UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT 10 AM ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2011
AT FMD MEETING ROOM

1. ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES
Attendees: Priya Kurian (PK), Mark Thompson (MT), John Cameron (JC), Chris Eames (CE), Eva Collins (EC), Jeff Hawkes (JH), Sarah Hill (SH), and Rachael Goddard (RG)
Apologies: David Hamilton (DH), Sarah Knox (SK)
Absent: Brennan Allen

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Minutes of the meetings of 25 May and 12 August were accepted.

3. MATTERS ARISING
(a) EPC Membership:
   • Maori Member: DH will talk to PVC Maori, Linda Smith, on his return to campus.
   EA to VC: Sarah Knox will serve as an ex officio member of the EPC. Minutes of meetings to be sent to her. She will attend EPC meetings as required.
   • Suggested that quarterly meetings be set up between RG, SK, DH and PK. RG to action.
(b) Title change for Sustainability Coordinator: Agreed that RG’s recommendation of change to her title from sustainability coordinator to ‘Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator’ be accepted.

4. UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC DIRECTION/VISION
JC spoke on behalf of SK about the university’s strategic direction and vision with regard to sustainability.
   • A Strategic Plan (SP) for sustainability on campus is needed.
   • The Vice Chancellor has a strong interest in sustainability and there is support at the highest level for such a SP.
   • Some social and economic aspects of sustainability for the university may be already covered in some of the existing SPs. Hence the SP for sustainability needs to focus on environmental issues, while referring back to relevant existing SPs.
Actions:
   • JC will liaise with Sarah Knox to inform Helen Pridmore that the SP on sustainability is being developed.
   • JC and RG will get started with the SP on sustainability, which will be sent to the EPC for feedback and then opened up for wider consultation.
• JC will invite the Vice Chancellor to the last EPC meeting for 2011—possibly early December but date to be determined by the VC’s availability.

There was discussion on whether someone from the PR/Communications division should be coopted to the EPC to facilitate communication on sustainability initiatives to the wider university community. It was decided to invite a staff member from Comms to attend the next meeting and then be invited on an ad hoc basis, as required.

Action: RG to invite Comms to the next meeting.

5. REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

• DISCUSSION OF WORKS PLAN
• PRIORITIES
• LAKE REMEDIATION

RG reported that she has met the Faculty Deans, and most of the PVCs. Some Deans were interested in receiving individualized energy bills for each Faculty. JC confirmed this was not possible. However, with upgrades to the Building Management System, some buildings could be individualized for a comparison.

RG has prepared a works plan for the next 2 years covering 13 key priority areas. Priorities for this year and 2012 are; education and awareness raising, development of environmental website, waste minimisation and remediation of Oranga lake.

RG will prepare a survey on environmental-sustainable behaviour to be sent to university staff and students in early 2012. The intention is to identify barriers and priorities and benchmark current behavior, and then repeat the survey in three years’ time. RG will get comments and input on survey before going to the ethics committee for approval.

RG would like to have the ICE awards restored. She reported that UNITEC earmarked $100,000 last year for environmental initiatives on campus.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be scheduled for early-mid November. The meeting will have a two pronged approach. The first half will be our usual EPC meeting and coordinator’s report, followed by a one hour workshop session on process and content for the strategic plan.

RG to invite Sarah Knox to the next meeting.

Meeting closed 11.30am.