



4.24	Ref 9.2.1: (See Item 9.2.1 below)	
4.25	Ref 9.4.2: (See Item 8.3.1.3 below)	
4.26	Ref 10.1.1: (See Item 10.1.1 below)	
4.27	Ref 10.1.2: (See Item 10.1.2 below)	
4.28	Ref 12.1: (See Item 12.1 below)	
4.29	Ref 13: (See Item 13 below)	
5	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	
5.1	PB reported that a balance of £6,494.71 is in the DWA account. Unrestricted Funds: £ 6,494.71 Restricted Funds: £ Nil	
5.2	Significant Income: £ Nil	
5.3	Significant Expenditure: £ 425.00 to Outfit Moray; first aid training deposit.	
5.4	Anticipated Expenditure (from DWA funds): £ ~150.00 to MIS; purchase of replacement rough cutter blade.	
5.5	Anticipated Income (from external funding): £ Nil	
5.6	Anticipated Expenditure (covered by external funding): £ Nil	
5.7	Donations via the GiveWP-Stripe process since last meeting: £ Nil	
6	<b>Correspondences</b>	
6.1	<b>To the Secretary</b> MC reported that he was contacted by Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) Ranger Emily Alford, enquiring if the DWA could provide a suitable project for a CNPA Junior Rangers Day to be held on 22/02/26. MC and NS have identified a tidy up of the Lynmore Bypass as a suitable project and will host the event at that location.	MC/NS
6.2	<b>Other Correspondence</b> (Nothing to report)	
7	<b>Dava Way Path Works and Equipment Maintenance</b>	
7.1	<b>Unplanned Work Since Last Meeting</b> RR reported that he has tidied the vegetation around the Dallas Dhu Ramp and carried out a litter pick in the area.	
7.2	<b>Planned Work Since Last Meeting</b> (Nothing to report – next work part due 14/02/26)	
7.3	<b>Priorities for Next Work Party and Mini Work Parties</b>	
7.3.1	Ref 7.3.1: Action held over. PM proposed that the following works be considered priorities for the full work party to be held 14/02/26: Balvlair Crossing to BBC Breathing Place Dunphail. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cut back gorse/whins and clear minor ditch on west side of cutting.</li> <li>• Survey site for digger works to clear ditch on east side of cutting.</li> </ul> Mannachie to Dallas Dhu. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scrape muddy sections and raise with sub-base and quarry dust.</li> </ul> North of Longley Crossing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish filling rut with sub-base.</li> </ul> Agreed unanimously. PM will make the necessary arrangements.	PM

7.3.2	Ref 7.3.2: Action held over. PB will liaise with Greg MacAulay regarding removal/pruning of trees at the location of the drainage pipe blockage in the cutting south of the Sluggan Burn, to prevent further root growth.	PB
7.3.3	Ref 7.3.3: 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 Balvair and Dunphail. Dependent on the adjacent ditches having been cleared.	PB
7.3.4	Ref 7.3.4: Action held over. NS will treat the oak benches with teak oil when possible.	NS
7.3.5	Ref 7.3.5: 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
7.4	<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 and arrange for its installation adjacent to the Dullicht Bridge.	NS
7.4.3	NS reported that he has collected a damaged fingerpost from Woodside, adjacent to the Forester's Cottage. This has been repaired, and NS will make arrangements for its reinstatement.	NS
7.4.4	NS reported that a fingerpost at Dunphail is damaged and requires repair. NS will repair this fingerpost next.	NS
7.5	<b>Tooling and Equipment</b>	
7.5.1	Ref 7.5.1: Action held over. PB will invoice the <a href="#">Forres Community Woodland Trust</a> (FCWT) for the recent repairs to the rough cutter.	PB
7.5.2	Ref 7.5.3: Action held over. PB will add a 19mm spanner to the chipper toolkit.	PB
7.5.3	PM reported that he and TT have carried out pre-season maintenance on the tipper and tool trailers and have serviced the strimmers. They have also carried out the self-closing modification to two galvanized steel gateposts ready for welding.	
8	<b>Project Reports</b>	
8.1	<b>Dava Bypass Project</b>	
8.1.1	Ref 8.1.1: Action held over. PB will seek specialist advice from <a href="#">Paths for All</a> re path design constraints regarding private water supplies.	PB
8.1.2	Ref 8.1.2: Action held over. PB will liaise with Tom Brinicombe, Ourack Wind Farm developer Vattenfall representative, to arrange a meeting for early in 2026 to put some further detail into the DWA proposals for improvements to the Dava Way, as part of the planning permission for the wind farm. NB: There are three planning constraints for works affecting the DWA - Constraint 23. The development of an Outdoor Access Plan to secure public access rights during and after wind farm development. Constraint 24. The development of a scheme to improve and enhance the Dava Way. Constraint 28. The development of a scheme for the provision of off-site road works at Castle Grant, including full details of the works affecting the Dava Way.	PB
8.2	<b>Dava Way Counter Project</b> Ref 8.2: Action held over. TH will obtain the appropriate components and build a test counter device (see <a href="#">Reddit article</a> ) as a winter project, with assistance from NS as required.	TH/NS

	NS demonstrated how the various electronic components are assembled to make a counter and described the process for programming the device.	
8.3	<b>Ghost Train Walk 2025</b>	
8.3.1	COTAG feedback:	
8.3.1.1	Ref 8.3.1.1: Action held over. MC will arrange a Zoom meeting with COTAG to clarify their observations re the DWA emergency maps, etc. MC reported that the Zoom meeting will take place 17/02/26.	MC
8.3.1.2	Ref 8.3.1.2: Action held over. PM will update the DWA emergency maps.	PM
8.3.1.3	Ref 9.4.2: RR reported that he has provided an equivalent What-3-Words code for each coordinate listed on the emergency maps. PM stated that he would incorporate this information as part of the map update (see Item 8.3.1.2 above). Action closed.	
8.3.1.4	Ref 8.3.1.3: Action held over. PM will design large, brightly coloured tags, to identify the various access gate keys and wrap reflective tape around the DWA padlocks.	PM
8.3.2	Ref 8.3.2: MC reported that the has added a note to the GTW project report for future reference, that the GTW events should be brought forward a week to deconflict with other 'longest day' events. Action closed.	
8.3.3	GTW publicity:	
8.3.3.1	Ref 8.3.3.1: MC reported that he has prepared a report on the GTW and this has been uploaded to the DWA website. Action closed.	
8.3.3.2	Ref 8.3.3.3: Action held over. MC will upload a report on the GTW to the DWA Facebook page.	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: MC reported that he has called in the first aid kits for an expiry date check. All the first aid kits are confirmed in date. Action closed.	
9.1.3	Ref 9.1.3: MC reported that he has purchased suitable torches and batteries and has added these to the contents of each first aid kit. Action closed.	
9.2	<b>Training</b>	
9.2.1	First aid refresher training: Ref 9.2.1: MC reported that he has booked places for five DWA Trustees to attend the Emergency First Aid at Work course to be held by <a href="#">Outfit Moray</a> on 26/02/26, 09:00 to 16:00 at the Moray Sports Centre. Action closed.	
9.3	<b>Injury Reports and Incidents</b> (Nothing to report)	
9.4	<b>Documentation Review</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. A subcommittee comprising MC, PM, TT and Andrew Calder will review the DWA Strategic Business Plan, and draft a budget forecast and funding strategy covering the next five years. MC reported that the first meeting of the subcommittee will be held 18/02/26 at the Erskine Activity Centre, Forres.	MC/PM/TT & A Calder
10.1.2	Ref 10.1.2: MC and MS will update the DWA Strategic Business Plan to include a funding strategy to meet the budget forecast. MC noted that this action is now part of Item 10.1.1 above. Action closed.	

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> (Nothing to report)	
12	<u>Social Media and Publicity</u>	
12.1	<b>DWA Website</b> Ref 12.1: Action held over. TH, NS and MC will form a sub-committee to review the DWA website pages.	TH/NS/MC
12.2	<b>DWA Facebook Group</b> PM reported that the DWA Facebook Group currently has 2730 members, with 147 followers of the related Facebook page.	
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>DWA Annual Dinner</u> Ref 13: Action held over. NS will make the necessary arrangements for a DWA annual dinner/barbecue later in 2026.	NS
14	<u>AOCB</u> RR proposed that emergency bivvi bags be added to the DWA first aid kits at a cost of £15 each. Agreed unanimously. RR will purchase the bags and issue them to the first aid kit custodians.	RR
15	Date of the Next Meeting: 19:00 10/03/26, at the Royal British Legion, Sanquhar Road, Forres, IV36 1DG.	

Meeting Closed: 20:25



Neil Sinclair  
Chairman  
Dava Way Association