

ONE-SIDE PARKING MAY END JAMS

Western Mail Reporter

THE main road through Cowbridge was a black spot because of the congestion and danger caused by the parking of vehicles on both sides of the street, a county alderman said in Cardiff yesterday.

Parking should be limited to alternate sides of the road on alternate days, Alderman Llewellyn Heycock said at a meeting of Glamorgan Standing Joint Committee.

The committee were considering a report by the Acting Chief Constable, Mr. E. R. Baker, on the county's road-accident black spots.

New by-pass

The chairman, Alderman Percy Smith, told Alderman Heycock that construction of the new Cowbridge by-pass would start soon, although it would take some time to complete. A suggestion to prohibit parking in High Street, Cowbridge, had been referred for consultation with Cowbridge Borough Council.

"The chamber of trade at Cowbridge have been rather critical of the action of the police inspector at Cowbridge over the firm stand he has taken concerning vehicles left standing for some hours outside shops," said the chairman.

"But the inspector is trying to ensure a free flow of traffic. If there was parking on only one side of the road at Cowbridge it might help."

Women shoppers

Alderman Heycock said that delivery vans were not the chief culprits in causing congestion. Some people parked their cars at Cowbridge for much of the day, he said.

The congested area is at Eastgate, Cowbridge, between the town hall and the traffic lights.

Cowbridge police have been compelled to tell drivers to move their vehicles into the two large car parks behind the town hall and adjoining the Duke of Wellington Hotel, but women shoppers appear to be the biggest culprits especially

those who visit local hairdressing salons and leave their cars parked outside for two or three hours.

Parking is allowed along the 100 yards of wide road between the town hall and the Duke of Wellington Hotel because vehicles there do not interfere with the flow of traffic in either direction.

World of good

Traders in the Eastgate area, perturbed over police action in moving parked vehicles, especially on Saturdays, recently met Inspector Frederick Bevan, Cowbridge, to discuss the position.

Mr. Ken George, Deputy Mayor of Cowbridge and chairman of Cowbridge Chamber of Trade, told me, "With a little co-operation between local business people, shoppers and the police the trouble can easily be solved until we get the new Cowbridge by-pass.

"When this is constructed it will do us the world of good."

Mr. Glyn Roberts, secretary of the chamber of trade, is personally trying to solve the traffic problem outside his premises in High Street.

Displayed in his window is a notice telling customers who visit his premises that goods will be delivered to cars if parked in the car parks.

Commonsense

Mr. Roy Edwards, a butcher, of Eastgate, says that there is sufficient room for parking outside his premises for shoppers to collect their Sunday joints without interfering with the flow through the town.

But Mr. Glyn McNeil, landlord of the Horse and Groom Hotel, told me, "There is far too much indiscriminate parking by shoppers. It has been going on for 20 years.

"A little common sense only is needed because if they use the official car park they can do all their shopping within a radius of 200 yards."

Alderman Edward John, Mayor of Cowbridge, said the council and the police were working in harmony to help solve the problem.