



### **PRESS RELEASE – CLEOBURY SPORTS CENTRE**

Teme Leisure have served the wonderful community of Cleobury Mortimer since 2008 (17 years) under its social enterprise model, investing in health & fitness, group exercise and providing valuable services such as the GP referral scheme formally on behalf of South Shropshire District Council and then for Shropshire Council.

As a small, joint use community facility, the site has always required external funding to subsidise the operating costs, with Shropshire Council providing a set 'grant' (**£23.530 per annum**), to assist with the operating deficit and Teme Leisure picking up any other shortfalls. After being advised that the grant for Cleobury would cease from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 and no subsidy would be provided, the estimated deficit for the financial year 25/26 for operating the sports centre was **c-£44,000**.

During this time Teme have worked closely with Shropshire Council and issued two proposals in order for the centre to remain open which incorporated Teme subsidising the site over the next 2.5 years at **c£116,000** before it forms part of a new proposed larger countywide contract. The proposal included a request for a long-term extension of the current lease at Ludlow and also provide the Council with a rental agreement that would see a financial benefit to the cash strapped local authority of in excess of **£2 million**.

Teme Leisure received an official email from Shropshire Council on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025 rejecting the proposal. They subsequently issued a press release without discussion or collaboration to the general public which we would like to apologise to our customers, stakeholders and more importantly our staff that received this information and for any stress this may have caused.

Teme Leisure are committed to continue to seek a solution for the continued opening of the Cleobury Sports Centre, however without the external funding from Shropshire Council sadly the site may be forced to close later this year. Please note that South Shropshire Leisure Centre in Ludlow is not affected and will continue to operate as normal,

Kind regards

Mr Lee Hassan  
General Manager  
On behalf of Teme Leisure

[www.teme-leisure.co.uk](http://www.teme-leisure.co.uk)