



4.26	Ref 9.1.2: (See Item 9.1.2 below)	
4.27	Ref 10.1.1: (See Item 10.1.1 below)	
4.28	Ref 10.1.2: (See Item 10.1.2 below)	
4.29	Ref 11: (See Item 11 below)	
4.30	Ref 12.2.3: (See Item 12.2.2 below)	
5	<u>Treasurer's Report</u>	
5.1	NS reported from PB's notes that a balance of £14,463.19 is in the DWA account. Unrestricted Funds: £ 10,378.94 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: £ 1,509.55 from Ticket Tailor; Ghost Train Walk (GTW) ticket/mug sales.	
5.3	Significant Expenditure: £ Nil	
5.4	Anticipated Expenditure (from DWA funds): £ 49.64 to PM; reimbursement for replacement trailer jockey wheel. £ 45.00 to Leiths; quarry materials for path repairs. --- £ 1,740.00 to Kineil Coaches; GTW coaches (qty 6 @ £290 each) £ 450.00 to Scotia Medical Group; GTW first aid cover. £ 459.11 to Nixon Hire; GTW Portaloo hire. £ 710.94 for GTW event medals.	
5.5	Anticipated Income (from external funding): £ 444.02 from GTW entrants still within Stripe payment system. £ 24.00 donation still within Stripe payment system.	
5.6	Anticipated Expenditure (covered by external funding): £ Nil	
5.7	Donations via the GiveWP-Stripe process since last meeting: £ Nil	
5.8	Ref 5.8: 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	<b>To the Secretary</b> (Nothing to report)	
6.2	<b>Other Correspondence</b> (Nothing to report)	
7	<u>Dava Way Path Works and Equipment Maintenance</u>	
7.1	<b>Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting</b>	
7.1.1	RR reported that he completed a litter pick in the area between the Mannachie Ramp and Dallas Dhu	
7.1.2	TH reported that he, PB and PM have installed a solar-powered electricity supply in the equipment ISO container. This will provide internal lighting. A secure lock has also been installed on the second ISO.	
7.1.3	PM reported that Paul Douglas removed a windblown tree that was blocking the Dava Way (DW) north of the Rafford Bridge.	

7.2	<b>Planned Work Since Last Meeting</b>	
7.2.1.1	<p>Ref 7.3.1.1: The following works were carried out at the full work party held 08/03/25:</p> <p>Dava North</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared ditches and culverts as far as possible.</li> <li>• Cut offlets to drain ruts and created bunds to direct water off path.</li> <li>• Improved path surface by laying and compacting 2 tonnes of quarry material.</li> </ul> <p>Belnain Cutting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared blocked drainage pipe at north end as far as possible; will need to hire a contractor to remove the root ball in the pipe using specialist equipment.</li> </ul> <p>Longley Cutting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut back encroaching undergrowth.</li> <li>• Cleared 300m of drainage ditch, 150m on each side of the path.</li> </ul> <p>Bogeney</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut back gorse obscuring Jess the Dog sculpture.</li> <li>• Cut back encroaching gorse at Bogeney Farm Crossing.</li> </ul> <p>Woodside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleared ditches and culverts at 'Muddy Puddles'.</li> <li>• Improved path surface by laying and compacting 1 tonne of quarry material.</li> </ul> <p>Action closed.</p>	
7.2.1.2	Ref 7.3.1.2: MC notified the relevant estate manager(s) of the works to be carried out. Action closed.	
7.2.2	Ref 7.3.5: NS reported that pupils from Grantown Grammar planted 200 tree seedlings beside the DW route north of the Huntly's Cave Cutting at a work party held 11/03/25. Action closed.	
7.3	<b>Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties</b>	
7.3.1	<p>PM proposed that the following works be considered priorities for the full work party to be held 12/04/25:</p> <p>Longley Cutting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress drainage improvements.</li> </ul> <p>Cowgreens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace rotted gate post.</li> </ul> <p>Woodside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace culvert pipe.</li> </ul> <p>Agreed unanimously.</p>	
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 7.3.2: 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 7.3.3: Action held over. PM or NS will treat the oak benches with teak oil when possible.	PM/NS
7.3.4	Ref 7.3.4: 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	Ref 8.3.7: NS reported that on 28/04/25 pupils from Grantown Grammar will be carrying out works to improve the current DW pedestrian bypass around the Dava settlement. NS/MC to liaise.	NS/MC
7.3.6	NS/MC will survey the DW pedestrian bypass at Dava prior to the Grantown Grammar work party, to identify the works to be completed.	NS/MC

7.4	<b>Signage</b>	
7.4.1	Ref 7.4.1: 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 7.4.2: 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 7.4.3: 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	TH noted that the old design DW discs on the fingerposts and waymarkers need to be replaced with ones bearing the new logo. He offered to take this on as a long-term task. PM added that it would be useful to also record the position of each item, using grid coordinates or a What3Words identifier, and their condition e.g. whether there is any rot at the base or other damage requiring repair. TH will record the location and condition of each fingerpost and waymarker. Where found in good condition he will repaint the item and replace the old design DW discs. Where an item needs repair, TH will report this to PM. (Long-term task so minutes action not recorded).	
7.5	<b>Tooling and Equipment</b>	
7.5.1	Preparations for installation of <a href="#">RadioBeam People and Bicycle Counter</a> (RBBP) at crossing south of Dallas Dhu:	
7.5.1.1	Ref 7.5.1.1: Action held over. MC and NS will apply to the <a href="#">Berry Burn Community Fund</a> 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	MC reported that DWA volunteer Bailee Allen previously worked with the U.S. National Park Service on a counter project. She has provided details of a cost-effective solution that they use. Bailee will provide MC with a sample counter, and he will assess its viability for use on the DW.	MC
7.5.2	Ref 7.5.2: PM reported that he has purchased a bolted shroud and secure padlock for securing the second ISO. These items have been installed. Action closed.	
7.5.3	Ref 7.5.3: Action held over. PM will purchase and mount qty 4 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	<b>Project Reports</b>	
8.1	<b>Dallas Dhu Access Ramp Improvement Project</b>	
8.1.1	Ref 8.1.1: 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 8.1.2: PM reported that he has obtained annual plant insurance to cover use of his mini digger at DWA work parties. Action closed.	
8.1.3	Ref 8.1.3: Action held over. PB will contact Leiths to see if the DWA still has an account with them.	PB
8.2	<b>Dava Bypass Project</b>	
8.2.1	Ref 8.2.1: Action held over. PB will update Dave McLeod of Station House, Dava.	PB
8.2.2	Ref 8.2.2: 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 8.2.3: Action held over. PB will seek specialist advice from <a href="#">Paths for All</a> re path design constraints regarding private water supplies.	PB

8.3	<b>Ghost Train Walk 2025 and DWA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project</b>	
8.3.1	Ref 8.3.8: MC reported that he has printed and laminated copies of the poster promoting the GTW event and distributed them for display in appropriate places. Action closed.	
8.3.2	Ref 8.3.9: Action held over. NS confirmed that he only has 20 GTW event medals in stock. He has costed medals at £2.37 each when purchasing qty 300. It was confirmed that the DWA logo should be used for the medals. NS will purchase 300 GTW event medals at a cost of £710.94.	NS
8.3.3	Ref 8.3.10: Action held over. MC will research the relative costs of hiring or making a finish arch.	MC
8.3.4	PB reported that ticket sales have been a little slower than at previous GTW events. Various additional avenues for advertising were discussed. MC will investigate how to advertise the GTW to a wider audience.	MC
8.3.5	MC reported that COTAG will be carrying out their pre-event route survey on 23/05/25.	
8.3.6	RR reported that he has contacted the Explorer Scouts and discussed their role in the GTW providing the 'spooky entertainment'. MC will act as point-of-contact with the Explorer Scouts while RR is on his pilgrimage, then RR will commence detailed planning on his return.	MC/RR
8.3.7	MC will contact the DWA Volunteers to ascertain how many of them are willing to commit to helping at the GTW event.	MC
8.3.8	MC will contact the Chair of the Osprey Trust to confirm that the DWA can use their bus for the GTW event.	MC
8.3.9	PM will contact the Finderne Development Trust to ask if the DWA can use their bus for the GTW event. RR and TH have volunteered as drivers.	PM
8.4	<b>DWA Information Leaflet Refresh Project</b> Ref 8.4: 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.	TH/NS/MC
9	<u>Health and Safety</u>	
9.1	<b>First Aid Kits</b>	
9.1.1	The DWA first aid kits are held by MC, PB and PM. The completeness and serviceability of each kit was confirmed.	
9.1.2	Ref 9.1.2. Action held over. MC will compile a list of qualified DWA first aiders and note the date each person is due recertification. All DWA Trustees holding a first aid certification are to pass details of the level held and its expiry date to MC.	All/MC
9.2	<b>Injury Reports and Incidents</b> (Nothing to report)	
10	<u>Business Planning</u>	
10.1	<b>DWA Strategic Business Planning</b>	
10.1.1	Ref 10.1.1: 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 10.1.2: 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	<b>Trustee Membership and Supporter Roles</b> (Nothing to report)	
10.3	<b>Succession Planning</b> (Nothing to report)	

11	<u>Funding</u> Ref 11: NS reported that using RR's Camino pilgrimage as a fundraiser would require that the DWA obtain a lottery licence. He thanked RR for the offer but declined. Action closed.	
12	<u>Social Media and Publicity</u>	
12.1	<b>DWA Website</b> (Nothing to report)	
12.2	<b>DWA Facebook Group</b>	
12.2.1	PM reported that the <a href="#">Friends of the Dava Way</a> Facebook group now has 2,053 members.	
12.2.2	Ref 12.2.3: Action held over. PM will post an advert on the DWA Facebook group for a volunteer DWA Social Media Manager.	PM
12.2.3	MC will post an appeal on the DWA Facebook group for volunteers to help at the GTW event.	MC
12.3	<b>Local, Regional and National Publications</b> (Nothing to report)	
12.4	<b>External Websites and Social Media.</b> (Nothing to report)	
13	<u>AOCB</u> (Nothing to report)	
14	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 15/04/25, at the Royal British Legion, Sanquhar Road, Forres, IV36 1DG. PB will notify the Royal British Legion about the change of meeting week.	PB

Meeting Closed: 20:55



Neil Sinclair  
Chairman  
Dava Way Association