

Love Crescent Road?

*Crescent Road Enhancement Meeting,
Marchesi Centre, 12th April 2007*

A meeting was organised on April 12th by Paul Holdsworth, the Town Centre Manager for Windermere, Bowness, Ambleside and Grasmere, so local people could voice their concerns about plans to improve Crescent Road, Windermere, and to influence the final designs.

The meeting was attended by approximately 120 people – around 100 were local residents and traders.

Through a process of lively and sometimes impassioned debate, a very large majority of the meeting agreed to put forward a “wishlist” of things they want the designers to consider.



Windermere's Wishlist

These are the 17 issues agreed by the meeting:

- **Maximise on-street parking**
The current provision of free, one-hour on-street parking was identified as a vital element in the retail offer of the town
- **20 mph limit**
The meeting felt that 20mph was the appropriate maximum speed for all traffic in Windermere, between the A591 and Ellerthwaite Square. This should be achieved by good design, not aggressive signs and enforcement
- **Improved crossings**
Better pedestrian crossing arrangements are needed to cross Crescent Road
- **Reduce parking prices**
Parking prices in Broad Street car park were considered too high
- **Consider issuing residents' parking permits**
Pressure on parking makes life difficult for residents. A permit scheme would greatly help
- **Top quality paving**
Attendees overwhelmingly felt that paving materials should be of the very highest quality – they want a say in what materials are used
- **Trees**
Trees would beautify Crescent Road. A mix of big and small trees should be considered. Again, local people want a say in what varieties are used

- **Wall mounted lighting**
To create clean lines and uncluttered pavements, the designers should consider installing street lighting directly on buildings, using high quality designs in keeping with the Victorian streetscape, while minimising light pollution into upstairs windows and the night sky
- **Uplighters**
Lights installed in the pavements are attractive and vandal-resistant. Used in conjunction with street trees they could be a delightful addition to the look of Crescent Road after dark
- **Creative Lighting**
While streetlighting designs should be traditional, creative lighting that is discreet or even invisible during the day, could act as a modern contrast after dark – but it must not clash with the traditional feel of the street
- **Locals AND visitors**
All changes should benefit locals as well as visitors – we don't want the town to lose its central role in the lives of local people!
- **Don't plan for total pedestrianisation**
Local people want to see traffic continuing to use Crescent Road
- **Widen pavements where practical**
Wider pavements make walking more comfortable for everyone, and make window-shopping much easier. Widen pavements where possible
- **Good maintenance**
World-class streets need top quality maintenance – make sure maintenance budgets are adequate!
- **Cycle parking**
Cyclists are shoppers (and residents) too – include cycle-parking in the scheme, and use cycle racks instead of bollards, if appropriate
- **Towards step-free**
Removing steps and ramps makes life easier for wheelchair users, parents with baby-buggies, visitors wheeling suitcases, delivery-men using trolleys. Make sure changes in level on Crescent Road are kept to a minimum

These issues will be sent to the design team for their serious consideration!

For more information, contact

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