

71.

Site	Bridestones Neolithic chambered tomb (c.3800-3600 BC)
Grid Reference / Post Code	53°09'23.4"N 2°08'35.9"W
Brief Description	The Bridestones is a ruined Neolithic long cairn reported to have been 110m long.

Criteria.		
Location <i>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</i>	√	Scheduled ancient monument, accessed by foot.
Local Significance <i>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife.</i>	√	<p>The chamber is 6m x 2.7m long divided in half by a slab, now broken, which contained a porthole roughly 19.5 inches wide. The chamber is flanked by large portal stones and the entrance was a paved forecourt surrounded by standing stones three of which still remain. Two further chambers were reported standing 55 yards from the main chambers within the massive stone cairn (Cheshire Historic Environment Record), dated by style to the early Neolithic (c4000 to 3600 BC).</p> <p>The site is of national as well as local importance and illustrates part of the lives and deaths of a community living in our area 6000 years ago.</p> <p>Its biography illustrates the local significance of this site over the more modern era:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th Century the Turnpike Road was built (Dial Lane) and the Cairn was robbed to lay under the road. Also, it was reported that James Brindley's men blew up one of the megaliths in order to show the power of the explosives being used to build the Trent and Mersey canal. • 19th Century saw locals using the site for recreation and damaging the stones with picnic fires it is also reported that the courtyard was robbed for Tunstall Park. • 20th Century saw the site Scheduled and excavated (1960s). • 21st Century sees the site often overlooked by most but still attracts 'New Age' attention.
Size, Scale <i>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.</i>	√	Size of a football field.
Recommendation		Suitable for Local Green Space Designation

Pictures:



Map:

