

Minutes

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch Meeting

Cask And Tap

Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD

19:30pm on 29th May 2025

Attendees: Matt Walker (MW, Chair), Rick Pickup (RP), Rob Wheatley (RW), Keith Edgington (KE), Alistair Blair (AB), Gary Levin (GL), Steve Fairbrother (SF), Victoria Fairbrother (VF), Graham Monk (GM).

1. Welcome

MW Opened the meeting at 19:30 and welcomed all to what is Matts first branch meeting as Chairman.

The branch wishes to take the opportunity to send sincere condolences to the friends and family of Rose Marie Gledhill, Marie as she was known to many served our branch in many roles including Chair for many years.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from: Lee Rawlings (LR), Phil Marquis (PM).

3. Expressions of Interest

There were no expressions of interest.

4. Minutes of previous meeting including accuracy/action minutes

- a. **Accuracy:** The previous minutes were accepted as accurate.
- b. **Action 1** – Membership Survey (MW) - Report – This is covered in Agenda item 6. **Action Closed.**
- c. **Action 2** – Membership Survey (MW) - Recommendations – This is covered in Agenda item 6. **Action Closed.**
- d. **Action 3** – Storage cost (RP) – **Action Ongoing.**
- e. **Action 4** – Young Members – AB Provided an update from the national meeting to the meeting. **Action Closed.**

5. Regional AGM attendance and nomination

The branch will have representation at the Regional AGM on Saturday 31st May at the Black Horse in Preston. GL will provide details of our branch nomination, which is for Ralph Warrington to be Regional Director to the meeting.

Post meeting note – Ralph Warrington was duly elected to serve for a 3-year term subject to ratification by the CAMRA National Executive (NE).



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6. Membership Survey

Prior to the meeting MW distributed a short report on the survey findings to all committee members to use as a discussion tool at the meeting.

The meeting discussed at length a number of key topics which the survey drew the branch's attention to. It was agreed that one of the first actions that the branch need to do is to send out a summary report to all branch members - **Action MW**.

7. Officers' reports:

a. Treasurer

GM reported that there has been one transaction completed in the last period however the branch is still waiting for the Scouts to bank the cheque of £350.00 previously sent to them for storage hire, RP agreed to contact Kevan Bamfold to ascertain intentions to pay the cheque into the Scouts bank account. **Action ongoing (RP)**.

b. Socials

12th July 2025 – Plan to complete the 5C bus route meeting in Fleetwood, then crossing to Knott End on the ferry and travelling the route of the 5C bus. **Action AB to arrange and advertise accordingly.**

c. Membership

RP stated that the branch currently had 1,910 members. Nationally CAMRA members have increased due mainly to the successful Cambridge beer festival.

d. Pubs Officer

GL reported that the Ramsden Arms (The Rammy) was currently closed however there may be a level of protest to Punch Taverns from locals, if there is local involvement then CAMRA may get involved in supporting them.

VF Reported that beer scores were now coming through.

8. Any other notified business

There was no other notified business.

9. Date and venue of future meetings

The Next Branch Meeting is scheduled at 19:30 on 31st July 2025, at the Cask and Tap, Blackpool however there are plans for future meetings to be held at different locations within the branch to enable members to join the meetings.

MW thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:50pm.