

# the beechcliffe face

March 2007

www.beechcliffe.org

## What's your problem?

**What has 300 houses, 650 residents, and a handful of problems? The answer is Beechcliffe. But your neighbourhood now has something else. A voice.**

The Beechcliffe Face (TBF) is a new community organisation purely for people who live, work or run a business in Beechcliffe. Its purpose is to ensure the issues that matter for local people don't get ignored.

"It's not about grumbling and griping, it's about getting things done," says the group's secretary, Adam Roe. "We want to make Beechcliffe a better, happier and more attractive place to live.

"We want to make sure any issues that concern you get dealt with, not ignored. If you think the area is a bit shabby, tell us. If crime is your top irritation, don't keep it to yourself. If you are terrified by the traffic, let us know. We want to work with you to get things sorted."

### Work in progress

It does work. After a recent prang on Eel Holme View Street, TBF raised the issue of poor road markings with council officials, councillors and the police. Shortly after, new white lines appeared. Had the group not raised it, it is unlikely anything would have been happened anytime soon.

"We don't have a magic wand, but we do have a proper organisation that knows who to nobbie and that can speak up on your behalf," says Adam. "They listen because we represent the neighbourhood, not our own particular pet concerns."

The neighbourhood is small, and that brings its own problems. There's no community centre and there's very little for kids to do. Discarded needles and vandalism hint at bigger problems which won't be easily solved. That's why it is all the more important the community pulls together.

Jeff Bennett, who works at Keighley Area Co-ordinators Office, a Bradford Council body which assists local groups, says: "One of the best ways we can do that is to provide opportunities for local people to come together and share their concerns, ideas and experiences, not only with each other but with service providers and those who make the decisions about where funding is spent and resources are targeted."

Jeff adds: "By coming together as a formally constituted group involved in what we are currently referring to as 'locality planning' you immediately start to provide a focus for any future funding and resources that might be available."

### In the money

Community involvement is certainly the key to getting things done. But money won't hurt, either. TBF has already secured some start up cash, courtesy of Jeff, Noreen, Sue, Rachel and the rest of the Keighley team.

And in January, TBF heard a funding bid to Bradford's CNet Grants for Growth scheme was successful, bagging an impressive £1,995. This will be used to

cover the day-to-day costs of running the group – booking meeting rooms, producing newsletters, running a website - but will also mean we can have a community noticeboard based in Beechcliffe Stores on Arctic Street, where you can find out just what's going on. On top of that, there will be a series of initiatives unveiled through the year.

"We've made an encouraging start, but this is a long-term project," says Adam. "Beechcliffe is a good neighbourhood packed with good people, but it would be daft to pretend everything is perfect, and we will have to work together to really get all the problems sorted."

Jeff Bennett of Keighley Area Coordinators Office agrees: "The combined voice, in your case, combined face, makes sure that people start to take you seriously which has got to be good for the community.

"I have been more than happy to support TBF with some 'kick start' funding and will continue to provide officer support as long it is required. TBF is a good example to other communities of how local people can take charge of the development of their own neighbourhoods and I'm sure that thanks to your energy and enthusiasm we will see some real improvements in the quality of life of Beechcliffe residents. Keep up the good work."

## BEECHCLIFFE ON T'INTERNET

For those of you who prefer your information about Beechcliffe online, you are in luck. The Beechcliffe Face is now in cyberspace!

A new website, [www.beechcliffe.org](http://www.beechcliffe.org), is awash with useful advice on issues from road safety to graffiti, and from dealing drugs to dropping litter. The most important part of the site though is the page that allows you to contact us and tell us about any problems you'd like us to get sorted.

You can also sign up online and become a member of The Beechcliffe Face. It's one of those nice organisations. You don't have to do anything if you don't want, and it doesn't cost you a penny.

[www.beechcliffe.org](http://www.beechcliffe.org)

# Spot it, jot it and get it fixed!

We are not in the business of guessing what you think might be wrong in the area – we want you to tell us. Have you problems with any of the following? All responses are confidential.

PROBLEM	COMMENTS
1 Traffic _____	
2 Graffiti _____	
3 Litter _____	
4 Flytipping _____	
5 Anti-social behaviour _____	
6 Vandalism _____	
7 Drug dealing _____	
8 Crime _____	
9 Threats or violence _____	
10 Nuisance neighbours _____	

Anything else getting you down or winding you up? **Tell us.** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Complete and return to The Beechcliffe Face mail box in Beechcliffe Stores, or post to:  
 The Beechcliffe Face, c/o Beechcliffe Stores, 8/10 Arctic Street, Beechcliffe, Keighley. BD20 6AH

## Cards on the table

We want to hear your views – and on 8 March you'll get your chance. There will be a **meeting of The Beechcliffe Face**, open to anyone who lives, works or runs a business in the neighbourhood, at Keighley Bridge Club. Come along and tell us what you think.

### WHERE AND WHEN

Keighley Bridge Club  
 Clock View Street  
 Beechcliffe  
 8 March 2007  
 5.30-7.00pm

### CONTACT

If you need to get in touch, you can contact us by:

**Email:** info@beechcliffe.org

**Phone:** 07942 140813.

**Online:** www.beechcliffe.org

**Post:** c/o Beechcliffe Stores  
 8/10 Arctic Street  
 Beechcliffe  
 Keighley  
 BD20 6AH

The Beechcliffe Face is supported by:



## Want to join The Beechcliffe Face?

Anyone who lives, works or runs a business in Beechcliffe can become a member of The Beechcliffe Face. Membership is free – all you have to do is fill out this form and leave it in Beechcliffe Stores on Arctic Street.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I confirm I would like to be a member of The Beechcliffe Face.

Complete and return to The Beechcliffe Face mail box in Beechcliffe Stores, or post to: The Beechcliffe Face, c/o Beechcliffe Stores, 8/10 Arctic Street, Beechcliffe, Keighley. BD20 6AH.

Any information you provide will be confidential and will not be shared with any other persons or organisations. It will only be used to keep you informed of the activities of The Beechcliffe Face.