

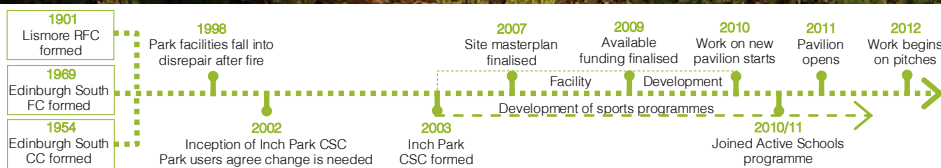


Three clubs. One vision.



Main image: Football and rugby pitches

Inset from top: New Pavilion nearing completion; Demolition of burnt out changing pavilion



Inch Park has long been the focus for both sport and recreation in and around the Gilmerton area of Edinburgh. However, by 1998 the facilities in the park had fallen into disrepair and had become increasingly unsuitable for many of the clubs to use, restricting their growth and development.

Lismore Rugby Football Club recognised that in order to re-develop and maintain the council-owned facilities, a new approach was required. In 2002, it became the main driving force behind the formation of Inch Park Community Sports Club (IPCSC), a collaborative enterprise between the three main clubs who used the park, Lismore RFC, Edinburgh South Football Club and Edinburgh South Cricket Club. The work of the newly formed multi-sports club was recognised when it was subsequently awarded community sport hub status by sportscotland.

Management and planning

The group identified that in order to achieve the ambition to improve the

clubs and facilities at Inch Park, they would have to develop a robust and sustainable business plan. The group carefully investigated and established the key requirements for both the clubs and the community, to ensure the long term viability and flexibility of the site. While the club aspirations were to develop the whole site, it was the existing fire damaged changing pavilion which was in need of immediate attention. The new clubhouse, which took a year to construct, opened in 2011 and caters for both community and club activities and provides a base from which IPCSC can promote participation in club sport as a community sport hub.

Investing in people

Investment in the community and its members is essential when building a successful sports hub whether it is grass root level or high performance sport. The IPCSC recognised this and have taken considerable steps to ensure the club and facilities are an integral part of the community, whether its is encouraging youth participation through the Active Schools programme and coaching

sessions or delivering community programmes based around sport, such as dance classes and keeping fit for over 50s.

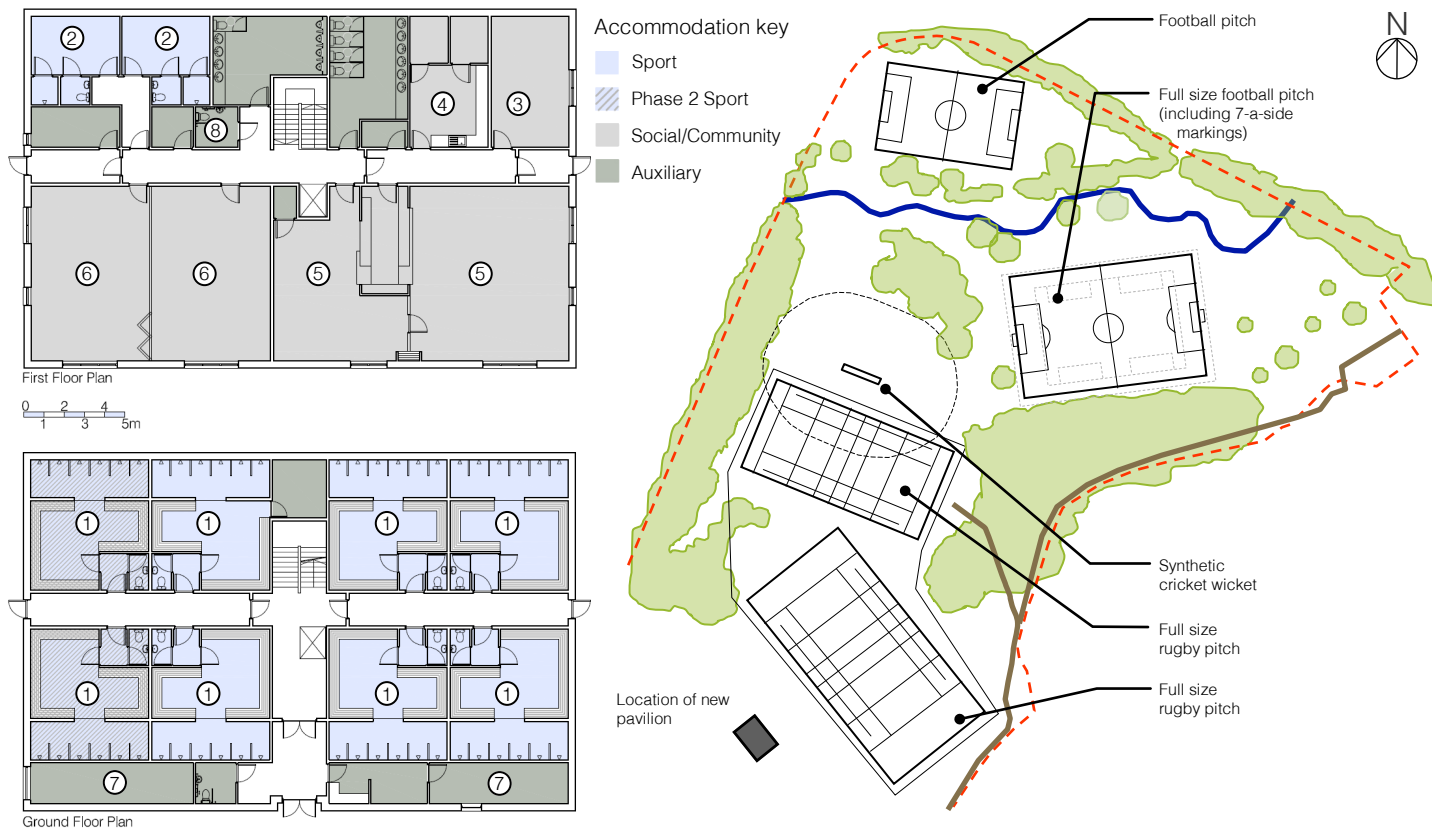
With a development manager and team of sports development officers on board, the IPCSC continues to work in conjunction with community groups and schools to find new ways of engaging with the public. Whether it is through school holiday sports camp or secondary school coaching training, as part of the club's "learning through sport" programme, the clubs are dedicated to establishing firm foundations and pathways to sport for the future.

Key Facts

- **Club:** Inch Park Community Sport Club, Gilmerton Road, Edinburgh
- **Project:** Multi-sport facility
- **Project value:** £1,500,000
- **Principal funding partners:** sportscotland, Robertson Trust, Edinburgh City Council

Facility development

Changing pavilion



Design and construction

The site of the IPCSC covers around 9.8 Hectares and consists of a clubhouse, two full size rugby pitches, two football pitches and a cricket oval, complete with a synthetic wicket.

Located to the south of the site, adjacent to the rugby pitches, the clubhouse is split over two levels with team changing accommodation at ground level and the club's social and community spaces at first floor level. Consisting of eight team changing rooms, the layout provides the club with generous changing areas suitable for various team sizes. With only six of the eight changing rooms included in the first phase of construction, the layout provides the club with a degree of flexibility, allowing it to increase the clubhouse capacity as and when numbers and funds dictate, safe guarding the sustainability of the club for the future.

By separating the social and sport areas, the club is able to manage the facility effectively, providing the opportunity to use the social spaces on the upper floor for use by more community based activities and groups. The phased fit out and construction programme has enabled the club to

begin to use certain areas of the pavilion before the facility was officially complete, generating vital income for the clubs and limiting the length of time they were without any sort of suitable changing facilities.

Future goals

- Developing vibrant and sustainable clubs as part of a community sport hub.
- Teams at all ages across three core sports in all local senior schools.
- Expansion of the user network - hosting other clubs and assisting in their development

Key outcomes & lessons

- Co-ordinated approach has led to the club being identified as a community sport hub
- Researching/identifying the needs of other sports in area before developing proposals
- Joint approach has allowed IPCSC to benefit from a greater depth or knowledge, expertise and finances.
- Engaging with the whole community providing a variety of opportunities in different sports and other activities.

Sports development : teams

Rugby: 2 male senior teams
1 female senior team
4 under 16's teams

Football: 8 teams at under 15 & below
5 teams at under 15 & above

Cricket: 4 senior teams
An increase in school sessions

Schedule of areas

Gross site area 9.8Ha
Building footprint 460m²

Accommodation

①	Changing rooms (each)	35m ²
	Changing area	22m ²
	Showers/ WC	13m ²
②	Referee changing	16.5m ²
③	Committee room	25m ²
④	Kitchen	25m ²
⑤	Social/Function space	118m ²
⑥	Letable/Flexible space	100m ²
	(2 @ 50m ²)	
⑦	Storage	100m ²
⑧	Accessible WC	4m ²

Procurement

Contract SBC Minor Works
with single stage competitive tender

Contract start October 2009
Practical completion January 2011
Contract completion December 2011