

Minutes

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch Meeting **Cask And Tap, Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD** **19:30pm on 18th September 2025**

Attendees: Matt Walker (MW, Chair), Rick Pickup (RP), Keith Edgington (KE), Alistair Blair (AB), Gary Levin (GL).

1. Welcome

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

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from: Rob Wheatley (RW), Steve Fairbrother (SF), Victoria Fairbrother (VF), Graham Monk (GM).

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)** – The results of the membership survey are ready to be issued to the members; MW is waiting to get Fylde Ale on line to issue - **Action Ongoing**.

c. **Action 2 – Fylde Ale WordPress Site (SF)** – SF has advised he needs some help from GW when he returns from holiday on this action - **Action Ongoing**.

d. **Action 3 – Branch Documents (SF)** – SF advised that he needs some help from GW when he returns from holiday, in the meantime RP is to check his records for copies. It was proposed by RP that we should adopt CAMRA's "Model Constitution" and that a motion would need to be declared to the membership prior to the next AGM and that it will need ratification at the next AGM – **Action Ongoing**.

5. Officers' reports:

a. **Treasurer** – Prior to the meeting GM reported that there have not been any transactions completed in the last period. The scouts have been in contact with the committee via the Facebook Website and looking at potentially clearing the store, **Action – GL to liaise with the scouts and report back**.

b. **Membership** - RP stated that the branch currently had 1,863 members. Nationally CAMRA currently has less than 144,000 members.

c. **Pubs Officer** - GL reported that the Oldham Pub Co are planning for a new pub at 3 Henry Street, Lytham.

RP reported that the old HSBC Bank in Cleveleys is expected to become the Greedy Banker in the near future.

Discord Entries: It has been reported that the Stable Bar in Kirkham has been awarded a 5 Star Casque Mark, the committee have been invited to attend the pub to taste the ales on offer.



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d. Social Trips and Branch Diary - There are currently no social trips to be added to the branch diary, however AB is currently investigating a number of potential options:

1. Bus trip to Chester possibly shared with Central Lancs.
2. Tour of country pubs on Fylde/Wyre.
3. Farmyard/Lune Brewery trip

All of these options require pricing and potential support from members to make them cost effective; details will be published once Fylde Ale is on line. - **Action AB to advise.**

e. IT

SF reported that he is in the process of setting up WAMP? A question as to how long we should be holding GBG ratings and a decision to only keep these for the previous 3 years was agreed.

6. Any other notified business

a. Branch GBG Order (RP)

The ordered 30 GBG's have been received from head office, these are going on sale on launch day 25th September 2025 at a cost of £13.00.

The plan is to set up availability stalls at the following pubs:

- Backstage, Wobble Inn (Cleveleys), Beer Shed (Fleetwood) – (RP).
- Cask and Taps, Rhythm and Brew Room (Blackpool) - (AB, MW).
- Taps (Lytham), 15's (St Annes) – (GL).

b. Beer scoring (GL)

GL proposed that the branch move to the national NBSS scoring system at the end of 2025, after much discussion this was accepted to be the way forward, the branch will offer a level of training to members prior to the switch over.

c. Membership newsletter (MW)

The layout for the first newsletter is complete and an attempt to share its design with the committee was hampered by an issue with the Comms Tool. The main sections are:

- Chairs welcome
- Branch News and Campaigns
- Pub of the Month / Spotlight Feature
- Upcoming Events and Diary
- Awards and Recognition
- Pub and Brewery News
- National CAMRA Highlights

7. Date and venue of future meetings

The Next Branch Meeting is scheduled at 19:30 on 20th November 2025. The venue is to be advised.

MW thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21:00pm.