

Elston Farm, Elston, Shrewton – Farm Owners' Statement (17/04/26)
Agricultural Use & Functional Need for a 150 sqm Agricultural Barn
for machinery and hay only

We, the owners of Elston Farm, confirm that the landholding outlined in the accompanying prior approval application has been in **conservation grazing use for well over 20 years**. The land has been managed for grazing, hay production and wider agricultural operations, and forms part of an active agricultural enterprise currently entered into the **Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) three-year scheme**, of which we are approximately 18 months through. The relevant parcels are registered under **SBI 108185273**.

The land has been used solely for conservation grazing purposes, with no breaks in agricultural activity. The land continues to be required for hay cropping, livestock support (sheep) and the day-to-day functioning of the holding.

There is a **clear and essential need for a secure agricultural building of approximately 150 sqm** to support the ongoing operation of the farm. There is a clear and pressing need for the holding's agricultural machinery required for cultivation, haymaking and land management, together with annual hay yields that must be stored in dry, secure conditions to avoid spoilage and financial loss. At present, the farm has **no suitable covered storage**, resulting in operational inefficiencies, weather-related risks and security concerns.

The proposed barn is therefore required to ensure the safe storage of machinery and hay, to maintain the viability of the agricultural enterprise, and to support the long-established agricultural use of the land.

Signed

Samantha Sandberg

for The Owners of Elston Farm

17 April 2026