

Minutes of meeting held in Amber Springs Hotel on 28.05.2021.

Attendance;

Tom Enright, CEO Wexford Co. Council.

Co. Councillors Joe Sullivan, Diarmuid Devereux and Fionntan O Sulleabhain.

Pat O' Donnell.

Tom Enright was asked why the situation arose initially to cause the collapse of the leisure complex at Courtown.

Tom explained that the working relationship between WCC and GCFP Ltd had become very difficult over a number of years and eventually became impossible to continue with.

When asked about the possibility of the woods being developed commercially Tom assured the meeting that the various protections in place including zoning and section 38 would, in his view, protect the integrity of the woods and allow for future public access.

He stated that he expected that the new owners would want to co-operate with WCC as they would likely need assistance with insurance etc

When asked if WCC could now purchase the woodlands Tom explained that the process now in place by the liquidator for the sale would have to go through first and then WCC would consult with Councillors and consider if necessary to look to buy the woods back, so as to retain them in public ownership.

Pat thought that this would not be a good idea as it would put WCC on the back foot regarding the sale price.

Tom said that WCC could use the proceeds from the liquidation, and top this amount up, if necessary, to make the purchase. He added that any purchase would have to provide value for money to the council.

Tom stated that if necessary WCC could consider a CPO of the lands.

After a lengthy discussion Diarmuid asked for a formal undertaking from the CEO that WCC would consider purchasing the lands in order to keep the woodlands in public ownership. The CEO agreed and gave this undertaking.

The Co. Councillors were satisfied with this outcome and thanked Tom for attending as they appreciated how busy he is in his capacity as CEO of WCC.

The meeting then concluded.