



THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE
CAPITAL

ARTICLES of ASSOCIATION of
STIRLINGSHIRE VOLUNTARY ENTERPRISE LTD
SC387876

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Constitution of company

- 1 The model articles of association as prescribed in Schedule 2 to The Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 are excluded in respect of this company.

Defined terms

- 2 In these articles of association, unless the context requires otherwise:-
 - (a) "Act" means the Companies Act 2006;
 - (b) "charity" means a body which is either a "Scottish charity" within the meaning of section 13 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 or a "charity" within the meaning of section 1 of the Charities Act 2011, providing (in either case) that its objects are limited to charitable purposes;
 - (c) "charitable purpose" means a charitable purpose under section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 which is also regarded as a charitable purpose in relation to the application of the Taxes Acts;
 - (d) "electronic form" has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Act;
 - (e) "OSCR" means the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator;
 - (f) "property" means any property, heritable or moveable, real or personal, wherever situated; and
 - (g) "subsidiary" has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Act.
- 3 Any reference to a provision of any legislation (including any statutory instrument) shall include any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision in force from time to time.

Objects

- 4 The Association is established for the following charitable objects within Stirlingshire and its environs:-

- 4.1 to support existing third sector organisations by establishing and sharing intelligence on the sector and ensuring that its interests are represented;
 - 4.2 advocating on its behalf and enabling positive partnerships within and across sectors;
 - 4.3 assisting organisations to present a coherent case for investment, and supporting and promoting social enterprise activity;
 - 4.4 building the capacity of organisations and providing infrastructure support services;
 - 4.5 promoting, supporting and developing volunteering activity for individuals and the organisations with whom they work.
- 5 The company's objects are restricted to those set out in article 4 (but subject to article 6).
- 6 The company may (subject to first obtaining the consent of the OSCR) add to, remove or alter the statement of the company's objects in article 4; on any occasion when it does so, it must give notice to the registrar of companies and the amendment will not be effective until that notice is registered on the register of companies.

Powers

- 7 In pursuance of the objects listed in article 4 (but not otherwise), the company shall have the following powers:-
- (a) To deliver services and promote cooperation in the achievement of the above purposes.
 - (b) To carry on any other activities which further any of the above objects.
 - (c) To promote companies whose activities may further one or more of the above objects, or may generate income to support the activities of the company, acquire and hold shares in such companies and carry out, in relation to any such company which is a subsidiary of the company, all such functions as may be associated with a holding company.
 - (d) To acquire and take over the whole or any part of the undertaking and liabilities of any body holding property or rights which are suitable for the company's activities.

- (e) To purchase, take on lease, hire, or otherwise acquire, any property or rights which are suitable for the company's activities.
- (f) To improve, manage, develop, or otherwise deal with, all or any part of the property and rights of the company.
- (g) To sell, let, hire out, license, or otherwise dispose of, all or any part of the property and rights of the company.
- (h) To lend money and give credit (with or without security) and to grant guarantees and issue indemnities.
- (i) To borrow money, and to give security in support of any such borrowings by the company, in support of any obligations undertaken by the company or in support of any guarantee issued by the company.
- (j) To employ such staff as are considered appropriate for the proper conduct of the company's activities, and to make reasonable provision for the payment of pension and/or other benefits for members of staff, ex-members of staff and their dependants.
- (k) To engage such consultants and advisers as are considered appropriate from time to time.
- (l) To effect insurance of all kinds (which may include officers' liability insurance).
- (m) To invest any funds which are not immediately required for the company's activities in such investments as may be considered appropriate (and to dispose of, and vary, such investments).
- (n) To liaise with other voluntary sector bodies, local authorities, UK or Scottish government departments and agencies, and other bodies, all with a view to furthering the company's objects.
- (o) To establish and/or support any other charity, and to make donations for any charitable purpose falling within the company's objects.
- (p) To take such steps as may be deemed appropriate for the purpose of raising funds for the company's activities.

- (q) To accept grants, donations and legacies of all kinds (and to accept any reasonable conditions attaching to them).
- (r) To oppose, or object to, any application or proceedings which may prejudice the company's interests.
- (s) To enter into any arrangement with any organisation, government or authority which may be advantageous for the purposes of the activities of the company, and to enter into any arrangement for co-operation or mutual assistance with any charity.
- (t) To do anything which may be incidental or conducive to the furtherance of any of the company's objects.

Restrictions on use of the company's assets

- 8
- (a) The income and property of the company shall be applied solely towards promoting the company's objects.
 - (b) No part of the income or property of the company shall be paid or transferred (directly or indirectly) to the members of the company, whether by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise.
 - (c) No director of the company shall be appointed as a paid employee of the company; no director shall hold any office under the company for which a salary or fee is payable.
 - (d) No benefit (whether in money or in kind) shall be given by the company to any director except (i) repayment of out-of-pocket expenses or (ii) reasonable payment in return for particular services (not being of a management nature) actually rendered to the company.

Liability of members

- 9
- Each member undertakes that if the company is wound up while they/it are a member (or within one year after they cease to be a member), they/it will contribute - up to a maximum of £1 - to the assets of the company, to be applied towards:
- (a) payment of the company's debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member;
 - (b) payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and

- (c) adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

General structure

- 10 The structure of the company consists of:-
 - (a) the MEMBERS - who have the right to attend the annual general meeting (and any other general meeting) and have important powers under the articles of association and the Act; in particular, the members elect people to serve as directors and take decisions in relation to changes to the articles themselves
 - (b) the DIRECTORS - who hold regular meetings during the period between annual general meetings, and generally control and supervise the activities of the company; in particular, the directors are responsible for monitoring the financial position of the company.

Qualifications for membership

- 11 The members of the company shall consist of the subscribers to the memorandum of association and such other persons as are admitted to membership under articles 15 to 17.
- 12 Membership shall be open to:
 - (a) any corporate body that is a third sector organisation operating within the Stirling local authority area (as determined by the Board of Directors) which supports the aims of the company and meets the standards set out by the Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise Ltd (SVE) Board.
 - (b) any individual who has been nominated for membership by and on behalf of an unincorporated body that is a third sector organisation operating within the Stirling local authority area (as determined by the Board of Directors) which supports the aims of the company and meets the standards set out by the SVE Board.
 - (c) any individual over the age of 16 who resides, works and or volunteers within the Stirling local authority area (as determined by the Board of Directors) who supports the aims of the company and meets the standards set out by the SVE Board can apply to be accepted as an 'individual' member where individual membership does not carry the

right to vote at General Meetings or have any say in the running of or governance of the organisation. However 'individual' membership is a sufficient status for an individual to hold to be eligible to be elected or invited onto the Board of Directors of the organisation

- 13 No more than one individual nominated under paragraph (b) of article 12 by each unincorporated body may be a member of the company at any given time.
- 14 Employees of the company shall not be eligible for membership; a person who becomes an employee of the company after admission to membership shall automatically cease to be a member.

Application for membership

- 15 Any person who wishes to become a member must sign, and lodge with the company, a written application for membership: in the case of a corporate body, the application must be signed by an appropriate officer of that body, in the case of an application under paragraph b of article 12 the application must be signed by an appropriate office bearer of the unincorporated body which is nominating it for membership. The application must be accompanied by a remittance to meet the annual membership subscription.
- 16 Upon receipt of an application for membership, along with the accompanying remittance, the application shall be reviewed for completeness. The completed application shall then be submitted for consideration and approval by the appropriate authority, in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures for Membership. The applicant shall be notified of the decision within a reasonable time after the application is received. If the application is refused, the remittance shall be returned to the applicant, as stipulated under Article 15.
- 17 If it is determined that the application does not meet the criteria established by the Board of Directors in Clauses 12 to 14, or if there is any doubt regarding the eligibility of the applicant, the application shall be referred to the Board of Directors. The Board, at its discretion, may refuse admission to any person or entity. The decision of the Board of Directors in this matter shall be final.

Membership subscription

- 18 The annual subscription for membership shall be determined from time to time by the Board and such determination may provide for differential rates of annual subscription. For the

avoidance of doubt, the Board are entitled to set a free subscription.

- 19 The annual membership subscriptions shall be payable on or before 1st April in each year.
- 20 If the membership subscription payable by any member remains outstanding more than 16 weeks after the date it fell due (and providing they have been given at least one written reminder) the directors may, by resolution to that effect, expel them from membership.
- 21 A person or body who ceases (for whatever reason) to be a member shall not be entitled to any refund of the membership subscription.

Register of members

- 22 The directors shall maintain a register of members, setting out the full name and address of each member, the date on which they/it were admitted to membership, and the date on which any person or body ceased to be a member. In the case of a member who was admitted under paragraph (b) of article 12, the entry against their name shall also include details of the unincorporated body which nominated them for membership.

Withdrawal from membership

- 23 Any person who wishes to withdraw from membership shall sign, (in the case of a corporate body, through an appropriate officer) and lodge with the company, a written notice to that effect; on receipt of the notice by the company, they/it shall cease to be a member.
- 24 The board may, at any time, issue notices to the members (either in writing or by email) requiring them to confirm that they wish to remain as members of the company, and allowing them a period of 28 days (running from the date of issue of the notice) to provide that confirmation to the board.
- 25 If a member fails to provide confirmation to the board (in writing or by email) that they wish to remain as a member of the company before the expiry of the 28-day period referred to in article 24, the board may expel them from membership.
- 26 A notice under article 24 will not be valid unless it refers specifically to the consequences (under article 25) of failing to provide confirmation within the 28-day period.

Expulsion from membership

- 27 Any person may be expelled from membership by special resolution (see article 45), providing the following procedures have been observed:-
- (a) at least 21 days' notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given to the member concerned, specifying the grounds for the proposed expulsion
 - (b) the member concerned shall be entitled to be heard on the resolution at the general meeting at which the resolution is proposed.

Termination/transfer

- 28 An unincorporated body which has nominated an individual for membership may withdraw its nomination at any time by written notice to the company to that effect, on receipt of the notice by the company, the individual in question shall automatically cease to be a member of the company.
- 29 Membership shall cease on death or (in the case of a corporate body) on receivership, liquidation, dissolution or striking-off of the body which constituted the member.
- 30 A member may not transfer their/its membership to any other person or body.

General meetings (meetings of members)

- 31 The directors shall convene an annual general meeting in each year (but excluding the year in which the company is formed); the first annual general meeting shall be held not later than 18 months after the date of incorporation of the company.
- 32 Not more than 15 months shall elapse between one annual general meeting and the next.
- 33 The business of each annual general meeting shall include:-
- (a) a report by the chair on the activities of the company
 - (b) consideration of the annual accounts of the company
 - (c) the election/re-election of directors, as referred to in articles 76 to 81.
- 34 Subject to articles 31, 32 and 35, the directors may convene a general meeting at any time.

- 35 The directors must convene a general meeting if there is a valid requisition by members (under section 303 of the Act) or a requisition by a resigning auditor (under section 518 of the Act).

Notice of general meetings

- 36 At least 14 clear days' notice must be given of a general meeting.
- 37 The reference to "clear days" in article 36 shall be taken to mean that, in calculating the period of notice, the day after the notice is posted, (or, in the case of a notice sent by electronic means, the day after it was sent) and also the day of the meeting, should be excluded.
- 38 A notice calling a meeting shall specify the time and (subject to article 41) place of the meeting; it shall (a) indicate the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting and (b) if a special resolution (see article 45) (or a resolution requiring special notice under the Act) is to be proposed, shall also state that fact, giving the exact terms of the resolution.
- 39 A notice convening an annual general meeting shall specify that the meeting is to be an annual general meeting.
- 40 Notice of every general meeting shall be given
- (a) in hard copy form
 - (b) in writing or (where the individual to whom notice is given has notified the company of an address to be used for the purpose of electronic communication) in electronic form; or
 - (c) (subject to the company notifying members of the presence of the notice on the website, and complying with the other requirements of section 309 of the Act) by means of a website.
- 41 If members and directors are to be permitted to participate in a general meeting by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s) (see article 42), the notice (or notes accompanying the notice) must:
- (a) set out details of how to connect and participate via that link or links; and
 - (b) (particularly for the benefit of those members who may have difficulties in using a computer or laptop for this

purpose) draw members' attention to the following options:

- (i) participating in the meeting via an audio link accessed by phone, using dial-in details (if that forms part of the arrangements);
- (ii) appointing the chairperson of the meeting as proxy, and directing the chairperson on how they should use that proxy vote in relation to each resolution to be proposed at the meeting;
- (iii) where attendance in person is to be permitted, either on an open basis or with a restriction on the total number who will be permitted to attend attending and voting in person at the meeting;
- (iv) submitting questions and/or comments in advance of the meeting.

42 If participation in the meeting is to be by way of audio and/or audio-visual links - with no intention for the meeting to involve attendance in person by two or more members in any particular location - the place of the meeting shall, for the purposes of the notice calling the meeting, be taken to be the place where the anticipated chairperson of the meeting is expected to be, as at the time fixed for the commencement of the meeting; and, if it transpires that the chairperson of the meeting is at some other place as at the commencement of the meeting, the meeting shall be taken to have been validly adjourned to that other place.

43 Where a general meeting is to involve participation solely via audio and/or audio-visual links, the notice (or notes accompanying the notice) must include a statement inviting members to submit questions and/or comments in advance of the meeting, which (subject to article 41) the chairperson of the meeting will be expected to read out, and address, in the course of the meeting.

44 Where article 39 applies, the chairperson of a general meeting will not require to read out or address any questions or comments submitted by members in advance of the meeting if and to the extent that the questions or comments are of an unreasonable length (individually or taken together), or contain material which is defamatory, racist or otherwise offensive.

Special resolutions and ordinary resolutions

- 45 For the purposes of these articles, a "special resolution" means a resolution passed by 75% or more of the votes cast on the resolution at a general meeting, providing proper notice of the meeting and of the intention to propose the resolution has been given in accordance with articles 36-44; for the avoidance of doubt, the reference to a 75% majority relates only to the number of votes cast in favour of the resolution as compared with the total number of votes cast in relation to the resolution, and accordingly no account shall be taken of abstentions or members absent from the meeting.
- 46 In addition to the matters expressly referred to elsewhere in these articles, the provisions of the Act allow the company, by special resolution,
- (a) to alter its name
 - (b) to alter any provision of these articles or adopt new articles of association.
- 47 For the purposes of these articles, an "ordinary resolution" means a resolution passed by majority vote (taking account only of those votes cast in favour as compared with those votes against), at a general meeting, providing proper notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with articles 36-44.

Procedure at general meetings

- 48 The directors may if they consider appropriate (and must, if that is required under article 49,) make arrangements for members and directors to participate in general meetings by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s) which allow them to hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting, providing:
- (a) the means by which members and directors can participate via those link(s) are not subject to technical complexities, significant costs or other factors which are likely to represent - for all or a significant proportion of the membership - a barrier to participation;
 - (b) the notice calling the meeting (or notes accompanying the notice) contains the information required under article 41; and
 - (c) the manner in which the meeting is conducted ensures, so far as reasonably possible, that those members and directors who participate via an audio or audio-visual link are not disadvantaged with regard to their ability to contribute to discussions at the meeting, as compared

with those members and directors (if any) who are attending in person (and vice versa).

- 49 If restrictions arising from public health legislation or guidance are likely to mean that attendance in person at a proposed general meeting would not be possible or advisable for all or a significant proportion of the membership, the directors must make arrangements for members and directors to participate in that general meeting by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s) which allow them to hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting; and on the basis that the requirements set out in paragraphs (a) to (c) of article 48 will apply.
- 50 A general meeting may involve two or more members or directors participating via attendance in person while other members and/or directors participate via audio and/or audio-visual links; or it may involve participation solely via audio and/or audio-visual links.
- 51 Reference in articles 36 to 44 to members should be taken to include proxies for members and authorised representatives of members which are corporate bodies.
- 52 No business shall be dealt with at any general meeting unless a quorum is present; the quorum for a general meeting shall be 5 individuals entitled to vote (each being a member or a proxy for a member or a duly authorised representative of a corporate member).
- 53 An individual participating in a general meeting via an audio or audio-visual link which allows them to hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting will be deemed to be present in person (or, if they are not a member or the authorised representative of a member which is a corporate body, will be deemed to be in attendance) at the meeting.
- 54 If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the time at which a general meeting was due to commence - or if, during a meeting, a quorum ceases to be present - the meeting shall stand adjourned to such time and place as may be fixed by the chairperson of the meeting.
- 55 Where participation in the adjourned meeting is to be by way of audio and/or audio-visual links - with no intention for the adjourned meeting to involve attendance in person by two or more members or directors in one place - the requirement under article 54 for the chairperson to fix the place of the adjourned meeting shall not apply.
- 56 The chair of the company shall (if present and willing to act as chairperson) preside as chairperson of each general meeting; if the chair is not present and willing to act as chairperson

within 15 minutes after the time at which the meeting was due to commence, the directors present at the meeting shall elect from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of that meeting.

57 The chairperson of a general meeting may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting to such time and (subject to article 54) place as the chairperson may determine.

58 Article 55 shall apply in relation to the requirement under article 54 for the chairperson to specify the place of an adjourned meeting.

59 Every member shall have one vote, which (whether on a show of hands or on a secret ballot) may be given either personally by proxy or by the duly authorised representative of a corporate member (subject to article 68).

60 A member which is a corporate body shall be entitled to authorise an individual to attend and vote at general meetings; they will then be entitled to exercise the same powers on behalf of the body which they represent as that body could have exercised if it have been an individual member of the company.

61 Any member who wishes to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf at any meeting (or adjourned meeting):

(a) shall lodge with the company, at the company's registered office, a written instrument of proxy (in such form as the directors require), signed by them; or

(b) shall send by electronic means to the company, at such electronic address as may have been notified to the members by the company for that purpose, an instrument of proxy (in such form as the directors require)

providing (in either case), the instrument of proxy is received by the company at the relevant address not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting (or, as the case may be, adjourned meeting).

62 An instrument of proxy which does not conform with the provisions of article 61, or which is not lodged or sent in accordance with such provisions, shall be invalid.

63 A member shall not be entitled to appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion.

64 A proxy appointed to attend and vote at any meeting instead of a member shall have the same right as the member who

appointed them to speak at the meeting and need not be a member of the company.

- 65 A vote given, or ballot demanded, by proxy shall be valid notwithstanding that the authority of the person voting or demanding a ballot had terminated prior to the giving of such vote or demanding of such ballot, unless notice of such termination was received by the company at the company's registered office (or, where sent by electronic means, was received by the company at the address notified by the company to the members for the purpose of electronic communications) before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote was given or the ballot demanded.
- 66 If there are an equal number of votes for and against any resolution, the chairperson of the meeting shall not be entitled to a casting vote.
- 67 A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by the chairperson (or by at least two persons present in person at the meeting and entitled to vote (whether as members or proxies for members)); a secret ballot may be demanded either before the show of hands takes place, or immediately after the result of the show of hands is declared.
- 68 Where members are participating in a meeting via an audio or audio-visual link, they may cast their vote on any resolution orally, or by way of some form of visual indication, or by use of a voting button or similar, or by way of a message sent electronically - and providing the directors have no reasonable grounds for suspicion as regards authenticity, any such action shall be deemed to be a vote cast personally via a show of hands.
- 69 If a secret ballot is demanded, it shall be taken at the meeting and shall be conducted in such a manner as the chairperson may direct; the result of the ballot shall be declared at the meeting at which the ballot was demanded.
- 70 Where members are participating in a meeting via audio and/or audio-visual links, the chairperson's directions regarding how a secret ballot is to be conducted may allow those members to cast their votes on the secret ballot via any or all of the methods referred to in article 68, providing reasonable steps are taken to preserve anonymity (while at the same time, addressing any risk of irregularities in the process).

- 71 The principles set out in articles 68 and 70 shall also apply in relation to the casting of votes by an individual in their capacity as proxy for a member or as the authorised representative of a member which is a corporate body.

Technical objections to remote participation in general meetings

- 72 These articles impose certain requirements regarding the use of audio and/or audio-visual links as a means of participation and voting at general meetings; providing the arrangements made by the directors in relation to a given general meeting (and the manner in which the general meeting is conducted) are consistent with those requirements:
- (a) a member cannot insist on participating in the general meeting, or voting at the general meeting, by any particular means;
 - (b) the general meeting need not be held in any particular place;
 - (c) the general meeting may be held without any particular number of those participating in the meeting being present in person at the same place (but notwithstanding that, the quorum requirements - taking account of those participating via audio and/or audio-visual links - must still be met);
 - (d) the general meeting may be held by any means which permits those participating in the meeting to hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting;
 - (e) a member will be able to exercise the right to vote at the general meeting (including where a secret ballot is to be held) by such means as is determined by the chairperson of the meeting (consistent with the arrangements made by the directors) and which permits that member's vote to be taken into account in determining whether or not a resolution is passed.

Maximum number of directors

- 73 The maximum number of directors shall be 12. The minimum number of directors shall be 3.

Eligibility

- 74 A person shall not be eligible for election as a director under article 73-80 unless they are a member of the company or have been nominated for election/appointment as a director by a member which is a corporate body. A person appointed as a

director under article 79 need not, however, be a member of the company.

- 75 A person shall not be eligible for election/appointment as a director if they are an employee of the company.

Election, retiral, re-election

- 76 At each annual general meeting, the members may (subject to article 73) elect any member (providing they are willing to act) to be a director.

- 77 A member which is a corporate body may (subject to article 73) nominate any individual for election/appointment as a director; they will then be deemed to be a member of the company for the purposes of articles 74 and 75.

- 78 No more than one individual nominated under article 77 by each corporate member may serve as a director at any given time.

- 79 The directors may appoint any member or non-member of the company to be a director (providing they are willing to act) on the basis that they have specialist experience and or skills which could be of assistance to the directors.

- 80 At each annual general meeting, all of the directors shall retire from office but then shall be eligible for re-election.

(a) At each Annual General Meeting (AGM), all of the directors appointed under clauses 74 to 79 shall retire from office but shall be eligible for re-election.

(b) Each director shall hold office for a term of three years, after which they must retire at the immediately following AGM.

(c) Retiring directors may be appointed by ordinary resolution for subsequent two additional three-year terms, but shall not hold office for a continuous period of more than nine years.

(d) A director who has served on the Board for a period of nine years shall automatically retire from office on the expiry of that nine-year period and shall not be eligible for re-election until a further year has elapsed.

- 81 For the purposes of Clause 80 (a), the following periods shall be deemed to be one year, unless they are of less than six months' duration, in which case they shall be disregarded.

(a) The period from the date of the formation of the organisation to the first AGM.

- (b) The period between the date of appointment of a director and the AGM that next follows.
- (c) The period between one AGM and the next.
- (d) If a director ceases to hold office but is reappointed to that office within a period of six months, they shall be deemed to have held office as a director continuously.

Termination of office

82 A director shall automatically vacate office if:-

- (a) they cease to be a director through the operation of any provision of the Act or become prohibited by law from being a director;
- (b) they become debarred under any statutory provision from being a charity trustee;
- (c) they become incapable for medical reasons of fulfilling the duties of their office and such incapacity is expected to continue for a period of more than six months;
- (d) in the case of a director elected under articles 76 to 78 they cease to be a member of the company or (if they were nominated by a corporate body) the corporate body which nominated them ceases to be a member of the company.
- (e) they become an employee of the company;
- (f) they resign office by notice to the company;
- (g) they are absent (without permission of the directors) from more than three consecutive meetings of the directors, and the directors resolve to remove them from office;
- (h) they are removed from office by resolution of the directors on the grounds that they are considered to have committed a material breach of the code of conduct for directors in force from time to time (as referred to in article 118;)
- (i) they are removed from office by resolution of the directors on the grounds that they are considered to have been in serious or persistent breach of their duties under sub-sections 66(1) or (2) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005; or

- (j) they are removed from office by ordinary resolution (special notice having been given) in pursuance of section 168 of the Act.
- 83 A resolution under paragraph (h) or (i) of article 82 shall be valid only if:-
- (a) the director who is the subject of the resolution is given reasonable prior written notice by the directors of the grounds upon which the resolution for their removal is to be proposed;
 - (b) the director concerned is given the opportunity to address the meeting of directors at which the resolution is proposed, prior to the resolution being put to the vote; and
 - (c) at least two thirds (to the nearest round number) of the directors then in office vote in favour of the resolution.

Register of directors

- 84 The directors shall maintain a register of directors, setting out full details of each director, including the name of the corporate member which nominated each director (if applicable), the date on which they became a director, and also specifying the date on which any person ceased to hold office as a director.

Officebearers

- 85 The directors shall elect from among themselves a chair and such other office bearers (if any) as they consider appropriate.
- 86 All of the office bearers shall cease to hold office at the conclusion of each annual general meeting, but shall then be eligible for re-election.
- 87 A person elected to any office shall cease to hold that office if they cease to be a director, or if they resign from that office by written notice to that effect.

Powers of directors

- 88 Subject to the provisions of the Act, and these articles, and subject to any directions given by special resolution, the company and its assets and undertaking shall be managed by the directors, who may exercise all the powers of the company.

- 89 A meeting of the directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.

Personal interests

- 90 A director who has a personal interest in any transaction or other arrangement which the company is proposing to enter into, must declare that interest at a meeting of the directors; they will be debarred (in terms of article 110) from voting on the question of whether or not the company should enter into that arrangement.
- 91 For the purposes of the preceding article, a director shall be deemed to have a personal interest in an arrangement if any partner or other close relative of theirs **or** any firm of which they are a partner **or** any limited company of which they are a substantial shareholder or director **or** any limited liability partnership of which they are a member **or** any Scottish charitable incorporated organisation of which they are a charity trustee **or** any registered society or unincorporated association of which they are a management committee member (or any other party who/which is deemed to be connected with them for the purposes of the Act), has a personal interest in that arrangement.
- 92 Provided
- (a) they have declared their interest
 - (b) they have not voted on the question of whether or not the company should enter into the relevant arrangement and
 - (c) the requirements of article 96 are complied with,
- a director will not be debarred from entering into an arrangement with the company in which they have a personal interest (or is deemed to have a personal interest under article 91) and may retain any personal benefit which they gain from their participation in that arrangement.
- 93 The directors shall be entitled, for the purposes of section 175 of the Act, to authorise (by way of resolution to that effect) any conflict situation (as defined for the purposes of that section of the Act) that may arise (such that the duty of the director concerned, under that section, to avoid conflicts of interest is not infringed) and to amend or vary any such authorisation; the directors may give such authorisation subject to such terms and conditions as they may consider appropriate and reasonable in the circumstances.

- 94 For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of section 175 of the Act and article 93 do not apply to a conflict of interest relating to a transaction or arrangement with the company; conflicts of that kind are regulated by the provisions of articles 90 to 92 and articles 110 to 113.
- 95 No director may serve as an employee (full time or part time) of the company, and no director may be given any remuneration by the company for carrying out their duties as a director.
- 96 Where a director provides services to the company or might benefit from any remuneration paid to a connected party for such services, then
- (a) the maximum amount of the remuneration must be specified in a written agreement and must be reasonable
 - (b) the directors must be satisfied that it would be in the interests of the company to enter into the arrangement (taking account of that maximum amount); and
 - (c) less than half of the directors must be receiving remuneration from the company (or benefit from remuneration of that nature).
- 97 The directors may be paid all travelling and other expenses reasonably incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the directors, general meetings, or meetings of committees, or otherwise in connection with the carrying-out of their duties.

Procedure at directors' meetings

- 98 Any director may call a meeting of the directors or request the secretary to call a meeting of the directors.
- 99 If directors are to be permitted to participate in a directors' meeting by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s), the directors must, in advance of the meeting, be provided with details of how to connect and participate via that link or links; and (particularly for the benefit of those directors who may have difficulties in using a computer or laptop for this purpose) the directors' attention should be drawn to the following options:
- (a) participating in the meeting via an audio link accessed by phone, using dial-in details (if that forms part of the arrangements);

- (b) (where attendance in person is to be permitted, either on an open basis or subject to a restriction on the total number who will be permitted to attend) the ability to attend the meeting in person.
- 100 Questions arising at a meeting of the directors shall be decided by a majority of votes; if an equality of votes arises, the chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 101 The directors may, if they consider appropriate (and must, if this is required under article 102) allow directors to participate in directors' meetings by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s) which allow them to hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting, providing:
 - (a) the means by which directors can participate in this manner are not subject to technical complexities, significant costs or other factors which are likely to represent - for all, or a significant proportion, of the directors - a barrier to participation; and
 - (b) the manner in which the meeting is conducted ensures, so far as reasonably possible, that those directors who participate via an audio or audio-visual link are not disadvantaged with regard to their ability to contribute to discussions at the meeting, as compared with those directors (if any) who are attending in person (and vice versa).
- 102 If restrictions arising from public health legislation or guidance are likely to mean that attendance in person at a proposed directors' meeting would not be possible or advisable for one or more of the directors, the directors must make arrangements for directors to participate in that directors' meeting by way of audio and/or audio-visual link(s); and on the basis that:
 - (a) the requirements set out in paragraphs (a) and (b) of article 101 will apply; and
 - (b) the directors must use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that all directors have access to one or more means by which they may hear and contribute to discussions at the meeting.
- 103 A directors' meeting may involve two or more directors participating via attendance in person while other directors participate via audio and/or audio-visual links; or it may involve participation solely via audio and/or audio-visual links.
- 104 For the avoidance of doubt, an individual participating in a directors' meeting via an audio or audio-visual link will be

- deemed to be present in person (or, if they are not a director, will be deemed to be in attendance) at the meeting.
- 105 Where a director or directors are participating in a directors' meeting via an audio or audio-visual link, they may cast their vote on any resolution orally, or by way of some form of visual indication, or by use of a voting button or similar, or by way of a message sent electronically.
- 106 No business shall be dealt with at a meeting of the directors unless a quorum is present; the quorum for meetings of the directors shall be 3.
- 107 If at any time the number of directors in office falls below the number fixed as the quorum, the remaining director(s) may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.
- 108 Unless they are unwilling to do so, the chair of the company shall preside as chairperson at every directors' meeting at which they are present; if the chair is unwilling to act as chairperson or is not present within 15 minutes after the time when the meeting was due to commence, the directors present shall elect from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of the meeting.
- 109 The directors may, at their discretion, allow any person who they reasonably consider appropriate, to attend (whether in person or by way of an audio or audio-visual link) and speak at any meeting of the directors; for the avoidance of doubt, any such person who is invited to attend a directors' meeting shall not be entitled to vote.
- 110 A director shall not vote at a directors' meeting (or at a meeting of a committee) on any resolution concerning a matter in which they have a personal interest which conflicts (or may conflict) with the interests of the company; they must withdraw from the meeting while an item of that nature is being dealt with.
- 111 For the purposes of article 110, a person shall be deemed to have a personal interest in a particular matter if any partner or other close relative of theirs **or** any firm of which they are a partner **or** any limited company of which they are a substantial shareholder or director **or** any limited liability partnership of which they are a member **or** any Scottish charitable incorporated organisation of which they are a charity trustee **or** any registered society or unincorporated association of which they are a management committee member has a personal interest in that matter.

- 112 A director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to a resolution on which they are not entitled to vote.
- 113 The company may, by ordinary resolution, suspend or relax to any extent – either generally or in relation to any particular matter – the provisions of articles 110 to 112.
- 114 The principles set out in article 72 (technical objections to remote participation) shall apply in relation to remote participation and voting at directors’ meetings, as if each reference in that article to a member were a reference to a director and each reference in that article to a general meeting were a reference to a directors’ meeting.
- 115 A resolution agreed to in writing (or by e-mail) by a majority of the directors then in office shall (subject to articles 116 and 117) be as valid as if duly passed at a directors’ meeting.
- 116 A resolution under article 115 shall not be valid unless a copy of the resolution was circulated to all of the directors, along with a cut-off time (which must be reasonable in the circumstances) for notifications under article 117.
- 117 If a resolution is circulated to the directors under article 116, any one or more directors may, following receipt of a copy of the resolution, notify the secretary that they consider that a directors’ meeting should be held to discuss the matter which is the subject of the resolution; and if any such notification is received by the secretary prior to the cut-off time:
- (a) the secretary must convene a directors’ meeting accordingly, and on the basis that it will take place as soon as reasonably possible;
 - (b) the resolution cannot be treated as valid under article 115 unless and until that directors’ meeting has taken place;
 - (c) the directors may (if they consider appropriate, on the basis of the discussions at the meeting) resolve at that directors’ meeting that the resolution should be treated as invalid, notwithstanding that it had previously been agreed to in writing (or by e-mail) by a majority of the directors then in office.

Conduct of directors

- 118 Each of the directors shall, in exercising their functions as a director of the company, act in the interests of the company; and, in particular, must
- (a) seek, in good faith, to ensure that the company acts in a manner which is in accordance with its objects;

- (b) act with the care and diligence which it is reasonable to expect of a person who is managing the affairs of another person;
 - (c) in circumstances giving rise to the possibility of a conflict of interest of interest between the company and any other party:
 - (i) put the interests of the company before that of the other party, in taking decisions as a director; or
 - (ii) where any other duty prevents them from doing so, disclose the conflicting interest to the company and refrain from participating in any discussions or decisions involving the other directors with regard to the matter in question;
 - (d) ensure that the company complies with any direction, requirement, notice or duty imposed on it by the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.
- 119 Each of the directors shall comply with the code of conduct (incorporating detailed rules on conflict of interest) prescribed by the directors of directors from time to time.
- 120 For the avoidance of doubt, the code of conduct shall be supplemental to the provisions relating to the conduct of directors contained in these articles of association; and the relevant provisions of these articles shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with the provisions of the code of conduct in force from time to time.

Delegation to sub-committees

- 121 The directors may delegate any of their powers to any sub-committee consisting of one or more directors and such other persons (if any) as the directors may determine; they may also delegate to the chair of the company (or the holder of any other post) such of their powers as they may consider appropriate.
- 122 Any delegation of powers under article 121 may be made subject to such conditions as the directors may impose and may be revoked or altered.
- 123 The rules of procedure for any sub-committee shall be as prescribed by the directors.

Operation of charity's finances

124 The directors will operate the charity's finances (including the operation of the bank accounts) according to the SVE Financial Procedures manual.

Secretary

125 The directors may (notwithstanding the provisions of the Act) appoint a company secretary, and on the basis that the term of the appointment, the remuneration (if any) payable to the company secretary, and the conditions of appointment shall be as determined by the directors; the company secretary may be removed by them at any time.

Minutes

126 The directors shall ensure that minutes are made of all proceedings at general meetings, directors' meetings and meetings of committees; a minute of any meeting shall include the names of those present, and (as far as possible) shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting.

Accounting records and annual accounts

127 In accordance with all applicable statutory requirements, the directors must:

- (a) ensure that proper accounting records are kept (including the accounting records of sub committees, if any);
- (b) prepare and approve an annual report and accounts;
- (c) appoint an Independent Examiner or Auditor who has the requisite ability and practical experience to carry out a competent examination or audit, as the case may be, of the annual report and accounts; and
- (d) submit a copy of its independently examined or audited annual report and accounts to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) and Companies House and any other statutory bodies as required.

128 No member shall (unless they are a director) have any right of inspecting any accounting or other records, or any document of the company, except as conferred by statute or as authorised by the directors or as authorised by ordinary resolution of the company.

Notices

- 129 Any notice which requires to be given to a member under these articles shall be given either in writing or by electronic means; such a notice may be given personally to the member *or* be sent by post in a pre-paid envelope addressed to the member at the address last intimated by them to the company *or* (in the case of a member who has notified the company of an address to be used for the purpose of electronic communications) may be given to the member by electronic means.
- 130 Any notice, if sent by post, shall be deemed to have been given at the expiry of 24 hours after posting; for the purpose of proving that any notice was given, it shall be sufficient to prove that the envelope containing the notice was properly addressed and posted.
- 131 Any notice sent by electronic means shall be deemed to have been given at the expiry of 24 hours after it is sent; for the purpose of proving that any notice sent by electronic means was indeed sent, it shall be sufficient to provide any of the evidence referred to in the relevant guidance issued from time to time by the Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland.

Winding-up

- 132 If on the winding-up of the company any property remains after satisfaction of all the company's debts and liabilities, such property shall be transferred to such body or bodies (whether incorporated or unincorporated) as may be determined by the members of the company at or before the time of dissolution (or, failing such determination, by such court as may have or acquire jurisdiction), to be used solely for a charitable purpose or charitable purposes.
- 133 For the avoidance of doubt, a body to which property is transferred under article 132 may be a member of the company.
- 134 To the extent that effect cannot be given to article 132 (as read with article 133), the relevant property shall be applied to some charitable purpose or purposes.

Indemnity

- 135 Every director or other officer or auditor of the company shall be indemnified (to the extent permitted by sections 232, 234, 235, 532 and 533 of the Act) out of the assets of the company against any loss or liability which they may sustain or incur in connection with the execution of the duties of their office; that may include, without prejudice to that generality (but only to

the extent permitted by those sections of the Act), any liability incurred by them in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) in which judgement is given in their favour or in which they are acquitted **or** any liability in connection with an application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the company.

- 136 The company shall be entitled (subject to the provisions of section 68A of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005) to purchase and maintain for any director insurance against any loss or liability which any director or other officer of the company may sustain or incur in connection with the execution of the duties of their office; and such insurance may (subject to the provisions of section 68A of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005) extend to liabilities of the nature referred to in section 232(2) of the Act (negligence etc. of a director).

These Articles of Association were adopted by the Company at the Annual General Meeting on the 25th September 2024 by Special Resolution, due notice having been given and at least 75% of members present and voting being in favour of the resolution

Chair of the Meeting --- Emma Macgregor



Date 25th September 2024