From:	FOI
To:	[redacted]
Subject:	FOI 068-22 - Response
Date:	26 September 2022 08:21:38
Attachments:	2020-10-14-TheReclaimParty–Constitution_Redacted.pdf

Dear [redacted],

Our Ref: FOI-068-22

Thank you for your email to the Electoral Commission dated 27 August 2022 and received on 30 August 2022.

The Commission aims to respond to requests for information promptly and has done so within the statutory timeframe of twenty working days.

Your request is shown below followed by our response.

Please would you kindly send me a copy of the constitution that you hold for the Reclaim Party?

Our response is as follows:

We hold the information you have requested – please see the attached document.

The Commission strives to be an open, transparent authority and I trust that this information satisfies your request

If you are not satisfied with this response, please note that the Commission operates a review procedure, details of which can be found on the Commission website at: https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/freedom-information/make-a-freedom-information-request.

Please also note that if you have exhausted all internal Commission review procedures and you are still not satisfied you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner. Details of this procedure can be found on the ICO website: https://ico.org.uk/.

Yours sincerely

Information Officer
FOI@electoralcommission.org.uk

The Electoral Commission
electoralcommission.org.uk

RECEIVED
14 OCT 2020

"Reclaim"

Reason – Reform – Progress

Party Constitution and Rules

A. Title

1. The name of the political party shall be "Reclaim" (thereinafter referred to as 'the Party').

B. Objects

a) Promotion of an open public space through full protection of the fundamental freedoms of speech, thought, association and academic inquiry and oppose those attacking and undermining these.
b) Reform of our democratic institutions and public governance including public broadcasting.
c) Preservation, celebration and promotion of our proud British history, cultural inheritance and global contribution.

C. Governance

1. The Governance of the party shall be by the Party Board. The officers of the party will consist of:

a) the Party Leader (who will serve as Secretary)
b) the Nominating Officer (who will serve as Chair of the Party Board)
c) Treasurer

2. A further non-voting officer position of Campaigns Officer may be created at the discretion of the Party Board.

3. The Party Board shall consist of the officers. The initial officers and board will serve until endorsed of changed by full members at the first annual general meeting (AGM) that must take place within 12 months of registration with the Electoral Commission as a political party. Once elected, officers will serve for a maximum of three years, after which they may seek re-election by the AGM.

4. A quorum of the Board shall be two thirds of those entitled to vote (two out of three officers).

5. Decisions shall usually be by consensus, but where a vote is taken that is tied, the Chair shall have a second and casting vote. The adoption of party policy must have the support of the Party Leader and Chair of the Party Board.

6. In the interim if decisions must be made between meeting, the Leader shall be empowered to use their influence in consultation with the Chair of the Party Board. Such decisions will be revisited at the next formal meeting of the Party Board.

7. The Party Board shall:

1) Meet formally at least 4 times per year to transact business. Board members will receive at least 3 days' notice of such a meeting.
2) Have power to co-opt, as appropriate, 5 non-voting Board members for specific periods; for specific functions; or to represent the party with other allied groups deemed helpful to the objectives of the party.
3) Have the power to set party policy.
4) Set up a Leader's advisory council and such sub-committees/working parties/policy development groups as are deemed appropriate, providing at least one officer is present at meetings and that all recommendations are made to the Party Board for endorsement/modification/approval.
5) Authorise, where deemed appropriate, the setting up of and disbanding of local party organisations for election purposes to operate under the direction of the Party Board and financial control of the Treasurer;
6) Arrange that all meetings are minuted, with such minutes being available at meetings.
7) Replace, when ratified by the Party Board at a routine meeting, and until the next AGM, any member who resigns or misses three consecutive meetings properly called without special dispensation for the Party Board.
8) From time to time decide suitable membership fees and membership details contained in a sperate set of specific rules and conditions.
9) Oversee any fund-raising activities, accept any correctly donated voluntary finance, bank with a retail bank, dispersing funds by cheques signed by any two of three names Party Board members.
10) Direct the Treasurer:
    a. To keep accounts in accordance with Electoral Commission guidance, which will be available to officers on request and presented to member at each AGM.
    b. To implement the approved Financial Scheme and update the Scheme when necessary to maintain compliance with legal requirements.
11) Have full discretionary powers over the lawful dispersal of any funds vested with the treasurer in general pursuance of the party's aims save that:
    a. Should dissolution occur, all assets remaining after satisfying outstanding debts and liabilities shall be allocated to nominated charities concerned with contemporary health matters and Armed Forces veterans.
    b. No individual member(s) of the party shall benefit personally from an cash distribution.
12) The Party Board will decide when the Party will employ staff, engage experts, enter contracts for services (with day to day oversight by the Party Leader) and manage the Party within their absolute discretion.
13) The party may be dissolved on the basis of a majority vote at two consecutive meetings of the Party Board or by a two thirds majority of full members at an EGM.
14) Consider any matter not provided for in this constitution, making any decisions deemed necessary which shall be regarded as final and binding.

D. Membership

1. Associates - All those who share its objects may become Associates of the party. Associates may attend and speak at meetings of the party, but do not have the right to vote at the AGM. Those who wish to become associates must apply in writing by the prescribed membership form and if required pay a joining fee or subscription. Full membership is at the discretion of the Party Board.

2. Full members - Full membership of the party is open to all those who live in the United Kingdom, who share its objects, subject to a subscription that has been decided by the Party Board. Full members may attend and speak at meetings of the party, but have the right to vote at the AGM. Those who wish to become full members must apply in writing by the prescribed membership form and if required pay a joining fee or subscription. Full membership is at the discretion of the Party Board.

3. List of associates and full members will be maintained by an officer of the party, appointed by the Party Board.

4. The Party Board has the authority to deny membership, or expel from membership, anyone who, in the opinion of the board, is acting against the interests of the party or bringing the party into disrepute.

5. Disciplinary Procedure and practice in all parts of the party shall be set by the Party Board.

E. The Annual General Meeting

1. The AGM shall take place on a date determined by the Party Board at intervals of not more that 12 months. The purpose shall be to receive appropriate reports on activity and finance (as approved by the Party Board), to elect the Party Board and to transact other appropriate business previously notified to members, not less that 14 days before the meeting in a formal agenda.

2. Attendance at the meeting is open to all embers of the party. Voting at the meeting is open to all who have been full members of the party for at least 30 days before the meeting. The results of votes will be decided by a simple majority, except for the constitutional changes.

3. An Extraordinary General Meeting must be called within 14 days when requested to do so by:

a) Majority vote of the Party Board itself
b) Any 100 full members of the party
c) Either requests, in (a) and (b) to be submitted in writing, stating the reason(s), and signed by each full member making the request. Such an EGM will have no minutes read and will deal only with the business of the request.
d) The constitution may be changes only by a two-thirds majority at AGM or at a meeting called especially for the purpose if the matter is of exceptional urgency.

F. Political Activity

1. It will register as a political party in Great Britain. The party will field candidates, acceptable to the Party Board, at such elections as deemed appropriate by the Party Board in Great

Britain. It will not field candidates in Northern Ireland but retains the option of endorsing a party or parties in Northern Ireland.

2. All candidates should support the party's aim as defined in this constitution and manifesto for the election they are running in.

3. Each candidate will be responsible for raising funds for their own election expenses with help, where possible, from the party's central funds. The dispersement of this fund will be at the discretion of the Party Board. Full accounts of election income and expenses must be sent to the Party Treasurer at least two weeks before the final date after the election for onward submission to the Electoral Commission. The Party Board will provide guidance on election procedure and election material for candidates to develop, procure and deliver.

4. Whilst free to express personal opinions and act for their constituencies, all named candidates will always consider the appropriateness of their actions and not do anything to bring the good name of the party into question or disrepute.

5. The Party's elected representatives will be subject to a party whip.

6. Whilst all elected representatives will be free to express person or party opinion through the media, when indicating that they are from the party, the Party Board should be advised of such opinions and resulting broadcasts or publications so that consistency of policy is protect in all statement attributable to the party.

7. Commercial, investment, familial or habitual relationships with persons or institutions which create conflicts of interests with the state aims of the party must be declared and may be considered grounds for rejection for candidacy or for de-selection if in the view of the Party Board they would bring the party into disrepute or appear to influence the exercise of decision-making powers. Concealment of conflict of interests is prima facie grounds for immediate ejection from the party and de-selection upon discovery.

On the date below, adopted by:

Party Leader

Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Treasurer

Name: DAVID JOHN BAILEY

Signed [redacted] Date: 13.OCT.2020.

Nominating Officer

Name: [redacted]

Signed: [redacted] Date: 13.10.20