

**Company number:- 06460936**

**Registered charity number:- 1123473**

**THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL  
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
OF  
HORSELL COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
Incorporated on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 2007**

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**1. The Company's name is HORSELL COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY**

**2. Interpretation**

In the articles:

**'address'** means a postal address or, for the purposes of electronic communication a fax number, an email address or a text message number in each case registered with the Charity

**'the articles'** means the Charity's articles of association

**'the Charity'** means the company intended to be regulated by these articles

**'clear days'** in relation to the period of a notice means a period excluding:

- the day when the notice is given or deemed to be given, and
- the day for which it is given or on which it is to take effect

**'the Commission'** means the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales

**'Companies Acts'** means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006) insofar as they apply to the Charity

**'document'** includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form

**'electronic form'** has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006

**'the memorandum'** means the Charity's original memorandum of association

**'present'** includes being present by suitable electronic video conferencing agreed by the Trustees in which a participant or participants may communicate with all the other participants

**'secretary'** means any person appointed to perform the duties of the secretary of the Charity

**'subsidiary'** has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006

**'the Trustees'** means the directors of the Charity (who are the charity trustees as defined by section 117 of the Charities Act 2011)

**the 'United Kingdom'** means Great Britain and Northern Ireland; and

Words importing one gender shall include all genders, and the singular includes the plural and vice versa.

Unless the context otherwise requires words or expressions contained in these articles have the same meaning as in the Act but excluding any statutory modification not in force when this constitution becomes a binding on the Charity.

Apart from the exception mentioned in the previous paragraph a reference to an Act of Parliament includes any statutory modification or re-enactment of it for the time being in force

**3. Liability of Members**

3.1 The liability of the members is limited to a sum not exceeding £5 being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charity in the event of assets of the Charity being wound up while he, she or it is a member or within one year after he, she or it ceases to be a member for:

3.1.1 payment of the Charity's debts and liabilities incurred before he, she or it ceases to be a member.

- 3.1.2 payment of the costs charges and expenses of winding up; and
- 3.1.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves

#### **4. Objects**

The Objects ("the Objects") of the Charity are

- 4.1 The ownership provision and preservation of Horsell Common and other commons and open spaces for
  - 4.1.1 informal open air recreation and enjoyment by the public at large
  - 4.1.2 the protection of the environment for future generations
  - 4.1.3 the protection and management of habitats for all flora and fauna living on such commons and open spaces; and
- 4.2 Such other charitable activities or charitable undertakings as may in the opinion of the Trustees promote and assist such objects.

#### **5. Powers**

The Charity has power to do anything which is calculated to further its Objects or is conducive or incidental to doing so. In particular, the Charity has power:

- 5.1 to assist financially or otherwise any body, trust, association or organisation (whether incorporated or not) which has purposes which are charitable by the law of England and Wales;
- 5.2 to take and accept any gift of money, property or other assets (including instalments of money to be paid under deed of covenant and money transferred to the Charity by way of loan) upon or for any special trusts institutions or purposes (provided that the same shall be exclusively charitable and connected with the community for whose benefit the Charity is established) including trusts, institutions and purposes either specified or to be specified by some person other than the Charity or in default of any trust institution or purpose being specified to be selected by the Charity at its discretion from a class or classes of trusts, institutions or purposes specified by some such other person or persons and in either case with or without such person being named as the donor;
- 5.3 to invest in its own name or in the name of nominees monies of the Charity not immediately required for its purposes in or upon such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit subject nevertheless to such conditions (if any) and such consents (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law (including the law applicable to trustees of a trust pursuant to the Trustee Act 2000) and subject also as hereinafter provided;
- 5.4 to delegate upon such terms and with such remuneration as the Charity shall think fit to professional investment managers ("the Managers") the exercise of the power contained in the foregoing clause 3 provided always that:
  - 5.4.1 the Managers shall be persons who are entitled to carry out investment business under the provisions of the Financial Services Act 2012 or any statutory modification or re-enactment of the same;
  - 5.4.2 the Charity shall authorise the Managers to exercise such delegated power as aforesaid only within clear investment policy guidelines laid down from time to time by the Charity and the Charity shall use its best endeavours to ensure that those guidelines are observed;
  - 5.4.3 the Managers shall be under a duty to report promptly to the Charity any exercise of the power delegated as aforesaid and to report all transactions at least within 14 days and to report on performance of any investments managed by them at least every 3 months;
  - 5.4.4 the Charity shall at all times be free forthwith to review alter or determine such

delegation and the terms thereof;

- 5.4.5 the Charity shall review such delegation at intervals not (in the absence of special reasons) exceeding 12 months but so that any failure by the Charity to undertake such review within the said period of 12 months shall not invalidate the delegation;
- 5.5 to subscribe for, take or otherwise acquire and hold shares, stock, debentures or other securities of or interests in any company or undertaking established with the intention of directly benefiting the Charity provided always that appropriate professional advice shall have been sought before making such subscription or acquisition;
- 5.6 to make any donations in cash or assets or establish or support or aid in the establishment or support of or constitute or lend money (with or without security) to or for any charitable trusts, associations or institutions or to any individual for an exclusively charitable purpose in furtherance of the Objects;
- 5.7 to undertake and execute charitable trusts;
- 5.8 to acquire, merge with or to enter into any partnership or joint venture arrangement with any other charity or to amalgamate with any companies, institutions, societies or associations which shall be charitable by law and have objects altogether or mainly similar to those of the Charity and prohibit payment of any dividend or profit to and the distribution of any of their assets amongst their members at least to the same extent as such payments or distributions are prohibited in the case of members of the Charity by these articles;
- 5.9 to appoint a President, Vice President and Patrons and such other honorary officer for such period and subject to such privileges and conditions as may be thought fit;
- 5.10 to pay any sum of income or capital intended to be applied for charitable purposes to the Treasurer or other proper official of any body, trust, association or organisation (whether incorporated or not) whose objects are for the time being exclusively charitable by the law of England and Wales;
- 5.11 to make and alter such rules and regulations as may be requisite for the efficient management, development and administration of the Charity;
- 5.12 to borrow or raise money for the Objects on such terms and on such security as may be thought fit subject to such consents as may be required by law;
- 5.13 to set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure, in accordance with a written policy about reserves;
- 5.14 to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, bills, cheques and other instruments, and to operate bank accounts in the name of the Charity
- 5.15 to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions: provided that in raising funds the Charity shall not undertake any substantial permanent trading activities and shall conform to any relevant statutory regulations;
- 5.16 to acquire, take on lease or in exchange, hire, alter, improve and (subject to consents as may be required by law) to charge or otherwise dispose of property
- 5.17 subject to article 8, to employ and remunerate such staff, who shall not be Trustees of the Charity, as are necessary for the proper pursuit of the Objects and to make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payments of pensions and superannuation of staff and their dependents; the Charity may employ or remunerate a Trustee only to the extent it is permitted to do so by article 7 and provided it complies with the conditions in that article
- 5.18 to establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for all or any of the Objects
- 5.19 to provide indemnity insurance for the Trustees in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011

- 5.20 to co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities operating in furtherance of the Objects or similar charitable purposes and to exchange information and advice with them
- 5.21 to pay out of the funds of the Charity the costs, charges and expenses of an incidental to the formation and registration of the Charity; an
- 5.22 to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Objects

## **6. Application of income and property**

- 6.1 The income and property of the Charity shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.
- 6.2 A Trustee is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the Charity or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of Trustees or committees of Trustees or general meetings or otherwise in connection with the proper discharge of their duties when acting on behalf of the Charity.
- 6.3 A Trustee may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the Charity's expense in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, section 189 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 6.4 A Trustee may receive an indemnity from the Charity in the circumstances specified in article 41.
- 6.5 A Trustee may not receive any other benefit or payment unless it is authorised by article 8.
- 6.6 Subject to article 8, none of the income or property of the Charity may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Charity. This does not prevent a member who is not also a Trustee receiving
  - 6.6.1 a benefit from the Charity in the capacity of a beneficiary of the Charity;
  - 6.6.2 reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or services supplied to the Charity.

## **7. Benefits and payments to charity Trustees and connected persons**

- 7.1 No Trustee or connected person may:
  - 7.1.1 buy any goods or services from the Charity on terms preferential to those applicable to members of the public
  - 7.1.2 sell goods, services, or any interest in land to the Charity
  - 7.1.3 be employed by, or receive any remuneration from the Charity
  - 7.1.4 receive any other financial benefit from the Charityunless the payment is permitted by article 8 or authorised by the court or the prior written consent of the Charity Commission has been obtained.

In this article a 'financial benefit' means a benefit, direct or indirect, which is either money or has a monetary value.

## **8. Scope and powers permitting Trustees' or connected persons benefits**

- 8.1 A Trustee or connected person may receive a benefit from the Charity in the capacity of a beneficiary of the Charity provided that a majority of the Trustees do not benefit in this way.
- 8.2 A Trustee or connected person may enter into a contract for the supply of services, or of goods that are supplied in connection with the provision of services, to the Charity where that is permitted in accordance with, and subject to the conditions in, sections 185 and 186 of the Charities Act 2011.

- 8.3 Subject to article 8 a Trustee or connected person may provide the Charity with goods that are not supplied in connection with services provided to the Charity by the Trustee or connected person.
- 8.4 A Trustee or connected person may receive interest on money lent to the Charity at a reasonable and proper rate which must be not more than the Bank of England bank rate (also known as the base rate).
- 8.5 A Trustee or connected person may receive rent for premises let by the Trustee or connected person to the Charity. The amount of the rent and the other terms of the lease must be reasonable and proper. The Trustee concerned must withdraw from any meeting at which such a proposal or the rent or other terms of the lease are under discussion.
- 8.6 A Trustee or connected person may take part in the normal trading and fundraising activities of the Charity on the same terms as members of the public.

## **9. Payment for supply of goods only – controls**

- 9.1 The Charity and its Trustees may only rely upon the authority provided by article 9.1.3 of this article if each of the following conditions is satisfied:
- 9.1.1 The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods is set out in an agreement in writing between the Charity or its Trustees (as the case may be) and the Trustee or connected person supplying the goods ('the supplier') under which the supplier is to supply the goods in question to or on behalf of the Charity.
- 9.1.2 The amount or maximum amount of the payment for the goods does not exceed what is reasonable in the circumstances for the supply of the goods in question.
- 9.1.3 The other Trustees are satisfied that it is in the best interests of the Charity to contract with the supplier rather than with someone who is not a Trustee or connected person. In reaching that decision the Trustees must balance the advantage of contracting with a Trustee or connected person against the disadvantages of doing so.
- 9.1.4 The supplier is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is discussion of the proposal to enter into a contract or arrangement with him or her or it with regard to the supply of goods to the Charity.
- 9.1.5 The supplier does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when calculating whether a quorum of Trustees is present at the meeting.
- 9.1.6 The reason for their decision is recorded by the Trustees in the minute book.
- 9.1.7 A majority of the Trustees then in office are not in receipt of remuneration or payments authorised by articles 7,8 and 9.
- 9.2 In this article and article 8: 'Charity' includes any company in which the Charity:
- 9.2.1 holds more than 50% of the shares; or
- 9.2.2 controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares; or
- 9.2.3 has the right to appoint one or more directors to the board of the company and
- 9.3 'connected person' includes any person within the definition in article 46 'Interpretation'.

## **10. Declaration of Trustees' interests**

- 10.1 A Trustee must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect, which he or she has in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Charity or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the Charity which has not previously been declared. A Trustee must absent himself or herself from any discussions of the Charity Trustees in which it is possible that a conflict will arise between his or her duty to act solely in the interests of the Charity and any personal interest (including but not limited to any personal financial interest)

## **11. Conflicts of interests and conflicts of loyalties**

- 11.1 If a conflict of interests arises for a Trustee because of a duty of loyalty owed to another organisation or person and the conflict is not authorised by virtue of any other provision in the articles, the unconflicted Trustees may authorise such a conflict of interests where the following conditions apply:
- 11.1.1 the conflicted Trustee is absent from the part of the meeting at which there is discussion of any arrangement or transaction affecting that other organisation or person
  - 11.1.2 the conflicted Trustee does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when considering whether a quorum of Trustees is present at the meeting; and
  - 11.1.3 the unconflicted Trustees consider it is in the interests of the Charity to authorise the conflict of interests in the circumstances applying.
- 11.2 In this article a conflict of interests arising because of a duty of loyalty owed to another organisation or person only refers to such a conflict which does not involve a direct or indirect benefit of any nature to a Trustee or to a connected person.

## **12. Members**

- 12.1 The subscribers to the original memorandum were the first members of the Charity.
- 12.2 Membership is open to other individuals or organisations who:
- 12.2.1 apply to the Charity in the form required by the Trustees.
  - 12.2.2 are approved by the Trustees.
- 12.3 The Trustees may only refuse an application for membership if, acting reasonably and properly, they consider in the best interests of the Charity to refuse the application.
- 12.4 The Trustees must inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within twenty-one days of the decision.
- 12.5 The Trustees must consider any written representations the applicant may make about the decision. The Trustees decision following any written representations must be notified to the applicant in writing and shall be final.
- 12.6 Membership is not transferable.
- 12.7 The Trustees must keep a register of names and addresses of the members.

## **13. Classes of membership**

- 13.1 The Trustees may establish classes of membership with different rights and obligations and shall record the rights and obligations in the register of members.
- 13.2 The Trustees may not directly or indirectly alter the rights and obligations attached to a class of membership
- 13.3 The rights attached to a class of membership may only be varied if:
- 13.3.1 three-quarters of the members of that class consent in writing to the variation; or
  - 13.3.2 a special resolution is passed at a separate general meeting of the members of that class agreeing to the variation.
- 13.4 The provisions in the articles about general meetings shall apply to any meeting relating to the variation of the rights of any class of members.

## **14. Termination of membership**

- 14.1 Membership is terminated if:
- 14.1.1 the member dies or, if it is an organisation, ceases to exist

- 14.1.2 the member resigns by written notice to the Charity unless, after the resignation, there would be less than two members;
- 14.1.3 any sum due from the member to the Charity is not paid in full within six months of it falling due
- 14.1.4 the member is removed from membership by a resolution of the Trustees that it is in the best interests of the Charity that his or her or its membership is terminated. A resolution to remove a member from membership may only be passed if:
  - 14.1.4.1 the member has been given at least twenty-one days' notice in writing of the meeting of the Trustees at which the resolution will be proposed and the reasons why it is to be proposed;
  - 14.1.4.2 the member or, at the option of the member, the member's representative (who need not be a member of the Charity) has been allowed to make representations to the meeting.

## **15. General Meetings**

- 15.1 The Charity shall hold an annual meeting each year in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as such and the time and place of such meeting in the notices calling it. Not more than fifteen months may elapse between successive annual general meetings. All general meetings other than annual general meetings shall be called general meetings.
- 15.2 The Trustees may call general meetings at any time.
- 15.3 On a requisition in writing signed by fifty members, the Trustees shall forthwith proceed to convene a general meeting for a date not later than eight weeks after receipt of the requisition.

## **16. Notice of general meetings**

- 16.1 The minimum periods of notice required to hold a general meeting of the Charity are:
  - 16.1.1 twenty-one clear days for an annual general meeting or a general meeting called for the passing of a special resolution
  - 16.1.2 fourteen clear days for all other general meetings.
- 16.2 A general meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority in number of members having a right to attend and vote at the meeting, being a majority who together hold not less than 90 percent of the total voting rights.
- 16.3 The notice must specify the date time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted. If the meeting is to be an annual general meeting, the notice must say so. The notice must also contain a statement setting out the right of members to appoint a proxy under section 324 of the Companies Act 2006 and article 21.
- 16.4 The notice must be given to all the members and to the Trustees and auditors
- 16.5 The proceedings at a meeting shall not be invalidated because a person who was entitled to receive notice of the meeting did not receive it because of an accidental omission by the Charity

## **17. Proceedings at general meetings**

- 17.1 No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present
- 17.2 A quorum is twenty five members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote upon the business to be conducted at the meeting;
- 17.3 The authorised representative of a member organisation shall be counted in the quorum.
- 17.4 If:

17.4.1 a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting;  
or

17.4.2 during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present

the meeting shall be adjourned to such time and place as the Trustees shall determine.

17.5 The Trustees must reconvene the meeting and must give at least seven clear days' notice of the reconvened meeting stating the date, time and place of the meeting.

17.6 If no quorum is present at the reconvened meeting within fifteen minutes of the time specified for the start of the meeting the members present in person or by proxy at that time shall constitute the quorum for that meeting.

17.7 A general meeting may be held by suitable electronic video conferencing agreed by the Trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.

## **18. Chairperson**

18.1 General meetings shall be chaired by the person who has been appointed to chair meetings of the Trustees.

18.2 If there is no such person or he or she is not present within fifteen minutes of the time appointed for the meeting, a Trustee nominated by the Trustees shall chair the meeting.

18.3 If there is only one Trustee present and willing to act, he or she shall chair the meeting.

18.4 If no Trustee is present and willing to chair the meeting within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding it, the members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote must choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

## **19. Adjournment**

19.1 The members present in person or by proxy at a meeting may resolve by ordinary resolution that the meeting shall be adjourned.

19.2 The person who is chairing the meeting must decide the date, time and place at which the meeting is to be reconvened unless those details are specified in the resolution.

19.3 No business shall be conducted at a reconvened meeting unless it could properly have been conducted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

19.4 If a meeting is adjourned by a resolution of the members for more than seven days, at least seven clear days' notice shall be given of the reconvened meeting stating the date, time and place of the meeting.

## **20. Resolutions**

20.1 Any vote at a meeting shall be decided by a show of hands unless before, or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands, a poll is demanded:

20.1.1 by the person chairing the meeting; or

20.1.2 by at least two members present in person or by proxy and having the right to vote at the meeting; or

20.1.3 by a member or members present in person or by proxy representing not less than one-tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote at the meeting.

20.2 The declaration by the person who is chairing the meeting of the result of a vote shall be conclusive unless a poll is demanded.

20.3 The result of the vote must be recorded in the minutes of the Charity but the number or proportion of votes cast need not be recorded.

- 20.4 A demand for a poll may be withdrawn, before the poll is taken, but only with the consent of the person who is chairing the meeting.
- 20.5 If the demand for a poll is withdrawn the demand shall not invalidate the result of a show of hands declared before the demand was made.
- 20.6 A poll must be taken as the person who is chairing the meeting directs, who may appoint scrutineers (who need not be members) and who may fix a time and place for declaring the results of the poll.
- 20.7 The result of the poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll is demanded.
- 20.8 A poll demanded on the election of a person to chair a meeting or on a question of adjournment must be taken immediately.
- 20.9 a poll demanded on any other question must be taken either immediately or at such time and place as the person who is chairing the meeting directs.
- 20.10 The poll must be taken within thirty days after it has been demanded.
- 20.11 If the poll is not taken immediately at least seven clear days' notice shall be given specifying the time and place at which the poll is to be taken.
- 20.12 If a poll is demanded the meeting may continue to deal with any other business that may be conducted at the meeting.

## **21. Content of proxy notices**

- 21.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a 'proxy notice') which:
  - 21.1.1 states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy
  - 21.1.2 identifies the person appointed to be that member's proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed
  - 21.1.3 is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Trustees may determine; and
  - 21.1.4 is delivered to the charity in accordance with the articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- 21.2 The Charity may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- 21.3 Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- 21.4 Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
  - 21.4.1 allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting; and
  - 21.4.2 appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.

## **22. Delivery of proxy notices**

- 22.1 A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the charity by or on behalf of that person.
- 22.2 An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the charity a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.

- 22.3 A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- 22.4 If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor's behalf.

### **23. Written resolutions**

- 23.1 A resolution in writing agreed by a simple majority (or in the case of a special resolution by a majority of not less than 75%) of the members who would have been entitled to vote upon it had it been proposed at a general meeting is effective provided that:
- 23.1.1 a copy of the proposed resolution has been sent to every eligible member
  - 23.1.2 a simple majority (or in the case of a special resolution a majority of not less than 75%) of members has signified its agreement to the resolution; and
  - 23.1.3 it is contained in an authenticated document which has been received at the registered office within the period of 28 days beginning with the circulation date.
- 23.2 A resolution in writing may comprise several copies to which one or more members have signified their agreement.
- 23.3 In the case of a member that is an organisation, its authorised representative may signify its agreement.

### **24. Votes of Members**

- 24.1 Subject to article 13 every member, whether an individual or an organisation, shall have one vote.
- 24.2 Any objection to the qualification of any voter must be raised at the meeting at which the vote is tendered and the decision of the person who is chairing the meeting shall be final.
- 24.3 No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all monies then payable by that member to the Charity have been paid.
- 24.4 Any organisation that is a member of the Charity may nominate any person to act as its representative at any meeting of the Charity.
- 24.5 The organisation must give written notice to the charity of the name of its representative. The representative shall not be entitled to represent the organisation at any meeting unless the notice has been received by the Charity. The representative may continue to represent the organisation until written notice to the contrary is received by the Charity.
- 24.6 Any notice given to the Charity will be conclusive evidence that the representative is entitled to represent the organisation or that his or her authority has been revoked. The Charity shall not be required to consider whether the representative has been properly appointed by the organisation.

### **25. Trustees**

- 25.1 A Trustee must be a natural person aged 16 years or older.
- 25.2 No one may be appointed a Trustee if he or she would be disqualified from acting under the provisions of article 29.
- 25.3 No person who is not a member of the Charity shall be eligible to hold office as a Trustee.
- 25.4 The minimum number of Trustees shall be five but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall be subject to a maximum of ten.
- 25.5 A Trustee may not appoint an alternate Trustee or anyone to act on his or her behalf at meetings of the Trustees.

## **26. Powers of Trustees**

- 26.1 The Trustees shall manage the business of the Charity and may exercise all the powers of the Charity unless they are subject to any restrictions imposed by the Companies Acts, the articles or any special resolution.
- 26.2 No alteration of the articles or any special resolution shall have retrospective effect to invalidate any prior act of the Trustees.
- 26.3 Any meeting of Trustees at which a quorum is present at the time the relevant decision is made may exercise all the powers exercisable by the Trustees.

## **27. Retirement of Trustees**

- 27.1 At each annual general meeting one third of the Trustees or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one third must retire from office. If there is only one Director, he or she must retire.
- 27.2 The Trustees retiring by rotation shall be those who have been longest in such office since their last appointment as Trustees of the Charity. If any other Trustees became or were appointed Trustees on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot.
- 27.3 If a Trustee is required to retire at an annual general meeting by a provision of these articles the retirement shall take effect upon the conclusion of the meeting.

## **28. Appointment of Trustees**

- 28.1 The Charity may by ordinary resolution:
  - 28.1.1 appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Trustee; and
  - 28.1.2 determine the rotation in which any additional Trustees are to retire.
- 28.2 No person other than a Trustee retiring by rotation may be appointed a Trustee at any general meeting unless:
  - 28.2.1 he or she is recommended for re-election by the Trustees; or
  - 28.2.2 not less than fourteen nor more than thirty-five clear days before the date of the meeting, the Charity is given a notice that:
    - 28.2.2.1 is signed by two members entitled to vote at the meeting
    - 28.2.2.2 states the members' intention to propose the appointment of a person as a Trustee
    - 28.2.2.3 contains the details that, if the person were to be appointed, the Charity would have to file at Companies House; and
    - 28.2.2.4 is signed by the person who is to be proposed to show his or her willingness to be appointed.
- 28.3 All members who are entitled to receive notice of a general meeting must be given not less than seven nor more than twenty-eight clear days' notice of any resolution to be put to the meeting to appoint a Trustee other than a Trustee who is to retire by rotation.
- 28.4 The Trustees may appoint a person who is willing to act to be a Trustee.
- 28.5 A Trustee appointed by a resolution of the other Trustees must retire at the next annual general meeting and must not be taken into account in determining the Trustees who are to retire by rotation.
- 28.6 The appointment of a Trustee, whether by the Charity in general meeting or by the other Trustees, must not cause the number of Trustees to exceed any number fixed as the maximum number of Trustees.

## **29. Disqualification and removal of Trustees**

29.1 A Trustee shall cease to hold office if he or she:

29.1.1 ceases to be a Trustee by virtue of any provision in the Companies Acts or is prohibited by law from being a Trustee;

29.1.2 is disqualified from acting as a trustee by virtue of sections 178 and 179 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of those provisions);

29.1.3 ceases to be a member of the Charity.

29.1.4 in the written opinion, given to the Charity, of a registered medical practitioner treating that person, has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a Trustee and may remain so for more than three months.

29.1.5 resigns as a Trustee by notice to the Charity (but only if at least two Trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect); or

29.1.6 is absent without the permission of the Trustees from all their meetings held within a period of six consecutive months and the Trustees resolve that his or her office be vacated.

## **30. Remuneration of Trustees**

30.1 The Trustees must not be paid any remuneration unless it is authorised by article 7.

## **31. Proceedings of Trustees**

31.1 The Trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit, subject to the provisions of the articles.

31.2 Any Trustee may call a meeting of the Trustees.

31.3 The secretary (if any) must call a meeting of the Trustees if requested to do so by a Trustee.

31.4 Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes.

31.5 In the case of an equality of votes, the person who is chairing the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

31.6 A meeting may be held by suitable electronic video conferencing agreed by the Trustees in which each participant may communicate with all the other participants.

## **32. Quorum for Trustees' Meetings**

32.1 No decision may be made by a meeting of the Trustees unless a quorum is present at the time the decision is purported to be made.

32.2 The quorum shall be five or the number nearest to one-third of the total number of Trustees, whichever is the greater, or such larger number as may be decided from time to time by the Trustees.

32.3 A Trustee shall not be counted in the quorum present when any decision is made about a matter upon which that Trustee is not entitled to vote.

32.4 If the number of Trustees is less than the number fixed as the quorum, the continuing Trustees or Trustee may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.

## **33. Chairperson for Trustee meetings**

33.1 The Trustees shall appoint a Trustee to chair their meetings and may at any time revoke such appointment.

33.2 If no-one has been appointed to chair meetings of the Trustees or if the person appointed is unwilling to preside or is not present within ten minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Trustees present may appoint one of their number to chair that meeting.

33.3 The person appointed to chair meetings of the Trustees shall have no functions or powers except those conferred by the articles or delegated to him or her by the Trustees.

#### **34. Written Resolutions**

34.1 A resolution in writing or in electronic form agreed by all of the Trustees entitled to receive notice of a meeting of the Trustees and to vote upon the resolution shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Trustees duly convened and held.

34.2 The resolution in writing may comprise several documents containing the text of the resolution in like form to each of which one or more Trustees has signified their agreement.

#### **35. Delegation**

35.1 The Trustees may delegate any of their powers or functions to a committee of two or more Trustees but the terms of any delegation must be recorded in the minute book.

35.2 The Trustees may impose conditions when delegating, including the conditions that:

35.2.1 the relevant powers are to be exercised exclusively by the committee to whom they delegate

35.2.2 no expenditure may be incurred on behalf of the Charity except in accordance with a budget previously agreed with the Trustees.

35.3 The Trustees may revoke or alter a delegation.

35.4 All acts and proceedings of any committees must be fully and promptly reported to the Trustees.

#### **36. Validity of Trustees' decisions**

36.1 Subject to article 36.2, all acts done by a meeting of Trustees, or of a committee of Trustees, shall be valid, notwithstanding the participation in any vote of a Trustee:

36.1.1 who was disqualified from holding office

36.1.2 who had previously retired or who had been obliged by the constitution to vacate office

36.1.3 who was not entitled to vote on the matter, whether by reason of a conflict of interests or otherwise

if without:

36.1.4 the vote of that Trustee; and

36.1.5 that Trustee being counted in the quorum

the decision has been made by a majority of the Trustees at a quorate meeting.

36.2 Article 36(1) does not permit a Trustee or a connected person to keep any benefit that may be conferred upon him or her by a resolution of the Trustees or of a committee of Trustees if, but for article for article 34(1) the resolution would have been void, or if the Trustee has not complied with article 10.

#### **37. Minutes**

37.1 The Trustees must keep minutes of all:

37.1.1 appointments of officers made by the Trustees

37.1.2 proceedings at meetings of the Charity

37.1.3 meetings of the Trustees and committees of Trustees including:

37.1.3.1 the names of the Trustees present at the meeting

37.1.3.2 the decisions made at the meetings; an

37.1.3.3 where appropriate the reasons for the decisions.

### **38. Accounts**

38.1 The Trustees must prepare for each financial year accounts as required by the Companies Acts. The accounts must be prepared to show a true and fair view and follow accounting standards issued or adopted by the Accounting Standards Board or its successors and adhere to the recommendations of applicable Statements of Recommended Practice.

38.2 The Trustees must keep accounting records as required by the Companies Act.

### **39. Annual Report and Return and Register of Charities**

39.1 The Trustees must comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with regard to the:

39.1.1 transmission of a copy of the statements of account to the Commission

39.1.2 preparation of an Annual Report and the transmission of a copy of it to the Commission

39.1.3 preparation of an Annual Return and its transmission to the Commission.

39.2 The Trustees must notify the Commission promptly of any changes to the Charity's entry on the Central Register of Charities.

### **40. Means of communication to be used**

40.1 Subject to the articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Charity under the articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act 2006 provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by or to the Charity.

40.2 Subject to the articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a Trustee in connection with the taking of decisions by Trustees may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Trustee has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.

40.3 Any notice to be given to or by any person pursuant to the articles:

40.3.1 must be in writing; or

40.3.2 must be given in electronic form.

40.4 The Charity may give any notice to a member either:

40.4.1 personally; or

40.4.2 by sending it by post in a prepaid envelope addressed to the member at his or her address; or

40.4.3 by leaving it at the address of the member; or

40.4.4 by giving it in electronic form to the member's address; or

40.4.5 by placing the notice on a website and providing the person with a notification in writing or in electronic form of the presence of the notice on the website. The notification must state that it concerns a notice of a company meeting and must specify the place date and time of the meeting.

40.5 A member who does not register an address with the Charity or who registers only a postal address that is not within the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to receive any notice from the Charity.

40.6 A member present in person at any meeting of the Charity shall be deemed to have received notice of the meeting and of the purposes for which it was called.

40.7 Proof that an envelope containing a notice was properly addressed, prepaid and posted shall be conclusive evidence that the notice was given.

40.8 Proof that an electronic form of notice was given shall be conclusive where the company can demonstrate that it was properly addressed and sent, in accordance with section 1147 of the Companies Act 2006.

40.9 In accordance with section 1147 of the Companies Act 2006 notice shall be deemed to be given:

40.9.1 48 hours after the envelope containing it was posted; or

40.9.2 in the case of an electronic form of communication, 48 hours after it was sent.

#### **41. Indemnity**

41.1 The Charity shall indemnify a relevant Trustee against any liability incurred in that capacity, to the extent permitted by sections 232 to 234 of the Companies Act 2006

41.2 In this article a 'relevant Trustee' means any Trustee or former Trustee of the Charity.

41.3 The Charity may indemnify an auditor against any liability incurred by him or her or it

41.3.1 in defending proceedings (whether civil or criminal) in which judgment is given in his or her or its favour or he or she or it is acquitted; or

41.3.2 in connection with an application under section 1157 of the Companies Act 2006 (power of Court to grant relief in case of honest and reasonable conduct) in which relief is granted to him or her or it by the Court

#### **42. Rules**

42.1 The Trustees may from time to time make such reasonable and proper rules or regulations as they may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct and management of the Charity.

42.2 The rules or regulations may regulate the following matters but are not restricted to them:

42.2.1 the admission of members of the Charity (including the admission of organisations to membership) and the rights and privileges of such members, and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be made by members;

42.1.2 the conduct of members of the Charity in relation to one another, and to the Charity's employees and volunteers;

42.1.3 the setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Charity's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes;

42.1.4 the procedure at general meetings and meetings of the Trustees in so far as such procedure is not regulated by the Companies Acts or by the articles;

42.1.5 generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of company rules.

42.3 The Charity in general meeting has the power to alter, add to or repeal the rules or regulations.

42.4 The Trustees must adopt such means as they think sufficient to bring the rules or regulations to the notice of members of the Charity.

42.5 The rules or regulations shall be binding on all members of the Charity. No rule or regulations shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in, the articles.

#### **43. Disputes**

43.1 If a dispute arises between members of the Charity about the validity or propriety of anything done by the members of the Charity under these articles, and the dispute cannot be resolved by agreement, the parties to the dispute must first try in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation before resorting to litigation.

#### **44. Dissolution**

- 44.1 The members of the Charity may at any time before, and in expectation of, its dissolution resolve that any net assets of the Charity after all its debts and liabilities have been paid, or provision has been made for them, shall on or before the dissolution of the Charity be applied or transferred in any of the following ways:
- 44.1.1 directly for the Objects; or
  - 44.1.2 by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes similar to the Objects; or
  - 44.1.3 to any charity or charities for use for particular purposes that fall within the Objects.
- 44.2 Subject to any such resolution of the members of the Charity, the Trustees of the Charity may at any time before and in expectation of its dissolution resolve that any net assets of the Charity after all its debts and liabilities have been paid, or provision made for them, shall on or before dissolution of the Charity be applied or transferred:
- 44.2.1 directly for the Objects; or
  - 44.2.2 by transfer to any charity or charities for purposes similar to the Objects; or
  - 44.2.3 to any charity or charities for use for particular purposes that fall within the Objects.
- 44.3 In no circumstances shall the net assets of the Charity be paid to or distributed among the members of the Charity (except to a member that is itself a charity) and if no resolution in accordance with article 44.1 is passed by the members or the Trustees the net assets of the Charity shall be applied for charitable purposes as directed by the Court or the Commission.

#### **45. Secretary**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts, the secretary may be appointed by the Trustees for such term, at such remuneration (if not a Trustee) and upon such conditions as they may think fit; and any secretary so appointed may be removed by them.

#### **46. Interpretation**

- 46.1 In articles 7, 8, 9, and 36 'connected person' means:
- 46.1.1 a child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister of the Trustee;
  - 46.1.2 the spouse or civil partner of the Trustee or of any person falling within 46.1.1 above;
  - 46.1.3 a person carrying on business in partnership with the Trustee or with any person falling within 46.1.1 and 46.1.2 above;
  - 46.1.4 an institution which is controlled –
    - 46.1.4.1 by a Trustee or any connected person falling within 46.1.1, 46.1.2 and 46.1.3 above; or
    - 46.1.4.2 by two or more persons falling within 46.1.1, 46.1.2, and 46.1.3, when taken together.
  - 46.1.5 a body corporate in which –
    - 46.1.5.1 a Trustee or any connected person falling within 46.1.1, 46.1.2, and 46.1.3 has a substantial interest; or
    - 46.1.5.2 two or more persons falling within 46.1.5.1 who, when taken together, have a substantial interest.
    - 46.1.5.3 Sections 350 – 352 of the Charities Act 2011 apply for the purposes of interpreting the terms used in this article.

#### **47. Disposal of Land**

If the Trustees make or receive any firm proposal which involves the disposal of any part of Horsell

Common as registered at the Land Registry under title number SY350625 (otherwise than proposals for road improvements) the Trustees shall inform all the members of the Charity of the nature of such proposal in sufficient time to receive and consider their views before the decision of the Trustees shall become binding on the Charity.