

## FRIENDS OF CASTLE PULVERBATCH – part of Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country Landscape Partnership Scheme's Helping Hillforts and Earthwork Castles Project.

Castle Pulverbatch is a motte and bailey castle, now visible as a mound and ditches, and designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument. It sits within wider common land in the village known as The Knapp and The Wokken. The Friends of Castle Pulverbatch group has been in existence since the early 1990s, and has been revitalised with support from the LPS. A grant from the Scheme enabled the group to carry out conservation and access work on the site, install an updated interpretation board to replace the vandalised original one, design and print a local walks leaflet, run a medieval fair event and paid for essential equipment including a BCS reciprocal mower which enables the group to manage the grass themselves. The residents' group worked with the Scheme's Tuesday Task Group in monthly joint volunteer days, taking on a variety of tasks such as coppicing, scything, bramble clearing and improving the footpaths around the site.

*It helped to have the funding to buy tools and to get some training in how to use them, for example brushcutting and scything.*



**Installing steps on the Wokken**

*People started talking about it when stuff started to happen. The site was being cleared more, it was more evident what was there. We've had groups of up to 20 people working at events, and there are 6 – 8 local people regularly involved in the work parties.*

## As a result...

- .... The group is meeting regularly, discussing progress and planning what should be done next.
- .... The monument is more visible and there is more information available for people to learn about it and the surrounding area.
- .... The monument and the site around it are much more accessible, with well maintained footpaths and steps.



*I'm 100% sure we wouldn't be where we are now, with a monument that looks as if it's cared for, that people visit and enjoy visiting.*

*It's a great sense of achievement. We've done something really worthwhile here.*

*I know more about the local area and can share it with others. It's got me more interested in history of the site.*

*I think we'll become fairly self-sustaining. We have a 'hard core' of eight who will probably keep on being involved. We've got the kit to do things. We've learnt what's there and how to manage the site.*

*The site looks like there's something there, it's not just a mound!*