

The VAUX logo consists of the word "VAUX" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, centered within a red rectangular background.

Vaux Brewery  
Unit 2, Monk Street  
Sunderland, SR6 0DB  
T: 0191 580 5770  
E: [info@vaux.beer](mailto:info@vaux.beer)  
W: [www.vaux.beer](http://www.vaux.beer)

Gary Forster  
Lost Robot  
6a Church View  
Sedgefield  
TS21 2AY

20 July 2021

Dear Gary

**New Premises Licence - 6a Church View, Sedgefield, TS21 2AY**

We are writing in support of your application for a premises licence for the above property.

Independent bottle shops and micropubs are the lifeblood of the craft beer community and without them we would struggle to compete in a world of supermarket pricing models and chain pub tenders. In other words, small craft breweries need small craft bottle shops (and probably vice versa).

The average customer for bottle shops tends to be 30+ with disposable income. They are interested in fine wines, spirits, beers and ciders and often that interest extends to good food. These are not the type of customers causing antisocial behaviour.

In our experience, a quality independent bottle shop or micropub can greatly enhance an area and can even provide a new community "hub" for local residents. At a time when many established community pubs are closing, I think it's important that niche or specialist venues such as yours should be allowed to fill that void and create something new and exciting for the area.

I wish you the best of luck with your venture and look forward to hopefully visiting soon.

Yours sincerely,

  
Steven J. Smith  
**Managing Director**  
Vaux Brewery