

Sometimes it is easy to forget the wonderful independent shops we have in Ross, and I was delighted with the help I received at both shops last week.

During my first day off on Wednesday I happened to have the news on while I was doing my housework, and was shocked to see the breaking news regarding the terrorist attack in London. I was watching from the moment when the news first broke, and saw the resulting confusion as the full story started to unfold.

The first coverage reported it as a stabbing of a Police Officer, but it then became clear that this was a bigger incident. A number of people had been injured after a car had driven at them on Westminster Bridge and knocked them down. A short while later the reported deaths started to come in.

I stopped my housework and sat on the sofa, and didn't move for a few hours, completely shocked and compelled by what I was witnessing.

I do not want to get into what the reasoning can be for the behaviour of those individuals that commit these attacks, but I will say I do not, and never will, understand why someone can

be watching Comic Relief on Friday evening, and during the Red Nose Day Actually sketch, Hugh Grant's character made a speech, which said "Wherever you see tragedy, you see bravery too. Wherever you see ordinary people in need, you see extraordinary people come to their aid." Although this was for Comic Relief, I couldn't help but feel how poignant and apt it was after all that had happened in London a few days before. He ended with "Good will win" and I think this is a good thought to end this column with.

*Charlotte Reynolds,  
General Manager*

Do you have  
**a story**  
for the Ross  
Gazette?  
Call the news  
desk on 01989  
562007

How to contact us  
**Ross Gazette**  
54A Broad Street, Ross-on-Wye,  
Herefordshire, HR9 7DY  
☎ 01989 562007 Fax 01989 768023  
www.rossgazette.com  
General Manager

# Four onions help Ross Christ Church

PLANS for a new building for Christ Church on Eddle Cross Street, Ross-on-Wye, have taken an exciting leap forward, and the church have enlisted in the help of the Onion Collective, a team of consultants, who have been involved in several community projects.

The Somerset-based 'Onion Collective' are a team of four. They founded when plans to regenerate their home town were brought to the community's attention, and the team recognised the importance of consultation sessions for people to express their opinions, thoughts and aspirations.

Christ Church will utilise the knowledge and experience of the Collective to bring forth additional changes to the plans for its own redevelopment later this year.

Internationally-renowned architect Piers Taylor, who is working on the designs for the brand new centre in Ross,

introduced the team at Christ Church to the 'four onions,' having worked with them on various projects across the West and South West previously.

A feasibility study, with a vision to demolish the dated 1960s building and replace it with a brand new centre, was recently submitted for pre-planning. It was warmly received by the County planners and Town Council.

To take the submission to the next stage, the Christ Church project team, in conjunction with the Onion Collective, will be engaging with different communities around the town, those already involved with the church and those without a prior connection, to see what benefits a new church building would bring.

Revd Deborah Cornish, minister of Christ Church, commented: "We are delighted that Piers Taylor has introduced

us to the ladies of the Onion Collective, and look forward to working with them to progress the plans for a brand new church which will benefit the local community."

The Christ Church team and Onion Collective will be running a series of consultation events in late April and welcome any community groups to get in touch at this early stage to express an interest in coming along. The team is excited to hear from all members of the community as to how a new church building could work for the whole town and become a real hub for the community.

For more information about the project, or to find out more about the forthcoming community consultation events, please contact Reverend Deborah Cornish via email: [deborah.cornish@btinternet.com](mailto:deborah.cornish@btinternet.com), or Rachel on the Onion Collective, at [rachel@onioncollective.co.uk](mailto:rachel@onioncollective.co.uk)

# 'Nearly' there with the Ross Neighbourhood Plan

THE chair of the Neighbourhood Plan, Melvyn Reynolds gave a report on the progress of the plan at the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, March 27th. He said that it is nearly there but not quite.

He said that the committee had, thanks to various consultation exercises and through articles in the *Ross Gazette*, completed everything they needed to do when they started the plan.

He added that as time has gone on, different factors have cropped up, which means they still have work to do.

He said that Herefordshire Council is looking for a possible site for a new school which will have to be added to the plan. The new housing development at Hildersley, which was recently approved, also has to be taken into account and the future development at Model Farm is unclear, although Herefordshire Council had bid for funding from the government, this had not been received.

He said: "Herefordshire Council Officers won't let us go to consultation until these things are clear."

He added that he is looking forward to a meeting with council officers to get a clearer idea, then the plan will go to examination, which is the last formal process before a referendum.

# Ross Auction Centre

AT the Green Market, held on Monday, March 27th, RG & RB Williams reported 100 finished cattle and 2,054 hoggets and spring lambs.

They reported an excellent cattle trade and a much improved hogget and lamb trade, up £10 on last week.

Steers to 230p - £1,629

Heifers to 239p - £1,343

Cull Cows to 174p - £1,171

Spring Lambs to 286p - £114.50

Prime Hoggets to 210p - £96.80

Cull Ewes & Rams to Av - £71.20 - £110

Ross on Wye  
Weather Report

For the week beginning Monday 20th March

