be empowered to implement such arrangements as they consider fit in accordance with and subject to the Statutes and the rules of the ~~UK Listing Authority~~ FCA to evidence and regulate the transfer of title to shares in the Company and for the approval or disapproval as the case may be by the Directors or the operator of any Relevant System of the registration of those transfers.

### **DESTRUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

#### **Documents Company entitled to destroy**

54. ~~56.~~ The Company shall be entitled to destroy:

- (a) all share certificates and dividend mandates and dividend warrants which have been cancelled or have ceased to have effect, at any time after the expiry of two years from the date of such cancellation or cessation;
- (b) any instrument of transfer of shares which has been registered, at any time after the expiry of six years from the date of registration;
- (c) any other document on the basis of which any entry in the Register is made, at any time after the expiry of six years from the date of registration thereof; and
- (d) all notifications of change of name or address, after the expiry of one year from the date on which they are recorded.

#### **Presumptions where documents destroyed**

55. ~~57.~~—It shall conclusively be presumed in favour of the Company that every share certificate destroyed as permitted by Article ~~5654~~ was a valid certificate duly and properly cancelled, that every entry on the Register purporting to have been made on the basis of a document so destroyed was duly and properly made and that every instrument of transfer so destroyed was a valid and effective instrument duly and properly registered and that every other document destroyed was a valid and effective document in accordance with the particulars of it recorded in the books or records of the Company, provided always that:

- (a) Articles ~~5654~~ and ~~5755~~ shall apply only to the destruction of a document in good faith and without express notice to the Company that the preservation of the document might be relevant to a claim;
- (b) nothing in Articles ~~5654~~ and ~~5755~~ shall be construed as imposing upon the Company any liability in respect of the destruction of any such document earlier than as provided for in Articles ~~5654~~ and ~~5755~~ or in any other circumstances which would not attach to the Company in the absence of Articles ~~5654~~ and ~~5755~~;
- (c) reference in Articles ~~5654~~ and ~~5755~~ to the destruction of any document includes references to its disposal in any manner; and
- (d) any document referred to in Article ~~5654~~ may be destroyed at a date earlier than that authorised by that Article provided that a permanent copy of such document shall have been made which shall not be destroyed before the expiration of the period applicable to the destruction of the original of such document and in respect of which the Directors shall take adequate precautions for guarding against falsification and for facilitating its production.

## UNTRACED SHAREHOLDERS

### Power to sell shares of untraced shareholders

56. ~~58.~~—The Company shall be entitled to sell at the best price reasonably obtainable any share of a member or any share to which a person is entitled by transmission if and provided that:

- (a) during a period of 12 years (provided that in that period at least three dividends, whether interim or final, shall have been declared and paid) no cheque or warrant sent by the Company to the member or person entitled by transmission in the manner authorised by these Articles has been cashed and no communication has been received by the Company from the member or person entitled by transmission;
- (b) the Company has at the expiration of that period given notice by advertisement in both a national newspaper and a newspaper circulating in the area in which the last known address of the member or the address at which service of notices may be effected in the manner authorised by these Articles is located of its intention to sell such share;
- (c) the Company has not during the further period of 3 months after the date of the advertisement (or, if published on different dates, the later of the two advertisements) and prior to the date of sale received any communication from the member or person entitled by transmission; and

- (d) if such share is listed on the Official List the Company has first given notice in writing to the Listing Department of the ~~UK Listing Authority~~[FCA](#) of its intention to sell such share.

#### **Sale of shares of untraced shareholders**

57. ~~59.~~To give effect to the sale of any share pursuant to Article ~~58~~56, the Company may appoint any person to execute as transferor any necessary instrument of transfer of such share and such instrument of transfer shall be as effective as if it had been executed by the holder or person entitled by transmission to the share. The transferee shall not be bound to see to the application of the purchase moneys nor shall ~~his~~their title to the shares be affected by any irregularity or invalidity in the proceedings relating to the sale. The net proceeds of sale shall belong to the Company and on receipt the Company shall be indebted to the member or other person entitled to such share for an amount equal to the net proceeds of such sale but no trust shall be created and no interest shall be payable in respect of the proceeds of sale which may either be employed in the business of the Company or invested in such investment (other than shares of the Company or its holding company, if any) as the Directors may from time to time think fit.

### **TRANSMISSION OF SHARES**

#### **Transmission on death**

58. ~~60.~~If a member dies, the survivor or survivors where the deceased was a joint holder, or ~~his~~their personal representatives where ~~he~~the deceased was a sole holder or the only survivor of joint holders, shall be the only person recognised by the Company as having any title to ~~his~~their interest in the share; but nothing in this Article shall release the estate of a deceased holder (whether sole or joint) from any liability in respect of any share held by ~~him~~the deceased.

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

59. ~~61.~~Any person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member may, subject as hereinafter provided and upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show ~~his~~their title to the share, either be registered ~~himself~~ as holder of the share upon giving to the Company notice in writing of such desire or transfer such share to some other person. All the limitations, restrictions and provisions of these Articles relating to the right of transfer and the registration of transfers of shares shall be applicable to any such notice or transfer as if the death or bankruptcy of the member had not occurred and the notice or transfer were an instrument of transfer executed by such member.

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

60. ~~62.~~Save as otherwise provided by or in accordance with these Articles a person becoming entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member shall (upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show ~~his~~their title to the share) be entitled to the same dividends and other advantages as those to which ~~he~~they would be entitled if ~~he~~they were the holder of the share except that ~~he~~they shall not (except with the authority of the Directors) be entitled in respect of such share to attend or vote at meetings of the Company or to any of the rights or privileges of a member until ~~he~~they shall have been registered as a member in respect of the share. The Directors may at any time give notice requiring any such person to elect either to be registered ~~himself~~as a member or to transfer the share and if

the notice is not complied with within sixty days the Directors may thereafter withhold payment of all dividends or other monies payable in respect of the share until the requirements of the notice have been complied with.

## SUSPENSION OF RIGHTS WHERE NON-DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

### Company entitled to serve direction notice

61. ~~63.~~ If any member, or any other person appearing to be interested in shares held by such member, has been duly served with a notice under Section 793 CA06 and is in default for the prescribed period in supplying to the Company the information thereby required, then at any time thereafter the Directors may in their absolute discretion by notice (a "**direction notice**") to such member direct:

- (a) that in respect of the shares in relation to which the default occurred (the "**default shares**", which expression shall include any further shares which are issued in respect of such shares) the member shall not be entitled to vote either personally or by proxy at a general meeting of the Company or a meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company or to exercise any other right conferred by membership in relation to general meetings of the Company or meetings of the holders of any class of shares of the Company; and/or
- (b) where the default shares represent at least 0.25 per cent- of the issued shares of any class of shares of the Company (excluding any shares of that class held as treasury shares), that:
  - (i) any dividend or other money which would otherwise be payable in respect of the default shares shall (in whole or any part thereof) be retained by the Company without any liability to pay interest thereon when such money is finally paid to the member and, in circumstances where an option to elect to receive Ordinary Shares instead of cash in respect of any dividend shall be or has been given to members, any notice of election made under such an option in respect of the default shares shall not be effective; and/or
  - (ii) no transfer, other than an approved transfer, of any of the shares held by such member shall be registered unless:
    - (A) ~~(A)~~ it is not the member ~~is not himself who is~~ in default as regards supplying the information required; and
    - (B) ~~(B)~~ the transfer is of part only of the member's holding and when presented for registration is accompanied by a certificate from the member, in a form satisfactory to the Directors, to the effect that after due and careful enquiry the member is satisfied that none of the shares the subject of the transfer are default shares; and/or
  - (iii) any shares held by such member in uncertificated form shall forthwith be converted into certificated form (and the Directors shall be entitled to direct the operator of any Relevant System applicable to those shares to effect that conversion immediately) and that member shall not thereafter be entitled to convert all or any shares held by ~~him~~them into uncertificated form (except with the authority of the Directors) unless:

(A) ~~(A) it is not~~ the member who is ~~not himself~~ in default as regards supplying the information required; and

(B) ~~(B)~~ the shares which the member wishes to convert are part only of his holding and ~~he has~~ they have issued a certificate, in a form satisfactory to the Directors, to the effect that after due and careful enquiry the member is satisfied that none of the shares ~~he is~~ they are proposing to convert into uncertificated form are default shares.

#### **Copies of direction notice for interested parties**

62. ~~64.~~ The Company shall send to each other person appearing to be interested in the shares the subject of any direction notice a copy of the notice, but the failure or omission by the Company to do so shall not invalidate such notice. Neither the Company nor the Directors shall in any event be liable to any person as a result of the Directors having imposed any restrictions pursuant to Article ~~63~~61 if the Directors have acted in good faith.

#### **Duration of direction notice**

63. ~~65.~~ Any direction notice shall have effect in accordance with its terms until seven days (or such shorter period as the Directors may resolve) after the earlier of the date on which:

- (a) the Company is satisfied that the default in respect of which the direction notice was issued has been rectified; and
- (b) notification shall be received by the Company that the default shares shall have been transferred to a third party by means of an approved transfer.

#### **Cancellation of direction notice**

64. ~~66.~~ The Directors may at any time give notice cancelling a direction notice, in whole or in part, or suspending, in whole or in part, the imposition of any restrictions contained in the direction notice for a given period. If dividends or other monies payable in respect of any default shares shall be withheld as a result of any restrictions imposed by a direction notice such dividends or other monies shall accrue and shall be payable (without interest) upon the relevant restrictions ceasing to apply.

#### **Interpretation for the purposes of Articles ~~63~~61 to ~~66~~64**

65. ~~67.~~ For the purposes of Articles ~~63~~61 to ~~66~~64:

- (a) a person shall be treated as appearing to be interested in any shares if the member holding such shares or any other person has given to the Company information under Section 793 CA06 which either:
  - (i) names such person as being so interested; or
  - (ii) fails to establish the identities of those interested in the shares and (after taking into account the said information and any other information given under Section 793 CA06) the Company knows or has reasonable cause to believe that the person in question is or may be interested in the shares;

- (b) **"interested"** shall be construed as it is for the purpose of Section 793 CA06;
- (c) the prescribed period is fourteen days from the date of service of the notice under Section 793 CA06;
- (d) a transfer of shares is an approved transfer if and only if:
  - (i) it is a transfer of shares to an offeror by way or in pursuance of acceptance of a takeover offer for the Company; or
  - (ii) the Directors are satisfied that the transfer is made pursuant to a bona fide sale of the whole of the beneficial ownership of the shares to a party unconnected with the member or with other persons appearing to be interested in such shares; or
  - (iii) the transfer results from 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; and
- (e) reference to a person being in default in supplying to the Company the information required by a notice under Section 793 CA06 includes:
  - (i) reference to ~~his~~their having failed or refused to give all or any part of it; and
  - (ii) reference to ~~his~~their having given information which ~~he knows~~they know to be false in a material particular or having recklessly given information which is false in a material particular.

#### **Other powers of the Company unaffected**

66. ~~68.~~ Nothing in Articles ~~63~~61 to ~~67~~65 shall limit the powers of the Company under Section 794 CA06 or any other powers whatsoever.

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### **Annual general meetings**

67. ~~69.~~ The Company shall in each year hold a general meeting as its Annual General Meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year, and shall specify the meeting as such in the notice convening it. The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Directors may appoint.

#### **Calling of general meetings**

68. ~~70.~~ The Directors may call a general meeting whenever they think fit. The Directors must call a general meeting if the members and CA06 require them to do so.

### **NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### **Length of notice**

69. ~~71.~~ An annual general meeting must be called by at least twenty-one clear days' notice. All other general meetings must be called by at least fourteen clear days' notice, provided that, while the

Company is a traded company within the meaning of section 360C CA06 other general meetings must be called by at least 21 clear days' notice unless the provisions of section 307A CA06 have been complied with. In each case, this is subject to any longer notice period required by the Statutes.

70. ~~72.~~ Notice of general meetings must be sent or supplied in accordance with Articles 196 to 212.

#### **Contents of notice**

71. ~~73.~~ Every notice of meeting of the Company shall:

- (a) specify the time, date and place of the meeting;
- (b) state the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting;
- (c) include the statements required by Section 311(3) CA06;
- (d) with reasonable prominence state that a member may appoint:
  - (i) a proxy to exercise all or any of the member's rights to attend, speak and vote at the meeting; and
  - (ii) more than one proxy in relation to the meeting if each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member;
- (e) in the case of an annual general meeting, specify the meeting as such and include any statements required by Section 337(3) CA06; and
- (f) if the meeting is called to consider a special resolution, include the text of the resolution and the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.

#### **Meaning of routine business**

~~74.— Routine business shall mean and include only business transacted at an Annual General Meeting of the following classes, that is to say:~~

- ~~(a) — declaring dividends;~~
- ~~(b) — considering and/or adopting the accounts, the reports of the Directors and Auditors and other documents required to be attached or annexed to the accounts;~~
- ~~(c) — appointing Auditors;~~
- ~~(d) — appointing or re-appointing Directors to fill vacancies arising at the meeting on retirement or under Article 116 or otherwise;~~
- ~~(e) — settling the remuneration of the Auditors or determining the manner in which the remuneration is to be settled; and~~
- ~~(f) — considering and/or approving any report on the remuneration of the Directors.~~

#### **Omission or non-receipt of notice of general meeting or resolution**



72. ~~75.~~ If the Company gives notice of a general meeting or a resolution intended to be moved at a general meeting, an accidental failure to give notice to one or more persons is to be disregarded for the purpose of determining whether notice of the meeting or resolution is properly given but this is subject to the exceptions prescribed by CA06. The non-receipt of a notice of a general meeting or a resolution intended to be moved at a general meeting is to be disregarded for the purpose of determining whether notice of the meeting or resolution is properly given.

## PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

### Quorum

73. ~~76.~~ No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present when the meeting proceeds to business but the absence of a quorum shall not preclude the appointment of a ~~Chairman~~Chair which shall not be treated as part of the business of the meeting. Three qualifying persons at a meeting are a quorum unless two or more of them are qualifying persons only because:

- (a) they are each authorised to act as the representative of a corporation in relation to the meeting, and they are representatives of the same corporation; or
- (b) they are each appointed as a proxy of a member in relation to the meeting, and they are proxies of the same member.

A "**qualifying person**" is an individual who is a member, a person authorised to act as the representative of a member (being a corporation) in relation to the meeting or a person appointed as proxy of a member in relation to the meeting.

### Procedure if quorum is not present

74. ~~77.~~ If within fifteen minutes from the time appointed for the meeting (or such longer interval not exceeding one hour as the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting may think fit to allow) a quorum is not present or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting is dissolved if any of the members required the meeting to be called or any of the members called the meeting. In any other case it stands adjourned to such time, date and place as may be fixed by the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting and, when fixing the date of the adjourned meeting, it has to be at least ten days after the date of the original meeting (excluding the day of the original meeting and the day of the adjourned meeting) and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within thirty minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, a qualifying person is a quorum.

### **Chairman of general**

#### Simultaneous attendance at other places

75. 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 Chair of the meeting shall preside (the "**Principal Place**"), make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation at another place or other places anywhere in the world (a "**satellite meeting**") by members and proxies and others entitled to attend the general meeting.

The Members present in person or by proxy at any satellite meeting place or places shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to vote at, the general meeting in question. That meeting

shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the Chair of the meeting believes that adequate facilities are available throughout the meeting to ensure that members attending at the Principal Place and all satellite meeting places are able to:

- (a) hear and see all persons who speak (whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise) in the Principal Place and any satellite meeting place;
- (b) if they speak, be heard and seen by all other persons so present; and
- (c) if they have the right to vote at the meeting, vote during the meeting on a poll on resolutions put to the meeting on which they have the right to vote and such members' votes can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed.

#### **Level of attendance at other places**

76. The Directors may from time to time make such arrangements for the purpose of controlling the level of attendance at any general meeting (at the Principal Place and at any satellite meeting place), whether involving the issue of tickets or the imposition of some geographical or regional means of selection or otherwise, as they shall in their absolute discretion consider appropriate, and may from time to time vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements in place of them, provided that a member who is not entitled to attend, in person or by proxy, at any particular place shall be entitled so to attend at one of the other places, and the entitlement of any member so to attend the meeting or adjourned meeting at such place shall be subject to any such arrangements as may from time to time be in force and by the notice of meeting or adjourned meeting stated to apply to the meeting or notified to the members concerned subsequent to the provision of the notice of meeting. For the purpose of all other provisions of these Articles any such general meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.

#### **Arrangements for hybrid meetings**

77. In the case of any general meeting, the Directors may, notwithstanding the specification in the notice convening the general meeting of the Principal Place, make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and participation by members and proxies and others entitled to attend the general meeting by means of electronic facility or facilities and determine the means, or all different means, of attendance and participation used in relation to a general meeting. The members present in person or by proxy by means of electronic facility or facilities shall be counted in the quorum for, and entitled to participate in, the general meeting in question. That meeting shall be duly constituted and its proceedings valid if the Chair of the meeting believes that adequate facilities are available throughout the meeting to ensure that members attending the meeting by all means (including by means of electronic facility or facilities) are able to:

- (a) hear and see all persons who speak (whether by the use of microphones, loudspeakers, audio-visual communications equipment or otherwise) in the Principal Place and any satellite meeting place;
- (b) if they speak, be heard and seen by all other persons so present; and
- (c) if they have the right to vote at the meeting, vote during the meeting on a poll on resolutions put to the meeting on which they have the right to vote and such members' votes can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed.

Any such general meeting shall be treated as being held and taking place at the Principal Place.

### Participating in a meeting other than at a physical place

78. When deciding whether a person is attending or participating in a meeting other than at a physical place, it is immaterial where that person is or how that person is able to communicate with others who are attending and participating. If it appears to the Chair of the meeting that an electronic facility has become inadequate for the purposes referred to in Article 77 then the Chair may, without the consent of the meeting, adjourn the general meeting. All business conducted at that general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid and the provisions of Article 82 shall apply to that adjournment.

### Chair of general meetings

79. ~~78.~~—The ~~Chairman~~Chair (if any) of the Directors or, failing ~~him~~the Chair, the deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair (if any) shall preside as ~~Chairman~~Chair at every general meeting of the Company. If at any meeting neither shall be present within fifteen minutes after the time fixed for holding the meeting and willing to act as ~~Chairman~~Chair, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting. If no Director is present, or if all the Directors present decline to take the chair, the members present in person and entitled to vote shall elect one of their number to be ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting by a resolution passed at the meeting.

### Security, ~~health and safety~~ at meetings

80. ~~79.~~—The Directors may direct that persons wishing to attend general meetings should submit to such searches, security arrangements and restrictions (including relating to health and safety) as the Directors shall consider appropriate in the circumstances. The Directors shall be entitled in their absolute discretion, or may authorise some one or more persons who shall include a Director or the Secretary or the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting:

- (a) to refuse physical or electronic entry to such general meeting to any person who fails to submit to such searches or otherwise to comply with such security arrangements or restrictions; and
- (b) to eject from (physically or electronically) such general meeting any person who ~~causes the proceedings to become disorderly~~fails to submit to such searches or otherwise to comply with any such security arrangements or restrictions.

### Conduct of meetings

81. ~~80.~~—The ~~Chairman~~Chair shall take such action or give such directions as ~~he thinks~~they think fit to promote the orderly conduct of the meeting as laid down in the notice of the meeting and the ~~Chairman~~Chair's decision on matters of procedure or arising incidentally from the business of the meeting shall be final as shall be ~~his~~their determination as to whether any matter is of such a nature.

### Adjournments

82. ~~81.~~(a)-(a) The ~~Chairman~~Chair of a meeting at which a quorum is present may with the consent of that meeting (and shall if so directed by the meeting) adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place or without specification of a time or place. In

addition, the ~~Chairman~~Chair may at any time without the consent of the meeting adjourn any meeting to another time or place if it appears to the ~~Chairman~~Chair that:

- (i) the number of persons wishing to attend cannot be conveniently accommodated in the place(s) for the meeting; or
  - (ii) the unruly conduct of persons attending the meeting prevents or is likely to prevent the orderly continuation of the business of the meeting; or
  - (iii) an adjournment is otherwise necessary so that the business of the meeting may be properly conducted.
- (a) No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business which might lawfully have been transacted at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
  - (b) Where a meeting is adjourned without specification of a time or place the time and place for the adjourned meeting shall be fixed by the Directors.

#### Notice of adjournment

83. ~~82.~~(a) When a meeting is adjourned for thirty days or more or for an indefinite period, not less than seven clear days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given in like manner as in the case of the original meeting; but it shall not otherwise be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting.

(b) If a meeting is adjourned to more than one place, not less than seven days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles.

#### Amendments to resolutions

84. ~~83.~~(a)(a) If an amendment shall be proposed to any resolution under consideration but shall in good faith be ruled out of order by the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting, the proceedings on the substantive resolution shall not be invalidated by any error in such ruling.

(b) In the case of a resolution duly proposed as a special resolution no amendment thereto (other than a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may in any event be considered or voted upon and in the case of a resolution duly proposed as an ordinary resolution no amendment thereto (other than a mere clerical amendment to correct a patent error) may be considered or voted upon unless, at least forty-eight hours prior to the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which such resolution is to be proposed, notice in writing of the terms of the amendment and intention to move the same has been lodged at the Office.

#### ~~Procedure when meetings held at more than one place~~

~~84. (a) The provisions of this Article 84 shall apply if any general meeting is held at or adjourned to more than one place.~~

(c) ~~(b) The notice of such a meeting or adjourned meeting shall specify the place at which the Chairman of the meeting shall preside (the "Specified Place") and the Directors shall make arrangements for simultaneous attendance and~~

~~participation at the Specified Place and at other places by members, provided that persons attending at any particular place shall be able to see and hear and be seen and heard by means of audio visual links by persons attending the Specified Place and at the other places at which the meeting is held.~~

- (d) ~~(e) The Directors may from time to time make such arrangements for the purpose of controlling the level of attendance at any such place (whether involving the issue of tickets or the imposition of some geographical or regional means of selection or otherwise) as they shall in their absolute discretion consider appropriate, and may from time to time vary any such arrangements or make new arrangements in place of them, provided that a member who is not entitled to attend, in person or by proxy, at any particular place shall be entitled so to attend at one of the other places; and the entitlement of any member so to attend the meeting or adjourned meeting at such place shall be subject to any such arrangements as may from time to time be in force and by the notice of meeting or adjourned meeting stated to apply to the meeting.~~
- ~~(d) For the purposes of all other provisions of these Articles any such meeting shall be treated as being held at the Specified Place.~~
- (e) ~~(e) If a meeting is adjourned to more than one place, not less than seven days' notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles.~~

#### **Entitlement to attend and speak**

85. ~~Without prejudice to Article 121 and subject~~ Subject to the Statutes, the ~~Chairman~~ Chair may invite any person to attend and speak at general meetings of the Company whom the ~~Chairman~~ Chair considers to be equipped by knowledge or experience of the Company's business to assist in the deliberations of the meeting. In addition, the ~~Chairman~~ Chair may invite any person who has been nominated by a member of the Company (provided that the ~~Chairman~~ Chair is satisfied that at such time as the ~~Chairman~~ Chair may determine, the member holds any shares as such person's nominee) to attend and, if the ~~Chairman~~ Chair considers it appropriate, to speak at general meetings of the Company.

### **VOTING**

#### **Method of voting**

86. At any general meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands, unless before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands a poll is demanded. Subject to the provisions of CA06, a poll may be demanded:
- (a) by the ~~Chairman~~ Chair of the meeting; or
- (b) in writing by at least five members present in person or by proxy or, in the case of a member which is a corporation, by a duly authorised representative of that corporation, and having the right to vote on the resolution; or

- (c) in writing by a member or members present in person or by proxy or, in the case of a member which is a corporation by a duly authorised representative of that corporation, and representing not less than ten per cent~~7~~ of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution (excluding any voting rights attached to any shares held as treasury shares); or
- (d) in writing by a member or members present in person or by proxy or, in the case of a member which is a corporation by a duly authorised representative of that corporation, and holding shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution, being shares on which an aggregate sum has been paid up equal to not less than ten per cent~~7~~ of the total sum paid up on all the shares conferring that right (excluding any shares conferring a right to vote on the resolution which are treasury shares).

### **ChairmanChair's declaration is final**

87. Unless a poll is demanded, a declaration by the **ChairmanChair** 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 to that effect in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence of the fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against such resolution.

### **Procedure if poll demanded**

88. If a poll is demanded, it shall be taken in such manner (including the use of ballot or voting papers or cards) as the **ChairmanChair** of the meeting may direct. The **ChairmanChair** may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and may adjourn the meeting ~~to~~and fix some date, place and time ~~fixed by him~~ for the purpose of declaring the result of the poll.

### **Timing of a poll**

89. A poll demanded on the election of a **chairmanchair** or on a question of adjournment shall be taken forthwith. A poll demanded on any other question shall be taken either immediately or at some time later during or at the end of the meeting or at such subsequent time, date (not being more than thirty days from the date of the meeting) and place as the **ChairmanChair** of the meeting may direct. No notice need be given of a poll not taken immediately.

### **Continuance of other business after demand for a poll**

90. The demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuance of a meeting for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded.

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

91. The demand for a poll may at any time before the conclusion of the meeting be withdrawn but only with the consent of the **ChairmanChair**, and if it is so withdrawn:
- (a) before the result of a show of hands is declared, the meeting shall continue as if the demand had not been made; or
  - (b) after the result of a show of hands is declared, the demand shall not be taken to have invalidated that result,

but if a demand is withdrawn, the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting or other member or members so entitled may ~~himself or themselves~~ demand a poll.

**No casting vote of ~~Chairman~~Chair**

92. In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting at which the show of hands takes place or at which the poll is demanded is not entitled to a second or casting vote in addition to the votes which ~~he~~they may have.

**VOTES OF MEMBERS**

**Votes of members**

93. Subject to any other provision of these Articles and without prejudice to any special rights, privileges or restrictions as to voting attached to any shares for the time being forming part of the capital of the Company:

- (a) on a show of hands:
  - (i) each member present in person has one vote;
  - (ii) except as provided in Article 93(a)(iii) or (iv), each proxy present in person who has been duly appointed by one or more members entitled to vote on a resolution has one vote;
  - (iii) each proxy present in person has one vote for and one vote against a resolution if the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and the proxy has been instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and by one or more other of those members to vote against it; and
  - (iv) each proxy present in person has one vote for and one vote against a resolution if the proxy has been duly appointed by more than one member entitled to vote on the resolution and either:
    - (A) ~~(A)~~ the proxy has been instructed by one or more of those members to vote for the resolution and has been given any discretion by one or more other of those members to vote and the proxy exercises that discretion to vote against it; or
    - (B) ~~(B)~~ the proxy has been instructed by one or more of those members to vote against the resolution and has been given any discretion by one or more other of those members to vote and the proxy exercises that discretion to vote for it; and
  - (v) each duly authorised representative present in person of a member that is a corporation has one vote; and
- (c) on a poll each member present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) by a duly authorised representative has one vote for each share held by the member.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Company itself is prohibited (to the extent specified by the Statutes) from exercising any rights to attend or vote at meetings in respect of any shares held by it as treasury shares.

#### **Votes on a show of hands or on a poll**

94. On a show of hands or on a poll, votes may be given either personally or by proxy or (in the case of a corporate member) by a duly authorised representative and on a poll a person entitled to more than one vote need not, if ~~he votes~~they vote, use all ~~his~~their votes or cast all the votes ~~he uses~~which they cast in the same way.

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

95. In the case of joint holders of a share only the vote of the senior holder who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, shall be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose the senior holder is determined by the order in which the names of the holders appear in the Register in respect of the share.

#### **Voting on behalf of incapable member**

96. A member in respect of whom an order has been made by any Court having jurisdiction (whether in the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning mental disorder may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by any person authorised in that behalf by that Court, and any such person may vote by proxy. Evidence to the satisfaction of the Directors of the authority of the person claiming to exercise the right to vote shall be deposited at or delivered to the Office (or such other place or address as is specified in accordance with these Articles for the deposit or delivery of appointments of proxy) not later than the last time at which an appointment of proxy should have been deposited or delivered in order to be valid for use at that meeting or on the holding of that poll.

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

97. No member (whether in person or by proxy or in the case of a corporate member, by a duly authorised representative) shall (unless the Directors otherwise determine) be entitled to vote or to exercise any other right of membership at any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares in respect of any share held by ~~him~~them unless all calls or other sums presently payable ~~by him~~ in respect of that share have been paid.

#### **Objections to votes**

98. No objection shall be raised to the admissibility of any vote or to the counting of or failure to count any vote unless it is raised at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is or may be given or tendered, and every vote not disallowed at such meeting shall be valid for all purposes. Any such objection made in due time shall be referred to the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting, whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

#### **A proxy's obligations to vote**

99. The Company is entitled to assume without enquiry that a proxy has complied with any obligation to vote in accordance with instructions given by the member by whom the proxy is appointed. The validity of anything done at a meeting is not affected by any failure by a proxy to comply with such an obligation.



## PROXIES

### Appointment of proxy

100. A member may appoint:
- (a) another person as ~~his~~their proxy to exercise all or any of ~~his~~their rights to attend, speak and vote at a meeting; and
  - (b) more than one proxy in relation to a meeting if each proxy is appointed to exercise the rights attached to a different share or shares held by the member.

### Member's rights when proxy appointed

101. Deposit or delivery of an appointment of proxy shall not preclude a member from attending and voting at the meeting or any adjournment of it.

### Form and execution of proxy

102. The appointment of a proxy shall:
- (a) be in any usual or common form or in any other form which the Directors may accept;
  - (b) be signed by the appointor or ~~his~~their attorney or, in the case of a corporation, shall either be given under its common seal (or such form of execution as has the same effect) or signed on its behalf by an attorney or a duly authorised officer of the corporation;
  - (c) be deemed to include the power to vote on any amendment of a resolution put to the meeting for which it is given as the proxy thinks fit;
  - (d) unless the contrary is stated therein be valid as well for any adjournment of the meeting as for the meeting to which it relates; and
  - (e) be notified to the Company in writing.

### Signature of proxy

103. The signature of an appointment of proxy need not be witnessed. Where an appointment of proxy is signed on behalf of a corporation by an officer or on behalf of any appointor by an attorney, the Directors may, but shall not be bound to, require reasonable evidence of the authority of any such officer or attorney.

### Issue of proxy

104. The Directors must send or supply proxy forms to all persons entitled to notice of, and to attend and vote at, any general meeting or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares.

### Content of proxy

105. Such proxy forms shall provide for at least three-way voting on all resolutions to be proposed at that meeting other than resolutions relating to the procedure of the meeting and may either be in blank or may nominate in the alternative any one or more of the Directors or any other person.

### Accidental omission to send proxy

106. The accidental omission to send an appointment of proxy or the non-receipt of such appointment by any member entitled to attend and vote at a meeting shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

#### **Delivery of proxy**

107. The appointment of a proxy and any authority under which it is executed or a copy of the authority certified notarially or in some other way approved by the Directors may:
- (a) in the case of an appointment sent by post or by hand, be received at the Office (or at such other place in the United Kingdom as is specified in the notice convening the meeting or in any appointment of proxy sent out by the Company in relation to the meeting) not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote;
  - (b) in the case of an appointment sent by electronic means, be received at any address specified or deemed to be specified by the Company for the purpose of receiving a proxy by electronic means not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the appointment proposes to vote;
  - (c) in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be received in either manner already described after the poll has been demanded and not less than 24 hours before the time appointed for taking the poll; or
  - (d) where the poll is not taken forthwith but is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered at the meeting to the ~~Chairman~~Chair or to the Secretary or to any Director,

and an appointment of proxy which is not received in a manner and within the time limits so permitted shall be invalid. In calculating the periods mentioned in this Article 107, no account is to be taken of any part of a day that is not a working day, unless the Directors decide otherwise in relation to a specific general meeting.

#### **Use of Uncertificated Proxy Instruction**

108. Without limiting any other provision of these Articles, in relation to an uncertificated share the Directors may from time to time:
- (a) permit appointments of a proxy to be made by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction;
  - (b) where a proxy has been appointed by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction, permit the revocation of the appointment by means of an Uncertificated Proxy Instruction;
  - (c) prescribe the method for determining the time at which any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction is to be treated as received by the Company (or a participant in the Relevant System concerned on its behalf); and
  - (d) treat any such Uncertificated Proxy Instruction which purports to be or is expressed to be sent on behalf of a holder of a share as sufficient evidence of the authority of the person sending that instruction to send it on behalf of that holder.

#### **Meaning of "Uncertificated Proxy Instruction"**

109. For the purposes of Article 108, "**Uncertificated Proxy Instruction**" means a communication in the form of:

- (a) an instruction which is properly authenticated as determined by the Regulations;
- (b) any other instruction or notification; or
- (c) any supplemented or amended instruction or notification,

in each case sent by means of the Relevant System concerned and received by such participant in that system acting on behalf of the Company (and in such form and on such terms and conditions) as the Directors may determine subject to the facilities and requirements of that system.

#### **Maximum validity of proxy**

110. No appointment of proxy shall be valid after the expiration of 12 months from the date stated in it as its date of execution except at an adjourned meeting or on a poll demanded at a meeting or an adjourned meeting where the meeting was originally held within 12 months from such date.

#### **Termination of proxy's authority**

111. ~~(a)~~ (a) The termination of the authority of a person to act as proxy must be notified to the Company in writing.

- (b) The termination of the authority of a person to act as proxy does not affect:
  - (i) whether that person counts in deciding whether there is a quorum at a meeting, or the validity of a poll demanded by that person at a meeting unless the Company receives notice of termination before the commencement of the meeting; nor
  - (ii) the validity of a vote given by that person unless the Company receives notice of termination before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote is given or, in the case of a poll taken more than 48 hours after it is demanded, before the time appointed for taking the poll.
- (c) Notice of the termination must be received at an address that is specified in Article 107(a) or, if the appointment of the proxy was sent by electronic means, at an address that is specified or deemed to be specified in Article 107(b).

### **CORPORATIONS ACTING BY REPRESENTATIVES**

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

112. A corporation 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 general meeting of the holders of any class of shares. Such a corporation is for the purposes of these Articles deemed to be present in person at any meeting if a person or persons so authorised is or are present at it.

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

#### **Number of Directors**

113. ~~(a)~~(a) Unless and until the Company in general meeting shall otherwise determine, the number of Directors shall not be less than two nor more than fifteen.
- (b) The continuing Directors may act notwithstanding any vacancies in their number, but, if the number of Directors is reduced below the minimum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles, the continuing Director or Directors may act for the purpose of filling up vacancies in ~~his or~~ their number or of calling a general meeting of the Company, but not for any other purpose.

#### **Power of the Directors to appoint additional Directors**

114. The Directors shall have power to appoint any person who is permitted by the Statutes and willing to act to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an additional Director but so that the total number of Directors shall not exceed the maximum number fixed (if any) by or in accordance with these Articles. Any Director so appointed shall retire from office at the next following annual general meeting, and shall then be eligible for election.

#### **Power of the Company to elect additional Directors**

115. Subject to the provisions of these Articles the Company may by ordinary resolution elect any person who is willing to act to be a Director either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Directors or to replace a Director removed from office under Article 120 but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any one time exceed any maximum number fixed by or in accordance with these Articles.

#### **Retirement by rotation**

116. ~~(a)~~(a) At each annual general meeting a minimum number equal to one-third of the number of Relevant Directors (or, if their number is not a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not greater than one-third) shall retire from office. Directors retiring under paragraph (c) or paragraph (d) shall be counted as part of this minimum number. For these purposes, "**Relevant Directors**" means all the Directors for the time being excluding any Directors who are due to retire at that annual general meeting under Article 114.
- (b) The Directors to retire by rotation pursuant to paragraph (a) shall include (so far as necessary to obtain the minimum number required) the Directors to retire under paragraph (c) or paragraph (d) and then any Relevant Director who wishes to retire and not ~~to offer himself~~stand for re-election. Any further Directors to retire shall be those of the other Relevant Directors who have been longest in office since their last re-election or appointment and so that, as between persons who became or were last re-elected Directors on the same day, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election.
- (c) In any event each Director shall retire and shall (unless ~~his~~their terms of appointment with the Company specify otherwise) be eligible for re-election at the annual general meeting held in the third calendar year (or such earlier calendar year as may be specified for this purpose in ~~his~~their terms of appointment with the Company) following ~~his~~their last appointment, election or re-election at any general meeting of the Company.
- (d) In any event each Director who has been in office as a non-executive Director for more than nine years consecutively shall retire and shall (unless ~~his~~their terms of appointment with the Company specify otherwise) be eligible for re-election at the Annual General

Meeting held in the next calendar year following ~~his~~their last appointment, election or re-election at any general meeting of the Company.

#### **Filling rotation vacancies**

117. ~~(a)~~(a) At the meeting at which a Director retires under any provision of these Articles the Company may by ordinary resolution (subject to Article 119) fill the vacated office by appointing a person to it, and in default the retiring Director shall be deemed to have been re-appointed except in the following cases:
- (i) such Director has given notice to the Company that ~~he is~~they are unwilling to be elected; or
  - (ii) at such meeting it is expressly resolved not to fill such vacated office or a resolution for the re-appointment of such Director shall have been put to the meeting and not passed.
- (a) In the event of the vacancy not being filled at such meeting, it may be filled by the Directors as a casual vacancy in accordance with Article 114.
- (b) The retirement of a Director pursuant to Article 116 shall not have effect until the conclusion of the relevant meeting except where a resolution is passed to elect some other person in the place of the retiring Director or a resolution for ~~his~~their re-election is put to the meeting and not passed and accordingly a retiring Director who is re-elected or deemed to have been re-elected will continue in office without break.

#### **No single resolution to appoint two or more Directors**

118. Except as otherwise authorised by Section 160 CA06, the appointment of each person proposed as a Director shall be effected by a separate resolution.

#### **Persons eligible as Directors**

119. No person, other than a Director retiring at the meeting, shall be eligible for appointment as a Director at any general meeting unless:
- (a) he is recommended by the Directors; or
  - (b) not less than seven nor more than forty-two days before the date appointed for the meeting there shall have been left at the Office notice in writing signed by some member (other than the person to be proposed) duly qualified to attend and vote at the meeting for which such notice is given of ~~his~~their intention to propose such person for appointment and also notice in writing signed by the person to be proposed of ~~his~~their willingness to be appointed and stating all such particulars of ~~him~~them as would, on ~~his~~their appointment, be required to be included in the Company's register of ~~directors~~Directors.

#### **Power of removal by special resolution**

120. In addition to any power of removal conferred by the Statutes the Company may by special resolution remove any Director before the expiration of ~~his~~their term of office notwithstanding anything in these Articles or in any agreement between the Company and such Director. Such

removal shall be without prejudice to any claim which such Director may have for damages for breach of any contract of service between ~~him~~the Director and the Company.

### No share qualification for Directors

121. A Director need not hold any share qualification but shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend and speak at any general meeting of the Company or at any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares of the Company.

### Vacation of office by Directors

122. The office of a Director shall be vacated in any of the following events, namely:

- (a) he resigns by notice in writing to the Company;
- (b) he offers in writing to resign and the Directors resolve to accept such offer;
- (c) a bankruptcy order or an interim order is made against ~~him~~that Director or ~~he~~that Director makes any arrangement or composition with ~~his~~their creditors generally;
- ~~(d) — he is, or may be, suffering from mental disorder and either:~~
  - ~~(i) — he is admitted to hospital in pursuance of an application for admission for treatment under the Mental Health Act 1983 or, in Scotland, an application for admission under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003; or~~
- ~~(d)~~ (ii) if, in England or elsewhere, an order is made by ~~a~~any Court ~~having~~claiming jurisdiction ~~(whether in that behalf on the United Kingdom or elsewhere) in matters concerning~~ground (however formulated) of mental disorder for ~~his~~their detention or for the appointment of a guardian or receiver, ~~curator bonis~~ or other person to exercise powers with respect to ~~his~~their property or affairs;
- (e) ~~he~~the Director (and ~~his~~any alternate ~~(if any)~~) is absent from meetings of the Directors for six successive months without the permission of the Directors and the Directors resolve that ~~his~~their office is vacated;
- (f) ~~he becomes~~they become prohibited by law from acting as a Director; or
- (g) ~~he~~the Director is removed from office by notice in writing served upon ~~him~~them signed by all ~~his~~their co-Directors but so that if ~~he~~the Director holds an appointment to an executive office which thereby automatically determines such removal shall be deemed an act of the Company and shall have effect without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between ~~him~~the Director and the Company.

### Appointment of executive Directors

123. ~~(a)~~(a) The Directors may from time to time:

- (i) appoint one or more of their number to hold any employment or executive office with the Company (including, where considered appropriate, but without limitation

the office of ~~Chairman~~Chair, Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair, Managing Director, Joint Managing Director, Deputy Managing Director or Joint Deputy Managing Director or Chief Executive) on such terms and for such periods (subject to the provisions of the Statutes) as they may determine and, without prejudice to the terms of any contract entered into in any particular case, may at any time revoke any such appointment; and

- (ii) permit any person appointed to be a Director to continue in any executive office or employment held by ~~him~~them before ~~he was~~they were so appointed.
- (a) The appointment of any Director to the office of Managing or Joint Managing Director or ~~Chairman~~Chair or Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair or Chief Executive shall automatically determine if the appointee ceases to be a Director but without prejudice to any rights or claims which ~~he~~the Director may have against the Company by reason of such determination.
- (b) The appointment of any Director to any other executive office or position of employment with the Company shall not automatically determine if ~~he ceases~~they cease for any cause to be a Director unless ~~his~~their contract of appointment to such office or employment expressly states otherwise (in which event such determination shall be without prejudice to any rights or claims which ~~he~~they may have against the Company by reason of such determination).

## DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

### Directors' fees

124. Each of the Directors shall be paid out of the funds of the Company such sum by way of Directors' fees (in addition to any amounts payable under Articles 125 or 126 or any other provision of these Articles) as the Directors may from time to time determine. Such fees shall be divided among the Directors in such manner as the Directors shall direct and shall be deemed to accrue from day to day.

### Additional remuneration for Directors

125. Any Director who is appointed to hold any employment or executive office with the Company or who, by request of the Company, goes or resides abroad for any purposes of the Company or who otherwise performs services which in the opinion of the Directors are outside the scope of ~~his~~their ordinary duties as a Director may be paid such additional remuneration (whether by way of salary, commission, participation in profits or otherwise) as the Directors (or any duly authorised committee of the Directors) may determine and either in addition to or in lieu of any remuneration provided for by or pursuant to any other Article.

### Expenses

126. Each Director may be paid ~~his~~their reasonable travelling expenses (including hotel and incidental expenses) of attending and returning from meetings of the Directors or committees of the Directors or general meetings or any separate meeting of the holders of any class of shares or any other meeting which as a Director ~~he is~~they are entitled to attend and shall be paid all expenses properly and reasonably incurred by ~~him~~them in the conduct of the Company's business or in the discharge of ~~his~~their duties as a Director.

## **Pensions and gratuities for Directors**

127. The Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to provide benefits, either by the payment of gratuities or pensions or by insurance or in any other manner whether similar to the foregoing or not, for any Director or former Director who is or was at any time employed by, or held an executive or other office or place of profit in, the Company or any body corporate which is or has been a Subsidiary of the Company or a predecessor of the business of the Company or of any such Subsidiary and for the families and dependants of any such persons and for the purpose of providing any such benefits contribute to any scheme, trust or fund or pay any premiums. No Director or former Director shall be accountable to the Company or the members for any benefit provided pursuant to this Article and the receipt of any such benefit shall not disqualify any person from being or becoming a Director of the Company.

## **PRESIDENT**

128. ~~(a)~~(a) The Directors may by resolution from time to time appoint any person (whether a Director or not) to be President of the Company either for life or for a fixed or unspecified period and upon such terms as to remuneration, reimbursement of expenses and other matters as the Directors may determine. The Directors may also vary or terminate such appointment at any time but without prejudice to any claims by such President for breach of the terms of ~~his~~their appointment.
- (b) The functions of the President shall be such as may be determined by the Directors, but ~~he~~they shall not by virtue of ~~his~~their appointment as such be a Director or officer of the Company nor have any executive powers or duties in the management of the Company.
- (c) The President shall have the same rights to receive notice of and to attend and speak at meetings of the Directors and general meetings as respectively belong to Directors and members of the Company, but ~~his~~their appointment as such shall not entitle ~~him~~them to voting or other rights belonging to Directors or members.
- (d) The President's appointment shall lapse on the happening of the events specified in Article 122(a), (b), (c), (d) or (g).

## **POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

### **General powers of a Company vested in Directors**

129. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, these Articles and to any directions given by the Company in general meeting, the business of the Company shall be managed by the Directors who may exercise all the powers of the Company. No such direction and no alteration of these Articles shall invalidate any prior act of the Directors which would have been valid if that direction or alteration had not been given or made.

### **Power to establish local boards**

130. The Directors may establish any local boards or agencies for managing any of the affairs of the Company, either in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, and may appoint any persons to be members of such local boards and may fix their remuneration. The Directors may delegate to any local board, manager or agent any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in the Directors with power to sub-delegate, and may authorise the members of any local board, or any of them, to fill any vacancies therein and to act notwithstanding vacancies. Any such



appointment or delegation may be made upon such terms and subject to such conditions as the Directors may think fit, and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of its own powers, and the Directors may remove any person so appointed, and may annul or vary any such delegation, but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of any such annulment or variation shall be affected thereby. Subject as aforesaid the proceedings of any local board shall be governed by such of these Articles as regulate the proceedings of the Directors so far as they are capable of applying.

#### **Delegation to committees**

131. ~~(a)~~ (a) The Directors may delegate any of their powers or discretions (including, without limitation, the power to determine Directors' fees, additional remuneration and vary the terms and conditions of employment of the Directors) to committees consisting of one or more Directors and (if thought fit) one or more other persons provided that a majority of the members of the committee shall be Directors and no resolutions of the committee shall be effective unless a majority of those present when it is passed are Directors.
- (b) Any committee so formed shall in the exercise of the powers so delegated conform to any regulations which may from time to time be imposed on it by the Directors.
- (c) Subject to the foregoing, the meetings and proceedings of any such committee consisting of two or more members shall be governed mutatis mutandis by the provisions of these Articles regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Directors, so far as the same are not superseded by any regulations made by the Directors under Article 131(b).

#### **Powers not delegable**

132. The following powers of the Directors may not be delegated except to a committee of the Directors appointed under Article 131, namely issuing shares; making calls; declining to register transfers; determining Directors' remuneration; appointing and removing executive Directors (within the scope of Article 123); appointing Directors under Article 114; borrowing; recommending and declaring dividends.

#### **Delegation of powers to individual Directors**

133. Subject to Article 132 above, the Directors may entrust to and confer upon any Director any of the powers exercisable by them as Directors upon such terms and conditions and with such restrictions as they think fit and either collaterally with or to the exclusion of their own powers and may from time to time revoke withdraw alter or vary all or any of such powers but no person dealing in good faith and without notice of the revocation or variation shall be affected by it.

#### **Powers of attorney**

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

### **Provision for employees**

135. The Directors may exercise any power conferred by the Statutes to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries in connection with the transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the Company or that Subsidiary or the cessation of its business.

### **Designation of "Director" not to imply Directorship**

136. The Directors may from time to time appoint any person to an office or employment having a designation or title including the word "Director" or attach to any existing office or employment with the Company such a designation or title. The inclusion of the word "Director" in the designation or title of any office or employment with the Company (other than the office of Managing or Joint Managing or Deputy or Assistant Managing Director) shall not imply that the holder thereof is a Director of the Company nor shall such holder thereby be empowered in any respect to act as a Director of the Company or be deemed to be a Director for any of the purposes of these Articles.

## **BORROWING POWERS**

### **Exercise of borrowing powers**

137. Subject as hereinafter provided and to the provisions of the Statutes the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to borrow money and to mortgage or charge its undertaking, property and uncalled capital or any part or parts thereof and to issue debentures and other securities whether outright or as collateral security for any debt liability or obligation of the Company or of any third party.

### **Limit on borrowings**

138. The Directors shall restrict the borrowings of the Company and exercise all voting and other rights or powers of control exercisable by the Company in relation to its Subsidiaries so as to secure (so far as regards Subsidiaries as by such exercise it can secure) the aggregate principal amount (including any premium payable on final payment) for the time being outstanding of all monies borrowed by the Group (exclusive of money borrowed by the Company from and for the time being owing to any Subsidiary or by any Subsidiary and for the time being owing to the Company or another Subsidiary) shall not at any time without the previous sanction of an ordinary resolution of the Company, exceed an amount equal to the higher of £10 million or three times the Adjusted Share Capital and Reserves.

### **Interpretation for the purposes of Articles 137 to ~~141~~140**

139. For the purposes of Articles 137 to ~~141~~140:
- (a) **"The Group"** means on any date on which the calculation of monies borrowed falls to be made the Company and such Subsidiaries of the Company as would pursuant to the Statutes be required to be included in any group accounts prepared by the Company as at that date but excluding any Subsidiary which in the opinion of the Directors would not be consolidated in the group accounts prepared at such date by reason of any exemption or permission then available under the Statutes;
  - (b) in applying the provisions of these Articles to subsidiary undertakings which are not companies references to equity share capital:

- (i) in relation to a subsidiary undertaking with capital but no share capital are to rights in the capital of the undertaking;
- (ii) in relation to an undertaking without capital are to interests:
  - (A) ~~(A)~~ conferring any right to share in the profits or liability to contribute to the losses of the undertaking; or
  - (B) ~~(B)~~ giving rise to an obligation to contribute to the debts or expenses of the undertaking in the event of a winding up;
- (c) monies borrowed by the Group should be deemed to include (to the extent that the same would not otherwise fall to be taken into account):
  - (i) the principal amount of all debentures of any member of the Group which are not for the time being beneficially owned within the Group;
  - (ii) the outstanding amount of acceptances (not being acceptances of trade bills in respect of a purchase or sale of goods in the ordinary course of trading) by any member of the Group or by any bank or accepting house under any acceptance credit opened on behalf of and in favour of any member of the Group;
  - (iii) the nominal amount of any issued or paid up share capital and the principal amount of any debentures or other borrowed monies (not being shares or debentures which or monies borrowed the indebtedness in respect of which is for the time being beneficially owned within the Group) the redemption or repayment of which is guaranteed or wholly or partly secured by any member of the Group;
- (d) there shall be credited against the amount of any monies borrowed by the Group subject in the case of any held or deposited by a partly owned Subsidiary to the exclusion therefrom of a proportion equal to the proportion of the equity share capital of the partly owned Subsidiary which is not attributable directly or indirectly to the Company an amount equal to the aggregate of all cash in hand, credit balances on current or deposit account with banks, cash deposits, certificates of deposit and debt securities of governments and companies and similar instruments owned by any member of the Group which are or represent amounts available for repayment of any monies borrowed falling to be taken into account for the purpose of Article 138;
- (e) 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;
- (f) any amount borrowed by any member of the Group from bankers or others for the purpose of financing any contract up to an amount not exceeding that part of the price receivable under such contract which is guaranteed or insured by the Export Credits Guarantee Department or other like institution carrying on a similar business shall be deemed not be monies borrowed;
- (g) monies borrowed by a partly owned Subsidiary and not owing to another member of the Group shall be taken into account subject to the exclusion of a proportion thereof equal to the minority proportion and monies borrowed from a partly owned Subsidiary by another member of the Group shall be taken into account to the extent of a proportion thereof

equal to the minority proportion and for the purposes of this paragraph "**minority proportion**" shall mean the proportion of the issued equity share capital of such partly owned Subsidiary which is not attributable directly or indirectly to the Company;

- (h) monies borrowed by any member of the Group expressed in or calculated by reference to a currency other than sterling shall be translated into sterling:
  - (i) by reference to the rate of exchange used for the conversion of such currency in the latest audited balance sheet of the relevant member of the Group; or
  - (ii) (in the absence thereof) by reference to the middle market rate of exchange prevailing in London at the close of business on the date of such balance sheet,

but if the amount in sterling resulting from conversion at that rate would be greater than 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;

- (i) a sum equal to the amount of monies borrowed by a company which becomes a Subsidiary after the date of adoption of these Articles and which is outstanding at the date when such company becomes a Subsidiary shall for the period of six months from the date of such event be deemed not to be monies borrowed;
- (j) "**Adjusted Share Capital and Reserves**" shall mean at any material time the aggregate of:
  - (i) the amount paid up on the issued share capital account of the Company; and
  - (ii) the amount standing to the credit of the consolidated reserves of the Company (including any share premium account special reserve or capital redemption reserve fund or credit balance on profit and loss account) and after deducting any debit balance on the consolidated profit and loss account;

all as showed by the then latest available audited consolidated balance sheet of the Group but after:

(A) ~~(A)~~—making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any variation in the amount of such paid-up share capital or any such reserves subsequent to the relevant balance sheet date and so that for the purpose of making such adjustments, if any issue or proposed issue of shares by the Company for cash has been underwritten then such shares shall be deemed to have been issued and the amount (including any premium) of the subscription monies payable in respect thereof (not being monies payable later than six months after the date of allotment) shall, to the extent so underwritten, be deemed to have been paid up on a date when the issue of such shares was underwritten (or, if such underwriting was conditional, on the date when it became unconditional);

(B) ~~(B)~~—making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any dividends or other distributions declared, recommended, paid or made by the Company or its Subsidiaries (otherwise than payable directly or indirectly to the Company) out of profits earned up to and including the date of the latest audited balance sheet of the Company or its Subsidiaries

(as the case may be) to the extent that such distribution is not provided for in such balance sheet;

- (C) ~~(C)~~ making such adjustments as may be appropriate in respect of any variation in the interests of the Company in its Subsidiaries since the date of the latest audited balance sheet of the Company;
- (D) ~~(D)~~ if the calculation is required for the purposes of or in connection with a transaction under or in connection with which any company is to become or cease to be a Subsidiary, making such adjustments as would be appropriate if such transaction had been carried into effect;
- (E) ~~(E)~~ excluding therefrom (if not otherwise taken into account) any sum set aside for taxation;
- (F) ~~(F)~~ excluding such amounts (if any) as are attributable to minority interests in Subsidiaries;
- (G) excluding any lease obligations of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries which would be shown as a liability in a balance sheet prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) 16 Leases or with any then current accounting principles used in the preparation of the relevant balance sheet;
- (H) ~~(G)~~ excluding any amount for goodwill or other intangible assets (not being an amount representing part of the cost of an acquisition of shares or other property) incorporated as an asset in the audited balance sheet; and
- (I) ~~(H)~~ making such other adjustments (if any) as the Auditors may consider appropriate including in particular any further adjustments as may be appropriate to provide for the carrying into effect of the transaction for the purposes of or in connection with which the Adjusted Share Capital and Reserves are required to be calculated.

#### **Auditors' certificate conclusive**

140. A certificate or report by the Auditors as to the amount of the Adjusted Share Capital and Reserves or the amount of monies borrowed or secured or to the effect that the limit imposed by Articles 137 to ~~141~~140 has not been or will not be exceeded at any particular time or times shall be conclusive evidence of such amount or fact for the purposes of those Articles. For the purposes of their computation, the Auditors may at their discretion make such further or other adjustments (if any) as they think fit. Nevertheless for the purposes of ~~Article~~Articles 137 to ~~141~~140 the Directors may act in reliance on a bona fide estimate of the amount of the Adjusted Share Capital and Reserves at any time and if in consequence such limit is inadvertently exceeded an amount of monies borrowed equal to the excess may be disregarded until the expiration of sixty days after the date on which (by reason of a determination of the Auditors or otherwise) the Directors become aware that such a situation has or may have arisen.

#### **Debt ~~of~~ security not affected unless lender has express notice**

141. No debt incurred or security given in respect of monies borrowed in excess of the limit imposed by Articles 137 to ~~141~~140 shall be invalid or ineffectual unless the lender or recipient of the security had express notice at the time when the debt was incurred or security given that the limit hereby imposed had been exceeded but no lender shall be concerned to see or enquire whether such limit is observed.

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

### Appointment

142. The Directors may from time to time appoint any manager or other officer or person in the employment of any company in the Group for the time being to be an Associate Director of the Company.

### No ~~effect~~effect on terms and conditions of employment

143. The appointment of a person to be an Associate Director shall not, save as otherwise agreed between ~~him~~them and the Company or the Subsidiary (if any) in whose service ~~he~~they may be, affect the terms and conditions of ~~his~~their employment by the Company or by any such Subsidiary, whether as regards duties, remuneration, pension or otherwise, and ~~his~~their office as an Associate Director shall be vacated in the event of ~~his~~their being removed from office by a resolution of the Directors.

### Appointment, removal and remuneration of Associate Directors

144. The appointment, removal and remuneration of an Associate Director shall be determined by the Directors with full powers to make such arrangements as the Directors may think fit, and the ~~Director~~Directors shall have the right to enter into any contract on behalf of the Company or transact any business of any description without the knowledge or approval of any Associate Director, except that no act shall be done that would impose any personal liability on any ~~or all of the~~ Associate ~~Directors~~Director except with ~~his or~~ their knowledge and consent.

### Associate Director not to be counted in quorum for meeting

145. In calculating the number to form a quorum at any meeting of the Directors any Associate Director shall not be counted.

### Associate Director not entitled to notice of meeting or to vote at meeting

146. An Associate Director shall not be entitled to receive notice of or to vote at a meeting of the Directors or (except when expressly invited by the Directors to do so) to attend a meeting of the Directors. ~~He~~They shall not require any share qualification and shall not be deemed to be a Director for the purposes of the Statutes or these Articles.

## ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

### Appointment

147. Each Director (other than an alternate Director) at any time by notice in writing may appoint to the office of an alternate Director either another Director or any other person willing to act approved for that purpose by a resolution of the Directors, and may at any time terminate such appointment by notice in writing. The appointment of a person who is not a Director shall, unless

previously approved by the Directors, have effect only upon and subject to being so approved. Any such alternate is referred to in these Articles as an alternate Director. Any notice from a Director to the Company pursuant to this Article 147 may be sent by ~~facsimile or, at the Company's option, by~~ any ~~other~~ electronic means to an address provided for that purpose by the Company or by post or by hand to the office or to a meeting of the Directors.

### **Determination of appointment**

148. The appointment of an alternate Director shall automatically determine in any of the following events:
- (a) if the Director appointing ~~him~~them shall terminate the appointment;
  - (b) on the happening of any event which, if ~~he~~they were a Director, would cause ~~him~~them to vacate such office;
  - (c) if by a written statement signed by ~~him~~them sent or supplied to the Company at the Office or at an address specified for the purpose by the Company ~~he~~they shall resign such appointment; or
  - (d) if ~~his~~their appointor shall cease for any reason to be a Director but, if a Director retires but is re-appointed or deemed to have been re-appointed at the meeting at which ~~he~~retires~~they retire~~, any appointment of an alternate Director made by ~~him~~them which was in force immediately prior to ~~his~~their retirement shall continue after ~~his~~their re-appointment.

### **Rights and powers of alternate Directors**

149. An alternate Director shall (subject to ~~his~~ giving to the Company an address within the United Kingdom at which notices may be served upon ~~him~~them) be entitled to receive notices of meetings of the Directors and of any committee of the Directors of which ~~his~~their appointor is a member and shall be entitled to attend and vote as a Director and be counted in the quorum at any such meeting at which ~~his~~their appointor is not personally present, and at such meeting generally to perform all functions of ~~his~~their appointor as a Director and for the purposes of the proceedings at such meeting the provisions of these Articles shall apply as if ~~he~~they (instead of ~~his~~their appointor) were a Director. If the alternate Director is a Director or if ~~he~~they shall attend a meeting as an alternate for more than one Director ~~his~~their voting rights shall be cumulative but ~~he~~they shall not be counted more than once in a quorum. If ~~his~~their appointor is absent from the United Kingdom or otherwise not available, the alternate Director's signature to any resolution in writing of the Directors shall be as effective as the signature of ~~his~~their appointor. Save as aforesaid an alternate Director shall not have power to act as a Director nor shall ~~he~~they be deemed to be a Director for the purposes of these Articles but ~~he~~they shall be an officer of the Company and shall not be deemed to be the agent of the Director appointing ~~him~~them.

### **Contracts and remuneration**

150. An alternate Director shall be entitled to contract and be interested in and benefit from contracts or arrangements and to be repaid expenses and to be indemnified to the same extent mutatis mutandis as if ~~he~~they were a Director but ~~he~~they shall not be entitled to receive from the

Company in respect of ~~his~~their appointment as alternate Director any remuneration except only such part (if any) of the remuneration otherwise payable to ~~his~~their appointor as such appointor may by notice in writing to the Company from time to time direct.

## MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

### Directors' proceedings

151. Subject to the provisions of these Articles the Directors may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit. Questions arising at any meeting shall be determined by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote. A Director may, and the Secretary on the requisition of a Director shall, call a meeting of the Directors.

### Notice of Directors' meetings

152. A Director absent or intending to be absent from the United Kingdom may request the Directors that notices of meetings of Directors shall during ~~his~~their absence be sent to ~~him~~them at ~~his~~their last known address or any other address (including an address for communications by electronic means) given by ~~him~~them to the Company for this purpose. It shall not be necessary to give notice of a meeting of Directors to any Director who is for the time being absent from the United Kingdom if no such request is made or if the address given to the Company for the purpose of this Article 152 is outside the United Kingdom and ~~he~~has~~they~~have not provided an address for the purpose of communications by electronic means or otherwise. Where such address is outside the United Kingdom notice may be sent by electronic means but the Company shall not be obliged to give the Director a longer period of notice than ~~he~~they would have been entitled to had ~~he~~they been present in the United Kingdom. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting and such waiver may be retrospective.

### Directors' meetings by telephone

153. All or any of the Directors, or the members of any committee of the Directors, may participate in a meeting of the Directors or of such committee by means of a conference telephone or similar communications equipment allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time. A person so participating shall be deemed to be present in person at the meeting and shall be entitled to vote and to be counted in a quorum accordingly. Such a meeting shall be deemed to take place where the largest group of those participating is assembled or, if there is no such group, where the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting is present.

### Quorum

154. The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Directors may be fixed from time to time by the Directors, and unless so fixed at any other number shall be two.

### Appointment and removal of ~~Chairman~~Chair

155. The Directors may elect from their number a ~~Chairman~~Chair and a Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair or in ~~his or their~~the absence of either of them may appoint some other Director to be ~~Chairman~~Chair of their meetings on such terms and for such periods (~~subject to the Statutes and any retirement from office under Article 116~~) as they may determine. The Directors may also remove the ~~Chairman~~Chair or Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair or such other Director (without



prejudice to any rights or claims which ~~he~~they may have against the Company by reason of such removal) from such office or otherwise stipulate the period for which they respectively are to hold the same. If no such ~~Chairman~~Chair or Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair is appointed, or if at any meeting neither is present within five minutes after the time appointed for holding that meeting, the Directors present may choose one of their number to be ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting.

### Resolution in writing

156. A resolution in writing signed by all the Directors for the time being entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Directors or a duly appointed committee for the time being (not being in either case less than the number required to form a quorum) shall be as valid and effective as a resolution duly passed at a meeting of the Directors duly convened and held, and may consist of several documents in like terms each signed by one or more of the Directors. A resolution signed by an alternate Director need not also be signed by the Director who appointed ~~him~~them.

### Validity of acts of Directors or committee

157. All acts done by any meeting of the Directors, or of a committee or sub-committee of the Directors, or by any person acting as a Director or as an alternate Director or as a member of any such committee, shall, as regards all persons dealing in good faith with the Company notwithstanding it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any Director, alternate Director or person acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified, or had vacated office or were not entitled to vote, be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be a Director or, as the case may be, an alternate Director or member of the committee and had been entitled to vote.

## DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

### Board power to authorise conflicts of interest

158. ~~(a)~~(a) The Board may, in accordance with these Articles, authorise a matter proposed to it which would, if not authorised, involve a breach by a Director of ~~his~~their duty under Section 175 CA06 to avoid a situation in which ~~he has~~they have, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the Company's interests.
- (b) A matter referred to in Article 158(a) is proposed to the Board by its being submitted:
- (i) in writing for consideration at a meeting of the Board or for the authorisation of the Board by resolution in writing; and
- (ii) in accordance with the Board's normal procedures or in such other manner as the Board may approve.
- (c) A reference in these Articles to a conflict of interest includes a conflict of interest and duty and a conflict of duties.
- (d) An authorisation referred to in Article 158(a) is effective only if it is given in accordance with the requirements of CA06.
- (e) In the case of an authorisation given by resolution in writing:
- (i) the resolution must be signed by all the Directors; and

- (ii) the number of Directors that sign the resolution (disregarding the Director in question and any other Director who has a direct or indirect interest in the matter being authorised) is not less than the number required to form a quorum.
- (f) The Board may:
- (i) authorise a matter pursuant to Article 158(a) on such terms and for such duration, or impose such limits or conditions on it, as it may decide; and
  - (ii) vary the terms or duration of such an authorisation (including any limits or conditions imposed on it) or revoke it.
- (g) Any terms, limits or conditions imposed by the Board in respect of its authorisation of a Director's conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest (whether given pursuant to Article 158(a) or otherwise) may provide (without limitation) that:
- (i) if the relevant Director has (other than through ~~his~~their position as Director) information in relation to the relevant matter in respect of which ~~he owes~~they owe a duty of confidentiality to another person, ~~he is~~they will not ~~be~~ obliged to disclose that information to the Company or to use or apply it in performing ~~his~~their duties as a Director;
  - (ii) the Director is to be excluded from discussions in relation to the relevant matter whether at a meeting of the Board or any committee or sub-committee of the Board or otherwise;
  - (iii) the Director is not to be given any documents or other information in relation to the relevant matter; and
  - (iv) the Director may or may not vote (or may or may not be counted in the quorum) at a meeting of the Board or any committee or sub-committee of the Board in relation to any resolution relating to the relevant matter.
- (h) A Director does not infringe any duty ~~he owes~~they owe to the Company by virtue of Sections 171 to 177 CA06 if ~~he acts~~they act in accordance with such terms, limits and conditions (if any) as the Board imposes in respect of its authorisation of the Director's conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest (whether given pursuant to Article 158(a) or otherwise) .

#### **Directors permitted to retain benefits**

159. ~~(a)~~(a) A Director is not required, by reason of being a Director (or because of the fiduciary relationship established by reason of being a Director), to account to the Company for any remuneration or other benefit which ~~he derives~~they derive from or in connection with a relationship involving a conflict of interest or possible conflict of interest which has been authorised by the Board (whether pursuant to Article 158(a) or otherwise) or by the Company in general meeting (subject in each case to any terms, limits or conditions attaching to that authorisation).
- (b) If ~~he a~~Director has disclosed to the Board the nature and extent of ~~his~~their interest to the extent required by CA06, ~~a~~such Director is not required, by reason of being a Director (or because of the fiduciary relationship established by reason of being a Director), to account

to the Company for any remuneration or other benefit which ~~he derives~~they derive from or in connection with:

- (i) being a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with:
    - (A) ~~(A)~~ the Company or in which the Company is interested; or
    - (B) ~~(B)~~ a body corporate in which the Company is interested;
  - (ii) acting (otherwise than as auditor) alone or through ~~his~~their organisation in a professional capacity for the Company (and ~~he~~the Director, or that organisation, is entitled to remuneration for professional services as if ~~he~~that Director were not a Director); or
  - (iii) being a director or other officer of, or employed by, or otherwise interested in the Company's subsidiaries or any other body corporate in which the Company is interested.
- (c) A Director's receipt of any remuneration or other benefit referred to in Article 159(a) or (b) does not constitute an infringement of ~~his~~their duty under Section 176 CA06.
- (d) A transaction or arrangement referred to in Article 159(a) or (b) is not liable to be avoided on the ground of any remuneration, benefit or interest referred to in that Article.

#### **Prohibition on voting for Directors with interests**

160. ~~(a)~~(a) Except as provided by the terms of any authorisation of a conflict of interest or proposed conflict of interest given by the ~~directors~~Directors (whether pursuant to Article 158(a) or otherwise) if a meeting (or part of a meeting) of the Board is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the company in which a ~~director~~Director is interested, that ~~director~~Director may not vote or be counted in the quorum at that meeting or part of a meeting.
- (b) But if Article 160(c) applies, a Director who is interested in an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the Company may vote and count in the quorum at that meeting or part of a meeting.
- (c) This Article 160(c) applies when:
- (i) the Director's interest arises solely through an interest in shares, debentures or other securities of or otherwise in or through the Company;
  - (ii) the Company by ordinary resolution disapplies the provision of these Articles which would otherwise prevent a Director from being counted as participating in, or voting at, a meeting of the Board;
  - (iii) the Director's interest cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a material conflict of interest; or
  - (iv) the Director's conflict of interest arises from a permitted cause as set out in Article 160(d).

- (d) For the purposes of Article 160(c)(iv), the following are permitted causes:
- (i) a guarantee, security or indemnity given, or to be given, by or to a Director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries;
  - (ii) subscription, or an agreement to subscribe, for shares or other securities of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or to underwrite, sub-underwrite, or guarantee an offer of any such shares or securities by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries for subscription, purchase or exchange;
  - (iii) arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and directors or former employees and directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries which do not provide special benefits for directors or former directors;
  - (iv) the purchase or maintenance of insurance which the Company is empowered to purchase or maintain for any person who is a Director or other officer of the Company under which ~~he~~they may benefit;
  - (v) the giving to a Director of an indemnity against liabilities incurred or to be incurred by that Director in the execution and discharge of ~~his~~their duties;
  - (vi) the provision to a Director of funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by that Director in defending criminal or civil proceedings against ~~him~~them or in connection with any application under any of the provisions mentioned in Section 205(5) ~~Companies Act 2006~~CA06 or otherwise enabling ~~him~~them to avoid incurring that expenditure; or
  - (vii) proposals concerning another company in which ~~he~~a Director is interested directly or indirectly (whether as officer, shareholder or otherwise), if ~~he~~that Director and any other persons connected with ~~him~~them do not to ~~his~~the knowledge ~~of that Director~~ hold an interest in shares (as that term is used in Sections 820 to 825 CA06) representing one per cent or more of the issued shares of any class of the equity share capital of that company (or of any third company through which ~~his~~that Director or ~~their~~such connected persons' interest is derived) or of the voting rights available to members of the relevant company (and that interest is deemed for the purposes of Articles 158 to 163 to be a material interest).
- (e) For the purposes of this Article 160:
- (i) an interest of a person who is, for any purpose of CA06, "connected with" (within the meaning of Section 252 CA06) a Director is to be treated as an interest of the Director; and
  - (ii) in relation to an alternate Director, an interest of ~~his~~their appointor is to be treated as an interest of the alternate Director without prejudice to any interest which the alternate Director has otherwise.

### **Directors voting on appointments**

161. If it is proposed to appoint two or more Directors to offices or employments with the Company or with a company in which the Company is interested, or to fix or vary the terms of those

appointments, the proposals may be divided and considered in relation to each Director separately and in such case each of those Directors (if not debarred from voting for another reason) may vote (and be counted in the quorum) in respect of each resolution except that which relates to ~~him~~them.

### **Chairman~~Chair~~'s ruling is final**

162. If a question arises at any meeting of the Board or committee or sub-committee of the Board as to the materiality of a Director's interest or as to the entitlement of a Director to vote or count in the quorum and the question is not resolved by ~~his~~their voluntarily agreeing to abstain from voting, the question must be referred to the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting (or where the interest concerns the ~~Chairman~~Chair to the Deputy ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting who if not already appointed under Article 155 is the non-executive Director who has been in office as a non-executive Director the longest) and ~~his~~their ruling in relation to any other Director is final and conclusive except in a case where the nature or extent of the interests of the Director concerned have not been fairly disclosed.

### **Directors' power relating to other companies**

163. The Board may exercise the voting power conferred by the shares in any company held or owned by the Company in any way that it decides (including voting in favour of any resolution appointing any of them as directors of that company, or voting or providing for the payment of remuneration to the directors of that company).

## **SECRETARY**

### **Appointment, remuneration and removal**

164. Subject to the Statutes the Secretary shall be appointed by the Directors for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit~~s~~, and any Secretary so appointed may be removed from office by the Directors but at any time without prejudice to any claim for damages for breach of any contract of service between ~~him~~the Director and the Company. If thought fit, two or more persons may be appointed as joint Secretaries and the Directors may also appoint from time to time on such terms as they think fit one or more assistant or deputy Secretaries.

### **Acting as both Director and Secretary**

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

## **AUTHENTICATION OF DOCUMENTS**

### **Authentication of documents**

166. Any Director or the Secretary or any person appointed by the Directors for the purpose shall have power to authenticate any documents affecting the constitution of the Company and any resolutions passed by the Company or the Directors or any committee of the Directors and any books, records, documents and accounts relating to the business of the Company and to certify copies of them or extracts from them as true copies or extracts; and where any books, records, documents or accounts are elsewhere than at the Office the local manager or other officer of the

Company having the custody of them shall be deemed to be a person appointed by the Directors for the above purposes. A document purporting to be a copy of a resolution or an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Company or of the Directors or any committee, which is certified as described in this Article 166, shall be conclusive evidence in favour of all persons dealing with the Company, upon the faith of such resolution or extract of minutes, that such resolution has been duly passed or, as the case may be, that such minutes or extract is a true and accurate record of proceedings at a duly constituted meeting.

## THE SEAL/EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

### Use of Seal

167. ~~(a)~~ (a) The Directors shall provide for the safe custody of the Seal which shall only be used by the authority of the Directors or of a committee authorised by the Directors in that behalf.
- (b) Subject to Article 20 every instrument to which the Seal shall be affixed shall be signed autographically by one Director and the Secretary or by two Directors or by one Director and some other person appointed by the Directors for the purpose.
- (c) Where the Statutes so permit, any instrument signed by one Director and the Secretary or by two Directors or by a Director in the presence of a witness who attests the signature and in each case expressed (in whatever form of words) to be executed by the Company shall have the same effect as if executed under the Seal.

### Securities Seal

168. The Securities Seal (if any) shall be used only for sealing shares or debentures or other securities or options in respect of such securities issued by the Company and documents creating or evidencing securities or options so issued. Any such securities or documents sealed with the Securities Seal shall not be required to be signed.

### Resolution to dispense with Seal

169. The Directors may resolve (if such is lawful) that the Company shall not have a Seal.

## MINUTES AND BOOKS

### Minutes

170. The Directors shall cause minutes to be made in books provided for the purpose:
- (a) of all appointments of officers made by the Directors;
- (b) of the names of the Directors present at each meeting of the Directors and of any committee of the Directors; and
- (c) of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the Company and of any class of members of the Company and of the Directors and of committees of the Directors and of all written resolutions of the Directors.

Any such minutes, if purporting to be authenticated by the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the meeting to which they relate or of the ~~Chairman~~Chair of the next meeting, shall be sufficient evidence of the facts stated in them without any further proof.

## **Statutory books**

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

## **ACCOUNTS**

### **Records to be kept and inspection of records**

172. Accounting records sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and otherwise complying with the Statutes shall be kept at the Office or (subject to the provisions of the Statutes) at such other place in Great Britain as the Directors think fit, and shall always be open to inspection by the officers of the Company. No member (other than a Director or other officer of the Company) or other person shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the Company, except as conferred by the Statutes or authorised by the Directors or by an ordinary resolution of the Company or under an order of a Court of competent jurisdiction.

### **Preparation of accounts and reports**

173. The Directors shall in respect of each financial year in accordance with the Statutes cause to be prepared and to be laid before the Company in general meeting such profit and loss accounts, income statements, balance sheets, group accounts (if any), other financial statements and reports as are required by the Statutes.

### **Publication of annual accounts**

174. A copy of every balance sheet and profit and loss account or income statement (including every document required by law to be annexed thereto) which is to be laid before the Company in general meeting and of the Directors' and Auditors' reports shall, not less than twenty-one days before the date of the meeting, be sent to every member and debenture-holder of the Company and to every other person who is entitled to receive notices of meetings from the Company under the provisions of the Statutes or of these Articles, provided that this Article 174 shall not require a copy of these documents to be sent to more than one of joint holders or to any person of whose current address the Company is not aware, but any member or holder of debentures to whom a copy of these documents has not been sent shall be entitled to receive a copy free of charge on application at the Office.

### **Summary financial statements**

175. The requirements of Article 174 shall be deemed satisfied by sending to the requisite persons, where permitted by the Statutes and instead of the copies referred to in Article 174, a summary financial statement derived from the Company's annual accounts and the Directors report and prepared in the form and containing the information prescribed by the Statutes.

### **Copies to be Provided to the ~~UK Listing Authority~~[FCA](#)**

176. Whenever a listing on the Official List for all or any of the shares or debentures of the Company for the time being shall be in force, there shall be forwarded to the appropriate officer of the ~~UK Listing Authority~~[FCA](#) such ~~number of~~ copies of such documents as may for the time being be required under its regulations or practice.

## AUDITORS

### Auditors

177. Auditors of the Company shall be appointed and their duties regulated in accordance with the Statutes. The Auditors' report to the members made pursuant to the Statutes shall be laid before the Company in general meeting and shall be open to inspection by any member.

## DIVIDENDS

### Declaration of dividends by Company

178. Subject to the provisions of the Statutes, the Company may by ordinary resolution declare dividends in accordance with the respective rights of the members but no such dividend shall exceed the amount recommended by the Directors. For the avoidance of doubt, no dividend shall be payable to the Company itself in respect of any shares held by it as treasury shares (except to the extent permitted by the Statutes).

### Payment of fixed and interim dividends

179. ~~(a)~~ (a) The Directors may pay fixed dividends payable on any shares of the Company with preferential rights half-yearly or otherwise on fixed dates whenever the profits of the Company in the opinion of the Directors justify that course, and the Directors may also from time to time declare and pay to the holders of any class of shares such interim dividends as appear to the Directors to be justified by such profits.

- ~~(b)~~ (b) The Directors acting in good faith shall not incur any liability to the holders of shares conferring preferential rights for any loss they may suffer by the lawful payment of an interim dividend on any shares having deferred or non-preferential rights provided that at the time of such declaration no preferential dividend is in arrears.

### Dividends paid according to amount and period shares paid up

180. Unless and to the extent that the rights attached to or terms of issue of any shares provide otherwise all dividends shall be:
- (a) declared and paid according to the amounts paid up on the shares on which the dividend is paid, but no amount paid up on a share in advance of a call shall be treated for the purposes of this Article 180 as paid up on the share; and
  - (b) apportioned and paid in proportion to the amounts paid up on the shares during any portion or portions of the period in respect of which the dividend is paid.

### Amount due on shares may be deducted from dividends

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

### Dividends paid to member on share register at record date



182. All dividends and interest shall belong and be paid (subject to any lien of the Company) to those members whose names shall be on the Register at the record date fixed in accordance with Article 191 notwithstanding any subsequent transfer or transmission of shares.

#### **Retention of dividends on transmission**

183. The Directors may retain the dividends payable upon shares in respect of which any person is under the provisions as to the transmission of shares contained in these Articles entitled to become a member, or which any person is under those provisions entitled to transfer, until such person shall become a member in respect of such shares or shall transfer the same.

#### **Retention of dividends where Company has a lien**

184. The Directors may retain any dividends or other moneys payable on or in respect of a share on which the Company has a lien, and may apply the same in or towards satisfaction of the debts, liabilities or engagements in respect of which the lien exists.

#### **Payment procedure**

185. Any dividend, interest or other moneys payable in cash in respect of registered shares may be paid by cheque, warrant or similar financial instrument sent through the post directed to the registered address of the holder or, in the case of joint holders, to the registered address of that one of the joint holders who is first named on the Register or to such person and to such address as the holder or joint holders may in writing direct. Every such cheque, warrant or similar financial instrument shall be made payable to, or (at the Company's discretion) to the order of, the person to whom it is sent and may be crossed "A/C payee" or otherwise and shall be sent at the risk of such person. Payment of any cheque, warrant or similar financial instrument by the banker on whom it is drawn shall be a good discharge to the Company. In addition, any such dividend or other sum may be paid by any bank or other funds transfer system or such other means (including, in relation to any dividend or other sum payable in respect of shares held in uncertificated form, by means of a Relevant System in any manner permitted by the rules of the Relevant System concerned) and to or through such person as the holder or joint holders (as the case may be) may in writing direct, and the Company shall have no responsibility for any sums lost or delayed in the course of any such transfer or where it has acted on any such directions. Any one, two or more joint holders may give effectual receipts for any dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the shares held by them as joint holders.

#### **Forfeiture of unclaimed dividends**

186. All dividends unclaimed may be invested or otherwise made use of, at the Directors' discretion, for the benefit of the Company until, subject as provided in these Articles, claimed. Any dividend unclaimed after a period of twelve years from the date when it became due for payment shall be forfeited and shall revert to the Company and the payment by the Directors of any unclaimed dividend or other sum payable on or in respect of a share into a separate account shall not constitute the Company a trustee in respect of it.

#### **Uncashed dividends**

187. The Company may cease to send any cheque or warrant through the post or may stop the transfer of any sum by any bank or other funds transfer system or may stop any other means of payment made pursuant to Article 185, as the case may be, for any dividend payable on any shares which is normally paid in that manner on those shares if either in respect of at least two consecutive dividends payable on those shares the cheques or warrants have been returned undelivered or

remain uncashed or the transfer or other means of payment has failed or in respect of one dividend payable on those shares the cheques or warrants have been returned undelivered or remain uncashed or the transfer or other means of payment has failed and reasonable enquiries made by the Company have failed to establish any new address of the holder of those shares but, subject to the provisions of these Articles, shall recommence sending cheques or warrants or transferring funds or using the other means of payment, as the case may be, in respect of dividends payable on those shares if the holder or person entitled by transmission claims the arrears of dividend in which event the Company shall resume payment of dividend (and arrears) as notified by the claimant or, in the absence of such notification, in the same manner in which payment was effected prior to the suspension of the payment of dividend. If any such uncashed cheque, warrant or order has been or is alleged to have been lost, stolen or destroyed, the Directors may, on request of the person entitled to it, issue a replacement cheque, warrant or order subject to compliance with such conditions as to evidence and indemnity and the payment of out-of-pocket expenses of the Company in connection with the request as the Directors may think fit.

#### **No interest on dividends**

188. No dividend or other monies payable in respect of a share shall bear interest against the Company.

#### **Dividend not in cash**

189. The Company may, upon the recommendation of the Directors, by ordinary resolution, direct payment of a dividend wholly or partly by the distribution of specific assets (and in particular of paid up shares or debentures of any other company) and the Directors shall give effect to such resolution. Where any difficulty arises in regard to such distribution (including, without limitation, in relation to fractional entitlements or legal or practical problems under the law of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any country or territory), the Directors may settle the same as they think fit and in particular may issue fractional certificates (or ignore fractions) and fix the value for distribution of such specific assets or any part thereof and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any members upon the footing of the value so fixed in order to adjust the rights of all members and may vest any assets in trustees, upon trust for the members entitled to the dividend and may determine that cash shall be paid to any overseas holder upon the footing of the value so fixed.

#### **Waiver of dividend**

190. The waiver, in whole or in part, of any dividend on any share by any document (whether or not under seal) shall be effective only if such document is signed by the holder (or the person entitled to the share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of the holder) and delivered to the Company and to the extent that the same is accepted as such or acted upon by the Company.

### **RECORD DATES**

#### **Record dates**

191. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles but subject always to the Statutes, the Company or the Directors may (by resolution) fix a date (the "**record date**") as the date at the close of business (or such other time as the Directors may determine) on which persons registered as the holders of shares or other securities shall be entitled to receipt of any dividend, distribution, allotment, issue, notice, information, document or circular and such record date may be on or before the date the same is made, paid or despatched or (in the case of any dividend, interest,

allotment or issue) after the date on which the same is recommended, resolved, declared or announced but without prejudice to the rights inter se in respect of the same of the transferors and transferees of any such shares or other securities.

## SCRIP DIVIDENDS

### Scrip dividends

192. With the prior approval of an ordinary resolution of the Company passed at any general meeting the Directors may, in respect of any dividend specified by the ordinary resolution, offer any holders of Ordinary Shares (excluding, for the avoidance of doubt, the Company itself to the extent that it is such a holder by virtue only of its holding any shares as treasury shares) the right to elect to receive in lieu of such dividend (or part of any such dividend) an allotment of Ordinary Shares credited as fully paid. In any such case the following provisions shall apply:
- (a) the ordinary resolution may authorise the Directors to make such offer in respect of a particular dividend (whether or not already declared or recommended) and/or in respect of all or any dividends declared, proposed to be paid or made within a period specified by that ordinary resolution;
  - (b) the basis of allotment shall be determined by the Directors so that the value (calculated at the Relevant Price) of the additional Ordinary Shares each holder of Ordinary Shares who elects to receive the same shall be allotted in lieu of any amount of dividend shall equal as nearly as possible the net cash amount of the dividend that such holder elects to forego. For that purpose, the "**Relevant Price**" of an Ordinary Share shall be equal to the average middle market quotation for the Ordinary Shares on the Daily Official List of London Stock Exchange ~~ple~~ on such five consecutive dealing days as the Directors shall determine provided the first of such days shall be on or after the day on which such Ordinary Shares are first quoted "ex" the relevant dividend. The Directors may request the Auditors to provide a certificate or report as to the amount of the Relevant Price in respect of any dividend and such a certificate or report obtained shall be conclusive evidence of that amount. In giving such a certificate or report the Auditors may rely on advice or information from brokers or other sources of information as they think fit;
  - (c) if the Directors determine to allow such right of election on any occasion they shall give notice in writing to the holders of Ordinary Shares of the right of election offered to them and shall specify the procedure to be followed (which, for the avoidance of doubt, may include an election by means of a Relevant System); the Directors may also establish or vary a procedure for election mandates under which shareholders may elect to receive Ordinary Shares instead of cash both in respect of the relevant dividend and (until they notify the Company that such mandate is revoked) in respect of future dividends not yet declared or resolved (and accordingly in respect of which the basis of allotment shall not have been determined) and the Directors may include in the procedure the right to make and revoke such election by means of a Relevant System;
  - (d) the dividend (or that part of the dividend in respect of which a right of election has been offered) shall not be payable in cash on Ordinary Shares in respect of which the share election has been duly exercised (the "**elected Ordinary Shares**"), and in the place of that dividend additional shares (subject to paragraph (e) below) 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 such of the sums standing to the credit of any reserve (including any share premium account or capital redemption reserve

and/or profit and loss account) as the Directors may determine, whether or not the same is available for distribution, a sum equal to the aggregate nominal amount of additional Ordinary Shares to be allotted on such basis and shall apply the same in paying up in full the appropriate number of Ordinary Shares for allotment and distribution to and amongst the holders of the elected Ordinary Shares on such basis;

- (e) no fraction of any share shall be allotted. The Directors may make provisions as they think fit for any fractional entitlements including provisions whereby, in whole or in part, the benefit of any fractions accrues to the Company and/or under which fractional entitlements are accrued and/or retained and in each case accumulated on behalf of any shareholder and such accruals or retentions are applied to the allotment by way of bonus to or cash subscription on behalf of such shareholder of fully paid shares and/or provisions whereby cash payments may be made to members in respect of their fractional entitlements;
- (f) the additional Ordinary Shares so allotted shall rank pari passu in all respects with the fully-paid Ordinary Shares then in issue save only as regards participation in the relevant dividend;
- (g) Articles 194 and 195 (capitalisation of reserves) shall apply (mutatis mutandis) to any capitalisation made pursuant to this Article;
- (h) the Directors may on any occasion determine that rights of election shall not be made available in respect of Ordinary Shares represented by depositary receipts or to any holders of Ordinary Shares with registered addresses in any territory where in the absence of a registration statement or other special formalities the circulation of an offer of rights of election would or might be unlawful, undesirable or impracticable and in such event the provisions of this Article [192](#) shall be read and construed subject to such determination;
- (i) in relation to any particular proposed dividend the Directors may in their absolute discretion amend, suspend or withdraw the offer previously made to holders of Ordinary Shares to elect to receive additional Ordinary Shares in lieu of the cash dividend (or any part of it) at any time prior to the allotment of the additional Ordinary Shares; and
- (j) unless the Directors otherwise determine, or unless the Regulations and/or the rules of the Relevant System concerned otherwise require the new Ordinary Share or shares which a shareholder has elected to receive instead of cash in respect of the whole (or some part) of the specified dividend declared in respect of ~~his~~[their](#) elected Ordinary Shares shall be in uncertificated form (in respect of the shareholder's elected Ordinary Shares which were in uncertificated form on the date of ~~his~~[their](#) election) and in certificated form (in respect of the shareholder's elected Ordinary Shares which were in certificated form on the date of ~~his~~[their](#) election).

## RESERVES

### Reserves

193. ~~(a)~~[\(a\)](#) The Directors may, before recommending any dividend, set aside out of the profits of the Company and carry to reserve such sums as they think proper, which shall, at the discretion of the Directors, be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the Company may properly be applied and, pending such application, may either be employed in the business of the Company or be invested in such investments (subject to the

provisions of the Statutes) as the Directors may from time to time think fit. The Directors may also, without placing the same to reserve, carry forward any profits which they may think it prudent not to divide. The Directors may divide the reserve into any special funds as they think fit and may consolidate into one fund any special funds or any parts of any special funds into which the reserve may have been divided.

- (b) The Directors shall transfer to share premium account as required by the Statutes sums equal to the amount or value of any premiums at which any shares of the Company shall be issued.

## **CAPITALISATION OF RESERVES**

### **Power to capitalise reserves and funds**

194. The Company may, upon the recommendation of the Directors, at any time and from time to time pass an ordinary resolution to the effect that it is desirable to capitalise all or any part of any amount for the time being standing to the credit of any reserve or fund (including the profit and loss account or income statement) whether or not the same is available for distribution or return and accordingly that the amount to be capitalised be set free for distribution or return among the members or any class of members who would be entitled to it if it were distributed by way of dividend and in the same proportions, on the footing that it is applied either in or towards paying up the amounts for the time being unpaid on any shares held by those members respectively or in paying up in full shares, debentures or other obligations of the Company to be allotted and distributed credited as fully paid up among those members, or partly in one way and partly in the other, but so that, for the purposes of this Article 194, a share premium account and a capital redemption reserve, and any reserve or fund representing unrealised profits, may be applied only in paying up shares of the Company as fully paid. The Directors may resolve that any shares so allocated to any member in respect of a holding by ~~him~~that member 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. The Directors may authorise any person to enter into an agreement with the Company on behalf of the persons entitled to participate in the distribution or return providing for the allotment to them respectively of any shares, debentures or other obligations of the Company to which they are entitled on the capitalisation and the agreement shall be binding on those persons.

### **Settlement of difficulties in distribution**

195. Where any difficulty arises in regard to any distribution of any capitalised reserve or fund the Directors may settle the matter as they think expedient and in particular may issue fractional certificates or authorise any person to sell and transfer any fractions or may resolve that the distribution should be as nearly as may be practicable in the correct proportion but not exactly so or may ignore fractions altogether, and may determine that cash payments shall be made to any members in order to adjust the rights of all parties, as may seem expedient to the Directors.

## **DOCUMENTS, INFORMATION AND NOTICES**

### **Service of documents etc.**

196. Documents, information and notices may be sent or supplied by the Company to any person entitled to receive such documents, information or notice in any of the forms permitted by CA06.

### **Hard copy**

197. Any document, information or notice is validly sent or supplied by the Company in hard copy if it is handed to the intended recipient or sent or supplied by hand or through the post in a prepaid envelope:
- (a) to an address specified for the purpose by the intended recipient;
  - (b) if the intended recipient is a company, to its registered office;
  - (c) to the address shown in the Company's register of members;
  - (d) to any address to which any provision of CA06 authorises it to be sent or supplied;
  - (e) if the Company is unable to obtain an address falling within paragraphs (a) to (d), to the last address known to the Company of the intended recipient.

#### **Electronic form**

198. Any document, information or notice is validly sent or supplied by the Company in electronic form:
- (a) to a person if that person has agreed (generally or specifically) that the document, information or notice may be sent or supplied in that form and has not revoked that agreement; or
  - (b) to a company that is deemed to have so agreed by CA06.

#### **Electronic means**

199. Any document, information or notice is validly sent or supplied by the Company by electronic means if it is sent or supplied:
- (a) to an address specified for the purpose by the intended recipient (generally or specifically); or
  - (b) where the intended recipient is a company, to an address deemed by CA06 to have been so specified.

#### **Website**

200. Any document, information or notice is validly sent or supplied by the Company to a person by being made available on a website if:
- (a) the person has agreed (generally or specifically) that the document, information or notice may be sent or supplied to him~~them~~ in that manner, or ~~he~~ is taken to have so agreed under Schedule 5 CA06, and in either case ~~he~~<sub>s</sub> has not revoked that agreement;
  - (b) the Company has notified the intended recipient of:
    - (i) the presence of the document, information or notice on the website;
    - (ii) the address of the website;
    - (iii) the place on the website where it may be accessed;

- (iv) how to access the document, information or notice; and
  - (v) any other information prescribed by the Statutes including, when the document, information or notice is a notice of meeting, that fact, the place, date and time of the meeting and whether the meeting is an annual general meeting; and
- (c) the document, information or notice is available on the website throughout the period specified by any applicable provision of CA06 or, if no such period is specified, the period of twenty eight days starting on the date on which the notification referred to in Article 200(b) is sent to the relevant person.

#### **Any other means**

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

#### **Joint holders**

202. In respect of joint holdings all documents, notices and information shall be sent or supplied to the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register in respect of such joint holding, and notice so sent or supplied shall be sufficient notice to all the joint holders. A joint holder whose name stands first in the Register but who has no specified or registered address in the United Kingdom for the service of notices shall be disregarded for this purpose except to the extent that the Company intends to send or supply a notice by electronic means and the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register has agreed (generally or specifically) to the sending or supply of that document, information or notice by electronic means and has not revoked that agreement and ~~he~~ has notified the Company of an address for that purpose. Anything to be agreed or specified in respect of a joint holding may be agreed or specified by the joint holder whose name stands first in the Register. Paragraphs 16(2) and 16(3), Schedule 5 CA06 shall not apply.

#### **Members resident abroad**

203. A member who (having no registered address within the United Kingdom) has not supplied to the Company an address within the United Kingdom for the service of notices shall not be entitled to receive any document, information or notice from the Company except to the extent that the Directors decide to send a document, information or a notice to that member by electronic means and that member has consented (or is deemed to have consented) to the sending of that document, information or notice by electronic means and ~~he~~ has, where necessary, notified the Company of an address for that purpose.

#### **Presence at meeting evidence in itself of receipt of notice**

204. A member present either in person or by proxy, or in the case of a corporate member by a duly authorised representative, 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 etc. given by advertisement in certain circumstances**

205. Unless the Statutes require a notice, document or information to be sent or supplied in a different way, any notice, information or document shall be sufficiently sent or supplied if published by advertisement inserted once in at least one national newspaper published in the United Kingdom.

### **When document etc. deemed served**

206. ~~(a)~~ (a) Where a document, information or a notice is sent by first class post to an address in the United Kingdom it shall be deemed to have been received by the intended recipient on the day after it was posted or two days after it was posted if sent by second class post. In proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice or document was properly addressed, prepaid and posted.
- (b) A notice given by advertisement shall be deemed to have been given or served on the day on which the advertisement appears.
- (c) Where a document, information or notice is sent or supplied by electronic means it shall be deemed to have been received by the intended recipient on the day it was sent. In proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the document, information or notice was properly addressed.
- (d) Where a document, information or notice is sent or supplied by means of a website, it is deemed to have been received by the recipient when the material was first made available on the website or, if later, when the recipient received (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material was available on the website.
- (e) In calculating a period of hours for the purposes of this Article, it is immaterial whether a day is a working day (as defined in the CA06) or not.
- (f) ~~(~~Where a document, information or a notice to be given or sent by electronic means has failed to be transmitted after three attempts then, that notice or other document shall nevertheless be deemed to have been sent for the purposes of paragraph (c) and, without prejudice to Article 208, that failure shall not invalidate any meeting or other proceeding to which the notice or document relates.

### **Manner of giving notice of general meetings**

207. Notice of every general meeting shall, subject to the provisions of these Articles, be given in any manner authorised in these Articles to:
- (a) every member entitled to notice under Articles 196, 202 and 203;
- (b) all persons entitled to a share in consequence of death or bankruptcy of a member, if the Company has been notified in accordance with Article 209;
- (c) the Auditors for the time being of the Company; and
- (d) the Directors and alternate Directors of the Company.

No other person shall be entitled to receive notices of general meetings.

### **Omission or non-receipt of document etc.**

208. Without prejudice to Article ~~75~~<sup>72</sup> or Article 106 the accidental failure to send any document, notice or information to or the non-receipt of any document, notice or information by any person entitled to any document, notice or information relating to any meeting or other proceeding shall not invalidate the relevant meeting or other proceeding.



### **Service of document etc. on person entitled by transmission**

209. A person entitled to a share in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a member upon supplying to the Company such evidence as the Directors may reasonably require to show ~~his~~their title to the share, and upon supplying also an address within the United Kingdom for the sending or supply of documents, notices or information (or, in relation to any document, notice or information which that person agrees (generally or specifically) to receive and which the Company intends to send or supply using electronic means, an address for that purpose), shall be entitled to have sent or supplied to ~~him~~them at such address any document, notice or information to which the member (but for ~~his~~their death or bankruptcy) would have been entitled, and that sending or supply shall for all purposes be deemed a sufficient sending or supply of that document, notice or information on all persons interested (whether jointly with or as claiming through or under ~~him~~them) in the share. Save as aforesaid, any document, notice or information sent by post to, left at or sent or supplied using electronic means to the address of any member in pursuance of these Articles shall, notwithstanding that such member is then dead or bankrupt, and whether or not the Company has notice of ~~his~~their death or bankruptcy, be deemed to have been duly sent or supplied in respect of any share registered in the name of such member as sole or first-named joint holder.

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

210. If at any time by reason of the suspension or curtailment of postal services within the United Kingdom the Company desires to but is unable effectively to convene a general meeting by notices sent through the post then, notwithstanding the availability of any other method of giving or delivering notices under ~~Article~~Articles 198 to 201 a general meeting may be convened by a notice advertised on the same date in at least two leading daily newspapers with appropriate circulations published in the United Kingdom (at least one of which shall be a national newspaper) and such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served on all members entitled thereto on whom the Company would otherwise have served the relevant notice by post at noon on the day on which the advertisement appears. In any such case the Company shall send confirmatory copies of the notice by post to all members on whom it would otherwise have served the original notice by post if at least seven days prior to the meeting the posting of notices to addresses throughout the United Kingdom again becomes practicable.

### **Power to stop sending documents etc. to untraced shareholders**

211. If three separate documents, notices or information have been sent on consecutive occasions through the post to any member at any address specified in Article 197, whether the documents, notices or information are duplicates of ones originally sent using electronic means that failed to be transmitted electronically or ones that were originally sent by post, and have been returned undelivered, such member shall not after that be entitled to receive documents, notices or other information from the Company until ~~he~~they shall have communicated with the Company and supplied in writing to the Office a new address as specified in Article 197 or, insofar as the Company intends to send or supply any document, notice or information using electronic means and the member has agreed (generally or specifically) to the sending or supply of that document, notice or information by electronic means, an address for that purpose.

### **Reference to documents being served etc.**

212. The provisions of Articles 196 to ~~212~~–211 apply to any notice, document or information to be sent or supplied under these Articles whether the Articles require the notice, document or information to be "sent" or "supplied" or any other word such as "given", "delivered" or "served".

## WINDING UP

### Distribution of assets otherwise than in cash on a winding-up

213. If the Company is wound up (whether the liquidation is voluntary, under supervision or by the Court), the liquidator may, with the authority of a special resolution and any other sanction required by the Statutes, divide among the members (excluding the Company itself to the extent that it is a member by virtue only of its holding any shares as treasury shares) in specie or in kind the whole or any part of the assets of the Company whether or not the assets shall consist of property of one kind or shall consist of properties of different kinds, and may for such purpose set such value as ~~he~~the liquidator deems fair upon any one or more class or classes of property and may determine how such division shall be carried out as between the members or different classes of members. 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~~the liquidator with the like authority determines, and the liquidation of the Company may be closed and the Company dissolved, but so that no members shall be compelled to accept any shares or other property in respect of which there is a liability.

### Distribution of shares or other consideration on a transfer or sale

214. A special resolution sanctioning a transfer or sale to another company duly passed pursuant to Section 110 Insolvency Act 1986 may authorise the distribution of any shares or other consideration receivable by the liquidator among the members (whether or not in accordance with the existing rights of members) and any such distribution shall be binding on all members subject to the right of dissent and consequential rights conferred by Section 111 Insolvency Act 1986.

## INDEMNITY FOR DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

### Indemnity

215. Subject to the provisions of and so far as may be permitted by the Statutes but without prejudice to any indemnity to which ~~he~~they may otherwise be entitled, the Company may, at the discretion of the Board and on such terms as the Board may decide from time to time, indemnify:
- (a) any Director, Secretary or other officer of the Company or any director, secretary or other officer of an Associated Company of the Company out of the assets of the Company against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred or to be incurred by ~~him~~them in the execution and discharge of ~~his~~their duties or in relation to them; and
  - (b) any director of an Associated Company of the Company if that Associated Company is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme against liability incurred in connection with the company's activities as trustee of the scheme.

### Interpretation for the purposes of Articles 215 and 217

216. For the purposes of Article 215 and Article 217:
- (a) **"officer"** does not include an auditor ; and

(b) **"Associated Company"** is to be interpreted in accordance with Section 256 CA06.

## **INSURANCE FOR DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

### **Insurance for Directors and officers**

217. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 215 and subject to the provisions of and so far as may be permitted by the Statutes, the Directors shall have power to purchase, fund and/or maintain insurance for or for the benefit of any persons who are or were at any time directors, officers or employees of the Company, or of any company which is an Associated Company of the Company or in any way allied to or associated with the Company or any such Associated Company or of any predecessors of the business of the Company or any such company, or who are or were at any time trustees of any pension fund in which any employees of the Company or of any such other company are interested, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) insurance against any liability incurred by such persons in respect of any act or omission in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of their duties and/or in the exercise or purported exercise of their powers and/or otherwise in relation to their duties, powers or offices in relation to the Company or any such other company or pension fund.

Document comparison by Workshare 10.0 on 26 March 2021 11:12:46

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Document 2 ID	file://C:\Users\ygeorg\Desktop\JW\Persimmon Plc - Articles of Association (Ashurst draft 26 March 2021).docx
Description	Persimmon Plc - Articles of Association (Ashurst draft 26 March 2021)
Rendering set	Ashurst

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Moved cell	
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Padding cell	

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