



On Sunday 19th February the Deacons' met to discuss and pray about the future vision for Newbury Baptist Church. During this time there was a sense that God was leading us to consider three areas:

- **Premises** which are well-maintained, well-equipped and accessible
- **People** who find that the church encourages them to explore their faith and employ their gifts in demonstrating it
- **Programme** which provides both spiritual nourishment and opportunity to grow through mistakes and successes



These thoughts build on what has previously been shared with Church Members in response to people's hope for the future; that NBC will be a Church Community reaching out to the people of Newbury.

Over the next three years there will be developments in each of the three P's – Premises, People and Programme.

The focus now is to consider how, with God's guiding and strength, we turn this idea into reality. The ambition is to start doing things straight away with the things we can deal with whilst exploring the less certain areas. This is why the plan starts now – today is Year 0, and Year 1 will start in 2018.

Year 0 Focus:

- Scope the work and appoint a premises transformation consultant
- Encourage people to use their gifts in the community and find opportunities to be together
- Develop ideas from The Disciple's Way, Members and Community Conversations

Year 1 Focus:

- Appoint another team member with a focus on under 16s and a priority to develop volunteers
- Continue to develop an awareness of God at work in each other's lives
- Build the programme around reaching out to the people of Newbury in the light of insights from inside and out

Year 2 Focus

- Appoint a Premises Manager to oversee the use of the refreshed physical resources
- Initiate an Intern programme at NBC supported by ministry team members
- Establish the community orientated programme developing initiatives with members

At this point the plan is both bold but open and we're looking to meet together to discuss, pray and seek God's will for the future. There are many questions, not all of which have answers but we believe that this is what God is calling us to at this time. We step out in faith believing that God will provide the resources (money, time, people) needed.

Each person has a role to play in seeing this vision go from a plan on paper to reality and we're excited about what that may do as light is brought to South Newbury.