

## **Beaples Standing Stone**

By July 2018, the second phase of the Beaples Standing Stone restoration was completed. This included clearing the site, putting down a membrane and covering the area with stone chippings. On completion, the site looked exactly as we wanted it to look and remained accessible and welcoming to visitors throughout the summer. Inevitably, there is some ingress of weeds and grass from the surrounding area, but this will be kept under control by the very generous efforts of Jonathan Poole. Knowstone Parish Council has agreed to fund a bench, which will be sited to look out over Exmoor and, hopefully, this will be installed by the end of May/June.

Unfortunately, the plan to plant some trees around the site, in conjunction with the Woodland Trust and the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy project, never came to fruition because of us not receiving our allotted trees for whatever reason; the local constabulary deeming that group planting would be too dangerous because of the proximity of the road running next to the site; and the general lack of interest in tree planting.

Once the bench has been sited, the whole concept of maintaining and preserving this special and historic feature will have been accomplished, and will make this important part of the fabric of our parish accessible for both local residents and visitors to enjoy.

Further information about the history of the Beaples Standing Stone can be found on the Knowstone website.

*Timothy Browse, May 2019*