## THE DAVA WAY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

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

Meeting Opened: 19:00

Item	Minute		Action By
1	Welcome:	Neil Sinclair chaired the meeting and welcomed members.	
2	Present:	Michael J Sutherland (MS), Neil Sinclair (NS), Norman Thomson (NT), Robbie Roberts (RR), Trevor Thornley (TT).	
	Apologies:	Malcolm Campbell (MC), Paul Barron (PB), Pete Mitchell (PM).	
3	Minutes of the The minutes 05/10/21 were		
	Proposed:	RR Seconded: NT	
4	Matters Arisir	ng from the meeting 05/10/21	
4.1	Ref 4.1:	NS reported that PB has received the itemised invoice for £464 from Finderne Development Trust (FDT) relating to the website development taking longer than Yellow Cherry Digital originally estimated. This invoice has now been paid. Action closed.	
4.2 4.3	Ref 4.2: Ref 4.3:	(See Item 9.3.4 below) NS reported from MC's notes that the original anchor bolt and padlock from the split self-closing gate at Dava North have been reinstalled by Moray Estates. Action closed.	
4.4 4.5	Ref 6.1.2: Ref 6.1.4:	(See Item 11.4 below) NS reported from MC's notes that MC has replied to the request from Hector Laing, stating that the DWA firmly supports his funding bid to help cover the £216,000 cost for repairs to the Divie Viaduct. Action closed.	
4.6	Ref 9.3.1:	(See Item 9.2 below)	
4.7	Ref 9.3.2:	(See Item 9.3.2 and Item 9.3.3 below)	
4.8 4.9	Ref 9.3.3: Ref 9.4:	(See Item 9.8.1 below) (See Item 9.2 and Item 9.4 below)	
4.10	Ref 9.5.3:	(See Item 9.5.2 below)	
4.11	Ref 9.6.1:	(See Item 9.6.1 below)	
4.12	Ref 9.6.2:	(See Item 9.6.2 below)	
4.13	Ref 9.7.1:	(See Item 9.7.1 below)	
4.14 4.15	Ref 9.7.2:	(See Item 12.3 below) (See Item 12.5 below)	
4.15 4.16	Ref 9.7.3: Ref 9.8.2:	(See Item 9.9.1 below)	
4.17	Ref 9.9.1:	(See Item 9.10.1 below)	
4.18	Ref 9.9.2:	(See Item 9.10.2 below)	
4.19	Ref 9.9.3:	(See Item 9.10.3 below)	

4.20	Ref 10.1.2: (See Item 10.1.1 below)
4.21	Ref 10.1.3: (See Item 10.1.2 below)
4.22	Ref 10.2.2: (See Item 10.2.2 below)
4.23	Ref 10.4: (See Item 10.4 below)
	,
4.24	(
4.25	Ref 11.1.2: (See Item 11.3.3 below)
4.26	Ref 11.3.2: (See Item 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 below)
4.27	Ref 12.1: (See Item 12.1 below)
4.28	Ref 12.2: (See Item 12.6 below)
4.29	Ref 13.1: (See Item 13 below)
4.30	Ref 13.2: (See Item 14 below)
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5	Treasurer's Report
5.1	NS reported from PB's notes that a balance of £12,820.30 is in the DWA
	account.
	Unrestricted Funds:
	£ 6,820.30
	Restricted Funds:
	£ 5,000.00 grant from Places Called Home; for Dallas Dhu Ramp project.
	£ 1,000.00 grant from Tesco Bags for Life; for purchase of tools/equip.
5.2	Significant Income:
	£ Nil
5.3	Significant Expenditure:
	£ 464.00 FDT; for DWA contribution to website development overspend.
5.4	Anticipated Income:
0	£ 1,000.00 grant from Give Back with Bell's; for purchase of tools/equip.
5.5	Anticipated Expenditure (from DWA funds):
0.0	£ Nil
5.6	Anticipated Expenditure (covered by external funding):
5.0	£ Nil
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6	Correspondences
6.1	To the Secretary
	(Nothing to report)
6.2	Other Correspondence
V	(Nothing to report)
-	( realining to report)
7	<u>Feedback</u>
7.1	Footfall Counters
	TT reported the following readings:
	Lochenoun – 13/11/15 to 02/11/21
	21,597 (21,663 – 66)
	Dunphail – 21/06/17 to 02/11/21
	11,504 (18,577 – 7073)
	Lynmore
	(not read)
	RR reported the following readings:
	Dallas Dhu – 15/03/15 to 15/10/21
	161,710 walkers (299,029 – 137,319)
	25,306 cyclists (32,829 – 7,523)
7.2	Other; email, Facebook, etc.
	(Nothing to report)
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8 8.1	Dava Way Merchandise Sales and Stock		
0.1	Companions (NT) 76	Badges (MC) 16	
	Companions (NS) 45	• , ,	
9	Dava Way Path Works and Proj		
9.1	Unplanned Work Since Last M	leeting	
0.0	(Nothing to report)	the e	
9.2	Planned Work Since Last Mee		
	<u> </u>	nat the following tasks were completed at	
	the work party held on 09/10/21:  • Lynmore Bypass		
		nove accumulated leaf fall from the path	
	surface.	novo accamalatos los las nom tro patr	
		n from the path edges where required,	
		with herbicide in the Spring.	
	<ul> <li>Cleared ditches ar</li> </ul>	nd culverts adjacent to the path.	
	<ul> <li>Grantown-On-Spey</li> </ul>		
		ignage in the square (see Item 9.4 below).	
	Action closed.		
9.3	Priorities for Next Work Party		
9.3.1		asks should be carried out at the next work	
	party, scheduled for 13/11/21: <ul><li>Dunphail Bypass</li></ul>		
	, ,,	ove accumulated leaf fall from path surface.	
		from path edges where required, ready for	
	spraying with herb		
		culverts adjacent to the path.	
	<ul> <li>Sluggan Burn Embankme</li> </ul>	ent (if time allows)	
		ove accumulated leaf fall from path surface.	
		from path edges where required, ready for	
	spraying with herb	. •	
		culverts adjacent to the path.	
	Aucheorn Cutting (if time     Aucheorn Cutting to rome)	,	
		ove accumulated leaf fall from path surface.	
	<ul><li>Clear vegetation a</li><li>Clear ditches and</li></ul>	culverts adjacent to the path.	
	TT will make the necessary arra	·	ТТ
9.3.2		or NS will treat the oak benches with teak	' '
	oil when possible.		PM/NS
9.3.3	Ref 9.3.2b: NS reported from Mo	C's notes that MC has contacted the original	
		ald, to obtain his advice on best practice for	
	, , ,	nmore Bypass. Scott did not think the	
		g by now, but recommended the	
	•	factured by Barratines. Action closed.	
		antity wood preservative available to him	
		all area of planking on one bridge is prevent further deterioration. Agreed	
		mall area of rot on the planking of the	
	smaller bridge on the Lynmore E	·	NS
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9.3.4	Ref 4.2: Action held over. NS will inspect the damage to the nose of the Dragoon sculpture and see what can be done to repair it.	NS	
9.4	Signage Ref 9.4: PB reported that the brown tourism signage for Grantown-On-Spey town centre was installed at the work party held 09/10/21. Action closed.		
9.5 9.5.1	<b>Tooling and Equipment</b> Ref 9.5.2: Action held over. In February/March 2022, TT, PB and PM will identify works suitable for a week-long digger trial, arrange a work party and hire-in a digger.	TT/PB/PM	
9.5.2	Ref 9.5.3: NS reported from MC's notes that MC has emailed the Altyre Estate Office to inform them about the planned digger trial, comprising drainage and path surface improvement works in the Clashdhu Cutting. Action closed.		
	Fiona Macleod is currently handing over the Factor job at Altyre Estate to Hamish Hope, so MC will phone Hamish in due course to discuss options for the disposal of spoil.	мс	
9.6 9.6.1	<b>DW Information Boards Replacement Project</b> (joint project with FDT) Ref 9.6.1: Action held over. NS and MC will raise the question of Finderne Development Trust (FDT) funding for the replacement information boards at a future meeting. NS noted that FDT are holding their AGM on 09/11/21. He and MC will ask for a meeting with the DWA-FDT link person shortly after.	NS/MC	
9.6.2	Ref 9.6.2: NT reported that it is not possible to obtain the printing proofs from Big Sky Printing for the current DW information boards. He noted that the board content would be completely revised anyway and showed an example mock-up that he had created, with text for both DWA and FDT surrounding a central map by Helen Stirling. Action closed.		
9.7 9.7.1	Dallas Dhu Access Ramp Improvement Project Ref 9.7.1: NS reported from MC's notes that Murray Swapp has kindly provided an estimate of £2,630.56 incl. VAT as the cost for taking the access ramp improvements through the detailed design and planning		
9.7.2	approval stages. This is well within the £5,000 funding received from Places Called Home (see Item 12.3 below) so MC will confirm support for the project from Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and Altyre Estate, then seek to engage a professional designer to carry out the detailed design (specification, drawings, bill of quantities) and planning approval work. NS reported that the full cost of the ramp improvement project is estimated to be in the region of £35,000. Of this, £5,000 of funding has been received from Places Called Home. Bids for a further £4,000 and £5,000 have been submitted to Money for Moray (see Item 12.4 below) and Moray Council Developer Contributions (see Item12.5 below) respectively. NT suggested that a bid could also be submitted to the Berry Burn Community Fund once a detailed estimate of the project cost is known.	MC	
9.8 9.8.1	Mannachie Avenue Access Ramp Handrail Project Ref 9.3.3: Action held over. PM will arrange a mini work party to sort and assess the materials removed from the Mannachie Ramp handrail, to ascertain what additional materials would be required to reinstate the	514	
9.8.2	handrail and at what cost.  TT noted the general unkempt state of the area adjacent to the Mannachie Ramp. He suggested that a major revamp of the site could be funded and progressed in tandem with the Dallas Dhu Access Ramp Project. It is likely that a bid will need to be made to one of the National Lottery funds to cover	PM	

the funding shortfall for the Dallas Dhu project (see Item 9.7.2 above), so why not increase that bid to cover works at Mannachie Avenue too. This would potentially enable a contractor to be employed to widen the path to enable vehicles with materials/equipment to access the DW, scrape and resurface the path surface, replace the ramp handrail, and repair the steps. RR stated that he supports a tidy up of the site, but still does not see a need to reinstall a handrail. Anecdotal evidence from path users suggests that they do not see a need for a handrail either, as when the ramp surface is icy with compacted snow they use the steps instead. TT suggested that the Trustees consider the following options for a vote at the next meeting, where all Trustees will hopefully be present: Option 1. Leave the ramp without a handrail, repair the steps and tidy the site. • Option 2. DWA reinstate the handrail (see 9.8.1 above), repair the steps and tidy the site. Option 3, Employ a contractor to widen the path to enable access by vehicles with materials/equipment (if required), scrape and resurface the path surface, replace the ramp handrail and repair the steps. DWA to tidy the site. All to consider the above options ready for a vote at the next meeting. ΑII AJ's Bridge Improvement Project 9.9.1 Ref 9.8.2: NS reported from PM's notes that he estimates a total cost of £605 to purchase the decking boards and fastenings that would be required to manufacture a cover for the deck of AJ's Bridge. Action closed. 9.9.2 NS reported from MC's notes that he obtained details from Sustrans about companies that supply glass reinforced plastic anti-slip flooring panels. TT reported that he had done a quick calculation and qty 3 pre-cut, medium grit, heavy duty non-slip GRP flooring panels of length 3500mm, width 1000mm and thickness 6mm from NonSlipShop.co.uk would cost £988.19 (incl. VAT and delivery). This is not much different from the quote of £1,000 (incl. VAT) from AJ Engineering received previously by Doug Hartley. 9.9.3 TT repeated his comment from the previous meeting, that the bridge may be replaced as part of the DW Upgrade Project Plan. It may be prudent to do nothing to the current bridge, and instead obtain a detailed design and planning approval for a multi-user replacement that could hopefully be funded through a future funding round of Improving Public Access. 9.9.4 TT suggested that the Trustees consider the following options for a vote at the next meeting, where all Trustees will hopefully be present: Option 1. Purchase and fit plastic non-slip panels supplied by AJ Engineering at a cost of £1,000 plus fastenings. Option 2. Purchase and fit GRP non-slip panels supplied by NonSlipShop.co.uk at a cost of £988.19 plus fastenings. Option 3. Purchase and fit non-slip decking boards supplied by Keith Builders Merchants at a cost of £606 including fastenings. Option 4. Do nothing to the current bridge and obtain a detailed design and planning approval for a replacement multi-user bridge. All to consider the above options ready for a vote at the next meeting. ΑII **Dava Way Upgrade Project Plan** 9.10 9.10.1 Ref 9.9.1: NS reported from MC's notes that he pressed Murray Swapp for a response to the email enquiry TT sent on 07/07/21, re ballpark costs for carrying out a revision of the 2017 Dava Way Path Upgrade Plan (DWPUP) to bring the route from walking/cycling to multi-user standard, and

9.9

9.10.2 9.10.3	consulting on several proposed upgrade projects; project feasibility and a ballpark cost for producing the 'shovel ready' project plans. Action closed. TT noted that, in his response to MC, Murray has not actually answered the above questions. Murray has instead provided an updated costs summary sheet for the Bill of Quantities relating to the 2017 DWPUP. TT stated that, for now, he will continue to do what he can to develop a DW Upgrade Project Plan, based on the existing 2017 DWPUP. Ref 9.9.2: Action held over. MC and MS will update the DWA Strategic Business Plan to include a funding strategy for the DW Upgrade Project Plan. Ref 9.9.3: NS noted that he will be unable ask the FDT whether they would be willing to fund the Project Manager and Principal Designer, as the associated costs are currently unknown. Action closed.			TT MC/MS
10 10.1 10.1.1 10.1.2 10.2 10.2.1 10.2.2 10.3 10.4	Health and Safety Review of DWA Health and Safety Management System Ref 10.1.2: Action held over. PB will monitor his colleague's progress producing an example risk assessment and method statement for discussion by the DWA Trustees. Ref 10.1.3: Action held over. MC will provide an example of a simplified health and safety system for discussion by the DWA Trustees. First Aid Kits The DWA first aid kits are held by MC, PB and PM. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed.			PB MC
	Provider	Emergency First Aid at Work (1 day)	Outdoor First Aid (2 or 3 days)	
	Outfit Moray	£65 per person	£130 per person	
	ACE Adventures	£50 per person	£165 per person	
	Moray College	£85 per person	£ 220 per person	
	Moray Firth Training Group	£95 per person	£290 per person	
11 11.1 11.1.1 11.1.2	and Craig Barron at the website management training to be provided by Yellow Cherry Digital on 11/11/21.			NS

11.3	Local, Regional and National Publications	
11.3.1	Ref 11.1.1b: Action held over. NS will provide MC with details of the	
	contribution made by Bruno Cawley.	NS
11.3.2	Ref 11.1.1a: Action held over. MC will submit an article about the work of	
	the DWA and the contribution made by Bruno Cawley, now that Bruno's	
	memorial plaque has been installed. The article will be expanded to cover	
	the recent deaths of DWA members Bill McRitchie and Hugh Kidd, and the	
	award of £1,000 from the Tesco Community Grants scheme.	MC
11.3.3		
	they would like to participate in publicity around the leaf blower, purchased	
	with some of the money received from the Tesco Community Grants	
	(formerly Tesco Bags of Help) funding scheme.	MC
11.4	External Websites and Social Media.	
	Ref 6.1.2: NS reported from MC's notes that MC has contacted the	
	administrator of the <u>VisitForres</u> website and app to arrange for promotion of	
	the Dava Way (DW), with links to the DWA website. He is awaiting their	
	response.	MC
	100pondo.	IVIO
12	Funding Opportunities	
12.1	Tesco Bags of Help	
	Ref 12.1: NS reported from MC's notes that he contacted Groundworks and	
	the £1,000 grant from Tesco Bags of Help has now been transferred into	
	the DWA bank account. Action closed.	
12.2	Give Back with Bell's	
	NS reported from MC's notes that Groundworks have also confirmed an	
	offer of a £1,000 grant from the Give Back with Bell's funding scheme. MC	
	is working with Groundworks to secure this funding.	MC
12.3	Places Called Home	
	Ref 9.7.2: NT reported that £5,000 of grant funding has been received from	
	the Places Called Home scheme, to be used towards the design and	
	construction of the new ramp at Dallas Dhu. Action closed	
12.4	Money for Moray	
	NT reported that he has submitted a bid for grant funding to the Money for	
	Moray scheme, to go towards the design and construction of the new ramp	
	at Dallas Dhu. A maximum of £4,000 per application is available. NT will	
	monitor the progress of the bid.	NT
12.5	Moray Council Developer Obligations	
	Ref 9.7.3: NS reported that he has submitted a bid for grant funding to the	
	Moray Council Developer Obligations programme, to go towards the design	
	and construction of the new ramp at Dallas Dhu. A maximum of £5,000 per	
	application is available. NS will monitor the progress of the bid.	NS
12.6	Scottish Forestry Community Fund	
	Ref 12.2: NS reported from MC's notes that he has submitted a bid for grant	
	funding to the Scottish Forestry Community Fund, to cover DWA volunteer	
	first aid training costs. MC will monitor the progress of the bid.	MC
12.7	Other Sources of Funding	
	(Nothing to report)	
13	DWA Annual Members' Meeting	
	Ref 13.1: NS reported from PB's notes that he has rebooked the Forres	
	Tennis Club for 13/01/22. Action closed.	

14	DW Ghost Train Walk 2022	
14.1	Ref 13.2: NS reported from MC's notes that he raised planning for the event	
	as an agenda item at this meeting. Action closed.	
14.2	NS reported from MC's notes that he has asked if the DWA should have	
	another organisation, such as OutfitMoray run the event and share in the	
	profits. Those present discussed this option and decided unanimously that	
	the event should continue to be managed by the DWA Trustees, with assistance provided by other organisations.	
14.3	NS reported from MC's notes that, if the management of the event is to be	
1 1.0	carried out by the DWA, he proposes that the 'minimum charitable donation'	
	expected from participants should be raised. Those present agreed	
	unanimously. An appropriate amount is to be set at the next meeting, where	
	all Trustees will hopefully be present.	All
14.4	MC will revise the Project Planning spreadsheet in readiness for the 2022	140
	event, then delegate tasks as appropriate.	MC
15	<u>AOCB</u>	
15.1	DWA Annual Dinner	
15.1.1	NS reported that, following an earlier round robin discussion with the DWA	
	Trustees by email, he has booked the Mosset Tavern on the evening of 15/01/22 as the venue for the DWA Annual Dinner.	
15.1.2		
10.1.2	and obtain their menu choices.	NS/MC
15.2	FACT Volunteer Participation Agreement	
	NS reported that he met with April Charlesworth, Forres Area Community	
	Trust (FACT) Coordinator, to discuss increasing DWA volunteer numbers.	
	She invited the DWA to sign up for the <u>FACT Volunteer Participation</u>	
	Scheme. Any suitable volunteers to that scheme would then be signposted	
	to the DWA by FACT. NS proposed that the DWA should accept the invitation. Agreed unanimously. NS will sign up the DWA to the FACT	
	Volunteer Participation Scheme.	NS
15.3	Chris Piper Memorial Avenue of Trees	
	NS reported that the FDT have planted an avenue of 10 wild cherry trees	
	along the embankment north of the Divie Viaduct in memory of Chris Piper,	
	Chair of the FDT until his recent passing. The FDT may wish to install a	
	memorial plaque or bench at the site at some point in the future.	
16	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 09/12/21, at The Hub.	

Meeting Closed: 21:00

N Mindings

Neil Sinclair Chairman

**Dava Way Association**