



Manager's Report AGM – April 2026

1. Activities in 2025

Highlights of 2025 are the new services that we have put in place.

The Community Birth group, led by local nhs midwives, gives pregnant women the opportunity to obtain more information than they would get from the usual nhs appointments and also to meet others and start to build a social support network before their baby is born. It is also an opportunity for parents to meet GroW staff and makes coming along to our groups, once they are at home with their baby, a lot less daunting.

GroW Outside – an outdoor group in Betjeman Park - is a different way for families to connect with others, enjoy the outdoors and discover the green spaces that Wantage has to offer.

2. Services in 2025

We have supported approx. 750 families in 2025 through our regular weekly sessions around Wantage and Grove.

We continue to offer refreshments, including two portions of fruit and vegetables, at all Stay and Play groups. Thank you to our volunteers Jenny, Ruth, Kim, Simon and Andy for providing a warm and welcoming service in Grove and East Challow.

In 2025 we also offered the following courses:

Family First Aid – 4 courses (thank you to Alison for facilitating this course and to David Koch from Empty Hands Defence for the brilliant course that he runs for us at a very low cost)

Baby massage course – 3 courses run by Stephanie

Parenting Course – 2 courses run by Carole and Sarah.

Welcome to the World Antenatal Course – 1 course run by Carole and Sarah.

3. Fundraising

Grants and donations were gratefully received from Wantage Town Council, Grove Parish Council and Oxfordshire Community Foundation, as well as other smaller grants and donations from individuals and foundations.

4. Health and Safety and Safeguarding

Nothing to report for 2025.