

DATED

14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2022

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THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES  
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

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**Brabners**

100 Barbirolli Square

Manchester

M2 3BD

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Company number 11761052

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

FOOTBALL VENTURES (WHITES) LIMITED

(Adopted by special resolution passed on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022)

INTRODUCTION

1. Interpretation

1.1 The following definitions and rules of interpretation apply in these Articles:

Act: means the Companies Act 2006.

acting in concert: has the meaning given to it in the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers published by the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers (as amended).

Adoption Date: the date of adoption of these Articles.

appointor: has the meaning given in article 8.1.

Articles: means the company's articles of association for the time being in force.

A Share: means an A ordinary share of £1 in the capital of the Company designated as an A Share.

Associated Government Entities: means:

a) any UK Government departments, including their executive agencies, other subsidiary bodies and other parts of UK Government;

b) companies wholly or partly owned by UK Government departments and their subsidiaries;

c) non-departmental public bodies, other public bodies, public corporations and their subsidiary bodies sponsored by UK Government departments; and/or

d) any successors to any of the entities set out in (a), (b) and (c) above or any new bodies which fall within the same criteria.

B share: means a B ordinary share of £0.0001 in the capital of the Company designated as a B Share.

Business Day: means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in England on which banks in London are open for business.

Co-Lender: means any lender (other than the Future Fund) who is providing debt finance to the Company under the terms of any Future Fund Convertible Loan Agreement.

Company's Lien: has the meaning given to it in article 31.

Conflict: has the meaning given in article 4.1.

**Controlling Interest:** an interest in Shares conferring on the holder or holders control of the Company within the meaning of section 1124 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

**Deemed Transfer Notice:** a Transfer Notice which is deemed to have been served by any of the provisions of these Articles.

**Departing Employee:** an Employee who ceases to be a director and/or employee of any Group Company.

**Employee:** a holder of the B Shares who is, or has been, a director and/or employee of any Group Company.

**Directors:** the directors of the Company from time to time.

**Eligible Director:** means a director who would be entitled to vote on the matter at a meeting of directors (but excluding any director whose vote is not to be counted in respect of the particular matter).

**Fair Value:** has the meaning given in article 20.2.

**Family Trust:** as regards any particular Shareholder who is an individual (or deceased or former Shareholder who is an individual) any trust (whether arising under a settlement, declaration of trust or other instrument by whomsoever or wheresoever made, or under a testamentary disposition or on an intestacy) under which no immediate beneficial interest in any of the Shares in question is for the time being vested in any person other than the particular Shareholder and/or any of the Privileged Relations of that Shareholder (and so that for this purpose a person shall be considered to be beneficially interested in a Share if such Share or the income thereof is liable to be transferred or paid or applied or appointed to or for the benefit of any such person or any voting or other rights attaching thereto are exercisable by or as directed by any such person pursuant to the terms of the relevant trusts or in consequence of an exercise of a power or discretion conferred thereby on any person or persons).

**Founder:** any of Sharon Brittan, Michael James or Nick Luckock.

**Founder Director:** any director appointed to the Company by a Founder.

**Future Fund:** means UK FF Nominees Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales with company registration number 12591650 and whose registered office address is at 5 Churchill Place, 10th Floor, London, England, E14 5HU.

**Future Fund Convertible Loan:** means a convertible loan made available to the Company under the terms of the Future Fund Scheme.

**Future Fund Convertible Loan Agreement:** means any agreement which sets out the terms of a Future Fund Convertible Loan.

**Future Fund Scheme:** means the means the UK Government scheme (in partnership with British Business Bank plc) to issue convertible loans to companies which are facing financing difficulties due to the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic.

**Future Fund Shares:** means any and all Shares issued to the Future Fund and/or any Co-Lender on exercise of the conversion rights pursuant to the terms of any Future Fund Convertible Loan Agreement.

**Group Company:** means the Company, any subsidiary or any holding company from time to time of the Company, and any subsidiary from time to time of a holding company of the Company from time to time and Group Company: shall be construed accordingly.

**Hurdle Value:** £39,000,000.

**Independent Expert:** means the auditors for the time being of the Company or, if they decline the instruction, an independent firm of accountants jointly appointed by the Company and the Seller or, in the absence of agreement between the Company and the Seller on the identity of the expert within 10 Business Days of the expiry of the 10 Business Day period referred to in article 20.1, an independent firm of accountants appointed by the President, for the time being, of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (in each case acting as an expert and not as an arbitrator).

**Institutional Investor:** means any fund, partnership, body corporate, trust or other person or entity whose principal business is to make investments or a person whose business is to make, manage or advise upon investments for any of the foregoing, other than an Institutional Investor who the Board determines in its reasonable discretion is a competitor with the business of the Company.

**Investment Date:** means 27 August 2019.

**Lien Enforcement Notice:** means a notice in writing which complies with the requirements of article 32.

**Listing:** means the unconditional granting of permission for any of the Shares to be dealt in on any recognised investment exchange (as defined in section 285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000).

**Listing Price:** has the meaning given to it in article 12.3.3.

**Model Articles:** means the model articles for private companies limited by shares contained in Schedule 1 of the Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/3229) as amended prior to the date of adoption of these Articles.

**Member of the Same Group:** means as regards any company, a company which is from time to time a holding company or a subsidiary of that company or a subsidiary of any such holding company.

**Original Shareholder:** has the meaning given in article 17.1.

**Permitted Shareholder:** means a Shareholder at the date of adoption of these Articles.

**Permitted Transfer:** means a transfer of Shares made in accordance with article 17.

**Permitted Transferee:** means in relation to:

- (a) a Shareholder who is an individual, any of his Privileged Relations or the trustee(s) of a Family Trust or any Permitted Shareholder;
  - (b) a Shareholder which is a company, a Member of the Same Group as that company;
  - (c) in the case of a subscriber of unpaid shares on the Investment Date, any fund nominated by them to pay the paid up amount; and
  - (d) the Future Fund:
- (i) Associated Government Entity; and
  - (ii) Institutional Investor

**Privileged Relation:** means in relation to a Shareholder who is an individual (or a deceased or former Shareholder who is an individual) means a spouse, civil partner (as defined in the Civil Partnerships Act 2004), child or grandchild (including step or adopted or illegitimate child and their issue).

Relevant Institutional Investor: means any Institutional Investor to whom the Future Fund may transfer Future Fund Shares in accordance with the terms of any Future Fund Convertible Loan Agreement.

Relevant Securities: means any Shares or other securities convertible into, or carrying the right to subscribe for Shares, issued by the Company after the Investment Date, other than any Shares or other securities issued by the Company in order for the Company to comply with its obligations under these Articles and any Shares or other securities issued in consideration of the acquisition by the Company of any company or business which has been approved by Special Consent.

Sale: means the sale or other disposal (whether by one transaction or a series of related transactions) of the entire issued share capital of the Company on completion.

Sale Shares: has the meaning given in article 18.2.1.

Seller: has the meaning given in article 18.2.

Shareholder: means a holder for the time being of any Share or Shares.

Shares: shares (of any class) in the capital of the Company and Share: shall be construed accordingly.

Special Consent: the written approval of those shareholders holding shares in the Company that together confer not less than 65% of the total voting rights exercisable in general meetings of the Company.

Termination Date:

- a) where employment ceases by virtue of notice given by the employer to the Employee, the date on which such notice expires;
- b) where a contract of employment is terminated by the employer and a payment is made in lieu of notice, the date on which notice of termination was served;
- c) where the Employee concerned is a director but not an employee, the date on which their service agreement (or other terms of appointment) with the relevant Group Company is terminated; or
- d) in any other case, the date on which the employment or holding of office is terminated.

Transfer Notice: has the meaning given in article 18.2.

Transfer Price: has the meaning given in article 19.

- 1.2 Save as otherwise specifically provided in these Articles, words and expressions which have particular meanings in the Model Articles shall have the same meanings in these Articles, subject to which and unless the context otherwise requires, words and expressions which have particular meanings in the Act shall have the same meanings in these Articles.
- 1.3 Headings in these Articles are used for convenience only and shall not affect the construction or interpretation of these Articles.
- 1.4 A reference in these Articles to an "article" is a reference to the relevant article of these Articles unless expressly provided otherwise.
- 1.5 Unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to a statute or statutory provision is a reference to it as amended, extended or re-enacted from time to time.

- 1.6 A reference to a statute or statutory provision shall include all subordinate legislation made from time to time under that statute or statutory provision.
- 1.7 Any words following the terms including, include, in particular, for example or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words, description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.
- 1.8 Where the context permits, other and otherwise are illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words preceding them.
- 1.9 The Model Articles shall apply to the company, except in so far as they are modified or excluded by, or are inconsistent with, these Articles.
- 1.10 Articles 8, 9(1) and (3), 11(2) and (3), 13, 14(1), (2), (3) and (4), 17(2), 18(e), 21, 44(2), 52 and 53 of the Model Articles shall not apply to the company.
- 1.11 Article 7 of the Model Articles shall be amended by:
  - 1.11.1 the insertion of the words "for the time being" at the end of article 7(2)(a); and
  - 1.11.2 the insertion in article 7(2) of the words "(for so long as he remains the sole director)" after the words "and the director may".
- 1.12 In article 25(2)(c) of the Model Articles, the words "evidence, indemnity and the payment of a reasonable fee" shall be deleted and replaced with the words "evidence and indemnity".
- 1.13 Article 27(3) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words ", subject to article 10," after the word "But".
- 1.14 Article 29 of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words ", or the name of any person(s) named as the transferee(s) in an instrument of transfer executed under article 28(2) of the Model Articles," after the words "the transmittee's name".
- 1.15 Articles 31(1)(a) to (c) (inclusive) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the deletion, in each case, of the words "either" and "or as the directors may otherwise decide". Article 31(d) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the deletion of the words "either" and "or by such other means as the directors decide"

## DIRECTORS

2. Proceedings of Directors
  - 2.1 Any decision of the Directors must be taken at a meeting of Directors in accordance with these Articles or must be a decision taken in accordance with article 2.2 (subject to article 2.3 and article 2.4). All decisions made at any meeting of the Directors (or any committee of the Directors) shall be made only by resolution and resolutions at any meeting of the Directors (or committee of the Directors) shall be decided by a majority of votes.
  - 2.2 A unanimous decision of the Directors is taken when all Eligible Directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.
  - 2.3 A decision taken in accordance with article 2.2 may take the form of a resolution in writing, where each Eligible Director has signed one or more copies of it, or to which each Eligible Director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.
  - 2.4 A decision may not be taken in accordance with article 2.2 if the Eligible Directors would not have formed a quorum at a Directors' meeting to vote on the matter in accordance with article 2.6 and article 2.7.



- 2.5 Meetings of the Directors shall take place at least six times in each year, with a period of not more than two months between any two meetings. Any Director may call a meeting of the Directors. At least 10 Business Days' advance notice of each such meeting shall be given to each Director (or such lesser notice as all the directors may agree).
- 2.6 The quorum for any meeting (or, where specified below, part of a meeting) of the Directors shall be two Eligible Directors. If the necessary quorum is not present within 30 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting, or if, during a meeting, such quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such time and place as the Directors determine. If a quorum is not present at any such adjourned meeting within 30 minutes from the time appointed, then the meeting shall proceed.
- 2.7 For the purposes of any meeting (or part of a meeting) held pursuant to article 4 to authorise a Conflict (as defined in article 4.1), if there is only one Eligible Director in office other than the conflicted Director(s), the quorum for such meeting (or part of a meeting) shall be one Eligible Director.
- 2.8 If the number of Directors in office for the time being is less than two, the Directors in office must not take any decision other than a decision to:
- 2.8.1 appoint further Directors; or
- 2.8.2 call a general meeting so as to enable the Shareholders to appoint further Directors.
- 2.9 Questions arising at any meeting of the Directors shall be decided by a majority of votes. If there is an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall not have a second or casting vote.
- 2.10 Where decisions of the Directors are taken by electronic means, such decisions shall be recorded by the Directors in permanent form, so that they may be read with the naked eye.
3. Transactions or Other Arrangements With the Company
- Subject to sections 177(5) and 177(6) and sections 182(5) and 182(6) of the Act and provided he has declared the nature and extent of his interest in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Acts, a director who is in any way, whether directly or indirectly, interested in an existing or proposed transaction or arrangement with the company:
- 3.1 may be a party to, or otherwise interested in, any transaction or arrangement with the company or in which the company is otherwise (directly or indirectly) interested;
- 3.2 shall be an Eligible Director for the purposes of any proposed decision of the directors (or committee of directors) in respect of such existing or proposed transaction or arrangement in which he is interested;
- 3.3 shall be entitled to vote at a meeting of directors (or of a committee of the directors) or participate in any unanimous decision, in respect of such existing or proposed transaction or arrangement in which he is interested;
- 3.4 may act by himself or his firm in a professional capacity for the company (otherwise than as auditor) and he or his firm shall be entitled to remuneration for professional services as if he were not a director;
- 3.5 may be a director or other officer of, or employed by, or a party to a transaction or arrangement with, or otherwise interested in, any body corporate in which the company is otherwise (directly or indirectly) interested; and
- 3.6 shall not, save as he may otherwise agree, be accountable to the company for any benefit which he (or a person connected with him (as defined in section 252 of the Act)) derives from any such transaction or arrangement or from any such office or employment or from any interest

in any such body corporate and no such transaction or arrangement shall be liable to be avoided on the grounds of any such interest or benefit nor shall the receipt of any such remuneration or other benefit constitute a breach of his duty under section 176 of the Act.

#### **4. Directors' Conflicts of Interest**

- 4.1 The directors may, in accordance with the requirements set out in this article, authorise any matter or situation proposed to them by any director which would, if not authorised, involve a director (an Interested Director) breaching his duty under section 175 of the Act to avoid conflicts of interest (Conflict).
- 4.2 Any authorisation under this article 4 will be effective only if:
- 4.2.1 to the extent permitted by the Act, the matter in question shall have been proposed by any director for consideration in the same way that any other matter may be proposed to the directors under the provisions of these Articles or in such other manner as the directors may determine;
  - 4.2.2 any requirement as to the quorum for consideration of the relevant matter is met without counting the Interested Director or any other interested director; and
  - 4.2.3 the matter was agreed to without the Interested Director voting or would have been agreed to if the Interested Director's and any other interested director's vote had not been counted.
- 4.3 Any authorisation of a Conflict under this article 4 may (whether at the time of giving the authorisation or subsequently):
- 4.3.1 extend to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter or situation so authorised;
  - 4.3.2 provide that the Interested Director be excluded from the receipt of documents and information and the participation in discussions (whether at meetings of the directors or otherwise) related to the Conflict;
  - 4.3.3 provide that the Interested Director shall or shall not be an Eligible Director in respect of any future decision of the directors in relation to any resolution related to the Conflict;
  - 4.3.4 impose upon the Interested Director such other terms for the purposes of dealing with the Conflict as the directors think fit;
  - 4.3.5 provide that, where the Interested Director obtains, or has obtained (through his involvement in the Conflict and otherwise than through his position as a director of the company) information that is confidential to a third party, he will not be obliged to disclose that information to the company, or to use it in relation to the company's affairs where to do so would amount to a breach of that confidence; and
  - 4.3.6 permit the Interested Director to absent himself from the discussion of matters relating to the Conflict at any meeting of the directors and be excused from reviewing papers prepared by, or for, the directors to the extent they relate to such matters.
- 4.4 Where the directors authorise a Conflict, the Interested Director will be obliged to conduct himself in accordance with any terms and conditions imposed by the directors in relation to the Conflict.
- 4.5 The directors may revoke or vary such authorisation at any time, but this will not affect anything done by the Interested Director, prior to such revocation or variation, in accordance with the terms of such authorisation.

- 4.6 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, profit or other benefit which he derives from or in connection with a relationship involving a Conflict which has been authorised by the directors or by the company in general meeting (subject in each case to any terms, limits or conditions attaching to that authorisation) and no contract shall be liable to be avoided on such grounds.

5. Records of Decisions to be Kept

Where decisions of the directors are taken by electronic means, such decisions shall be recorded by the directors in permanent form, so that they may be read with the naked eye.

6. Number of Directors

Unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution, the number of directors (other than alternate directors) shall not be subject to any maximum but shall not be less than two.

7. Appointment of Directors

- 7.1 For so long as a Founder holds 5% of the shares in issue he or she shall have the right to:

7.1.1 appoint 1 person as that Founder may from time to time direct as a Founder Director (and as a member of each and any committee of the Board) and to remove any director so appointed and, upon his removal whether by the Founder or otherwise, to appoint another person to act as Founder Director in his place; and

7.1.2 if any Founder Director shall die or be removed from or vacate office for any cause, the Founder who appointed him may appoint in his place another person to be a Founder Director.

- 7.2 Any appointment or removal of a director pursuant to this article shall be in writing and signed on or behalf of the relevant Founder and served on each of the other shareholders and the Company at its registered office, and on the director, in the case of his removal. Any such appointment shall take effect when received by the Company or at such later time as shall be specified in such notice

- 7.3 Each Founder shall whilst they hold at least 5% of the shares in issue in the Company from time to time have the right to nominate one person to be an observer, who shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors (and committees of the directors) of each Group Company and copies of all board papers as if he were a director of each such Group Company and to attend, propose resolutions and speak at, but not vote at, any meeting of the directors (and committees of the directors) of each Group Company.

- 7.4 In any case where, as a result of death or bankruptcy, the company has no shareholders and no directors, the transmittee(s) of the last shareholder to have died or to have a bankruptcy order made against him (as the case may be) have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a natural person (including a transmittee who is a natural person), who is willing to act and is permitted to do so, to be a director.

8. Appointment and Removal of Alternate Directors

- 8.1 Any director (appointor) may appoint as an alternate any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors, to:

8.1.1 exercise that director's powers; and

8.1.2 carry out that director's responsibilities,

in relation to the taking of decisions by the directors, in the absence of the alternate's appointor.

- 8.2 Any appointment or removal of an alternate must be effected by notice in writing to the company signed by the appointor, or in any other manner approved by the directors.
- 8.3 The notice must:
- 8.3.1 identify the proposed alternate; and
  - 8.3.2 in the case of a notice of appointment, contain a statement signed by the proposed alternate that the proposed alternate is willing to act as the alternate of the director giving the notice.
9. Rights and Responsibilities of Alternate Directors
- 9.1 An alternate director may act as alternate director to more than one director and has the same rights in relation to any decision of the directors as the alternate's appointor.
- 9.2 Except as the Articles specify otherwise, alternate directors:
- 9.2.1 are deemed for all purposes to be directors;
  - 9.2.2 are liable for their own acts and omissions;
  - 9.2.3 are subject to the same restrictions as their appointors; and
  - 9.2.4 are not deemed to be agents of or for their appointors
- and, in particular (without limitation), each alternate director shall be entitled to receive notice of all meetings of directors and of all meetings of committees of directors of which his appointor is a member.
- 9.3 A person who is an alternate director but not a director:
- 9.3.1 may be counted as participating for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present (but only if that person's appointor is not participating);
  - 9.3.2 may participate in a unanimous decision of the directors (but only if his appointor is an Eligible Director in relation to that decision, but does not participate); and
  - 9.3.3 shall not be counted as more than one director for the purposes of article 9.3.1 and article 9.3.2.
- 9.4 A director who is also an alternate director is entitled, in the absence of his appointor, to a separate vote on behalf of his appointor, in addition to his own vote on any decision of the directors (provided that his appointor is an Eligible Director in relation to that decision), but shall not count as more than one director for the purposes of determining whether a quorum is present.
- 9.5 An alternate director may be paid expenses and may be indemnified by the company to the same extent as his appointor but shall not be entitled to receive any remuneration from the company for serving as an alternate director except such part of the alternate's appointor's remuneration as the appointor may direct by notice in writing made to the company.
10. Termination of Alternate Directorship
- An alternate director's appointment as an alternate terminates:
- 10.1 when the alternate's appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the company in writing specifying when it is to terminate;

- 10.2 on the occurrence, in relation to the alternate, of any event which, if it occurred in relation to the alternate's appointor, would result in the termination of the appointor's appointment as a director;
- 10.3 on the death of the alternate's appointor; or
- 10.4 when the alternate's appointor's appointment as a director terminates.

## 11. Secretary

The directors may appoint any person who is willing to act as the secretary for such term, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit and from time to time remove such person and, if the directors so decide, appoint a replacement, in each case by a decision of the directors.

## SHARES

## 12. Share rights

- 12.1 Except as otherwise provided in these Articles the different Share classes shall rank pari passu in all respects but shall constitute separate classes of shares.

## 12.2 Income

As regards dividend the Company shall apply any profits which the Directors resolve to distribute in any such year in paying any balance of such profits to the holders of the A Shares in respect of their holding of A Shares pari passu and pro rata to the number of A Shares held by each of them. The holders of the B Shares shall have no entitlement to receive a dividend in respect of B Shares held.

## 12.3 Capital

- 12.3.1 On a return of capital, whether on liquidation, capital reduction or otherwise (including following a Sale or Listing but excluding a purchase of own shares), any surplus assets of the Company remaining after the payment of its liabilities (including, in the case of a Sale or Listing, any costs and expenses incurred pursuant to or in connection therewith) (the Available Capital Amount) shall be distributed amongst the Shareholders in the order of priority and in the proportions set out in Article 12.3.2.

- 12.3.2 Subject to Article 12.3.3, the Available Capital Amount shall be apportioned between the holders of the Shares, without preference or priority amongst them, as follows:

- 12.3.2.1 if the Available Capital Amount is less than the Hurdle Value, the Available Capital Amount shall be applied in paying to the holders of the A Shares in respect of their holding of A Shares pari passu and pro rata to the number of A Shares held by each of them.

- 12.3.2.2 if the Available Capital Amount is greater than the Hurdle Value, the Available Capital Amount shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) for the Available Capital Amount up to the Hurdle Value, in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.3.2.1; and
    - (b) for the Available Capital Amount in excess of the Hurdle Value, the Available Capital Amount shall be applied in paying to the holders of the Shares in respect of their holding of such Shares pari passu and pro rata to the number of Shares held by each of them.

12.3.3 In the event of a Listing, the share capital of the Company shall be reorganised to ensure that at the point of Listing:

12.3.3.1 the total number of ordinary shares of the Company or any new holding company established in connection with such Listing, as the case may be, held by each Shareholder that are admitted to trading in connection with the Listing as at the date on which such shares are first admitted to trading (including any shares offered for sale by such Shareholder as part of such Listing); multiplied by

12.3.3.2 the price per share at which the ordinary shares of the Company or new holding company, as the case may be, are offered for sale or subscription in connection with the Listing (the Listing Price),

is equal to the amount that such Shareholder would have received if there had, immediately prior to the Listing, been a capital distribution pursuant to this Article 12.3 of an Available Capital Amount equal to (i) the total number of ordinary shares of the Company or any new holding company established in connection with such Listing, as the case may be, held by all Shareholders that are admitted to trading in connection with the Listing as at the date on which such shares are first admitted to trading (including any shares offered for sale by such Shareholder as part of such Listing) multiplied by (ii) the Listing Price.

## 12.4 Voting

As regards voting in general meetings the holders of the A Shares shall be entitled to receive notice of, and to attend and vote at, general meetings of the Company or on a written resolution of the Company. On a show of hands every holder of A Shares who (being an individual) is present in person or by proxy or (being a corporation) is present by a duly authorised representative or by proxy shall have one vote and on a poll every holder of such Shares so present shall have one vote for each such Share held by him. The holders of the B Shares shall not be entitled either to attend or vote at any general meeting or on a written resolution of the Company in respect of such Shares held.

## 13. Share Capital

13.1 No variation of the rights attaching to any class of shares shall be effective except with the sanction of a special resolution of the holders of the relevant class of shares. Where a special resolution to vary the rights attaching to a class of shares is proposed at a separate general meeting of that class of shares, all the provisions of these Articles as to general meetings of the Company shall mutatis mutandis apply.

13.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article 13, the specific rights of the Future Fund cannot be varied or removed without the prior written consent of the Future Fund.

## 14. Pre-emption Rights on the Issue of Further Shares

14.1 Save to the extent authorised by these Articles, the Directors shall not, save with Special Consent, exercise any power to allot Shares or to grant rights to subscribe for, or to convert any security into, any Shares.

14.2 Subject to the remaining provisions of this article 14, the Directors are generally and unconditionally authorised, for the purposes of section 551 of the Act, to exercise any power of the Company to:

14.2.1 offer or allot;

14.2.2 grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into; and

14.2.3 otherwise deal in, or dispose of,

any Shares (or any options, warrants, conversion rights and all other rights to acquire or subscribe for Shares) to any person, at any time and subject to any terms and conditions as the Directors think proper.

14.3 The authority referred to in article 14.2:

14.3.1 shall be limited to a maximum nominal amount of £3,000,000 of A Shares;

14.3.2 shall only apply insofar as the Company has not, subject to these Articles, renewed, waived or revoked it by ordinary resolution; and

14.3.3 may only be exercised for a period of five years from the Adoption Date save that, subject to these Articles, the Directors may make an offer or agreement which would, or might, require any Shares to be allotted after the expiry of such authority (and the Directors may allot Shares in pursuance of an offer or agreement as if such authority had not expired).

14.4 Subject to the remaining provisions of this article 14, the Directors are generally and unconditionally authorised, for the purposes of section 551 of the Act, to exercise any power of the Company to:

14.4.1 offer or allot;

14.4.2 grant rights to subscribe for or to convert any security into; and

14.4.3 otherwise deal in, or dispose of,

any Future Fund Shares (or any options, warrants, conversion rights and all other rights to acquire or subscribe for Future Fund Shares) to any person, at any time and subject to any terms and conditions as the Directors think proper.

14.5 The authority referred to in article 14.4:

14.5.1 shall be limited to a maximum nominal amount of £5,000,000 of Future Fund Shares;

14.5.2 shall only apply insofar as the Company has not, subject to these Articles, renewed, waived or revoked it by ordinary resolution; and

14.5.3 may only be exercised for a period of five years from the Adoption Date save that, subject to these Articles, the Directors may make an offer or agreement which would, or might, require any Future Fund Shares to be allotted after the expiry of such authority (and the Directors may allot Future Fund Shares in pursuance of an offer or agreement as if such authority had not expired).

14.6 In accordance with section 567(1) of the Act, sections 561 and 562 of the Act shall not apply to an allotment of equity securities (as defined in section 560(1) of the Act) made by the Company.

14.7 Unless otherwise agreed by Special Consent if the Company proposes to allot any Relevant Securities (save for any Future Fund Shares), those Relevant Securities shall not be allotted to any person unless the Company has first offered them to the holders (on the date of the offer) of the Shares (each an Offeree) on a pari passu basis (as if they constituted Shares of the same class) and in the respective proportions that the number of Shares held by each such holder bears to the total number of Shares held by all such holders (as nearly as possible without involving fractions) and on the same terms, and at the same price, as those Relevant Securities are being, or are to be, offered to any other person.

- 14.8 An offer made under article 14.7 shall:
- 14.8.1 be in writing and give details of the number, class and subscription price (including any share premium) of the Relevant Securities being offered;
  - 14.8.2 remain open for a period of at least 10 Business Days from the date of service of the offer; and
  - 14.8.3 stipulate that any Offeree who wishes to subscribe for a number of Relevant Securities in excess of the number to which he is entitled under article 14.7 shall, in his acceptance, state the number of excess Relevant Securities (Excess Securities) for which he wishes to subscribe.
- 14.9 If, on the expiry of an offer made in accordance with article 14.7, the total number of Relevant Securities applied for is less than the total number of Relevant Securities so offered, the Directors shall allot the Relevant Securities to the Offerees in accordance with their applications, subject to a maximum of each Offeree's proportionate entitlement.
- 14.10 Any Relevant Securities not accepted by Offerees pursuant to an offer made in accordance with article 14.7 shall be used to satisfy any requests for Excess Securities made pursuant to article 14.8.3. If there are insufficient Excess Securities to satisfy such requests, the Excess Securities shall be allotted to the applicants in the respective proportions that the number of Shares held by each such applicant bears to the total number of such Shares held by all applicants (as nearly as possible without involving fractions or increasing the number of Excess Securities allotted to any Shareholder beyond that applied for by him). After those allotments, any Excess Securities shall, subject to article 14.13, be offered to any other person(s) as the Directors may determine, at the same price and on the same terms as the offer to the Shareholders.
- 14.11 If, after completion of the allotments referred to in article 14.9 and article 14.10, not all of the Relevant Securities have been allotted, the balance of such Relevant Securities shall be offered to the holders (on the date of this offer) of the Shares on a pari passu basis and in the respective proportions that the number of Shares held by each such holder bears to the total number of Shares held by all such holders (as nearly as possible without involving fractions) and on the same terms, and at the same price, as those Relevant Securities are being, or are to be, offered to any other person. Such offer shall be made in accordance with article 14.8 and the provisions of article 14.9 and article 14.10 shall, with necessary modifications, apply to such offer.
- 14.12 If, after completion of the allotments referred to in article 14.9, article 14.10 and article 14.11, not all of the Relevant Securities have been allotted, the balance of such Relevant Securities shall, subject to article 14.13 be offered to any other person(s) as the Directors may, (with Special Consent) determine, at the same price and on the same terms as the offer to the Shareholders.
- 14.13 No Shares shall be allotted to any current or prospective employee or director of any Group Company unless such person shall first have entered into a joint election with the relevant Group Company under section 431 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003.
15. Future Fund Conversion
- 15.1 In the event that within six months of the issue and allotment of the Future Fund Shares the Company proposes to complete an equity financing round (excluding any subscription for shares made on the exercise of any option granted to an employee, officer or consultant of the Company by way of incentive) in which shares are issued to investor(s) that rank senior to the Future Fund Shares (Senior Issue), the Company shall provide at least 10 Business Days' written notice of such event to the Future Fund and the Co-Lenders (such notice to include all information concerning the equity financing round that they might reasonably expect to receive to enable them to make an informed assessment as to whether to exercise its following rights in relation thereto) and each of the Future Fund and the Co-Lenders shall then have the option to convert the Future Fund Shares held by them into an equal number of shares of the most



senior class of shares that were issued on the Senior Issue with identical rights and preferences and with the same obligations as the securities issued to the investor(s) under the Senior Issue, provided that if a Lender fails to respond within the time period given in such notice, it shall be deemed to have elected to so convert such shares. The Company shall not proceed with such Senior Issue unless the Company is capable and authorised to give effect to any such conversion.

## 16. Transfers of Shares: General

16.1 In these Articles, reference to the transfer of a Share includes the transfer, assignment or other disposal of a beneficial or other interest in that Share, or the creation of a trust or encumbrance over that Share, and reference to a Share includes a beneficial or other interest in a Share.

16.2 No B Share shall be transferred without the express written consent of the Board, and the Directors shall refuse to register a transfer of any B Shares.

16.3 No Share shall be transferred, and the Directors shall refuse to register a transfer of any Share, unless it is made in accordance with these Articles. Subject to article 16.8, the Directors shall register any duly stamped transfer made in accordance with these Articles, unless they suspect that the proposed transfer may be fraudulent.

16.4 Without prejudice to the provisions of article 16.3, the directors may refuse to register the transfer of any share(s) in the event that:

16.4.1 the Football League Ltd (company number 00080612) has not provided the transferee with all necessary confirmations and approvals as required by the Owners' and Directors' Test contained at Appendix 3 of the EFL Regulations (as updated from time to time) or any equivalent provision of the EFL Regulations as updated from time to time; or

16.4.2 registering the transfer of any share(s) would cause the Company to breach any Regulation, Football Association Rule, Premier League Rule or any other equivalent provision of any regulatory authority to which the Company is subject.

16.5 Except as required by law, no person is to be recognised by the Company as holding any share upon any trust, and except as otherwise required by law or the articles, the Company is not in any way to be bound by or recognise any interest in a share other than the holder's absolute ownership of it and all the rights attaching to it.

16.6 If a Shareholder transfers (or purports to transfer) a Share other than in accordance with these Articles, he shall be deemed to have immediately served a Transfer Notice in respect of all Shares held by him.

16.7 Any transfer of a Share by way of sale which is required to be made under article 21, article 22, article 23 or article 23 shall be deemed to include a warranty that the transferor sells the Share with full title guarantee.

16.8 The Directors shall, as a condition to the registration of any transfer of Shares (other than any Future Fund Shares transferred pursuant to article 17.6), require the transferee to execute and deliver to the Company a deed, in favour of the Company and the Shareholders agreeing to be bound by the terms of any shareholders' agreement (or similar document) in force between any of the Shareholders and the Company, in such form as the Directors may reasonably require (but not so as to oblige the transferee to have any obligations or liabilities greater than those of the proposed transferor). If any condition is imposed in accordance with this article 16.8, the transfer may not be registered unless and until that deed has been executed and delivered to the Company's registered office by the transferee.

16.9 To enable the Directors to determine whether or not there has been any transfer (or purported transfer) of Shares the Directors may require:

16.9.1 any holder (or the legal representatives of a deceased holder); or

16.9.2 any person named as a transferee in a transfer lodged for registration; or

16.9.3 such other person as the Directors may reasonably believe to have information relevant to that purpose,

to provide the Company with any information and evidence that the Directors think fit regarding any matter which they deem relevant to that purpose.

16.10 If any such information or evidence referred to in article 16.9 is not provided to enable the Directors to determine to their reasonable satisfaction that no breach has occurred, or that as a result of the information and evidence provided the Directors are reasonably satisfied that a breach has occurred, the Directors shall immediately notify the holder of such Shares of that fact in writing and then:

16.10.1 the relevant Shares shall cease to confer on the holder of them any rights:

16.10.1.1 to vote (whether on a show of hands, on a poll or otherwise and whether in person, by proxy or otherwise), including in respect of any resolution of any class of Shares;

16.10.1.2 to receive dividends or other distributions otherwise attaching to those Shares; or

16.10.1.3 to participate in any future issue of Shares issued in respect of those Shares; and

16.10.2 the Directors may, by notice in writing to the relevant holder, determine that a Transfer Notice shall be deemed to have been given in respect of some or all of his Shares with effect from the date of service of the notice (or such later date as may be specified in such notice).

The Directors may reinstate the rights referred to in article 16.10.1 at any time and, in any event, such rights shall be reinstated in respect of any Shares transferred pursuant to article 16.10.2 on completion of such transfer.

16.11 Unless expressly provided otherwise in these Articles, if a Transfer Notice is deemed to have been given under these Articles, the Deemed Transfer Notice shall be treated as having specified that:

16.11.1 it does not contain a Minimum Transfer Condition; and

16.11.2 the Seller wishes to transfer all the Shares held by him (including any Shares acquired after the date the relevant Transfer Notice is deemed given but before completion of the transfer of Shares pursuant to the relevant Transfer Notice).

16.12 Any Transfer Notice (but not an Offer Notice (as defined in article 22) or a Drag Along Notice (as defined in article 23)) served in respect of the transfer of any Share which has not completed before the date of service of a Deemed Transfer Notice shall automatically be revoked by the service of a Deemed Transfer Notice.

17. Permitted Transfers of Shares

17.1 A holder of the A Shares (the Original Shareholder) may transfer all or any of his or its Shares to a Permitted Transferee.

17.2 Where Shares are held by the trustee(s) of a Family Trust, the trustee(s) may transfer Shares to:

17.2.1 the Original Shareholder;

17.2.2 any Privileged Relation(s) of the Original Shareholder;

17.2.3 subject to article 17.3, the trustee(s) of another Family Trust of which the Original Shareholder is the Settlor; or

17.2.4 subject to article 17.3, to the new (or remaining) trustee(s) upon a change of trustee(s) of a Family Trust,

without any price or other restriction.

17.3 A transfer of Shares may only be made to the trustee(s) of a Family Trust if the Directors are satisfied:

17.3.1 with the terms of the trust instrument and, in particular, with the powers of the trustee(s);

17.3.2 with the identity of the proposed trustee(s);

17.3.3 that the proposed transfer will not result in 50% or more of the aggregate of the Company's equity share capital being held by trustees of that and any other trusts; and

17.3.4 that no costs incurred in connection with the setting up or administration of that Family Trust are to be paid by the Company.

17.4 If the Original Shareholder is a company, and a Permitted Transfer has been made, the Permitted Transferee shall, within 5 Business Days of ceasing to be a Member of the Same Group as the Original Shareholder, transfer the Shares held by it to:

17.4.1 the Original Shareholder; or

17.4.2 a Member of the Same Group as the Original Shareholder,

(which in either case is not in liquidation), without any price or other restriction. If the Permitted Transferee fails to make a transfer in accordance with this article 17.4, a Transfer Notice shall be deemed to have been given in respect of such Shares on the expiry of the period set out in this article 17.4.

17.5 If the Original Shareholder is an individual and a Permitted Transfer has been made to a Privileged Relation of the Original Shareholder, the Permitted Transferee (or the transmittee(s) of any such person), shall within 5 Business Days of ceasing to be a Privileged Relation of the Original Shareholder (whether by reason of death, divorce or otherwise) either:

17.5.1 execute and deliver to the Company a transfer of the Shares held by him to the Original Shareholder (or to any Permitted Transferee of the Original Shareholder) for such consideration as may be agreed between them; or

17.5.2 give a Transfer Notice to the Company in accordance with article 18,

failing which a Transfer Notice shall be deemed to have been given in respect of such Shares on the expiry of the period set out in this article 17.5. This article 17.5 shall not apply to a transmittee of a Permitted Transferee if that transmittee is also a Permitted Transferee of the Original Shareholder, to the extent that such transmittee is legally or beneficially entitled to those Shares.

- 17.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of these Articles, any Future Fund Shares may at any time be transferred by the Future Fund, without any restriction as to price or otherwise and free from pre-emption rights howsoever expressed, to:
- 17.6.1 any Associated Government Entities; or
  - 17.6.2 an Institutional Investor that is acquiring the whole or part (being not fewer than 10 companies, including the Company) of the Future Fund's interest in a portfolio of investments which comprise or result from the conversion of unsecured convertible loans substantially on the same terms as the convertible loan agreement between the Future Fund and the Company, provided always that such transaction(s) is bona fide in all respects.
18. Pre-emption Rights on the Transfer of Shares
- 18.1 Except where the provisions of article 17, article 22 or article 23 apply, any transfer of Shares by a Shareholder shall be subject to the pre-emption rights in this article 18.
- 18.2 A Shareholder who wishes to transfer Shares (a Seller) shall, before transferring or agreeing to transfer any Shares, give notice in writing (a Transfer Notice) to the Company specifying:
- 18.2.1 subject to article 16.11.2, the number of Shares he wishes to transfer (Sale Shares);
  - 18.2.2 the name of the proposed transferee, if any;
  - 18.2.3 subject to article 21.7, the price per Sale Share (in cash), if any, at which he wishes to transfer the Sale Shares (the Proposed Sale Price); and
  - 18.2.4 subject to article 16.11.1, whether the Transfer Notice is conditional on all or a specific number of the Sale Shares being sold (a Minimum Transfer Condition).
- 18.3 Except in the case of a Deemed Transfer Notice (which may not be withdrawn), where the Transfer Price of the Sale Shares comprised within a Transfer Notice is to be the Fair Value and such Fair Value less than the Proposed Sale Price the Seller may, within 5 Business Days of receipt of notification of the Fair Value, withdraw the Transfer Notice.
- 18.4 A Transfer Notice (or Deemed Transfer Notice) constitutes the Company the agent of the Seller for the sale of the Sale Shares at the Transfer Price.
- 18.5 As soon as practicable following the later of:
- 18.5.1 receipt of a Transfer Notice (or in the case of a Deemed Transfer Notice, the date such notice is deemed to be served); and
  - 18.5.2 the determination of the Transfer Price,
- the Directors shall (unless the Transfer Notice is withdrawn in accordance with article 18.3) offer the Sale Shares for sale in the manner set out in the remaining provisions of this article 18 at the Transfer Price. Each offer shall be in writing and shall give details of the number and Transfer Price of the Sale Shares offered.
- 18.6 The Company shall offer the Sale Shares to all other shareholders other than the Seller (the Continuing Shareholders), inviting them to apply in writing within the period from the date of the offer to the date 20 Business Days after the offer (both dates inclusive) (the First Offer Period) for the maximum number of Sale Shares they wish to buy.

- 18.7 If:
- 18.7.1 at the end of the First Offer Period, the number of Sale Shares applied for is equal to or exceeds the number of Sale Shares, the Directors shall allocate the Sale Shares to each Continuing Shareholder who has applied for Sale Shares in the proportion which the Continuing Shareholder's existing holding of Shares bears to the total number of Shares held by those Continuing Shareholders who have applied for Sale Shares. Fractional entitlements shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number (save where such rounding would result in not all Sale Shares being allocated, in which case, the allocation of any such fractional entitlements shall be determined by the Directors). No allocation shall be made to a Shareholder of more than the maximum number of Sale Shares which he has stated he is willing to buy;
  - 18.7.2 not all Sale Shares are allocated following allocations in accordance with article 18.7.1, but there are applications for Sale Shares that have not been satisfied, the Directors shall allocate the remaining Sale Shares to such applicants in accordance with the procedure set out in article 18.7.1. The procedure set out in this article 18.7.2 shall apply on any number of consecutive occasions until either all Sale Shares have been allocated or all applications for Sale Shares have been satisfied; and
  - 18.7.3 at the end of the First Offer Period, the total number of Sale Shares applied for is less than the number of Sale Shares, the Directors shall allocate the Sale Shares to the Continuing Shareholders in accordance with their applications. The balance (the Initial Surplus Shares) shall be dealt with in accordance with article 18.8.
- 18.8 At the end of the First Offer Period, the Directors shall offer the Initial Surplus Shares (if any) to all the Continuing Shareholders, inviting them to apply in writing within the period from the date of the offer to the date 20 Business Days after the offer (both dates inclusive) (the Second Offer Period) for the maximum number of Initial Surplus Shares they wish to buy.
- 18.9 If:
- 18.9.1 at the end of the Second Offer Period, the number of Initial Surplus Shares applied for is equal to or exceeds the number of Initial Surplus Shares, the Directors shall allocate the Initial Surplus Shares to each Continuing Shareholder who has applied for Initial Surplus Shares in the proportion which his existing holding of Shares of the class held by Continuing Shareholders bears to the total number of Shares of the class held by all Continuing Shareholders (other than the Seller). Fractional entitlements shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number (save where such rounding would result in not all Initial Surplus Shares being allocated, in which case, the allocation of any such fractional entitlements shall be determined by the Directors). No allocation shall be made to a Shareholder of more than the maximum number of Initial Surplus Shares which he has stated he is willing to buy;
  - 18.9.2 not all Initial Surplus Shares are allocated following allocations in accordance with article 18.9.1, but there are applications for Initial Surplus Shares that have not been satisfied, the Directors shall allocate the remaining Initial Surplus Shares to such applicants in accordance with the procedure set out in article 18.9.1. The procedure set out in this article 18.9.2 shall apply on any number of consecutive occasions until either all Initial Surplus Shares have been allocated or all applications for Initial Surplus Shares have been satisfied; and
  - 18.9.3 at the end of the Second Offer Period, the total number of Initial Surplus Shares applied for is less than the number of Initial Surplus Shares, the Directors shall allocate the Initial Surplus Shares to the Continuing Shareholders in accordance with their applications. The balance (the Second Surplus Shares) shall, subject to article 18.10, be offered to any other person in accordance with article 18.14.

- 18.10 Where the Transfer Notice contains a Minimum Transfer Condition:
- 18.10.1 any allocation made under article 18.7 to article 18.9 (inclusive) shall be conditional on the fulfilment of the Minimum Transfer Condition; and
- 18.10.2 if the total number of Sale Shares applied for under article 18.7 to article 18.9 (inclusive) is less than the number of Sale Shares, the Board shall notify the Seller and all those Shareholders to whom Sale Shares have been conditionally allocated stating that the condition has not been met and that the relevant Transfer Notice has lapsed with immediate effect.
- 18.11 Where either:
- 18.11.1 the Transfer Notice does not contain a Minimum Transfer Condition; or
- 18.11.2 allocations have been made in respect of all the Sale Shares,
- the Directors shall, when no further offers or allocations are required to be made under article 18.7 to article 18.9 (inclusive), give notice in writing of the allocations of Sale Shares (an Allocation Notice) to the Seller and each Shareholder to whom Sale Shares have been allocated (each an Applicant). The Allocation Notice shall specify the number of Sale Shares allocated to each Applicant and the place and time for completion of the transfer of the Sale Shares (which shall be at least 5 Business Days, but not more than 15 Business Days, after the date of the Allocation Notice).
- 18.12 On the date specified for completion in the Allocation Notice, the Seller shall, against payment from an Applicant, transfer the Sale Shares allocated to such Applicant, in accordance with any requirements specified in the Allocation Notice.
- 18.13 If the Seller fails to comply with article 18.12:
- 18.13.1 the Chairman (or, failing him, any other Director or some other person nominated by a resolution of the Directors) may, as agent and attorney on behalf of the Seller:
- 18.13.1.1 complete, execute and deliver in his name all documents necessary to give effect to the transfer of the relevant Sale Shares to the Applicants;
- 18.13.1.2 receive the Transfer Price and give a good discharge for it (and no Applicant shall be obliged to see to the distribution of the Transfer Price); and
- 18.13.1.3 (subject to the transfer being duly stamped) enter the Applicants in the register of Shareholders as the holders of the Shares purchased by them; and
- 18.13.2 the Company shall pay the Transfer Price into a separate bank account in the Company's name on trust (but without interest) for the Seller until he has delivered his certificate(s) for the relevant Shares (or an indemnity, in a form reasonably satisfactory to the Directors, in respect of any lost certificate, together with such other evidence (if any) as the Board may reasonably require to prove good title to those Shares) to the Company.
- 18.14 Where a Transfer Notice lapses pursuant to article 18.10.2 or an Allocation Notice does not relate to all the Sale Shares, then , subject to article 18.15, the Seller may, at any time during the 30 Business Days following the date of lapse of the Transfer Notice, or the date of service of the Allocation Notice as the case may be, transfer the Sale Shares (in the case of a lapsed offer) or the Second Surplus Shares (as the case may be) to any person at a price at least equal to the Transfer Price. The sale of the Sale Shares (following the lapse of a Transfer Notice) in accordance with this article 18.14 shall continue to be subject to any Minimum Transfer Condition.

18.15 The Seller's right to transfer Shares under article 18.14 does not apply if the Directors reasonably consider that:

18.15.1 the transferee is a person (or a nominee for a person) who is a competitor (or a Member of the Same Group as a competitor) of the business of any Group Company;

18.15.2 the sale of the Sale Shares is not bona fide or the price is subject to a deduction, rebate or allowance to the transferee; or

18.15.3 the Seller has failed or refused to promptly provide information available to him and reasonably requested to enable it to form the opinion referred to in article 18.15.2.

## 19. Put Option

19.1 In the event that it is determined by the Future Fund (in its absolute discretion) that it would be prejudicial to the reputation of the Future Fund and/or the UK Government to continue holding any shares in the capital of the Company, the Future Fund shall have the option to require the Company to purchase all of the shares in the capital of the Company held by the Future Fund (Option Shares) for an aggregate price of £1.00 at any time (Put Option), provided that:

19.1.1 the Put Option shall be exercisable by irrevocable notice in writing from the Future Fund to the Company (Put Option Notice);

19.1.2 the terms of the completion of the Put Option have been authorised by a resolution of the Company;

19.1.3 completion of the Put Option shall take place as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event no later than 20 Business Days following the Company's receipt of the Put Option Notice; and

19.1.4 each of the shareholders of the Company and the Company shall execute, and the Company shall procure so far as it lies within its power to do so the execution of, all such documents and deeds and do all such acts and things as may be reasonably required from time to time to implement the Put Option and transfer the legal and beneficial ownership of the relevant shares being sold to the Company under this article 19, including waiving any pre-emption rights relating to such transfer.

19.2 Each of the Shareholders and the Company shall execute, and the Company shall procure so far as it lies within its power to do so the execution of, all such documents and deeds and do all such acts and things as may be reasonably required from time to time to implement the Put Option or transfer the legal and beneficial ownership of the relevant shares being sold to the Company under this article 19, including waiving any pre-emption rights relating to such transfer.

19.3 Completion of the Put Option is conditional on the Company having sufficient distributable profits (as defined in section 736 of the Companies Act 2006) to pay the consideration at the date of completion of the Put Option.

19.4 If the condition specified in article 19.3 has not been satisfied on the date of completion, completion shall be deferred until the date which is five Business Days after the condition in article 19.3 is satisfied and the Company shall use reasonable endeavours to procure that the condition is satisfied as soon as possible after the exercise of the Put Option.

19.5 At completion, the Company shall pay or procure the payment of the consideration to the Future Fund by electronic transfer of immediately available funds to the accounts nominated by the Future Fund.

19.6 The Future Fund shall deliver to the Company at completion of the Put Option:

- 19.6.1 a stock transfer form for the Option Shares duly completed in favour of the Company (or such persons as the Company may direct);
  - 19.6.2 a share certificate for the Option Shares.
20. Valuation
- 20.1 The Transfer Price for each Sale Share the subject of a Transfer Notice (or Deemed Transfer Notice) shall, save where expressly provided otherwise in these Articles, be the price per Sale Share (in cash) agreed between the Directors (any Director with whom the Seller is connected (as defined in section 252 of the Act) not voting), and the Seller or, in default of agreement within 15 Business Days of the date of service of the Transfer Notice (or, in the case of a Deemed Transfer Notice, the date on which the board of Directors first has actual knowledge of the facts giving rise to such deemed service), the Fair Value of each Sale Share. Where the Seller is deemed to have given a Transfer Notices as a result of article 21.3 the price for the Sale Shares shall be restricted to a maximum of the lower of the aggregate subscription price paid in respect of the Sale Shares and the aggregate Fair Value of such Sale Shares.
  - 20.2 The Fair Value shall be the price per Sale Share determined by the Independent Expert on the following bases and assumptions:
    - 20.2.1 valuing the Sale Shares as on an arm's-length sale between a willing seller and a willing buyer as at the date the Transfer Notice was served (or deemed served);
    - 20.2.2 if the Company is then carrying on business as a going concern, on the assumption that it will continue to do so;
    - 20.2.3 that the Sale Shares are capable of being transferred without restriction;
    - 20.2.4 valuing the Sale Shares as a rateable proportion of the total value of all the issued Shares without any premium or discount being attributable to the percentage of the issued share capital of the Company which they represent; and
    - 20.2.5 reflecting any other factors which the Independent Expert reasonably believes should be taken into account.
  - 20.3 If any difficulty arises in applying any of these assumptions or bases then the Independent Expert shall resolve that difficulty in whatever manner it shall in its absolute discretion think fit.
  - 20.4 The Directors will give the Independent Expert access to all accounting records or other relevant documents of the Group, subject to it agreeing such confidentiality provisions as the Directors may reasonably impose.
  - 20.5 The parties are entitled to make submissions to the Independent Expert and shall provide (or procure that others provide) the Independent Expert with such assistance and documents as the Independent Expert may reasonably require for the purpose of reaching a decision.
  - 20.6 The Independent Expert shall act as expert and not as arbitrator and its determination shall be final and binding on the parties (in the absence of fraud or manifest error).
  - 20.7 The Independent Expert shall be requested to determine the Fair Value within 20 Business Days of its appointment and to deliver its certificate to the Company. Forthwith upon receipt, the Company shall deliver a copy of the certificate to the Seller.
  - 20.8 The cost of obtaining the Independent Expert's certificate shall be borne by the parties equally or in such other proportions as the Independent Expert directs unless:
    - 20.8.1 the Seller withdraws the relevant Transfer Notice in accordance with article 18.3; or



20.8.2 in respect of a Deemed Transfer Notice, the Fair Value is less than the price per Sale Share offered to the Seller by the Directors before the appointment of the Independent Expert,

in which case the Seller shall bear the cost.

## 21. Compulsory Transfers

21.1 A person entitled to a Share in consequence of the bankruptcy of a Shareholder (or equivalent procedure in any jurisdiction outside England and Wales) shall be deemed to have given a Transfer Notice in respect of that Share at such time as the Directors may determine.

21.2 If there is a change in control (as 'control' is defined in section 1124 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010) of any Shareholder which is a company, it shall be bound at any time, if and when required in writing by the Directors to do so, to give (or procure the giving in the case of a nominee) a Transfer Notice in respect of all the Shares registered in its name (or the name of its nominee(s)) save that, where that Shareholder acquired Shares as a Permitted Transferee of an Original Shareholder, it shall first be permitted to transfer those Shares back to the Original Shareholder from whom it received its Shares or to any other Permitted Transferee of that Original Shareholder before being required to serve a Transfer Notice.

21.3 If a Shareholder commits a material or persistent breach of any shareholders' agreement to which it is a party in relation to the shares in the Company which if capable of remedy has not been so remedied within 20 Business Days of the other Shareholders or the Company requiring such remedy shall be deemed to have given a Transfer notice in respect of that Share at such time as the Directors may determine.

21.4 A Shareholder (being an Employee) becoming a Departing Employee shall be deemed to have given a Transfer Notice in respect of the Shares held by the Shareholder where the Departing Employee is:

21.4.1 dismissed without cause by any Group Company, on the expiry of 12 months following the Termination Date, provided that there is no restriction either by the EFL or otherwise which prevents the Departing Employee from holding the Sale Shares, if such restriction occurs he will be deemed to have given a Transfer Notice immediately prior to such restriction taking effect; or

21.4.2 leaves any Group Company's employment under any other circumstance, he will be deemed to have given a Transfer Notice immediately before the Termination Date,

for the purposes of this clause 21.4, "*without cause*" shall mean where the Departing Employee is dismissed by any Group Company without notice or a payment in lieu of notice, in breach of the terms of his contract of employment and where such dismissal is substantively unfair, pursuant to clause 98 of the Employment Rights Act 1996. For the avoidance of doubt, where the Departing Employee's employment terminates by reason of his resignation, whether or not in circumstances in which he may be entitled to terminate without notice by reason of the relevant Group Company's conduct, clause 21.4.2 above will apply.

21.5 Forthwith upon a Transfer Notice being deemed to be served under article 21 the Shares subject to the relevant Deemed Transfer Notice shall cease to confer on the holder of them any rights:

21.5.1 to vote (whether on a show of hands, on a poll or otherwise and whether in person, by proxy or otherwise), including in respect of any resolution of any class of Shares;

21.5.2 to receive dividends or other distributions otherwise attaching to those Shares; or

21.5.3 to participate in any future issue of Shares.

The Directors may reinstate the rights referred to in article 21.5 at any time and, in any event, such rights shall be reinstated in respect of any Shares transferred pursuant to article 21 on completion of such transfer.

21.6 A Transfer Notice deemed to have been served by a Shareholder shall immediately deem a Transfer Notice to have been served under clause 18.2 by any Permitted Transferee of that Shareholder in respect of all Shares held by such Permitted Transferee(s).

21.7 A Deemed Transfer Notice has the same effect as a Transfer Notice and the provisions of clause 18 shall apply, except that:

21.7.1 the Deemed Transfer Notice shall be treated as having specified that the Seller wishes to transfer all the Shares held by the Seller (including any Shares acquired after the date the relevant Transfer Notice is deemed given but before completion of the transfer of Shares pursuant to the relevant Deemed Transfer Notice);

21.7.2 the Deemed Transfer Notice takes effect on the basis that it does not identify a proposed buyer or state a price for the Shares;

21.7.3 the Sale Shares will be offered to the holders of the A Shares only;

21.7.4 subject to article 21.7.5 and article 21.7.6, the Transfer Price shall be the Fair Value of those Shares;

21.7.5 if the Seller is deemed to have given a Transfer Notice as a result of article 21.4, the Transfer Price shall be restricted to a maximum of the lower of the subscription price paid for each Sale Share, including any share premium, and the Fair Value of each such Sale Share; and

21.7.6 if the Seller is deemed to have given a Transfer Notice as a result of article 21.3, the Transfer Price shall be restricted to a maximum of the lower of the subscription price paid in respect of each Sale Share and the Fair Value of each such Sale Share; and

21.7.7 the Seller does not have a right to withdraw the Deemed Transfer Notice following a valuation.

21.8 If the Allocation Notice(s) in respect of the Sale Shares comprised within a Deemed Transfer Notice does not relate to all the Sale Shares, the Seller does not have the right to sell the balance of the Sale Shares to a third party.

## 22. Tag Along

22.1 In the event that a proposed transfer of Shares (other than a transfer of Shares made pursuant to article 17 or article 21, but after the operation of the pre-emption procedure set out in article 18), whether made as one or as a series of transactions (a Proposed Transfer) would, if completed, result in any person other than an existing Shareholder (the Buyer), together with any person acting in concert with the Buyer, acquiring a Controlling Interest, the remaining provisions of this article 22 shall apply.

22.2 The Seller shall procure that, prior to the completion of the Proposed Transfer, the Buyer shall make an offer (the Offer) to each Shareholder (each an Offeree) on the date of the Offer, to buy all of the Shares held by such Offerees on the date of the Offer for a consideration in cash per Share (the Offer Price) which is equal to the highest price per Share offered, paid or to be paid by the Buyer, or any person acting in concert with the Buyer, for any Shares in connection with the Proposed Transfer or any transaction in the 6 calendar months preceding the date of completion of the Proposed Transfer.

- 22.3 The Offer shall be made by notice in writing (an Offer Notice) addressed to each Offeree on the date of the Offer at least 10 Business Days (the Offer Period) before the date fixed for completion of the Proposed Transfer (the Sale Date). The Offer Notice shall specify:
- 22.3.1 the identity of the Buyer (and any person(s) acting in concert with the Buyer);
  - 22.3.2 the Offer Price and any other terms and conditions of the Offer;
  - 22.3.3 the Sale Date; and
  - 22.3.4 the number of Shares which would be held by the Buyer (and persons acting in concert with the Buyer) on completion of the Proposed Transfer.
- 22.4 The completion of the Proposed Transfer shall be conditional in all respects on:
- 22.4.1 the making of an Offer in accordance with this article 22; and
  - 22.4.2 the completion of the transfer of any Shares by any Offeree (each an Accepting Offeree) who accepts the Offer within the Offer Period,
- and the Directors shall refuse to register any Proposed Transfer made in breach of this article 22.4.
- 22.5 The Proposed Transfer is, but the purchase of Shares from Accepting Offerees pursuant to an Offer made under this article 22 shall not be, subject to the pre-emption provisions of article 18.
23. Drag Along
- 23.1 If the holders of 65% by nominal value of the A Shares in issue for the time being (the Selling Shareholders) wish to transfer all of their interest in Shares (**Sellers' Shares**) to a bona fide purchaser on arm's-length terms (Proposed Buyer), the Selling Shareholders shall have the option (Drag Along Option) to require all the other holders of Shares on the date of the request (Called Shareholders) to sell and transfer all their interest in Shares with full title guarantee to the Proposed Buyer (or as the Proposed Buyer may direct) in accordance with the provisions of this article 23.
- 23.2 The Selling Shareholders may exercise the Drag Along Option by giving notice in writing to that effect (a Drag Along Notice), at any time before the completion of the transfer of the Sellers' Shares, to the Proposed Buyer and each Called Shareholder. A Drag Along Notice shall specify:
- 23.2.1 that the Called Shareholders are required to transfer all their Shares (Called Shares) pursuant to this article 23;
  - 23.2.2 the identity of the Proposed Buyer (and, if relevant, the transferee(s) nominated by the Proposed Buyer);
  - 23.2.3 the consideration payable for the Called Shares which shall, for each Called Share be an amount at least equal to the price per Share offered by the Proposed Buyer for the Sellers' Shares;
  - 23.2.4 the proposed date of completion of transfer of the Called Shares
  - 23.2.5 the form of any sale agreement or form of acceptance or any other document of similar effect that the Called Shareholders are required to sign in connection with such sale (Sale Agreement) which may include warranties and/or indemnities to the Proposed Buyer and/or adjustments and/or escrow or other holdback arrangements or similar; provided, however, that the limitation of each shareholder's liability in respect of such

warranties and indemnities may not exceed the value of the consideration such shareholder is entitled to receive for its Seller's Shares from the Proposed Buyer).

- 23.3 Once given, a Drag Along Notice may not be revoked. However, a Drag Along Notice shall lapse if, for any reason, the Selling Shareholders have not completed the transfer of all the Sellers' Shares to the Proposed Buyer (or as the Proposed Buyer may direct) within 30 Business Days of serving the Drag Along Notice. The Selling Shareholders may serve further Drag Along Notices following the lapse of any particular Drag Along Notice.
- 23.4 No Drag Along Notice shall require a Called Shareholder to agree to any terms except those specifically set out in this article 23.
- 23.5 Completion of the sale and purchase of the Called Shares shall take place on the same date as, and conditional upon the completion of, the sale and purchase of the Sellers' Shares unless:
- 23.5.1 all of the Called Shareholders and the Selling Shareholders otherwise agree; or
- 23.5.2 that date is less than 10 Business Days after the date of service of the Drag Along Notice, in which case completion of the sale and purchase of the Called Shares shall take place 10 Business Days after the date of service of the Drag Along Notice.
- 23.6 Within 10 Business Days of the Selling Shareholders serving a Drag Along Notice on the Called Shareholders, the Called Shareholders shall sign and deliver the Sale Agreement and shall deliver executed stock transfer forms for their Shares in favour of the Proposed Buyer (or as the Proposed Buyer may direct), together with the share certificate(s) in respect of those Shares (or a suitable indemnity in respect thereof) to the Company. On the expiration of that 10 Business Day period the Company shall pay the Called Shareholders, on behalf of the Proposed Buyer, the amounts they are respectively due pursuant to article 23.4 to the extent the Proposed Buyer has put the Company in the requisite funds. The Company's receipt for the amounts due pursuant to article 23.4 shall be a good discharge to the Proposed Buyer. The Company shall hold the amounts due to the Called Shareholders pursuant to article 23.4 in trust for the Called Shareholders without any obligation to pay interest.
- 23.7 To the extent that the Proposed Buyer has not, on the expiration of the 10 Business Day period, put the Company in funds to pay the amounts due pursuant to article 23.4, the Called Shareholders shall be entitled to the return of the stock transfer forms and share certificate(s) (or suitable indemnity) for the relevant Shares and the Called Shareholders shall have no further rights or obligations under this article 23 in respect of their Shares.
- 23.8 If any Called Shareholder fails to deliver to the Company a duly executed stock transfer form (or forms) in respect of the Called Shares held by him (together with the share certificate(s) in respect of those Called Shares (or a suitable indemnity in respect thereof)) the defaulting Called Shareholder shall be deemed to have appointed any person nominated for the purpose by the Selling Shareholders to be his agent and attorney to execute and deliver all necessary transfers on his behalf, against receipt by the Company (on trust for such holder) of the consideration payable for the Called Shares. After the Proposed Buyer (or person(s) nominated by the Proposed Buyer) has been registered as the holder of any such Called Shares, the validity of such proceedings shall not be questioned by any person. Failure to produce a share certificate shall not impede the registration of any transfer of Shares under this article 23.
- 23.9 Upon any person, following the issue of a Drag Along Notice, becoming a Shareholder (or increasing an existing shareholding) including, without limitation, pursuant to the exercise of any option, warrant or other right to acquire or subscribe for, or to convert any security into, Shares, (a New Shareholder), a Drag Along Notice shall be deemed to have been served upon the New Shareholder, on the same terms as the previous Drag Along Notice, who shall then be bound to sell and transfer all such Shares acquired by him to the Proposed Buyer (or as the Proposed Buyer may direct) and the provisions of this article 23 shall apply mutatis mutandis to the New Shareholder, save that completion of the sale of such Shares shall take place forthwith upon the later of the Drag Along Notice being deemed served on the New Shareholder and the date of completion of the sale of the Called Shares. References in this article 23.9 to a

person becoming a Shareholder (or increasing an existing shareholding) shall include the Company, in respect of the acquisition of any of its own Shares.

23.10 A transfer of Called Shares to a Proposed Buyer (or as the Proposed Buyer may direct) pursuant to a sale in respect of which a Drag Along Notice has been duly served shall not be subject to the pre-emption provisions of article 18.

23.11 Any Transfer Notice or Deemed Transfer Notice served in respect of the transfer of any Share which has not completed before the date of service of a Drag Along Notice shall automatically be revoked by the service of a Drag Along Notice.

#### 24. Purchase of Own Shares

Subject to the Act but without prejudice to any other provision of these Articles, the Company may purchase its own shares in accordance with Chapter 4 of Part 18 of the Act, including (without limitation) out of capital up to any amount in a financial year not exceeding the lower of:

24.1 £15,000; and

24.2 the nominal value of 5% of the Company's fully paid share capital at the beginning of each financial year of the Company.

#### DECISION MAKING BY SHAREHOLDERS

##### 25. Poll Votes

25.1 A poll may be demanded at any general meeting by any qualifying person (as defined in section 318 of the Act) present and entitled to vote at the meeting.

25.2 Article 44(3) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "A demand so withdrawn shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made" as a new paragraph at the end of that article.

##### 26. Proxies

26.1 Article 45(1)(d) of the Model Articles shall be deleted and replaced with the words "is delivered to the company in accordance with the Articles not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for holding the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the right to vote is to be exercised and in accordance with any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting (or adjourned meeting) to which they relate".

26.2 Article 45(1) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "and a proxy notice which is not delivered in such manner shall be invalid, unless the directors, in their discretion, accept the notice at any time before the meeting" as a new paragraph at the end of that article.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

##### 27. Means of Communication to be Used

27.1 Subject to article 27.1.7, any notice, document or other information shall be deemed served on, or delivered to, the intended recipient:

27.1.1 if delivered by hand, on signature of a delivery receipt; or

27.1.2 if sent by pre-paid first-class post or another next day working day delivery service providing proof of postage to an address in the United Kingdom, at 9.00 am on the second Business Day after posting; or

- 27.1.3 if sent by pre-paid airmail to an address outside the country from which it is sent, at 9.00 am on the fifth Business Day after posting; or
  - 27.1.4 if sent by reputable international overnight courier to an address outside the country from which it is sent, on signature of a delivery receipt; and
  - 27.1.5 if sent or supplied by e-mail, one hour after the notice, document or information was sent or supplied; or
  - 27.1.6 if sent or supplied by means of a website, when the material is first made available on the website or (if later) when the recipient receives (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that the material is available on the website; and
  - 27.1.7 if deemed receipt under the previous paragraphs of this article 27.1 would occur outside business hours (meaning 9.00 am to 5.30 pm Monday to Friday on a day that is not a public holiday in the place of deemed receipt), at 9.00 am on the day when business next starts in the place of deemed receipt. For the purposes of this clause 25.5, all references to time are to local time in the place of deemed receipt.
- 27.2 To prove service, it is sufficient to prove that:
- 27.2.1 if delivered by hand or by reputable international overnight courier, the notice was delivered to the correct address; or
  - 27.2.2 if sent by fax, a transmission report was received confirming that the notice was successfully transmitted to the correct fax number; or
  - 27.2.3 if sent by post or by airmail, the envelope containing the notice was properly addressed, paid for and posted; or
  - 27.2.4 if sent by e-mail, the notice was properly addressed and sent to the e-mail address of the recipient.
28. Indemnity
- 28.1 Subject to article 28.2, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a relevant officer is otherwise entitled:
- 28.1.1 each relevant officer shall be indemnified out of the company's assets against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him as a relevant officer in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties, or in relation to them, including (in each case) any liability incurred by him in defending any civil or criminal proceedings, in which judgment is given in his favour or in which he is acquitted or the proceedings are otherwise disposed of without any finding or admission of any material breach of duty on his part or in connection with any application in which the court grants him, in his capacity as a relevant officer, relief from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company's (or any associated company's) affairs; and
  - 28.1.2 the company may provide any relevant officer with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in connection with any proceedings or application referred to in article 28.1.1 and otherwise may take any action to enable any such relevant officer to avoid incurring such expenditure.
- 28.2 This article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

- 28.3 In this article:
- 28.3.1 companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate; and
- 28.3.2 a “relevant officer” means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the company or an associated company (including any company which is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined by section 235(6) of the Act), but excluding in each case any person engaged by the company (or associated company) as auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent he acts in his capacity as auditor).
29. Insurance
- 29.1 The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the company, for the benefit of any relevant officer in respect of any relevant loss.
- 29.2 In this article:
- 29.2.1 a “relevant officer” means any director or other officer or former director or other officer of the company or an associated company (including any company which is a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined by section 235(6) of the Act), but excluding in each case any person engaged by the company (or associated company) as auditor (whether or not he is also a director or other officer), to the extent he acts in his capacity as auditor);
- 29.2.2 a “relevant loss” means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant officer in connection with that relevant officer’s duties or powers in relation to the company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees’ share scheme of the company or associated company.
30. Company’s Lien over Shares
- 30.1 The Company has a lien (the **Company’s Lien**) over every Share which is registered in the name of a person indebted or under any liability to the Company, whether he is the sole registered holder of the Share or one of several joint holders, for all monies payable by him (either alone or jointly with any other person) to the Company, whether payable immediately or at some time in the future.
- 30.2 The Company’s Lien over a share:
- 30.2.1 takes priority over any third party’s interest in that Share; and
- 30.2.2 extends to any dividend or other money payable by the Company in respect of that Share and (if the lien is enforced and the Share is sold by the Company) the proceeds of sale of that Share.
- The Directors may at any time decide that a Share which is or would otherwise be subject to the Company’s Lien shall not be subject to it, either wholly or in part.
31. Enforcement of the Company’s Lien
- 31.1 Subject to the provisions of this article 30, if:
- 31.1.1 a Lien Enforcement Notice has been given in respect of a Share; and
- 31.1.2 the person to whom the notice was given has failed to comply with it,
- the Company may sell that Share in such manner as the Directors decide.

31.2 A Lien Enforcement Notice:

- 31.2.1 may only be given in respect of a Share which is subject to the Company's Lien and in respect of a sum payable to the Company for which the due date for payment has passed;
- 31.2.2 must specify the Share concerned;
- 31.2.3 must require payment of the sum within 14 clear days of the notice (that is, excluding the date on which the notice is given and the date on which that 14 day period expires);
- 31.2.4 must be addressed either to the holder of the Share or to a transmittee of that holder; and
- 31.2.5 must state the Company's intention to sell the Share if the notice is not complied with.

31.3 Where Shares are sold under this article 31:

- 31.3.1 the Directors may authorise any person to execute an instrument of transfer of the Shares to the purchaser or to a person nominated by the purchaser; and
- 31.3.2 the transferee is not bound to see to the application of the consideration, and the transferee's title is not affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to the sale.

31.4 The net proceeds of any such sale (after payment of the costs of sale and any other costs of enforcing the Company's Lien) must be applied:

- 31.4.1 first, in payment of so much of the sum for which the lien exists as was payable at the date of the Lien Enforcement Notice; and
- 31.4.2 second, to the person entitled to the Shares at the date of the sale, but only after the certificate for the Shares sold has been surrendered to the Company for cancellation, or an indemnity in a form reasonably satisfactory to the Directors has been given for any lost certificates, and subject to a lien equivalent to the Company's Lien over the Shares before the sale for any money payable by that person (or his estate or any joint holder of the shares) after the date of the Lien Enforcement Notice.

A statutory declaration by a Director or the company secretary that the declarant is a Director or the company secretary and that a Share has been sold to satisfy the Company's Lien on a specified date:

- 31.4.3 is conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the Share; and
- 31.4.4 subject to compliance with any other formalities of transfer required by the Articles or by law, constitutes a good title to the Share.

32. Call Notices

32.1 Subject to the Articles and to the terms on which shares are allotted, the directors may send a notice (a Call Notice) to a shareholder requiring the shareholder to pay the company a specified sum of money (a Call) which is payable in respect of shares in the company held by that shareholder at the date when the directors decide to send the Call Notice.

32.2 A Call Notice:

- 32.2.1 may not require a shareholder to pay a Call which exceeds the total sum unpaid on that shareholder's shares (whether in respect of nominal value or premium);



- 32.2.2 must state when and how any Call to which it relates is to be paid; and
- 32.2.3 may permit or require the Call to be made in instalments.
- 32.3 A shareholder must comply with the requirements of a Call Notice, but no shareholder is obliged to pay any Call before 14 clear days (that is, excluding the date on which the notice is given and the date on which that 14 day period expires) have passed since the notice was sent.
- 32.4 Before the company has received any Call due under a Call Notice the directors may:
  - 32.4.1 revoke it wholly or in part; or
  - 32.4.2 specify a later time for payment than is specified in the notice,
 by a further notice in writing to the shareholder in respect of whose shares the Call is made.
- 33. Liability to Pay Calls
  - 33.1 Liability to pay a Call is not extinguished or transferred by transferring the shares in respect of which it is required to be paid.
  - 33.2 Joint holders of a share are jointly and severally liable to pay all Calls in respect of that share.
  - 33.3 Subject to the terms on which shares are allotted, the directors may, when issuing shares, provide that Call Notices sent to the holders of those shares may require them:
    - 33.3.1 to pay Calls which are not the same; or
    - 33.3.2 to pay Calls at different times.
- 34. When Call Notice Need Not be Issued
  - 34.1 A Call Notice need not be issued in respect of sums which are specified, in the terms on which a share is issued, as being payable to the company in respect of that share (whether in respect of nominal value or premium):
    - 34.1.1 on allotment;
    - 34.1.2 on the occurrence of a particular event; or
    - 34.1.3 on a date fixed by or in accordance with the terms of issue.
  - 34.2 But if the due date for payment of such a sum has passed and it has not been paid, the holder of the share concerned is treated in all respects as having failed to comply with a Call Notice in respect of that sum, and is liable to the same consequences as regards the payment of interest and forfeiture.
- 35. Failure to Comply With Call Notice: Automatic Consequences
  - 35.1 If a person is liable to pay a Call and fails to do so by the call payment date:
    - 35.1.1 the directors may issue a notice of intended forfeiture to that person; and
    - 35.1.2 until the Call is paid, that person must pay the company interest on the Call from the call payment date at the relevant rate.

35.2 For the purposes of this article 35:

35.2.1 the “call payment date” is, subject to article 32.3, the time when the Call Notice states that a Call is payable, unless the directors give a notice specifying a later date, in which case the “call payment date” is that later date; and

35.2.2 the “relevant rate” is

35.2.2.1 the rate fixed by the terms on which the share in respect of which the Call is due was allotted;

35.2.2.2 such other rate as was fixed in the Call Notice which required payment of the Call, or has otherwise been determined by the directors; or

35.2.2.3 if no rate is fixed in either of these ways, 5% per annum.

35.3 The relevant rate must not exceed by more than 5 percentage points the base lending rate most recently set by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England in connection with its responsibilities under Part 2 of the Bank of England Act 1998.

35.4 The directors may waive any obligation to pay interest on a Call wholly or in part.

36. Notice of Intended Forfeiture

A notice of intended forfeiture:

36.1 may be sent in respect of any share in respect of which a Call has not been paid as required by a Call Notice;

36.2 must be sent to the holder of that share (or all the joint holders of that share) or to a transmittee of that holder;

36.3 must require payment of the Call and any accrued interest by a date which is not less than 14 clear days after the date of the notice (that is, excluding the date on which the notice is given and the date on which that 14 day period expires);

36.4 must state how the payment is to be made; and

36.5 must state that if the notice is not complied with, the shares in respect of which the Call is payable will be liable to be forfeited.

37. **Directors’ Power to Forfeit Shares**

If a notice of intended forfeiture is not complied with before the date by which payment of the Call is required in the notice of intended forfeiture, the directors may decide that any share in respect of which it was given is forfeited, and the forfeiture is to include all dividends or other moneys payable in respect of the forfeited shares and not paid before the forfeiture.

38. Effect of Forfeiture

38.1 Subject to the Articles, the forfeiture of a share extinguishes:

38.1.1 all interests in that share, and all claims and demands against the company in respect of it; and

38.1.2 all other rights and liabilities incidental to the share as between the person whose share it was prior to the forfeiture and the company.

- 38.2 Any share which is forfeited in accordance with the Articles:
- 38.2.1 is deemed to have been forfeited when the directors decide that it is forfeited;
  - 38.2.2 is deemed to be the property of the company; and
  - 38.2.3 may be sold, re-allotted or otherwise disposed of as the directors think fit.
- 38.3 If a person's shares have been forfeited:
- 38.3.1 the company must send that person notice that forfeiture has occurred and record it in the register of shareholders;
  - 38.3.2 that person ceases to be a shareholder in respect of those shares;
  - 38.3.3 that person must surrender the certificate for the shares forfeited to the company for cancellation;
  - 38.3.4 that person remains liable to the company for all sums payable by that person under the Articles at the date of forfeiture in respect of those shares, including any interest (whether accrued before or after the date of forfeiture); and
  - 38.3.5 the directors may waive payment of such sums wholly or in part or enforce payment without any allowance for the value of the shares at the time of forfeiture or for any consideration received on their disposal.
- 38.4 At any time before the company disposes of a forfeited share, the directors may decide to cancel the forfeiture on payment of all Calls due in respect of it and on such other terms as they think fit.
39. Procedure Following Forfeiture
- 39.1 If a forfeited share is to be disposed of by being transferred, the company may receive the consideration for the transfer and the directors may authorise any person to execute the instrument of transfer.
- 39.2 A statutory declaration by a director or the company secretary that the declarant is a director or the company secretary and that a share has been forfeited on a specified date:
- 39.2.1 is conclusive evidence of the facts stated in it as against all persons claiming to be entitled to the share; and
  - 39.2.2 subject to compliance with any other formalities of transfer required by the Articles or by law, constitutes a good title to the share.
- 39.3 A person to whom a forfeited share is transferred is not bound to see to the application of the consideration (if any) nor is that person's title to the share affected by any irregularity in or invalidity of the process leading to the forfeiture or transfer of the share.
- 39.4 If the company sells a forfeited share, the person who held it prior to its forfeiture is entitled to receive from the company the proceeds of such sale, net of any commission, and excluding any amount which:
- 39.4.1 was, or would have become, payable; and
  - 39.4.2 had not, when that share was forfeited, been paid by that person in respect of that share,

but no interest is payable to such a person in respect of such proceeds and the company is not required to account for any money earned on them.

40. Surrender of Shares

40.1 A shareholder may surrender any share:

40.1.1 in respect of which the directors may issue a notice of intended forfeiture;

40.1.2 which the directors may forfeit; or

40.1.3 which has been forfeited.

40.2 The directors may accept the surrender of any such share.

40.3 The effect of surrender on a share is the same as the effect of forfeiture on that share.

40.4 A share which has been surrendered may be dealt with in the same way as a share which has been forfeited.