Scene 1

News Reporter: Hello and welcome to the “Bethlehem Today” programme. This is the story of a modern young couple who are about to become parents for the very first time. Mary is at home decorating the winter tree and her husband, Joseph, is busy at work as a joiner. But Joseph is about to get a visitor.

Angel: Hello Joseph!
Joseph: Hello?
Angel: I have come to tell you that………
Joseph: That Mary is going to have a baby called Jesus and he will be the son of God?
Angel: Hey! That’s my line!
Joseph: Well, you’re a bit late; another angel came 9 months ago and told us!
Angel: Oh I’M SORRY!! Guess I missed the email!!
News Reporter: Ooh, that didn’t go very well folks, did it? Well Joseph is about to go home to Mary so that they can get ready to travel to Bethlehem.

Joseph: I’m home!
Mary: Thank goodness, I think we should start travelling to Bethlehem so that I can have this baby, yeah?
Joseph: Okay, I’ll go and get the donkey out of the stable.
Mary: Or the car? I mean we do have modern technology these days!
Joseph: Yeah, fine, it will be faster.

News Reporter: As Mary and Joseph get ready to leave, there is a town council meeting going on about a hotel in Bethlehem.

Scene 2

Mary and Joseph are in the car, Mary is searching on her phone, and Joseph is driving.

Mary: I’ll look on trip advisor for a good hotel.
Joseph: What? You’ve left that a bit late haven’t you?
Meanwhile the 3 councillors are sitting having a meeting and looking at plans.

Planning councillor: I have plans here from the “The Royal Bethlehem Hotel”. The owner wants to extend.

Environmental Councillor: Well I think we need to do a site visit to see how well he is running his hotel at the moment.
Health and Safety: Yes, well I would like to check the site too and make sure that all the health and safety rules will be followed.

Scene 3

Mary: Are we nearly there yet?
Joseph: No!
Mary: Just as well, because I can’t get internet on my phone, not found a hotel yet.

News Reporter: Breaking News!! There seems to be a bright light in the Sky, our councillors are mesmerised by it and start to follow it.

The 3 councillors follow the star off stage

Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem.

Mary: Are we nearly there yet?
Joseph: Yes!
Mary: Woohoo!
Joseph: Have you found a hotel yet?
Mary: No, can’t get online!
Joseph: Well, I think we should go shopping and maybe we can ask someone for a nice hotel.
Mary: I hope that’s not an excuse to go and buy a new apple watch? Although I would like a new Fitbit.
Joseph: Em, Maybe, hmmm
Mary: Come on then

Mary and Joseph get out of the car and walk towards shop.

Scene 4

Mary: Ooh! Look at all the fit bits! I’m going to get a purple one….. Now where’s my bank card… actually can I use apple pay?
Store Assistant: Yes that’s fine

Store assistant hands Fitbit to Mary. Mary scans her phone.

Joseph: I would like an apple watch? Do you have a blue one?

Store assistant: Yes we do, here you go.

Store assistant hands watch to Joseph

Joseph: Thank you…. Actually do you know of any nice hotels around here?

Store assistant: you’ll be lucky. It’s winter festival in Bethlehem. There is one closing for extension though, you might be lucky there. Here I’ll write down directions.
The store assistant writes something on a piece of paper and hands it to Joseph.

Mary and Joseph start walking

The 3 councillors are following the star.

Mary: Are we there yet?
Joseph: No!
Mary’s Fitbit makes a noise. Mary looks at it

Mary: ooh, ten thousand steps, yay!
Joseph: We are here!

Scene 5

Mary and Joseph go up to the hotel manager

Hotel manager: Hello, what can I do for you?
Joseph: Did we not just see you at the shops? Aren’t you the store assistant?

Hotel assistant: No, that’s my twin brother, Liam. Did he send you here?
Joseph: yeah he did, said you might have a room for us.
Hotel manager: you’ve got to be joking; do you know what weekend this is?

Mary: Are you sure, I’m about to have this baby!
Hotel manager: Shouldn’t you be in hospital?
Mary: Well yes, but an angel told us we had to do it this way.
Hotel manager: Really? That’s not one I’ve heard before. I really think you should go to hospital.
Mary: well there isn’t time now, because this baby is coming now.

Hotel manager: Oh my goodness, well….. I have a shed…. it’s got a bike and a fridge freezer in it but you could go in there?

Joseph: yep, that’ll do!

Scene 6

Mary and Joseph settle to have the baby. Meanwhile the star has led the 3 councillors to the shed.

Health and safety: Well! Would you look at that! The star has led us to hotel that applied for an extension!
Environment: Oh my goodness, how spooky is that!
Planning: Weird!
Health and Safety: Well I suppose we could have a look round since we’re here anyway?

The 3 councillors enter the shed to see Mary and Joseph.

Planner: Well it looks like the hotel manager is using the shed as an extension… WITHOUT PLANNING PERMISSION!!
Health and Safety: Oh my goodness, this just breaks every health and safety code, ever written!!
Environment: Oh dear, I think I may need to shut this place down!

The 3 councillors then notice the tiny baby and their attitude suddenly changes and they are calmer and happy.

Environment: The son of God?
Planner: Is his name Jesus?
Planner: I give him Gold
Mary: Ooh, Terry’s All Gold! My favourite!
Health and Safety hand over coins

Joseph: They’re funny looking coins, what are they?
Health and Safety: They are Francs and Cents!

Environment hands over a baby toy.
Environment: And I give you mirror!

THE END