

Located in the highland village of Caol, near Fort William, Kilmallie Shinty Club has had mixed fortunes throughout its 82 year history. Despite successfully competing in the Camanach'd Premier League for many years and featuring in several Cumanach'd Cup Finals, Kilmallie were relegated in 2007 and lost a number of key experienced players. A new focus was adopted and the rebuilding process began.

The club recognised the importance of investing in the sport at youth level and looked to its youth development program as a sustainable way of successfully rebuild the club. The first step was to put in place a strategy which would create a quality coaching environment at the club and the wider the community. The club appointed an additional coach, whose role was specifically to aimed at youth development, providing dedicated coaching time for the youth side as well as establishing strong links with the local primary schools, through Lochaber Coaching Network.

#### **Active in schools**

Working with the local primary schools, the club provided training and skills sessions for a large number of children, generating a lot of interest in the sport and the club. This interest combined with the development of existing members meant the club soon had a squad of players at various age groups. With more youth players progressing through its youth development programmes and workshops, the club soon began to enjoy success at senior level and were once again competing at a high level.

## **Building for the future**

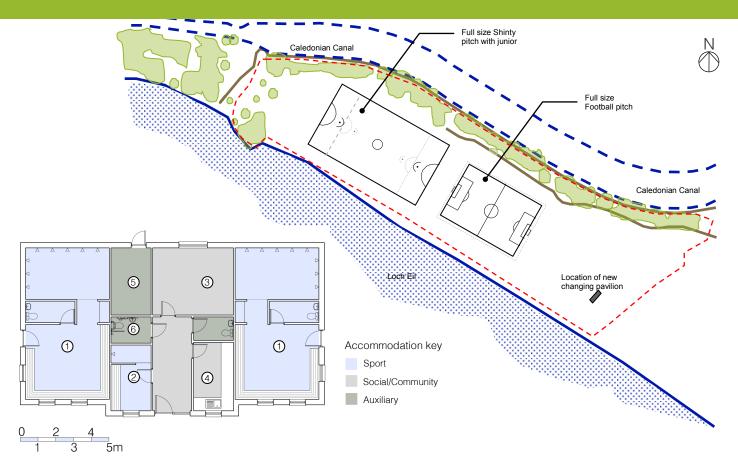
The standard of facilities at the club didn't match the quality and enthusiasm now being displayed on the field and the club's focus turned to re-developing their existing 30 year old changing facility, which was now in desperate need of repair and was no longer fit for purpose. There had always been an ambition to replace existing changing, with a new permanent clubhouse and the backing of the community and a growing membership, the club entered

the next stage in its development securing the lease of the pitches and redeveloping the facilities at Canal Park. After many years of fundraising and dedication from club committee members and the local community, the club were able to invest in the its changing facilities, replacing the Portakabin changing unit with a purpose built two team changing pavilion, complete with changing area with integrated showers and a dedicated club room. Equipped with a safe and secure facility, the club can now continue the work it began, attracting new members from local schools and the surrounding community.

### **Key Facts**

- Club: Kilmallie Shinty Club, Canal Park, Caol
- Project: Two team changing Pavilion with club room.
- Project value: £211,500
- Principal funding partners: sportscotland, Highland Council, Highland Leader Fund

# Changing pavilion



## **Design and construction**

The scheme represents an efficient and compact design solution suitable for a community club of this scale. The pavilion consists of two externally accessed changing rooms, each with their own shower and toilet facilities, and ancillary accommodation including referee changing, committee room and kitchen

The layout of the pavilion makes good use of the space available and provides the club with a manageable but flexible facility. With separate access to the changing and ancillary accommodation, the facility can be completely open or restricted, with only some areas accessible dependant on the requirements of a particular session or club. The pavilion provides the club with a simple and robust facility which allows them to provide a safe and secure base from which they can grow and provide a sporting focus within the community.

## Vision for the future

Completed in 2012, the club is committed to developing the sport and continue to work closely with the local schools and groups. It is hoped that the addition of the pavilion will make the club more attractive to the local community and other sports clubs such

as football and rugby - creating a real sporting hub for the community and a home that the club can be proud of.

## **Key outcomes & lessons**

- Prioritised sport development and investing in its growth initially
- Dedicated time to establishing strong relationships with local schools.
- Devoted committee and members.
- Developing the club over a long period, gaining local support and raising funds to support club before investing in facilities.
- Modest sustainable proposal which meet the needs of the club and its members.

# sportscotland support

- Expert design advice.
- Facilitating project development and viability.
- Funding advice and support.

## Sports development: teams

Senior: 2 Senior teams

Youth: 1 under 14's mixed team

1 under 17's mixed team 2 local school teams

## Schedule of areas

Gross site area	<b>\</b>	6.3Ha
Building footprint		161m²

## **Accommodation**

1	Changing rooms (each)	40m²
	Changing area	20m²
	Showers/ WC	20m²
2	Referee changing	9m²
3	Committee room	17m²
4	Kitchen	9m²
5	Store/Plant room	8.5m²
6	Accessible WC	3.5m²

#### **Procurement**

Contract start	February 2011
Contract completion	October 2012

