

Minutes

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch AGM

Thursday 27th April 2023 7:30pm

Cask & Tap, 82 Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD

Attendees : Rick Pickup (RP, Chair), Graham Monk (GM), Matt Walker, Ray Jackson (RJ), Gary Levin, Mark Lewis (ML), Gary Walkey, Giles Morgan, Steve Hudson, Rob Wheatley, Alistair Blair, Victoria Fairbrother, Steven Fairbrother, Terry Morton, Lee Rawlings, Andy Roberts, Phil Marquis, Dave Stirzaker, John Kelly

1. Welcome

RP welcomed all to the AGM reminding people that the AGM was a formal meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Vanessa Gledhill.

3. Expressions of Interest

LR confirmed he was landlord of 15s St Annes.

4. Minutes of Last AGM

It was agreed that the minutes would be taken as a fair representation.

5. Chair's Annual Report

RP commented that for variety of pubs and breweries our area has never been better served. Where as there are regular stories of doom and gloom, this does not yet seem to have reached our area. However we need to be aware that danger may be around the corner. We are lucky that most of our rural pubs are still accessible by public transport. It is important as CAMRA members that we support our pubs and local brewers, before we lose them.

He went on to say that Fleetwood Beer Festival has been a campaigning success in it's new slot and we hope to be able to run it again later this year.

He thanked all active members for the work they have done this year, specifically thanks those who have stepped forward for the branch committee and stopped him looking a fool.

Finally, he took time out to pay tribute the RJ, who was standing down from the committee of many years of service. He commented that Ray had been an incredible servant to CAMRA. He stated that the committee thought it appropriate, that provided this meeting agreed, RJ was bestowed with the title "Honorary President". This was agreed.

6. Treasurer's Annual Report

GM presented and explained the accounts. RP asked the branch to confirm that they were happy with the accounts. It was agreed



that the accounts should be accepted.

a) Appointment of Accounts Examiner

GM commented that he had approached Terry Gorst to continue as as Accounts Examiner and he was happy to do so. Again there were no voices against this action.

7. Membership Officers Annual Report

RJ commented that the branch membership had fallen further since the last AGM, it was currently 2149, it was going to be a hard job to get back to previous levels. We have lost over 600 members, about a quarter of our membership. He thanked everyone who had helped him over the years and wished his successor good luck.

8. Other Officers Reports

No other officers made formal reports, however ML reiterated RP's comment about rural pubs struggling.

9. Election of Officers

RP stated that there were candidates for all major posts, all properly proposed and seconded, and that there were one elections. Posts were as follows :-

Chair – Rick Pickup

Vice-Chair – Rob Wheatley

Secretary – No standers. RP commented that this was an important post, the branch not having one puts future branch activities in doubt.

Treasurer – Graham Monk

Pubs Offices – Alistair Blair, Mark Lewis, Gary Levin

Beer Festival Organizing Group Chair – Gary Levin

IT Officer – Gary Walkey

Young Members Officer – Matt Walker

Social Media Officer – Matt Walker

An election was held for Membership Secretary. A ballot of members present took place as defined in the Branch Constitution. Lee Rawlings beat Alistair Blair 10-6, confirmed by Chair and Treasurer, and was duly elected Membership Secretary.

10. Date and Time of Next AGM

- TBC (most likely 27th April 2023 7:30pm Venue TBC)

RP formerly closed the AGM.

