

4.14	Ref 8.4.5:	Continuing requirement for all trustees holding mini work parties to keep PM informed; tasks carried out, volunteer names, hours worked, resources used, etc. Action closed.	
4.15	Ref 8.5.1:	PM reported that the Forres Gazette published a full page article regarding the fingerpost repairs in their 23 rd March 2016 edition. A very good article, publicising the generosity of both Royal Brackla Distillery and Rennie Fabrication. Action closed.	
4.16	Ref 8.6.1:	(see Item 8.4 below)	
4.17	Ref 8.6.2:	RR reported that there are no more non-slip strips available from the Moray Access Manager. PM stated that he will cut up the remaining non-slip strip that he has, then fit it to one side of the bridge deck at Dava on a subsequent work party. Action closed.	
4.18	Ref 9.1.1:	(see Item 9.1 below)	
4.19	Ref 10.2:	(see Item 10 below)	
4.20	Ref 11.1:	(see Item 11.1 below)	
4.21	Ref 11.3:	(see Item 11.3 below)	
4.22	Ref 12:	PM reported that he has contacted Mr Coutts. There have been no further reports of problems re inappropriate access to the DW by 4x4s. Action closed.	
4.23	Ref 14.3:	(see Item 12 below)	
4.24	Ref 15.2:	PM reported that the DW Dropbox permission settings are correct. PB stated that he is still experiencing problems uploading/updating Dropbox files. TT offered to assist PB.	TT
5	<u>Treasurer's Report</u>		
5.1	A balance of £4,305.34 is in the account.		
5.2	Significant Income: £40,000 from SUSTRANS; 1 st draw-down for Lynmore Bypass project. £120.00 from individual donation.		
5.3	Significant Expenditure: £40,000 to COAT; 1 st instalment for Lynmore Bypass project.		
5.4	Outstanding items: £40,000 to COAT; 2 nd instalment for Lynmore Bypass project. £15.87 to PM; tools for strimmer maintenance.		
6	<u>Correspondences</u>		
6.1	To the Secretary		
6.1.1	Email (05/04/16) – Dr Edgar Rose, Germany PM reported that he received an email from Dr Rose, thanking the DWA for its work and saying how much he and his son had enjoyed walking the DW. PM stated that he has asked David Binney to put Dr Rose's comments on the home page of the DW website.		
6.1.2	Email (05/04/16) – Logie Estate, Windfarm Update PM reported that he received an email from Logie Estate advising that a turbine delivery dry run would be taking place on the 6 th April 2016. Trustees reported sighting the test vehicle at various points on the route.		
6.1.3	Facebook Message (08/04/16) – Gavin Scott PM reported that he received a Facebook message from a Gavin Scott regarding the provision of a drinking water supply at the Breathing Space, for use by walkers and wild campers. After some discussion, PM proposed that it is not the responsibility of the DWA to supply drinking water to users of the DW. Agreed unanimously.		

<p>6.1.4</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.2.1</p> <p>6.2.2</p>	<p>PM added that the message has been forwarded to the secretary of the Edinkillie Public Hall (building adjacent to the Breathing Space) for discussion at their next meeting.</p> <p>Email (18/04/16) – Finnerne Community Council</p> <p>PM reported that he received an email from Brian Higgs of Finnerne Community Council inviting a representative of the DWA to join the council as an associate member. NS proposed that a DWA representative should only be nominated when the meeting agenda includes an item relating to the DW/DWA. Agreed unanimously. PM will inform Brian Higgs and request that a copy of the agenda is forwarded to him prior to council meetings.</p> <p>Other Correspondence</p> <p>Email – Forres Theme Day</p> <p>NT reported that he received a request from Jim Thomson of the Moray Way Association asking if the DWA would like to share a stall at the Forres Theme Day, scheduled for Sunday 1st May 2016. PM proposed that the DWA should accept as it would provide an opportunity to promote the DWA Moray Walking Festival events and the DW, and sell DW merchandise. Agreed unanimously.</p> <p>NT is to find out whether a tent will be provided or if our own needs to be erected prior to the event.</p> <p>PM will liaise with Jim Thomson and make the necessary arrangements.</p> <p>Email – SNH Long Distance Route Managers Forum</p> <p>NT reported that he has received an invitation to the SNH Long Distance Route Managers Forum to be held on Wednesday 27th April 2016. NT will attend the forum on behalf of the DWA.</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p>NT PM</p> <p>NT</p>						
<p>7</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p><u>Dava Way Merchandise</u></p> <p>Sales and Stock</p> <p>PM reported that 12 DW companions and 2 badges have been sold. Stock levels now:</p> <table data-bbox="236 1249 606 1411"> <tr> <td>Companions (PM)</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Companions (NT)</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Badges (PM)</td> <td>45</td> </tr> </table>	Companions (PM)	13	Companions (NT)	8	Badges (PM)	45	<p></p>
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<p>8</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.1.1</p> <p>8.1.2</p> <p>8.1.3</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.2.1</p> <p>8.2.2</p>	<p><u>Dava Way Improvements and Maintenance</u></p> <p>Lynmore Improvement Project</p> <p>In MC's absence, NS reported that the northern path section is almost complete. The bridges are in place on the southern section and the path laying is progressing well.</p> <p>PB reported that he has requested the 2nd instalment of £40,000 of funding from SUSTRANS.</p> <p>MC is to monitor project progress, draw-down additional funding from SUSTRANS as required and report back at the next DWA BoT meeting.</p> <p>Bantrach Improvement Project</p> <p>Action held over: PB is to add the requirement for route diversion signs to the Bill of Quantities.</p> <p>Action held over: PB is to obtain three contractor estimates for the work listed in the Bill of Quantities, for discussion by the committee prior to making an application for funding.</p>	<p></p> <p>MC</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p>						

8.3	<p>Planning Application Requirement PM reported that he and MC are still awaiting a response from the planning departments of the Cairngorm National Parks Authority and The Moray Council to the letters enquiring if a formal planning application would be required for improvements to bring a section of the DW up to Sustrans standard (see page 23 of the Sustrans Handbook for Cycle-friendly Design). MC is to report back at the next DWA BoT meeting.</p>	MC
8.4	<p>General Improvements and Maintenance</p>	
8.4.1	<p>PM, PB and TT reported the following progress with improvement and maintenance tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progressed rut filling and top dusting on the Dava Moor. • Carried out drainage just south of the Dava South gate. • Carried out tree husbandry at Dunphail; to prevent windblown storm damage. • Carried out undergrowth clearance from Peathillock to Dunphail. • Progressed drainage works at Peathillock. • Completed drainage works at Longley. • Removed 6 tonnes of ditching spoil from Longley. 	
8.4.2	<p>Action held over: PB has submitted an expression of interest to Paths for All for funding to replace the drainage pipes at Peathillock; decision for first stage of the grant application process to be announced in June 2016.</p>	PB
8.4.3	<p>PB reported that a drainage rod set costs £30 for 10 metres. Sludge pumps cost £250 upwards, though PB did find one on offer at £130. PB estimated spending around £200, including pump hoses. Agreed unanimously, PB to go ahead with the purchases up to £250 total spend.</p>	PB
8.4.4	<p>Action held over: PM will arrange collection and storage of the plastic drainage pipes removed during works at Longley.</p>	PM
8.5	<p>Finger Post Repairs</p>	
8.5.1	<p>PM reported that Ian Douglas phoned to say that the fingers of the finger post at the Rafford Bridge were about to fall out. PM investigated and had to remove the fingers; the portion inserted into the vertical mortice in the post had rotted. PM will look for a repair solution.</p>	PM
8.5.2	<p>PM reported that the ink is fading on some information boards. NS will investigate and look into a solution.</p>	NS
8.6	<p>Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties</p>	
8.6.1	<p>PM proposed that the next work party, scheduled for Saturday 14th May 2016, should focus on the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recover aggregate drainage spoil from Longley. • Infill and top dress muddy puddles at Cairn Eney. • Recover ballast, infill and top dress muddy puddles north of Dava. • Additional tasks to be selected from maintenance/improvement lists. <p>Agreed unanimously. PM is to make the necessary arrangements.</p>	PM
8.6.2	<p>PB proposed that the first mini work party for vegetation cutback should be held Wednesday 11th May 2016; location Rafford Bank. Agreed unanimously. PB to circulate request for volunteers.</p>	PB
8.6.3	<p>RR reported that the 1st Forres Scout Group will be carrying out litter picking and vegetation cutback at Dallas Dhu on Friday 22nd April 2016. RR requested that PM confirm what work the 1st Grantown-On-Spey Scout Group is planning to carry out.</p>	PM

8.7	Annual DW Cycle Survey PM proposed Thursday 12 th May 2016 for the annual DW cycle survey; date suggested by the Moray Access Manager (Ian Douglas). PM was asked to circulate alternative dates as the proposed date was deemed unsuitable.	PM
9	<u>Health and Safety</u>	
9.1	Review of DWA Health and Safety Management System	
9.1.1	Action held over: TT is to complete task-based risk assessments, with input from the other trustees as required.	TT
9.1.2	First Aid Kits The three DW first aid kits are held by PB, PM and TT. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed.	
9.2	Injury Reports and Incidents Those present confirmed that there have been no injuries or incidents since the previous meeting.	
10	<u>Footfall Counter Readings</u>	
10.1	PM and RR reported the following readings: Lochenoun – 13 th November 2015 to 9 th April 2016. 331 users (245 – 66) Dunphail – (no data – counter unserviceable) Dallas Dhu – 15 th March 2015 to 17 th April 2016. 25,417 walkers 2,855 cyclists	
10.2	PM reported that Sustrans have suggested that the DWA source a suitable footfall counter for installation at Lynmore and add the cost to the grant claim. PM has obtained details of a suitable counter from the Moray Access Manager and will find out how much it costs.	PM
11	<u>Dava Way Publicity</u>	
11.1	Local, Regional and National Publications	
11.1.1	Action held over: MC to identify local, regional and national publications through which to promote the DW via targeted articles.	MC
11.1.2	Action held over: Copy any existing articles into the DWA Dropbox.	All
11.1.3	PM reported that the work of the DWA has recently featured in two articles; MC article on the DW in the Forres Focus magazine and PM article on finger posts in the Forres Gazette.	
11.2	DW Facebook Group PM reported that since the Facebook group for the DWA has been made public its membership has risen to 75. Only those persons with a connection to the DW are admitted.	
11.3	DW Website	
11.3.1	PM reported that David Binney has completed a check of all the links on the DW website.	
11.3.2	Action held over: PM will contact David Binney about NT's observations.	PM
12	<u>Moray Walking and Outdoor Festival 16th-26th June 2016</u>	
12.1	PM reported that the online bookings website is still not available. PM will contact the Moray Way Association and raise his concern.	PM
12.2	Action held over: PM will consider the best option re bus/minibus transportation for participants in festival events organised by the DWA and decide what is best.	PM

13	<u>Sale of Lady Catherine's Halt</u> PM reported that Lady Catherine's Halt has been sold. PM proposed that we, the DWA, should introduce ourselves. Agreed unanimously.	PM
14 14.1	<u>AOCB</u> RR reported that the motorcycle may be back in the old quarry area. NS will put up new posters reminding motorcyclists that it is an offence to ride their motorcycles on the DW; a Core Path.	NS
15	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:30 10 th May 2016 at The Hub.	

Meeting Closed: 21:45



Neil Sinclair
Chairman
Dava Way Association