

Minutes from the annual general meeting (AGM) of Wantage & Grove Angling Club, held on Monday 3 February 2020 at the Old Mill Hall, Grove.

There were 26 members present and 4 apologies received

Meeting started at 7:10pm

The minutes from the AGM on Monday 4 February 2019 were accepted unanimously as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising from the minutes of 4 February 2019

Discussion/point raised	Action
The issue of Junior matches was discussed, the insurance implications will be checked, and notices posted to gauge the level of interest. juniors.	RH to check insurance PC to post to website and send email
Algal blooms are an ongoing issue, but water quality checks remain within acceptable levels	None
The provision of an electrical supply to the pond was vetoed by Network Rail	None

Chair's Report

This has been quite an eventful year for the club and the chair expressed thanks to all those who have given their time and effort to the club.

Treasurer's Report

The year ended healthily in the black, the total is about £500 up on this time last year. A new generator was purchased but was found to be faulty, this was eventually replaced by the supplier but in the meanwhile nearly £1,000 was spent on hire of a temporary replacement. There were no significant changes to the insurance and rents, a minimal amount has been spent on maintenance sundries (scaffolding, non-slip paint, boarding etc).

Secretary's Report

Membership & Waiting list. The membership is full with 200 members (112 Full, 67 Concessions, 17 Junior & 4 Other. There are currently 36 people on the waiting list. However, 9 have been on more than 2 years and couldn't be contacted last year, failure to contact them this will result in their removal from the list.

Website & email. The web site continues to be developed and updated. In order to keep these fresh and interesting contributions and suggestions from members would be greatly appreciated.

Fishery management. I attended a fishery management course run by the Environment agency. This was a very informative weekend and the primacy of water quality for fishery health was the main message.

Grants. In the summer a grant from the environment agency of £825 was obtained towards the purchase of aeration equipment. Further opportunities for grant applications are constantly sought.

Match Secretary's Report

An excellent year for the match anglers, with a new club record total weight of 1,419lb for the 10 match aggregate series. The average number of anglers fishing has also increased from around 13 last year to 15 this. Jim Routledge won the aggregate series with 167 points; Tony Brooker was second with 161 and Steve Ferris third with 140 points.

The two-leg match against The Plough was won by The Plough by 144 points to 126.

Thanks go to Danny (the match sec from The Plough) for his invaluable assistance in scheduling matches so that the 2 club don't have clashes of dates.

Bob advised the meeting that he plans to step-down as match secretary at the end of 2020. If any member would like to take over please make themselves known to the committee .

Election of Officers

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

Proposed by Gerry Austin, seconded Rob Wilkinson, carried unanimously.

Rule and Constitution changes

Standing Item	Membership fees	Remain unchanged
----------------------	-----------------	------------------

Constitution

	Agreed Changes / Additions	
1	Constitution – new clause 3.3.2 In the case of lost or damaged permits new ones will be chargeable at 10% of the full membership fees	For: 25 Against: 1 Carried
2	Constitution 3.1.3 - amendment The club will run a waiting list for applicants (held by the secretary). If a vacancy arises at any point in the year, persons on the waiting list will be contacted on a first come, first served basis with priority given to people living in the OX12 postcode area *	For: 18 Against: 5 Abstain: 3 Carried
3	Constitution 3.3.1 - amendment Permits will only be available at the scheduled meetings (usually March and April), payment by cash only or by post, payment by direct bank transfer including membership number and name in the reference, and subject to an admin & post charges.	For: 26 Against: 0 Carried
4	Constitution – new clause 3.1.5 Membership runs from date of issue of the permit to the following 30 April	For: 26 Against: 0 Carried

General club rules

	Agreed Changes / Additions	
1	General Rule 1,12 - amendment Barbless hooks must be used at all times for any size 14 or larger (bona fide only, no pinched or flattened barbs), micro barb hooks can be used size 16 and smaller (18, 20 etc)	For: 14 Against: 10 Abstain: 2 Carried
2	General Rule 1.15 – New Any member who introduces fish and/or aquatic plants without the full written authorisation from the club and all necessary legal permits will be banned	For: 26 Against: 0 Carried
3	General Rule 1.16 – New That members take all reasonable steps to ensure that the rules of the club are upheld	For: 26 Against: 0 Carried
4	General Rule 1.17 – New That members act in accordance with the best interests of the club and at no time shall bring the club, its officers or members, into disrepute	For: 26 Against: 0 Carried
5	General Rule 1.2 - Amendment	For: 26 Against: 0

All members at all times when fishing must have with them a valid permit and a valid Environment Agency non-migratory trout and coarse licence.	Carried
---	----------------

Match Rules	There are no changes to the match rules
--------------------	---

Any Other Business

Danny Dance asked if any member could give assistance to the club
Matt reported on the bank collapse at the pond, a full repair is estimated at around £10K which is greater than the club's reserves. To address the issue as far as peg 10 is likely to be in the region of £4K and this is the option that the committee is most likely to go for. Notices will be put up requiring members to park on the "hedge" side of the track until further notice .
Matt also informed the meeting about the decision to amalgamate all the memorial matches into one day. This will take place on Saturday 22 August followed by a club social and barbeque at the King Alfred's head. Any funds generated will be donated to a charity chosen by the family of one of the members who has a memorial trophy.
A dead carp was found at the pond, this is likely to be either mink or otter predation. Investigations are under way to see if either can be confirmed.
The river (swift ditch) was discussed. Until recently this was over the banks but is difficult to fish at any time because of the trees in the water. The EA is to be approached to see if anything can be done to clear the water.
The raffle brought in a fantastic £85, many thanks go to all those who donated prizes

The next AGM is on Monday 1st February 2021 at the Old Mill Hall, Grove.
Meeting closed at 9:40pm