## THE DAVA WAY ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting held 21st Apr 2015

Venue: The Hub, 20 Tolbooth Street, Forres, Moray, IV36 1PH

Meeting Opened: 19:30

Item	Minute		Action By
1	Welcome:	Neil Sinclair chaired the meeting and welcomed members.	
2	Present:	Neil Sinclair, Norman Thomson, Paul Barron, Pete Mitchell, Robbie Roberts, Trevor Thornley.	
	Apologies:	Malcolm Campbell.	
3	Minutes of t		
	Proposed:	RR Seconded: PM	
4	Matters Aris	<u>sing</u>	
4.1	Ref 4.1:	PB reported that he has had no contact from the estates office. Options discussed. PB to make contact with estates office directly via phone on the assumption that the estate email addresses are no longer valid.	PB
4.2	Ref 4.4:	TT reported that he is still awaiting a decision by The Moray Council re issue of the OS End User Licence for the DWA.	TT
4.3	Ref 4.14:	RR reported that Historic Scotland is still on site at the Sanquhar Mains bridge. PM is to ask Historic Scotland for an update as to the cause of the sewage contamination and	
4.4	Ref 6.2:	enquire what they are intending to do to rectify the situation. PM reported that, as it turned out, Mr Deans was not making a donation but actually required copies of the Dava Way map and companion book. These have been sent.	PM
4.5	Ref 6.3:	PB reported that the insurance cover for the coming year has been renewed with Tennyson Insurance.	
4.6	Ref 7.1:	(see Item 7.1 below)	
4.7	Ref 7.2:	(see Item 7.2 below)	
4.8	Ref 9.1:	(see Item 9.1 below)	
4.9	Ref 9.2:	(see Item 9.2 below)	
4.10	Ref 9.3:	(see Item 9.3 below)	
4.11	Ref 10.1:	(see Item 10.1 below)	
4.12	Ref 12.1:	PM reported that Greg has cut down the windblown tree at Sluggan/Poldow Burn Cutting. PM stated that he will be organising a mini working party to see if the tree stump can be winched back into place and the affected concrete drainage channel reseated.	
4.13	Ref 13.1:	RR reported that he has given the climbing helmets and rope to PM.	
4.14	Ref 13.2:	Management of the DW leaflet inventory was discussed. All stickered and unstickered DW leaflets are to be brought to the next committee meeting for appropriate redistribution.	All

4.15	Ref 13.3: PM reported that new DWA specific email addresses have been created where required.	
5	Treasurer's Report	
5.1	A balance of £9,304.08 is in the account.	
J. 1	(Includes £6,080.00 from the Big Lottery Fund for the Lynmore project)	
5.2	Significant Income: £950.00 from Forestry Commission fund for first aid	
J.Z	and power tool user training, and £120.00 from individual donation.	
5.3		
	Significant Expenditure: £312.40 to Tennyson Insurance.  Outstanding items: None.	
5.4	Oustanding items. None.	
6	Correspondences	
6.1	Moray Council A request for feedback on draft Developer Obligations	
	Supplementary Guidance has been received. RR to discuss at the next	
	meeting of the Moray Local Outdoor Access Forum.	RR
6.2	Other No correspondence received by any other committee members.	
7	Improvement Projects (Major and Minor)	
7.1	Lynmore Improvement Project PM reported that Murray Swapp is	
	currently on holiday; PM is awaiting his response to proposed dates for a	
	site meeting. (COAT to carry out a feasibility study and advise the DWA	
	on next steps.)	PM
7.2	Bantrach Improvement Project PB and PM reported that the Bantrach	
	survey is still to be completed. PB and PM to carry out the survey and	
	obtain three contractor estimates for the work required; morning meeting	
	with COAT at Lynmore followed by Bantrach survey in afternoon.	PB & PM
7.3	General Improvements	
7.3.1	PM reported a number of issues raised by MC following his survey of the	
	DW between Grantown-On-Spey and Edinkillie. PM organised a mini	
	working party for 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2015 (MC, PM and RR) where the majority of	
	these issues were rectified. PM has added a task to repair/replace a	
	broken finger post to the improvements list.	
7.3.2	PM noted the damage at the Breathing Space caused by vehicles	
	legitimately using the only route available to access the DW at this point.	
	PM suggested the installation of a removable/lockable bollard to replace	
	one of the fixed ones currently preventing vehicle access via the path	
	between the Breathing Space and the DW. PM is to obtain costings for	
	the replacement bollard and its installation.	PM
7.3.3	PM proposed the following as the next priorities for improvement:	
	Repair channel disturbed by windblown tree at Sluggan/Poldow	
	Burn Cutting.	
	<ul> <li>Repair broken hinge post at Drummine.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Use up pile of scrapings at Dava; location for caravan during Ghost</li> </ul>	
	Train Walk.	
	<ul> <li>Use up pile of path dressing sand at the Breathing Space.</li> </ul>	
	Chip the brash at the Breathing Space and complete a general tidy	
	up of the area.	DM
	PMs proposals agreed unanimously.	PM
	NS suggested that Forres Academy pupils may wish to assist with tidying	
	the Breathing Space as part of their school community service project.	
	Those present agreed that such assistance would be beneficial, provided	
	that the school ensured an adequate level of supervision. NS is to	NC
	approach the appropriate person at Forres Academy.	NS
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7.3.4	PM asked those present whether the DWA needed a system for DW users to report problems with the path infrastructure. The subject was discussed. PM is to make up laminated panels advising DW users to report path problems via email to <a href="feedback@davaway.org.uk">feedback@davaway.org.uk</a> ; panels to be attached to DW information boards. PB is to see if there is anything on the DW website advising DW users how to report path problems. PM reported that he has amassed quite a collection of redundant gates and fittings in his garden. One of his neighbours has asked if he could have one of the gates in exchange for a donation to the DWA. Possible future requirements for the gates and fittings were discussed. PM is to assign a value to the redundant gates and fittings, then dispose of them appropriately.	PB PM
8 8.1	Maintenance Program PM reported that the estate has carried out extensive undergrowth clearance in the area of the Heatherbells Cutting. The recent Saturday	
8.2	<ul> <li>working party completed some further tidying in this area.</li> <li>PM proposed the following as the next priorities for maintenance:</li> <li>Undergrowth removal between the Half Way Hut and the cutting where the drainage channel was cleared.</li> <li>Undergrowth removal in the area around AJs Bridge.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Grass cutting, particularly at the Lynmore Bypass.</li> <li>PMs proposals agreed unanimously.</li> </ul>	PM
9 9.1	Health and Safety  a) Strimmer and Rough-Cutter Training  PM reported that the training for the power tools is still postponed as there is currently insufficient undergrowth in the area around	
9.2	Treewise in Kellas on which to use the tools. b) Risk Assessment Next Steps Risk assessments still pending for the rough cutter and hand-held	РМ
9.3	strimmer; committee sub-group meeting arranged for 27 Apr 2015. c) First Aid Kit Requirements MC is to compile a list of items to be included in the emergency backpacks and ascertain their cost. PM reported that MC is also sourcing suitable containers for storage of supplementary items.	PB, PM & RR
10 10.1 10.1.1	Events Ghost Train 2015 Concern was expressed over the current lack of bookings for the Ghost Train Walk, in comparison to previous years at this point. The late distribution of promotional materials and availability of the online booking system were viewed as the main cause. NT is to submit an article to the local papers to raise awareness of the event; PM is to supply a suitable photograph for the article.  RR reported that the senior scouts are interested in volunteering to help with the Ghost Train Walk as part of their community award. The scouts	NT & PM
10.2 10.2.1	have been advised to approach MC.  Moray Walking Festival	MC
10.2.1	Challenge and the Moray Way organisers will cover the cost.	

10.2.3	PM reported that he is waiting for the Walking Festival Booking System to be up and running before he ramps up promotion of DW related events via Facebook, etc.	
11	Arrangements for Next Work Party and Cycle Survey PM reported that the next working party will be held on Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 with the annual cycle survey of the DW taking place on Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2015. PM will be distributing details of these events and requesting volunteers in due course.	PM
12 12.1	AOCB RR reported that that the footfall counter at Dallas Dhu is performing well. He noted that between 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2015 and 21 <sup>st</sup> Apr 2015 there have been no fewer than 2596 walkers and 341 cyclists on that section of the DW.	
13	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:30 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2015 at The Hub.	

Meeting Closed: 21:15