The main code camp topic was the move from XML to YAML configuration files. A new PR (xml\_yaml\_conversion, by rhfogh) uses a single superclass for both XML- and YAML-configured hardware objects, making it possible to change over one configuration file at a time. The proposal was modified during the code camp, and the result checked in. See <https://github.com/mxcube/mxcubecore/issues/931>.

The following points were agreed during the code camp:

* Use YAML 1.2, but *not* strict YAML
* Stick to native YAML syntax as much as possible.
* Do not support`eval`ed strings, but change configuration files to use direct YAML representation of data as the configuration files are moved from XML to YAML
* Configuration files should contain three parts:
  + ‘class’ - module name of class (e.g. ‘mod1.mod2.mod3.class’)
  + ‘objects’ - dictionary or ordered dictionary (use !!omap) of rolename: configfile
    - Where loading order matters (e.g. in beamline\_config.yml) use an ordered dictionary to store ’objects’ dictionary
  + ‘configuration’ for other properties
* Pydantic specification should be for configuration part of files only, not for ‘class’ or ‘objects’.
* Contained hardware objects must be defined in the class code and cannot merely be added in the configuration file. This is enforced.
* For site-specific data, the Pydantic models for configuration data should be extended to define the additional properties – but it remains open whether additional attributes should be ignored, accepted, or cause an error. During the transition phase they should certainly be accepted, and this might possibly be decided by configuring the Pydantic classes on a case-by-case basis.
* Lists of particular kinds of contained objects (e.g. diffractometer.motors) should *not* be stored in the configuration files but should be deduced after loading.

The next step should be for people to make Pydantic data specifications and gradually move their configuration files over to YAML, while removing calls to deprecated functions. No specific timeline was agreed.