1. It is not just hedges that cause significant loss of amenity trees are a significant problem too. I unfortunately have a neighbour whose idea of gardening is to simply let their garden run wild which has resulted in every sort of tree, shrub and weed run a muck. They have a maple which had grown so large directly opposite our and extremely close to our sittingroom window and so close to the boundary that it's branches prevented us opening windows in the rear of our house and were battering off the roof every time there was any wind. It was so dense that throughout the house we had to have electric lighting on all day every day. After pleading for four years the tree was trimmed two years ago which was brilliant for a few months but this has simply resulted in it growing more densely than ever and we are now back to living in constant artificial light. The regrowth is not yet in contact and damaging our property but will not be long before it is. Their trees seed and because part of the structure of the gable of our house forms the boundary wall embed under our house foundations and damage them.

2. I am resolved having just paid a substantial bill to have stonework thus damaged repaired that any future damage done to this neighbours complete disregard to any pretence at neighbourliness and I will simply claim my house insurance and let them take her to court to recover the cost to them of claims brought about by her complete disregard to keeping her 'wild' garden within her own property.

3. Some people might think that having your property blocked from natural light and air by enormous shrubs and trees many 20-30ft and dozens double that and more is not a serious problem but once you have been forced to live in near complete darkness and have roots constantly damaging your house foundations and branches damaging your walls, roof, windows and drainage, day in day out, year in year out as we have been, it seriously affects your physical and mental health. The neighbours garden is so dense that a highways official who was investigating complaints of their unkempt trees causing a hazard on the main trunk road (complainant was the local bus company who's deckers were being regularly damaged by branches) did not believe me that our house was there he had been unable to see it from the helicopter he had been in doing an arial survey. Only when he came and did an on the ground survey of the problems did he realise that our house was here.

4. Any legislation which might prevent neighbours letting plants grow to heights that cause deprivation of daylight has to be taken seriously but please do not limit it to a hedge.

5. I love trees but in proximity to housing some species are not appropriate unless they are managed. Perhaps a duty of management would be more appropriate.