

Erosion Management at Wisley Golf Course



Dramatic erosion at Wisley Golf Course

This project involved extensive works to the River Wey, which flows through three holes of The Wisley Golf Club.

Years of erosion had taken its toll, leaving unstable vertical banks two to three metres high.

The effect of this erosion was not only unsightly, but also a Health and Safety issue for both golfers and The Wisley greenkeepers.

The erosion issues were addressed in the Autumn of 2013.

The area required the installation of erosion control protection and the introduction of indigenous wetland plants.

Products Used

- **Coir Rolls**
- **Coir Pallets**
- **Native Plants**
- **Coir Matting**



Reprofiled banks with Coir Rolls, Coir Pallets and Coir Matting

Erosion control measures

Firstly, the banks were graded back and informally shaped, creating angles of between 20 and 25 degrees.

Local stone was strategically sited in areas identified by the fisheries officer to enhance opportunities for the spawning of fish in the River Wey, which is, at times, a fast flowing river.

Coir Rolls containing well-established plants were installed, with two thirds submerged below mean water level.

A shelf was then formed at water level and pre-established Coir Pallets, with mature varieties of indigenous plants, were carefully positioned.

Both the Rolls and Pallets were staked and tied as a temporary measure to prevent movement until the plants had sufficient time to establish a robust root system.



Reprofiling the river bank



Preplanted Coir Rolls provide immediate bank protection



Preplanted Coir Rolls and Coir Pallets ensure rapid establishment of plants

Natural erosion control

Topsoil was then placed and graded before Coir Matting was laid and pegged to the base of the banks.

The final stage was to hydroseed with a bent/fescue mix, adding 10% rye to achieve some germination at this late stage in the year.

Strict regulations

Work on the River Wey had to be kept within the budget; adhere to stringent Health and Safety rules and follow the strict guidelines issued by the Environment Agency.





Well established plants and robust natural erosion control

Stringent time frames

The job could not be undertaken until permission and consents were in place. However, Global Golf Builders' accelerated works programme ensured completion in just three weeks.

Successful flood prevention

Soon after this project was finalised, the erosion control methods were put to the test in several huge flood events in Winter 2013.

They successfully withstood the flooding and The Wisley Golf Course now has a stable, fully vegetated river bank that provides safety and beauty for its golfers.

