

Minutes

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Branch Meeting

The Steamer, Fleetwood, FY7 6BT

19:30pm on Thursday 26th March 2026

Attendees: Matt Walker (MW, Chair), Rob Wheatley (RW), Keith Edgington (KE), Rick Pickup (RP), Gary Levin (GL), Steve Fairbrother (SF), Victoria Fairbrother (VF), Steve Walker (SW), Andrea Walker (AW), Giles Morgan (GM).

1. Welcome

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

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from: Graham Monk (GM).

3. Expressions of Interest

There were no expressions of interest.

4. Minutes of previous meeting including accuracy/action minutes

Accuracy: The previous minutes were accepted as accurate for the meeting however a couple of minor technical issues were identified as follows:

1. Para 4c, the Keg 'N' Cask is located in St Annes and not Lytham.
2. Para 4d, should state Lancashire Beer and Buses which operates from Burscough Bridge Station.

Action 1 – Branch Documents (SF) – Action Closed and added to AGM agenda.

Action 2 – Treasurers Reports – Having been paid, the scouts are looking at potentially clearing the store, MW to contact Regional Director (RD) to ascertain if we can scrap the holdings, further checks to be made with the RD. MW contacted the RD and it was suggested that we offer the assets first to the Northern Stores, to keep them within the region, then the Luton Stores. Any remaining assets can then be suitably disposed of, MW to email RD confirming branch decision to “dispose of assets and offer them to Northern/Luton Stores”. **Action – Ongoing.**

Action 3 Beer Scoring - Action Closed.

Action 4 – Role Change - Action Closed.

5. Officers' reports:

a. Treasurer:

In his absence and prior to the meeting, GM presented a statement of accounts and a bank statement for the committee to see, it was noted that there are currently 5 unpaid GBG's. – **Action 5 GBG's to be collected and accounted for.**

b. Membership:

RW presented a spreadsheet which showed that CAMRA currently has 141,244 members with regionally 13,502 members, BFW branch currently having the largest regional membership with 1,798 members.

c. Pubs Officer:

The following pubs were discussed:

- The Victoria in St Annes has reopened.



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- The Greedy Banker, Cleveleys is extending upstairs.
- The Cudding Shed Bar & Kitchen at Clarks Family Farm, Woodplumpton, open with 3 cask ales and they produce their own cider.
- Owd Nells Canalside Tavern has been taken over by Bowland Brewery.
- Tap and Vent Brewhouse, Kirkham is currently closed.

The committee also discussed a generic problem with published opening hours in the GBG.

Problems with unreliable source data about some of the pubs on the branch website have now been corrected and validated.

d. Social Trips and Branch Diary:

Though not in our branch area there is an upcoming beer festival in Clitheroe between 14-16 May.

The Lancashire Beer and Buses, are being operated out of Burscough on the 25th April.

RP has received an invitation for the branch to visit Bowness Brewery, further details to be promulgated.

The Shipwreck in Cleveleys are organizing a trip to Pennine Brewery.

If members may wish to attend any of the above events, please find further details which are available on the branch website and in Fylde Ale.

e. IT

SF shared feedback from the CAMRA judges for the Branch Website of the Year Competition.

6. Annual Awards.

Branch Pub of the Year POTY – The Taps, 12 Henry Street, Lytham, FY8 5LE.

Branch Club of the Year COTY – Blackpool Cricket Club, West Park Drive, Blackpool, FY3 9EQ.

Branch Cider Pub of the Year CPOTY – Cask and Tap, 82 Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD.

Congratulations to all three winning establishments and also to those pubs which made it into the final selection.

7. AGM

MW reported that the communications to the branch membership notifying them of the Branch AGM and the motion to update the Branch Constitution to the CAMRA Model Branch Constitution has been sent and the venue booking confirmed.

Nomination forms for the next branch committee were made available for members to complete. "Note all completed forms must be returned to the Branch Secretary by midday on 30th April 2026".

8. Any other notified business

None.

9. Date and venue of future meetings

The next meeting is the AGM which will take place at the Cask and Tap, Topping Street, Blackpool, FY1 3AD at 19:30 on 30th April 2026.

The next branch meeting is planned for Tuesday 19th May at 19:30 to be held in the Fifteens of St Annes, 42 St Annes Road West, St Annes, FY8 1RF

MW thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:25pm.

