## THE DAVA WAY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2016

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:	Doug Hartley, Malcolm Campbell, Neil Sinclair, Norman Thomson, Paul Barron, Pete Mitchell.	
	Apologies:	Robbie Roberts, Trevor Thornley.	
3	Minutes of t	he last meeting: Read and accepted.	
	Proposed:	PB Seconded: PM	
4	Matters Aris	ing	
4.1	Ref 4.2:	MC will resubmit an amended rewrite of the Active Outdoors article to the Forres Gazette, including some suitable photographs; scenic views and action shots of path users and DWA volunteers when the Lynmore bypass project has been completed.	MC
4.2	Ref 4.3:	NS will monitor progress of DW APP fix.	NS
4.3	Ref 4.4:	Action held over: MC will circulate his notes from the tsiMORAY networking conference, Join The Dots, at Elgin Town Hall on 23rd March 2016 to the DWA Trustees.	MC
4.4	Ref 4.4:	Action held over: TT to make publications on path maintenance from SNH and other organisations available to the trustees via a links file in the DW Dropbox.	TT
4.5	Ref 4.7:	The new owner of Lady Catherine's Halt will be contacted on an opportunity basis by any board member who happens to be in the area and notices that the property is occupied.	All
4.6	Ref 6.1:	PM has not yet replied to Andy Mallon at the Dava School House regarding an invitation to have a DWA meeting at Dava School House. PM is to contact Andy Mallon regarding the possibility of arranging an informal Autumn gathering to meet the Dava locals and get their feedback and suggestions for the DW.	PM
4.7	Ref 8.1.3:	Murray Swapp will notify the CNPA	Action Closed
4.8 4.9	Ref 8.1.4: Ref 8.1.5:	SUSTRANS Signage in hand, see Item 9.1 Lynmore official opening in hand, see Item 9.1 below	Action Closed Action Closed
4.10	Ref 8.1.6:	Lynmore project monitoring on going, see Item 9.1 below	Action Closed
4.11	Ref 8.2.1:	Bantrach project held over, see Item 9.2 below	Action Closed
4.12	Ref 8.2.2:	Bantrach project held over, see Item 9.2 below	Action Closed
4.13	Ref 8.3:	Decided that we would not chase up a response from TMC and CNPA regarding planning requirements.	Action Closed
4.14	Ref 8.4.5:	No response from 'Paths For All'	Action Closed

4.15	Ref 8.6.1:	PB has contacted HRS, who have said there was no special summit sign on the Dava Moor. The style of sign that we should make was discussed and it was agreed that a summit sign style should be similar to the restored Dava Station sign. It was agreed that the new summit sign should be installed at the true summit of the path rather than its original location, if this differs. DH to look into the manufacture of a new sign based on Dava Station sign. PM to pass on Greg's contact details for advice.  PM established priorities for 13/08/16 work party	DH PM Action Closed
4.17	Ref 8.6.2:	PB arranged MWP for 22/06/16 as promised	Action Closed
4.18	Ref 9.1:	H&S review held over (see Item 10.1.1 below)	
4.19	Ref 10.2:	MC said that COAT would purchase Lynmore FFC From AP Chambers & DWA would install. Action transferred to	Action Closed
4.20 4.21 4.22 4.23	Ref 10.3: Ref 11.1.1: Ref 11.3: Ref 13.1:	item 9.1.1 below Neil has fixed the Dunphail FFC and will reinstall Publicity on-going No Action taken, website update held over PM said that since purchasing his EV, the Land Rover is now almost exclusively used for Dava Way Work Parties. PM will look at the annual running costs of this and evaluate whether the DWA travel expenses are sufficient to continue this arrangement. PM will also look at car share options with others to see if this would offset some of the running cost and keep it available for Dava Way maintenance work. NT suggested that there may be a pro-rata expenses solution. NT will raise this the SNH managers at their next meeting	Action Closed Action Closed PM
5	Treasurer's I	Penort .	
5.1	Treasurer's Report  A balance of £10423.73 is in the account, of which £5781.36 is restricted to the Lynmore project.		
5.2	Significant Income: £45,000 from SUSTRANS; 3nd instalment for Lynmore Bypass project.		
5.3	£416 from the MWA for the Walking Festival bookings £320.78 from NWG LDWA to reconcile MW 5 Day event accounts Significant Expenditure: £30,744.52 to COAT (Contracting); 3rd instalment for Lynmore project. £8,484.12 to COAT (Trading); for Lynmore project. £445.68 for MW 5 Day event minibus hire.		
5.4	Outstanding Lynmore foo		
6 6.1	Correspondences To the Secretary Email (16/08/16) – Alistair Lawson Volunteer Field Officer, Scotways. PM reported that he received an email from Scotways asking whether the Dava Way would object to the signing of a short section of an Old Millitary Road running parallel to the Dava Way from the A939 to A940. This was discussed and there were no objections to this, but there were concerns that there was no parking at either end and that there were better routes in the area that could be signed instead. PM and NT would communicate with Scotways regarding this.		PM & NT

			1
6.2	Other Correspondence There was a postcard in horse riding trip on the D		
7 7.1 7.1.1 7.1.2 7.1.2	Dunphail: Footfall counte	ation, walkers 35029, Cyclists 4274 (19/08/16) er removed for repair by NS nstallation (Nov 2015) is 1735 (16/08/16)	
7.2 7.2.1	From Others  DH reported by email that Viaduct to prevent vehicle contacted the Dunphail Edone. The reply was that using the viaduct to accept the heavy vehicles may alternative routes that the access, this can be given		
7.2.2	access, this can be given on request to Eion Hastie at the Estate.  NT reported that he had gleaned interesting information from the visitor book entries at the Half Way Hut. He broke this information down to where visitors had come from year by year. This showed an increase in walker numbers with nearly 90% of these being local or from Scotland.		
7.2.3	DH reported a collapsed info board. DH to investig	DH	
7.2.4	section of the path. DH to	culvert was starting to collapse at the Cowgreens o investigate and take a photo.	DH
7.2.5	_	e back of the old Braemoray Hotel was raised by n it was agreed that PM would contact the Logie	PM
7.2.6	Vandalism to the Dragod Morag Forsyth on 17/08/ been sawn off and remo- Facebook and as a cons Strathspey Herald had b	on sculpture was reported to PM by email from 716. Morag reported that the timber musket had ved. PM said that he had published this on sequence articles in the Forres Gazette and the een written. A letter to the vandal has been a sculpture. Police Scotland are to be notified	NS/PM
8 8.1	Dava Way Merchandise Sales and Stock NT reported that 24 com Stock levels now:	panions have been sold since the last meeting.	
	Companions (PM)	3 (-7) NT to restock PM with qty 10	NT
	Companions (NT)	84 (-2)	
_	Badges (PM)	39 (-6)	
9 9.1 9.1.1	29 <sup>th</sup> July. The outstandin 1. Installation of sign 2. Official opening (L	Project completed a walk through with Murray Swapp on g work for project completion is: age and logos by DWA	MC MC MC

9.2 9.2.1	Bantrach Improvement Project Action held over: PB is to add the requirement for route diversion signs to the Bill of Quantities.	PB
9.2.2	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.	PB
9.3 9.3.1	Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting PM reported the removal of windblown trees at Dunphail between Sluggan and Poldow Burns. One had uplifted and damaged the concrete channel on the Belnain Wood side of the path. PM to contact Logie Estate	
9.3.2	regarding the removal of trees adjacent to the concrete channel PM reported that following reports of flooding at the northern end of the Aucheorn cutting, the relief drain behind the old Braemoray Hotel was rodded to improve the flow. The flooding subsequently drained down within 24 hours, but still does not fully drain the ditch due to poor drainage levels and gradients. (See action at 7.2.5)	PM
9.4 9.4.1	Planned Work Since Last Meeting PB reported that he had organised several mini work parties since the last meeting. He had focused on the sections between Altyre and Longley.	
9.4.2	PM reported that the following work was carried out at the full work party on 13 <sup>th</sup> August 2016:  • Removed the landslip in the Aucheorn cutting at Dunphail, which was blocking the drainage ditch.  • Cut back undergrowth in the southern section of the Aucheorn cutting.  • Removed vegetation and landslip arisings from the Aucheorn cutting.	
9.5 9.5.1	Signage PM reported that the repaired Dava North fingerpost was ready to be reinstalled and that he had made up a new low level fingerpost to replace the short waymarker at the Newtyle forestry track junction (NGR NJ046539). PM to arrange the installation of these on an opportunity basis.	PM
9.6 9.6.1	Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties  PM proposed that:  1. The concrete channel at Dunphail should be cleared of vegetation.  2. Time permitting the concrete channel should be repaired.  3. The minor land slips south of Bantrach should be removed from blocking the drainage ditches.	
9.6.2	PM is to make the necessary arrangements. PB reported that the last evening mini work party for vegetation cutback would be held Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2016. PB is to finalise arrangements	РМ
10 10.1 10.1.1	Health and Safety Review of DWA Health and Safety Management System Action held over: TT is to complete task-based risk assessments, with input from the other trustees as required.	тт
10.1.2	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. Injury Reports and Incidents	

	Those present confirmed that there have been no injuries or incidents since the previous meeting.	
11 11.1	Dava Way Publicity Local, Regional and National Publications	
11 1.1	Articles have been published in the Strathy and FG relating to the Dragoon vandalisation.	
11.2	<b>DW Facebook Group</b> PM reported that membership of the Facebook group Friends of the Dava Way is now 118, up 41 since the last meeting.	
11.3 11.3.1	<b>DW Website</b> Action held over from May: PM is to see if David Binney would be willing	
11.3.2	to hand over his long- standing role as webmaster of the DW website and, if so, arrange a meeting between David Binney, Scott Boyle and himself to discuss the way forward.  Action held over from May: PM is to add an item to the agenda for the	РМ
11.3.3	next meeting; the trustees are to discuss what they actually want from the DW website and come up with a written specification.	РМ
	DW website to the DW webmaster.	PM
12 12.1	Moray Walking and Outdoor Festival 16 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> June 2016  Moray Way 5 Day Challenge  PM reported on the success of the MW 5 Day event and it's account balance, which was in the black this year. The dates for next year's event	
12.2	will be 19 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2017. The next action is for PM to publicise this event in the LDWA December issue of Strider magazine (Deadline 28/09/16) <b>Ghost Train Walk Preparation</b>	РМ
12.2	MC said that he would check to see when the first actions for the Ghost Train Walk need to take place. PM is to publicise this event in the LDWA December issue of Strider magazine (Deadline 28/09/16)	MC PM
12.3	Navigation in the Cromdales, Walk Report Held over, RR to report back on the 2016 event at the next meeting.	RR
12.4	Three Rivers Walk PB reported that they had 5 participants on a very wet 17th June and 5 on the drier 19 <sup>th</sup> .	
13 13.1	Funding opportunities NT reported that there might be an opportunity for funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) 2014-2020 programme, to deliver low carbon travel and transport. Due to the 17 <sup>th</sup> August deadline, NT has submitted an application for Pre-Application Support Funding. If successful, the £10,000 funding could go towards the £18,000 costs of producing a COAT technical document regarding upgrading the path to SUSTRANS standard along its entire length. NT will report back to	NIT
14	the DWA Board regarding this application.	NT
14.1	AOCB PM said that Donald MacDonald, who had taken part in the MW 5 Day event, had donated £50 to the DWA in recognition of the additional support given to him on the Dava Way section of the challenge. PM is to thank him for his kind donation.	PM
15	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:30 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 at The Hub.	

Meeting Closed: 21:30

Neil Sinclair Chairman

Dava Way Association