Community Flood Plan

**Conversion of front gardens into parking- important facts you should know**

If you are thinking of parking your car in your front garden you should be aware of planning legislation which limits the amount of impermeable\* hard surfacing that you can lay down to no more than 5 sqm (or 54 sqft) without planning permission. The rest should be permeable\*\* surfacing. This still allows hard surface runs for your wheels but also allows rain to drain into the ground and not run off into the road and possibly overload the combined sewer. Soakaways are also recommended.

We live on a flat valley floor where flooding is possible through surface water (from a series of heavy downpours), river and sea. The first is most likely. If we are flooded it will be made worse by the sewer overflowing onto the street with sewage mixing with the excess water. We can all reduce risk by reducing rainwater flow from our properties onto the road and into the sewer.

The Wales planning legislation is here <https://www.gov.wales/planning-permission-paving-your-front-garden> This eventually links to the UK government website guidance on surfacing in front gardens below:

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| <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens-guidance/guidance-on-the-permeable-surfacing-of-front-gardens> | A qr code with a dinosaur  Description automatically generated |

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| **\*Impermeable/non-porous surfaces**  | **Close with solid fill** | **\*\*Permeable/porous surfaces**  | **Checkmark with solid fill** |
| * Tarmac
* Concrete/bomanite
* Concrete block paving
* Paving slabs
* Bricks
 |  | * Gravel (on permeable fabric/geotextile)
* Stone chippings eg slate (as above)
* Grass
* Planting
* Specialist permeable asphalt or specialist permeable block paving on permeable base.
* Soakaways
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Thanks for reading this. If you are interested, this is our community flood plan website page:

<https://pontcannafloodplan.org.uk/severn-grove-romilly-crescent-and-conway-road/>

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|  |  Left diagram: | Preferred rain drainage into ground and water butts |
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