

Appendix B

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

OF

[LOCAL HOUSING COMPANY] LIMITED

Company No [NUMBER]

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Company number [NUMBER]
THE COMPANIES ACT 2006
PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY SHARES
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
[FULL NAME OF COMPANY] LIMITED
(Adopted by special resolution passed on [DATE])

Introduction

1. Interpretation

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

Act: means the Companies Act 2006.

Appointor: has the meaning given in Article 13.1.

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

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

Chair: has the meaning given in Article 6.1.

Company: means the company governed by the Articles.

Conflict: has the meaning given in Article 8.1.

Council: means Warwick District Council of Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa CV32 7HZ and any statutory successor

Council Director: means a Director of the Company appointed pursuant to Article 11.4 who is an officer, elected member or employee of the Council

Director: means a director of the Company, and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called.

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).

Interested Director: has the meaning given in Article 8.1.

Independent Director: means a Director of the Company appointed pursuant to Article 11.5 who is not an elected member, officer or employee of the Council or appointed pursuant to Article 11.4

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.

- 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), 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:
 - (a) the insertion of the words "for the time being" at the end of article 7(2)(a);
and
 - (b) 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 Article 20 of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words "(including alternate directors) and the secretary" before the words "properly incur".

- 1.13 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".
- 1.14 Article 27(3) of the Model Articles shall be amended by the insertion of the words ", subject to article 10," after the word "But".
- 1.15 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".
- 1.16 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. Directors to take decisions collectively

- 2.1 The general rule about decision-making by Directors is that any decision of the Directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with Article 3.
- 2.2 If only one Director is eligible to vote on any authorisation required under Article 8, the general rule does not apply and the Eligible Director may take decisions in relation to the relevant matter without regard to any of the provisions in the Articles relating to Directors' decision-making.
- 2.3 Each Director shall be entitled to cast one vote on any resolution put to the Directors.

3. Unanimous decisions

- 3.1 A decision of the Directors is taken in accordance with this article when all Eligible Directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.
- 3.2 Such a decision 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.
- 3.3 A decision may not be taken in accordance with this article if the Eligible Directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

4. Calling a directors' meeting

4.1 Any Director may call a Directors' meeting by giving not less than **[five]** Business Days' notice of the meeting (or such lesser notice as all the Directors may agree) to the Directors or by authorising the company secretary (if any) to give such notice.

4.2 Notice of a Directors' meeting shall be given to each Director in writing.

5. Quorum for directors' meetings

5.1 Subject to article 4.2, the quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of Directors is any **[two]** Eligible Directors **[including a Council Director]**.

5.2 If the total number of Directors in office for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision:

- (a) to appoint further Directors; or
- (b) to call a general meeting so as to enable the shareholders to appoint further Directors.

6. Casting vote

6.1 The Council shall appoint a person to chair meetings of Directors who shall be known as the Chair and appointed in accordance with Article 11.2.

6.2 If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal at a meeting of Directors are equal, the Chair or other Director chairing the meeting has a casting vote.

6.3 Article **6.1** shall not apply in respect of a particular meeting (or part of a meeting) if, in accordance with the Articles, the chairman or other Director is not an Eligible Director for the purposes of that meeting (or part of a meeting).

7. Transactions or other arrangements with the company

7.1 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:

- (a) 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;
- (b) 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;

- (c) 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;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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
- (f) 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.

7.2 For the purposes of this Article 7.2:

- (a) a Director shall be deemed to have disclosed the nature and extent of an interest which consists of him being an elected member, Director, officer or employee of the Council or any Group Company of the Company; and
- (b) a general notice given to the Directors that a Director is to be regarded as having an interest of the nature and extent specified in the notice in any contract in which a specified person or class of persons is interested shall be deemed to be a disclosure that the Director has an interest in any such contract of the nature and extent so specified.

7.3 Where a Director is an elected member, director, officer, or employee of the Council or a Group Company of the Company, he:

- (a) may in exercising his independent judgment take into account the success of the Council or Group Company as well as the success of the Company; and
- (b) shall in the exercise of his duties have a duty of confidentiality to the Council or Group Company in relation to confidential information of that Shareholder or Group Company, but he shall not be restricted by any duty of confidentiality to the Company from providing information to the Council or Group Company except as may be imposed under Article 8.3.

8. Directors' conflicts of interest

- 8.1 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**).

8.2 Any authorisation under this article 8 will be effective only if:

- (a) 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;
- (b) 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
- (c) 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.

8.3 Any authorisation of a Conflict under this article 8 may (whether at the time of giving the authorisation or subsequently):

- (a) extend to any actual or potential conflict of interest which may reasonably be expected to arise out of the matter or situation so authorised;
- (b) 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;
- (c) 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;
- (d) impose upon the Interested Director such other terms for the purposes of dealing with the Conflict as the directors think fit;
- (e) 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
- (f) 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.

8.4 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.

- 8.5 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.
- 8.6 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.
- 8.7 A Conflict in relation to a Director arising solely as a result of him being an elected member, director, officer or employee of the Council or any group company of the Company shall be deemed to have been authorised for the purposes of this Article 8 and section 175 of the Companies Act 2006.

9. Records of decisions to be kept

- 9.1 The Directors must ensure that the Company keeps a record, in writing, for at least ten years from the date of the decision recorded, of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the Directors.

10. 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 [four].

11. Appointment of directors

- 11.1 The board of Directors shall be appointed by the Council in accordance with Article 11.4 and shall include:
- (a) two Council Directors; and
 - (b) two Independent Directors.
- 11.2 The Council shall appoint the Chair who shall be one of the Council Directors.
- 11.3 Any person who is willing to act as a Director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed as a Director in accordance with these Articles.
- 11.4 The Council may at any time appoint any person to be a Council Director, whether as an additional Council Director or to fill a vacancy, and may remove from office any Council Director howsoever appointed and any alternate Council Director. Any such appointment or removal shall be effected by an ordinary resolution or otherwise by notice in writing to the Company by the Council. Any such appointment or removal shall take effect, when written notice is delivered to the registered office of the

Company or, if it is produced at a meeting of the Directors, when it is so produced or, if sent by electronic means to an address generally used by the Company, when it is sent or on any such later date specified in the notice.

- 11.5 The Company may at any time appoint any person to be an Independent Director, whether as an additional Independent Director or to fill a vacancy, and may remove from office any Independent Director howsoever appointed and any alternate Independent Director. Any such appointment or removal shall be effected by an ordinary resolution or otherwise by notice in writing to the Council by the Company. Any such appointment or removal shall take effect when written notice is delivered to the Council or on any such later date specified in the notice.
- 11.6 Any removal pursuant to this Article 11 shall be without prejudice to any claim that a Director may have under any contract between him and the Company.

12. **Directors' remuneration and expenses**

- 12.1 Any remuneration of the Directors shall require the prior approval of the Council.
- 12.2 The Council's expenses policies from time to time shall apply to any expenses of Directors (and alternate Directors).

13. **Appointment and removal of alternate directors**

- 13.1 Any director (**Appointor**) may appoint as an alternate any other director, or any other person approved by resolution of the directors, to:
- (a) exercise that director's powers; and
 - (b) carry out that director's responsibilities,

in relation to the taking of decisions by the directors, in the absence of the alternate's appointor, provided that a Council Director must first obtain approval from the Council.

- 13.2 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.
- 13.3 The notice must:
- (a) identify the proposed alternate; and
 - (b) 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.

14. Rights and responsibilities of alternate directors

14.1 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.

14.2 Except as the Articles specify otherwise, alternate directors:

- (a) are deemed for all purposes to be directors;
- (b) are liable for their own acts and omissions;
- (c) are subject to the same restrictions as their Appointors; and
- (d) 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.

14.3 A person who is an alternate director but not a Director:

- (a) 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);
- (b) 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
- (c) shall not be counted as more than one Director for the purposes of article 14.3(a) and article 14.3(b).

14.4 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.

14.5 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.

15. Termination of alternate directorship

An alternate director's appointment as an alternate terminates:

- (a) when the alternate's Appointor revokes the appointment by notice to the Company in writing specifying when it is to terminate;

- (b) 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;
- (c) on the death of the alternate's Appointor; or
- (d) when the alternate's appointor's appointment as a director terminates.

16. 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.

Decision making by shareholders

17. Poll votes

- 17.1 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.
- 17.2 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.

18. Proxies

- 18.1 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".
- 18.2 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

19. Means of communication to be used

- 19.1 Subject to Article 19.2, any notice, document or other information shall be deemed served on, or delivered to, the intended recipient:
 - (a) if delivered by hand, on signature of a delivery receipt or at the time the notice, document or other information is left at the address; or

- (b) if sent by pre-paid United Kingdom first class post, recorded delivery or special delivery to an address in the United Kingdom, at 9.00 am on the second Business Day after posting; or
- (c) if sent or supplied by e-mail, one hour after the notice, document or information was sent or supplied; or
- (d) 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
- (e) if deemed receipt under the previous paragraphs of this article 19.1 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 Article, all references to time are to local time in the place of deemed receipt.

19.2 To prove service, it is sufficient to prove that:

- (a) if delivered by hand, the notice was delivered to the correct address; or
- (b) if sent by post, the envelope containing the notice was properly addressed, paid for and posted; or
- (c) if sent by e-mail, the notice was properly addressed and sent to the e-mail address of the recipient.

20. Indemnity

20.1 Subject to Article 20.2, but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a Relevant Director is otherwise entitled:

- (a) each Relevant Director shall be indemnified out of the Company's assets against all costs, charges, losses, expenses and liabilities incurred by him as a Relevant Director:
 - (i) in the actual or purported execution and/or discharge of his duties, or in relation to them; and
 - (ii) in relation to the Company's (or any associated Company's) activities as trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Act),

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 Director, 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

- (b) the Company may provide any Relevant Director with funds to meet expenditure incurred or to be incurred by him in connection with any proceedings or application referred to in Article 20.1(a) and otherwise may take any action to enable any such Relevant Director to avoid incurring such expenditure.

20.2 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.

20.3 In this Article:

- (a) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate; and
- (b) a "Relevant Director" means any Director or former Director 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).

21. Insurance

21.1 The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the Company, for the benefit of any Relevant Director in respect of any relevant loss.

21.2 In this Article:

- (a) a " Relevant Director " means any director or former director 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);
- (b) a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a Relevant Director in connection with that Relevant Director'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; and
- (c) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.