

## Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 10 January 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Danny Dance, Rob Wilkinson, John Blackwell, Karl Dawson, Andy Moody & Des Bushnell

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson, Les Teale, Nathan Steele & Matt Todd

Meeting started at 8:05pm, the minutes from November 2022 were read and accepted. There was no meeting in December 2022

### Matters Arising from November 2022

<b>Generator</b> Cannings are currently repairing the generator at a cost of £368, the club has authorised a full service at the same time.	Await update from Cannings Thanks to Danny for his work on this.
<b>Fly Tipping</b> There has been further fly tipping at the pond entrance. The camera was moved to cover this and the footage will be reviewed.	Matt to talk to Les

### Pond Chemistry

29 December 2022 Nitrate: 0 Nitrite: 0 Phosphate: 0 Ammonia: 0.25 pH: 7.5 Oxygen: 54% - 60% All readings within normal expected ranges. Temperature: 6.5°C, rising from a recent low of 3.0°C.
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### Chair's Report

Jim has finished the work on the bank from pegs 5-10, once the weather has improved and the aggregate has settled Jim will return to wacker-plate the surface.
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### Treasurer's Report

Following recent bank work and associated grant reception now has £xxxx in the accounts.
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### Match Secretary's Report

The 5 <sup>th</sup> aggregate match has been rearranged for Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> February
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### Secretary's Report

<b>Waiting List</b> - There remains 89 people on the waiting list. <b>Grant application</b> (fishery maintenance) – The EA grant of £3,500 has been paid to the club. There are no further grant applications outstanding. In order to meet the conditions of the grants the club must install at least 2 more floating islands, this will be attended to during working parties in the spring/summer.
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### Any Other Business

The issue with the solar panels and aerator remain outstanding. The installer has recovered the equipment but the club has heard nothing further.	Matt to chase the installer for an update
Matt has had manufactured a number of figure 8 rings made from stainless steel that can be used to attach floating items to poles whilst allowing movement as the water level fluctuates. Buoys of some kind (possibly stopcocks) will be attached to the rings to prevent their loss at the bottom of the pond.	
Peter suggested the club purchase a couple of life jackets for use by anyone in the boat. Agreed unanimously.	PC to source and gain approval prior to purchase

Swift Ditch, it was agreed that Matt would approach the land owner after the AGM.	No immediate action
Danny reported on the cumulative fish loss in the 8 years since 2015, they are: Tench: 64, Bream: 44, Carp: 14, Crucians: 15, F1s: 13, Chub: 10, Roach (over 6oz): 101, Perch (over 1lb): 2.	
Danny reported that there is no feed or pellets in stock and that the club owed £100 to John Blackwell for supply of feed.	Matt to order 2 bags of carp pellets
Since the bank repair work the notice board needs to be re-fixed in place.	Phil M says he will attend to this
Following discussions in recent meetings about stocking perch it was suggested that the club place an order now for 100 perch in the 8"-10" range (these will be 10oz-13oz). The cost will be in the range £430 - £520 (incl VAT), plus delivery. This was voted on with 5 for, 1 abstain and 2 against.	Peter to follow up
The club would like to express thanks to Matt, Theo, Bob & Vicky for breaking the ice on the pond in December.	
Phil M asked if anything can be done to stop the carp holing-up in the shallow water at the north end of the pond. Various options were considered but nothing resolved upon.	For further discussion
Phil M raised the issue of eligibility for the committee cup, a fractious discussion followed and a proposal was put forward that "The committee cup match is open to all but the cup itself is awarded to the highest placed committee member". For: 4, Against: 2, Abstain: 2. Carried. It was further agreed that this should be ratified at the AGM.	For discussion and ratification at the AGM
Wantage Builders Merchants has changed hands and the club's account is no longer valid. This must be re-applied for.	Matt or Danny to go to WBM to reinstate the account.

### AGM Preparation

<p><b>Election of Officers</b></p> <p><b>Assistant match secretary</b></p> <p>Vicky Knowlson is to stand down as assistant match secretary. Andy Moody is proposed by Matt Andrew, seconded by Karl Dawson, to replace Vicky.</p> <p><b>Vice Chair</b></p> <p>John Blackwell has indicated that he does not wish to stand for re-election, at time of writing a replacement has not been found.</p>
<p><b>Change to constitution</b></p> <p>A new rule is proposed for the constitution para 4.1.1: <i>"No executive officer of the club shall be, or has been within the past year, an executive officer of any other angling club or similar"</i></p>
<p><b>Swift Ditch</b></p> <p>Due to the problems with the landlord and unsustainable costs associated with maintaining the fishery it is strongly recommended that the club relinquish the fishery.</p>

### Minutes from the annual general meeting (AGM) of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held on Monday 6 February 2023 at the Old Mill Hall, Grove.

There were 16 members present: Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (secretary), Bob Steele (match secretary), Vicky Knowlson, Des Bushnell, Gerry Austin, Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Karl Dawson, Phil Mansbridge. Andy O'Shaughnessy, Andy Moody, Derek Farmer, Colin Butler, Roy Brooks & Rob Wilkinson.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer) & Les Teale,  
Meeting started at 7:05pm

The minutes from the AGM on Monday 7 February 2022 were accepted unanimously as a true and accurate record.

### **Chair's Report**

Matt gave an update on the bank work including the necessity of the repair to the section between pegs 5-8.

The new solar-powered aeration system is now secured in place, the bubblers are working but the paddle aerator needs attention, this is being attended to by the supplier. The existing diesel-generator has been repaired and it will be kept as a backup to the solar system.

The netting carried out in March last year was successful and about 250lb of small (under 6") fish were removed and donated to The Plough AC.

Matt thanked all who helped at work parties and those who donated their time and efforts to the club, particular thanks went to Danny for his work on the pond, Les for his pond water analysis and Karl for supplying materials at cost.

#### **Boat**

The existing boat is in a very poor state of repair. After research, a suitable replacement was found at a cost of £795. As this is a health and safety issue it was recommended that the club proceed quickly. The purchase was proposed by Matt Andrew, seconded by Andy Moody, carried unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The year ended in the black with a healthy £xxxx in the bank with a cash float of £79.30.

Big Ticket items this year are obviously:

The bank works @ £xxxx (inc machine hire) and the aeration system @ £xxxx

But obviously these are offset by the grants obtained by Peter (Well done again that man) which totalled £6,000.

### **Secretary's Report**

#### **Membership**

The adult membership is full with 200 members, of these, 198 are ordinary members (17 of which hold 5 year memberships) and 2 are honorary members

Junior membership stands at 24 (from a maximum of 25)

There are 27 guest permits.

#### **Waiting lists**

##### **Within OX12 postcode area**

There are currently 57 people on the waiting list (51 adult and 6 junior). However, 16 of these are considered to be valueless as they didn't reply or respond to membership offer in 2022.

##### **Outside OX12 postcode area**

There are 51 on this list (47 adult and 4 juniors)

#### **EA Grants**

The club secured two grants from the EA in 2022.

First was a grant of £xxxx to contribute to the installation of a solar-powered aeration system.

The second was for £xxxx for bank repairs and specifically aimed at improving the swims on the south (railway) bank.

Contact with the EA and other bodies will continue as the club looks to obtain grant money where available.

#### **Life Jackets**

The club has purchased 3 life jackets (in M, L & XL). These will be stored in the shed and must be worn by anyone using the boat

### Fish stocks

The club has ordered 100qty 8-10inch perch. These will be stocked at the end Feb/early March.

### Match Secretary's Report

The dates for the next season's match calendar are close to being finalised.

The peg fees fund has £398 in it and the engraving costs are expected to be in the region of £300.

Bob suggested that the number of trophies be cut as the winners often don't collect them. This will be monitored through 2023 and reviewed in time for a proposal at the 2024 AGM

### Election of Officers

There being no proposals for changes to, or resignations from, the executive committee. It was proposed that the existing executive officers were elected en bloc.

Proposed by Gerry Austin, seconded by Andy Moody, carried unanimously.

The club regrets the resignation of two non-executive officers, John Blackwell is stepping down from his role as deputy chair and Vicky Knowlson from the assistant match secretary position. The club expressed its thanks to both for their work and support of the club.

Andy Moody kindly offered his services as assistant match secretary and Vicky Knowlson agreed to stand for the position of vice chair.

Both proposed by Matt Andrew and seconded by Phil Mansbridge, carried unanimously.

### Rule and Constitution changes

<b>Standing Item</b>	Membership fees £5 Joining fee; £35 Adult membership; £5 Junior membership	Remain unchanged
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### Constitution

	<b>Addition to the constitution</b>	
4.1.1	No executive officer of the club shall be, or has been within the past year, an executive officer of any other angling club or similar	Proposed by Matt Andrew, seconded by Peter Constable 12 for, 1 against, 2 abstain. Carried

For the record, the outgoing vice chair, John Blackwell, would like to note his strong objection to this item.

There were no changes to the general or match rules

### Swift Ditch

The club has taken the decision to relinquish the lease on Swift Ditch, consequently the last day to fish this water will be the end of the river season on Friday 14 March 2023.

The club regrets this decision but due to a couple of issues within the land owner's family the fishery has deteriorated to an unfishable state.

### Any Other Business

Rob Wilkinson will pursue the options for a junior match or trophy
Des asked about the chain at the top of Station Rd, it is sometimes very tight, it was suggested that this is because the chain gets twisted and can be untwisted to slacked it off.
Vicky asked if there is anyway to keep the carp out of the shallow north end of the pond, fishery management companies will be consulted for feasibility and cost
There appears to be an otter at the pond. The club is to approach the otter trust to see if it can be moved.

## Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 7 March 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Danny Dance, Rob Wilkinson, John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Matt Todd & Des Bushnell

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson, Les Teale, Nathan Steele & Karl Dawson.

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from January 2023 were read and accepted. There was no meeting in February 2023

### Matters Arising from January 2023

<b>Generator</b> The repairs and servicing have together cost £560. The generator is at Cannings and awaits collection.	To be collected
<b>Fly Tipping</b> This appears to have stopped.	Keep an eye out for any further occurrences.

### Pond Chemistry

17 February 2023 Nitrate: 0 Nitrite: 0 Phosphate: 0 Ammonia: 0.25 pH: 7.5 Oxygen: 75% - 85% All readings within normal expected ranges. Temperature: steady at 6 - 7°C.
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### Chair's Report

The "bubbler" part of the new solar powered system is working but the spinner isn't. The installer believes this to be a fault with the control box and this has been removed to check and repair or replace as necessary. Matt advised that the current support system for the panels will not be suitable when water levels drop in the summer, consequently he will design and supply a frame that will allow free movement of the panels to avoid the supporting scaffolding poles.
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### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.
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### Match Secretary's Report

There is no report this month.
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### Secretary's Report

<b>Waiting List</b> – There are 47 people on the waiting list within OX12 and a further 52 outside. <b>Constitution and website</b> – All references to Swift Ditch will be removed. <b>Stocking</b> – the 150qty 8-10" perch are due to be delivered this month. <b>Life Jackets</b> – These have been delivered (sizes M, L & XL).
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### Any Other Business

Danny has found no more dead fish since the last meeting	
Carp feed pellets will be ordered from Blake's. John B will supply chicken feed pellets and will submit an expense claim for the last delivery	Matt to place Blake's order
It was suggested that a formal peg be created to the side of peg 1 (where there is an informal peg by the notice board). This will either be done by a contractor or during a work party.	Design, costs and feasibility to be discussed with contractor.
The club has yet to get a new account with Wantage Builders Merchant	Matt or Danny to do this.
The landowner needs to be informed that the club is not renewing its Swift Ditch lease.	Matt to do this.
The boat purchase has been agreed and it was suggested that this be kept off-site until secure storage can be arranged.	
It was noted that the match weights at the pond have been falling in recent years. The total weights for the aggregate trophy were: 2018-19: 977lb, 19-20: 1,419lb 20-21: 1,360lb 2021-22: 1,077lb 22-23: 684lb It was felt that the club needs to increase feed levels to promote fish growth.	Agreed that feed levels would increase. Those involved to ensure orders are placed and feed introduced.
The club is to investigate prices and availability of stock fish (Ide, F1's bream and barbel) for winter 2023/24	Peter to make enquiries
Andy Moody says that he has rope to replace the chain at the entrance	Andy to replace chain
Danny says that he has found illegal rigs at the pond (braided line and large, barbed hooks)	Tackle checks to be carried out throughout the year
There is a report that the ground next to peg 5 (between 5 &6) is subsiding. It is not known if this is further bank erosion or just settling.	Continue to monitor

### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 4 April 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Matt Todd & Phil Mansbridge.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson, Les Teale, Nathan Steele & Karl Dawson.

Meeting started at 8:10pm, the minutes from March 2023 were read and accepted.

### Matters Arising from March 2023

<b>Subsidence</b> The subsidence that Danny reported in March between pegs 5 & 6 is, in fact, between pegs 4 & 5	
<b>Generator</b> This remains at Cannings and there are no plans to collect it until the water levels at the pond have dropped.	

### Pond Chemistry

31 March 2023 Dissolved oxygen: 52% - 73%
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### Chair's Report

All parts of the solar-powered aerator are now working. There has been no further sighting of the otter and the last cormorant sighting was on the 25 <sup>th</sup> March.
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As a deterrent to the cormorants the club added 10Kg of dye to the pond on 24 March and ropes were strung across the pond on 26<sup>th</sup> March. Thanks to Andy O'Shaughnessy, Danny, Andy Moody for their assistance.

The carp pellets have been ordered from Blake's and are due to be delivered soon.

The boat is not yet purchased as the chosen model isn't available, the club will wait until there is both suitable storage and the stock is available before purchasing.

An account at Wantage builders merchants will be set up as time allows.

The land owner at Swift Ditch will be advised of the club's decision before the start of the river season.

#### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.

#### Match Secretary's Report

There is no report this month.

#### Secretary's Report

**Renewals** – 77 members have fully renewed (including the 17 5-year members)

**Waiting List** – There are 50 people on the waiting list within OX12 and a further 55 outside.

**Stocking** – the supplier has stock of 7-9" perch (not the 8-10" requested). However, the club will go ahead with stocking.

#### Any Other Business

Since the last meeting Danny has found 1 dead tench, 2 carp, 1 crucian & 1 half pound roach.	
Danny also reported that the water level was very high but had fallen an inch or so in the last day.	
The creation of a formal peg to the side of peg 1 (where there is an informal peg by the notice board) will be discussed with the contractor.	PC to discuss
The pond was fed on 3 April with chicken pellets.	
The contact details of committee members on the notice board at the pond must be altered to remove John Blackwell's details	PC to update
The matter of a gas-gun for the pond was discussed but the law places requirements on use (time of day) and position that make it unlikely this is a feasible option for deterring predators.	
Andy M suggested that when the generator is reinstalled that it be placed on breeze blocks or similar to ensure it stays clear of any rising water.	
The club is to investigate prices and availability of stock fish (Ide, F1's bream and barbel) for winter 2023/24	Peter to make enquiries
Andy Moody says that he has rope to replace the chain at the entrance. Fluorescent tape or similar will be wrapped around the rope to make it more visible.	Andy M to action

#### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 2 May 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Karl Dawson & Des Bushnell.

**Apologies:** Peter Constable (sec), Richard Harrison (treasurer), Les Teale, Bob Steele (match sec) & Vicky Knowlson.

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from April 2023 were read and accepted.

### Matters Arising from April 2023

<b>Subsidence</b> The subsidence that Danny reported in March between pegs 4 & 5 has settled	No action
<b>Generator</b> Cannings have asked that the generator be delivered back to the pond, the club advises that this can't be done until the water level falls.	Danny to liaise with Cannings when the ground is dry enough

### Pond Chemistry

2 May 2023 Dissolved oxygen: 45% - 52% , all other readings within normal expected ranges.
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### Chair's Report

Nothing of significance to report this month.
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### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.
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### Match Secretary's Report

There is no report this month.
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### Secretary's Report

No report this month
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### Any Other Business

The feed pellets have been delivered to Danny. Since the last meeting he has fed circa 35Kg chicken pellets and 25Kg 8mm carp pellets.	
<b>Bank work</b> It was agreed that the bank work should go ahead. This will strengthen and support pegs 11, 12, 13 & 14. Karl is to supply 2.8m steels and the club will purchase the aggregate locally. The contractor will also create a formal peg to the side of peg 1 (where there is an informal peg by the notice board). Existing plastic boards left by the BDAA will be used for this. Works expected to start on Wednesday 31 May	
The stocking of perch didn't go ahead as the atrocious weather through early spring meant that the stock was not felt to be of sufficient quality. This is now planned for next year along with the possibility of stocking other species (Ide, F1s, bream and barbel)	PC to follow up and get prices and availability.
Since the last meeting Danny has found 1 dead crucian.	
The water level remains high but is falling. It is still over the bank by about 8-10cm.	
The rope to replace the chain has yet to be actioned	Andy M to action
Des Bushnell said that the old style permits need to be updated as some of the information is no longer valid.	PC to consider how best to do this
The informal track leading to the shallow water at the north end of the pond has been blocked off as it is not a formal swim and should not be used.	

Maintenance Nathan Steele is to be asked if he is prepared to continue mowing and doing general maintenance at the pond. Also, the dead tree between pegs 1&2 requires removal.	Matt to ask Nathan.  Work party to be organised.
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### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 13 June 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson, Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Karl Dawson, Des Bushnell, Les Teale, Andy O'Shaughnessey, Martin Bennett, Alan Bishop, Des Bushnell, Nathan Steele, Karl Dawson, Gerry Austin & Rob Wilkinson.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer) & Phil Mansbridge.

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from May 2023 were read and accepted.

#### Matters Arising from May 2023

<b>Generator</b> Cannings still request that we pick up the generator. Martin, Gerry Andy & Les have offered to help.	Now the ground is dry, Danny will liaise with Cannings
<b>Feed Pellets</b> Stock is down to 1 bag of 8mm pellets	Matt to order more from Blakes / John B as required

#### Pond Chemistry

11 June 2023 Dissolved oxygen: 37% - 47% (within expected range for the time of year). All other readings are OK.
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#### Chair's Report

Matt expressed thanks to Peter for arranging the contractors, Karl for the steels, Andy O'Shaughnessey for his assistance with the anti-cormorant ropes and Andy Moody for the fishery access rope.
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#### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.
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#### Match Secretary's Report

There is approximately £155 in current year peg fees and £200 from last year. Three trophies (cups) are still missing: Committee, Sedgewick & Tench. Efforts are being made to locate these. Committee cup was won by Jim, Matt was second (1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> only paid)
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#### Secretary's Report

<p><b>Membership</b> is now closed for 2023/24 with 199 adult and 26 junior members. Adult members include 1 &amp; 5 year and honorary membership, 27 Guest permit have been bought. The rate of non-renewals for the adult membership is 11.5%, this is roughly in line with expectations and the previous few years.</p> <p><b>Bank work</b> is now all but complete on pegs 11, 12, 13 &amp; 14. The total costs (incl VAT) are: Original quote was for £xxxx excluding £xxxx for the steels. Steels from Karl were £xxxx Aggregate £550 Giving a total of <b>£xxxx</b></p> <p>Add £xxxx for the work behind the swims and the <b>grand total</b> is <b>£xxxx</b> The work on the new swim to the left of peg 1 (peg 23?) will be completed on Thursday 15 June</p> <p><b>Other</b> : Jack has said that in all the years, as a professional fishery company, the anti-cormorant measures we have in place are the best he has ever seen and will be installing similar at his stock</p>
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ponds.

### Any Other Business

Fish prices and availability will be checked in August	PC to contact suppliers
The rope barrier is felt by all to be much better than the old chain, Andy O'S suggested we look at a tensa-barrier. Members are to be emailed and told not to drive over the rope.	PC to email
The old-style white permits should be updated, this will happen at next year's round of renewals	PC to organise
Nathan is happy to continue doing the basic maintenance at the pond but with inflation he needs to increase his rate to £11 per hour	No further action
Since the last meeting Danny has noted the loss of 1 bream, 4 crucians and 2 roach.	No further action
A work party is to be organised for Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> June, starting at 9am. Given time, work will include putting new brackets on the solar panels, tree cutting, putting in posts to support the anti-cormorant ropes, widen pegs 9 & 10 and trim the hedge.	PC to email
Gerry advised that the Angling Trust are requesting volunteer bailiffs, this starts with an online training course. Details are here: <a href="https://anglingtrust.net/vbsapplication/">https://anglingtrust.net/vbsapplication/</a>	PC to email
Can we do anything about the otters? No!	No further action
Andy O'S asked if the advertising on the fence can be removed. It can, but must be left in place	
Concern was raised about the state of some fishes mouths, especially the tench, tackle checks are to be done and education given where appropriate.	
As part of our agreement with the EA, our grant award was conditional in us providing new floating islands, the club should build 2 islands, each 2mx1m at the earliest opportunity	Working party to action.
The "pole only" signs on pegs 11-14 need replacing	Matt to source signs
Mat confirms he has advised the owner of Swift Ditch that we are relinquishing our lease.	
The recent bank work has left few funds if the club wishes to make a significant purchase of stock this coming winter. Both Petere and John say they are in a position to advance the club some funds if required.	
The application of dung and/or barley straw was discussed. Les advised against dung but we could add barley straw as an algal suppressant	
Les reminded the meeting that if any member sees fish in distress they should call the EA hotline on their permit (or notice board)	
The purchase of a new boat is on hold for the moment	
Jack will be asked if he can move the steels next to the shed	PC to contact contractor

### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 11 July 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Bob Steele (match sec), Phil Mansbridge, Les Teale, John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Nathan Steele, Vicky Knowlson, Danny Dance, & Des Bushnell.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer) & Peter Constable (sec).

Meeting started at 8:05pm, the minutes from June 2023 were not available.

### Pond Chemistry

The oxygen levels remain at a good level. Les will continue to monitor.

### Chair's Report

There is nothing to report on this month

### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.

### Match Secretary's Report

Bob is to call members who are invited to fish the first round of the W&G Vs. The Plough match.

### Secretary's Report

There is no report this month.

### Any Other Business

The generator is being fixed again. Bob Clarkson has loaned one to the club for the moment.	No further action
<b>Oxygen crash</b> The pond was closed for 3 weeks in June due to an oxygen level crash that saw levels as low as 3%	
Thanks to the bank contractors for helping out and running their generator to power the aerators.	
Danny estimated that the club lost 70-80lb of fish. 12-15 bream, 6-7 tench, 8 chub & 6 crucians.	
<b>Solar Panels</b>	
There was a proposal to add a battery and panels to the automatic aerator in order to improve run times. Proposed by Phil Mansbridge and seconded by Vicky Knowlson, unanimously agreed.	
The run times have been changed to 1am-7am. Thanks to Danny & Les.	
<b>Peg 00/23</b>	
There are loose boards on the new peg. This needs the attention of the contractor.	
Aggregate is needed to back fill behind this peg.	JB to source
There is a report that fly-tippers have once again used the entrance to the pond.	
Now that oxygen levels are back to acceptable limits feeding the fish is to restart.	Danny to start putting feed into the pond
Bob Clarkson has added a new fence behind the reworked pegs 11 & 12 at his own cost. The club expresses its thanks.	
To limit algal growth the club will use barley straw bales.	Jon B to source
The hedge needs to be cut. Rob Clarkson will be asked if he can do it.	Matt to contact Rob.
There are reports of rats at the pond. Matt and Andy were given permission to "take care of them with lead".	

**Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 8 August 2023.**

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Les Teale, Andy Moody, Danny Dance, & Des Bushnell & Karl Dawson.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Bob Steele (match sec), Phil Mansbridge, John Blackwell, Nathan Steele, Vicky Knowlson

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from June and July 2023 were both read and accepted.

**Pond Chemistry**

The oxygen levels were within acceptable levels when last measured, the meter was returned for fault rectification.  
The chemistry remains good.

**Chair's Report**

There is nothing to report on this month

**Treasurer's Report**

There is no report this month.

**Match Secretary's Report**

There is no report this month.

**Secretary's Report**

**Waiting list:**

Inside OX12: after removing all those who didn't respond during the membership update there are 30 people on the waiting list, of which 15 adult and 5 juniors.

Outside OX12: There are 61 on the list, 55 adult and 6 junior.

**Fish purchase**

Enquiries will start this month to get prices and availability for Bream (50 @ 2lb), Perch (200 @ 8-10"), F1s (500 @ 8-10"), Barbel (200 @ 8-10"), Ide (200 @ 8-10") & Grass Carp (20 @ 2lb).

**Any Other Business**

The generator ran for 36 hours since being returned before failing. It has now been fixed again and is in the shed.	No further action
Feeding stopped during the heat wave in mid June and resumed on 17 July. There is less than one bag of pellets and 2 bags of chicken feed remaining. More pellets to be ordered	MA to order pellets
Members are still driving across the rope at the entrance.	PC to email members to remind them not to.
The gardening has not been done for a while, this needs attention.	MA to talk to Nathan
Recently one dead tench has been found, along with 2 crucians. One bream was found that may be the result of predation.	
<b>Solar Panels</b> Extra pontoons are needed to counter the weight of the batteries, also, the new pumps have been upgraded, these are 25% more powerful than the old.	
The 2 new floating islands can be positioned by peg 22 and one by peg 8/9.	For attention by a working party
Thanks go to Rob Clarkson for the work he has carried out at his own cost.	
Peter Powell has left the club 2 tonnes of gravel for use as needed. He has	

offered the use of a vehicle to transport more gravel if the club buys any.	
The "Pole only" signs behind pegs 11-14 were replaced by Les and Danny. Further signs will be fixed to the boarding at the back of the pegs.	
There have been no further reports of fly tipping.	
Further to last month's report, the rat population is not abnormally high.	
Des asked for clarification about strimming. It is OK for a member to use a battery trimmer to tidy around their swim if they feel it is required.	
The lilies at the north end (peg 00/22) are spreading	Danny to check and trim if necessary
There is a work party scheduled for Saturday 26 August. The length of pipe available for floating islands will be measured. An account will be opened with Wantage builders merchants. 2 square meters of coir (coconut husk) matting is needed.	Danny to measure pipes and Matt to open account. PC to order matting
The camera is now positioned to view the aerator so that the functioning of the timer can be monitored.	
The life jackets are at Matt's house as there is no room in the shed. A new shed is required and an assessment of the job will done at the work party. Karl says he may be able to get pre-used concrete block for construction of the shed.	
It was agreed that the minutes may be published to the website with the condition that financial information is removed.	

### **Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 5 September 2023.**

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Andy Moody, Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Des Bushnell & Karl Dawson.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Peter Constable (sec), Les Teale, Bob Steele (match sec), Phil Mansbridge, Vicky Knowlson

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from August 2023 were read and accepted.

#### **Pond Chemistry**

The meter is still not repaired so measurements not available. The chemistry remains good.

#### **Chair's Report**

An order for additional solar panels has been placed but there is no delivery eta at the moment.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

There is no report this month.

#### **Match Secretary's Report**

There is no report this month.

#### **Secretary's Report**

**Waiting List** – Inside OX12 there are 33 waiting (25 adult & 8 junior).  
**Fish Purchase** – estimated prices are provided.  
**EA licence** – an application for a new EA stocking license has been applied for.

#### **Any Other Business**

The generator has broken again, repairs will cost approximately £350 and can be carried out onsite.	Danny to speak to Cannings
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Cannings will be asked to review their last repair as the generator shouldn't have failed again so soon after the last time they fixed it.	
The gardening hasn't been done	Matt to talk to Nathan and Bob Clarkson
The floating islands haven't been moved. Parts are available for the new ones.	No action.
There was a proposal that Bob Clarkson be offered a free membership for the 202/45 season in recognition of his work at the pond this year. Proposed by Matt, seconded by Karl Dawson, carried unanimously.	Action at permit renewal
Des has some hardcore that he can drop off at the pond, this can be used for general maintenance	No action.

### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 3 October 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Andy Moody, Peter Constable (sec), Danny Dance, John Blackwell, Phil Mansbridge, Des Bushnell, Andy O'Shaunessey, Peter Busby & Matt Todd.

**Apologies:** Richard Harrison (treasurer), Les Teale, Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson & Karl Dawson.

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from September 2023 were read and accepted.

#### Pond Chemistry

Oxygen levels were between 51%-61% across the pond.
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#### Chair's Report

<p>The dissolved oxygen meter has been repaired. However, a new sensor cap is required at a cost of £259.20. It was agreed that W&amp;G will contribute 50% (£129.60).</p> <p>There is no date for installation of the new solar panels but the 2 replacement batteries (to replace those lost) have been delivered and are in storage awaiting installation. These are FOC.</p> <p>The splasher upgrade will be carried out by the supplier when the panels arrive.</p> <p>The image from the cameras is not good enough to determine if the diffusers are running at 7am, However, the batteries are at 11.4V indicating that they are not holding their charge.</p>
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#### Treasurer's Report

There is no report this month.
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#### Match Secretary's Report

There is no report this month.
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#### Secretary's Report

<p><b>Waiting List</b> – Inside OX12 there are 37 waiting (28 adult &amp; 9 junior).</p> <p><b>EA licence</b> – a new EA fish movement site permit has been granted.</p>
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#### Any Other Business

Danny says that Cannings have visited and fixed the generator (there was a loose wire). The generator will be run regularly to prevent seizure.	
The gardening still hasn't been done.	Matt to talk to Nathan and Bob Clarkson.
Des will drop off the hardcore when he can.	No further action.
<b>Fish purchases.</b> Following a round table discussion it was agreed that the club would go	Place order for perch. No other action.

ahead with the purchase of perch this winter but not place any further fish orders until after the bank in the corner (peg 10-11) is fully repaired. A straw poll was taken and the most popular fish to buy in the future were F1s and orfe (ide)	
Des said that he can get discount on a strimmer if we want to buy one.	No action, info only.
The New Forest challenge will be either 6 of 13 July next year	No action, info only.
The rubbish at the end of the track requires responsible disposal.	Andy M to get price from OCC.
Danny says that there are 2 bags of pellet and 1 of chix feed left.	Feeding to continue.
A builder's merchant account has been applied for.	Awaiting Richard's signature.
The bill for fixing Tony Robert's memorial bench is £120.	
Onions sacks are needed to enclose the barley straw when it is applied to the water.	PC to source.

### **Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 14 November 2023.**

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Richard Harrison (treasurer), Peter Constable (sec), Bob Steele (match sec), Andy Moody, Danny Dance, Des Bushnell & Karl Dawson.

**Apologies:** Les Teale, Vicky Knowlson, John Blackwell, Phil Mansbridge, Matt Todd & Gerry Austin.

Meeting started at 8:00pm, the minutes from October 2023 were read and accepted.

#### **Pond Chemistry**

Oxygen levels were between 29%-37% across the pond, this is in line with levels at the same time for the last 2 years.

Nitrate (5ppm) and nitrite (0.5ppm) levels were high, this may be due to agricultural runoff. This will be monitored closely.

The voltage on the batteries is low at 11.1 – 11.4V.

#### **Chair's Report**

The new batteries for the aerator system have been delivered but installation is delayed due to the high water levels.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The club funds stand at £xxxx. There are a few invoices expected that will reduce this to about £xxxx prior to membership renewals.

#### **Match Secretary's Report**

The New Forest Challenge will be on Saturday 13 July next year.

There will be discussions with Danny Dance and Andy Moody to confirm the dates and locations for the other "away" matches.

The aggregate 4 match, postponed from 9 July, will be rescheduled.

There is £200 to be made available for the Christmas match (10 Dec), this will leave sufficient funds for engraving and other costs.

#### **Secretary's Report**

**Waiting List** – Inside OX12 there are 40 waiting (30 adult & 10 junior).

The matting and pheasant netting for the floating island, as well as the onion sacks for the barley

straw are all delivered.

### Any Other Business

Danny will run the generator to raise oxygen levels a couple of times before the match on Sunday 19 November.	
The vegetation on pegs 6, 7 & 8 have been cleared by Peter Powel. Nathan says he will visit and do some work as soon as he can. The gardening still hasn't been done.	
Des has delivered the hardcore to the pond.	No further action.
An order for £400 worth of 7-9 inch perch will be placed.	Place order for perch.
No dead fish are reported since the last meeting.	
A responsible disposal option for the rubbish at the end of the track has yet to be confirmed.	
Danny has 1 bag of 6mm pellets.	Feeding to continue.
Des B has 1 litre bottles for the floating islands and will deliver to the pond.	
Peter is attending the presentation by Thames Water about the proposed reservoir and will see if this is likely to affect the club.	

### Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the King Alfred's Head on Tuesday 12 December 2023.

**Present:** Matt Andrew (chair), Richard Harrison (treasurer), Peter Constable (sec), John Blackwell, Andy Moody, Danny Dance, Bob Wilkinson, Peter Powell, & Karl Dawson.

**Apologies:** Les Teale, Bob Steele (match sec), Vicky Knowlson, Phil Mansbridge, Matt Todd & Gerry Austin.

Meeting started at 8:05pm, the minutes from November 2023 were read and accepted.

### Pond Chemistry

Oxygen levels were between 49%-64% across the pond, this is in line with levels at the same time for the last 2 years.  
Nitrate remains high at 5ppm, but nitrite and ammonia have fallen to zero.  
The pH is 7.5, temperature 6.6°C. The voltage on the batteries remains low at 11.1V.

### Chair's Report

The water is worryingly high and has entered the shed.  
The high levels have prevented any attempt to install the new batteries.  
Thanks were expressed to Bob and Vicky for their work on the matches over the last few years and the baton will be fully handed to Andy Moody once the last chance match is fished.

### Treasurer's Report

The club funds stand at £xxxx.  
Network rail have submitted their invoice for £xxx and this will be paid.

### Match Secretary's Report

There was an overspend of £70 on the prizes for the Christmas match, this is kindly being met by Bob and Vicky.  
Danny Dance and Andy Moody will put together their respective match calendars to avoid clashes.  
The postponed aggregate matches have yet to be rescheduled.

### Secretary's Report

**Waiting List** – No new additions since last month.

**Fish Purchase** – 400qty 7-9inch perch have been ordered at a total cost of £400. The supplier JS Fisheries, said delivery will be Jan-Mar 2024 (weather dependant) and has offered free delivery.

**New Reservoir** – I attended a presentation by Thames Water and have requested that interests of local anglers are considered. I have put myself forward as a club representative but wait to see if I am invited to any discussion groups etc.

Railway Station – Without consulting the committee a member has written to our MP, Mr David Johnston, inviting him to a meeting with Matt and myself.

**Any Other Business**

The generator has run for only 15 hours since the last service.	
Predation – 2 dead crucians and a bream of about 2lb have been found dead on the bank, presumably left by a heron. Cormorants have been seen on the pond and Discussions will take place with The Plough in regards to obtaining a hunting licence.	Matt to talk to Les Teale.
Andy reported that the water levels are so high that the solar panels have floated loose.	
Thanks were expressed to the pub for their round of drinks following the issue with the undercooked potatoes at the Christmas lunch.	
Danny has 2/3 bag of 6mm pellets.	Feeding to continue.
John B asked if there were plans to increase fees in the coming year. The general opinion is not but this will be discussed at the AGM.	
Danny reports that the path behind peg 9 has collapsed. He will check to see how bad this is and what remedial work is needed.	