

Minutes

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch Meeting

Lytham Ex-Servicemen's Social Club, 5 Chapel Street, Lytham, FY8 5 ND

19:30pm on Thursday 20th November 2025

Attendees: Matt Walker (MW, Chair), Keith Edgington (KE), Alistair Blair (AB), Gary Levin (GL), Steve Fairbrother (SF), Victoria Fairbrother (VF), Kevin Potts (KP), Ian Brandon (IB).

1. Welcome

MW Opened the meeting at 19:30 and welcomed all to a venue that the branch has not visited since prior to Covid, as we had local membership attending personal introductions were carried out, MW also expressed his special thanks to Rick Pickup who has recently stepped down from all CAMRA responsibilities. RW has currently taken on membership duties from RP.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from: Rob Wheatley (RW), Graham Monk (GM). Rick Pickup (RP), 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)** – The findings of the membership survey have been issued on Fylde Ale and on the branch website - **Action Closed.**
- c. **Action 2 – Fylde Ale WordPress Site (SF)** – Fylde Ale has been set up - **Action Closed.**
- d. **Action 3 – Branch Documents (SF)** – It was agreed to discuss the “Model Constitution” at the next branch meeting in January 2026 as the 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 Updated and Ongoing.**
- e. **Action 4 – Treasurers Reports** - The scouts have been in contact with the committee via the Facebook Website and looking at potentially clearing the store, the current stock needs to be reviewed. **Action – Ongoing.**

5. Officers' reports:

a. Treasurer:

End of year accounts have been submitted to Regional Director. Information in relation to GBG sales is still ongoing and will need to be collated for accountancy purposes at the next meeting.

b. Membership:

RW stated that the branch currently had circa 1850 members.

c. Pubs Officer:

The following pubs were discussed at length:

- Topsy Seagull, Lytham Road



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- Greedy Banker, Cleveleys
- Liars Bar formerly Cedars Bar, Abingdon Market
- The Sun Inn
- Ramsden Arms, Blackpool North
- Cornerhouse
- Clarks Family Farm

Details of these are available on the branch website and via Fylde Ale.

Beer scoring was also discussed at length and the planned move over to the CAMRA national standard as at the end of 2025. **Action – MW to advise membership of implementation of this change.**

d. Social Trips and Branch Diary:

There is currently one social trip planed for the 6th December to Bradford, meeting at Blackpool North station to catch the 10.17 train, details have been published on the branch website and by email to branch members.

AB also advised on upcoming beer festivals in Wigan, Clitheroe and Colne where members may wish to attend, details on website and in Fylde Ale.

e. IT

SF provided an update.

6. Branch Newsletter.

MW advised that the branch newsletters had been published and issued by e-mail and on the branch website as well as through Fylde Ale, there a-appear to be some minor issues with browser settings which has caused some very minor colour clash issues, having sent MW examples it is now being investigated by MW.

7. Fylde Ale

MW advised that Fylde Ale has now been set up and can be found at www.fyldeale.camra.org.uk .

8. Any other notified business

a. Branch GBG coordinator

With RP moving on, GL has now taken on the role as branch GBG Co-Ordinator, **Action – MW to advise CAMRA HQ.**

b. KP Reported problems with repeat entries on pub updates, KP to send details to MW.

9. Date and venue of future meetings

The Next Branch Meeting is scheduled at 19:30 on 15th January 2026 at Blackpool Cricket Club, the meeting in March is scheduled to take place at the Steamer in Fleetwood with the AGM back at the Cask and Tap, Blackpool towards the end of April 2026.

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

