

# Minutes

## Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch Meeting

Cask And Tap, Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD

19:30pm on 31<sup>st</sup> July 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), Kevin Potts (KP), Gary Barnes (GB).

### 1. Welcome

MW Opened the meeting at 19:30 and welcomed all.

### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from: Phil Marquis (PM).

### 3. Expressions of Interest

There was an expression of interest from Gary Barnes, Landlord of Cask and Taps.

### 4. Minutes of previous meeting including accuracy/action minutes

- a. **Accuracy:** The previous minutes were accepted as accurate.
- b. **Action 1** – Storage cost (RP) – As a branch we have done everything we can to get the scouts to accept the payment, therefore the decision is to currently close this action until the Scouts come to us for any help - **Action Closed**.
- c. **Action 2** – Membership Survey (MW) – The action to distribute the summary to members still exists, however a lot more of the survey fallout actions were discussed at the meeting. **Action Ongoing**.

### 5. Officers' reports:

#### a. Treasurer

GM reported that there have not been any transactions completed in the last period.

#### b. Social Trips and Branch Diary

There are currently no social trips to be added to the branch diary, however as thus is an evolving picture any events will be published via the branch web site.

#### c. Membership

RP stated that the branch currently had 1,879 members. Nationally CAMRA currently has 144,399 members. It is recognized that CAMRA need to recruit more members and changes to membership policy may help in this area with free entry to all CAMRA members to CAMRA organized beer festivals in 2026.

#### d. Pubs Officer



# Minutes

GL reported that the Ramsden Arms (The Rammy) was currently closed however there is a preservation order issue, it has been noted that the protesting organization were dealing directly with CAMRA HQ and had not contacted or interacted with the local branch.

## **Discord Entries:**

It has been reported that Revoe Bar has moved along Central Drive. Blackpool.

It has been reported that Fresh Ale is being sold in the following pubs (Please note that it is CAMRA policy to prevent pubs selling fresh ale being included in any CAMRA publication):

Royal Oak – Wesham

Rossall Tavern – Fleetwood

It has been reported that the following pubs have had a change of licensee:

Tipsy Seagull – Lytham Road, Blackpool, Planning and License applications have been submitted.

Rhythm & Brews – Bispham, License application submitted.

It has been reported that the following pubs have been sold:

Manchester – Prom, Blackpool

Lune Deep - Fleetwood

VF/GL Reported that beer scores were now coming through however there was post meeting discussions between the relevant committee members to discuss approving the scores provided.

MW Reported that there are still outstanding pub photographs for WhatPub entries.

## e. IT

- Fylde Ale WordPress Site

Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre CAMRA Branch is now active on this site – **Action SF to Investigate and advise.**

- Branch Documents

It has been noticed that a number of historical documents have not been transferred onto the latest branch website – **Action SF to investigate and advise.**

## **6. Any other notified business**

### a. GBG.

- Licensee Packs

RP Reported that the Licensee Packs had been resolved.

- Branch GBG Order



# Minutes

A discussion determined that after the success of the 2025 issue it was in the branch interests to locally sell 2026 GBG's as we did in 2025 on launch day in September, it is currently proposed to order 30 copies with an option to purchase some of Lunsdale Branch copies if we require more copies.

## **7. Beer Festival**

Blackpool Cricket Club have asked if the branch would be able to manage and support a beer festival at their ground at a date to be determined in 2026. After a prolonged discussion it was considered that this is not currently an option that the branch could consider, though it could be an ideal venue the inability to give a confirmed date would not allow for CAMRA national clearance/process in a timely manner.

## **8. Pub Arts Exhibition – 9<sup>th</sup> August**

A Pub Arts Exhibition is to be held at the Anti-Social Art Shop in Blackpool on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August between 3pm and 7pm, support would be most welcome from CAMRA members.

## **9. AONB**

GB advised that the Cask and Tap, Topping Street is now stocking Real Cider and should be considered a Real Cider Pub as well as a Real Ale Pub.

## **10. Date and venue of future meetings**

The Next Branch Meeting is scheduled at 19:30 on TBD, 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 20:40pm.**