

Councils **push for better** services and facilities

By Mohammed Darwish



The old Mariya Al-Qibtiyya prayer site in Al Lawzi, where a Friday mosque for over 400 worshippers is planned

75 misting poles cool Aali Walkway

● The poles spray a fine water mist to make walking and running more comfortable

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Seventy-five three-metre-high misting poles have been installed along Aali Walkway to help walkers and runners cope with the summer heat.

The system has been switched on as part of an upgrade to the walkway, Northern Municipal Council member Abdullah Ashoor said.

The poles are spaced along the route and spray a fine water mist to make walking and running more comfortable during hot weather. Mr Ashoor, who represents the sixth constituency, said the system would make a noticeable

difference during the hottest months.

The work is being carried out by the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture's Parks and Landscaping Directorate in cooperation with the Northern Area Municipality.

The old interlock paving is also being replaced with a new walking and running surface similar to that at Hamad Town Walkway.

The children's play area is being upgraded with repairs to existing equipment, new shade canopies and lighting. Toilets and other buildings are also being repaired, while walkway lighting is being renewed and security cameras installed.

Mr Ashoor said the improvements followed demand for better sports and leisure facilities, with residents regularly using Aali Walkway for walking and running.

Al Lawzi prayer site set for Friday mosque

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A 2,121-square-metre site in Al Lawzi is set to become a mosque for more than 400 worshippers after the land was reclassified for religious use.

The Block 1020 site currently has a temporary Mariya Al-Qibtiyya prayer cabin and an older building. The plan is to develop it into a full mosque capable of hosting Friday prayers.

Northern Municipal Council member Zainab Al Durazi said the land was previously classified for Housing Ministry projects but has now been designated for religious services.

One of 69 plots

She said the Sunni Waqf Directorate has received the title deed, clearing a step towards starting the project.

"The Mariya Al-Qibtiyya Mosque is one of the projects we have pursued over the past period because people in the new Al Lawzi area need a place of worship and other services," Mrs Al Durazi said.

She said she would continue working with the relevant authorities until the mosque is completed and opened to residents of Al Lawzi and near-



Zainab Al Durazi, Northern Municipal Council member

by areas. The site is one of 69 plots in the new Al Lawzi area, Block 1020, whose title deeds she has previously pursued as part of efforts to prepare land for public facilities.

Mrs Al Durazi said new housing should be matched by basic services, public facilities and places of worship as the area grows.

"Getting land allocated, obtaining its deeds and fixing its classification is not the goal in itself," she said. "The aim is to turn land kept for services into real projects that people can use."

She thanked Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf Minister Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda, Islamic Endowments Council vice chairman Shaikh Dr Rashid Al Hajrri and the Sunni Waqf Directorate for their support.

Ambulance bid rejected for Barbar health centre

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A proposal to station an ambulance at Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Health Centre in Barbar around the clock has been rejected, with the Interior Ministry saying the centre's ambulance calls did not justify keeping a vehicle there permanently.

The centre recorded 801 ambulance calls in 2025, accounting for just 4.5 per cent of the Northern Governorate total, the ministry said. It warned that keeping one ambulance at the centre could mean longer waits for emergency calls elsewhere.

Nine National Ambulance vehicles already cover Barbar, nearby villages and the Northern Governorate, it said.

The proposal was made by Northern Municipal Council chairman Dr Shubbar Al Wadaei, who said an ambulance close to the centre could save crucial minutes in dealing with strokes, fainting, accidents and other serious cases.

Dr Al Wadaei said the first few minutes of such emergencies could be decisive in saving lives or preventing serious complications. He



Dr Shubbar Al Wadaei, Northern Municipal Council chairman

also said the centre sees large numbers of people from Barbar and surrounding areas and can face sudden medical cases at any time.

The Northern Municipal Council unanimously backed Dr Al Wadaei's proposal at its April meeting.

The ministry said the 801 calls recorded by the centre last year did not justify assigning an ambulance solely for its use.

Instead, the department concerned suggested that primary healthcare centres consider providing a separate vehicle to transport patients whose cases are classified as non-emergencies.

The ministry said this would keep National Ambulance crews available for urgent calls while giving health centres another option for transporting patients who do not require emergency care.

Cardiac care conference opens in Bahrain



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The first Bahrain Cardiovascular Diseases Conference 2026 opened on September 11 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Manama, bringing together doctors, consultants and cardiovascular

specialists from Bahrain and abroad.

The two-day conference is organised by the Royal Medical Services in cooperation with BDA Center. It was attended by Lt General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa,

Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, and Health Minister Dr Jaleela bint Al Sayed Jawad Hasan.

Major General Dr Shaikh Fahad bin Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said the conference provides a platform for medical pro-

fessionals to exchange expertise and experiences and improve clinical practices in cardiovascular care.

He highlighted its focus on the latest developments in diagnosis and treatment, as well as clinical cases and challenges requiring

accurate assessment and timely medical decisions.

He praised the Royal Medical Services and BDA Center for organising the conference, saying specialised events of this kind support continuous medical education and help

healthcare professionals benefit from local and international expertise.

He expressed hope that the conference would become a key addition to Bahrain's specialised medical events and continue to develop in future editions.

