

4.20	Ref 10.1.3:	(See Item 8.1.2 below)	
4.21	Ref 10.2.1:	(See Item 8.2.1 below)	
4.22	Ref 10.2.2:	(See Item 8.2.2 below)	
4.23	Ref 10.2.3:	(See Item 8.2.3 below)	
4.24	Ref 10.3.1:	(See Item 8.3.1 below)	
4.25	Ref 10.3.3:	(See Item 8.3.8 below)	
4.26	Ref 10.3.5:	(See Item 8.3.6 below)	
4.27	Ref 10.3.6:	(See Item 8.3.5 below)	
4.28	Ref 10.4:	(See Item 8.4 below)	
4.29	Ref 11.1.2:	(See Item 9.1.2 below)	
4.30	Ref 12.1.1:	(See Item 10.1.1 below)	
4.31	Ref 12.1.2:	(See Item 10.1.2 below)	
4.32	Ref 12.2:	(See Item 10.2 below)	
4.33	Ref 14.2.1:	(See Item 12.2.2 below)	
4.34	Ref 14.2.3:	(See Item 12.2.3 below)	
4.35	Ref 16:	(See Item 13.1 below)	
4.36	Ref 17.1:	Action held over. MC will make the arrangements for a "Thank You" event for key Altyre Estate staff, to be held at the Altyre Sawmill when the weather improves.	MC
5	<u>Treasurer's Report</u>		
5.1	PB reported that a balance of £10,532.40 is in the DWA account. Unrestricted Funds: £ 6,448.15 Restricted Funds: £ 84.25 Places Called Home; for Dallas Dhu Ramp project. £ 4,000.00 Money for Moray; for Dallas Dhu Ramp project.		
5.2	Significant Income: £ Nil		
5.3	Significant Expenditure: £ 565.20 to PM; Land Rover running expenses.		
5.4	Anticipated Income: £ Nil		
5.5	Anticipated Expenditure (from DWA funds): £ Nil		
5.6	Anticipated Expenditure (covered by external funding): £ Nil		
5.7	Donations via the GiveWP-Stripe process since last meeting: £ 20.00		
5.8	Ref 7.9: Action held over. NS will purchase appropriate additional materials to the value of £84.25 (or more) to complete the manufacture of a replacement information board frame for Dallas Dhu; see Item 7.4.2 below.		NS
6	<u>Correspondences</u>		
6.1	To the Secretary MC reported that he received an email from Kenneth McElroy, Development Manager for the Association of Northern Trails (ANT), seeking a letter of support from the DWA towards the appointment of a Trail Development Manager to be responsible for overseeing the maintenance of the John O' Groats Trail (JOGT). The new post would also have responsibility for developing a route to connect the JOGT to the Moray Coast Trail, creating a continuous walking trail along the east coast of Scotland. MC proposed that the DWA support this initiative. Agreed unanimously. MC will write a letter of support to ANT from the DWA.		MC

6.2	Other Correspondence (Nothing to report)	
7	<u>Dava Way Path Works and Equipment Maintenance</u>	
7.1	Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting	
7.1.1	RR reported that he spent an hour litter picking south of Dallas Dhu.	
7.1.2	PB reported that he carried out some ditch clearance work south of AJ's Bridge.	
7.1.3	PM reported that he carried out some ditch clearance work between Bantrach and Balvlair and fitted the "Close Gate" signs at the Longley Crossing.	
7.1.4	MC reported that he installed a concrete slab over a broken drain cover north of the Divie Viaduct.	
7.2	Planned Work Since Last Meeting	
7.2.1.1	Ref 9.3.1.1: The following works were carried out at the full work party held 14/12/24: Balvlair to Dunphail Cutting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleared encroaching vegetation. Huntley's Cave Cutting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top dusted path surface works from previous work party. Glaschoil to Dava Moor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lubricated and adjusted qty 3 gates. Gate South Side of Dava Moor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top dusted railway ballast to smoothen surface. Action closed.	
7.2.1.2	Ref 9.3.1.2: MC notified the relevant estate manager(s) of the works to be carried out. Action closed	
7.2.2	Due to the inclement weather, a 'tools and equipment husbandry' work party was held on 11/01/2025 in lieu of the monthly full work party.	
7.3	Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties	
7.3.1	PM proposed that the following works be considered priorities for upcoming full work parties: Balvlair to Dunphail Cutting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear ditches and rod drainage pipes. AJ's Bridge to Clashdhu <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear ditches and rod drainage pipes. Cowgreens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve bunds. • Infill muddy patch with sub-base from Clashdhu. Dallas Dhu Ramp <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excavate and lay material to extend ramp. Agreed unanimously.	
7.3.1.1	PM will make the necessary arrangements.	PM
7.3.1.2	MC will notify the relevant estate manager(s) of the works to be carried out.	MC
7.3.2	Ref 9.3.2: Action held over. PB will contact the relevant estate manager and request an on-site meeting to discuss options to resolve the flooding issues that have resulted in erosion of the path surface between Balvlair and Dunphail.	PB
7.3.3	Ref 9.3.3: Action held over. PM or NS will treat the oak benches with teak oil when possible.	PM/NS
7.3.4	Ref 9.3.4: Action held over. NS will inspect the damage to the nose of the Redcoat sculpture and see what can be done to repair it.	NS

7.3.5	MC and NS reported that they have obtained a quantity of tree seedlings for planting along the DW route north of the Huntly's Cave Cutting. These will need planting out as soon as possible. MC will contact Grantown Grammar to see if they would like to assist with the planting out.	MC
7.4	Signage	
7.4.1	Ref 9.4.1: Action held over. PB will tabulate a bill of materials and obtain a total cost for fixing waymarker signs to lamp posts and street signs, to replace the wooden waymarker posts between the Tolbooth and Mannachie Avenue.	PB
7.4.2	Ref 9.4.2: Action held over. NS will manufacture a new information board frame to the standard design for installation at the Dallas Dhu Ramp (see Item 5.8 above).	NS
7.4.3	Ref 9.4.3: Action held over. NS will manufacture a new information board frame to the standard design and arrange for its installation adjacent to the Dullicht Bridge.	NS
7.4.4	Ref 9.4.4: PM reported that he has purchased the 'Please shut the gate' signs and carried out a mini work party to install them at Longley Crossing. Action closed.	
7.5	Tooling and Equipment	
7.5.1	Preparations for installation of RadioBeam People and Bicycle Counter (RBBP) at crossing south of Dallas Dhu:	
7.5.1.1	Ref 9.5.1.1: Action held over. MC and NS will apply to the Berry Burn Community Fund for funding to purchase a RBBP at a cost of £2920. An offer of a £500 contribution from DWA funds towards the cost of the RBBP will be included in the application.	MC/NS
7.5.1.2	Ref 9.5.1.2: Action held over. MC will seek advice from Sustrans about alternative RBBP suppliers, counter options and their relative costs, and use of the Strava Metro dataset.	MC
7.5.2	Ref 9.5.4: Action held over. PM will purchase a bolted shroud and secure padlock for securing the second ISO, then arrange a mini work party for their installation.	PM
7.5.3	Ref 9.4.5: Action held over. PM will purchase and mount qty 2 400mm x 300mm 'Path Works in Progress' signs to supplement the current warning signs. The new signs will be mounted on small folding wooden 'A' frames, allowing easy transport in the back of vehicles.	PM
8	Project Reports	
8.1	Dallas Dhu Access Ramp Improvement Project	
8.1.1	Ref 10.1.2: Action held over. PM will schedule the Dallas Dhu Ramp improvement works to be carried out at a mini work party.	PM
8.1.2	Ref 10.1.3: Action held over. PM will obtain annual plant insurance to cover use of his mini digger at DWA work parties. It was agreed that PM will be recompensed at a reasonable rate for use of the mini digger at DWA work parties.	PM
8.1.3	PB noted that a quantity of subbase and quarry dust will be required for this project. PB will contact Leiths to see if the DWA still has an account with them.	PB
8.2	Dava Bypass Project	
8.2.1	Ref 10.2.1: Action held over. PB will update Dave McLeod of Station House, Dava.	PB
8.2.2	Ref 10.2.2: Action held over. PB will contact Mike Dickson of Station Cottage, Dava to discuss private water supplies and protection measures.	PB
8.2.3	Ref 10.2.3: PB reported that he had an on-site meeting with family representatives of Mrs Coutts on Saturday 14/12/2024 to discuss their	

<p>8.3</p> <p>8.3.1</p> <p>8.3.2</p> <p>8.3.3</p> <p>8.3.4</p> <p>8.3.5</p> <p>8.3.6</p> <p>8.3.7</p> <p>8.3.8</p> <p>8.4</p>	<p>private water supply and protection measures. Action closed. The concern over potential damage to private water supplies is the main issue likely to affect the viability of the Dava Bypass Project. PB will seek specialist advice from the Paths for All technical advisers.</p> <p>Ghost Train Walk 2025 and DWA 20th Anniversary Project</p> <p>Ref 10.3.1: PB reported that he has made a provisional booking for 6 coaches with Kineil Coaches Ltd at a cost of £290 per coach. This should be sufficient to accommodate 300 participants. PB has clarified that the bus departures need to be staggered. The comparison quote from Deveron Coaches was £345 per coach. Action closed.</p> <p>PB reported that he has received a quote of £450 for event first aid cover from Scotia Medical Group. PB will accept the quote and confirm the booking.</p> <p>PB reported that he has contacted Nixon Hire for a quote for qty 3 Portaloos. He is awaiting their response.</p> <p>MC reported that he has approached the 1st Forres Scout Group informally to discuss their participation in the GTW event; breakfast catering, refreshments at Dava and spooky entertainment. MC will make a formal request to the group and discuss the arrangements in more detail.</p> <p>Ref 10.3.6: Action held over. PM will enquire if any North of Scotland Long-Distance Walking Association (LDWA) members would like to volunteer as 'back markers' for the GTW event.</p> <p>Ref 10.3.5: MC has thanked Doug Hartley for his support and has added the purchase of merchandise to the GTW project plan. Action closed. It was agreed unanimously that event mugs should be sold through Ticket Tailor (TT) at £8 per mug, to be collected from the Dallas Dhu checkpoint. It was decided not to offer fridge magnets for sale at this event.</p> <p>TH reported that there would be a 30% saving on TT transaction costs if credits for ticket sales were purchased in advance, explaining that the purchase of a ticket and mug will be charged as separate transactions. TH proposed that 300 credits be purchased. Agreed unanimously. PB will purchase 300 credits in advance of tickets going on sale 20/01/25.</p> <p>Ref 10.3.3: Action held over. DWA Trustees to come up with ideas to celebrate the September 2025 20-year anniversary of the DWA formation. MC noted that 2025 is also the Stockton-Darlington 200-year anniversary.</p> <p>DWA Information Leaflet Refresh Project</p> <p>Ref 10.4: Action held over: TH will produce a revised DWA information leaflet, to look like the information boards. NS and MC will work with TH on the design of the new leaflet. MC reported that he will produce a first draft for consideration.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>PB</p> <p>MC</p> <p>PM</p> <p>MC</p> <p>PB</p> <p>All</p> <p>TH/NS/MC</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9.1</p> <p>9.1.1</p> <p>9.1.2</p> <p>9.2</p>	<p><u>Health and Safety</u></p> <p>First Aid Kits</p> <p>The DWA first aid kits are held by MC, PB and PM. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed.</p> <p>Ref 11.1.2. Action held over. MC will compile a list of qualified DWA first aiders and note the date each person is due recertification.</p> <p>Injury Reports and Incidents</p> <p>At the work party held 14/12/2024 a 4x4 vehicle slid on ice, came off the Dava Way and ran down a short embankment south of the Half Way Hut. This resulted in some very minor injuries to the occupants and some minor damage to the vehicle. Recommendation - to ensure all passengers in a moving vehicle are seated and wearing the provided seat belts.</p>	<p>MC</p>

10	<u>Business Planning</u>	
10.1	DWA Strategic Business Planning	
10.1.1	Ref 12.1.1: Action held over. DWA Trustees to read and comment on the revised DWA Strategic Business Plan and draft budget forecast covering the potential projects to be carried out 2024-2025.	All
10.1.2	Ref 12.1.2: Action held over. MC and MS will update the DWA Strategic Business Plan to include a funding strategy to meet the budget forecast.	MC/MS
10.2	Trustee Membership and Supporter Roles	
	Ref 12.2. TH reported that he has developed the DWA member database, and it is in use. Action closed.	
10.3	Succession Planning (Nothing to report)	
11	<u>Funding</u> (Nothing to report)	
12	<u>Social Media and Publicity</u>	
12.1	DWA Website (Nothing to report)	
12.2	DWA Facebook Group	
12.2.1	PM reported that the Friends of the Dava Way Facebook group now has 1,980 members.	
12.2.2	Ref 14.2.1: Action held over. PM will research how the DWA Easyfundraising scheme might be advertised via periodic posts on the DWA Facebook group.	PM
12.2.3	Ref 14.2.3: Action held over. PM will post an advert on the DWA Facebook group for a volunteer DWA Social Media Manager.	PM
12.3	Local, Regional and National Publications (Nothing to report)	
12.4	External Websites and Social Media. (Nothing to report)	
13	<u>DWA Annual Dinner</u>	
13.1	Ref 16: NS reported that he has booked the Mosset Tavern for the annual dinner to be held on 25/01/25. The meal price will be £33 a head for 2 courses and wine, or £40 a head for 3 courses and wine. The event date and menu have been circulated to the DWA members and volunteers. Action closed.	
13.2	NS proposed that Norman and Jean Thomson, and Bruce Terris and his wife, be invited as guests to honour the support they have given to the DWA. Agreed unanimously. NS will send out the invitations.	NS
14	<u>AOCB</u> (Nothing to report)	
15	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 11/02/25, at the Royal British Legion, Sanquhar Road, Forres, IV36 1DG.	

Meeting Closed: 21:00

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

Neil Sinclair
Chairman
Dava Way Association