Minutes from the ordinary general meeting of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held in the Bear Hotel on Tuesday 3 November 2026.

Present: Matt Andrew (chair), Peter Constable (sec), Peter Powell (match sec), John Blackwell, Jonathan Roberts, Theo Andrew & Andy Earl.

Apologies: Richard Harrison (treasurer), Les Teale, Andy Moody & Joe Bowman.

Meeting started at 8:10pm, the minutes from October 2026 were read and accepted.

Pond Monitoring

Dissolved oxygen between 40-62% and water temperature is 10.4°C

A quote of £1,153 was received for repair of the old oxygen monitor, this was declined and the unit returned at at cost of £76.20 for labour and postage (to be shared with The Plough AC).

The National Water Quality Instrumentation Service (NWQIS) was approached and have provided a new YSI ProODO meter and probe free of charge. The NWQIS will also service the unit free of charge, probably annually.

There have been no recent water quality measurements taken but in August all pollutants were below detectable levels.

There have been three otter sightings on the cameras recently, 21, 22 & 27 Oct.

Chair's Report

Thanks to Les Teale for his work getting a new oxygen meter without cost to either this club or The Plough.

There was a considerable amount of work got through at the recent work parties and thanks go to all who attended, in addition to Pete Powell for his work on the platforms on the pond after the work party.

Treasurer's Report

There is no treasurer's report this month.

Match Secretary's Report

The memorial match fees will be donated to Sobel House.

The sum of £258.90 was spent on prizes for the forthcoming Christmas match leaving £588 in the match fund.

Any keepsake trophies will be decided on an ad-hoc basis and discussion with the trophy winner.

Secretary's Report

Local Police

On Tuesday 27 October Richard and I met PC Oldroyd at the Wantage police station. PC Oldroyd is keen to teach some of the local kids to fish correctly and get involved with a proper club rather than fishing on an ad-hoc basis on local streams. He said that funding may be available for a suitable venture.

As actioned in that meeting I have managed to contact a pair of professional fishing coaches who are prepared to offer their services for a day either during the spring half-term or the summer holidays. The cost is £60 each, plus expenses.

It is suggested that the equipment should be: Elasticated 4 metre whips with 10-12 elastic, 6lb line 2lb or 3lb hooklength, Size 16 or 14 barbless hook, Waggler float, max 2AAA.

Wantage.com

I have updated the club's details on this website.

AGM – Monday 1 February 2027
I have contacted Loyd Lindsay rooms. They are available at a cost of £90.
I have completed the booking form and Richard has paid the £9 deposit.

Fire and Rescue service
On 7 October I sent letters to Grove parish Council, Vale and South Oxford district council and Olly Glover (local MP). On 20 October (under prompting from Olly Glover MP) I had a call from Ben Fisher from the Wantage fire station. He understands our plight but is unable to assist us.
There are no further avenues I can follow on this.

Tip-Top tree services
On Wednesday 28 Oct Andy and I met Ben from Tip-Top tree services. Andy walked the pond with him and detailed the work needed. A quote for £2,580 incl Vat has been received.

Electrical safety testing – generator
A meeting was arranged for Brook Alder to meet Matt on 16 October but, to my knowledge, Brook didn't keep the appointment.

Network Rail Invoice
The NR invoice has been received. The details ore incorrect and I have asked NR to change them and reissue the invoice. I have passed this to Richard for payment.

Any Other Business

Cormorants have been sighted at the pond. Members are to be informed and encouraged to drive down to the pond to disrupt the birds.	PC to action
A work party is needed to clear the ground for the shed.	To be scheduled
The club agreed to get pre-paid fuel cards for diesel buying for the generator.	Ongoing
John Blackwell has yet to submit his costs to the club for reimbursement for the hedge-cutting.	JB to submit costs
2 bags each 6mm & 8mm pellets have been collected from Blake's.	No further action
The "shelter" above peg 11 has gone	No further action
"Danger – Deep Water" signs are to be purchased and erected.	Jonathan Roberts to buy and erect
The meeting felt the tree surgeon quote was very high and we would not proceed this time.	PC to advise contractors
A question was asked about the bank support at peg 10, this is not scheduled for the near future.	On hold
The sliding supports for the solar panels have not yet been fitted and await a suitable opportunity.	On hold
There was a discussion about stocking fish. Whilst the club had no plans to introduce fish it was felt that plans should be readied in case the results of the netting in December show particular problems.	Matt to pencil in stock with the ability to cancel
Matt requested that the start of the next meeting (1 Dec) be brought forwards to 7pm.	PC to inform membership

The meeting closed at 9:10pm.
The next ordinary meeting is Tuesday 1 December 2026 at The Bear Hotel.

I agree these are an accurate minute of the meeting on Tuesday 3 November 2026.

Proposed		Seconded	
Signed by		Position	
		Date	