Green Infrastructure Statement
Site: 17 Llys Y Groes, Wrexham, LL13 7AG
Proposal: Construction of an attached garage and associated hard surfacing (block paving to part of the front lawn, approx. 64 m²)

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1. Introduction

This statement supports the planning application for the proposed attached garage at 17 Llys Y Groes. It addresses the green infrastructure (GI) implications of the development and outlines how the scheme will maintain and, where possible, enhance environmental assets, in line with Wrexham County Borough Council's planning policies and national guidance.

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2. Site Context

The property is part of a relatively new residential development, featuring modern dwellings with front gardens, private drives, and landscaped communal areas. The immediate surroundings include formal planting, lawned areas, and street trees.
The existing site includes:

- A paved driveway
- A front lawn divided by the drive with some ornamental planting
- Domestic boundary fencing.

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3. Proposed Development

The proposal involves:

- Construction of a single-storey attached garage on part of the existing driveway footprint
- Replacement of approx. 64 m² of existing front lawn with permeable block paving to provide additional parking/turning space
  The garage will be constructed using materials to match the main dwelling.

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4. Potential GI Impacts

Loss of Soft Landscaping:
The proposal will reduce the extent of front lawn area, which currently contributes to rainwater infiltration, urban cooling, and limited biodiversity value.

Surface Water Runoff:
Additional hard surfacing could marginally increase surface water runoff if impermeable materials were used.

Biodiversity:
The existing lawn is of low ecological value, with no trees, hedgerows, or significant habitat features on the affected footprint.

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5. Mitigation & Enhancement Measures

To ensure the development aligns with GI principles, the following measures are proposed:

1. **Permeable Surfacing:**
   The new block paving will be laid as a *permeable system* with a free-draining sub-base, allowing surface water to infiltrate rather than run off into the drainage network.
2. **Soft Landscaping Retention & Enhancement:**
   - Retain remaining lawn and ornamental planting to maintain visual amenity.
   - Introduce additional low-maintenance planting (pollinator-friendly species) adjacent to the new garage where feasible.
3. **Biodiversity Features:**
   - Install one wall-mounted bird box on the side/rear elevation of the garage.
   - Optionally, install a solitary bee nesting block in a sunny aspect within the retained garden space.

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6. Conclusion

The proposed development will result in a modest reduction of soft landscaping; however, with the use of permeable paving, targeted biodiversity enhancements, and retention of the majority of green space, the scheme will maintain functional green infrastructure.
The proposed measures ensure compliance with the spirit of local and national GI policies while enabling the homeowner to meet practical parking and storage needs.