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|      |             | <p>outlining OATS achievements in 2016-17 and their aims and objectives for 2017-18. Attendees were then invited to spend time in dedicated areas to hear first-hand about OATS work; path building, volunteering and training. The meeting concluded with an award ceremony, celebrating the work of OATS dedicated volunteers. Action closed.</p>   |    |
| 4.7  | Ref 6.2.2:  | <p>NT reported that he has contacted Mrs Masson to ask for further details of her family history relating to the Highland Railway and will be following up with a visit. Action closed.</p>   |    |
| 4.8  | Ref 6.2.4:  | <p>RR reported that he has spoken with the Staff Sergeant who is responsible for organising training, such as the 'yomp' along the DW, for Army personnel at Kinloss Barracks. He explained that the Army follow strict regulations when organising such exercises; landowners are contacted, but there is no requirement for them to contact anyone else. Action closed.</p> <p>MC will write to the residents concerned and pass on this information, adding that they should contact the Army directly if they have any concerns/grievances.</p> | MC |
| 4.9  | Ref 9.1:    | (see Item 11.1.1 below)   |    |
| 4.10 | Ref 9.2.3:  | (see Item 11.2.1 below)   |    |
| 4.11 | Ref 9.3.1:  | (see Item 11.3.2 below)   |    |
| 4.12 | Ref 9.3.2:  | (see Item 11.3.1 below)   |    |
| 4.13 | Ref 9.4:    | (see Item 11.4 below)   |    |
| 4.14 | Ref 9.7.1:  | (see Item 11.7.1 below)   |    |
| 4.15 | Ref 9.7.2:  | (see Item 11.7.2 below)   |    |
| 4.16 | Ref 9.8.1:  | (see Item 11.8.1 below)   |    |
| 4.17 | Ref 9.8.2:  | (see Item 11.8.3 below)   |    |
| 4.18 | Ref 9.8.3:  | (see Item 11.8.4 below)   |    |
| 4.19 | Ref 9.8.4:  | (see Item 11.8.5 below)   |    |
| 4.20 | Ref 9.9.1:  | (see Item 11.6.2 below)   |    |
| 4.21 | Ref 10.1.2: | (see Item 12.1.1 below)   |    |
| 4.22 | Ref 10.1.3: | (see Item 12.1.2 below)   |    |
| 4.23 | Ref 10.2.2: | (see Item 12.2.2 below)   |    |
| 4.24 | Ref 10.4.1: | (see Item 12.4.1 below)   |    |
| 4.25 | Ref 11.1.1: | (see Item 13.1.1 below)   |    |
| 4.26 | Ref 11.3.1: | (see Item 13.3.1 below)   |    |
| 4.27 | Ref 11.3.2: | (see Item 13.3.2 below)   |    |
| 4.28 | Ref 11.3.3: | (see Item 13.3.3 below)   |    |
| 4.29 | Ref 13.2:   | (see Item 15.2 below)   |    |
| 4.30 | Ref 13.5:   | (see Item 15.3 below)   |    |
| 4.31 | Ref 14.5:   | (see Item 16.1 below)   |    |
| 4.32 | Ref 14.6:   | (see Item 16.2 below)   |    |
| 4.33 | Ref 15.1:   | (see Item 11.8.6 below)   |    |
| 4.34 | Ref 15.2:   | <p>NS reported that he contact the Mosset Inn. Action closed.</p> <p>Most weekends in January are currently available for functions, with accommodation for up to 22 people possible in the restaurant or larger parties in the function hall. NS proposed that the DWA annual dinner be held on 20/01/18. Agreed unanimously. NS will make the booking.</p>  | NS |



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| 10     | <u>Dava Way Merchandise</u>  |                     |
| 10.1   | <b>Sales and Stock</b>   |                     |
|        | Companions (PM) 94   | Companions (NT) 466 |
|        | Companions (NS) 95   |                     |
|        | Badges (PM) 33   |                     |
| 11     | <u>Dava Way Path Works</u>   |                     |
| 11.1   | <b>Muir of Logie Fencing Project</b>   |                     |
| 11.1.1 | Ref 9.1: MC reported that he, PM and RR cleared a sample section of fence line on the afternoon of 12/10/17 in order to estimate the time/manpower required to complete the task. Action closed. MC added that a number of subsequent work parties were then arranged and the fence line was completely cleared by 04/11/17.   |                     |
| 11.1.2 | MC reported that, following removal of the old railway fencing and clearance of gorse/broom from the fence line by the DWA, Mike from M & J Fencing (MJF) had informed him that there had been further cost increases for materials and equipment hire of approximately £1,000. It was decided that the DWA could not absorb this increase and that an alternative solution should be sought. MC has spoken to Alec Laing of Logie Estates and suggested that the DWA provide £6,000 of funding, inclusive of VAT, for the estate fencing contractor to complete the required works. MC is awaiting Alec Laing's response. | MC                  |
| 11.2   | <b>Landslip Removal and Ditching Works Projects</b>  |                     |
| 11.2.1 | Ref 9.2.3: MC reported that contractor Grant Nicolson (GN) has completed the following work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landslips <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cleared landslip in cutting south of Longley Crossing.</li> <li>○ Cleared landslip in cutting south of Peathillock Bridge.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Heatherbells <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cleared major ditch running parallel to track bed, along with a section across the Dava Moor towards Allt na Ceàrdaich burn.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Action closed.</p>   | MC                  |
| 11.2.3 | MC reported that the following work still needs to be completed, as far as is possible with the funds remaining: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heatherbells <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Complete clearance of major ditch running across the Dava Moor towards Allt na Ceàrdaich burn.</li> <li>○ Clear wood lined ditches each side of track bed; south from where currently cleared.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bantrach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clear ditches on both sides of track bed at south end.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>MC will monitor progress.</p>                     | MC                  |
| 11.3   | <b>Squirrel Neuk Ramp Project</b>  |                     |
| 11.3.1 | Ref 9.3.2: MC reported that he sent an Invitation To Tender (ITT) to each contractor. The tenders were evaluated and the contract was awarded to McDonald Contracting. Action closed.  |                     |
| 11.3.2 | Ref 9.3.1: MC reported that he received a reply from Ed Dunbar of Altyre Estates stating that the estate owner has now decided to retain the mature trees at the site. In addition, there are to be no works during the pheasant shooting season (to February 2018). Action closed.  |                     |

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| 11.3.3 | MC has informed the contractor, Scott McDonald, and Fiona Cuninghame at Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) about this development. Scott McDonald has confirmed that he can postpone the project start date. Fiona has confirmed that the project completion date in the Memorandum of Agreement may be amended and has also suggested that there may be some scope to increase project funding if required.  |    |
| 11.3.4 | MC has held an on-site meeting with Ed Dunbar to discuss possible options, such as changing the ramp design or rerouting the DW through the cutting north of the bridge. A workable change to the ramp design was identified, though it would be more complex to implement and would require a significant increase in fill material. Ed Dunbar has suggested that this material could be taken from an estate borrow pit nearby. Ed Dunbar has also stated that he did not envisage any opposition from the Estate to routing the DW through the cutting.   |    |
| 11.3.5 | MC added that he, DH and PB have walked the cutting and concluded that, though the project is feasible, it would require six-figure funding to complete properly.  |    |
| 11.3.6 | MC proposed that the ramp project should be progressed using the new design identified, with the project to reroute the DW left until sufficient funding is available to do the job properly. Agreed unanimously. MC will confirm arrangements with Ed Dunbar and pass on the details to Fiona Cuninghame and Scott McDonald.  | MC |
| 11.4   | <b>Lynmore Diversion Water Pooling</b><br>Ref 9.4: Action held over. Murray Swapp will contact the contractor to arrange for them to resolve the problem. MC will monitor progress.  | MC |
| 11.5   | <b>Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting</b><br>(Nothing to report)  |    |
| 11.6   | <b>Planned Work Since Last Meeting</b>   |    |
| 11.6.1 | Ref 9.9.1: PM reported that the fence line at Muir Of Logie was cleared during the following work parties and mini work parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWP 12/10/17 – Cut back undergrowth and dismantle fence.</li> <li>• WP 14/10/17 – Cut back undergrowth and dismantle fence.<br/>Ref 4.3: Filled hole in path surface south of Drumine Crossing. Action closed.</li> <li>• WP 18/10/17 – Dismantle fence.</li> <li>• WP 28/10/17 – Dismantle fence.</li> <li>• MWP 30/10/17 – Remove fence wire from site and recycle.</li> <li>• MWP 02/11/17 – Remove fence posts from site for reuse/recycling.</li> <li>• MWP 04/11/17 – Remove fence posts from site for disposal.</li> </ul> Action closed.   |    |
| 11.6.2 | PM reported that the following tasks were carried out during the work party held 11/11/17: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ref 4.4: Lubricated latches and hinges on gates north of Dunphail. Action closed.</li> <li>• Tidied ditches and scraped mud off path where landslip removed south of Longley Crossing.</li> <li>• Laid and compacted quarry dust to improve path surface from Longley Crossing to the landslip and beyond.</li> <li>• Inspected railway interceptor ditches along top cutting bank to see if these could be reinstated to prevent further landslips.</li> <li>• Ref 9.9.1: Removed the debris partially blocking flow through the culvert adjacent to Jane’s Hillock. Action closed.</li> <li>• Cleared interceptor ditches and culverts along Dunphail Bypass.</li> </ul> |    |



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|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laid and compacted quarry dust where path surface eroded along Dunphail Bypass.</li> <li>Raked leaves out of concrete channel between Dunphail and Auchearn (Braemoray).</li> <li>Tidied ditches cleared by digger in Bantrach Cutting.</li> </ul>   |    |
| 11.7   | <b>Signage</b>  |    |
| 11.7.1 | Ref 9.7.1: Action held over. NS will contact Dave Brown to retrieve the finger, from the post at Dallas Dhu, which he removed for safe keeping.   | NS |
| 11.7.2 | Ref 9.7.2: PM reported that Greg McAulay has been in touch with Malcolm Moore, who has some wood suitable for manufacturing a replacement post and fingers. PM will monitor progress.   | PM |
| 11.7.3 | RR reported that a number of the DWA information boards have become faded and difficult to read. He suggested that any replacements should be similar to those recently installed in woodland managed by the <a href="#">Forres Community Woodlands Trust</a> (FCWT). A number of options for funding the replacement information boards were discussed. NS will contact Wilson Metcalfe at the FCWT to ask where their information boards were manufactured and consider which of the funding options available is the most appropriate. | NS |
| 11.8   | <b>Tooling and Equipment</b>  |    |
| 11.8.1 | Ref 9.8.1: NS reported that the bid to the <a href="#">Berry Burn Community Fund</a> for £3,420 to purchase a Timberwolf <a href="#">TW 13/75G</a> chipper was not successful this time. Action closed.<br>NS proposed that he resubmit the bid; next deadline 22/01/2018. Agreed unanimously. NS will resubmit the bid by 22/01/2018.  | NS |
| 11.8.2 | MC proposed that the DWA hire a chipper for the next work party to fully assess the capabilities of such a machine. PM cautioned that it would probably not be possible to hire such plant without a certificate of training, but he would ask Jim Mailer at <a href="#">Treeworks Moray</a> to see if he would be willing to bring one of his to the next work party.  | PM |
| 11.8.3 | Ref 9.8.2: PB reported that the Billy Goat rough cutter maintenance has been completed and he has collected the machine from MacGregor Forest and Groundcare. Action closed.  |    |
| 11.8.4 | Ref 9.8.3: DH reported that the hi-vis vests have been delivered. Action closed. NS will write a thank you letter to the donor.   | NS |
| 11.8.5 | Ref 9.8.4: DH reported that the prospective donor has suggested sets of industrial drain rods of 25mm diameter in 2m lengths. The total length of each set is 20m. Action closed.<br>PB suggested that three sets be purchased. DH will take this request to the prospective donor.   | DH |
| 11.8.6 | Ref 15.1: RR reported that his good wife has kindly donated a suitable trowel to the DWA toolset. Action closed.  |    |
| 11.8.7 | RR reported that he has a prospective donor offering between £350 and £500 for the purchase of DWA tools and equipment. RR asked those present to suggest a number of items, the total cost of which would fall within the amounts offered. A list of suitable items was drawn up in order of priority. RR will submit the list to the prospective donor for their consideration.   | RR |
| 11.9   | <b>Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties</b>   |    |
| 11.9.1 | PM proposed the following options for the work party scheduled for Saturday 09/12/17: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tidy ditches cleared by digger in the Bantrach Cutting.</li> <li>Strim and clear ditches in the cutting between Auchearn</li> </ul>  |    |

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|        | <p>(Braemoray) and the north side of the Divie Viaduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear ditches south of Scurrypool Bridge and rod drainage pipe over the Squirrel Neuk Bridge.</li> </ul> <p>Agreed unanimously. PM will decide on priorities nearer the date, dependent on contractor Grant Nicolson clearing the ditches in the Bantrach Cutting.</p>   | PM      |
| 12     | <b>Health and Safety</b>  |         |
| 12.1   | <b>Review of DWA Health and Safety Management System</b>  |         |
| 12.1.1 | Ref 10.1.2: Action held over. DH will liaise with TT, then progress the review of the DWA H&S Management System.  | DH & TT |
| 12.1.2 | Ref 10.1.3: TT reported that he has informed the H&S consultants that the DWA will not require their services. Action closed.   |         |
| 12.2   | <b>First Aid Kits</b>   |         |
| 12.2.1 | The DWA first aid kits are held by PB, PM and TT. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed.  |         |
| 12.2.2 | Ref 10.2.2: MC reported that he has inspected one of the kits and identified a small number of items that will shortly reach their expiry date. As all the kits are identical he proposed purchasing the items required and swapping out those that have expired. Agreed unanimously. PM proposed that a small amount of Aspirin be added to each kit for first aid treatment of heart attack. Agreed unanimously. MC will make the appropriate purchases and replenish the first aid kits. | MC      |
| 12.2.3 | PM circulated a sample set of DWA emergency maps. Each map displays information appropriate to managing emergency situations along the DW, with a list of pertinent contact numbers printed on the reverse. PM proposed that a set of maps be inserted into each DWA first aid kit. Agreed unanimously. PM will print off, laminate and insert a set of maps into each DWA first aid kit.   | PM      |
| 12.3   | <b>Injury Reports and Incidents</b><br>Those present confirmed that there have been no injuries or incidents since the previous meeting.  |         |
| 12.4   | <b>PPE for Scouts and Boys Brigade</b>  |         |
| 12.4.1 | Ref 10.4.1: Action transferred. PM stated that he has tried contacting the the Grantown-On-Spey Scout Group and has not received a response. PM will provide NS with the contact details for the Grantown-On-Spey Scout Group. NS will ascertain if the Grantown-On-Spey Scout Group is still willing to carry out litter picking and minor undergrowth cutback at the south end of the DW and, if so, arrange to distribute the gloves and pickers to them.                                | NS      |
| 13     | <b>Dava Way Publicity</b>   |         |
| 13.1   | <b>Local, Regional and National Publications</b>  |         |
| 13.1.1 | Ref 11.1.1: Action held over. MC will submit an article for the next edition of the Forres Focus.   | MC      |
| 13.2   | <b>DW Facebook Group</b><br>PM reported that membership of the Facebook group <a href="#">Friends of the Dava Way</a> has increased to 170.   |         |
| 13.3   | <b>DW Website</b>   |         |
| 13.3.1 | Ref 11.3.1: Action held over. TT reported that he has received the appropriate text and images from NT and development of the DWA Story Map is in progress. A sample application was demonstrated at the recent DWA AMM and received favourable comments. TT will continue development of the DWA Story Map application.  | TT      |

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| 13.3.2 | Ref 11.3.2: Action held over. PM will ask David Binney to add an appropriate link from the DWA website to The Bike Bothy bike hire page.   | PM          |
| 13.3.3 | Ref 11.3.3: Action held over. DH will liaise with MC to author the 2017 Ghost Train Walk report text and forward this to PM. PM will pass the text and suitable images to David Binney for upload to the DW website.   | DH, MC & PM |
| 14     | <u>DW Events - Moray Walking and Outdoor Festival 2018</u>   |             |
| 14.1   | RR reported that, due to other engagements, he will not be able to offer his navigation course in the Cromdale Hills in 2018.  |             |
| 14.2   | PM reported that he will be running the Moray Way 5-Day Challenge and has received applications for bookings already.  |             |
| 14.3   | PB reported that he will be offering to do the 3-Rivers Walk, though the dates are yet to be decided. He added that the route may need to be revised as the bridge handrail is broken and there are worn steps on one section of path.   |             |
| 14.4   | NT reported that the Moray Walking Festival organisers are planning a mini festival for the end of November 2017. One of the events on offer will be a guided walk over three days covering the three sections of the DW.  |             |
| 15     | <u>Funding Opportunities</u>   |             |
| 15.1   | NS reported that the <a href="#">Co-op Local Community Fund</a> scheme is closed to new entries until January 2018.  | NS          |
| 15.2   | Ref 13.2: Action held over. NS will identify a suitable project for the <a href="#">Tesco Bags Of Help</a> scheme, cost around £4,000, and submit a funding bid.   |             |
| 15.3   | Ref 13.5: NT reported that he has submitted the bid for £4,000 to provide a section of dry path surface towards the Forres end of the DW. Action closed.<br>NT added that the next <a href="#">Money for Moray</a> event is at Lhanbryde on 03/12/17. Each organisation is asked to make a two minute presentation. NT read out the presentation he proposes giving at the event. Minor changes were suggested. NT will present the DWA bid at the Money for Moray event 03/12/17. | NT          |
| 16     | <u>DWA Annual Members Meeting</u>  |             |
| 16.1   | Ref 14.5: NS reported that he completed the chair's report and presented it at the AMM. Action closed.   |             |
| 16.2   | Ref 14.6: MC reported that he purchased the food and drink for the event. Action closed.   |             |
| 16.3   | PB reported that he has booked the Forres Tennis Club venue for the next AMM, scheduled for 06/11/18.  |             |
| 17     | <u>Applications for DWA Membership</u>   |             |
| 17.1   | PM submitted the following applications for membership of the DWA:<br>Angie Vaughan – approved unanimously.<br>Michael J Sutherland – approved unanimously.<br>MC will notify each applicant promptly (in writing or by e-mail) to inform them of the decision above; in accordance with clause 15 of the DWA Constitution.  | MC          |
| 18     | <u>AOCB</u>  |             |
| 18.1   | <b>Land Rover Unavailability</b><br>PM reported that the transfer box on his Land Rover needs replacing. His Land Rover will not be available for the next DWA work party.   |             |
| 19     | Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 12/12/2017 at The Hub.   |             |



Meeting Closed: 21:25

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Sinclair', written in a cursive style.

Neil Sinclair  
Chairman  
Dava Way Association