

SECTION 1

Read the text below and answer Questions 1-7

New cycle path to Marshbrook Country Park

A

A new dual-purpose cycle and pedestrian route has been built from Atherton bus station to the country park's main entrance at Marshbrook. It avoids the main road into Atherton on the south side, and keeps mainly to less busy roads. Once the path leaves the built-up area, it goes through countryside until it reaches Marshbrook.

B

Funding for the cycle path has come largely from the country and town councils, while almost a third of it was raised through crowdfunding. Maintenance of the path is the responsibility of the county council. The cycle path was completed ahead of schedule – partly thanks to perfect weather for construction – and under budget.

C

Annie Newcome is the chief executive of Cycle Atherton, the organisation that aims to get people cycling more often and more safely. Cycle Atherton proposed the 12-kilometre-long cycle path initially, and has been active in promoting it. Ms Newcome says she is delighted that all the hard work to achieve the funding proved successful.

D

Marshbrook Country Park is a very popular recreational area, and the new path makes it much easier to reach from the town in an environmentally friendly way. At 2.5 metres wide, it is also suitable for users of wheelchairs, mobility scooters and buggies, who have not previously had access to the park without using motor vehicles.

E

Although the path is now open, work is continuing to improve the signs along it, such as warnings when the path approaches a road. New hedges and trees will also be planted along stretches of the path, to provide some shelter from the wind and to benefit wildlife.

F

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IELTS GENERAL READING PRACTICE- test 4

Further information and a detailed map of the path including a proposed 5-kilometre extension are available online. The map can easily be downloaded and printed. Visit the county council website and follow the links to Atherton Cycle Path.

Questions 1-7

The text has six paragraphs, **A-F**.

Which paragraph mentions the following?

*Write the correct letter, **A-F**, in boxes **1-7** on your answer sheet.*

NB You may use any letter more than once.

- 1 what still needs to be done
- 2 the original suggestion for creating the path
- 3 a reason why the path opened early
- 4 people who no longer need to get to the park by car
- 5 the route of the path
- 6 the length of the path
- 7 who paid for the path