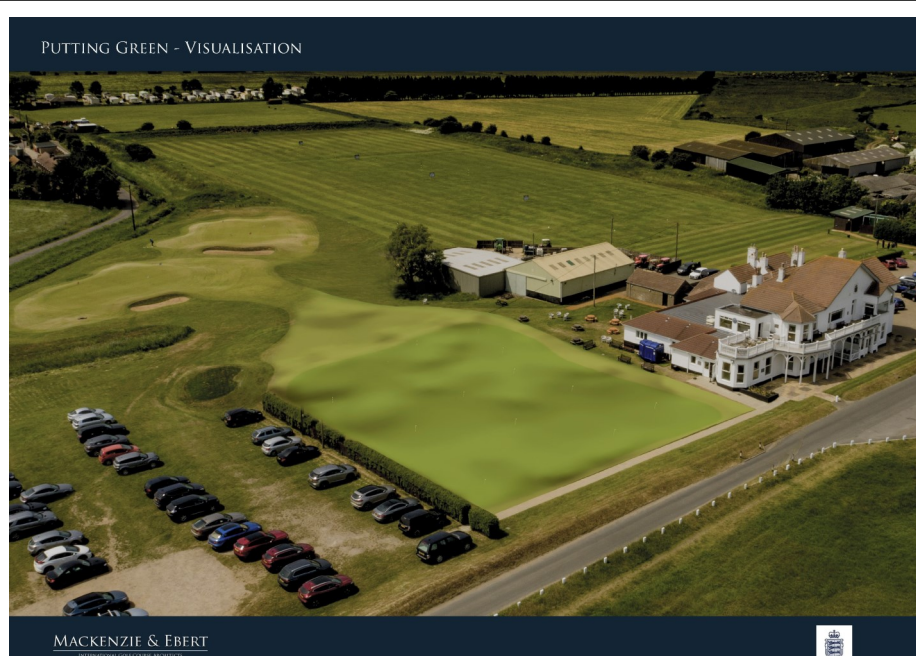




Royal Cinque Ports Putting Green Upgrade



The Concept

Having good practice facilities is vital for golf clubs, in particular championship golf clubs. In the winter of 2018/19 the Club created a fantastic new Short Game Area, with practice greens which replicate the shapes found on the course.

The next stage of the development of the Club's practice facilities is for the putting green to be renovated. This area has fallen behind many of the surfaces on the course, mainly due to its sub-surface make up and how close it sits to the water table. The green surface performs well during summer months but sits wet during the winter months, largely due to low percolation rates. The result of this means loss in grass coverage coming in to Spring and an increase in disease.

The aim for the new putting green is to provide a facility which replicates the undulations and surfaces of the golf course, yet has areas large enough for serious putting practice. A lot of time has been taken to select the correct growing medium and these materials can be sourced onsite which makes the project not only more affordable but also more environmentally friendly and sustainable.



MACKENZIE & EBERT
INTERNATIONAL GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

Architect and Contractor Selection

Martin Ebert has been our chosen Architect for many years now and we have enjoyed many of the projects he and his team have completed. Martin specialises in Short Game Areas and has completed work at Turnberry, Portrush, St Andrews, and most recently Royal Liverpool. Martin has an understanding of the needs of Royal Cinque Ports and has created a drawing and visualisations that make for an interesting area to practice putting.

The preferred contractor is a company called Golf Link. They have completed successful works at Princes, Royal Lytham & St. Anne's and Royal Troon, and have some very talented shapers on their team.



Process and Timescale

The Greenstaff are due to start stripping the turf on October 25th, however this could be delayed in the hope some cold weather can help keep the turf disease free while rolled up. The process should last around 3 weeks and it is hoped that the putting green will be back in play for Easter.

- Putting Green is stripped in big rolls and stored in Visitor's Car Park, Irrigation stripped out.
- Subgrade is removed and exchanged with clean dune sand from the front of the 3rd black tee.
- Rootzone (dune sand from 3rd) is shaped to drawings.
- Screened compost (stored at The Chequers) is mixed 1:1 with dune sand to a depth of 250mm and shaped out to mirror the previous stage.
- Irrigation installed, fine finish to surface, pre seed fertiliser applied then turf laid back down.
- Aftercare processes including aeration and rolling throughout the winter months.

