

## **Gosport Society Christmas Luncheon Presentation – Masonic Hall.Gosport. 3 December 2019.**

**By**

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### What is a Heritage Action Zone?

The DCMS White Paper of 2016 charged Historic England to build and improve relationships between partners “to manage change and new developments better. And to stimulate the productivity of the historic environment through regeneration and growth”

This means:-

1. “Manage change and new developments” in the historic environment, and do it better.
2. “Stimulate... regeneration and growth” - not let historic buildings and sites rot because they are deemed unusable or too complicated for Developers to be interested in.

### What does this mean for Gosport?

It means lots! It's the right scheme at the right time for us! The MoD is moving out of the area, and so land and sites are being released and earmarked for release. Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) brings Gosport onto the front foot to discuss sites with MoD crucially BEFORE they put the site onto the open market.

What is the Programme Manager doing? I am here primarily for my organisational skills, project management skills and my ability to drive multiple projects forward. I understand history, heritage concerns and regeneration needs in old naval towns. I have lots of experience of community engagement. Essentially, there are two strands to my job - negotiating with Developers and land owners about soon to be released sites, and community engagement so that more people actually take part in preserving their local history.

My skills were developed in museums. After University, I worked at various museums in collections and exhibitions. I discovered my project management skills whilst working in exhibitions and I've never looked back. I've worked in Harrogate, Hull, Bradford, Rochester Cathedral, then I moved into a Regeneration role with Medway Council - nothing to do with heritage, all purely commercial. I missed the heritage and community engagement aspects of my job, and upon redundancy, applied for and got offered the job of HAZ Programme Manager which happily combines project management, regeneration and heritage.