



Beach Volleyball Courts Consultation – Comments

This would be a great addition to Portobello. Other than drawing crowds to professional events it could also encourage children to take up the sport.

I think that is a positive use of space. If it goes on Straiton Park, then that would be good as the space is currently used for exercising dogs. A volleyball court is an environmentally friendly sport, that is still open air, therefore the 'green space' use won't really be compromised.

I think this is a great idea - the more sports and recreational facilities we have for everyone in Portobello the better!

This would be an appropriate use of an underused space.

Great idea

This is a tremendous opportunity for a legacy from hosting the pre-Olympic qualifiers

I like the idea of these courts being in Portobello so long as they are open for community access and stray balls don't present a hazard for passing traffic on Straiton Place.

Great idea to involve more in the sport

Could be an excellent facility for locals and visitors alike. Great pity that the beach is not practicable:

the beach is extensive, the Park very small.

A great idea to encourage young people to play sport and use the beach. My husband and I borrowed a net in the summer and took a group of teenagers down to the beach to play volleyball. The adults had a great time joining in to.

Very positive proposal for park that is not used much.

Support this project immensely, a location whereby active sports for all ages especially during the summer weather, a great community venue.

The park there is very underused. A volleyball pitch will be a great addition to the Prom.

Happy support the development of the courts on the site.

I'm strongly in favour of the provision of outdoor sports facilities which will enable participation in a skilful sport which also has positive health advantages.

In favour of anything that encourages physical activity, particularly for young people. This seems a good and relatively low-cost, low-maintenance use of a neglected piece of parkland.

I think it is a great idea and a fantastic use of the space. I strongly support it. I love seeing the



beach volleyball in the summer and if the permanent courts can help kids to understand that they can also participate then it can only be good for the community.

This is a great opportunity for Porty. I support the Straiton Park site, although the people who own properties on Straiton Place need to have their views listened to to minimise the impact on them. Facilities need to be provided to encourage use e.g. Toilets, changing facilities, refreshments and security. I can't tell from the plan if there will be anywhere for spectators, which I think is really important to encourage involvement too. I'm not as supportive of the courts being on the beach, particularly outside the swimming baths as this would impact nearby flats (where I live!)

Excellent community facility

Beach volleyball has become a big event in Portobello and is therefore good for attracting visitors to the community as well as providing entertainment for local people to enjoy matches.

I'm not sure whether the beach or Straiton Place Park would be better overall. It seems to me that it would be difficult to establish and maintain permanent courts on the beach. For that reason, I would probably agree that Straiton Place Park would be the better option with the possibility of holding larger tournaments on the beach.

As a children's sports coach (working with kids between 3-9 years), I strongly support this initiative. When I introduce volleyball to my classes many children have never heard of it but after the first lesson they are keen to go home and practice.

Having good and very visible volleyball facilities on our doorstep will raise great awareness of a fantastic sport.

I think this is an amazing opportunity for everyone. It was such a lovely feel to the beach last summer when they had world champs held on our beach,

so definitely in favour of this.

It has to be made vandalproof of course.

Can this be achieved?

I think it would be a great use of that space and bring another group of people to Portobello, in a healthy and positive way. The volleyball community is diverse and great group of people. It would also encourage more people to take up volleyball. It seems daft not to take up this opportunity.

Any thing which encourages youngsters to be active is to be supported.

Great Idea, bring sport to all ages within the community and great to see the beach being used to its full potential- the links with the Olympics is fantastic as it will also bring in people from outwith Edinburgh and surrounding area adding diversity to the community and hopefully income on trade etc during the season.

Anything to promote sport can only be a good thing!

I think it is a great idea and ticks all the boxes for sport, bringing people to Portobello etc etc.

there should be a re think of the proposed tp unlit toilet closures as they may be required for the visitors, changing etc

Edinburgh council/Edinburgh leisure struggle to manage the facilities they currently have. Unless the Scottish Volleyball Association manage the courts I think this would be a poor investment for the area.



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is there any plans for changing facilities?

Every time that beach volleyball is staged in Portobello it adds considerably to the experience of visiting the Prom and the beach. It is entertaining to watch and generates a lot of activity that tends to create a buzz on the Prom.

Making the courts permanent would also be a great way of encouraging more participation in sport, especially as it appeals to young women who are statistically far more likely to drop out of sporting activity than young men.

Always looks like fun and may get more people fit and into it

Landscaping is needed to provide setting or mitigation for the proposals and to improve the appearance of the park. This should be requested of a detailed application.

Would rather have other more substantial additional facilities which appealed to a wider local/regional audience.

While there may be some nuisance to local residents with noise and ball problems these should be overcome to allow this group to further advance their sport and bring it to the wider community

I have trained and played for many years at portobello beach and I think it would be a fabulous facility to encourage volleyball to be played by everyone. Please make it happen.

I think using the section of Straiton Place Park would be a good use of the space - its a bit of a forgotten corner at the moment. I would be concerned if high fences were to erected around the area however (I'm not sure if barriers would be needed to stop the ball being hit out of the park?) - for me it would be important that the area still feel open and the view between the street and the promenade be retained, without any additional barriers.

A great idea, and one the community will benefit from

Welcome any recreational activity and think Portobello would be a great venue.

We are not against a "Beach Volleyball Court" however we feel that there is a greater need for other facilities particularly for young teenagers in the Portobello Area. Facilities that are all year round activities and not simply seasonal.

The area of grass is small and dog poo ridden. Use it for something better. This is a great idea.

I hope it's well maintained and well used.

I am very interested in volleyball, and some of my friends as well. This is a very good cause and amazing opportunity for youth to get involved into sport activities during the summer break.

It's a fabulous idea. Perhaps throw in the skating ramp as well on one of the corners of the other side of the park, by the playground?



fine by me, good location, excellent outdoor active sport taking up little space anyway!

I would only be supportive of permanent volley ball courts in Straiton Place Park.

I don't think they should be situated on the beach - permanent sports structures here significantly change the current beach front

Great idea. Another attraction for Portobello

Great idea- but parking is already an issue for residents which would need to be addressed

I think it's a great idea and would be a good way of encouraging the sport and provide more facilities for teenagers especially, I would like to know if there would be any kind of monitoring of the courts, or booking system.

better use of that space! More sport for our children the better...

I would support this proposal but only if the courts are situated in Straiton Park. It could bring visiting players into Portobello, which would benefit local businesses, particular those on the prom.

I feel this is an ideal outdoor companion to the nearby indoor gym facilities. It's availability for use will provide vitality to the area and play a part not only in healthy general level community recreation, but provide an opportunity for young people to develop an interest and skills that may one day lead to more organised competitive sport - and of course it can perhaps even provide an additional training aspect and/or demonstration matches. Full of positive possibility!

There are not enough facilities to cope with an influx of people such as lack of toilet and changing rooms also the proposed closure of the Bath Street toilets. Also, it will be extremely noisy for the residents who live close by - something that the Council never seems to take into account.

WE need more of this type of thing to bring a bit of life back into Portobello and especially sports orientated we be good

I overlook the park from my house and am perfectly happy for this to go ahead. I would suggest that this park would need to be fenced in - with a low level fence as per the play park adjacent - as otherwise you will have dogs pooping in the sand!

Great sport, welcome the idea of permanent courts at Portobello.

What an excellent idea.

I think having the courts is a good idea but the suggested placement in the park doesn't make best use of space.

The suggested layout would mean that those wanting to access the area of park not used by the courts would have to walk past them to get to the open ground. This could lead to people interrupting games, or getting hurt by balls or players.

Perhaps a better plan would be to split that part of the park in two, giving one half to the courts and the other half to open grass, allowing dual use of the area all year round. Perhaps a small fence or some shrubs making a clear demarcation of space would help make it clear what space was for what activity.

The courts are a good idea, but we still need to allow people access to the parks on the front.



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I enjoyed the buzz surrounding the volleyball event in summer. Very good thing for Portobello. But the toilets can't close if the volley ball goes ahead!

Would prefer to see this on the beach - it's doable.

Thats a great idea of devlompng beach volleyball in scotland .

Get a lot new people to play that fantastic sport .

Opportunity to do big beach volleyball events and bring a lot of fans and supporters .

The area is little used at present. A proposal to develop and promote sport in Portobello is to be welcomed and volleyball by the beach makes sense. The volleyball event in the summer was a great success. On the other hand the courts could be on the beach and the site developed for another sporting purpose. But perhaps there is not currently enthusiasm/funding for that?

On the whole I would support the proposal to have the courts if it is a choice between having the courts and not having the courts and having the courts on Straiton park or leaving Straiton park as it is. However if it were possible to have the courts on the beach and develop the park for another activity then I think I would prefer that.

Clear as mud? You did ask!

Great idea!

The more sporting opportunities available to local residents, especially children and young adults, the better.

I support anything to promote and enhance Portobello. To my mind it has so much untapped potential which would enrich all our lives. This will help develop the prom area and hopefully upgrade some of the existing bars / eateries with the added demand and money spent.

What a fantastic idea! Yes please!

It will be used well

This is great idea - that grassed area is very unhealthy due to dogs and is rarely used. Porty kids will get a chance to participate in an increasingly popular sport on top quality pitches. It will enhance Tower Bank Schools activity choices and the appalling, brutal fencing round the park will go.

I think the opportunity to encourage more physical activity in our area is a chance that's too good to be passed up. I'd suggest if possible building some form of seating (a two or three tiered bleacher) to be included beside each court if possible which would encourage spectators and when matches aren't taking place local schools or nurseries could use these as outdoor story telling venues.

I think this could be a great start for introducing another attractive sport for young people of Scotland. Let's hope other councils will follow.

ONLY if in unused part of Straiten Park. Strongly against if on beach.



This would be a great asset for Porty and Edinburgh. More opportunities for sport - serious and recreational and all ages. Volleyball is a real team game and can be played with any number of players - great fun and a great work out on the beach!

Totally in favour of anything that provides people with a healthy choice. Volleyball is a fabulous game that encourages team work too. Great to see the beach and prom being used.

I think this would be a fantastic opportunity to develop a new sport on the fantastic coastline in portobello. The Competition in September was testament to what sort of tournament and spectator base beach volleyball can attract

Bring it on. the more things to do on the BEach the better

A great way to connect the community and for the first time in a long time create a fixed venue within Portobello that will encourage outdoor sports.

It will also help raise the profile of the area and possibly encourage and enhance tourism. Our beachfront is the envy of others and we must promote the positive aspect beach volleyball. Straiton Place park is however, ideally suited for young children and we should aim to keep this space allocated for such needs. The site on the opposite side would however make a good second choice for court location.

Yes! What a fab resource for the local community!

Great! It would be even better if some 'outdoor gym' equipment could be added in the area between the courts, to encourage even more activity. If it happens (in park or on beach) it would be good if the development officer could

ensure regular televising of events to raise awareness of Beach Voilleyball and of Portobello - a tragically-missed opportunity at the Indoor Bowls Centre. Would the proposal have any impact on the aspiration to top off the 'concrete cake' with a proper bandstand?

Great idea.

Fresh air, sport and exercise all by the beach.

Could add an outdoor gym.

Would be great facility for the whole community and would encourage large scale events to Edinburgh like the European Cup event earlier this year..

If they were actually on the beach I would be strongly against but if they are in the park bit I am neutral.

Great idea.

Should also supplement these with outdoor Gym 'stations'.

Seems like an excellent idea in general, good to have a wide range of outdoor activities on and around the beach.

I think I support this - certainly in principle. My only minor concern is on which side or in which physical configuration to best arrange the courts. The indicative drawing arrangement may cause some nice views of greenspace with N Berwick Law (and for now Cockenzie PS) to be marred/lost - albeit relatively 'minorly'. Something which encourages outdoor physical exercise, tolerance to our weather, and puts our beach back on the map however is to be welcomed and encouraged! Hopefully this is an activity requiring little heavy-lifting/transporting of bulky goods (unlike some of my own hobbies) meaning people can arrive on foot, bike (at a sensible speed), or



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public transport. This may also bring some modest amount of extra money in to the local economy perhaps and if hordes of people wish to come and see full matches on the beach then we may one day be able to get a Portobello rail halt/station (and/or the 49 bus to extend to the Range on Milton Rd and thus Brunstane rail halt).

Great idea, but not on the beach please.

Now, what about a dedicated dog walker's area next! The prom has become such a hazard area with bikes whizzing in and out of traffic, scooters etc. Please can we have the beach over by the Lothian Bus depot designated as a dogs beach - even if it means we exclude dogs from the other areas.

Think this would be a great idea, complementing other activities going on from the beach

I'd strongly support these proposals if the courts are within the park.

It would be wonderful to have more sporting facilities in Portobello. The multi-use games area in Rosefield park is very well used, I expect volleyball courts would be similarly popular with local kids and other.

The courts would also help attract more visitors to Portobello, allowing them to share the delights that we Porty people already know about, as well as bringing more money into the local economy.

great sport for all abilities, great for the community

Anything that makes people healthier and have fun and enjoyment is great. If in addition it brings people to Portobello even better. Keeps us on the map.

Beach volley ball has been building up in Portobello for some time and is developing a good community support. I think a permanent site in Straiton Park Place makes good sense and is a good use of the resource.

Would complement adjacent openspace uses (play, boatclub, beach, prom) and build on the existing use of the beach for volleyball

strongly support a proposal that will encourage sporting activity, on what is currently just a plain field site. Must be high quality, weather proof and vandal proof though, and there must be ongoing maintenance and repair.

Why not add basketball nets/court as well?

There must be somewhere else for specific sports facilities like this. Portobello beach and the park are amazing assets to have so close to the city and are a very special part of Edinburgh. Courts on the beach would intrude upon an area that should be for everyone and similarly the park area should be for all, especially families. It would also spoil the view of the beach and sea. All of this area is for everyone in Edinburgh to enjoy, a real city attraction, and should not be reduced by volleyball facilities, however desirable the development of the sport is.

This is an excellent proposal, enhancing the recreational opportunities within Portobello and complementing the boating and kayaking facilities offered further along the prom.

Links nicely to national physical activity approach and has links to wider health agenda/preventative spend. Wouldn't be top priority for LA funds to go into this but if external or health (preventative



spend) funds could be tapped into then this would be a good step.

We really enjoyed watching the beach volleyball in the summer and it would be an asset to the community to have permanent courts for similar tournaments to take place and also for the community to use, especially if coaching was also on offer.

anything that can get people more active should be supported. any chance of some of the outdoor gym equipment to go in the space as well?

There should be an outside basketball court or courts in the beach area as well as there are at many other beach resorts!

The proposals are unclear - how are these courts to be constructed ? Are they sand beds retained by what type of edging? Are the posts and nets to be permanent or temporary? If the former they will become damaged by prevailing weather, vandals etc . If the later then where will they be stored so that they are easily accessible by the community ? How will their usage be fairly handled and monitored? No real objections, generally think it's a good idea!

The beach is the beach and available to all whether they play volleyball or not: putting anything permanent on it spoils the shared free space that we really love and treasure. I feel less strongly about the park, but it is heavily used by families and others who would lose a safe and happy family-friendly space

I think that any development which encourages the community to be active and play sport is a great thing. Being beach volleyball it would be great for the courts to actually be on the beach but if conditions don't allow this then Straiton Place

Park would be a good location.

This area is public space for all ages to use, whenever they want to. On sunny days it is used by people to sit and relax in the sunshine. All year round it is an area for children to play on, e.g. football, etc. If it becomes a Volleyball Park, there will need to be a booking system and presumably fees charged. It could only be used by a few people at a time, and only those interested in playing volleyball, which is not everyone's sport. This should remain an open green space for all ages to enjoy in freedom and without expense.

Fantastic idea an great addition to our beach / prom. I hope it goes ahead.

Think it's a great idea, will promote Porty as a venue for more tournaments.

Would be great to have something local that encourages exercise in all levels and age groups

An excellent suggestion
A real asset to portobello

It would be great to have beach volleyball courts in Portobello. The tournaments have been a great success and I am in favour of more sport's facilities.

it's a no brainer - very sensible use of a rarely used public space. Would want it to be open to all for as many hours as possible and not restricted.

Any chance of floodlights to enhance use in autumn / spring / winter?



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Useful and enjoyable additional community asset. Beach is unsuitable though so should be the park

Would only support the courts in the park Not on the beach

I think this would be a great development for Portobello

I would prefer a beach football pitch (Beasal)

I would welcome Volleyball Courts as part of the continual goal to diversify the activities Portobello has to offer .

As this area is regularly used by people to toilet their dogs would need to make it secure. Its a good idea for a space which isnt used well at the moment.

I am slightly confused by the proposed closure of the toilets due to the claimed lack of funding and yet funds are readily available for this development, However, funding aside I do approve.

This is a great opportunity to increase the leisure facilities for residents and will attract more people to the under-invested promenade area. It will also encourage more people to casually take part in sport.

This area is probably underutilised at the moment. This would be a positive development for the area

If there is a request from people who would use volleyball facilities then it is an opportunity which should be taken up. Seems a sensible place to put it and could encourage visitors / volleyball teams to the area.

These would be great in starting to get beach volleyball (and hopefully indoor volleyball as a by product) really recognised in Scotland. Hopefully other councils would follow suit if Edinburgh were to be brave and take the first step.

Love most sports.

It will be one of the few places British athletes will be able to train for Olympic qualifiers and world tour events.

Played a bit of volleyball in my time. Enjoyed it and would love the opportunity to play again.

Gets my vote

Great idea. Hope it goes ahead

That bit of park is left empty itch no one using it other than dog walkers. A sports venue will be a great idea! Really would support this idea.

A wonderful idea

Excellent idea and location - a good use of land that is not well used at present (in addition to the existing play park ofcourse which I hope will be



retained). This will be a great asset to Portobello.

Children/babies/families should not be deprived from this park.

Would prefer a beach location. but can understand the snags, The east half of Straiton Park is, sadly, under-used, presumably it's not good for football; this site seems a reasonable choice.

Great idea. I hope these courts will also be lit to allow extended use during the darker months of the year. Several members of my family play volleyball and would definitely enjoy this facility.
