

The Companies Act 2006

Community Interest Company Limited by Guarantee

Articles of Association

of

ASSOCIATION OF SUDS AUTHORITIES CIC

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INTERPRETATION

1. Defined Terms

The interpretation of these Articles is governed by the provisions set out in the Schedule at end of the Articles.

COMMUNITY AND INTEREST COMPANY AND ASSET LOCK

2. Community Interest Company

The Company is to be a community interest company.

3. Asset Lock

3.1 The Company shall not transfer any of its assets other than for full consideration.

3.2 Provided the conditions in Article 3.3 are satisfied, Article 3.1 shall not apply to:

- (a) the transfer of assets to any specified asset-locked body, or (with the consent of the Regulator) to any other asset-locked body; and
- (b) the transfer of assets made for the benefit of the community other than by way of a transfer of assets into an asset-locked body.

3.3 The conditions are that the transfer of assets must comply with any restrictions on the transfer of assets for less than full consideration which may be set out elsewhere in the Memorandum and Articles of the Company.

3.4 If:

3.4.1. the Company is wound up under the Insolvency Act 1986; and

3.4.2 all its liabilities have been satisfied

any residual assets shall be given or transferred to the asset-locked body to be decided at that time.

4. Not for profit

The Company is not established or conducted for private gain: any surplus or assets are used principally for the benefit of the community.

OBJECTS, POWERS AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

5. Objects

The objects of the Company are to carry on activities which benefit the community and in particular (without limitation) to:

Improve the management of surface water to encourage the reduction of local flood risk by promoting good practice, improving technical understanding, increasing technical capacity and to increase efficiencies and generate cost savings for local authorities through knowledge sharing and collaboration.

6. Powers

To further its objects the Company may do all such lawful things as may further the Company's objects and, in particular, but, without limitation, may borrow or raise and secure the payment of money for any purpose including for the purposes of investment or of raising funds.

7. Liability of members

- 7.1 The liability of each member is limited to £1, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for:
- 7.2 payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member;
- 7.3 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- 7.4 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

DIRECTORS

DIRECTORS' POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

8. Directors' general authority

Subject to the Articles, the Directors are responsible for the management of the Company's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the Company.

9. Members' reserve power

- 9.1 The members may, by special resolution, direct the Directors to take, or refrain from taking, specific action.
- 9.2 No such special resolution invalidates anything which the Directors have done before the passing of the resolution.

10. Chair

The Directors may appoint one of their number to be the chair of the Directors for such term of office as they determine and may at any time remove him or her from office.

11. Directors may delegate

11.1 Subject to the Articles, the Directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the Articles:

11.1.1 to such person or committee;

11.1.2 by such means (including by power of attorney);

11.1.3 to such an extent;

11.1.4 in relation to such matters or territories; and

11.1.5 on such terms and conditions;

as they think fit.

11.2 If the Directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the Directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.

11.3 The Directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part or alter its terms and conditions.

12. Committees

12.1 Committees to which the Directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of the Articles which govern the taking of decisions by Directors.

12.2 The Directors may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the Articles if they are not consistent with them.

DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS

13. Directors to take decisions collectively

Any decision of the Directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with Article 19.

14. Calling a Directors' meeting

14.1 Two Directors may (and the Secretary, if any, must at the request of two Directors) call a Directors' meeting.

- 14.2 A Directors' meeting must be called by at least seven Clear Days' notice unless either:
 - 14.2.1 all the Directors agree; or
 - 14.2.2 urgent circumstances require shorter notice.
- 14.3 Notice of Directors' meetings must be given to each Director.
- 14.4 Every notice calling a Directors' meeting must specify:
 - 14.4.1 the place, day and time of the meeting; and
 - 14.4.2 if it is anticipated that Directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- 14.5 Notice of Directors' meetings need not be in Writing.
- 14.6 Notice of Directors' meetings may be sent by Electronic Means to an Address provided by the Director for the purpose.

15. Participation in Directors' meetings

- 15.1 Subject to the Articles, Directors participate in a Directors' meeting, or part of a Directors' meeting, when:
 - 15.1.1 the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the Articles; and
 - 15.1.2 they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- 15.2 In determining whether Directors are participating in a Directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any Director is or how they communicate with each other.
- 15.3 If all the Directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

16. Quorum for Directors' meetings

- 16.1 At a Directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- 16.2 The quorum for Directors' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the Directors but shall not be not less than 50% of the current appointed Directors.
- 16.3 If the total number of Directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the Directors must not take any decision other than a decision:
 - 16.3.1 to appoint further Directors; or

16.3.2 to call a general meeting so as to enable the members to appoint further Directors.

17. Chairing of Directors' meetings

The Chair, if any, or in his or her absence another Director nominated by the Directors present shall preside as chair of each Directors' meeting.

18. Decision making at a meeting

18.1 Questions arising at a Directors' meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes.

18.2 In all proceedings of Directors each Director must not have more than one vote.

18.3 In case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

19. Decisions without a meeting

19.1 The Directors may take a unanimous decision without a Directors' meeting by indicating to each other by any means, including without limitation by Electronic Means, that they share a common view on a matter. Such a decision may, but need not, take the form of a resolution in Writing, copies of which have been signed by each Director or to which each Director has otherwise indicated agreement in Writing.

19.2 A decision which is made in accordance with Article 19.1 shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting duly convened and held, provided the following conditions are complied with:

19.2.1 approval from each Director must be received by one person being either such person as all the Directors have nominated in advance for that purpose or such other person as volunteers if necessary ("the Recipient"), which person may, for the avoidance of doubt, be one of the Directors;

19.2.2 following receipt of responses from all of the Directors, the Recipient must communicate to all of the Directors by any means whether the resolution has been formally approved by the Directors in accordance with this Article 19.2;

19.2.3 the date of the decision shall be the date of the communication from the Recipient confirming formal approval;

19.2.4 the Recipient must prepare a minute of the decision in accordance with Article 52.

20. Conflicts of interest

20.1 Whenever a Director finds himself or herself in a situation that is reasonably likely to give rise to a Conflict of Interest, he or she must declare his or her interest to the Directors unless, or except to the extent that, the other Directors are or ought reasonably to be aware of it already.

20.2 If any question arises as to whether a Director has a Conflict of Interest, the question shall be decided by a majority decision of the other Directors.

- 20.3 Whenever a matter is to be discussed at a meeting or decided in accordance with Article 19 and a Director has a Conflict of Interest in respect of that matter then, subject to Article 21, he or she must:
- 20.3.1 remain only for such part of the meeting as in the view of the other Directors is necessary to inform the debate;
 - 20.3.2 not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting; and
 - 20.3.3 withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter.
- 20.4 When a Director has a Conflict of Interest which he or she has declared to the Directors, he or she shall not be in breach of his or her duties to the Company by withholding confidential information from the Company if to disclose it would result in a breach of any other duty or obligation of confidence owed by him or her.

21. Directors' power to authorise a conflict of interest

- 21.1 The Directors have power to authorise a Director to be in a position of Conflict of Interest provided:
- 21.1.1 in relation to the decision to authorise a Conflict of Interest, the conflicted Director must comply with Article 20.3;
 - 21.1.2 in authorising a Conflict of Interest, the Directors can decide the manner in which the Conflict of Interest may be dealt with and, for the avoidance of doubt, they can decide that the Director with a Conflict of Interest can participate in a vote on the matter and can be counted in the quorum;
 - 21.1.3 the decision to authorise a Conflict of Interest can impose such terms as the Directors think fit and is subject always to their right to vary or terminate the authorisation; and
- 21.2 If a matter, or office, employment or position, has been authorised by the Directors in accordance with Article 21.1 then, even if he or she has been authorised to remain at the meeting by the other Directors, the Director may absent himself or herself from meetings of the Directors at which anything relating to that matter, or that office, employment or position, will or may be discussed.
- 21.3 A Director shall not be accountable to the Company for any benefit which he or she derives from any matter, or from any office, employment or position, which has been authorised by the Directors in accordance with Article 21.1 (subject to any limits or conditions to which such approval was subject).

22. Register of Directors' interests

The Directors shall cause a register of Directors' interests to be kept. A Director 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 Company or in any transaction or arrangement entered into by the Company which has not previously been declared.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF DIRECTORS

23. Number of Directors

There shall be at least seven Directors and no more than nine.

24. Structure of the Board of Directors

24.1 The Board of Directors shall comprise:

- a) Chair
- b) Vice Chair not less than one or more than two
- c) Treasurer
- d) Membership secretary
- e) Secretary
- f) Not less than two or more than three elected from the Full membership being in all cases a person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so. In order to be appointed under paragraph 24.1 a Director must be an Authorised Representative.

24.2 The Department of Food and Rural Affairs, and/or another stakeholder organisation with agreement of the Board of Directors, may appoint at least one but not more than two observers to attend meetings of the Directors. Such observer shall be entitled to speak at such meeting of the Directors and shall not be counted as part of the quorum of the meeting or have a right to vote at any such meeting or receive notice of any future meeting of the Directors. Such representative shall not be deemed to be a Director.

25. Methods of appointing Directors

25.1 Those persons notified to the Registrar of Companies as the first Directors of the Company shall be the first Directors.

25.2 The appointment of the Directors holding office on the date that these Articles are adopted shall be ratified by ordinary resolution at the next general meeting following when these Articles are adopted or by an ordinary written resolution before then, failing which any Director whose appointment has not been so ratified shall vacate office with effect from the end of the general meeting concerned. Thereafter at the annual general meeting in every subsequent year one-third of the Directors for the time being, or, if their number is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest one-third, shall retire from office.

25.3 The members shall propose a list of candidates for appointment as Directors to be presented at any annual general meeting at which one or more vacancies will arise on the Board of Directors. The list of candidates will contain as many proposed Directors as there are vacancies on the Board of Directors. The number of vacancies may be determined by the Directors provided that the total number of Directors shall fall within the minimum and maximum number set out in Article 23.

25.4 Each Director shall be nominated for a term of three years, which may be extended by a decision of the Board of Directors for a maximum of three further years. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election but no Director shall serve for more than two three-year terms.

- 25.5 The Directors to retire in every year shall be those who have been longest in office since their last election, but as between persons who became Directors on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.
- 25.6 The Directors shall have power at any time, and from time to time, to appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Directors, but so that the total number of Directors shall not at any time exceed the number fixed in accordance with Article 23. Any Director so appointed shall hold office only until the next following annual general meeting, and shall then be eligible for re-election but shall not be taken into account in determining the Directors who are to retire by rotation at such meeting.
- 25.7 If the Company is left with no appointed Directors, or with less than the required quorum and no proposed candidates, the members have the authority to appoint directors at an Extraordinary General Meeting, after being properly called.

26. Termination of Director's appointment

A person ceases to be a Director as soon as:

- (a) that person ceases to be a Director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Acts, or is prohibited from being a Director by law;
- (b) a bankruptcy order is made against that person, or an order is made against that person in individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;
- (c) a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- (d) notification is received by the Company from the Director that the Director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms (but only if at least two Directors will remain in office when such resignation has taken effect); or,
- (e) the Director fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Directors and the Directors resolve that the Director be removed for this reason.
- (f) the Member Organisation they belong to gives notice of their intention to withdraw membership. In exceptional circumstances the Board of Directors may allow that Director to remain in post until a time confirmed by the Board of Directors.

27. Directors' remuneration

27.1 Directors may undertake any services for the Company that the Directors decide.

27.2 Directors are entitled to such remuneration as the Directors determine:

- (a) for their services to the Company as Directors; and
- (b) for any other service which they undertake for the Company.

- 27.3 Subject to the Articles, a Director's remuneration may:
- (a) take any form; and
 - (b) include any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, or any death, sickness or disability benefits, to or in respect of that Director.
- 27.4 Unless the Directors decide otherwise, Directors' remuneration accrues from day to day.
- 27.5 Unless the Directors decide otherwise, Directors are not accountable to the Company for any remuneration which they receive as Directors or other officers or employees of the Company's subsidiaries or of any other body corporate in which the Company is interested.

28. Directors' expenses

The Company may pay any reasonable expenses which the Directors properly incur in connection with their attendance at:

- (a) meetings of Directors or committees of Directors;
- (b) general meetings; or
- (c) separate meetings of any class of members or of the holders of any debentures of the Company,

or otherwise in connection with the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their responsibilities in relation to the Company.

MEMBERS

BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER

29. Becoming a member

- 29.1 The subscribers to the Memorandum are the first members of the Company until the first Directors meeting. Thereafter the members of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Acts shall be Full Members.
- 29.2 There shall also be Associate Members and Affiliate Members who shall not be members of the Company for the purposes of the Companies Acts and shall have no voting rights.
- 29.3 Such other persons as are admitted to membership in accordance with the Articles shall be members of the Company.
- 29.4 Only an Authorised Representative may become a member for the purposes of the Companies Acts.

- 29.5 No person shall be admitted as a member of the Company unless he or she is approved by the Directors.
- 29.6 Every person who wishes to become a member shall deliver to the company an application for membership in such form (and containing such information) as the Directors require and executed by him or her.
- 29.7 Subject to the Companies Acts, the Directors may from time to time alter the above categories of membership and establish such different categories of membership as they see fit. The Company may levy subscriptions on members of the Company at such rate(s) as shall be decided by resolution and may levy subscriptions at different rates on different classes or categories of members.

30. Types of membership and Membership Benefits

- 30.1 The Company shall have three categories of membership as follows:

30.1.1 **Full Membership** shall be open to all Local Authorities or National Parks (“the Member Organisation”), who shall nominate one officer or employee to act as their authorised representative (“the Authorised Representative”). These Authorised Representatives shall be officers having responsibility for or undertaking drainage consultation and promotion of sustainable drainage solutions within the Member Organisation.

30.1.2 **Associate Membership** shall be open to other Risk Management Authorities as defined by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 who shall also be Member Organisations for the purposes of these Articles and who shall nominate one officer or employee to act as their Authorised Representative.

30.1.3 **Affiliate Membership** shall be open to commercial organisations who are involved in the development and construction industry either being house builders, developers, professional consultants or other commercial providers who have interests in the delivery of sustainable drainage and operate outside of the remit of Risk Management Authorities. Affiliate Members may nominate one officer or employee to act as their representative (“the Affiliate Representative”) but will have no voting rights.

- 30.2 Affiliate Members shall enjoy benefits as defined and agreed by the Directors, including but not limited to involvement at the annual conference and to other functions as organised by the Company.

31. Member Subscription

- 31.1 Upon acceptance as a member of the Company, each member shall pay an annual subscription as may from time to time be determined by the Company. The normal membership year runs from 1 January to the 31 December. Subscriptions are payable either by a single annual payment or as a 3-year block payment.
- 31.2 Membership shall be renewed annually, or triennially as agreed, by the payment of the appropriate subscription, in advance for the membership year commencing on the 1st January each year.

- 31.3 If payment of the full amount is not received by the due date, membership shall be deemed to have ceased, whether or not a notice of resignation has been received from the member. However, at the discretion of the Directors, membership benefits may be continued for a maximum period of three months from the due date to enable the outstanding subscription to be paid.
- 31.4 The Board of Directors may up to one month before the annual general meeting in any Membership Year by notice to the members, vary the subscription fees for the Full and Associated Members, for the following membership year.

32. Termination of membership

- 32.1 Membership is not transferable to anyone else.
- 32.2 A member may withdraw from any membership of the Company by giving to the Company in writing not less than three months' notice to expire on or before 31 December in any year.
- 32.3 Membership is terminated if:
- 32.3.1 the Member Organisation or Affiliate Member Organisation ceases to exist;
 - 32.3.2 otherwise in accordance with the Articles; or
 - 32.3.3 a member fails to have paid in full their subscription on or by 30 June (unless the Directors upon prior application consider that there is substantial grounds for waiving the requirement).

33. Register of Members

- 33.1 The names of the Members of the Company must be entered in the register of Members.
- 33.2

ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

34. General meetings

- 34.1 The Company shall in each calendar year hold a general meeting as its annual general meeting in addition to any other meetings in that year and shall specify the meeting as such in the notices calling it; and not more than 15 months shall elapse between the date of one annual general meeting of the Company and that of the next. Provided that so long as the Company holds its first annual general meeting within 18 months of its incorporation, it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation or in the following year. It shall be held at such time and place as the Directors think fit.
- 34.2 The business of the annual general meeting shall include the following matters:
- a) To receive and report from the Directors on the activities and proceedings since the last annual general meeting;
 - b) To receive the audited accounts of the Company made up to the end of the preceding financial period, being such period as may from time to time be determined by the Directors;

- c) To receive a report on the election of Directors to the Board of Directors;
- d) To appoint an auditor to audit the accounts for the Company and to certify the Financial Statement to be submitted to the annual general meeting. The auditor shall hold office upon such terms as the Directors shall from time to time determine.

34.3 The Directors must call a general meeting if required to do so by the members under the Companies Acts.

34.4 An extraordinary general meeting may be held, subject to Article 35 but on any day, as called by a quorum of Directors or can be requisitioned by the members as represented in writing through a petition being more than quarter of the membership, to discuss an issue of particular importance or concern. The meeting must be held within 6 months of being requested and can be included in the agenda for the annual general meeting if timings permit.

35. Length of notice

All general meetings must be called by either:

35.1 at least 21 Clear Days' notice; or

35.2 shorter notice if it is so agreed by a majority of the members having a right to attend and vote at that meeting. Any such majority must together represent at least 90% of the total voting rights at that meeting of all the members.

36. Contents of notice

36.1 Every notice calling a general meeting must specify the place, day and time of the meeting, whether it is a general or an annual general meeting, and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

36.2 If a special resolution is to be proposed, the notice must include the proposed resolution and specify that it is proposed as a special resolution.

36.3 In every notice calling a meeting of the Company there must appear with reasonable prominence a statement informing the member of his or her rights to appoint another person as his or her proxy at a general meeting.

37. Service of notice

Notice of general meetings must be given to every member and to the Directors.

38. Attendance and speaking at general meetings

38.1 Authorised Representatives are able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.

38.2 Authorised Representatives are able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when:

- 38.2.1 that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting; and
- 38.2.1 that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.
- 38.3 The Directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.
- 38.4 In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more members attending it are in the same place as each other.
- 38.5 Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.

39. Quorum for general meetings

- 39.1 No business (other than the appointment of the chair of the meeting) may be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present.
- 39.2 The quorum shall be a quarter of the total membership (represented in person or by proxy).
- 39.3 If a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting:
 - 39.3.1 the chair of the meeting may adjourn the meeting to such day, time and place as the Directors may determine but within two months of that current date; and,
 - 39.3.2 if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting those present and entitled to vote shall be a quorum.

40. Chairing general meetings

- 40.1 The Chair (if any) or in his or her absence some other Director nominated by the Directors will preside as chair of every general meeting.
- 40.2 If neither the Chair nor such other Director nominated in accordance with Article 40.1 (if any) is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting and willing to act, the Directors present shall elect one of their number to chair the meeting and, if there is only one Director present and willing to act, he or she shall be chair of the meeting.
- 40.3 If no Director is willing to act as chair of the meeting, or if no Director is present within fifteen minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote must choose one of their number to be chair of the meeting, save that a proxy holder who is not a member entitled to vote shall not be entitled to be appointed chair of the meeting.

41. Attendance and speaking by Directors and non-members

- 41.1 A Director may, even if not a member, attend and speak at any general meeting.
- 41.2 The chair of the meeting may permit other persons who are not members of the Company to attend and speak at a general meeting.

42. Adjournment

- 42.1 The chair of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if:
 - 42.1.1 the meeting consents to an adjournment; or
 - 42.2.2 it appears to the chair of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.
- 42.2 The chair of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.
- 42.3 When adjourning a general meeting, the chair of the meeting must:
 - 42.3.1 either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the Directors; and
 - 42.3.2 have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.
- 42.4 If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the Company must give at least seven Clear Days' notice of it:
 - 42.4.1 to the same persons to whom notice of the Company's general meetings is required to be given; and
 - 42.4.2 containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.
- 42.5 No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

43. Voting: general

- 43.1 A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with the Articles.
- 43.2 A person who is not a member of the Company shall not have any right to vote at a general meeting of the Company; but this is without prejudice to any right to vote on a resolution affecting the rights attached to a class of the Company's debentures.
- 43.3 Article 43.2 shall not prevent a person who is a proxy for a member or a duly Authorised Representative from voting at a general meeting of the Company.

43.4 Voting members shall comprise all Full Members.

44. Votes

44.1 On a vote on a resolution on a show of hands at a meeting every member (whether a member, proxy or Authorised Representative of a member) and entitled to vote shall have a maximum of one vote.

44.2 In the case of an equality of votes, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, the chair of the meeting shall not be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or she may have.

44.3 No member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting unless all monies presently payable by him, her or it to the Company have been paid.

44.4 The following provisions apply to any organisation that is a member (“a Member Organisation”):

44.4.3 a Member Organisation may appoint an Authorised Representative to represent it at a particular meeting of the Company or at all meetings of the Company until notice in Writing to the contrary is received by the Company;

45. Errors and disputes

45.1 No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.

45.2 Any such objection must be referred to the chair of the meeting whose decision is final.

46. Content of proxy notices

46.1 Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a “Proxy Notice”) which:

- (a) states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy;
- (b) identifies the person appointed to be that member’s proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
- (c) is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the Directors may determine; and
- (d) is delivered to the Company in accordance with the Articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.

46.2 The Company may require Proxy Notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.

46.3 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.

- 46.4 Unless a Proxy Notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as:
- (a) 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
 - (b) 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.

47. Delivery of proxy notices

- 47.1 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 Company by or on behalf of that person.
- 47.2 An appointment under a Proxy Notice may be revoked by delivering to the Company a notice in Writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the Proxy Notice was given.
- 47.3 A notice revoking the appointment of a proxy only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.

48. Amendments to resolutions

- 48.1 An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if:
- 48.1.1 notice of the proposed amendment is given to the Company in Writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chair of the meeting may determine); and
 - 48.1.2 the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chair of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- 48.2 A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if:
- 48.2.1 the chair of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed; and
 - 48.2.2 the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.
- 48.3 If the chair of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chair's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

WRITTEN RESOLUTIONS

49. Written resolutions

- 49.1 Subject to Article 49.3, a written resolution of the Company passed in accordance with this Article 49 shall have effect as if passed by the Company in general meeting:
- 49.1.1 A written resolution is passed as an ordinary resolution if it is passed by a simple majority of the total voting rights of eligible members.
- 49.1.2 A written resolution is passed as a special resolution if it is passed by a majority of not less than 75% of the total voting rights of eligible members. A written resolution is not a special resolution unless it states that it was proposed as a special resolution.
- 49.2 In relation to a resolution proposed as a written resolution of the Company the eligible members are the members who would have been entitled to vote on the resolution on the circulation date of the resolution.
- 49.3 A members' resolution under the Companies Acts removing a Director or an auditor before the expiration of his or her term of office may not be passed as a written resolution.
- 49.4 A copy of the written resolution must be sent to every member together with a statement informing the member how to signify their agreement to the resolution and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse. Communications in relation to written notices shall be sent to the Company's auditors in accordance with the Companies Acts.
- 49.5 A member signifies their agreement to a proposed written resolution when the Company receives from him or her an authenticated Document identifying the resolution to which it relates and indicating his or her agreement to the resolution.
- 49.5.1 If the Document is sent to the Company in Hard Copy Form, it is authenticated if it bears the member's signature.
- 49.5.2 If the Document is sent to the Company by Electronic Means, it is authenticated if the identity of the member is confirmed in a manner agreed by the Directors or if it is accompanied by a statement of the identity of the member and the Company has no reason to doubt the truth of that statement.
- 49.6 A written resolution is passed when the required majority of eligible members have signified their agreement to it.
- 49.7 A proposed written resolution lapses if it is not passed within 28 days beginning with the circulation date.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS

50. Means of communication to be used

- 50.1 Subject to the Articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the Company 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 Company.

- 50.2 Subject to the Articles, any notice or Document to be sent or supplied to a Director in connection with the taking of decisions by Directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that Director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or Documents for the time being.
- 50.3 A Director may agree with the Company that notices or Documents sent to that Director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within an agreed time of their being sent, and for the agreed time to be less than 48 hours.

51. Irregularities

The proceedings at any meeting or on the taking of any poll or the passing of a written resolution or the making of any decision shall not be invalidated by reason of any accidental informality or irregularity (including any accidental omission to give or any non-receipt of notice) or any want of qualification in any of the persons present or voting or by reason of any business being considered which is not referred to in the notice unless a provision of the Companies Acts specifies that such informality, irregularity or want of qualification shall invalidate it.

52. Minutes

- 52.1 The Directors must cause minutes to be made in books kept for the purpose:
- 52.1.1 of all appointments of officers made by the Directors;
 - 52.1.2 of all resolutions of the Company and of the Directors; and
 - 52.1.3 of all proceedings at meetings of the Company and of the Directors, and of committees of Directors, including the names of the Directors present at each such meeting;

and any such minute, if purported to be signed (or in the case of minutes of Directors' meetings signed or authenticated) by the chair of the meeting at which the proceedings were had, or by the chair of the next succeeding meeting, shall, as against any member or Director of the Company, be sufficient evidence of the proceedings.

- 52.2 The minutes must be kept for at least ten years from the date of the meeting, resolution or decision.

53. Records and accounts

The Directors shall comply with the requirements of the Companies Acts as to maintaining a members' register, keeping financial records, the audit or examination of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of Companies and the Regulator of:

- 53.1 annual reports;
- 53.2 annual returns; and
- 53.3 annual statements of account.

54. Indemnity

54.1 Subject to Article 54.2, a relevant Director of the Company or an associated company may be indemnified out of the Company's assets against:

- (a) any liability incurred by that Director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the Company or an associated company;
- (b) any liability incurred by that Director in connection with the activities of the Company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Companies Act 2006); and
- (c) any other liability incurred by that Director as an officer of the Company or an associated company.

54.2 This Article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

54.3 In this Article:

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

55. Insurance

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

55.2 In this Article:

- (a) a "relevant Director" means any Director or former Director of the Company or an associated company;
- (b) a "relevant loss" means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant Director in connection with that Director's duties or powers in relation to the Company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees' share scheme of the Company or associated company; and
- (c) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

56. Winding up

56.1 The Company may be dissolved by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors, in a postal ballot. In no circumstances shall the net assets of the Company be paid to or distributed among the Members. In the event of dissolution any assets remaining after the settling of all liabilities shall be in accordance with Article 3.

57. Exclusion of model articles

The relevant model articles for a company limited by guarantee are hereby expressly excluded.

SCHEDULE
INTERPRETATION

Defined terms

1. In the Articles, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

Term	Meaning
1.1 “Address”	includes a number or address used for the purposes of sending or receiving Documents by Electronic Means;
1.2 “Articles”	the Company’s articles of association;
1.3 “Authorised Representative”	means any individual nominated by a Member Organisation to act as its representative at any meeting of the Company in accordance with Article 44;
1.4 “asset-locked body”	means (i) a community interest company, a charity or a Permitted Industrial and Provident Society; or (ii) a body established outside the United Kingdom that is equivalent to any of those;
1.5 “bankruptcy”	includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;
1.6 “Chair”	has the meaning given in Article 10;
1.7 “chairman of the meeting”	has the meaning given in Article 40;
1.8 “Circulation Date”	in relation to a written resolution, has the meaning given to it in the Companies Acts;
1.9 “Clear Days”	in relation to the period of a notice, that 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;
1.10 “community”	is to be construed in accordance with accordance with Section 35(5) of the Company’s (Audit Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004;
1.11 “Companies Acts”	means the Companies Acts (as defined in Section 2 of the Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to the Company;

- 1.12 “Company”** Association of SUDS Authorities CIC;
- 1.13 “Conflict of Interest”** any direct or indirect interest of a Director (whether personal, by virtue of a duty of loyalty to another organisation or otherwise) that conflicts, or might conflict with the interests of the Company;
- 1.14 “Director”** a director of the Company, and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called;
- 1.15 “Document”** includes, unless otherwise indicated, any Document sent or supplied in Electronic Form;
- 1.16 “Electronic Form” and “Electronic Means”** have the meanings respectively given to them in Section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 1.17 “Hard Copy Form”** has the meaning given to it in the Companies Act 2006;
- 1.18 “Member Organisation”** means any local authority, National Park or other Risk Management Authority as defined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, having duties in relation to drainage consultation and an interest in promotion of SuDS and acting as a member of the Company
- 1.19 “Memorandum”** the Company’s memorandum of association;
- 1.20 “paid”** means paid or credited as paid;
- 1.21 “participate”** in relation to a Directors’ meeting, has the meaning given in Article 15;
- 1.22 “Permitted Industrial and Provident Society”** and an industrial and provident society which has a restriction on the use of its assets in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Community Benefit Societies (Restriction on Use of Assets) Regulations 2006 or Regulation 4 of the Community Benefit Societies (Restriction on Use of Assets) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006;
- 1.23 “Proxy Notice”** has the meaning given in Article 46;
- 1.24 “the Regulator”** means the Regulator of Community Interest Companies;
- 1.25 “Risk Management Authority”** has the meaning as defined in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 being—
 (a) the Environment Agency,
 (b) a lead local flood authority,
 (c) a district council for an area for which there is no unitary authority,
 (d) an internal drainage board,

- (e) a water company, and
(f) a highway authority.
- 1.26 “Secretary”** the secretary of the Company (if any);
- 1.27 “specified”** means specified in the memorandum and articles of association of the Company for the purposes of this paragraph;
- 1.28 “subsidiary”** has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006;
- 1.29 “SuDS”** Sustainable Drainage Systems
- 1.30 “transfer”** includes every description of disposition, payment, release or distribution, and the creation or extinction of an estate or interest in, or right over, any property; and
- 1.31 “Writing”** the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in Electronic Form or otherwise.

2. Subject to clause 3 of this Schedule, any reference in the Articles to an enactment includes a reference to that enactment as re-enacted or amended from time to time and to any subordinate legislation made under it.
3. Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these Articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 as in force on the date when the Articles become binding on the Company.