A picture containing text, clock

Description automatically generatedJamie Godbold Football Academy

To whom it may concern,

**My name is REDACTED, business owner of the Jamie Godbold Football Academy and this is a letter of support to improve the facilities at Barnards Soccer Centre.**

Jamie Godbold Football Academy has been hiring the facilities at Barnards Soccer Centre for the past 2 years. Our programmes vary from 1:2:1 coaching and girls only groups through to half term holiday sessions where we cater for a wide range of ages and abilities. We see between 100-150 every week through our programme alone and a further 100+ each half term. Many of these children are starting out on their own football journeys and its important to us that we give them a safe environment to help ignite their passion for football and physical activity.

The facility is a huge part of the community and is the football hub of North Lowestoft. Thousands of children and their parents walk through the front gates every week, bringing communities together to take part in a sport that they love amongst their friends.

We have seen first-hand the struggles with the site and its urgent need of a facelift. The floodlights are inconsistent and the 3G is poor quality and in desperate need of a re-lay. This is not part of the experiences we want our young children to have and wish that we could offer them so much more. Unfortunately, we are short of alternative options locally, particularly during these dark winter months. If the facilities aren’t improved, they will shortly no longer be safe and useable.

Without further funding the site is at risk of being lost to the local community, not just for football, but the wider physical activity and health sector.

Yours sincerely,

REDACTED