

Representation #1 Received	Name	Address	Contact Information
12 th August 2023			
Online Representation - Objection			
<p>I wish to submit the following comments in relation to the Alcohol Licence Application for The Snug, 3 The Mill, Free Church Passage. I wish to challenge some contradictions in the applicant's statement relating to the 'Prevention of Public Nuisance' section of the Licensing Act. The applicant states that 'the indoor space will hold a maximum of approximately 18 people'. In my opinion, this is a gross over-estimate of the customer capacity of this 'small shop' (a description used later in the statement by the applicant himself). A glance through the window of the premises will confirm this. Once all the ancillary equipment needed for display, storage and servery are in place, there will be very minimal square footage left for customers to be seated (or even stand) inside the shop. In spite of this obvious drawback, the applicant persists in stating that 'The bulk of our trading will take place between 17.00 and 23.00 and will be inside this small shop'. Aware of the acute space problem inside the shop, the applicant has already stated that: 'Drinks (and simple bar snacks) will be able to be consumed inside the premises and at tables in the courtyard immediately out the front of the shop.' Thus when customers are seated at tables outside of the shop, the statement - 'There is only one small opening window and the main door will be closed, so noise will be kept to a minimum.' - is totally meaningless. Because of the very small size of the shop interior, customers wishing to consume drinks and food on the premises will, as stated above by the applicant, have to be accommodated in the front courtyard area from day one. Customers seated at tables in the front courtyard will inevitably generate noise - sometimes at acceptable levels and at others perhaps not so. The applicant will have no physical means of controlling this noise in the way stated - such as 'closing windows and doors'. 'Disturbing noise' isn't always from 'drunken behaviour'. Folk who are simply enjoying each others company can also generate noise which is not offensive but which can still be loud and disruptive and unwelcome by others. And noise generated in this particular part of Free Church Passage has the potential to be amplified because the space is tightly enclosed on all sides by hard surfaces. I suggest therefore that noise generated from this courtyard area may become a noise problem during the evening opening hours particularly for: A) The residents in the first floor flats of the adjacent building (the former Free Church Hall recently converted) - and B) Also The Free Church itself, where concerts and meetings often take place on Friday and Saturday evenings. The first floor windows of the Free Church where these events take place directly overlook the shop and outer courtyard. There is a clear and unobstructed view of the courtyard which is approximately 25 to 30 feet from the windows. I can speak from experience of attending evening events in the Free Church, when disturbances in Free Church Passage have been intrusive and required people having to intervene. In summary - because the shop itself is so small, this business can only accommodate customers who wish to consume on the premises by providing tables and chairs in the external courtyard in front of the shop - a situation which I believe has the potential to become the source of a disruptive noise problem particularly for those outlined in A and B above. I submit these comments to record my objection to this licence application.</p>			

Representation #2 Received	Name	Address	Contact Information
12 th August 2023			
Email Representation - Objection			
<p>Dear Sir,</p> <p>I would like to comment on the application for a Premises Licence at The Snug, Free Church Passage, St Ives.</p> <p>I object to the granting of a licence for the following reasons:</p> <p>Prevention of crime and disorder:</p> <p>The premises are very small, the statement that the indoor space will hold a maximum of approximately 18 people is farcical. Once the counter, displays etc are in place there will be very little room for customers to sit or stand. Inevitably, this means that the majority of the patrons will be outside, either sitting or standing. The space outside the snug is quite compact, meaning that some patrons will be in Free Church Passage which is a thoroughfare from Market Hill to the river and very well used. I can envisage clashes between the patrons of the snug and ordinary folk trying to walk past. I am also sure that they will sit on the steps opposite which lead to the side door of the Free Church, again, potential disagreements between people who find their way into or out of the Free Church blocked. This is also the entrance used by the AA group, so again, potential for clashes.</p> <p>Public safety:</p> <p>The fire exit from the Free Church will be blocked if patrons of the snug congregate on Free Church Passage and on the steps of the church by the side door/fire exit.</p> <p>Prevention of public nuisance:</p> <p>There are many events at the Free Church, concerts, meetings etc which could be impacted by noise outside the Snug and in Free Church Passage, again, potential clashes by people attending the events in the church and Snug patrons outside. It is not necessarily drunken noise as general chatting can be quite noisy which would be amplified by the enclosed situation. There are also adjacent flats which will be impacted by noise.</p> <p>As the noise will be outside, the applicant will have no way of controlling the noise level.</p> <p>I believe that the application should therefore be refused.</p> <p>I have no connection to any licenced premises.</p>			

Representation #3 Received	Name	Address	Contact Information
12 th August 2023			

Written Representation - Objection

Dear Sirs

**Alcohol Licence Application by Matthew Philip Kelly at
3 The Mill Free Church Passage St Ives Cambs PE27 5AY**

My name is [REDACTED] and I am [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] On behalf of my [REDACTED], I write regarding the above application for a 7-day licence to serve and sell alcoholic beverages from 3 Free Church Passage St Ives.

Our church runs along and half way down Free Church Passage. No.3 is directly opposite the side access and exit door to our church premises. As well as our church services and related activities mainly on Sundays, our church building is used seven days a week by various community groups, some of whom require a quiet and peaceful environment in which to meet. Most of these groups meet in the evenings in rooms facing on to The Free Church Passage, and therefore access our building by the aforementioned side door as the church front door on to Market Hill is usually locked after 4.00pm. Some of these groups offer counselling services to vulnerable people where confidentiality is vital. If this licence application is allowed, then people will be drinking both inside no.3 and also outside in the courtyard, with resulting noise and disturbance for those meeting in the church. In particular, there are two counselling groups – Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous - who will be adversely affected by having to walk by, and when leaving the building, unavoidably run into drinkers with glasses of alcoholic beverages in

their hands, a situation which can only be detrimental for those trying to control their drinking and narcotic habits.

The Free Church Passage is a narrow public footpath and right of way, and undoubtedly there will be encroachment on to the passage by customers at no. 3, thereby blocking and obstructing pedestrians walking to and from the quayside and river.

For all the reasons above, we would object strongly to this licence application as being completely inappropriate in terms of location, potential public disturbance, adversely affecting vulnerable people, and disturbing our Sunday church services and activities and also other user groups during the week.

Should this licence application be permitted, then as a minimum, we would expect the drinking hours to be restricted on a Sunday to 2.00pm onwards, and not from 12.00pm.

Finally, we understand that there are presently one and possibly two other alcohol licence applications for premises in central St Ives. This application for a licence to serve and sell alcohol in the narrow Free Church Passage cannot therefore be said to be needed to satisfy demand.

Yours faithfully

