

## Breese, Robert

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**From:** The Pfeiffers [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 November 2015 11:19  
**To:** M&CP - Licensing  
**Cc:** Priest, Henrika  
**Subject:** Humble Grape Limited Premises Licence Application- 1 St. Bridge's Passage - EC4Y 8EJ

I am the owner of [REDACTED] New Bridge Street. I note the above application by Humble Grape Limited and wish to file the following objection:

In my view there are far too many drinking establishments in our small corner bound by Bride Lane, Fleet Street and New Bridge Street (It is worth noting that the Bride Lane neighborhood is an area approximately 175 ft x 225 ft.). There formerly was a wine bar at 1 St Bride's Passage (The Press House Wine Bar) and we know what happens when such businesses are allowed to operate in that particular location. We have faced a later application from Bistrovin several years ago which was objected to and which demonstrated the continuing concern with public nuisance in our neighborhood. Simply put, it is unfair to add the Humble Grape to the overflowing number of evening-opened, alcohol-serving businesses within the Bride Lane area: Albion Pub, De Palo's, Punch Tavern, Chi Noodle, Indian City, City of London Distillery, the Old Bell, and Crown and Sugar Loaf.

The primary problem with all of these establishments is the incremental degrading of our neighborhood. I have concerns with safety (this is a dark area with many alcoves and other places where crime may occur), noise, trespassing (when it rains I usually have smokers on my front step often with their drink in hand), littering and health issues (from patrons becoming sick on our doorsteps and more generally in the Bride Lane area). Frankly, the fact that the location is set off the main roads and in an enclosed area focuses the sound and other anti-social behaviour entirely around our homes. The close proximity of the proposed establishment to St. Bride's Church presents an additional problem, most notably when the wonderful choir is singing during the evenings (which presumable is heard by all of us in the court). In that regard, the noise pollution from another establishment is alone troubling for an area of such historical and spiritual importance.

Setting aside the appropriateness of the business itself, the hours that have been proposed are unacceptable, i.e., open until 1am and 1:30 am; open until 11pm on a Sunday immediately adjacent to residences and the grounds of one of London's most historic churches. Please sit back and assume that you and your family go to bed at, say, 10 pm (or in our case when our child goes to bed). How is it fair to allow a business in an enclosed area such as Bride Lane to operate 3 or 3.5 hours after you attempt to go to sleep? I recognise that I do not live in a leafy suburb in Surrey and therefore I cannot have lofty expectations in regard to the aforementioned issues. However, the City often proudly trumpets the importance of the mix and compatibility of residential and commercial communities; the grant of the application would run afoul of that objective. In short, granting this intrusive license will diminish our quality of life, the value of our properties and more generally be incompatible with the larger objectives of the City.

In the off chance a licence is granted, I would request that you pull back the closing time to 10 pm; eliminate Sunday openings; require cigarette bins and rubbish bins in the alcove leading up to the front of the establishment; installation of signage to remind customers that they are in a residential (and worship) area; strictly enforce rubbish time banding requirements, and additional patrolling of the area by Street Environmental Officers.

Thank you.

David Pfeiffer

