



ROB'S BLOG

## **April 2013 – Dan's Den**

The point of Jesus was, in the words John reports 'to bring life in all its fullness' (Ch 10 v10).

The research behind the Dan's Den vision has shown up some of the people in Ilkley who are not provided with the fullness of life as much as they may be - parents with pre-school children, disabled people, young children; there are lonely, needy, and vulnerable people for whom Dan's Den will be good news.

And so we have given the go ahead for the project, and set ourselves the ambitious but necessary aim that it will incur no costs from the church's budget.

As I reflect on how we have got to this decision, it has been a process of accepting a vision from God. It's taken 10 years for people to understand, grasp, and support that vision. The writer of Proverbs knew 'where there's no vision the people perish', or in other words 'where there's vision people prosper'. Not long after arriving at Christchurch, I was soon convinced that Dan's Den was a vision from God that rightly deserved the energy and resources of the Church. The challenge was to let the Holy Spirit do her work in convincing the rest of us. And in true Christchurch fashion, that process has taken time, graciousness and prayer, and finally, we have said with the apostles 'it seemed good to us and the Holy Spirit' (Acts 15: 28).

Please pray now for the people who will be asked by the leadership team to form a management team to make the vision a reality; the Christchurch family as we step out into the unknown, again!, and ultimately of course that God's blessings will pour out into the community from this next project.

As ever, it remains a privilege to be the Minister of Christchurch, an open, prayerful, and Christian Church. I want to say, on God's behalf, 'Well done, and thank you, faithful servants' (Matthew 25: 23). Keep up the good work.

Your Minister and friend,

*Rob Hilton*

