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| 4.17 | Ref 13.2: (see Item 13.2 below) | |
| 5 | <u>Treasurer's Report</u> | |
| 5.1 | PB reported that a balance of £9,171.11 is in the DWA account. | |
| 5.2 | Significant Income: £ Nil | |
| 5.3 | Significant Expenditure: £ 1,024.92 to D R Alexander; tipping trailer inspection and repairs. | |
| 5.4 | Anticipated Expenditure (from DWA funds): £ 366.71 to Zurich Insurance; insurance cover renewal. | |
| 5.5 | Anticipated Expenditure (covered by external funding): £ Nil | |
| 5.6 | Ref 5.4 above, PB reported that he has received the annual renewal advice for the DWA insurance and, as the premium has only risen slightly, proposed that the DWA renew the Zurich policy. Agreed unanimously. PB will renew the Zurich policy at a cost of £366.71. | PB |
| 6 | <u>Correspondences</u> | |
| 6.1 | To the Secretary (nothing to report) | |
| 6.2 | Other Correspondence (nothing to report) | |
| 7 | <u>Feedback</u> | |
| 7.1 | Footfall Counters PM reported the following readings: Dunphail (not read) Lochenoun (not read) Lynmore (not read) RR reported the following readings: Dallas Dhu – 15/03/15 to 18/03/19 91,297 walkers 11,589 cyclists – March 2018 to March 2019 24,300 walkers 3,200 cyclists | |
| 7.2 | Other ; email, Facebook, etc. (nothing to report) | |
| 8 | <u>Dava Way Merchandise</u> | |
| 8.1 | Sales and Stock Companions (NT) 526 Badges (MC) 31 Companions (NS) 93 | |
| 9 | <u>Dava Way Path Works</u> | |
| 9.1 | Information Board Refurbishment Project (Budge Foundation) | |
| 9.1.1 | Ref 9.1.6: NS reported that he has provided the Budge Foundation with details of what the DWA would like to achieve and has enquired if they would be willing to contribute towards the estimated £10,000 cost of the project. NS awaits their response. | NS |

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| 9.1.2 | Ref 9.1.6: Reading from NT's notes, TT reported that NT has visited Howard Anstruther at Big Sky Print and he has been assured that the text in the information board electronic files is fully editable. The revised maps, a draft copy of which NT has already received from Helen Stirling, can also be incorporated. Action closed. | NT |
| 9.1.3 | Ref 9.1.6: NS reported that Howard Anstruther has provided NT with an A3 printed copy of each information board. Action closed. NT will review the content of each information board and present details of any proposed changes to the Trustees for comment at the next meeting. | |
| 9.1.4 | NS reported that he received a further quote from Lofthus Signs, stating that they could supply the 10 printed information boards, mounted to galvanised steel posts, for a total of £4,319. Concern was again expressed about the process used to produce the boards; printing onto thin clear plastic sheeting that is then stuck to an aluminium backing. The consensus was that the film would quickly become detached from the backing material when exposed to the harsh environment found along the DW. DH suggested that Lofthus Signs may be willing to guarantee their product against weathering for a reasonable period. He also suggested that the level of funding required for the MMS Almac/AJ Engineering option may not be available and proposed that the Lofthus Signs option should be retained as a possible Plan B. Agreed unanimously. | |
| 9.2 | Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting | |
| 9.2.1 | RR reported that he has used a diluted bleach solution to clean three of the fingerposts/waymarkers at the southern end of the Rafford Bank. The posts are now clear of green algae and are likely to remain this way for some time. | NS |
| 9.3 | Planned Work Since Last Meeting Ref 9.7: PM reported that the following tasks were carried out during the work party held 16/03/19 at Peathillock Cutting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed remaining spoil from previous work party at this location and applied this to those areas of the Muir of Logie embankment previously eroded by livestock. • Cleared bank slump and accumulated natural to uncover original railway drainage pipes south of Peathillock Bridge and enable drainage of path surface water from worst affected sections. • Removed accumulated silt from silt traps and cleared pipes by rodding. • Removed some newly created spoil to Muir of Logie embankment. • Removed branches of windblown tree blocking section of the Longley Cutting. Action closed. | |
| 9.4 | Signage | |
| 9.4.1 | Ref 9.4.1: PM reported that he has transferred the surplus finger sign to NS. Action closed. NS reported that he has repainted the finger sign and will organise its attachment to the private fence at the access point to the section of the DW from Loch View to Mannachie Rise. | |
| 9.4.2 | Ref 9.4.2: PM reported that he has contacted Greg McAulay to ask if he can manufacture replacement fingers for the fingerpost located next to the minor road at the south end of the northern section of the Lynemore Diversion. He awaits Greg's response. | PM |

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| 9.4.3 | <p>PM reported a conversation about sheep worrying that he had with one of the local farmers during the recent work party. The farmer expressed his concern about the number of people walking along the DW with their dogs off the lead in close proximity to sheep. He noted that one dog was shot by a neighbouring farmer when he found it out of control amongst his flock. The farmer suggested that the DWA may wish to put up signage in appropriate places along the DW to remind path users to keep their dogs on a lead when sheep are nearby.</p> <p>PM stated that he has put an entry on the DWA Facebook page to remind dog walkers of their responsibilities under the Outdoor Access Code.</p> <p>PM proposed that the DWA should investigate the availability of suitable signage and consider installing a small number of signs at access points to identified trouble spots. Agreed by majority vote.</p> <p>TT will research the availability and cost of suitable signage for discussion at the next meeting.</p> | TT |
| 9.5 | <p>Tooling and Equipment</p> | |
| 9.5.1 | <p>Ref 9.5.2: PM reported that the works identified by the original supplier (DR Alexander of Inverness) of the tipping trailer have been completed at a total cost of £1,024.92. Action closed.</p> | |
| 9.6 | <p>Quarry Dust Path Surface Maintenance Operations</p> | |
| 9.6.1 | <p>Ref 9.6.2: RR reported that he has compiled the appropriate text to seek permission for the DWA to trial a weed control regime on the Lynmore Diversion (Seafield Estate) and Dunphail Diversion (Logie Estate). MC reported that he has incorporated this text into a formal letter that he has sent to the affected estates. Action closed.</p> <p>MC reported that he has had verbal agreement from the Factors at each estate and he should receive their written permission soon.</p> | MC |
| 9.6.2 | <p>Ref 9.6.2: Action held over. As agreed at the previous meeting, RR will now proceed with the trial of weed control by spraying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR will purchase any specialist equipment/PPE required. • At the beginning of the growing season, RR will purchase a suitable quantity of the retail version of Roundup then, with assistance from a DWA volunteer under his supervision, apply the Roundup to weeds along the trial sections of the DW. • RR may re-treat the trial sections if he deems this appropriate. | RR |
| 9.6.3 | <p>Ref 9.6.2: Action held over. At the end of the trial RR will report the results and a decision will be made whether to purchase the more specialised equipment (e.g. backpack sprayers) and materials (e.g. Roundup Pro Vantage) to enable the weed control regime to be extended to other sections of the DW.</p> | RR |
| 9.7 | <p>Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties</p> <p>PM proposed that the works listed below should be carried out at the work party to be held Saturday 13/04/19. Agreed unanimously. PM will make the necessary arrangements.</p> <p>Peathillock Cutting;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove remaining spoil from south of Peathillock Bridge. <p>Cutting North Of Dunphail; improve temporary fix for wet path problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut back overlying gorse or broom where necessary. • Dig offlets and shallow ditches where necessary. • Locate existing east side drainage pipes, clear out by rodding and bring back into use where possible. | PM |

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| 10 | <u>Health and Safety</u> | |
| 10.1 | Review of DWA Health and Safety Management System Ref 10.1: Action held over. TT will monitor Jim Patterson's progress with carrying out the risk assessments. | TT |
| 10.2 | First Aid Kits | |
| 10.2.1 | The DWA first aid kits are held by PB, PM and TT. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed. | |
| 10.2.2 | Ref 10.2: Action held over. MC will purchase replacements for the kit items listed by PB, PM and TT as due for replacement mid-2019 then call in the kits for checking and replenishment. | MC |
| 10.3 | Injury Reports and Incidents Those present confirmed that there have been no injuries or incidents since the previous meeting. | |
| 11 | <u>Dava Way Publicity</u> | |
| 11.1 | Local, Regional and National Publications (nothing to report) | |
| 11.2 | DW Facebook Group DH reported that the DWA Facebook group Friends of the Dava Way now has 282 members. | |
| 11.3 | DW StoryMap App Ref 11.3: Action held over. TT will continue development of the DW StoryMap application. | TT |
| 11.4 | DW Website (nothing to report) | |
| 12 | <u>Funding Opportunities</u> | |
| 12.1 | Tesco Bags Of Help Ref 12.1.2: DH reported that he has submitted the bid to the Tesco Bags Of Help scheme for the purchase of a second rough cutter. Action closed. DH added that Tesco have confirmed that the application is eligible and will be considered at the next available shortlisting group, scheduled to take place within the next 6 months. DH awaits the shortlisting result. | DH |
| 12.2 | Berry Burn Community Fund Ref 9.5.3: Action held over. NS will submit a bid to the Berry Burn Community Fund for funding to purchase a new tipping trailer. NS reported that the cut off for the next round of bids to the Berry Burn Community Fund is 13/05/19. | NS |
| 13 | <u>Moray Walking and Outdoor Festival 2019</u> | |
| 13.1 | Ghost Train Walk 2019 Ref 13.1: Action held over. MC will manage the project and delegate tasks as required. MC reported that the Scouts and the Community Off-Road Transport Action Group (COTAG) have confirmed that the event has been included in their planning for 2019. COTAG will be carrying out a survey of access and egress points nearer to the event and will be accompanied by MC. Unfortunately, John Cudworth will not be available for the event itself but he will be providing ideas for improving the special effects for the GTW. | MC |
| 13.2 | MWOF 2019 Website Ref 13.2: MC reported that details of the events run by the DWA have been uploaded onto the Moray Walking and Outdoor Festival (MWOF) website. Action closed. | |

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| 13.3 | Group Entries MC reported that a group entry was submitted by firefighters from Grantown-On-Spey. MC has responded that, while the DWA welcome group participation, only individual entry applications are acceptable as the names and contact details of individual participants are required for safety and organisational reasons. | |
| 13.4 | Spotlight Article MC reported that he has submitted an article on the GTW to the local Spotlight magazine. | |
| 13.5 | Posters MC reported that he is producing posters advertising the event and will distribute these to local shops, tourist venues, etc. | MC |
| 13.6 | Medals NS proposed that he purchase 200 event completion medals. Agreed unanimously. NS will obtain prices and circulate details to the DWA Trustees by email for their approval before proceeding with the purchase. | NS |
| 14 | <u>AOCB</u> (nothing to report) | |
| 15 | Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 16/04/19 at The Hub. | |

Meeting Closed: 20:35



Neil Sinclair
Chairman
Dava Way Association